

Securities Index Numbers

	Fixed interest Securities.	Cotton Mill shares.*	Cotton ginning and pressing companies.*	Electric undertakings.*	All Industrial Securities.	General average (102 Securities).		Fixed interest Securities.	Cotton Mill shares.*	Cotton ginning and pressing companies.*	Electric undertakings.*	All Industrial Securities.	General average (102 Securities).
1914 July..	100	100	100	100	100	100	1923 July	72	229	147	136	176	169
1915	96	97	94	90	101	100	.. Aug.	73	216	153	138	168	161
1916	87	114	102	122	130	127	.. Sep.	73	225	133	133	166	159
1917	73	138	118	128	158	151	.. Oct.	72	213	133	131	163	157
1918	74	212	131	139	194	184	.. Nov.	71	216	122	135	163	156
1919	77	216	126	237	216	206	.. Dec.	71	215	122	131	160	154
1920	65	438	168	246	313	296	1924 Jan.	71	196	122	126	151	146
1921	65	450	158	212	311	295	.. Feb.	73	192	122	127	148	143
1922 June.	64	401	163	188	277	264	.. Mar.	74	189	122	128	146	141
.. July .	63	406	163	175	267	253	.. Apr.	74	188	119	130	145	140
.. Aug .	63	388	163	168	267	253	.. May	74	179	120	137	143	136
.. Sep .	64	373	163	160	257	244	.. June	74	180	121	137	143	138
.. Oct .	64	344	163	154	243	231	.. July	74	176	121	133	140	135
.. Nov .	65	298	163	144	221	210	.. Aug.	74	192	124	130	148	143
.. Dec .	65	283	163	142	210	201	.. Sep.	72	203	124	131	153	147
1923 Jan .	65	292	163	149	216	206	.. Oct.	72	197	127	127	148	143
.. Feb .	65	288	166	152	214	204	.. Nov.	72	198	128	127	149	143
.. Mar .	67	255	142	140	193	185	.. Dec.	72	196	128	128	147	142
.. Apr .	68	241	142	133	186	178	1925 Jan.	72	205	129	141	152	147
.. May .	71	235	142	133	183	176	.. Feb.	72	204	131	157	154	148
.. June.	71	222	145	126	176	168	.. Mar.	72	197	131	154	150	145

* Also included in "Industrial Securities."

LABOUR GAZETTE

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[No. 9

The Month in Brief

EMPLOYMENT—THE COTTON INDUSTRY

The supply of labour was equal to the demand in the City of Bombay. The statistics regarding employment for the month ended 12th May 1925 showed an average absenteeism of 10·7 per cent. as compared with 12·2 per cent. in the month ended 12th April 1925.

IN AHMEDABAD, the supply of labour was reported to be plentiful during the month under review. Detailed reports of absenteeism received from representative mills in this centre showed an average of 2·6 per cent. during the month as compared with 2·9 per cent. last month and 2·7 per cent. two months ago.

IN SHOLAPUR, the supply of labour was adequate, and absenteeism showed a decrease. The average was 14·1 per cent. as compared with 16·3 per cent. last month and 13·8 per cent. two months ago.

IN BROACH, absenteeism was 14·5 per cent. as compared with 21·4 per cent. in the last month. The supply of labour in this centre was not plentiful.

On the whole, therefore, during the month in the principal centres of the industry the supply of labour was plentiful except in Broach, and absenteeism decreased in all the centres.

THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY

In the Engineering Industry in Bombay the supply of labour was equal to the demand. The average of absenteeism in representative engineering workshops (based on the returns from three large workshops), showed an increase, the figure being 13·35 per cent. as compared with 12·2 per cent. last month and 13·68 per cent. two months ago.

On the Marine Lines and Colaba Reclamations of the Development Directorate the average absenteeism was 4·0 per cent. the same as in the last two months.

On the construction of *chawls* (tenements) at Naigaum, DeLisle Road and Sewree, absenteeism remained the same as in the previous month, being 3 per cent. On the construction of *chawls* at Worli the average was 15 per cent., being the same as in the last month. The supply of unskilled labour employed for loading, removing, storing and unloading cargo in the docks by the Bombay Port Trust was equal to the demand. The percentage absenteeism was 15·56 as compared with 16·0 in the

preceding month and 15.71 two months ago. In the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust the supply of labour was plentiful, but a fall in absenteeism was recorded. The average absenteeism decreased from 11.7 per cent. in the last month to 10.84 per cent. in the month under review. The percentage of absenteeism based on the attendance of monthly paid workers employed in the engineering workshops of the Karachi Port Trust recorded an increase, the figure being 7.5 per cent. as compared with 6 per cent. in the preceding month and 11 per cent. two months ago.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING

In May 1925 the Working Class Cost of Living Index Number was 156, 2 points below the level of the previous month. The average level of retail prices of the commodities taken into account in the Cost of Living Index for Bombay City (100 represents the level of July 1914) was 156 for all articles and 151 for food articles only. There was a rise of 6 points as compared with this time last year and a fall of 37 points from the high water mark (October 1920) in the cost of living index. The fall in the general index is due to a decrease of 2 points in the food index. Cereals declined by 4 points mainly owing to a fall of 16 points in the price of wheat. Pulses fell by 6 points while other food articles registered a rise of one point. There was no change in the fuel and lighting and clothing groups. The house rent index number was taken to be 172, i.e., equal to the weighted average for the year 1923-24.

The revision of the Index Number for the Cost of Living of the Bombay Working Classes, referred to in the September and October Numbers, has been carried out, and the methods and results of the revision are now being scrutinized.

EUROPEAN COST OF LIVING INDEX

In April 1925, the European Cost of Living Index Number stood at 162, one point below that in January 1925 (163) and 5 points below the April 1924 level (167). As compared with January 1925 all the groups except food, fuel and lighting and house-rent recorded a decrease. The food index rose by 6 points owing to an increase in the price of eggs, bread and potatoes. Clothing fell by 9 points and the Miscellaneous group index by one point while fuel and lighting remained stationary. "Servants' Wages" are changed as a result of a special investigation and the index numbers since January 1924 have been revised.

THE WHOLESALE INDEX NUMBER

In April 1925, the general index of wholesale prices in Bombay was 165, 6 points below the level of the previous month. There was a fall of 7 points in the food and 5 points in the non-food group. The index number for food grains only was 139 as compared with 142 in the previous month. The general index of all the articles is a mean of the price relatives of all the articles included in the index and is obtained by dividing the sum of the index numbers by the number of articles for which quotations are available and not by finding the mean of the group index numbers for food and

non-food articles. The fluctuations in the prices of foods, non-foods and all articles will be seen in the following table:—

	Number of items	Increase per cent. over July 1914				
		December 1924	January 1925	February 1925	March 1925	April 1925
Foods	15	62	73	72	64	57
Non-foods	27	84	72	74	74	69
All articles	42	76	73	73	71	65

The steps mentioned in the October issue of the *Labour Gazette* to revise the list of commodities for the Wholesale Prices Index Number have been carried out provisionally for Karachi with the assistance of the Karachi Chamber of Commerce and the Collector of Customs, Karachi. So far it has not been possible to effect the much-needed revision of the Bombay list. Since the last note on this subject the Labour Office has received intimation from the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence that his Department is contemplating taking over the work of constructing Wholesale Prices Index Numbers for various centres in India. The idea is to abandon the all-India Index Number started by Atkinson, and publish Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices in the main commercial centres. It is probable therefore that the Wholesale Prices Index Numbers for Bombay and Karachi will be compiled by the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence; and the provisional list of commodities arrived at for Karachi has accordingly been furnished to that office.

SECURITIES INDEX NUMBER

In April 1925, the general level of quotations of 102 shares and securities was 141, thus showing a fall of 4 points as compared with the previous month. Cotton Ginning and Pressing Companies remained stationary. Government and Corporation (fixed interest) securities and Railway companies advanced each by one point. Cotton Mills and Cement and Manganese Companies declined by 5 and 16 points respectively. Banks and Miscellaneous Companies by 2 points each, and Electric undertakings by 7 points. Industrial Securities fell by 4 points during the month under review. The diagram elsewhere shows the movements of security prices since 1919.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

There were eleven industrial disputes in progress during April 1925. The number of workpeople involved was 7,740 and the number of working days lost 63,140.

COTTON MILL PRODUCTION

Cotton Mill production in March and in the 12 months ended March 1925, as compared with the corresponding periods of the two preceding years, is shown in the two following tables. In

Ahmedabad an increase is recorded in the month under review in the production of both yarn and woven goods as compared with the corresponding period of the previous year. In Bombay City the abnormally low production in March 1924 was due to the general strike in the cotton mills over the question of a bonus.

(1) Month of March

	Millions of lbs. of yarn spun			Millions of lbs. of woven goods produced		
	March			March		
	1923	1924	1925	1923	1924	1925
Bombay City ..	26	4	28	15	8	19
Ahmedabad ..	7	7	8	9	8	9
Other centres ..	4	4	4	3	4	3
Total, Presidency..	37	15	40	27	20	31

(2) Twelve months ending March

	Millions of lbs. of yarn spun			Millions of lbs. of woven goods produced		
	Twelve months ending March			Twelve months ending March		
	1923	1924	1925	1923	1924	1925
Bombay City ..	348	270	327	196	194	220
Ahmedabad ..	90	76	92	90	79	94
Other centres ..	59	53	55	33	35	34
Total, Presidency..	497	399	474	319	308	348

The Bombay Millowners' Association quotations at the end of April 1924, and March and April 1925 are as follows:—

	Net rate per lb. in annas		
	April 1924	March 1925	April 1925
Longcloth ..	23½	20½	20½
T. Cloths ..	21½	19½	19½
Chudders ..	20½	19½	19½

THE OUTLOOK

There was very little demand for Indian raw cotton during the month. Neither the European countries nor Japan placed any large orders, and even the local mills purchased very sparingly. Prices were firm at the beginning of the month, but became easier at the end for all varieties of cotton excepting Breach.

The demand for English yarn was by no means brisk but large sales of Japanese yarn were effected. The condition of the local yarn market was dull as there was no active demand, and prices of yarn declined steadily towards the close of the month. The demand for Manchester piece-goods was very limited. Prices ruled steady but the cheaper rates offered by anxious holders of stocks created the expectation of still easier prices. Naturally therefore, the buyers were waiting for a further fall in the prices. Business in local piece-goods was limited in extent and all the demand that there was, was mostly retail. There was thus a large accumulation of stocks.

The financial situation was much easier in the former than in the latter half of the month. The cash balance of the Imperial Bank increased by 219 lakhs and 284 lakhs in the first two weeks, while it declined by 105 and 33 lakhs respectively in the succeeding two weeks. The decrease of 105 lakhs in the third week was due to the payment of 200 lakhs into the Currency Department. The money market was not very tight and at the close of the month, call money was available at 6½ per cent. The exchange market was steady. The British Parliament having passed the Gold Standard Bill, the decision regarding the future currency policy of India is anxiously awaited.

The Working Class Cost of Living Index was two points lower in May as compared with the previous month. The wholesale prices index number fell by 6 points. Industrial securities fell by 4 points.

The Bank rate declined to 6 per cent. from 21st May. The rate of exchange in Bombay on London on 1st May 1925 was 1s. 5½d., the same as on 1st April 1925.

THE AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK ON 10th MAY

The following summary of conditions in this Presidency was received from the Director of Agriculture:—

"During the period under review, there has been no appreciable change in the agricultural outlook of the Bombay Presidency except in parts of the Karnatak where both fairly heavy and general rain is reported to have been received in the third week of April and the first week of May. The quantity of this rain has, however, been very unequally distributed in the Karnatak. It has done much good and has also caused considerable damage in certain cases. Its effects in certain cases are reported to be briefly as under:—

Cotton.—Some cotton still remained to be picked. This was all spoiled.

Wheat.—A part of the threshed wheat still remained unwinnowed in some villages. This was slightly damaged.

Safflower.—A portion of this crop had not been harvested when the rain came. This has been severely damaged.

Rabi Jowar.—Some of the rabi jowar *khali*, which was not yet carted for stacking, but still remained in the fields, was somewhat damaged.

But though the rain in the Karnatak has been slightly injurious as detailed above, it has nevertheless been beneficial for the preparatory tillage of the land for the coming *Khari* crop. The soil, as a result, has become easier to plough and the cultivators are busy taking advantage of the situation wherever rain has been received to any appreciable extent.

Some fairly heavy rain is also reported to have been received in various parts of the Deccan, *except* Khandesh, in the first week of May with nearly the same results as in the Karnatak, except that the cotton grown in the Deccan being mostly of the earlier variety all was picked along before and none remained in the fields to be spoilt by the rain.

There was nothing else in the climatic conditions of particular interest during the period under review. All the *rabi* crops are now harvested and cultivators are now busy preparing their fields for the ensuing season.

OUTLOOK IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

In the United Kingdom, employment showed a slight improvement during March. At 1st April, the average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the Statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour was approximately 75 per cent. above that of July 1914 as compared with 79 per cent. at 28th February 1925. During the month, there were 70 disputes involving stoppage of work, 25 of which had begun before March but were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved was about 44,000 and the estimated duration of all disputes was about 161,000 working days.

The position of the cotton industry remained the same as in the previous month. Not that there was no inquiry for Manchester goods but the inquirers were unable to offer satisfactory prices. Conditions in the iron and steel trades showed slight improvement, the March production figures being better than those of February. But speaking generally, there was little, if any, improvement in trade.

During March, there was not much improvement in the economic situation in Germany. The average level of Wholesale prices fell from 136.5 in February to 132.9 on the 25th of March. The outstanding feature of the month was that the downward movement in the iron market came to a standstill because of the greater inclination of the local buyers to purchase.

In France, the outlook was not very bright and in most sections of the textile markets there were signs of an approaching crisis owing to the very high cost of production. Business in cotton and silk fabrics was very small, although the mills in these two industries were working normally.

In the United States, production in basic industries declined in February from the high rate of output in January. There was a general increase in industrial employment and the index of factory employment rose to 94.6 from 93.3 in January. The level of wholesale prices according to the index of the Bureau of Labour Statistics increased slightly. There were considerable wage reductions in the coal mining industry in March, but the usual disputes which accompany the wage agreements during the spring months were less than usual. The money market was easy.

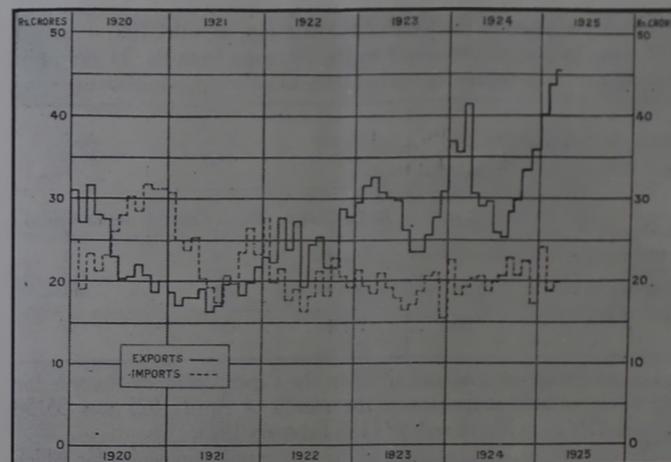
THE BALANCE OF TRADE

During April 1925, the visible balance of trade including Securities in favour of India amounted to Rs. 1048 lakhs.

The trade figures for the last two months for India, Bombay and Karachi are given below :—

	India		Bombay		Karachi	
	March 1925	April 1925	March 1925	April 1925	March 1925	April 1925
	<i>(In lakhs of rupees)</i>		<i>(In lakhs of rupees)</i>		<i>(In lakhs of rupees)</i>	
Exports (private merchandise) ..	46.29	33.05	15.33	12.15	8.24	3.59
Imports do. ..	19.85	18.47	6.62	6.90	2.93	2.07
Balance of Trade in merchandise ..	+ 26.44	+ 14.58	+ 8.71	+ 5.25	+ 5.31	+ 1.52
Imports of treasure (private) ..			15.19	3.49	18	10
Exports of treasure (private) ..			2	15	2	1
Balance of transactions in treasure (private) ..	- 17.11	- 3.93	- 15.17	- 3.34	- 16	- 9
Visible balance of trade including securities ..	+ 8.31	+ 10.48				

The movements of actual figures of Imports and Exports of private merchandise for British India since 1920 are shown in the annexed diagram

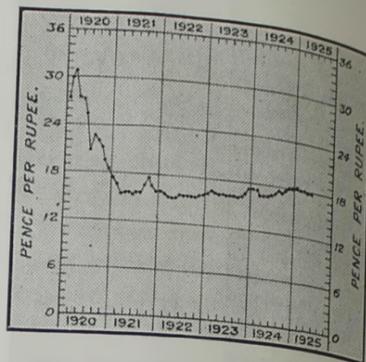


If the curve of exchange rates on the next page is consulted it will be seen that in 1920 and 1921 the exchange rate closely followed the movements of the balance of trade. At the end of 1922, when exports again jumped up and imports fell, it was expected that the value of the rupee would respond to the change. It will be seen from the exchange curve that such response has actually taken place, but that the resulting fluctuations in the rupee value have been much slighter than during the disturbed years following the war. The general long-term movement of the curve of exchange values since 1922 has been a gradual rise.

BUSINESS CONDITIONS

The rates for telegraphic transfers in Bombay on London in the first week of the last twelve months are shown below, and also the curve of the movement of the exchange since January 1920.

		s.	d.
June 1924	1 4 27/32
July	1 5
August	1 5 7/16
September	1 5 7/32
October	1 5 3/4
November	1 5 31/32
December	1 6
January 1925	1 6 1/16
February	1 5 15/16
March	1 5 31/32
April	1 5 13/16
May	1 5 13/16



These rates are supplied by the Deputy Controller of the Currency, Bombay. On the 23rd May 1925 exchange on London was 1s. 5²⁹/₃₂d.

During April 1925 the Bank clearings in Bombay and Calcutta in Karachi remained on the level of the last four months (Rs. 4 crores) while those in Rangoon declined to Rs. 10 crores from Rs. 11 crores in March 1925. The figures for the last three months are as follows:—

	February 1925	March 1925	April 1925
	Rs. (in Crores)	Rs. (in Crores)	Rs. (in Crores)
Bombay	41	54	44
Karachi	4	4	4
Calcutta	78	70	72
Rangoon	8	11	10
Total	131	139	130

The percentage of gold and silver in the Paper Currency Reserve for the whole of India at the close of the month of April 1925 was 55·58 as against 56·23 in March and 56·11 in February 1925.

The average market quotations of 65 cotton mill companies for which quotations are available are as follows:—

	Rs.		Rs.
May 1924	841	November 1924	885
June	821	December	877
July	817	January 1925	884
August	834	February	897
September	904	March	874
October	872	April	842

The average amount paid up was Rs. 371 per share throughout the period.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX—MAY

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual consumption (Mass Units) (in crores)	Price per Unit of Quantity			Price × Mass Unit		
			July 1914	April 1925	May 1925	July 1914	April 1925	May 1925
Cereals—								
Rice	Maund	70	Rs. 5·594	Rs. 7·370	Rs. 7·313	Rs. 391·58	Rs. 515·90	Rs. 511·91
Wheat	..	21	5·594	8·667	7·792	117·47	182·01	163·63
Jowari	..	11	4·354	5·917	5·917	47·89	65·09	65·09
Bajri	..	6	4·313	5·964	5·688	25·88	35·78	34·13
Total—Cereals	..	..	..	..	..	582·82	798·78	774·76
Index Numbers—Cereals	..	..	..	..	..	100	137	133
Pulses—								
Gram	Maund	10	4·302	5·698	5·417	43·02	56·98	54·17
Turdal	..	3	5·844	6·917	6·651	17·53	20·75	19·95
Total—Pulses	..	..	..	..	..	60·55	77·73	74·12
Index Numbers—Pulses	..	..	..	..	..	100	128	122
Other food articles—								
Sugar (refined)	Maund	2	7·620	14·287	14·287	15·24	28·57	28·57
Raw Sugar (Gul)	..	7	8·557	14·287	14·287	59·90	100·01	100·01
Tea	..	40	40·000	80·771	80·344	1·00	2·02	2·01
Salt	..	5	2·130	2·927	3·313	10·65	14·64	16·57
Beef	..	28	0·323	0·500	0·500	9·04	14·00	14·00
Mutton	..	33	0·417	0·771	0·771	13·76	25·44	25·44
Milk	Maund	14	9·198	17·583	17·583	128·77	246·16	246·16
Ghee	..	11	50·792	101·193	102·380	76·19	151·79	153·57
Potatoes	..	11	4·479	7·141	7·141	49·27	78·55	78·55
Onions	..	3	1·552	5·359	5·359	4·66	16·08	16·08
Cocoanut Oil	..	1	25·396	29·167	29·167	12·70	14·58	14·58
Total—Other food articles	..	..	..	..	..	381·18	691·84	695·54
Index Numbers—Other food articles	..	..	..	..	..	100	181	182
Total—All food articles	..	..	..	..	..	1,024·55	1,568·35	1,544·42
Index Numbers—All food articles	..	..	..	..	..	100	153	151
Fuel and lighting—								
Kerosene oil	Case	5	4·375	7·531	7·531	21·88	37·66	37·66
Firewood	Maund	48	0·792	1·281	1·281	38·02	61·49	61·49
Coal	..	1	0·542	0·870	0·870	0·54	0·87	0·87
Total—Fuel and lighting	..	..	..	..	..	60·44	100·02	100·02
Index Numbers—Fuel and lighting	..	..	..	..	..	100	165	165
Clothing—								
Chudders	Lb.	27	0·594	1·203	1·203	16·04	32·48	32·48
Shirtings	..	25	0·641	1·365	1·365	16·03	34·13	34·13
T. Cloth	..	36	0·583	1·203	1·203	20·99	43·31	43·31
Total—Clothing	..	..	..	..	..	53·06	109·92	109·92
Index Numbers—Clothing	..	..	..	..	..	100	207	207
House-rent	Per month.	10	11·302	19·440	19·440	113·02	194·40	194·40
Index Numbers—House-rent	..	..	..	..	..	100	172	172
Grand Total	..	..	..	..	..	1,251·07	1,972·69	1,948·76
Cost of Living Index Numbers	..	..	..	..	..	100	158	156

The Cost of Living Index for May 1925

A FALL OF TWO POINTS

All articles .. 56 per cent. Food only .. 51 per cent.

In May 1925 the average level of retail prices for all the commodities taken into account in the statistics of a cost of living index for the working classes in Bombay was two points lower than that in the previous month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914, the general index number was 158 in April and 156 in May 1925. This is 37 points below the high water mark (193) reached in October 1920 and one point below the twelve-monthly average of 1924.

The index number for all food articles fell by two points, the rise of one point in other food articles being offset by a fall of 4 points in food grains. The decrease of 4 points in cereals was due to a fall of 16 points in wheat, 6 points in bajri and one point in rice. Pulses declined by 6 points owing to a fall of 6 points in gram and 4 points in turdal. The other food articles rose by one point mainly due to an increase of 19 points in salt and 3 points in ghee. The price of tea declined by one point.

Fuel and lighting and clothing groups showed no change, the prices of all the articles included in these groups remaining at the same level as in the previous month.

All items : Average percentage increase over July 1914

	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
January ..	34	82	83	69	73	56	59	57
February ..	34	76	81	62	65	55	56	57
March ..	36	72	77	60	65	54	54	59
April ..	44	67	72	60	62	56	50	58
May ..	47	68	73	67	63	53	50	56
June ..	48	74	81	73	63	52	53	
July ..	49	86	90	77	65	53	57	
August ..	53	79	91	80	64	54	61	
September ..	65	72	92	85	65	54	61	
October ..	75	74	93	83	62	52	61	
November ..	75	73	86	82	60	53	61	
December ..	83	74	81	79	61	57	60	
Yearly average ..	54	75	83	73	64	54	57	

The articles included in the index are cereals, pulses, other articles of food, fuel and lighting, clothing and house-rent. The articles have been given the relative importance which each bears to the total all-India aggregate expenditure. No allowance is made for any change in the standard of living since July 1914.

The following table shows the price levels of articles of food in April and May 1925 as compared with that for July 1914, which is taken as 100. The levels are calculated from the prices of articles per standard (or railway) maund or seer.

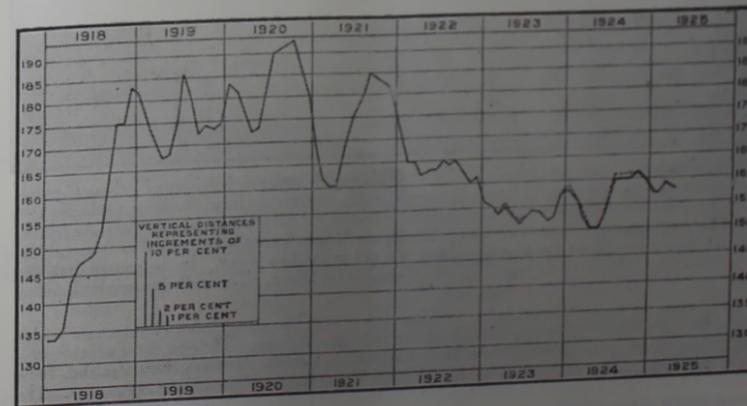
Articles	July 1914	April 1925	May 1925	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in May 1925 over or below April 1925	Articles	July 1914	April 1925	May 1925	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in May 1925 over or below April 1925
Rice ..	100	132	131	-1	Salt ..	100	137	156	+19
Wheat ..	100	155	139	-16	Beef ..	100	155	155	....
Jowari ..	100	136	136	....	Mutton ..	100	185	185	....
Bajri ..	100	138	132	-6	Milk ..	100	191	191	....
Gram ..	100	132	126	-6	Ghee ..	100	199	202	+3
Turdal ..	100	118	114	-4	Potatoes ..	100	159	159	....
Sugar (refined) ..	100	187	187	....	Onions ..	100	345	345	....
Raw sugar (gul) ..	100	167	167	....	Cocoanut oil ..	100	115	115	....
Tea ..	100	202	201	-1	All food articles (weighted average) ..	100	153	151	-2

The amount purchasable per rupee was less than the amount purchasable in July 1914 by the following percentage differences:—

Rice 24, Wheat 28, Jowari 26, Bajri 24, Gram 21, Turdal 12, Sugar (refined) 47, Raw Sugar (gul) 40, Tea 50, Salt 36, Beef 35, Mutton 46, Milk 48, Ghee 50, Potatoes 37, Onions 71, Cocoanut Oil 13.

The purchasing power of the rupee being taken as 16 annas in July 1914 its purchasing power in the month under review was 10 annas 3 pies for all items and 10 annas 7 pies for food articles only.

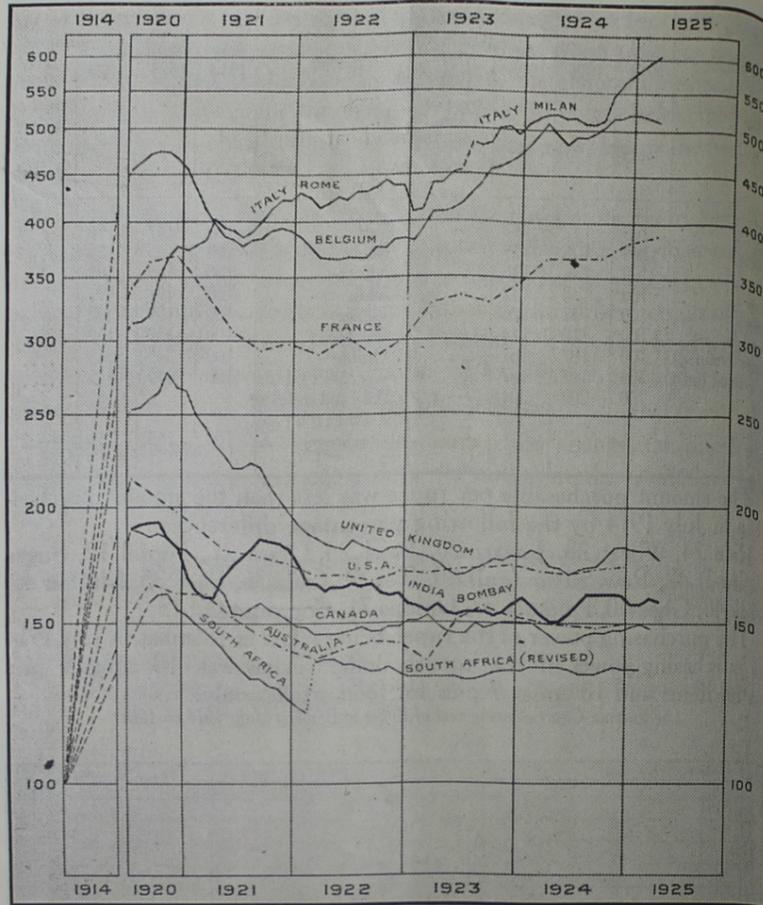
Logarithmic Chart showing cost of living in Bombay (July 1914 = 100)*



* The extra dotted curve shows corrections for rental increases from April 1923 on data collected by special enquiry.

Comparison with the Cost of Living in other Countries

The diagram on this page shows the comparative levels of the cost of living Index Nos. in Bombay and certain other world centres from the middle of 1920. The diagram is on the logarithmic scale. In considering the position and movements of the curves allowance has to be made for depreciation of currency.



The following is the source of the Index Nos. : (1) United Kingdom—Ministry of Labour Gazette, (2) Canada—Labour Gazette, (3) South Africa—Monthly Bulletin of Union Statistics, (4) U. S. A.—Monthly Bulletin issued by the Bureau of Labour Statistics, (5) All other countries—from the Ministry of Labour Gazette, United Kingdom. The South African figures were revised in March 1922, and the dotted line shows the transition from the old to the new series. In the case of Italy the Index No. was for Rome up to June 1923, and thereafter for Milan. The India figure is for Bombay only.

In all cases the Index Number is for working class only. The actual Index Numbers for twelve world centres will be found among the tables at the end of the Volume. The centres for which figures are published are India (Bombay), the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Italy, Belgium, Norway, Switzerland, South Africa, France (Paris) and the United States of America. The Labour Office also maintains a register wherein the Index Numbers for all countries for which figures are available are recorded.

Wholesale and Retail Prices

WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY—A FALL OF 6 POINTS

In April 1925, the general level of wholesale prices in Bombay was 65 per cent. above the level in July 1914. The fall of 6 points in the general index was mainly due to a fall of 7 points in the food and 5 points in the non-food groups. The general index number has fallen by 98 points from the highest peak (263) reached in August 1918 and is 17 points below the twelve-monthly average of 1924.

The index number for food-grains registered a fall of 3 points, a rise of 5 points in Pulses being offset by a fall of 5 points in Cereals. The decrease in Cereals is due to a fall of 18 points in wheat and 15 points in rice. Barley and bajri rose by 20 and 9 points respectively and gram by 10 points.

The index number for food articles fell by 7 points chiefly owing to a fall of 26 points in Other food. Turmeric and Salt declined by 68 and 9 points respectively and Sugar rose by 2 points.

The index number for non-food articles registered a fall of 5 points. Except in the case of Oilseeds and Hides and Skins which rose by one point each, all the other groups declined—Raw Cotton by 10 points, Other raw and manufactured articles by 7 points, Silk and Metals each by 2 points and Cotton manufactures by one point. The price of imported coal declined by 27 points.

During April 1925, Cereals and Pulses were above the average level of 1924, while the other groups including the food, non-food and general index were below the 1924 level.

The subjoined table compares April 1925 prices with those of the preceding months and of the corresponding month last year.

Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay* 100 = average of 1924

Groups	No. of items	+ or - % compared with Mar. 1925	+ or - % compared with Apr. 1924	Groups.	Apr 1924	July 1924	Oct 1924	Jan 1925	Mar 1925	Apr 1925
1. Cereals ..	7	- 3	+22	1. Cereals ..	91	107	105	114	115	111
2. Pulses ..	2	+ 5	+24	2. Pulses ..	91	107	103	111	108	113
3. Sugar ..	3	+ 1	-19	3. Sugar ..	104	101	94	84	84	85
4. Other food ..	3	-12	-31	4. Other food ..	99	92	93	94	77	68
All food ..	15	- 4	- 6	All food ..	97	101	98	100	95	91
5. Oilseeds ..	4	+ 1	+ 8	5. Oilseeds ..	90	106	109	101	96	97
6. Raw cotton ..	3	- 5	-23	6. Raw cotton ..	102	105	103	83	83	79
7. Cotton manufactures ..	6	..	-11	7. Cotton manufactures ..	102	100	96	94	91	91
8. Other textiles.	2	- 1	-31	8. Other textiles.	120	98	93	88	84	83
9. Hides and skins	3	+ 1	..	9. Hides & skins.	94	96	100	135	93	94
10. Metals ..	5	- 1	- 5	10. Metals ..	100	98	99	98	96	95
11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	4	- 4	- 6	11. Other raw and manufactured articles..	104	102	99	103	102	98
All non-food ..	27	- 3	-12	All non-food ..	102	101	99	98	93	90
General Index No...	42	- 4	-10	General Index No.	101	101	99	97	94	91

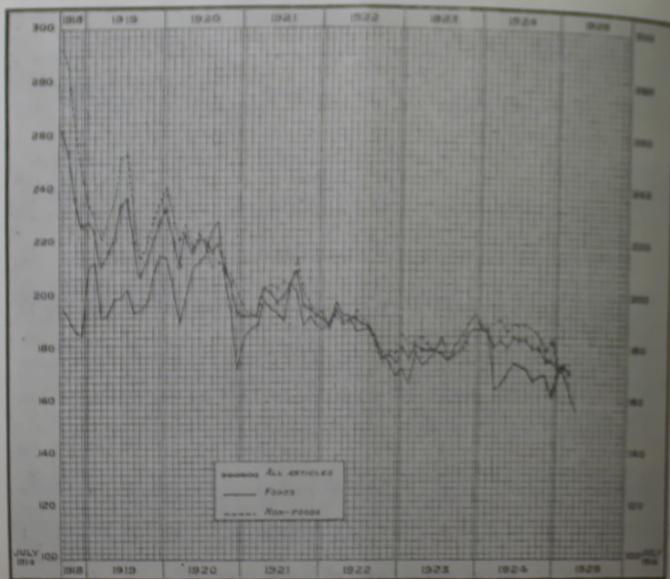
* Wholesale prices in Karachi will be found on page 1000.

The following table is intended to show the annual movements in food, non-food and general wholesale prices :—
July 1914 = 100

	Food	Non-food	All articles
Yearly-monthly average 1918	171	209	206
" " 1919	202	273	222
" " 1920	206	279	236
" " 1921	193	261	199
" " 1922	186	187	187
" " 1923	179	182	181
" " 1924	173	188	182
Four-monthly .. 1925	167	172	171

The diagram below shows from September 1918, which was the month in which the great failure of the rains affected food-grain prices in India, the course of the changes in the Index Numbers for Foods, Non-foods and all articles in the Bombay wholesale market.

Wholesale Price Index Numbers, Bombay

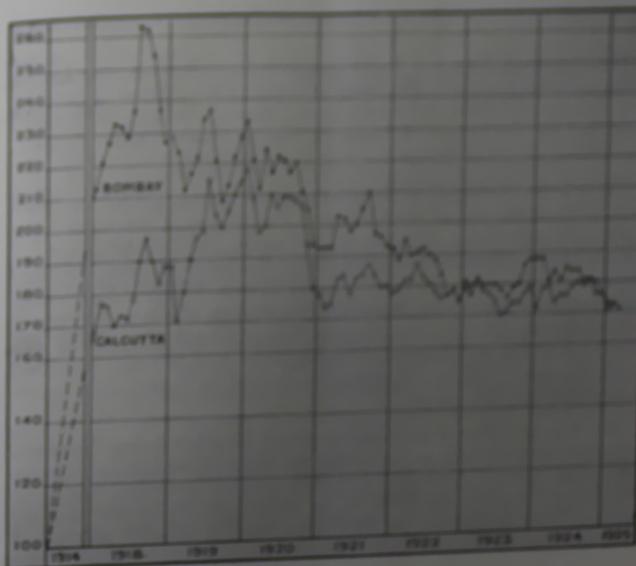


COMPARISON BETWEEN THE INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA

The diagram on this page shows the comparative movements of the index numbers of wholesale prices in Bombay and Calcutta. The index numbers for Calcutta are prepared by the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence under the Government of India.

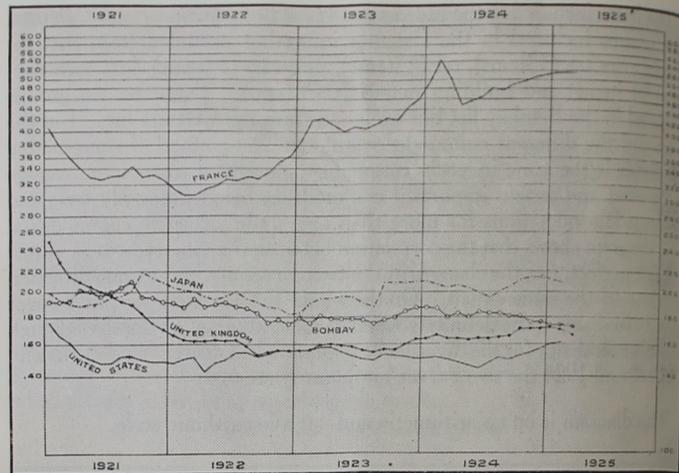
The items included in the indices are 42 for Bombay and 71 for Calcutta. The groups included in the Calcutta index but excluded from that for Bombay are tea (3 items), oil (2 items), jute raw (3 items), jute manufactures (4 items) and building materials (1 item). There are no groups included in the Bombay list but excluded from the Calcutta list. But the details of the different commodities differ. The method of constructing the index is the same in each case—the unweighted arithmetic average being used and certain important commodities being indirectly weighted by securing quotations for more than one grade of such commodities. The diagram shows that the correlation between the two indices is direct but not perfect, i.e., the changes in the two curves are in the same direction but not to the same extent. On the whole the increase in prices over July 1914 seems to be definitely lower in Calcutta than in Bombay though there is a tendency for the divergence to diminish in degree, and at the end of 1922 and 1924 the two curves temporarily crossed.

The diagram is on an arithmetic and not a logarithmic scale.



COMPARISON WITH WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN OTHER COUNTRIES

The following diagram illustrates the comparative level of Wholesale Prices Index Numbers in five countries. The bases are 1913 for the other centres and July 1914 for Bombay. The Japan figure is for Tokyo.



The sources of these five Index Numbers are:—Bombay, the Labour Office; United Kingdom, The Board of Trade; United States of America, The Bureau of Labour Statistics; Japan, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations; France, French Official figure as republished in "The Statist".

These Index Numbers and those for eight other countries will be found in a Table at the end of the Gazette. The sources of information for these eight other Index Numbers are:—Canada, The Labour Gazette of Canada; China (Shanghai), The Secretary, Bureau of Markets, Treasury Department, Shanghai (by letter); Egypt (Cairo), Monthly Agricultural Statistics, published by the Statistical Department, Ministry of Finance; Java (Batavia), The Director, Labour Office, Dutch East Indies (by letter); Australia and Belgium, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations; Norway, Sweden and the Netherlands, figures republished in "The Statist".

The Labour Office also keeps on record 14 other Index Numbers, including three privately published for the United Kingdom and two for the United States of America. The three privately published figures for the United Kingdom are those of the Statist, the Economist and the London Times and the two for the United States of America are those of Bradstreet and the Federal Reserve Board.

RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Equiva- lent in rupees	July 1914		April 1925		Increase (+) or decrease (-) in Apr. 1925 over or below	
				As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	July 1914	Apr. 1925
Rice	Rangeon Small-mill	Paylee	208	5 10	7 10	7 8	+1 10	-0 2	
Wheat	Pasi Seoni	"	200	5 10	8 7	8 8	+2 10	+0 1	
Jowari	Best Sholapuri	"	200	4 3	6 2	5 11	+1 8	-0 3	
Bajri	Chati	"	204	4 7	6 1	6 1	+1 6	....
Gram	Delhi	"	196	4 4	5 7	5 7	+1 3	....
Turdal	Cawnpore	"	200	5 11	6 11	6 11	+1 0	....
Sugar (refined)	Java, white	Seer	28	1 1	2 0	2 0	+0 11	....
Raw Sugar (Gul)	Sangli, middle quality	"	28	1 2	2 0	2 0	+0 10	....
Tea	Loose Ceylon, powder	Lb.	39	7 10	15 10	15 9	+7 11	-0 1	
Salt	Bombay, black	Paylee	188	1 9	2 10	2 9	+1 0	-0 1	
Beef	....	Lb.	39	2 6	3 11	3 11	+1 5	....
Mutton	....	"	39	3 0	6 0	6 0	+3 0	....
Milk	Medium	Seer	56	2 9	4 11	4 11	+2 2	....
Ghee	Belgaum, Superior	"	28	7 1	13 11	14 2	+7 1	+0 3	
Potatoes	Ordinary	"	28	0 8	1 1	1 0	+0 4	-0 1	
Onions	Nasik	"	28	0 3	0 9	0 9	+0 6	....
Cocanut oil	Middle quality	"	28	3 7	4 1	4 1	+0 6	....

Collection of prices.—The following are the areas and streets in which price quotations are obtained for articles other than butcher's meat:—

1. Dadar—Dadar Station Road.
2. Kumbharwada—Kumbharwada Road (North End).
3. Saitan Chowki—Kumbharwada Road (South End).
4. Elphinstone Road.
5. Naigam—Naigam Cross Road and Development Chawls.
6. Parel—Poibawdi.
7. Ferguson Road.
8. DeLisle Road.
9. Suparibag—Suparibag Road.
10. Chinchpokli—Parel Road.
11. Grant Road.
12. Nal Bazaar—Sandhurst Road.

The prices for mutton and beef are collected from the Central Municipal Markets. The number of quotations collected for each article during the month is, on an average, 100. The prices are for actual transactions and are carefully collected by the Investigators of the Labour Office.

The variations in prices in April 1925 as compared with the previous month have been slight. Rice and jowari fell by 2 and 3 pies respectively while wheat rose by one pie per paylee. Tea was cheaper by one pie per lb. Salt and potatoes declined each by one pie per seer. The price of ghee rose by 3 pies per seer while other articles remained practically unchanged.

As compared with July 1914, tea and onions have more than doubled themselves. Ghee and mutton are twice their pre-war level. Sugar (refined), gul, salt, beef and milk are more than 50 per cent. above the pre-war prices. The rise in onions is 200 per cent.

COMPARATIVE RETAIL PRICES

The following table compares the retail food prices in Karachi, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Poona with those in Bombay in March and April 1925 (Bombay prices = 100). It will be seen that the average retail price levels in all the centres are below the level of Bombay in March and April 1925:—

Bombay prices in March 1925 = 100					Bombay prices in April 1925 = 100						
Articles	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona	Articles	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
Cereals—						Cereals—					
Rice ..	100	106	118	109	118	Rice ..	100	109	121	114	123
Wheat ..	100	88	93	83	94	Wheat ..	100	85	96	85	93
Jowari ..	100	72	72	73	93	Jowari ..	100	75	75	76	91
Bajri ..	100	82	96	83	100	Bajri ..	100	81	96	78	100
Average—						Average—					
Cereals ..	100	87	95	87	101	Cereals ..	100	88	97	88	100
Pulses—						Pulses—					
Gram ..	100	84	100	83	91	Gram ..	100	81	97	83	95
Turdal ..	100	88	116	100	123	Turdal ..	100	89	116	100	123
Average—						Average—					
Pulses ..	100	86	108	92	107	Pulses ..	100	85	107	92	109
Other articles of food—						Other articles of food—					
Sugar (re-fined) ..	100	91	97	112	96	Sugar (re-fined) ..	100	88	107	112	98
Jagri (Gul) ..	100	75	93	93	84	Jagri (Gul) ..	100	75	93	93	91
Tea ..	100	99	99	113	104	Tea ..	100	99	99	113	120
Salt ..	100	72	76	99	99	Salt ..	100	67	78	101	102
Beef ..	100	125	88	63	75	Beef ..	100	125	75	63	75
Mutton ..	100	97	73	81	73	Mutton ..	100	97	65	81	81
Milk ..	100	57	57	76	76	Milk ..	100	57	57	76	76
Ghee ..	100	83	80	80	85	Ghee ..	100	84	79	79	79
Potatoes ..	100	74	65	103	62	Potatoes ..	100	77	70	102	65
Onions ..	100	76	105	75	60	Onions ..	100	59	93	75	49
Cocoa nut oil ..	100	104	110	115	104	Cocoa nut oil ..	100	104	110	115	104
Average—						Average—					
Other articles of food ..	100	87	85	92	83	Other articles of food ..	100	85	84	92	86
Average—						Average—					
All food articles ..	100	87	90	91	90	All food articles ..	100	85	90	91	92

Actual retail prices at these centres will be found among the miscellaneous tables at the end of the gazette. The differences of the relative prices at the different centres are considerable. As compared with the previous month the relative average for all food articles rose by 2 points at Poona, fell by 2 points at Karachi and remained the same at Ahmedabad and Sholapur. Referring back to April 1924 it is found that in relation to Bombay the Sholapur and Ahmedabad averages were lower by 4 and 3 points respectively, the Poona average one point higher than in that month while the Karachi average remained the same. Of individual articles the relative prices of bajri and potatoes have decreased, and those of salt have increased, at the four mofussil centres. The relative prices of Jagri (gul) are lower except at Sholapur and Poona. Tea at Ahmedabad and onions at Sholapur which stood at 132 and 120 are now 99 and 75 respectively. Both the differences between different centres at any given date and the fluctuations of those differences are surprisingly high and it is not at the moment apparent why an article not locally produced (like tea and refined sugar) should sometimes be dearer and sometimes cheaper at any mofussil centre than at Bombay.

Securities Index Number

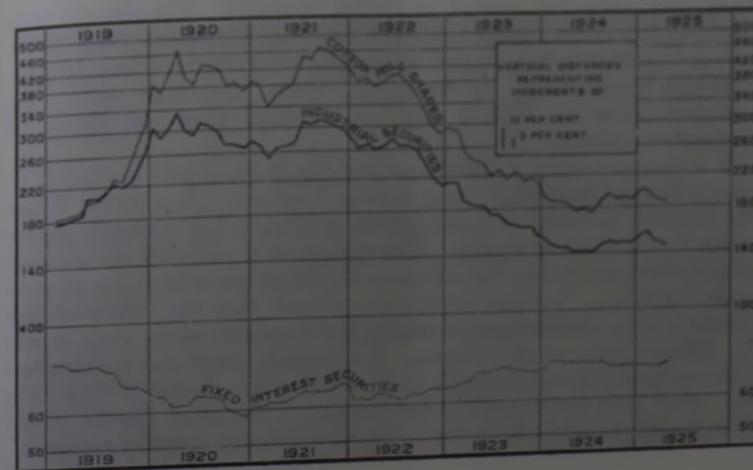
A FALL OF FOUR POINTS

In April 1925, the general level of prices of 102 shares and securities included in the Labour Office Securities Index Number was 141 as against 145 in the previous month. The Government and Corporation (fixed interest) securities which stood at 72 for the last seven months have increased by one point. Railway companies rose by one point while Cotton ginning and pressing companies remained stationary. The fall of 4 points in the Industrial securities is due to a decrease of 7 points in Electric undertakings, 5 points in Cotton mills, 4 points in Cement and manganese companies and 2 points each in Banks and Miscellaneous companies.

The Construction of the Index

No.	Description	Index No.	July 1924		April 1925	
			Total numbers	Average	Total numbers	Average
1	Government and Corporation Securities ..	7	700	73	508	73
2	Banks ..	6	600	133	800	133
3	Railway Companies ..	10	1,000	107	1,000	107
4	Cotton Mills ..	42	4,200	192	8,183	192
5	Cotton Ginning and Pressing Companies ..	8	800	131	1,644	131
6	Cement and Manganese Companies ..	5	500	130	540	130
7	Electric Undertakings ..	2	200	147	294	147
8	Miscellaneous Companies ..	22	2,200	94	2,661	94
9	Industrial Securities ..	95	9,500	146	13,898	146
10	General average ..	102	10,200	141	14,406	141

Movements of Securities Index Nos. (Logarithmic Scale)



European Cost of Living Index

A FALL OF ONE POINT

All items .. 62 per cent. Food only .. 85 per cent.

A description of the scope and method of construction of the index relating to families living in Bombay in European style was published on pages 13—15 of the *Labour Gazette* for April 1924. Certain changes which were subsequently carried out were described on page 10 of the *Labour Gazette* for August 1924. In computing the index number from October 1924 it was found necessary to utilize a new source of information for certain price quotations as the old firm could not furnish comparable data. Care has however been taken to see that the quotations obtained from the new firm are comparable with those of the old one.

The items shown in the Tables now presented are samples of articles and services. The prices in the prices columns are quoted for the "Unit of Quantity" in column 2. The prices are then multiplied by the figures in column 3 "Annual number or quantity required" in order to give to the various articles their relative importance. The resulting expenditure figures for the sample articles are shown in the last three columns. The group and general index numbers are the index numbers of the figures in the last three columns, and are not simple index numbers of the simple prices.

It is important to emphasize that the figures presented are not intended to be a complete budget. They are merely samples of articles and services, selected mainly because it was possible to get information for their price movements. The idea underlying the whole enquiry is that these samples are fair samples, and that the index number obtained from them would approximate to the index number which would be obtained on any given individual budget, were it possible to ascertain the past and present prices of every particular article or service appearing in that budget.

The newspaper criticism on the index previously published attacked especially the rates for "Servants' wages" and "Rents". These two items were made the subject of special enquiries. The changes with regard to "Servants' wages" referred to in the November issue of the *Labour Gazette* have been carried out and the index numbers since January 1924 have been changed. In regard to "Rents" no change seems to be necessary before the 1924-25 data are collected from the Municipal Assessment Ledgers.

It is necessary again to emphasize that the index is only applicable to cases where the standard of living remains unaltered. As a matter of fact the standard of living does not remain unaltered, but normally moves upward in all strata of society. This movement is probably not measurable in arithmetic terms, but allowance should be made for it by persons using the index. It is also necessary to remark that the effect of any deterioration or improvement in quality and durability of the same article for different years cannot be shown. For example, shoes may possibly last a shorter time now than the same trade variety of shoe lasted in 1914. On the other hand tyres possibly last longer. Changes of quality would however affect mainly the factor "Annual number or quantity required"

and their effect on the index number would be small, especially if some changes are in one direction and others in the opposite direction.

As compared with January 1925, the general index number in April 1925 showed a fall of one point. The general index number is five points lower than the level in April 1924.

Group Fluctuations

The main changes by groups are shown in the table below (100 = the level in July 1914).

Group or item	Month and Year			
	October 1920	April 1924	January 1925	April 1925
I. Food—				
Bazaar	204	181	179	192
Stores	216	181	179	169
All food	207	181	179	185
II. Fuel and lighting	159	122	119	119
III. Clothing	249	181	188	179
IV. House-rent	132	163	163	163
V. Miscellaneous—				
Servants	140	184	184	184
Conveyance	157	169	153	146
School-fees, etc.	116	140	128	130
Passages	123	177	164	165
Income-tax	200	200	200	200
Household necessities	168	125	137	145
Others	220	213	211	211
All miscellaneous	144	168	160	159
General Index No.	157	167	163	162

It will be seen that in April 1925, there was a fall as compared with January 1925 in all the groups except food, fuel and lighting and house rent. The rise in the price of eggs, bread and potatoes more than counterbalanced the fall in the price of cigarettes and resulted in an increase of 6 points in the food index. The decrease in clothing is chiefly due to a fall in women's clothing; and in conveyance to a fall in the price of petrol. Household necessities recorded a rise of 8 points while fuel and lighting remained stationary.

General Index Number

The following are the available general index numbers for certain months in the years 1919, 1920, 1923, 1924 and 1925:—

Month and Year	Index No.	Month and Year	Index No.
April 1919	151	April 1924	167
October 1919	146	July 1924	165
October 1920	157	October 1924	162
October 1923	164	January 1925	163
January 1924	166	April 1925	162

BOMBAY EUROPEAN COST OF LIVING INDEX

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual No. or quantity required per family	Price per unit of quantity			Price x Annual No. or quantity required		
			July 1914	Jan. 1925	April 1925	July 1914	Jan. 1925	April 1925
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Food-Bazaar								
Meat—								
Beef (selected) ..	Pound ..	132	0.250	0.406	0.406	33.00	53.59	33.00
Beef (for soup and stewing) ..	" ..	720	0.125	0.188	0.188	90.00	135.36	90.00
Mutton ..	" ..	192	0.250	0.563	0.531	48.00	108.10	48.00
Kidneys ..	Each ..	96	0.047	0.078	0.078	4.51	7.49	4.51
Suet ..	Pound ..	36	0.313	0.459	0.469	11.27	16.88	11.27
Poultry—								
Chickens ..	Each ..	48	0.375	0.688	0.688	18.00	33.02	18.00
Fowls ..	" ..	24	1.000	1.750	2.000	24.00	42.00	24.00
Eggs ..	Dozen ..	360	0.375	0.656	0.875	135.00	236.16	135.00
Dairy—								
Milk ..	Seer ..	900	0.250	0.500	0.500	225.00	450.00	225.00
Butter ..	Pound ..	96	0.750	1.250	1.250	72.00	120.00	72.00
Bread ..	" ..	360	0.094	0.146	0.172	33.84	52.56	33.84
Vegetables—								
Potatoes ..	Seer ..	360	0.063	0.078	0.094	22.68	23.08	22.68
Onions ..	" ..	120	0.021	0.057	0.057	2.52	6.84	2.52
Tomatoes ..	" ..	60	0.094	0.141	0.141	5.64	8.46	5.64
Fruit—								
Bananas ..	Dozen ..	24	0.188	0.313	0.313	4.51	7.51	4.51
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	729.97	1,306.05	729.97
Index No. ..	..	..	..	..	..	100	179	100
Food-Store—								
Coffee ..	Pound ..	12	1.625	2.375	2.375	19.50	28.50	19.50
Tea ..	" ..	12	0.938	1.875	1.875	11.26	22.50	11.26
Rice ..	" ..	36	0.313	0.375	0.375	11.27	13.50	11.27
Flour ..	7 lb tin ..	6	1.000	1.750	1.750	6.00	10.50	6.00
Sugar ..	Pound ..	240	0.125	0.250	0.250	30.00	60.00	30.00
Salt ..	2 1/2 lb ..	4	0.438	1.000	1.053	1.75	4.20	1.75
Cheese ..	Pound ..	24	1.000	2.125	2.250	24.00	54.00	24.00
Jam ..	" ..	48	0.438	0.750	0.750	21.02	35.00	21.02
Sauce ..	1/2 Bottle ..	12	1.625	2.000	2.000	19.50	24.00	19.50
Biscuits ..	2 lb tin ..	12	1.438	3.375	3.375	17.26	24.00	17.26
Oats ..	" ..	24	0.625	0.875	0.875	15.00	40.50	15.00
Soda-water ..	Per dozen ..	96	0.375	0.750	0.750	36.00	21.00	36.00
Cigarettes ..	50 ..	72	1.250	2.375	1.875	90.00	72.00	90.00
Cheroots ..	50 ..	12	1.500	1.625	1.625	18.00	19.50	18.00
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	320.56	574.00	320.56
Index No. ..	..	..	..	..	..	100	179	100
All-Food Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	1,050.53	1,880.05	1,050.53
Index No. ..	..	..	..	..	..	100	185	100
Fuel and lighting—								
Coal ..	Ton ..	12	18.000	23.625	23.625	216.00	283.50	216.00
Electricity ..	Unit ..	768	0.250	0.250	0.250	192.00	192.00	192.00
Matches ..	Dozen ..	36	0.094	0.250	0.250	3.38	9.00	3.38
Kerosene oil ..	Tin ..	6 tins	2.185	3.766	3.766	13.11	22.60	13.11
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	424.49	507.10	424.49
Index No. ..	..	..	..	..	..	100	119	100
Clothing Men—								
Shirts ..	Each ..	1 dozen	3.000	4.500	4.500	36.00	54.00	36.00
Vests ..	" ..	1/2 ..	1.375	2.250	2.250	8.25	13.50	8.25
Socks ..	Pair ..	9 pairs	2.500	5.000	5.000	22.50	45.00	22.50
Collars (stiff, white 4 fold)	Dozen ..	1 dozen	7.500	12.500	12.500	7.50	12.50	7.50
Collars (soft white)	" ..	1 ..	7.500	12.500	12.500	7.50	12.50	7.50
Cotton suit ..	Each ..	1 ..	15.000	35.500	35.000	90.00	213.00	90.00
Coat, Sports ..	" ..	1 ..	35.000	45.000	45.000	23.33	30.00	23.33
Pyjamas, Suits ..	Pair ..	4 pairs	15.000	27.000	27.000	60.00	108.00	60.00
Hats ..	Each ..	1 ..	12.500	12.500	10.500	12.50	10.50	12.50
Shoes ..	Pair ..	1 pair	18.000	40.000	40.000	18.00	40.00	18.00
Lounge suit ..	Each ..	1 ..	65.000	110.000	110.000	32.50	55.00	32.50
Rain coat ..	" ..	1 ..	65.000	109.000	109.000	13.00	21.80	13.00
Ties ..	" ..	4 ..	2.750	5.500	5.500	11.00	22.00	11.00
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	342.08	639.80	342.08
Index No. ..	..	..	..	..	..	100	187	100

BOMBAY EUROPEAN COST OF LIVING INDEX—contd.

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual No. or quantity required per family	Prices per unit of quantity			Price x Annual No. or quantity required		
			July 1914	Jan. 1925	April 1925	July 1914	Jan. 1925	April 1925
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Clothing—women and children—								
Muslins ..	Yard ..	12 yards	0.750	1.250	1.053	9.00	15.00	12.76
Prints ..	" ..	12 ..	0.625	1.750	1.750	7.50	21.00	7.50
Satin ..	" ..	3 ..	7.500	16.000	16.000	22.50	48.00	22.50
Silk for dresses ..	" ..	12 ..	5.500	8.750	5.250	66.00	105.00	63.00
Crepe de Chine ..	" ..	12 ..	4.500	11.750	11.750	54.00	141.00	54.00
Ribbons, Satin ..	" ..	18 ..	0.375	0.563	0.563	6.75	10.13	6.75
Stockings ..	pair ..	9 pairs	10.900	18.750	18.000	94.50	168.75	162.00
Vests ..	vest ..	4 ..	7.500	10.250	10.250	30.00	41.00	30.00
Shoes, walking ..	pair ..	2 pairs	14.000	25.000	25.000	28.00	50.00	28.00
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	318.25	599.88	318.25
Index No. ..	..	..	..	..	..	100	188	100
All-clothing Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	660.33	1,239.68	660.33
Index No. ..	..	..	..	..	..	100	179	100
House-rent ..	Per month	12 months	150.000	244.500	244.500	1,800.00	2,934.00	1,800.00
Miscellaneous.								
Servants—	..	1	19.880	36.970	36.970	238.56	443.64	238.56
Butler ..	" ..	1	22.700	38.300	38.300	272.40	459.60	272.40
Cook ..	" ..	1	15.900	27.300	27.300	190.80	327.60	190.80
Hamal ..	" ..	1	17.400	38.300	38.300	208.80	459.60	208.80
Ayah ..	" ..	1	13.800	23.800	23.800	165.60	285.60	165.60
Dhobi ..	" ..	1	13.800	23.800	23.800	165.60	285.60	165.60
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	1,076.16	1,976.04	1,076.16
Index No. ..	..	..	..	..	..	100	184	100
Conveyance—								
Chauffeur ..	" ..	1	45.000	82.000	82.000	540.00	984.00	540.00
Petrol ..	Gallon ..	360	0.937	1.563	1.344	337.50	562.68	483.84
Oil ..	" ..	12	3.500	5.000	5.000	42.00	60.00	42.00
Tyres ..	Set of 4 covers	1	272.000	259.126	259.357	272.00	259.13	259.36
Inner tubes ..	Set of 4	1	67.000	54.069	53.104	67.00	54.07	53.10
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	1,258.50	1,919.88	1,258.50
Index No. ..	..	..	..	..	..	100	153	100
School fees ..	..	..	124.531	160.000	162.246	1,494.37	1,520.00	1,494.37
Passages ..	One return passage	1,138.500	1,866.688	1,879.750	759.00	1,244.46	1,253.17	759.00
Income-tax ..	Per month	12 months	55.000	110.000	110.000	660.00	1,320.00	660.00
Household necessities								
Forks, table ..	Dozen ..	3/6	27.500	45.000	45.000	4.13	6.75	4.13
Spoons, table ..	" ..	3/6	27.500	45.000	45.000	1.37	2.25	1.37
Knives, table ..	" ..	3/6	19.500	45.000	45.000	5.85	13.50	5.85
Tumblers, 1/2 pint ..	" ..	4	5.000	9.750	9.750	2.50	4.88	2.50
Tea-set ..	Set 40 pieces	1	29.000	52.750	52.750	4.83	8.79	4.83
Dinner-service ..	Set 93 pieces	1	91.000	140.125	124.000	9.10	14.01	9.10
Towels ..	Pair ..	One dozen	5.000	8.500	9.938	60.00	102.00	60.00
Sheets ..	Pair ..	6	18.500	20.000	20.000	111.00	120.00	120.00
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	198.78	272.18	198.78
Index No. ..	..	..	..	..	..	100	137	100
Others—								
Stationery ..	5 quires (paper)	4	0.563	1.000	1.000	2.25	4.00	2.25
Medicine ..	Month ..	12 months	8.625	18.292	18.292	103.50	219.50	103.50
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	105.75	223.50	105.75
Index No. ..	..	..	..	..	..	100	211	100
Miscellaneous Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	5,552.56	8,876.05	5,552.56
Index No. ..	..	..	..	..	..	100	160	100
All items Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	9,487		

Labour Intelligence—Indian and Foreign

Creches in Bombay City

There are at present three creches in the City of Bombay accommodating about 100 children between the ages of one month to five years. Of these, one is managed by a private body while the other two are financed, controlled and supervised by the mills which have started them.

The Children's Welfare Society's Creche.

This creche is situated at Tardeo and is named after Mr. Maneckjee Petit who has provided rooms for it at a nominal rent of Rs. 10 per month. It is managed and financed by the Children's Welfare Society. Children between the ages of one month and five years are admitted. Admission to the creche is not restricted only to children belonging to parents working in the Maneckjee Petit Mills, though preference is given to them. It is noteworthy that children of non-cotton mill operatives are in some cases admitted.

The creche is open from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. The number of children on the registers varies between 30 and 40. There are 24 cradles in the creche of which about 12 are occupied every day.

In this creche a great deal of attention seems to be paid to the food and clothing of the children. In the case of breast-fed children the mothers are allowed to go three times a day to feed the babies. Children not fed on mother's milk are given breakfast in the morning at about 8 a.m. The breakfast consists of a slice of bread and butter and a quarter seer of milk. At about 11 a.m. they are given a meal consisting of rice (superior quality) and dal or potato curry. Mutton is given twice a week and fish only once a month. At about 3 in the afternoon the children are given some biscuits and milk.

All the children are properly washed, bathed and given clean clothes to wear every day. The sanitary arrangements are very good.

A large staff is engaged to look after the children. A Lady Superintendent visits the creche twice or thrice a week for general supervision and the Lady Doctor does the same, spending about two hours in the creche every time she visits it. The Lady Doctor examines the children, takes their weights and in cases where nursing is necessary gives proper instructions to the nurse in charge. Among the permanent members of the staff, there is one resident nurse, one health visitor, and four servants. The resident nurse is responsible for the supervision of the creche. It is also a part of her duties to go out and induce parents to send children to the creche. When the resident nurse goes out, it is the duty of the health visitor to do general supervision. She has also to find out expectant mothers requiring help and to secure new babies for the creche.

Every care is taken of the children. They are not only supplied with clean clothes, towels, toys, sweets, etc., and given good food to eat, but in cases where the children are found weak and sickly, medicine and sometimes even tonics are given. To make the children feel happy, they are occasionally taken out for excursions.

The creche is also in some respects a centre of social reform. No caste distinctions are observed and admission is granted on a footing of equality. There is a nominal fee of Re. 1 per head per month, but it is voluntary and it is understood, that most parents do not pay it.

The Spring Mill Creche.

This is situated at Naigaum Road, Dadar, in the mill compound of the Spring Mill. The creche consists of one moderately ventilated room, no more than 15×25 in size. The management started it six years ago and bear all the expenses of running the creche.

When the creche was first started, there were almost no children in it. Subsequently, however, children began gradually to be attracted towards it and at present there are about 20 to 30 between the ages of one month and five years. Only children of the operatives belonging to that mill are allowed to remain in the creche. The creche is open from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. on working days of the mills while it remains closed on days on which the mill itself is closed.

It is noteworthy that no food is supplied to children in this creche. The mothers before starting work leave their children there and in the case of breast-fed children the mothers go to the creche 3 times a day to feed the babies; while in the case of other children the mother goes to the creche at noon, and brings the food with her for the child. Sometimes the food is left with the nurse in charge of the children. All the children are taken away by their mothers in the evening.

There are only 3 cradles, although there are several children below the age of 3. Children for whom cradles are not supplied are made to sleep on jute bags which are not always very clean. In addition to this, there are two straw mats in the creche for the use of the other children.

The sanitary arrangements are far from satisfactory. Children are not bathed, nor is a plentiful supply of soap allowed. There are no arrangements even for washing and no linen or clothes are supplied. It has been stated that no food is supplied in the creche, and the only expenditure incurred by the management in this respect is on sweets which are given to children, the cost per child of the sweets given being 2 pice per day.

The staff consists of one trained nurse and one female servant. The Mill doctor (who is a qualified person) visits the creche once a week regularly.

The Currimbhoy Ebrahim Mill Creche.

This is situated in the Fazulbhoy Mill compound at Delisle Road, Parel. Admission to the creche is restricted only to the children of the operatives working in the group of mills belonging to Sir Currimbhoy Ebrahim. The creche was started in 1919 and is being maintained by the Mills. At first the management was entrusted entirely to the Social Service League, Bombay, but at present the creche is managed by the Supervising Board of the Mills.

The creche is open from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. and children between the ages of one month and five years are admitted.

There seems to be a large number of children in this creche. There are 28 cradles, all of which are usually occupied, and sometimes two children have to be placed in one cradle for want of more cradles.

The arrangements for food seem to be satisfactory. Infants are fed by their mothers who visit the creche three times a day. But children between the age of one year and 2 years and 6 months are given milk and biscuits three times in the day at 10 a.m., 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. respectively. Children above three years of age are given only a quarter seer of milk twice a day. No cooked food is given in the creche but mothers who want to give their children cooked food are allowed to do so by taking the children to the mill compound and feeding them whenever they themselves are having a meal.

Arrangements for bathing, washing, etc., are not so satisfactory here as in the Children's Welfare Society's creche but clean linen and clothing are given. The one outstanding feature of this creche is that for the bigger children a kindergarten class is regularly held.

The staff consists of one wholtime Lady Supervisor who is in charge of the creche assisted by four other servants. Once a week the Mill doctor visits the creche and attends to cases of sick children.

Women Mill Workers

Under the auspices of the Women Workers' Association of the Currimbhoy Institute a meeting of the women of the C. E. Mills was held on Saturday in the Institute Hall, Mr. V. D. Karkhanis, Auditor, Co-operative Societies Welfare Work, presiding. Mrs. A. Moses, Head Mistress, Girls' School, Thana, explained the necessity of education to women of the mills who had to work in various capacities and who for want of education were likely to be deceived every where in their daily life. Then she dwelt on the educative side of the co-operative movement. She said under the Institute's guidance three societies were conducted for their benefit, and it was here that they should learn to develop the habits of economy, and honesty and to be helpful to their fellow-women. She also suggested the introduction of co-operation in the sewing classes started for them, which would prove of a practical advantage to them.

Mr. Sasane of Kolhapur appealed to them to consider education as their sacred duty as mothers of the future generation and expressed his satisfaction at the excellent arrangements made by the Association for education and the holding of sewing classes, the provision of a creche, etc. The president, Mr. Karkhanis, impressed on them the necessity of further extending their co-operative work by starting co-operative sewing classes, and gave concrete ideas about the co-operative purchase of their everyday necessities, such as cholies, saris, soap, and clothing for their children and family members. A vote of thanks to the chair and speakers terminated the proceedings. (From "The Times of India," April 23, 1925.)

Industrial Disputes in the Presidency

Disputes in April .. 11 Workpeople involved .. 7,740

At the end of this issue will be found a statement of each dispute in progress during April 1925, with the number of workpeople involved, the date when the dispute began and ended, the cause and the result. The word "dispute" in the official sense means an interruption of work and it is here used in that sense as virtually synonymous with "strike". A dispute, as counted by the Labour Office, is an interruption of work involving ten or more persons and of not less than twenty-four hours' duration. Detailed statistics have been collected since 1st April 1921, the date on which the Labour Office was instituted.

Summary tables have been constructed in order to show the position at a glance, and the diagram at the end of this article shows graphically the same facts. Table I shows the number, magnitude and duration of strikes in April 1925.

I.—Industrial Disputes classified by Trades

Trade	Number of disputes in progress in April 1925			Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in April 1925	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in April 1925*
	Started before 1st April	Started in April	Total		
Textile	9	9	2,403	11,330
Engineering (a)	2	2	5,337	51,810
Miscellaneous
Total April 1925	11	11	7,740	63,140
Total March 1925 ..	1	6	7	2,570	9,962

*i.e., the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days, an allowance being made for workers replaced by others.

(a) Includes transport.

There were eleven industrial disputes in progress in April 1925, nine of which occurred in cotton mills and two in Railway workshops and Traffic Department. The number of workpeople involved was 7,740 and the working days lost (i.e., the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days less workers replaced) 63,140 which, it will be seen, is a large increase on the March 1925 statistics.

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes.

II.—Industrial Disputes—Results December 1924 to April 1925

	December 1924	January 1925	February 1925	March 1925	April 1925
Number of strikes and lock-outs ..	6	5	4	7	11
Disputes in progress at beginning ..	1	....	....	1	....
Fresh disputes begun ..	5	5	4	6	11
Disputes ended ..	6	5	3	7	9
Disputes in progress at end ..	....	....	1	....	2
Number of workpeople involved ..	975	1,277	862	2,570	7,740
Aggregate duration in working days ..	941	1,444	3,070	9,962	63,140
Demands—					
Pay ..	2	2	3	5	4
Bonus ..	....	....	....	....	....
Personal ..	4	1	1	1	4
Leave and hours ..	....	2	....	....	....
Others ..	....	....	....	1	3
Results—					
In favour of employees ..	1	2	....	1	1
Compromised ..	1	1	1	1	3
In favour of employers ..	4	2	2	5	5

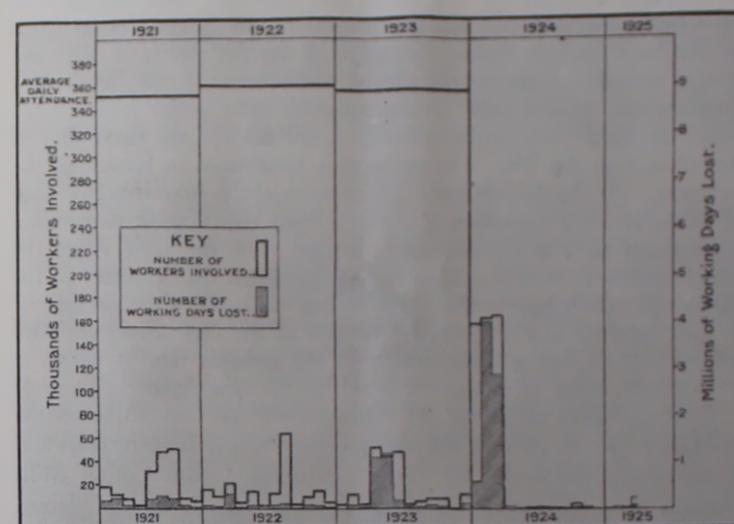
The last summary table shows, among other things, the proportion of strikes settled in favour of the employers and the employees, or compromised.

III.—Industrial Disputes

Month	Number of strikes and lock-outs	Aggregate duration in working days	Proportion settled			In progress. (Per cent.)
			In favour of employers. (Per cent.)	In favour of employees. (Per cent.)	Com-promised. (Per cent.)	
April 1924 ..	4	2,717	25	75	..	
May ..	2	390	50	..	50	
June ..	5	1,169	100	..	..
July ..	4	3,661	75	25	..	
August ..	6	3,270	50	33	17	
September ..	4	1,496	75	25	..	
October ..	5	19,567	40	40	20	
November ..	6	4,201	67	..	16	
December ..	6	941	67	16	17	
January 1925 ..	5	1,444	40	40	20	
February ..	4	3,070	50	..	25	
March ..	7	9,962	72	14	14	
April ..	11	63,140	46	9	27	
Totals or (cols. 4 to 7) Average ..	69	115,028	58	21	13	

It may be of interest to state that the highest peak (4,062,870) in respect of the number of working days lost through strikes in this Presidency since April 1921 was reached in February 1924 whereas the lowest level was reached in May 1924.

Effect of Industrial Disputes, Bombay Presidency



GENERAL REVIEW OF DISPUTES

During April 1925 the number of industrial disputes in progress in the Bombay Presidency was eleven as against seven in the preceding month. Of these eleven disputes four were due to the question of pay and the remaining seven to personal and other grievances. Five were settled in favour of the employers, one in favour of the employees, three were compromised and two continued at the close of the month.

BOMBAY CITY

During the month under review there were two industrial disputes in Bombay City, both of which occurred in Cotton Mills. Two hundred and ninety-nine weavers of the Bombay Industrial Mill struck work on the 3rd April demanding the reinstatement of two Head Jobbers whose services were dispensed with for inefficiency. The demand was refused, and the management closed the mill till the 13th when new hands were engaged on new rates, a list of which was put up in each department for information. The strike thus terminated on the 13th in favour of the employers. In the Ruby Mill at Dadar, 50 boys of the Ring Department remained absent on the 17th April demanding the reinstatement of a Line Jobber dismissed for inefficiency but the demand was refused. On the 20th April only two of the boys resumed work and the Manager engaged 48 new hands.

AHMEDABAD

In Ahmedabad there were in all seven industrial disputes during April 1925. (1) The strike of 75 operatives of the Frame Department in the Gordhan Spinning and Weaving Company at Naroda Road, occurred on the 6th April on the ground of alleged ill-treatment at the hands of a

Jobber. On the 7th April 25 strikers resumed work unconditionally. The Manager engaged 50 new hands and dispensed with the services of the remaining strikers. (2) The dispute in the Silver Cotton Mills near Kankaria Railway Station occurred on the 7th April. Eighty-five spinners complained against the alleged ill-treatment at the hands of a Mukadam and showed their unwillingness to serve under him. Forty strikers resumed work unconditionally on the 8th and the remaining 45 followed suit on the 9th. The strike thus terminated in favour of the employers. (3) On the 9th April 225 spinners of the Aryodaya Spinning and Manufacturing Company at Naroda Road struck work demanding the dismissal of a newly employed jobber. On the 13th April the strikers resumed work the Agent having instructed the Secretary of the Mill to take action against the jobber in case he harasses the operatives. (4) Two hundred and seventy-five weavers of the New Swadeshi Mill at Naroda Road, being dissatisfied with the reduced rate of wages at Re. 0-3-0 per sheet of cloth introduced by the new Agent in place of Re. 0-3-6 prevalent under the old management, went on strike on the 13th April. On the 14th the Manager promised to give some increase and the strikers resumed work. (5) In the Ahmedabad Laxmi Cotton Mills at Astodia Road, 125 operatives of the Throstle Department complained that the entrance of the Frame Department was at a distance and thus inconvenient for them, and requested the Agent to set up a separate entrance for them. The request, however, was not granted whereupon they struck work on the 17th April and demanded their pay. The Agent then put up a notice saying that the strikers would be paid their wages the next day, but they were not willing to receive their wages without consulting the Assistant Secretary of the Local Labour Union. On the 19th April the Manager employed 80 new men but 265 men from the Throstle and other departments joined the strike. The Assistant Secretary of the Local Labour Union interviewed the manager but no settlement was arrived at. Up to 22nd April the Manager employed 220 new men and 40 strikers resumed work unconditionally. On the 23rd April the Secretary and the Assistant Secretary of the Local Labour Union requested the Agent to take back all the strikers on work, but the request was not acceded to by the management. Some of the strikers were allowed to resume work unconditionally while others were replaced by new hands, but 60 strikers resumed work unconditionally up to the end of April. The strike terminated on the 4th May. (6) The weavers of the Vivekanand Mill Company complained on the 18th April against the practice of paying them partly in cash and partly in the form of the damaged goods turned out by them and demanded an increase in wages. The Agent having refused the demand 75 weavers struck work on the 20th April and were informed that their wages would be paid on the 22nd. On the 23rd April the Agent promised to give 1½ pies more for a pair of dhotis whereupon the strikers resumed work, and the strike ended in favour of the employees. (7) In the Aryodaya Ginning and Manufacturing

Company at Asarwa Road, 35 winders struck work on the 27th April out of sympathy for their Mukadam who had left the Mill as a result of a quarrel between him and the Mukadam of the Spinning Department. The next day the Manager informed the strikers that a new Mukadam with 20 new men was employed and that their services were not required, whereupon 20 strikers resumed work unconditionally and were followed by 8 more on the 29th April. The strike thus terminated on the 29th.

BARODA

About 90 coalmen and cleaners of the B. B. & C. I. Railway Locoshops at Baroda struck work on the 5th April demanding increase in wages, facility regarding leave, supply of clothing on duty, and change in other miscellaneous duties. On the 9th the strikers were served with a notice that in case of their failure to resume work by the 10th they would be considered as dismissed. In view of this notice 13 men were allowed to resume work on the 14th and 75 were not allowed to resume work, but were dismissed and asked to vacate the Company's quarters. But the strikers did not leave the quarters in expectation of order from the District Loco Superintendent, Ahmedabad, allowing them to resume work. On the 15th all strikers except 24 who were suspected to be the prime movers and instigators were allowed to resume duty and informed that their demands would be considered in due course.

SIND

The remote cause of the N. W. Railway strike was the dismissal from the recognised union of Mr. J. B. Miller who in conjunction with Messrs. Hall and M. A. Khan started agitation against the recognised union. In addition to pay demands the men's demands were:—(1) Gratuity should be paid with effect from 1st January 1920. (2) Working hours should be reduced to 8. (3) The men who were dismissed in 1922 should be reinstated. (4) Men going on strike should not be compelled to vacate railway quarters according to Madras High Court decision, 1915. (5) Railway employees, having no railway quarters, should be given an increased rate of 50 per cent. of their pay. (6) An employee who has served above five years should not be dismissed. Fines and other punishments should be stopped and matters of punishment should be dealt with in conjunction with the union members. (7) Day-men should be put on a monthly salary and confirmed in their appointments, and should be given the privileges of leave and free passes. A month should be a period of thirty days. (8) The scales of pay demanded should be introduced with effect from 1st January 1925. (9) Those men who were discharged, reduced, or who had their promotion stopped on account of retrenchment should be reinstated with retrospective effect. (10) Travelling allowances which were granted in 1922 but were not given on account of retrenchment should be given. (11) Railway employees having more than five children should be given an increment at the rate of five per cent. (12) Unemployment Act should be amended in accordance with the English Law. (13) A gratuity equal to 30 days' pay and not 15 days' pay should be given and the rule regarding the

length of service should be abolished. (14) If an employee passes his examination he should not be re-examined.

In addition to the above demands the following are also asked for on rights of the union:—(a) Fees to be recovered from pay and credited to the union trustees; (b) the union members to be allowed to represent their cause through pleaders or arbitrators; and (c) union delegates and trustees when required to go away on their work to be granted leave and passes.

The unrest which was originally confined to the Punjab spread to the Bombay Presidency on the 17th April when 2,223 workmen of the N.W. Railway, Carriage and Locoshops and Running shed at Karachi struck work in sympathy with the strikers at Rawalpindi and other stations on the N.W. Railway in the Punjab. Partly persuaded by Mr. Miller and his party and partly out of sympathy with those who went on strike, 154 men from the Railway shed and Fitting staff at Kotri and 742 men from the Loco and Carriage shops and Engine shed at Sukkur joined the strike on the 20th. Subsequently men from some other Departments at different places joined the strike and the numbers of strikers at these places on the 4th May stood at 1,283 Carriage shops, 938 Loco shops, 349 Engine shed, 128 Running staff, 14 Gas Factory, 35 General Stores, 153 C. & W. Department, 80 Traffic Department, 93 Engineering P. Way Staff in Karachi and 58 Running Staff, 18 Shed men and 79 C. & W. Department in Keamari, 504 from different departments at Kotri and 2,483 from the different departments at Sukkur, excluding the Sukkur shed for which no exact figures are yet available. There was, however, no dislocation in the traffic and the trains were running without difficulty and new recruitment was proceeding satisfactorily. A further report of this strike will be published in the next issue of this Journal.

Accidents and Prosecutions

STATISTICS FOR APRIL 1925

(Supplied by the Chief Inspector of Factories)

I. ACCIDENTS

The monthly statistics of accidents in factories and workshops in the Bombay Presidency, published at the end of this issue contain details of accidents reported during the month of April in Bombay city, Ahmedabad, Karachi and other centres of the Bombay Presidency. During April there were in all 221 factory accidents in Bombay city, of which 3 were fatal, 2 serious and the remainder 216 minor accidents. Of the total number 68 or 31 per cent. were due to machinery in motion and the remaining 153 or 69 per cent. to other causes. The largest number of accidents occurred in workshops, the proportion in different classes of factories being 53 per cent. in workshops, 44 per cent. in textile mills and 3 per cent. in miscellaneous concerns.

In Ahmedabad there were 32 accidents 29 of which occurred in cotton mills, two in a match factory and one in an oil mill. Out of these 32 accidents 19 were due to machinery in motion, and the rest to other causes. Two of these accidents were fatal, ten serious and the rest minor. In one of the two fatal accidents two persons were killed.

In Karachi there were in all three accidents which occurred in Engineering workshops. All the three accidents were minor.

In the other centres of the Presidency, the total number of accidents was 24 out of which 8 occurred in cotton mills, 10 in workshops and 6 in miscellaneous concerns. Four of these accidents were due to machinery in motion and the rest to other causes. Only one of these accidents was serious and the rest minor.

II. PROSECUTIONS

Bombay

One cotton cleaning factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 24 (a) read with Section 51 and Rule 75 for employing women after 8 p.m. Four cases were taken. The occupier was convicted and fined Rs. 100 (Rs. 25 for each of the four cases).

Bombay Suburban (Bandra)

One metal pressing factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 23 (c) and Section 26 in respect of the employment of children. Six cases were taken. The Manager was convicted and fined Rs. 30 (Rs. 5 for each of six cases).

Ahmedabad

One oil mill was prosecuted under Section 41 (h) for breach of Section 35 for not maintaining a register of workers correctly in spite of warnings and other irregularities detected. The Manager was convicted and fined Rs. 300.

Broach

One cotton ginning factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 24 (a) as women were found working at 4-30 a.m. Ten cases were taken. The Manager was convicted and fined Rs. 300 (Rs. 30 for each of ten cases).

Another ginning factory was also prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 24 (a) as women were found working at 2-50 a.m. Five cases were taken. The Manager was convicted and fined Rs. 150 (Rs. 30 for each of five cases).

Tando Adam (Sind)

One ginning factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 23 (b) read with Section 51. Five cases were taken for employing certified boys and one case for employing a girl at night. The occupier and Manager were convicted and fined Rs. 600 (Rs. 100 for each case).

Another ginning factory was also prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Sections 24 (a) and 23 read with Section 51 for employing women and children at night. Two cases for employing women and four cases for employing certified children at night. The Occupier and Manager were convicted and fined Rs. 600 (Rs. 100 for each case).

Shahadadpur (Sind)

One ginning factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Sections 24 (a) and 23 (b) read with Section 51. Six cases for employing women, three cases for employing certified boys and three cases for employing girls were taken out. The Occupier and Manager were convicted and fined Rs. 1,200 (Rs. 100 for each case).

The same factory was charged under Section 41 (h) for breach of Section 35 in spite of orders by the Inspectors and no time-table was put up in spite of warnings. The Manager was convicted and fined Rs. 75.

Workmen's Compensation

Details of Compensation and of Proceedings under the Workmen's Compensation Act (Act VIII of 1923)

The Statistics for the months of January, February, and March 1925 are published on page 813 of the April "Labour Gazette".

This article contains the summary of Compensation Statistics for the month of April 1925. Information has not, however, been received from two Commissioners and out of the 26 cases disposed of by the Commissioners during the month under review 24 were reported by the Commissioner for Bombay as against 19 out of 20 in the preceding month. It should be remembered that this is not the number of cases which came within the perview of the Courts of the Commissioners but of cases actually disposed of. A gross amount of Rs. 12,891-7-9 was awarded in lump sum as compensation against Rs. 9,850-8-0 in March and Rs. 8,451-14-8 in February. Out of these 26 accidents, 18 were fatal and in 8 cases there was permanent partial disablement.

The number of Compensation cases in Cotton Mills was 9 during the month under review as against 11 in the preceding month. No disease case came up during the months of January, February, March and April.

Claimants for Compensation were males over 15 in 20 cases, females over 15 in 4, a male below 15 in one, and in one case there were 4 claimants—2 males and 1 female below 15 and 1 female over 15.

Awards and Agreements

Out of 26 cases in April 24 were original claims, one registration of agreement and one miscellaneous application. Compensation was awarded in 23 cases, one application was rejected and agreement was effected in the remaining cases.

The E. D. Sassoon Welfare Institute

The report received from the Secretary, E. D. Sassoon Welfare Institute, is printed below:—

"Philanthropic work in the Mills has no chance of success if undertaken by an outside agency without the co-operation of the Mill Agents. However divergent their interests, the factory worker and the Mill Agent have to pull on together. One cannot do without the other. Without mutual understanding and goodwill between these two, no factory can work. An outsider proceeding to better the lot of one of the parties to this understanding has to take into consideration the effect that this may produce on the other party. This effect becomes clearly felt during periods of strain when feelings run high and the mass mind is swayed by sentiments. As an agency that has stepped in to safeguard the interests of the factory worker, it has sometimes to pander to their prejudices and perchance go contra to the interests of the Mill Agents. So outside interference is naturally viewed by the Mill Agents with suspicion.

In view of this, while undertaking welfare work in the Mills of the Sassoon group, the Bombay Branch of the Central Co-operative Institute was wise enough to leave the full control of the work in the hands of the Agents. The Welfare Institute that has been started is almost a department of the Sassoon Company. The status of the Central Co-operative Institute therein is that of an expert adviser. As if to emphasise this relationship, the opening ceremony of the Welfare Institute on 19th January 1925 was made a purely family function open only to the employees and workers in the Mills of the Sassoon Company, the members of the Central Co-operative Institute being present therein as honoured guests.

The corner stone of Co-operation was laid in this function of the opening ceremony by bringing the Mill Agents, employees and workers face to face in a relationship different from that of their daily routine. It was a happy metaphor used by Sir Victor Sassoon in his opening address of calling the meeting a family gathering. A family gathering it was, in which the Central Co-operative Institute stepped in as a peace-maker to help the several members to live in amity and contentment.

The Board of Management of the Welfare Institute is representative of the Agents, the Central Co-operative Institute, the different societies, and of the Managerial staff of the several Mills. The Central Co-operative Institute gives expert advice to this Body through its representatives on its Board. All proposals of finance and propaganda passed in this Board require the final approval of the Agents.

The work of the Institute is mainly confined, at present, to co-operation. There are, at present, 17 Credit Societies and one unregistered Restaurant in the Sassoon Mill group. The membership of these ranges from 30 to 160 and the working capital from Rs. 1,000 to 7,000. When the Welfare Institute was started to undertake the supervision of these Societies, there were several defects in their working. The overdue arrears had increased enormously in almost all the Societies. There were several errors in the accounts which had not been corrected even after being pointed out

by the Auditor. There was a very faulty system in some of the Societies, by which without voucher or receipt any amount could be granted to a member as short loan on the sole responsibility of the Secretary. Large cash balances were being kept in hand by the Secretaries without depositing in the Bank. A few of the Societies were languishing for want of a Secretary. Most of these errors have been set right and serious efforts are being made to reduce the overdue arrears. The Secretary of the Welfare Institute visits the Societies periodically and helps the Secretaries in making recoveries and in the proper keeping of the accounts. Analytical cash books have been printed for the proper classification of the items. Training classes are being held to instruct the Secretaries in the proper keeping of the accounts, and to teach the members of the Managing Committees the law and procedure of co-operation. Magic lantern lectures are organised to induce other employees to join as members of the Societies.

So, during the quarter ending 31st March 1925, the Institute was mainly engaged in the work of consolidation. It was felt that starting of new Societies or non-credit organisations would be useless waste of energy before setting the existing ones on a stable footing. Every effort was made to create confidence in the Societies among the members and to remove suspicion. The active sympathy of the Managers of the Mills was enlisted; lectures in Marathi were delivered by the Secretary to the members during their general meetings explaining the principles and usefulness of co-operation. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies was invited to visit the office of the Institute to meet the representatives of all the Societies so that the members of the Committees of the Societies may have a chance of freely exchanging views with and referring difficulties and doubts to the head of the Co-operative Department in the Presidency.

Under the agreement between the Central Co-operative Institute and the Sassoon Company, the scope of work of the Welfare Institute is not confined to co-operation but includes the starting of non-credit organisations such as restaurants, night schools, libraries, reading rooms, stores and housing and chawl renting Societies. There are already one or two night schools and libraries and one unregistered restaurant in the Sassoon Mill group. The restaurant has been existing for nearly two years. But the organisers have not been successful in its management. After incurring a loss, they have now given the management on contract getting a fixed sum periodically in return. Their difficulty has been to get able and honest men to run the restaurant. Attempts are being made to see whether the restaurant cannot be successfully managed directly by the Society.

A Women's Credit Society is being organised in the Jacob Mills. Already more than 20 members have joined paying the first instalment of the share capital. By the time the Society is registered, it is hoped that the membership will easily go up to 60 or 70.

As the By-laws of the Societies were defective in many respects, certain draft amendments were placed before the Managing Board of the Welfare Institute by the Secretary. These have been approved after discussion. During this discussion, the Board had the benefit of the expert advice of the President and of representative members of the Central Co-operative Institute sitting on the Board of the Welfare Institute.

Another important consequence of this dual responsibility in the management of these Mill Societies is the active help which the Societies get from the Managers of the Mills in making recoveries. Cases of default are reported to the Managers who render every help by cutting the defaulting instalments from the salaries of the defaulters. It is hoped that with the exercise of a little vigilance, the overdue arrears could be reduced to a negligible figure very soon."

Industrial Unrest

A Correspondent of the *Times Trade and Engineering Supplement* has contributed a series of three articles on the above subject, examining the factors that have contributed to industrial unrest, and indicating the direction in which the solution of the present difficulties may be found. In the first article, the writer discusses the causes of discontent; in the second he analyses the economic results of discontent; and in the last he suggests some remedies for removing industrial unrest.

It is pointed out that industrial unrest is not a recent manifestation as it is too often regarded but that it has always followed organised industrial progress in the world's history. The rights of combination conceded to workers in England in recent years by means of legislation have accentuated industrial strife. This can be seen from the rapidity of the development of industrial strife after the passing of the Trade Disputes Act of 1906. While in 1906 only 3,000,000 days were lost in dispute, the figure mounted up to 10,750,000 in 1908, to 26,000,000 in 1920 and to nearly 86,000,000 in 1921.

The causes of industrial unrest, the writer thinks, are numerous but among them the prevalence of unemployment must come first, and unless the curse of unemployment is removed, it is difficult to remove industrial unrest. Another cause of the discontent prevailing among the workers in England at the present time is that promises of a higher standard of life were given by statesmen during the war, which they were unable to fulfil. In addition to these, bad housing, a rise in prices and a sense of injustice arising out of a feeling that there is no proper distribution of wealth pave the way of the present industrial unrest.

It is pointed out that there is no sovereign remedy for all the ills brought about by industrial unrest nor can a cure be effected in a short time. But if effort is made in the right direction, at least the worst symptoms of industrial unrest will tend to disappear. For instance, when workers adopt ca'canny methods they do so with the laudable object of providing work for their fellow brothers but with the result that this method leads to their own undoing without in any way assisting those it is intended to assist. To avoid this, not only is an educational campaign among the workers necessary, but the population at large must be made to realise that the national interest is bound up in the welfare of commerce and industry. The first remedy, therefore, is the better education of people in elementary economics. In the absence of such knowledge ordinary

questions like real wages and nominal wages, and the relation between wages and production are often not understood. It is also necessary that the existing system of unemployment insurance which has been so much abused should be replaced by an "All-in insurance" system covering national health, liability to accident, unemployment, old age pensions, and the provisions of maintenance for widows and their young children. Such a system may remove many of the causes of discontent. It is frequently suggested that for the restoration of industrial peace strikes and lock-outs should be made illegal or that schemes of co-partnership should be pushed forward. But the writer takes the view that both these are so full of difficulties that they can help but little in diminishing industrial strife.

The articles are written essentially from the employers' point of view, but they contain some valuable truths, which even the Indian worker and employer can learn with profit.

Influence of Industry on Health of Women Workers

Dr. G. Gellhorn, Professor of Gynæcology in the St. Louis University School of Medicine, contributes an interesting article on the above subject in the March 1925 issue of the *Nation's Health*. In presenting the subject for more serious and more urgent public attention than hitherto it has received, the writer pertinently offers statistics of women workers in different industries which show the large share of the women workers in the productive industries of America, and on this ground asserts that the subject does not merely affect the individual only, but also affects the entire nation.

Dr. Gellhorn then cites recognized authorities and the results of investigations to show that racial physical deterioration even among men has been more marked in industrial classes than anywhere else; and this is stated to be more true of women workers. The sick insurance statistics of European countries show that women are less able to endure the strain of industrial life than men. Dr. Gellhorn in this connection attempts an analysis of the results of industrial life, of which fatigue is considered to be the chief. Fatigue is described as particularly harmful when the organism is not allowed sufficient rest and the process technically known as "Metabolism" is hindered in its operation and subsequently the body becomes clogged by wastes and poisons emitted by the organism when at work. This phenomenon occurs in every human body but Dr. Gellhorn states that overfatigue or fatigue beyond the physiologic limits, is more common only to industrial life, the chief causes being speed and noise, faulty ventilation and temperature, bad lighting conditions, unhealthy postures while at work, and overtime evening work.

The chief symptoms of fatigue as mentioned are: Malnutrition, Anæmia and Chlorosis. In Frankport one-fifth of the women insured in the local sickness society were reported to have suffered from these diseases. Another symptom of fatigue is headache, on account of the affectation of the nervous system. In one case it is stated that 24 per cent. of

absentees were suffering from headache. Constipation is another universal phenomenon resulting from fatigue augmented by unsatisfactory food, bad drinking facilities, lack of exercise and unhealthy toilet rooms.

Discussing the connexion of fatigue with accidents, the writer states that a larger number of accidents occur on account of fatigue—or one of its constituent elements, viz., speed, complexity of action, monotony, etc.—than on account of ignorance or carelessness. The number of accidents to women are nearly twice in number than those of men in similar circumstances, and they occur mostly late in the afternoon when the body is exhausted after the hard work in the morning.

Second to fatigue, the harmful nature of the occupation is a danger to women engaged in industries.

Effects of industrial life on women

Dr. Gellhorn in this connexion offers some illuminating statistical evidence to show that there has been a universal decline of birth rate among industrial workers, and of fecundity of women workers. Another effect is an increased infant mortality as could be seen from an abnormally high infant mortality in cotton mill towns in America. Premature births and miscarriages are also calculated to have been considerable among industrial workers, and caused by continuous sitting or standing, constant lifting or stretching and jolting, etc. A. R. Perry's opinion (based on his investigation of the textile industry undertaken under the auspices of the U. S. Department of Labour) that "employment in cotton mills for mothers of child-bearing age is generally inimical to longevity of mothers" cited by the writer is particularly interesting. Dr. Gellhorn further states that the various maternity schemes and regulations even in European countries fall much short of the requirements as prescribed by the modern medical science.

In conclusion, the writer commends the many steps taken by the enlightened employers and suggests that in the interest both of the industry as well as of the nation, a pre-employment physical examination of every individual should take place in order to weed out unhealthy and unfit persons. This is admitted by him to be difficult but on the analogy of the Army and Navy services is not regarded as impossible. Those rejected as unfit, Dr. Gellhorn suggests should be engaged by the state in less strenuous occupations. The writer, in the end rightly maintains that mass education in personal hygiene, etc., is above all the chief ameliorating factor.

Activities of the Social Service League

Since the Indian Workmen's Compensation Act came into force in July 1924 the Social Service League, Bombay, undertook to help the workmen or their dependents to obtain due compensation for injuries sustained through industrial accidents. The League began its work in this matter

by first distributing broadcast handbills and afterwards through wall posters the workmen were also given to understand that the League would help them in obtaining compensation if they asked for it.

Till the end of December there was only one case of fatal accident in which the League's help was sought by a relative of the deceased, and in that case there were no dependents who could legally claim compensation.

Till the end of March, 1925 the League's help was sought in 28 cases of which 16 were non-fatal and 12 fatal cases. In eight cases the League secured the parties concerned compensation amounting to Rs. 4,524. Ten cases are still in hand and the necessary assistance is being rendered to the workmen injured or to the dependents of those who have been fatally injured. In one case the injured workman got his former employment after the notice required under the Act was sent to the employer, the case being one of only a fractional loss of earning capacity, through permanent disablement. In another case as mentioned in the beginning the deceased had left no heirs who could claim compensation under the Act as his dependents.

The League's work in this line is rapidly increasing and in order to be able to cope with the work the League is thinking of starting compensation fund to which the general public as well as the persons directly benefited from this work are to be asked to contribute.

The League wishes to express its sincere thanks for the kind help received by it in this work from Dr. R. D. Shiravalkar, M.S., F.R.C.S., and Dr. D. S. Sardesai, L.R.C.P. and S., and for the facilities available at the coroner's court. (From the "Indian Daily Mail," April 16, 1925.)

The Labour Movement in Egypt

Under the above title there appears an article in the January/March 1925 issue of the International Trade Union Review, Amsterdam, by I. Ben Zewie. It is pointed out that the first socialist and workers' societies in Egypt were founded more than twenty years ago, but they were mainly small political clubs organised by and among foreigners. Lately, however, organisations of Egyptian workers are springing up. The largest of these is "The General Workers' Organisation in Egypt". It was founded on March 15th, 1924. Several unions are affiliated to this organisation and it has up to now united not less than 12,000 workers of various trades.

The organisation is a federation of local and national trade unions. At its head there is an administrative council consisting at present of sixty members, and at the head of the administrative council itself there is a council of control. The activities of the organisation are as yet very few, and so far as cultural activities are concerned, all that they have been able to do is to publish a labour weekly called "Workers' Unity".

The visible effect of the existence of this organisation has been that there have recently been many strikes in Egypt for the betterment of the condition of workers. And the writer is inclined to the view that the present organisation would be the beginning of a broad and progressive labour movement in Egypt.

Industries in India

Speaking at the monthly meeting of the Bengal Presidency Council of Women held at Government House to-day on the position of women and children in Indian factories the Rev. W. Paton surveyed the situation from the industrial standpoint as it existed in the factories in Bengal and Bombay.

Mr. Paton dwelling at length on the subject said that although India was not an industrial country in the sense that some of the Western countries were, at the same time they should remember that industry in India had come to stay. It was still a matter of debate among many Indian patriots whether it was a good or a bad thing. Of course, Mr. Gandhi said it was bad and had thrown the whole weight against progressive industrialisation of India. It was almost certain that the proportion of industrial workers men, women and children, would increase rapidly in industry in India.

Mr. Paton showed by figures that from a quarter million of men and over 40,000 women and 19,000 children in 1892 the figures had increased within two decades by four times.

Referring to the mine industry he said the population in the mines had almost doubled in 19 years. Proceeding he stated that the industrialisation in India was a new thing and was fraught with evils. It had brought into India problems which had confronted the people of the West for the last 100 years.

Referring to the housing condition in the jute industry particularly he said that the overgrowing infant mortality made them indignant, but it should be remembered that it was useless to be angry with it. It was better if one tried to understand the causes of it. What was needed was to increase the number of persons who would study these problems properly. In all the big industrial centres the appalling disparity between the number of men and women was fraught with evils which were perfectly obvious. Almost all the unskilled labourers in the mines were aborigines.

He emphasised the need for more women factory inspectors and more women medical attendants both doctors and nurses. He also urged them to reorganise trade unions and press for the total prohibition of women in mines. (From the "Indian Daily Mail," May 6, 1925.)

The Cost of Living in Bihar and Orissa in 1923-24

On the whole there was no marked change in the cost of living in Bihar and Orissa. With the exception of Jamshedpur, prices in all centres showed a tendency to rise at the beginning of the year and they reached their maximum from August to October. At Patna, Monghyr and Cuttack a rise of nearly 20 points was recorded, but from that time prices began to decline and at Jharia, Jamshedpur and Monghyr they were actually lower than at the beginning of the year, the difference at Jamshedpur being 12 points. At Patna by March the cost of living had risen by 6 points, at Muzaffarpur by 2 and at Cuttack by 4, and by the close of the year the position was that at Patna the percentage above the pre-war normal period was 49, at Muzaffarpur 47, at Monghyr 55, at Jamshedpur 61, at Jharia 76 and at Cuttack 31. The mean average for the whole year was in all cases lower than in 1922-23. (From Bulletin No. 15—Department of Industries, Bihar and Orissa.)

Bombay Postal Union

Annual Report for 1924-25

The Annual Report, the Balance-Sheet and the account of the working of the Bombay Postal Clerks' Club—now to be known the Postal Union—for the year ending 31st March 1925 are published below. Mr. D. S. Joshi worked as Honorary Secretary and Mr. G. G. Chitale as Assistant Secretary of the Club, and Mr. S. V. Gadgil was in charge of the finances. The Managing Committee, including the co-opted Members, consisted of 33 Members. The following report shows the progress made in various directions and the activities of the institution. The financial position of the Union was reported to be satisfactory.

Nineteen deaths from amongst the members have been recorded with regret. The Death Relief Benefit of Rs. 50 each was paid to either the widow or the nearest relative of the deceased in 9 out of 19 cases. Payment was refused in two cases and applications are awaited by the Committee from 4 families. In this connection the Secretary states:—

"It was however experienced that instead of the relief, though too small, being considered as a voluntary assistance from the Club, is looked upon as a claim and it has now become necessary to introduce important amendments in the Rules as the discretionary powers of the Managing Committee have been challenged on two separate occasions. The Managing Committee regrets that the amount of Relief with the present rates of monthly subscriptions could not be enhanced and would recommend consideration of the whole question of the Death Relief. The urgency for increasing the Relief has been fully proved by the experience of the last two years and a proposal to revise the rates of monthly subscription for this purpose would be in the interests of the Members."

The following is the main body of the Report:—

"It was one of the anomalies of the Constitution that while Rules had made provision for Patrons for many years, there was not a single Patron of the Union. This anomaly has been removed by the public-spirit of Mr. Ramchandra Jagannath Ogle, Pleader, Shirpur, who has become a Patron of the Union by paying a required subscription of Rs. 100. Old Members would recognise in Mr. Ogle the Signaller at the Apollo-Bunder Post Office, who continued the study of law while in service, passed the District Pleader's Examination and has been practising at Shirpur for the last 14 years. He has not yet forgotten his old colleagues and had specially attended the last Sessions of the All-India Conference as a visitor. Messrs. B. K. Koranne, S. G. Vaidya, and Digambar V. Desai have enrolled themselves as Life-Members during the year and the Managing Committee takes the opportunity of congratulating them for becoming permanent Supporters of the Institution.

The year opened with a membership of 1,049 and the present strength is 1,248 showing an increase of 19 per cent. over that of the last year. The following statement shows fresh admission month by month:—

May 1924	..	..	20	July 1924	..	32
June ..	..	..	73	August ..	..	11

Sept. 1924	..	9	January 1925	..	17
October ..	..	32	February ..	..	17
November ..	..	21	March ..	..	20
December ..	..	28			
			Total	..	280

The heavy number of admissions in the month of June is due to the Sorters of "B" Division attached to the Dadar and Bhusaval Record Offices preferring to join the Club, instead of the Union at the Head Quarters of the Division at Poona. They have found the arrangement highly convenient and there are scarcely any members more staunch in their allegiance to the Union than this small band of about 75 Sorters. The Sorters of the "B" Division stationed at Manmad and Sholapur, also desire to join the Club, but the Managing Committee feels diffident if these Sorters could fully avail themselves of all the advantages of membership. This increase of 180 was counterbalanced by decrease of 80 due to deaths, resignations and above all to the removal of names from the Roll owing to non-payment. There is every cause for satisfaction at the increased membership, but it is sobered down by the thought that there are yet 400 men in the various Sections of the G.P.O., D.L.O. and the F.M. Division standing aloof and indifferent to the work of the Union. There are also a few members in the Upper Grades who feel diffident if they could join the "Postal Clerks' Club" not being Clerks in the real sense of the term. Similarly, the Club has been unable to admit other Classes to the Membership. The Mail-Guards, Van-Peons and similar Classes of Employees in the R.M.S. desire enrolment. The Managing Committee would press for amendments in the Constitution and change in the name, so as to enable all Classes of Employees, high or low, to enrol themselves and strengthen the common cause and common bond of Brotherhood.

The old Rooms of the Club in Mohan Buildings, which had been in use since the very inception of the Institution were found too small to provide the required accommodation for the increased activities of a growing membership and an expanding Managing Committee. Besides the Offices of the Presidency Postal and R.M.S. Association could not be separated. The large and airy rooms on the top floor of Soman Buildings were secured at a monthly rent of Rs. 60. The Presidency Association, which shared the rooms, undertook to pay Rs. 25 per mensem and very fine offices were available for the Union at the enhanced cost of Rs. 13-14-0 per mensem. The Managing Committee hopes full use would be made of the spacious premises for holding debates and enjoying the pleasure of reading the Daily Journals and the many Magazines which are now made available.

During the year under Report, 18 Meetings of the Managing Committee were held to dispose of the routine business. This was the second consecutive year wherein no meeting was adjourned for want of a Quorum. The Managing Committee, as fully representing the interests of the members, dealt with all questions as they arose and bore the fullest

responsibility except in matters of sanctioning expenditure beyond the Budget. Five General Meetings were held during the year. The first one being the Annual General Meeting, was presided over by Mr. G. B. Trivedi. The one in the last week of April 1924, was presided over by Mr. N. M. Joshi, M.L.A. The reports of these meetings have already appeared in the General Letters of the Presidency Postal and R.M.S. Association.

In spite of the fact that most of the wounds inflicted by the Retrenchment knife, were not fully healed, some way was made in re-adjusting conditions and at least the panic of the Retrenchment Time was partly allayed. There were no further cuts in the personnel of the Manipulating Staff. But the pinpricks under Retrenchment Policy by overzealous Administrative Officers are not quite wanting. The recent order stopping the supply of paste to the Town Sub-Offices whose contingent grants have already been curtailed, is an instance in kind. The supply has, however, been again resumed and the Sub-Postmasters must thank themselves for being let off so lightly. Proceeding however to more general and important questions, the question of Income-Tax on Free Quarters and the Municipal Taxes was partly solved. In fact, the Quarters ought not to be subject to any recovery or taxes, but the Managing Committee is grateful that the suggestions made by the Honourable Secretary, were at least partly accepted by the Postmaster-General, Mr. Rogers. Unfortunately the question of House-Rent in the case of newly opened No-Delivery Offices has remained unsolved—Nay the solution in that respect has been made more intricate by depriving one of the Sub-Postmasters of his Free Quarters in order to save the cost of increased rent. In spite of disappointments the Secretary has been pressing the question in every way possible. Mr. Rogers had referred to his proposals for revision in the last Annual General Meeting. Opportunity was immediately taken to interview him on the subject and the views of the Club were frankly expressed. It was felt that in the proposals the Postmaster-General desired to unsettle the equal status which the Time-Scale officials of the General Post Office had received with the Time Scale Clerks in the Circle Office. A protest meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Mr. N. M. Joshi, M.L.A., and the resolutions forwarded to the Officers concerned. These proposals of Mr. Rogers have resulted in the present revision of the scale from Rs. 60—150. This revision falls very short of the All-India demand, in fact of what is essentially necessary for a decent living in Bombay, short of the scales of pay in other Government Offices and in Private Firms. In the Extraordinary General Meeting, held on 9th February 1925, all injustice of the Scheme and in the matter of the Selection Grades and the utter insufficiency of the measure were emphatically protested against. But as a Compensatory Measure, it is a partial relief and very inadequate as it is, we are grateful to Mr. Rogers for at least disturbing the air of finality which the answers by Mr. Sams conveyed, and also for once removing the cloak of sanctity which clothed the recommendations of the Postal Enquiry Committee. The point for the utmost regret is that even in this small measure, we have been unable to get an equal status to the D. L. O. and the F. M. Division

Staffs as also the men from Dadar Record Offices. The Deputation which waited upon the Honourable Member as a result of the debate in the Assembly, has fully discussed the situation and the Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra was pleased to remark that where the scale of the Post Office was either equal to or less than the scales of pay under the Central, Local or Semi-Local Government, then the Post Office men have a *prima facie* case for a revision. Admitting the principle, the Government of India ought to have, in fairness, given a substantial increase to the Post Office Staff working in this City, but unfortunately the present revision has not only failed to give them a Scale superior to others in this City, but they have not been brought even to the level of other clerical workers. The Managing Committee would desire more strenuous and fruitful efforts hereafter.

Want of Funds appears to hold back the material reforms in the matter of office conveniences provided by the Department. There have been better premises, secured for Grant Road and Crawford Market Post Offices. The old Mandvi Post Office has been re-hauled. But generally there has been no marked improvement in the comfort of official life of the Clerical Workers. Various representations on different questions were submitted. The one in question with the increase of the number and pay of Selection Grade Appointments has, after various reminders, elicited the reply that the matter was being considered. There were representations in the matter of Direct Registered Bags to R.M.S. Sections by the Town Sub-Offices. Some of the bags have since been done away with and the futility of the measure has been fully proved. The Honorary Secretary was in constant communication with the Deputy Postmaster-General, Western Circle, and the Director-General in connection with the transfer of Head Quarters of B-13 Section from Bhusaval and it is now learnt that the change has been ordered from 1st April 1925. The Managing Committee regrets that instead of the "B-13" it would be "B-19" Sorters who would be the sufferers. The question of Tiffin Recess for the Town Sub Offices was effectively represented and the Managing Committee feels happy that the concession, withdrawn, has now been definitely allowed to be enjoyed. At present, the most important questions before the Union are the improvement of the conditions of work in the F. M. Division, the emoluments of Sorters in the "B" Division attached to the Dadar Record Office, the results of the abolition of the Cash Department of the Bombay General Post Office and the question of Compensatory Allowance to Selection Grade officials and not the least important the economic conditions in Bombay. The Managing Committee regrets to record their failure in getting justice done to the Town Inspectors.

Latterly, the case of the Inland Parcel Department has been growing from bad to worse. The abolition of the Kalyan R.M.S. referred to in the Report of the last year, was, no doubt, good for the staff transferred to the G. P. O., but it has very much increased the work of the Inland Parcel Department. The Union represented the matter and even broached the subject with the Director-General during the course of the last interview. But owing to the inability of the Officiating Postmaster-General

to appreciate the difficulty of the G. P. O. and the interpretation of Rules in the application of the Time Test, the over-working goes on unabated. On the whole, the Managing Committee feels that their efforts have conduced to improve the lot of Workers in a few items, though there have been several disappointments on various counts. The Managing Committee also takes the opportunity of thanking Mr. Rogers and the Presidency Postmaster—Mr. Buckner for treating the various suggestions of the Club invariably with great courtesy. They wish they could say the same about the Deputy Postmaster-General, Sortings, Poona, who officiated as the Postmaster-General, Bombay.

The Advisory Board on which the Club has an effective voice, was not so active as during the previous year. This was not due to any want of a will to make the best use of every available means of improvement, but it was felt that even unanimous recommendations of the Board were generally treated as *only pious opinion* which did not necessarily deserve any serious consideration. There are nearly 20 important recommendations which have remained unconsidered. The Managing Committee have, in their meetings, invariably discussed all questions coming up before the Board and it was with the considered opinion of the Managing Committee that the Representatives of the Union attended the meetings of the Board. The Advisory Board, however, lacks the force of a Works Committee and the purpose for which it was initiated, has not been fulfilled. These meetings have, however, brought the Office and the Staff Side together and there has been a free exchange of views showing the difficulties and the limitations imposed on the official and the staff side.

The Union has extended its sphere of activities. All the five elected members on the Board of the Co-operative Credit Society are the Members of the Club. They have been working very strenuously on the Board and the Sub-Committees to improve the working of the Society and their efforts so far have been fruitful of very good results, much as their capturing all the seats may have been resented by the Non-Members in other offices of the Department.

There were two interviews during the year, one with the Postmaster-General—Mr. Rogers and the other with Sir Geoffrey Clarke in the month of December. Various important questions were discussed at these interviews and in both of these, the Assistant Secretary, Mr. Chitale, acquitted himself very ably.

Recently, the Government of India appointed an Official Committee to investigate into the possibilities of economies in the working of the Post Office by re-adjustment of Machinery. The Honorary Secretary, in his capacity of General Secretary of the Bombay Presidency Postal and R. M. S. Association, appeared before the Committee to tender his evidence on behalf of the Association. A Memorandum on behalf of the Association was submitted and the Club had every opportunity to effectively press its views in the Memorandum. The report of that Committee has been recently published and it is to be seen how it affects the staff interests in the City.

During the year under Report, the relations of the Union with the Provincial and All-India Unions were most cordial. In Mr. S. C. Joshi the Club has always at hand a willing legal Advisor and a friend whose efforts in the interests of the Union can scarcely be adequately expressed. The Bombay Presidency Association had invited the All-India Conference to Bombay and the Club had to act the host and to bear the burden and the honour of holding the Conference in the City. For this purpose, funds were being collected from the month of August 1923 by way of an additional subscription of Annas Eight per month. This subscription was also intended to pay the 2 per cent. All-India Reserve Fund. Contrary to the fears, at first entertained, the response was most cheerful and the required amount was duly raised. The amount thus collected could not meet all the expenses of the Conference and a general request was made to the Selection Grade Officials and others to enrol themselves as Members of the Reception Committee, the fee being Rs. 10 for such membership. The responding was highly encouraging; 145 men enrolled themselves as Members of the Reception Committee. The difficulty about the Chairman was solved by Mr. Y. G. Talpade, the Deputy Postmaster, Bombay G. P. O., consenting to accept the post of responsibility with Mr. Yakub, Postmaster, Mandvi, as his Assistant. The response to the call for Volunteers was most assuring and these with their Captain and Vice-Captains contributed to the success of the Conference beyond all expectations. The Managing Committee at first were diffident about success, but gladly acknowledge that their fears were entirely unfounded. The efforts of Mr. V. B. Nivergi were invaluable and must be specially mentioned. Bombay Staff contributed nearly Rs. 3,800 towards the expenses of the Conference. We cannot, at the same time, forget the willing and voluntary co-operation of our Moffusil Brothers, which lightened this labour of love. In the Province itself, no fewer than 15 Delegates were sent to the Surat Sessions of the Conference and these fully maintained the high reputation of the Institution which returned them. All the financial and other obligations have been met in full. The All-India 2 per cent. Reserve Fund has been set aside and this amounts to Rs. 2,100. The time of the real test is fast approaching. The All-India Union commands a collection of 10 per cent. Reserve Fund before the next Sessions of the Conference at Patna. Never upto now has the Club failed to carry out the decisions of the other governing bodies and it is now necessary to collect the Fund within the time allotted for the purpose. The need for building up our own Reserve is equally pressing, and the Managing Committee expects Members to do their duty by the Union even at some sacrifice.

The Club has continued its policy of helping individual members in their preparation of appeals and giving them advice and help in every case of difficulty. During the year under Report, there were fewer such cases, but in about 90 per cent. the advice and the assistance of the Club were found to be quite sound and effective. The Managing Committee believes that this personal element has greatly added to the prestige and the influence of the Club.

In the Budget for this year, a provision of Rs. 350 had been made for expenditure on books and newspapers and the work of selection and arrangement was delegated to a Committee consisting of Messrs. Kurtadkar, Gomes, Ranade and Gokhle. Out of Rs. 350, Rs. 342-1-9 were actually spent and the Library has been greatly appreciated and made use of by the members. The credit of efficient working of this branch is mainly due to the organising abilities of Mr. Kurtadkar and the daily attendance of Mr. Gomes; without the co-operation of these two gentlemen, the Library work would not have been half as useful as it has been. The Managing Committee would desire similar grant for the next year. The statement appended at the end will show the number of books issued to the members month by month.

In the Annual Report of the last year, a reference had been made about the intention of maintaining rooms at Devlali to serve as a sanatorium for the use of our members. Unfortunately, negotiations for securing quarters in that direction were not successful. Besides, owing to the All-India work in connection with the Conference, the Secretaries were not able to take any effective steps in the matter. The object is, however, not forgotten, it is only deferred and the Managing Committee hopes that its efforts would, next year, be crowned with success.

The financial position of the Club will be found to be very sound. The year opened with a balance of Rs. 7,928-8-10, excluding the collection in connection with the All-India Conference. All liabilities have been paid in full. The All-India Reserve Fund at 2 per cent. has been separated from the balance of the Club and the closing balance for the year is Rs. 9,928-9-3. The balance has increased by way of subscription of which the amount of Rs. 3,032-8-0 is due to temporary increase in the rate of subscription for 6 months. In all Rs. 1,697 were transferred to the Reserve Fund. This includes all donations, re-admission fees and the fees from the Life-Members and the Patrons. Rs. 450 were spent for payments of Death-Relief. Payment of Death-Relief has to be made as yet in 4 cases, but the amount has not been applied for up to the end of the year. The maintenance charges amount to Rs. 2,536-10-0 or 0-2-9 per month per member against an expense of annas 2 of the previous year. This was also due to greater recurring expenditure on rent and Library and lights and non-recurring expenditure on electrical installation. This is counterbalanced by stricter collections of dues. In spite of increased maintenance charges, though we had not budgetted for any surplus, the year's working shows a net surplus of Rs. 303-0-5 which is carried over to the Current Account for the next year. Bills of the value of Rs. 407 were written off as unrecoverable, i.e., 4 per cent. of the total bills issued during the year against 3½ per cent. of the previous year. With a membership of 1,248, bills of the value of Rs. 634 are outstanding against Rs. 735 for 1,049 members at the end of the last year."

BALANCE SHEET (1924-1925)

RECEIPTS		By		PAYMENTS	
To	Balance.		Office.		
	Rs. as. p.	Rs. as. p.		Rs. as. p.	Rs. as. p.
1. C. C.	6,496 4 0		Rent	525 10 0	
2. S. B.	3,100 0 0		Pay	156 0 0	
3. Advance Rent.	18 0 0		Light	63 12 6	745 6 6
4. Cash in Hand.	51 4 10				
5. Dues from Bill-Collector.	31 0 0	9,696 8 10			
			Library.		
Monthly Collections	9,903 8 0		Newspapers	64 11 0	
Miscellaneous	32 8 0		Books	211 3 9	275 14 9
Re-Admission Fees	2 0 0		Furniture		67 0 0
			Printing.		
Interest on S. B.	22 0 5		Typing	51 9 0	
Donations	70 12 0		Printing	84 0 0	135 9 0
Patrons Fees	100 0 0		Stationery and Postage		83 1 6
			Meetings.		
Life-Members Fees	150 0 0		Annual	230 0 0	
Arrears Subscriptions	11 8 0		General	32 0 0	
Part-payment of Rent by Presy. Association	175 0 0		M. C.	42 7 6	304 7 6
Part-payment of Printing charges by Presy. Assn.	10 0 0		Sundry		59 2 9
			Travelling Allowances.		
			Presy. Association	140 5 0	
			Misc.	1 0 0	141 5 0
			Allowances.		
			Secretary	200 0 0	
			Assistant	50 0 0	
			Treasurer	150 0 0	400 0 0
			Death Relief		450 0 0
			Miscellaneous		449 11 0
			Contributions.		
			Presy. Association	2,273 8 0	
			All-India	410 2 0	2,683 10 0
			All-India Conf.		2,290 0 0
			Balance		12,088 9 3
Total	20,173 13 3	Total		20,173 13 3	

Details of Balance,			
Cash Certificates	7,501 4 0	Reserve Fund	7,187 0 0
Saving Bank Account	4,185 0 5	Current Account	4,901 9 3
Advance to Group Photos	33 0 0		
Advance to Rent	60 0 0		
Cash on Hand	309 4 10		
Total	12,088 9 3	Total	12,088 9 3

Note.—The advance rent Rs. 60 paid in September 1924 is charged less and added in the Balance.

BUDGET (1925-1926)

RECEIPTS	Rs.		EXPENDITURE	
			Rs.	Rs.
Subscription	7,470	Rent	420	
Interest, S. B.	126	Peons' Pay	175	
		Lights	60	
		<i>Library.</i>		655
Interest Society	210	Newspapers	75	
		Books	250	
Cash Certificate—Interest ..	325	<i>Furniture</i>		325
				25
		<i>Printing.</i>		125
		Typing	50	
		Printing	75	
		<i>Stationery and Postage</i>		96
		<i>Meetings.</i>		
		Annual	300	
		General	50	
		M. C.	60	
		Sundry	70	
		<i>Travelling Allowances.</i>		480
		Presy. Assn.	150	
		Miscellaneous	50	
		<i>Allowances.</i>		200
		Secretary	200	
		Assistant	75	
		Treasurer	150	
		<i>Death Relief</i>		425
				600
		<i>Contributions.</i>		
		Presy. Assn.	2,500	
		All India	450	
		<i>Misce. and Emergency.</i>		2,950
		All India Conf.		150
		Reserve		400
		Sanitorium		1,500
				200
Total ..	8,131	Total ..	8,131	

Statement showing the books issued to members from July 1924 to March 1925.

Month.	Prose. A	Poetry. B	Novels and Fictions. C	Labour. D	History and Travel. E
July 1924 ..	22	Nil.	38	2	4
August ..	19	"	28	3	4
September ..	7	"	24	Nil.	2
October ..	12	1	16	2	1
November ..	5	Nil.	6	Nil.	1

Statement showing the books issued to members from July 1924 to March 1925—(contd).

Month.	Prose. A	Poetry. B	Novels and Fictions. C	Labour. D	History and Travel. E
December 1924 ..	12	Nil.	19	Nil.	2
January 1925 ..	13	"	13	"	Nil.
February ..	3	"	4	"	1
March ..	6	1	3	1	1
Total ..	99	2	151	8	16
Books on Hand ..	50	3	54	10	4

Month.	Religion and Photography. F	Medical Hygiene. G	Reference. H	Art and Industry. J	
July 1924 ..	2	2	Nil.	Nil.	
August ..	Nil.	2	"	"	
September ..	"	Nil.	"	"	
October ..	"	"	"	"	
November ..	"	1	"	"	
December ..	"	Nil.	"	"	
January 1925 ..	1	"	"	"	
February ..	Nil.	"	"	"	
March ..	"	3	"	"	
Total ..	3	8	Nil.	Nil.	287 Total
Books on Hand ..	4	4	5	2	136

Wages and Hours of Labour in the Cotton Mill Industry in the Bombay Presidency, August 1923

The first Report on an enquiry into Wages and Hours of Labour in the Cotton Mill Industry in the Bombay Presidency in May 1921 was published by the Labour Office in 1923. It was decided to take another census for 1923, and the report on that census was completed and submitted to the Government of Bombay on 17th November 1924. It has been in the Press ever since, and will shortly issue in book form. It will contain about 26 pages of report and 88 pages of Tables and appendices. For the sake of those readers of the Gazette who do not care to purchase the Report the main portion of the discussion is here reprinted.

Date of the Census

The month of May, which had been selected on the previous occasion, was not considered by the Millowners as suitable*. The Bombay Millowners' Association preferred the month of June as the attendance during June is more regular than that in any other month of the year. The Ahmedabad Millowners' Association, however, pointed out that the general strike in the Cotton Mills in Ahmedabad which commenced on the 1st of April 1923, involved a total number of 43,113 workpeople, and did not terminate until the 4th of June 1923, considerably disorganised the industry in that centre. It was decided, therefore, ultimately to hold the enquiry for the month of August.

Method and Scope of Enquiry

The information was, as in the previous census, collected by means of a form carefully drawn up and the returns when received were regarded as strictly confidential. Each mill was given a serial number. The name of the firm or mill, therefore, did not appear on the returns at all. The returns relate to all the mills actually working in August 1923 in the Bombay Presidency and in Baroda State. It was difficult to get complete returns, but this was achieved (after considerable delay) through personal visits to the mills by Investigators of the Labour Office. In some cases it was even necessary for the Investigators to fill in forms themselves from the pay-rolls of the mills. The non-receipt of the forms within the prescribed time necessarily caused considerable delay in the compilation of the statistics.

In addition to being more complete for British Districts (as will be shown below) the present Report is wider in territorial scope. The 1921 Report covered British Territory and the following States:—

Baroda, Kolhapur, Bhavnagar, Cambay.

*May is not a very satisfactory month because it is in the marriage season, and attendance is therefore bad.

The 1923 report includes the following additional States:—

Rajkot, Wadhwan, Sangli.

It is a matter for gratification that so many States have favoured us with returns, and the opportunity is taken of thanking the Durbar of H. H. the Gaekwar and the Durbars of the other States mentioned above for their ready co-operation.*

Comparison of Labour Office Statistics with those of the Factories Department

The number of mills in existence and furnishing returns in 1921 and 1923, respectively, was as follows:—

Centre.	1921		1923	
	Number of Mills		Number of Mills	
	in existence †(a)	Furnishing returns.	in existence and working (a)	Furnishing returns
Bombay City (b)	83	82	79	79
Ahmedabad	64	39	69	69
Sholapur	6	6	6	6
Rest of British Districts	21	10	17	17
British Districts	174	137	171	171
Baroda State	4	4	9	9
Other States	6	3	6	6
Grand Total	184	144	186	186

* It is not known at the moment whether any State other than those mentioned above contain Cotton Spinning and Weaving Mills.

† It is not known how many mills in 1921 were not working.

(a) Information obtained from the list of Cotton Spinning and Weaving Mills published annually by the Bombay Millowners' Association.

(b) The terms "City of Bombay", "Bombay Island", "Town and Island of Bombay" and "City and Island of Bombay" are the same. The boundaries of the City are coterminous with the boundaries of the Island. But it must be noted that the Kurla Spinning and Weaving Mill and the Swadeshi Mill at Kurla, though actually lying just outside the Island, are included in the term "Bombay City" for the purposes of this report.

The average daily number of workpeople employed during the year ending 31st March 1923 and the number of workpeople included in the present Report and the 1921 Report are as follows :—

Centre	Number of workpeople covered by wages returns received			Average daily number of work people employed for the year ending 31st March 1923*
	in May 1921	in August 1923	Percentage increase in 1923 over 1921	
Bombay City	132,556	155,479	17·3	154,344
Ahmedabad	32,906	52,038	58·1	52,507
Sholapur	16,712	18,710	12·0	16,607
Rest of British Districts	7,127	17,027	138·9	17,965
Bombay Presidency (British Districts).	189,301	243,254	28·5	241,423
Baroda	2,400	5,152	114·6	4,757
Other Indian States	2,335	2,813	20·5	2,764
Bombay Presidency	194,036	251,219	29·5	248,944

Classified according to sex and age (Factory Act definitions) the number of men, women and children engaged in the cotton mill industry for the year ending 31st March 1923 as compared with the year ending 31st March 1922 was as follows* :—

Centre	Men		Women		Children		All workpeople	
	1921-22	1922-23	1921-22	1922-23	1921-22	1922-23	1921-22	1922-23
Bombay City	119,272	123,127	29,521	29,783	2,307	1,434	151,100	154,344
Ahmedabad	35,831	38,144	8,272	8,294	6,624	6,069	50,727	52,507
Sholapur	11,059	10,980	3,578	3,883	2,089	1,744	16,726	16,607
Baroda State	1,554	3,502	310	577	402	678	2,266	4,757
" Other Centres "	14,868	14,458	4,117	3,822	2,801	2,449	21,786	20,729
Bombay Presidency	182,584	190,211	45,798	46,359	14,223	12,374	242,605	248,944

The decline in the number of children employed is largely due to the new Factory Act and to more rigorous factory inspection, the decrease being from 14,223 in 1921-22 to 12,374 in 1922-23.

* Information for Baroda State obtained from the Director of Commerce and Industry Baroda and for British Districts and for other States from the Excise Authorities.

The following are the figures of men, women, big lads and children returned in the Labour Office Wage Censuses of May 1921 and August 1923 at each centre in the Presidency :—

Number of workpeople returned in the Labour Office Enquiries of May 1921 and August 1923, sub-classified by age-groups

Centre	Men		Women		Big lads		Children		All workpeople	
	May 1921	Aug. 1923	May 1921	Aug. 1923	May 1921	Aug. 1923	May 1921	Aug. 1923	May 1921	Aug. 1923
Bombay City	99,014	112,170	19,564	30,527	11,765	12,045	2,195	770	132,556	155,479
Ahmedabad	24,182	37,706	3,049	6,602	1,366	2,363	4,309	5,367	32,906	52,038
Sholapur	10,003	11,091	3,772	4,335	823	1,201	2,114	2,003	16,712	18,710
Baroda State	1,777	4,118	275	485	217	327	151	234	2,400	5,152
" Other Centres "	6,963	14,390	1,223	2,863	370	1,218	906	1,369	9,462	19,840
Bombay Presidency	141,939	179,475	27,903	44,810	14,541	17,152	9,653	9,782	194,036	251,219

In the table on page 950 no separate figures were shown for big lads because returns of the Factories Department do not recognise any such age-group. When comparing the Labour Office figures with those of the Factories Department the big lads must be combined with men. Further discussion on this point will be found on page 953; but the above criterion is approximately correct.

The average daily number of workpeople employed in the cotton mills of the Bombay Presidency including States making returns and Baroda State amounted, for the 12 months ending 31st March 1923, to 248,944. The total number of workpeople returned in the Labour Office Wage Census of August 1923 amounted to 251,219 or 2,275 more. Apart from actual expansion of the industry during the interval, a possible explanation of this excess is as follows :—Out of 196,627 men returned from all centres in the Labour Office Wage Census of 1923, 4,229 were returned as mill clerks. And it is possible that in making the returns from which the statistics for the average attendance are compiled by the Factories Department all mills do not include clerks. However it is only in Sholapur that the variation is excessive, the Factories Department figures being 16,607 and the Labour Office figure 18,710, a difference of over 2,000.

In the 1921 Report the number of workpeople returned from " other centres " was shown as 11,862. In the present report the figure for " other centres " for 1921 had been reduced to 9,462. This is due to changed classification. The " other centres " in the 1921 report included (1) Minor Returns from British Territory, (2) Indian States in the Bombay Presidency, so far as they furnished returns, and (3) Baroda State. In the present report the term " other centres " used elsewhere includes minor returns from British Territory and States included in the Bombay Presidency but excludes Baroda State. The 1921 figures have been, therefore, readjusted to conform with the above revised definitions.

Meaning of the term "average"

The forms filled in for this Enquiry gave separately for each occupation in each mill the total number of operatives in each sex and age group engaged as time-workers or piece-workers respectively, the aggregate number of working days worked by each such group, the aggregate earnings of the group, and the average earnings per capita. Thus—"Mill No. 114, Men, Mule Spinning, Side-piecers, piece;—workmen 15, days actually worked 321, total earnings Rs. 473-0, daily average per capita Rs. 1-7-6". These units are the ultimate units on which the Tables are based, and the separate earnings of every individual are not known.*

After explaining "average daily earnings" it remains to mention that an important change has been introduced in arriving at the average monthly earnings. In 1921 these average monthly earnings were arrived at by using Part I of the Form, and by dividing the "Net amount of wages earned by those working full time" by the "Number working full time". On the present occasion Part I of the Form has not been used at all. The average monthly earnings have been calculated from Part II of the Form by summing the "Number paid during the month" (column 3) and the "aggregate number of days worked" (column 4) for each occupation group for all the mills in the territorial unit required, dividing the second by the first of these two sums and multiplying the result by the average daily earnings already ascertained. It will be seen that "average monthly earnings" in the 1921 Report was (theoretically) an average for those employees only who worked throughout the month without being absent,† though owing to divergences in the manner of filling up Part I by different mills, the result was actually an average on a composite basis. On this occasion the "average monthly earnings" is an average of the actual earnings of all individual workers for the actual days worked by them during a given month. The figures throughout the Report refer only to the regular employees of the Mill. Spare hands and substitutes are, as said elsewhere, excluded from this, as from all results of the enquiry.

Daily Earnings

The average daily earnings of all workers in Bombay, Ahmedabad, Sholapur, Baroda and other centres and the average for the Bombay Presidency were as follows:—Approximate average daily earnings of a man in

* Thus the average earnings for any group by any territorial unit is an exact average, arrived at by taking the average earnings of that group in each mill concerned, weighing that average by multiplying by the number of workmen in the said group, summing the results, and redividing by the total number of workmen in all the mills concerned. But this average (i.e., the arithmetic mean) is the only average that can be ascertained from the data, and it is not possible to deduce the mode or the median, nor any measures of dispersion, nor the range either for any group or for the whole material. These limitations to the application of mathematical processes apply both to daily and monthly earnings, the averages for both being obtained from the same material.

† The term "Working full-time" in the heading of the column in Part I "Number working full-time" was used in a non-technical sense, and meant "working throughout the month". As a matter of fact, Part I was misunderstood by many mills, and the figures obtained in it have not on this occasion been used.

the Bombay Presidency were Rs. 1-6-0, of a woman annas 12, of big lads and children annas 11 (and of all work-people Rs. 1-3-0)*.

Average Daily Earnings

Centre	Men	Women	Big lads and children (a)	All work-people (a)
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Bombay City	1 7 2	6 12 5	0 12 3	1 4 2
Ahmedabad	1 6 2	0 12 9	0 11 4	1 3 10
Sholapur	1 0 0	9 6 4	0 9 1	0 12 9
Baroda State	1 0 6	0 10 10	0 8 0	0 15 3
"Other Centres"	1 0 1	0 8 2	0 8 8	0 14 0
Bombay Presidency	1 5 9	0 11 7	0 11 4	1 3 0

These earnings are the actual earnings, including monthly bonus and special allowances which are regarded as of the nature of wages, but excluding overtime pay, and the annual bonus, if paid, and all remuneration in the form of grain or clothing or accommodation at rates below market prices or rentals.

In a study of this kind the arithmetic mean is a less satisfactory average than the "mode", i.e., the earnings which are most prevalent in the group. It has already been explained on page 952 that since the earnings of each individual are not known, the mode cannot be exactly determined. An approximation to a frequency distribution is therefore relegated to an Appendix. In this place it can only be stated that the average, in the usual sense of the arithmetic mean, is in a study of this kind, necessarily higher than the "mode" or most frequently occurring value.

A child is a person who is less than 15 years but more than 12 years. Boys under 18 years of age working as full-time workers were classified in the wide sense as big lads, and the earnings of such lads were called for in a section of the form. Boys and girls between 12 and 15 years of age who "shall not be employed in any factory for more than six hours in any one day" earned wages at half-time rates and these were shown as children.

A caveat should be made with regard to the earnings of big lads. Some mills experienced difficulty in giving correct data regarding the number of big lads employed owing to the difficulty of ascertaining correctly the ages of new operatives. In fact the statistics of wages of big lads may be taken to be the wages of all males whose earning capacity is not so high as that of strong healthy men but at the same time is higher than the earnings of children.

* This general average for all work-people is given for ready reference, but the figure is meaningless since it depends on the proportions of the three separate age and sex classes in the total.

(a) Counting two half-timers as one full-timer.

No difference however was made in regard to young women between 15 and 18 years of age because (as stated in the previous report) the women in India reach maturity by 15.

Absenteeism in relation to earnings

It is well known that in the cotton mill industry (as perhaps in other industries) the worker is frequently absent either through sickness or voluntarily because he has earned sufficient to keep body and soul together and lacks the will to increase his wages to the maximum that could be earned. Considerable trouble was taken to obtain reliable information as to the attendance during the month. In Bombay the majority of mills worked for 27 days during August, and the rest for 26 days. In Ahmedabad the figure varied from 24 to 27 days.

In most centres wages are paid monthly, but in Ahmedabad they are generally paid by the 'Hapta'. A 'hapta' in the majority of cases consists of 16 days but in some cases 14 days. The 'hapta' does not begin or end on any particular day in all mills, but on different days in different mills. Consequently in Ahmedabad, and in other centres where figures were affected by the *hapta* system, the number of days worked does not necessarily mean that the number of days shown has been worked out of a possible 31.

The number of holidays, including those Sundays on which the mills were closed, amounted as a rule to 4 days in August 1923.

It must also be remembered that correct returns of absenteeism are considerably affected by the question of substitution especially in regard to weavers. When a weaver is absent he may either ask the operative in charge of the looms next to his to look after his looms or he may send a substitute. In most mills no record is maintained for such substitutes, and the amount of piece-work earnings on the output from the looms assigned to the worker who is absent is paid to the worker whose name is entered on the payroll irrespective of the fact whether the looms were tended by such worker throughout the month or not. In such cases no absenteeism is shown. On the other hand real absenteeism is not so high in the weaving department as in any other.

Subject to these remarks the average attendance of all work-people in the whole industry amounted to 23.7 days in the month of August 1923. Absenteeism (called in this Report the Absenteeism Index), i.e., the percentage of the number of days not worked to total number of working days in August 1923 was greatest among the women employed in the City of Bombay and amounted to 16 per cent. For the Presidency as a whole the Absenteeism Index for all workpeople was 10.4 per cent. for men and women time-workers only 9.8, and for piece-workers 11.2 per cent.

The following tables give the details for the various centres :—
Average number of days worked in August 1923.

Centre	Average number of days worked by				
	Men	Women	Big lads	Children	All work-people
Bombay City	24.2	22.5	23.4	23.6	23.8
Ahmedabad	24.6	23.0	24.9	23.6	23.9
Sholapur	22.2	22.0	21.6	22.6	22.2
Baroda State	23.2	22.0	22.3	24.5	23.1
" Other Centres "	23.6	23.3	23.5	22.8	23.5
Bombay Presidency	24.0	22.6	23.5	23.4	23.7

Percentages of Absenteeism (Absentee Index)

Centre.	Percentage of number of days not worked to total number of working days in August 1923, or in two 'haptas' with greatest number of days in August for				
	Men	Women	Big lads	Children	All work-people
Bombay City	9.7	16.0	12.5	12.5	11.2
Ahmedabad	8.0	12.9	5.8	9.4	8.7
Sholapur	11.4	12.2	13.7	10.0	11.6
Baroda State	9.0	13.1	12.8	5.8	9.5
" Other Centres "	7.2	8.9	9.3	9.4	7.8
Bombay Presidency	9.2	14.7	11.5	9.7	10.4

Absenteeism considered separately for time-workers and piece-workers shows the following results :—

Absenteeism for Time and Piece-workers separately

Centre	Percentage of number of days not worked to number of working days in August 1923 or in two 'haptas' in August for					
	Men		Women		All work-people	
	Time-workers	Piece-workers	Time-workers	Piece-workers	Time-workers	Piece-workers
Bombay City	10.5	8.7	11.6	18.2	10.9	11.4
Ahmedabad	6.3	9.9	12.1	14.0	7.5	10.4
Sholapur	8.9	14.9	7.3	13.5	9.4	14.4
Baroda State	9.2	8.6	13.5	12.7	9.6	9.3
" Other Centres "	7.2	7.3	8.9	8.9	7.8	7.7
Bombay Presidency	9.3	9.2	11.4	16.5	9.8	11.2

With the exception of Baroda State and "other centres" where the index of absenteeism is about equal for the two classes, and Bombay men, among whom piece-workers are the more regular, absenteeism among piece-workers is generally higher than that among time-workers. In Bombay the index for women piece-workers stands as high as 18·2 per cent. In Ahmedabad and Sholapur, particularly in Sholapur, the attendance of both men and women piece-workers was much more irregular than that of time-workers. If the Presidency as a whole is considered the absenteeism index for men and women time-workers is 9·8 per cent. as against 11·2 per cent. for piece-workers.

The absenteeism index in the most important occupations was as follows :—

Occupations	Percentage of Absenteeism in					
	Bombay	Ahmed- abad	Shola- pur	Baroda State	"Other Centres"	
<i>Men.</i>						
Slubbing Frame Tenters .. Piece.	13·8	11·7	12·7	18·2	8·2	
Intermediate Frame Tenters .. Piece.	16·5	8·8	11·8	15·1	11·5	
Roving Frame Tenters .. Piece.	18·0	14·6	13·5	14·1	11·1	
Side men or Piecers .. Time.	15·8	8·4	12·4	14·1	7·4	
Grey Winders .. Piece.	16·6	13·8	..	10·6	11·5	
Warpers .. Piece.	12·0	6·3	9·6	6·3	4·2	
Two Loom Weavers .. Piece.	4·6	11·4	16·3	7·7	8·6	
<i>Women.</i>						
Side women or Piecers .. Time.	15·4	14·2	11·1	15·1	10·7	
Reelers ..	Time.	14·3	8·4	3·2	20·4	19·9
	Piece.	17·1	7·8	15·6	14·7	6·9
<i>Big lads</i>						
Side Boys or Piecers .. Time.	10·8	4·1	..	..	10·3
Roving Boys .. Time.	11·6	5·7	10·4	11·7	10·3	
Spinning Boys .. Time.	12·8	5·8	12·4	16·5	7·9	

The above discussion of absenteeism has been placed where it is in this Report because absenteeism is taken into consideration in arriving at averages of monthly earnings to which we can now proceed.

Monthly Earnings

The methods used on this occasion and in 1921 for arriving at average monthly earnings have been described on page 952. The average monthly earnings for May 1914 are those obtained in the 1921 Enquiry, when Part I of the Report contained dual sets of columns for 1914 and 1921. Consequently the 1914 averages should, theoretically, have been obtained on the same basis as those of 1921. But it is probable that the figures filled in in the columns for 1914 in the 1921 Enquiry Form were often obtained from the Cash Books of the Mills, which would not necessarily give the same results as the Muster rolls, from which the 1921 figures in the corresponding columns were ordinarily obtained.

The 1914 figures must therefore be accepted with considerable caution, and treated as only approximations. The 1921 figures for centres other than Ahmedabad, although prepared on a basis different from the basis of the 1923 figures, and to some extent on a composite basis, are probably very close to the figures which would have been arrived at, had the correct absenteeism data been available in that year, and had the average been obtained by the methods employed in 1923.

In the case of Ahmedabad in 1921 only 39 returns were received from 64 mills to which forms were forwarded and the Labour Office had no organization at that centre, such as it had during the present enquiry to effect alterations in the case of defective returns. In the majority of the 39 returns from Ahmedabad no allowance was made for absenteeism. Had absenteeism been allowed for, the average daily earnings for Ahmedabad for May 1921 and also for 1914 would have been rather higher than those ascertained and shown in the previous report. It is necessary that these two facts should be remembered when examining the statistics for Ahmedabad from a comparative point of view.

Another point to be remembered is that the monthly earnings per head for Ahmedabad and for all centres where the 'hapta' system for the payment of wages exists, are calculated for the number of days worked during two 'haptas' which would sometimes be one day more than the days worked in a calendar month. In this respect the statistics furnished by the Bombay mills in 1921 were very much superior to those supplied by the mills from the remaining centres of the Presidency. It has to be remembered also that comparison of average earnings between any two dates or any two localities is affected by a concealed factor, namely the proportionate distribution of age and sex groups. For instance 1,000 men plus 500 women plus 250 children would give higher average earnings than 500 men plus 250 women plus 1,000 children although the comparative earnings of each of the age and sex groups might be the same.

Again, slight differences are bound to exist between the average monthly earnings per head at two dates separated as in the present instance by a period of 27 months although no apparent change may have been effected in the rates of wages paid. This would not be true in cases where standard time rates existed for each occupation irrespective of length of service and individual efficiency. But in India it has been noticed, in one muster roll, that 7 oilers doing exactly the same work for exactly the same length of time received wages at rates varying from 9 annas to Rs. 1-6-0 per day. The 2 men who received Rs. 1-6-0 per day had a record of 20 years' service. The small differences indicated in the earnings of time-workers arise, therefore, as a result of changes in staff where old hands earning particular rates of pay drop off and where others are engaged not necessarily at similar rates.

Subject to the above remarks the average monthly earnings in

1914, 1921 and 1923 are given in the following Table :—

Centre		Monthly earnings per head in		
		May 1914	May 1921	August 1923
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Bombay City	Men	18 6 8	34 15 2	35 10 7
	Women	10 0 10	17 6 6	17 5 5
	Big lads and children (a) ..	9 6 7	18 0 10	17 14 0
	All work-people (a) ..	16 6 3	30 10 0	30 10 1
Ahmedabad	Men	15 7 1	34 2 11	33 0 9
	Women	9 15 11	19 9 4	18 2 7
	Big lads and children (a) ..	7 2 3	18 6 6	17 3 11
	All work-people (a) ..	13 9 9	30 2 11	29 7 0
Sholapur	Men	14 3 11	25 13 9	22 3 10
	Women	5 13 11	10 15 9	8 9 7
	Big lads and children (a) ..	6 9 6	14 12 0	12 7 11
	All work-people (a) ..	10 9 4	20 9 4	17 10 6
Baroda State	Men	13 8 7	28 12 4	24 0 1
	Women	6 13 4	16 6 11	14 14 11
	Big lads and children (a) ..	7 3 8	14 7 4	11 7 3
	All work-people (a) ..	11 14 1	25 1 10	22 0 8
"Other Centres"	Men	13 8 7	28 12 4	24 7 4
	Women	6 13 4	16 6 11	11 14 7
	Big lads and children (a) ..	7 3 8	14 7 4	12 8 8
	All work-people (a) ..	11 14 1	25 1 10	21 6 5
Bombay Presidency	Men	17 0 8	33 6 10	33 1 10
	Women	9 0 1	16 9 1	16 3 10
	Big lads and children (a) ..	7 13 4	17 3 7	16 9 6
	All work-people (a) ..	14 11 11	28 14 4	28 9 1

Potential Monthly Earnings

The question of the average monthly earnings for a full working month of 27 days, *i.e.*, the earnings of a worker who is not absent on any working day in the month is dealt with in the following table which summarises the average maximum earnings which it would be possible for men, women and children and all work-people to earn during the full working month of 27 days at the rates of wages which prevailed in August 1923 :—

(a) Counting two half-timers as one full-timer.

Average monthly earnings of full-time workers

Centre	Average monthly earnings for a month of 27 working days in			
	Men	Women	Big lads and Children (a)	All work-people (a)
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Bombay City	39 1 6	20 15 3	20 10 9	34 0 6
Ahmedabad	37 6 6	21 8 3	19 2 0	33 7 6
Sholapur	27 0 0	10 11 0	15 5 3	21 8 3
Baroda State	27 13 6	18 4 6	13 8 0	25 11 9
"Other Centres"	27 2 3	13 12 6	14 10 0	25 14 6
Bombay Presidency	36 11 3	19 8 9	19 2 0	32 1 0

It is interesting to compare these results with the previous table. The difference between the maximum average earnings possible for all work-people in the Presidency per head and the average actual monthly earnings per head amount to Rs. 3-8-0 or 12 per cent. Sickness, of course, and especially fevers, count for a considerable amount of this irregularity in attendance. But there is no doubt that there is much voluntary absenteeism. Exact figures of involuntary and voluntary absence are not at the moment available.

Proportion of time and piece-workers returned

The relative percentages of time and piece-workers returned in the enquiry are summarised in the following table for each centre among men, women and big lads separately and for all workers including half-timers conjointly :—

Percentages of time and piece-workers to total workers

Centre.	Men.		Women.		Big lads		All workers including half-timers	
	Time.	Piece.	Time.	Piece.	Time.	Piece.	Time.	Piece.
Bombay City	53.2	46.8	33.1	66.9	97.1	2.9	52.8	47.2
Ahmedabad	51.0	49.0	57.9	42.1	100	0	59.2	40.8
Sholapur	58.3	41.7	19.9	80.1	94.7	5.3	56.4	43.6
Baroda State	65.7	34.3	44.5	55.5	100	0	67.4	32.6
"Other Centres"	58.9	41.1	24.0	76.0	97.1	2.9	59.1	40.9
Bombay Presidency	53.8	46.2	35.0	65.0	97.4	2.6	55.2	44.8

(a) Counting two half-timers as one full-timer.

Earnings in the main employments

It will be convenient to compare briefly the rates of daily earnings of some of the most important occupations in the industry. These occupations are (1) jobbers, (2) weavers, (3) mule spinners, (4) ring spinners, (5) reelers, (6) winders, and (7) frame tenters.

(1) Jobbers

The number of jobbers, including assistant jobbers, fancy and line jobbers, returned for all centres in the Presidency amounted to 6,990 and formed 2.8 per cent. of the total number of workpeople in the industry i.e., 1 jobber to every 36 operatives. Nearly 56 per cent. of these were shown as time-workers and the remainder 44 per cent. as piece-workers.

In Bombay piece-workers slightly predominate. In Ahmedabad less than a quarter are piece-workers, but in Sholapur more than two-thirds, while in Baroda State and "other centres" the balance is somewhat in favour of time-workers.

By departments piece-work is almost general in the weaving sheds, predominates in the spinning sheds, and is less common than time work in other departments.

The numbers and daily average earnings for all jobbers grouped together for each centre were as follows:—

Average daily earnings of jobbers in August 1923

Centre	Time		Piece	
	Number	Average daily earnings	Number	Average daily earnings
		Rs. & p.		Rs. & p.
Bombay City	2,046	2 15 2	2,183	4 1 0
Ahmedabad	1,293	2 1 6	377	4 2 10
Sholapur	137	1 10 10	280	2 12 4
Baroda State	123	2 4 11	29	2 8 10
"Other Centres"	342	1 14 8	181	2 13 10

(2) Weavers

The most important group of mill operatives in the Bombay cotton mill industry is the weavers. They are the most highly paid group and their number was 52,111 or 21 per cent. of the total number of workers returned for the industry. With the exception of 17 workers shown in Sholapur on time rates of pay all weavers in the Presidency were on piece rates. The number of piece rate workers at each centre classified according

to the number of looms worked by each operative is shown in the following table:—

Average daily number of weavers

Centre	Number of weavers with				Total
	One loom	Two looms	Three looms	Four looms	
Bombay City	66	31,700	100	3	31,869
Ahmedabad	64	11,340	106	110	11,620
Sholapur	—	2,200	—	4	2,204
Baroda State	—	100	—	34	134
"Other Centres"	92	2,337	142	51	2,622
Bombay Presidency	2,620	60,000	454	212	63,286

No women or big lads were returned as weavers for any centre in the Presidency. In the United Kingdom two-loom and three-loom weavers are almost entirely women and men weavers generally attend to four looms each*. But as will be seen from the table, two-loom weavers are almost universal in this Presidency, and weavers working 3 or 4 looms are very rare.

The daily average earnings of weavers classified according to the number of looms worked were as follows:—

Average daily earnings of weavers

Centre	Weavers with			
	One loom	Two looms	Three looms	Four looms
	Rs. & p.	Rs. & p.	Rs. & p.	Rs. & p.
Bombay City	1 9 5	1 11 3	2 2 3	2 9 3
Ahmedabad	—	1 10 5	2 8 7	3 1 1
Sholapur	0 12 6	1 9 4	—	3 10 7
Baroda State	—	1 5 2	2 12 9	2 10 3
"Other Centres"	0 10 1	1 8 2	2 1 0	2 5 0

Of the 17 time-rate weavers at Sholapur the earnings of 7 one-loom weavers and of 10 two-loom weavers amounted to 12 annas 3 pies a day and to Rs. 1-6-10 per day respectively.

It should be noted that there is little or no basis of comparison between the earnings of 1-loom weavers and 2-loom weavers. The vast majority of weavers in the Presidency are, as shown above, 2-loom weavers, and weavers producing ordinary grades of cloth refuse to accept

*This statement relates to looms of the same types as are used in the Bombay mills. With automatic welt replenishing devices the number of looms attended to by a male weaver in England is now considerably higher than four.

work unless they are given two looms each. It is only for the production of Jacquard cloth which requires special care and attention, and blankets, which are a heavier class of work, and both of which require broad looms, that weavers will accept work on 1 loom only, and the rates per loom for this class of work are necessarily higher. The earnings of 3-loom and 4-loom workers are a question entirely of efficiency and earnings vary considerably according to individual capacity. The numbers of these at the various centres are too small for arriving at fair averages.

(3) Mule Spinners *

There were 2,391 workmen returned as Spinners and Piecers in the Mule Spinning Department out of which 1,582 or 66 per cent. were piece-workers. No women are employed in Mule Spinning because the nature of the work to be done in this department is such as to make the employment of men necessary. The two following tables show the number and the average daily earnings of Mule Spinners in different centres in the Presidency :—

Number of workpeople in Mule Spinning Department

Occupation	Number of workers of stated occupations in				
	Bombay	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Baroda State	"Other Centres"
<i>Men</i>					
Engine Piecers .. Time ..	230	19	2	1	8
.. Piece ..	514	..	..	..	30
Side Piecers .. Time ..	274	28	58	7	32
.. Piece ..	739	..	..	..	29
Spinners .. Time ..	70	56	9	6	9
.. Piece ..	251	..	..	..	19

*In the Report for the Enquiry held into Cotton Mill wages in 1921 the classification adopted for the discussion of the earnings of workpeople in the principal occupations divided the workpeople in Spinning Departments under the general terms 'Spinners' and 'Piecers'. The Expert Committee appointed by the Bombay Millowners' Association on this occasion pointed out that this method was not correct, and that the earnings of workpeople in Spinning Departments should be shown under 'Mule Spinners' and 'Ring Spinners'. The procedure followed in this Report is therefore in accordance with the recommendation of the Expert Committee, and exact comparisons with the 1921 figures are not possible.

Average daily earnings of workpeople in Mule Spinning Department

Occupation	Average daily earnings per head for workers in stated occupations in				
	Bombay	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Baroda State	"Other Centres"
<i>Men</i>					
Engine Piecers .. Time ..	Rs. 1 4 8	Rs. 1 2 0	Rs. 0 14 8	Rs. 1 0 0	Rs. 1 1 8
.. Piece ..	Rs. 1 8 4	..	..	..	Rs. 1 0 10
Side Piecers .. Time ..	Rs. 1 4 9	Rs. 1 1 4	Rs. 0 14 5	Rs. 1 0 10	Rs. 0 12 4
.. Piece ..	Rs. 1 7 2	..	..	..	Rs. 1 0 7
Spinners .. Time ..	Rs. 1 13 11	Rs. 1 2 10	Rs. 1 7 11	Rs. 0 12 7	Rs. 0 9 10
.. Piece ..	Rs. 2 1 0	..	..	..	Rs. 1 2 11

(4) Ring Spinners

Ring Spinning is the one occupation in the cotton mill industry which offers employment to workers of both sexes in all age groups. Excluding Jobbers, Doffers, Banders, Bobbin Carriers, Mochis, Oilers, and Coolies, the number of workpeople returned as Piecers, Gaiters, Followers, and Spinning Boys amounted to 51,591 or more than 20 per cent. of the total number of workpeople returned in the enquiry. Of these, 29,289 were men, 4,881 women, 10,202 big lads, and 7,219 children. Children spinners were all on time rates and among women and big lads only 3 women and 35 big lads were returned as piece-workers. There were no piece-workers out of 19,116 men returned in the Ring Spinning Department in the mills in Bombay City and the 711 men returned as piece-workers in this department were scattered over the mills in Ahmedabad, Sholapur, Baroda State and other centres. It will thus be seen that nearly 99 per cent. of the workers in the Ring Spinning Department were workers on time rates of pay. The number of children engaged in this department amounted to 4,013 in Ahmedabad as against 465 in Bombay. The two following tables show the numbers and the average daily earnings of Piecers, Gaiters, Followers of each sex in different age groups and the numbers and average daily earnings of big lads and children otherwise engaged in spinning :

Number of workpeople in Ring Spinning Department

Occupation	Number of workers of stated occupations in					
	Bombay	Ahmed- abad	Sholapur	Baroda State	"Other Centres"	
<i>Men</i>						
Side Men or Piecers	Time ..	14,267	5,122	1,303	512	1,500
	Piece ..	..	216	307	81	107
Gaiters	Time ..	644	..	..	..	411
Tarwallas or Followers	Time ..	4,205	62	243	162	147
<i>Women</i>						
Side women or Piecers	Time ..	1,058	2,053	6	36	76
	Piece ..	..	..	3	..	..
Gaiters	Time ..	280	193	..	3	8
Tarwallas or Followers	Time ..	939	198	12	16	..
<i>Big Lads</i>						
Side Boys or Piecers	Time ..	1,049	282	33	37	204
	Piece ..	..	..	..	..	35
Gaiters	Time ..	124	..	..	..	..
Tarwallas or Followers	Time ..	518	..	297	..	27
Spinning Boys	Time ..	5,251	1,121	473	168	583
<i>Children</i>						
Spinning	Half Time ..	465	4,013	1,624	178	939

Average daily earnings of workpeople in Ring Spinning Department

Occupation	Average daily earnings per head for workers in stated occupations in					
	Bombay	Ahmed- abad	Sholapur	Baroda State	"Other Centres"	
<i>Men</i>						
Side men or Piecers	Time ..	Rs. a. p. 1 0 4	Rs. a. p. 0 15 6	Rs. a. p. 0 11 1	Rs. a. p. 0 12 4	Rs. a. p. 0 10 7
	Piece ..	..	0 15 2	0 11 7	0 12 3	0 15 9
Gaiters	Time ..	1 0 5	..	..	..	0 4 8
Tarwallas or Followers	Time ..	0 14 4	0 11 10	0 8 2	0 7 3	0 9 3

Average daily earnings of workpeople in Ring Spinning Department (contd.)

Occupation	Average daily earnings per head for workers in stated occupations in					
	Bombay	Ahmed- abad	Sholapur	Baroda State	"Other Centres"	
<i>Women</i>						
Side women or Piecers	Time ..	Rs. a. p. 0 15 2	Rs. a. p. 0 14 11	Rs. a. p. 0 9 10	Rs. a. p. 0 13 2	Rs. a. p. 0 12 8
	Piece ..	..	..	0 11 0	..	..
Gaiters	Time ..	1 0 3	0 11 6	..	0 12 6	0 14 9
Tarwallas or Followers	Time ..	0 12 7	0 11 0	0 7 9	0 8 5	..
<i>Big Lads</i>						
Side Boys or Piecers	Time ..	0 14 2	0 12 7	0 9 9	0 5 7	0 5 7
	Piece ..	..	..	..	..	0 11 0
Gaiters	Time ..	1 0 4	..	..	..	..
Tarwallas or Followers	Time ..	0 12 7	..	0 9 3	..	0 5 3
Spinning Boys	Time ..	0 11 5	0 10 11	0 8 1	0 7 8	0 8 4
<i>Children</i>						
Spinning	Half Time ..	0 6 10	0 5 9	0 4 8	0 4 10	0 4 5

(5) Reelers

Reeling is predominantly an occupation for women. Out of 16,687 reelers returned for the presidency 14,817 or 89 per cent. were women. In Sholapur there was only one man out of 2,142 reelers returned. In the enquiry of 1921 all reelers returned in Bombay were women but in the present enquiry 1,273 men are shown in this occupation in Bombay. 96 per cent. of the total number of women reelers returned were piece workers. The following table summarises the earnings of men and women reelers in convenient form:—

Average daily earnings of Reelers

Centre	Men Reelers				Women Reelers			
	Time Workers		Piece Workers		Time Workers		Piece Workers	
	Number	Earnings	Number	Earnings	Number	Earnings	Number	Earnings
		Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.
Bombay City	1,273	0 12 4	430	0 11 1	9,665	0 12 6
Ahmedabad	241	0 12 9	47	0 11 2	956	0 12 7
Sholapur	..	1 0 14 2	..	..	43	0 6 1	2,098	0 6 0
Baroda State	163	0 9 7	10	0 10 3	206	0 12 4
"Other Centres"	..	1 0 14 3	191	0 8 7	6	0 7 5	1,356	0 7 4

(6) Winders.

Winders numbered 20,708, and form 8 per cent. of the total number of workpeople returned. 78 per cent. of these were women and 22 per cent. were men. As in reeling, the occupation of winding gives considerable scope for the employment of women. 92 per cent. of the total number of winders employed were on piece work. The following table summarises the number of time and piece workers with their average daily earnings at each centre in the presidency:—

Number and average daily earnings of winders

Centre	Men Winders				Women Winders			
	Time Workers		Piece Workers		Time Workers		Piece Workers	
	Number	Average daily earnings	Number	Average daily earnings	Number	Average daily earnings	Number	Average daily earnings
		Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.
Bombay City ..	347	0 14 0	2,916	0 13 4	991	0 12 10	10,761	0 13 3
Ahmedabd ..	20	0 13 4	794	0 13 8	203	0 11 9	1,780	0 11 10
Sholapur ..	2	0 7 10	209	0 9 8	129	0 7 10	1,355	0 6 6
Baroda State ..	3	0 8 5	91	0 10 2	2	0 8 10	62	0 7 7
" Other Centres " ..	8	0 10 11	223	0 8 8	21	0 7 7	791	0 9 1

With the exception of men piece workers whose daily average earnings are 4 pies higher in Ahmedabad than in Bombay, the earnings of all classes of winders are, as is to be expected, highest in Bombay. In Bombay the average daily earnings of 10,761 women piece winders are similar to the average daily earnings of 2,916 men piece winders and amount to a little more than thirteen annas a day. This result shows that, granting suitability of occupation, women workers can show the same or even greater efficiency in certain processes. However in Ahmedabad the earnings of women piece winders are about 2 annas less than those of men piece winders, and in Sholapur 3 annas less. The variation in the earnings of men and women winders in Mofussil centres is said to be due to a lower level of intelligence among the women operatives.

(7) Frame Tenters

The number of frame tenters returned amounted to 22,222 or 9 per cent. of the total number of workpeople in the industry. There were no women returned in this occupation but 4,966 big lads; and there were 2,351 children all of whom worked as doffers. The figure for big lads is 23 per cent. of the total and they were all engaged as drawing and roving tenters. In Bombay the proportion of big lads to children in the whole department was as 93 to 7 but in Ahmedabad only 39 to 61.

The following table summarises the number and average daily earnings of frame tenters in the main centres of the Presidency:—

Number and average daily earnings of Frame Tenters

Centre	Sub Department	Men		Big Lads		Children	
		Time		Piece		Time	
		No.	Earnings	No.	Earnings	No.	Earnings
			Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.
Bombay City	Slubbing ..	14	1 6 6	1,180	1 5 3	..	..
	Intermediate ..	40	1 2 1	1,820	1 3 11	..	..
	Drawing ..	..	..	2,154	1 3 8	109	1 0 7
	Roving ..	190	1 1 4	3,700	1 2 7	3,306	0 11 4
Ahmedabad	Slubbing ..	..	..	616	1 3 0	..	..
	Intermediate ..	15	0 12 11	818	0 15 11	..	..
	Drawing ..	..	..	592	1 0 3	164	0 10 7
	Roving ..	..	..	1,477	0 14 11	670	0 10 11
Sholapur	Slubbing ..	3	0 11 9	89	0 12 10	..	..
	Intermediate ..	6	0 11 8	144	0 12 3	..	..
	Drawing ..	..	..	822	0 11 7	2	0 8 0
	Roving ..	102	0 13 10	216	0 10 7	294	0 7 11
Baroda State	Slubbing ..	25	0 14 7	28	0 14 10	..	..
	Intermediate ..	23	0 14 6	49	0 14 10	..	..
	Drawing ..	..	..	..	..	5	0 6 6
	Roving ..	65	0 13 4	99	0 12 10	105	0 7 4
" Other Centres "	Slubbing ..	..	..	235	0 14 1	..	..
	Intermediate ..	5	0 9 9	285	0 13 6	..	..
	Drawing ..	..	..	..	..	75	1 4 0
	Roving ..	9	0 8 8	584	0 12 8	207	0 6 7

Big lads and half timers were engaged only on roving and drawing frames whereas men were employed on all kinds of frames.

The Wages Bill

With the exception of a small percentage of the power house and Maintenance Staff, a few jobbers and a part of the Blowing Room Staff, who worked at most mills for a few hours on holidays, there was, in most mills, no overtime employment on any extensive scale. Overtime wages, where paid, were excluded from the returns—only the earnings of the regular employees for the number of regular working days in the month being taken.

The salaries of the mill managers, chief engineers and the superior staff of the mills, such as Spinning and Weaving Masters, were not called for in the form; but the earnings of Assistant Masters in the carding, spinning, weaving and sizing departments, engine drivers and all regular mill clerks were called for and supplied.

The figures given in Part I of the Returns for full time workers as defined on page 952 were not correct. But by using Part II of the returns it was possible to arrive at an approximately accurate figure for the total Wages Bill for each centre and for the Presidency as a whole for all the regular workers entered on the pay-rolls of the mills. By "regular workers" are meant those whose names are entered on the pay rolls as permanent establishment, that is to say, as differentiated from the spare hands and substitutes who take up occasional employment in place of those who are temporarily absent. The earnings of spare hands and substitutes are not included in the returns.

Consequently the expression "Total Wages Bill" for the purposes of this report falls short of the actual total amounts disbursed in cash by the mills as wages.

The following table shows the total earnings of men, women, big lads and children in each centre and for the presidency as a whole. The earnings of men have been classified according to five major occupational heads: (1) process operatives (a) time workers, and (b) piece workers; (2) Power House and Maintenance staff; (3) Miscellaneous Departments (Stores and Godowns); (4) Ramosees or Sepoy Department and odd hands; and (5) Mill or factory clerks. The earnings of women, who may be taken as belonging entirely to the class of Process operatives, have been shown separately for time and piece workers. Big lads and children are generally time workers, and the earnings for these are shown separately accordingly as they worked for a full day or for a half day.

Wages Bill for all regular workers for August 1923

	Wages Bill in Rupees (000 omitted) for					
	Bombay City	Ahmed-abad	Sholapur	Baroda State	"Other centres"	Bombay Presidency
Men—Process Operatives—						
Time workers ..	13.64	3.86	83	39	1.10	19.82
Piece workers ..	21.65	6.71	1.24	38	1.64	31.62

Wages Bill for all regular workers for August 1923—(contd.)

	Wages Bill in Rupees (000 omitted) for					
	Bombay City	Ahmed-abad	Sholapur	Baroda State	"Other centres"	Bombay Presidency
Power House and Maintenance Staff ..	2.70	1.10	25	12	40	4.57
Miscellaneous Departments ..	34	9	4	1	5	53
Ramosees or Sepoy Department and odd hands ..	82	29	9	3	12	1.35
Mill or Factory Clerks ..	1.54	59	7	5	13	2.38
Total Men ..	40.69	12.64	2.52	98	3.44	60.27
Women— Time workers ..	1.54	72	9	3	9	2.47
Piece workers ..	3.77	54	29	5	26	4.91
Total Women ..	5.31	1.26	38	8	35	7.38
Big Lads and Children—						
Full time ..	2.11	40	14	3	15	2.83
Half time ..	8	46	14	2	8	78
Total Big Lads and Children ..	2.19	86	28	5	23	3.61
Total All Workers ..	48.19	14.76	3.18	1.11	4.02	71.26

The number of industrial Disputes in August 1923 was 12, and the number of working days lost was 23,860. These figures are for the British Districts only, comparative figures not being available for State Territory. Allowing Rs. 1-3-0 as the average daily earnings per head (all operatives), we get a sum of Rs. 28,334 lost to wages in British Districts, or Rs. 28,000 to the nearest thousand. Adding this to the Grand Total Rs. 71,26,000 shown in the Table as the actual wages bill we have a potential monthly wages bill of Rs. 71,54,000. This multiplied by 12 gives the potential wages bill, assuming no strikes or lock-outs and the continuance of production for all 12 months on the August basis.

If from this we deduct the amount lost in the whole of 1923 (number of working days lost \times average daily earnings of all operatives) we get a theoretical figure of Rs. 8,26,15,000 for wages paid in 1923.

But, as stated above, the wages of spare hands and substitutes have to be added, and for this 5 per cent. might be added as a conservative estimate to both. The potential wages bill for 1923 then becomes Rs. 9,01,40,000 and the theoretical wages bill amounts to Rs. 8,67,45,750. Converting these to sterling at 1s. 5d. to the rupee we get—

Potential annual wages bill ..	£6,384,900
Theoretical wages bill for 1923 ..	£6,144,500

Hours of Labour

Section 27 of the Indian Factories Act, 1911, as amended by the Indian Factories Amendment Act, 1922 prescribed that "no person shall be employed in a factory for more than 60 hours in one week" and the number of working hours per day is limited to 11 under section 28 of the same Act. Section 23 (c) prescribes a limit of six hours in any one working day for the employment of children and under section 25 'no woman or child can be employed in more than one factory on the same day.' The provisions of the Indian Factories Act apply only to British India and not to States. Baroda, for example, has a Factories Act of its own. In Baroda State no child can be employed for more than 7 hours in any one day as against 6 hours and no woman for more than 12 hours in any one day as against 11 hours in British India. In Baroda State there is no limit for the number of hours that may be worked by men. The following table shows the average number of hours of labour worked by men, women and children for each centre in the Bombay Presidency in August 1923 :—

Average Hours of Labour in August 1923

Centre	Hours of labour worked by		
	Men	Women	Children
Bombay City	10	9½	4⅞
Ahmedabad	10	9⅝	5
Sholapur	10	10	5
Baroda State	11½	10⅞	5½
"Other Centres"	10⅓	9⅞	5⅞
Bombay Presidency	10⅞	9⅞	5

Of the returns from all mills in the Presidency 92 per cent. show a 10 hour day for men and 67 per cent. a 10 hour day for women. In Bombay City all returns gave the number of working hours for men per day as 10 but only 54 per cent. showed a 10 hour day for women. Excluding the mills of Bombay City 86 per cent. of the remaining forms gave a 10 hour day for men, while 13 per cent. showed a longer day than 10 hours. In the case of women the percentages are 79 for a 10 hour day, 9 per cent. for a day of more than 10 hours, and the remainder (12 per cent.) for a day of less than 10 hours. The most usual time of work was from 7 a.m. to noon and from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. Some mills began and closed work half an hour later. Children worked either in the morning or in the afternoon period, i.e., either from 7 a.m. to 12 noon or in the afternoon from 1 to 6 p.m. In some mills children were divided into two groups, one group from 7 to 10 a.m. and from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. and the other from 10 a.m. to noon and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Holidays

The number of holidays recommended by the Committee of the Bombay Millowners' Association for general adoption during the year

1923 in accordance with the Indian Factories Act amounted to 57 as against 55 in 1914 and 56 in 1921. Four Holidays were recommended for the month of August but several mills observed an additional holiday on the 24th on account of Mohurram. In Bombay City holidays are generally given on Sundays unless a Sunday is replaced by some other day on account of some religious festival. In Ahmedabad the number of holidays observed in August 1923 varied from four in some mills to seven in others. The returns show that no uniformity exists in the observance of holidays in this centre, there being no less than sixteen different days in August on which holidays were observed in different mills. In some places, mostly "other centres", mills are closed on the weekly bazaar days instead of on Sundays, and in most cases a mill remains closed on the Boiler Inspection day. Among time rate workers some, i.e., mechanics, electric motor drivers, jobbers in some departments and in a few cases half the staff of the Blow Room are called for special duty on holidays for about five to seven hours, but in such cases overtime wages are always granted and compensatory leave is given except where the Factories Act specially exempts from this necessity. In Bombay City overtime rates vary from about 1¼ time rates to double time rates for holiday work. Some mills have a sliding scale according to which the remuneration over the ordinary time rates increases on a set scale according to the number of regular hours worked over the workable hours during a day. The general method adopted for the payment of overtime wages in all centres in the Presidency is to calculate such wages at the rate of a time and a quarter. No information is collected for overtime wages in the forms issued to the mills and no consideration is given, therefore, to overtime earnings in the calculation of daily average earnings.

In paragraph 32 of the 1921 Report it was pointed out that the definition contained in the Indian Factories Act, 1911, as amended by Act II of 1922 for a "week" as "a period between Saturday mid-night to midnight of the succeeding Saturday" gave rise to a difficulty in the substitution of a holiday for the weekly rest day as laid down in section 22 of the amended Act. Section 27 of this Act limits the hours of work in any one week to a maximum of 60. On the other hand if the holiday precedes the Sunday then the hours of work in the succeeding week in which the Sunday is a working day will exceed sixty. The difficulty was overcome by the passing of the Indian Factories Amendment Act, 1923, section 2 of which provided for the addition of a new sub-section to section 22, Act XII of 1911. This sub-section reads as follows :—

"(2) Where, in accordance with the provisions of sub-section (1), any person is employed on a Sunday in consequence of his having had a holiday on one of the three days preceding that Sunday, that Sunday shall, for the purpose of calculating the weekly hours of work of such person, be deemed to be included in the preceding week."

Bonus

In 1923 a bonus for the year 1922 of one month's pay for service of 9 months and over, 75 per cent. of one month's pay for service of 6 months but under 9 months, and 50 per cent. of one month's pay for service

of 3 months but under 6 months was paid to all workers in Bombay City. This was on a basis similar to the bonus paid in the previous year and was the fifth successive bonus paid in this centre. In Ahmedabad, a bonus of generally one month's wages was paid at the end of 1922, while in Sholapur a half month's pay as bonus was paid. Except in Sholapur no bonuses, however, were paid for service in the year 1923. In Bombay all mills posted notices dated 23rd July 1923 to the effect that "owing to bad trade the agents regret that no bonus will be declared at the end of the current year as resolved by the Millowners' Association". A similar decision was arrived at by the Ahmedabad Millowners' Association and the mills in other centres of the Presidency. In Sholapur, however, a half month's wages as bonus for the year 1923 was paid early in the present year. In Bombay this no bonus decision led to a general strike in the textile industry in January which continued for nearly two months. A Committee of Enquiry was appointed by Government, but this report is not concerned with the terms of reference to the Committee, nor with the grounds of their decision. No bonus was actually paid for the year 1923.



Reviews of Books and Reports

Economic conditions in India by P. Padmanabha Pillai (George Routledge and Sons, Ltd.), 1925, pp. 330. Price 12/6 net.

There will probably be little difference of opinion among students of Indian economic history as to the value of Dr. Pillai's work which is a lucid, balanced and comprehensive account of Indian economic conditions.

Dr. Pillai first of all traces the economic evolution of India. He points out that with the advent of British Rule, peace and security were introduced, which created a new environment favourable for the economic evolution of the country. But the progress of this evolution was considerably hindered, owing to the isolated life of the people in villages and their general illiteracy. The author then discusses problems of agriculture and of industry. He describes the various crops grown in India and the efforts made by Government to improve agricultural conditions. He deplors the backwardness of the methods followed by the agriculturist, and emphasises the need of the conservation of manure to increase the yield of land. He seems to believe that the efforts being made by Government are in the right direction, but he has no illusions about sudden progress, for, as he himself says, "it must be remembered that the New Agriculture has not yet touched more than the outermost fringe of the vast agricultural population of the country" (p. 94). The author traces the low standard of life of the agriculturist to his illiteracy, indebtedness and the want of any organization for marketing the produce of land. He seems to pin his faith to co-operative societies, and concludes that "It is in the spread of co-operation, therefore, that we must seek the solvent of the cardinal defect of Indian husbandry." (p. 124.)

In dealing with problems of industry, Dr. Pillai first of all discusses the industrial organization of the country, pointing out the gradual disintegration of the old economic order and its replacement by the new. He repeats the view, held by the Famine Commission, that there is little diversity of occupation in this country, and says, that since the Indian villager is by tradition and temperament an agriculturist, and a factory worker only by necessity, it is necessary that every encouragement should be given to cottage industries. It is however difficult to agree with the view, that when a country is being rapidly industrialized, cottage industries have still any place in its economy.

The two organized industries of India, the Indian Cotton Mill Industry and the Iron and Steel Industry, have been discussed in great detail. The chapter on the Cotton Mill Industry was first published in the Journal of Indian Economics and has been reprinted in this book. Criticisms on this chapter have already appeared in the December 1924 issue of the "Labour Gazette" and it is unnecessary therefore to repeat them in this review. It is however hoped that if the book runs into a second edition, these criticisms will either be answered or the suggestions contained in them carried out.

The labour problem has been discussed dispassionately and well. The author believes—and rightly so—that higher wages alone will not increase the efficiency of the Indian labourer, but what is required is to teach him “to want more wants”.

The volume as a whole contains a good deal of information and suggestion, and can be read with profit by anyone, whether he be the specialist or the layman. Its value, however, would have been considerably enhanced by the inclusion of an index and a bibliography.

* * * * *

“*The Women's Garment Workers*” by Louis Levine, Ph.D. (B. W. Huebsch, Inc. New York)

This substantial volume of over 600 pages tells the story of the origin and growth of the “International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union”. Although dubbed “International” the Union is confined to the U. S. A. and Canada, and is fathered by the American Federation of Labour. In fact the word “International” would appear to refer to the racial origins of the members, and not to any idea of spreading the Union outside the northern half of the New World. The executive of 17 is almost entirely composed of Russian Jews, with one Hungarian and one Italian. It contains only one woman.

The description of the Jewish immigration from East Europe in the last two decades of the XIX Century—the hopeful bands who came to the land of golden opportunity—their disillusionment as one by one they sank into the “sweated” conditions of the New York tenements—and their long struggles for industrial emancipation—are well written and well worth reading. In fact the book in spite of its forbidding title and its narrow subject is really of absorbing human interest. The particular is usually more effective than the general, because the details of the picture can be drawn in, and it is details that arrest the eye.

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Wages and Profit Sharing, by R. N. Gilchrist : (The University of Calcutta Press), 1924, pp. 422

The author is a member of the Indian Educational Service and was until recently Labour Intelligence Officer to the Government of Bengal. The book is divided into three parts, (1) the payment of wages, (2) profit sharing and co-partnership and (3) industrial peace and the payment of wages in India.

Part I contains a short review of the principal systems of wage payment with an explanatory discussion on the advantages and the disadvantages of each, as affecting the employer, the employee and the industrial world as a whole. Chief among the systems noticed are : (1) the Time Wage System, (2) the Piece Wage System, (3) the Halsey and Rowan or the Premium Bonus Systems, (4) Taylor's and Gantt's Systems or the Differential Piece Rate and the Task with Bonus Systems in the movement known as scientific management ; (5) Emerson's Efficiency Bonus System ;

(6) the Cost Premium System and (7) the Sliding Scale System. It is practically impossible, within the limits of a review either to summarize the characteristics of these systems, or to comment on them. It can incidentally be mentioned however that although the author generally has abstained from passing personal judgment—a characteristic present throughout the book,—the scientific management system has received the author's favourable attention.

Part II deals with “Profit Sharing and Co-partnership” and is a concise statement of the different forms of profit sharing as is known in different countries. It also includes an analysis of some individual schemes. Profit sharing has recently received considerable public attention. The French Parliament, according to the International Labour Office reports, passed in 1922 an Act on Joint Stock Companies with Profit Sharing schemes, and some advocates of the principle have urged State compulsion on its behalf. The Superior Labour Council, although not inclined in favour of compulsion, passed a Resolution at their November 1923 sessions in favour of Profit Sharing as a system of wage payment, and it is certain that rightly or otherwise, Profit Sharing will acquire a tremendous importance in the future industrial economics of the World. In view of these tendencies, although Profit Sharing is almost unknown in India at present, the discussion by the Writer on the Profit Sharing system as a means to “secure harmonious relations between labour and capital” or briefly industrial peace and as incentive to more production and therefore an increase in national wealth, is a welcome feature of the book.

Part III is interesting to those who are familiar with the labour problems in India and instructive to those who are not. It contains, among other things, useful information on the conditions in which labour lives in India, what labour organizations—official and unofficial—we have, and what influences brought them into being (the International Labour Office being one of the chief mentioned) ; what is the exact significance of what is known as Trade Unionism in India in the economic and industrial development of the country and what is the future of the Trade Unionism in India. It also attempts a review of industrial disputes in India and the forces that guide them. Appendix A (Recent Labour Legislation on Conciliation and Arbitration) and Appendix B (Proposals of the Government of India) are valuable additions. The book is more or less indispensable to those who have to deal with the problems connected with labour in India.

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Science and Labour, Edited by Thomas Lloyd Humberstone, London : (Ernest Benn, Limited), 1924, pp. 199

This book contains the principal addresses given by various eminent persons in England, at the Conference of Science and Labour held in London on 30th and 31st May 1924. A very wide range of subjects was discussed, but almost every speaker emphasised the great need of scientific research for the welfare of industry.

Among the subjects discussed, the three of special interest to us in India are Problems of Public Health; Vocational Selection and Guidance; and Educational Organisation. Sir Arthur Newsholme points out what a great economic loss it is to a country if persons between the ages of 15 and 65 are allowed to die through the improper regulation of public health. Mr. Cyril Burt discusses in some detail the question of industrial efficiency and arrives at the conclusion that "the commonest cause of industrial inefficiency is not so much putting the round peg in the square hole, as forcing the big peg into the little hole, and dropping the tiny peg into the hole too big for it to fill." Mr. Tawney deals with educational organisation and shows the relation between a well devised system of education and the welfare of industry.

The book is a real contribution to the subject of labour and industry.

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American Economic History, by H. V. Faulkner, Ph.D. (Harper and Brothers), 1924, pp. 721

Since the war, Americans have begun to realise that the mineral and other resources even of America are not inexhaustible and economists are now anxiously preparing an inventory of the economic resources of the country. This book is the direct result of this new feeling. It is useful both as a book of reference and as a comprehensive economic history of America.

In the latter half of the work the author has analysed the different factors in American industrial evolution. He has dealt very fully with the development of monopolies and trusts and the gradual disappearance of individual ventures. The author also traces the labour movement in its historical and other aspects.

The effects of the industrial revolution are described in a chapter called "World Trade and the New Imperialism". The author points out that the "new imperialism came into existence on account of economic necessities, such as enormous increase in production and accumulation of capital". It is not entirely easy to agree with such a view, since the new imperialism referred to was due not only to economic but also to political causes. The author concludes by pointing out some recent economic tendencies including conservation, which takes three forms: (a) full use of raw materials to the nation; (b) saving by more efficient and thrifty methods of production such as scientific management and (c) greater saving of the country's man power. The last chapter which deals with the economic aspects of the world war and the problems of reconstruction affords an insight into the part played by America in the great war.

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Annual Report of the Department of Commerce and Industry, Baroda State, for the year ending 31st July 1924

The annual report of the Department of Commerce and Industry of the Baroda Government for the year ending 31st July 1924 was received by the Labour Office. Among other things, it shows an all-round development

of the industries in the State to a marked extent. The Department of Industries aims at stabilizing existing industries and promoting new ones. The State offered attractive concessions for the latter. As a result of these efforts by the Department of Industries, the State secured a return of Rs. 2,59,926 in the form of Cotton Excise duty and of about Rs. 4,800 as royalty on cement making.

Three textile mills commenced work during the year under review. These mills, which are all spinning mills, have about 45,000 spindles. Two more mills are under construction, which will make a total of 19 mills in the Baroda State.

At the beginning there were 92 Joint Stock Companies in the State and 6 new companies were registered during the year. Out of these, 10 were cancelled, leaving 88 Joint Stock Companies at the end of the year. The paid-up capital however increased by about 77 lacs of rupees during the year, a fact which attracts attention in view of the rather difficult monetary condition of trade during the period under review.

Among the new industrial ventures started during the year the Bone Mill is mentioned as deserving particular notice.

Current Periodicals

Summary of titles and contents of special articles

THE JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE, VOL. VII, No. 2, FEBRUARY 1925 (AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF INDUSTRIAL PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS).

Special Articles.—(1) *Industrial Hygiene in Moscow* by Alice Hamilton, M.D., Assistant Professor of Industrial Medicine, Harvard Medical School, and Rebecca Edith Hilles, formerly of the Bureau of Women in Industry, New York State Department of Labour. pp. 47-61.

(2) *Opportunities for Industrial Service in a General Hospital* by D. C. Parmenter, A.B. M.D., Instructor in Industrial Medicine, Harvard School of Public Health, and in Charge of Industrial Clinic, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, Mass. pp. 62-68.

(3) *The Anatomical Distribution of the Occupational Cancers* by E. L. Kennaway, M.D., D.Sc., Cancer Hospital Research Institute, London:

The occupational cancers:—lignite tar, coal tar and pitch, soot, Scottish Shale oil, petroleum, lubricating oils of unknown origin: Mule-Spinners' Cancer, Aniline dyes; Comparison of the anatomic distribution of Cancers due to arsenic, pitch and tar, and shale oil; the Occupational incidence of Cancer of the penis and of the Scrotum in the general population; differences between the skin of the scrotum and the skin of other parts; the mode of conveyance of Cancer-producing Materials to the Scrotum; Summary; bibliography. pp. 69-93.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INDUSTRIAL WELFARE, VOL. VII, No. 75 (INDUSTRIAL WELFARE SOCIETY, LONDON).

Special Articles.—(1) *Management in Industry* by Oliver Sheldon (Routree & Co., Ltd.) :—Part V—Scientific Management in Practice; Production; the programme; conditions and work; first principles; standard technical conditions; the actual work; Management first: the primary need. pp. 85-88.

(2) *Health and Production* by E. L. Collis, M.A., M.D., Mansel Talbot, Professor of Preventive Medicine in the University of Wales, Member of the Industrial Fatigue Research Board, etc.—Introduction; Labour turnover; its extent and cost—labour statistics, labour turnover facts, loss to workers, loss to employers. pp. 88-91.

- (3) *The Future of Welfare Supervision among Women in Industry—II*, by G. F. McArthur (Lady Welfare Supervisor, L.M. & S. Railway):—Problems of Women's work; Supervisory requirements; influence on legislation; a better standard pp. 92-94.
- (4) *Central Committee of Industrial Welfare Supervisors' Association*. pp. 95-96.
- (5) *Educating Adult Workers*. pp. 96-97.
- (6) *Health in Industry—X*, by E. L. Collis, M.D. pp. 98-99.
- (7) *Fashion in the Workshop*.—Clothing and Accidents; a recent accident. pp. 99-100.
- (8) *A Dairy Company's Welfare Work*:—Men for important posts; education scheme in better pp. 100-101.
- Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE LABOUR MAGAZINE, VOL. III, No. 12 (THE TRADES UNION CONGRESS AND THE LABOUR PARTY, LONDON).

- Special Articles.—(1) *Protocol and Pact by the Right Honourable J. Ramsay MacDonald, M.P.* pp. 531-534.
- (2) *Developing Agriculture, Some Administrative Acts under the Labour Government by the Right Honourable Noel Buxton, M.P.*—Marketing farm produce; better farming; better income. pp. 535-537.
- (3) "Continental" Trade Unions, *A New plan for World Unity* by C. T. Cramp (Chairman of the National Executive of the Labour Party; Industrial General Secretary to the National Union of Railwaymen):—pp. 538-539.
- (4) *The Real Soviet Russia—Report of the British Trade Union Delegation Analysed—II*. pp. 540-543.
- (5) *Friedrich Ebert, the Saddler's Son*, by Friedrich Stampfer, Editor of "Vorwaerts". pp. 544-546.
- (6) "Ushering in the Dawn"; *Stray Reminiscences of a Propagandist—IV*. pp. 547-549.
- (7) *Dilke, a Defender of the People*, by Fred Bramley, Secretary of Trades Union Congress. pp. 550-552.
- (8) *In the 'Eight-Fifteen'—Just a Little Matter of Soot* by T. S. Dickson. pp. 556-557.
- Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR REVIEW, VOL. XI, No. 4 (INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE, GENEVA).

- Special Articles.—(1) *The New Social Insurance Act of the Czechoslovak Republic* by Leo Winter, Member of the Chamber of Deputies.—Organisation of Insurance; Scope of the Act—branches of insurance, persons liable to insurance; benefits, curative treatment; finance; administration; the number of funds; control; judicial procedure. pp. 451-473.
- (2) *The Administrative Machinery of Social Insurance* by Joseph L. Cohen, Department of Economics, Cambridge University.—Existing Confusion in legislation and administration; confusion in legislation; Confusion in administration; the case against united administration examined; the nature of insurance; outlines of simplified machinery; its tasks, its organisation, national or local administration. pp. 474-508.
- (3) *The Classification Problem in Statistics* by R. H. Coats, Dominion Statistician, Canada.—Classification of Commodities; Classification of Industries; Classification of Occupations; Appendices I & II. pp. 509-525.
- (4) *Vocational Guidance in Germany*.—Existing legislation; organisation and methods; technical factors; relations with the school and the doctor. pp. 526-541.
- Reports and Enquiries. pp. 542-554.
- Statistics. pp. 555-578.
- Bibliography. pp. 579-610.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE, VOL. XXV, No. 3 (DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR, CANADA).

- Special Articles and Notes.—(1) *Disputes in the Coal Mines in Nova Scotia*. pp. 267-269.
- (2) *British Columbia Hours of Work Act, 1923*.—Further exemptions; exemptions explained. p. 274.
- (3) *Report of Special Committee on Workmen's Compensation in Manitoba*. Report of special Committee. pp. 275-276.
- (4) *Notes on Vocational Education and Apprenticeship*.—Social Workers' courses at McGill University; Vocational training for adults in Ontario; Apprenticeship in building trades of Washington, D. C. pp. 277-280.
- (5) *Notes on Labour Union Activities*.—Railwaymen's legislative demands; dates of coming conventions; labour women's social and economic conference. pp. 280-282.
- (6) *League of Nations International Labour Conference*.—Proposed draft conventions and recommendations on Workmen's Compensation to be submitted to the Seventh Session on May 19; proposed draft convention on Workmen's Compensation for accidents; proposed draft convention on

- Workmen's Compensation for occupational diseases; draft recommendation concerning the minimum scale of compensation; proposed recommendation as to jurisdiction in disputes on Workmen's Compensation; International Labour Directory. pp. 284-287.
- (7) *National Economic Council in France*. pp. 288-289.
- (8) *Employment and Wages in various Industries in Canada*.—Biscuit, Confectionery and chewing gum industry, 1923; the cocoa and chocolate industry, 1923; Central Electric Stations, 1923; Men's furnishing goods, 1923; electric railways of Canada, 1923; steam railways of Canada, 1923; telephone statistics; telegraph statistics. pp. 290-292.
- (9) *The Employment Situation at the beginning of February 1925 as Reported by Employers*.—Employment by provinces; employment by cities; manufacturing industries; logging; mining; communication; transportation; construction and maintenance; trade. pp. 294-299.
- (10) *Employment Office Reports for January 1925*.—Maritime Provinces, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba; Saskatchewan; Alberta; British Columbia; Movement of labour. pp. 299-302.
- Routine Articles and Notes.—As in previous issues.

THE NEW SOUTH WALES INDUSTRIAL GAZETTE, VOL. XXVII, No. 2 (DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR AND INDUSTRY, SYDNEY).

- Special Notes from routine articles.—(1) *The Industrial Situation*.—Shop closing times—closing times determined after Poll; Early Closing Acts; living wages—adult male employees, adult female employees. pp. 451 and 525-526.
- (2) *Departmental Activities*.—Early closing Acts; Factories and Shops Act, 1912; Boiler inspection; factory inspection; Gas Acts. pp. 541-544.
- (3) *Workmen's Compensation*.—Departmental advisings—total or partial incapacity for work—"odd lot" on the labour market—onus on employer of proving that workmen could actually obtain employment. page 558.
- Routine Matter.—As usual.

Current Notes From Abroad

INTERNATIONAL

The Second International Conference of Labour Statisticians held under the auspices of the International Labour Organisation will meet in Geneva on 20th April. The first Conference was held in Geneva on October 1923 and discussed the following subjects:—

- (1) Classification of Industries and Professions.
- (2) Statistics of Industrial Accidents.
- (3) Statistics of Wages and Hours of Labour.

This Conference was attended by representatives of 33 countries, and an account of its work and the resolutions adopted have been published by the Office.

It was the unanimous wish of the representatives that a second Conference should be held to continue the work begun by the first Conference, particularly as regards the Classification of Industries and Occupations, which proved too vast a subject for treatment at one Conference. This subject is therefore included in the Agenda of the second Conference, and other subjects to be discussed are:—

- (1) Statistics of the Cost of Living;
- (2) Statistics of Real Wages;
- (3) Statistics of Unemployment.

(From "Industrial and Labour Information," April 20, 1925.)

UNITED KINGDOM

Members of United Textile Workers of Manchester, England, have urged upon their Home Secretary desirability of new factory bill to legalize 48-hour workweek. In addition, workers have asked that regulations regarding working conditions be incorporated in bill. (From "Industrial News Survey," March 30, 1925.)

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The Mines Department have issued the Third Report of the Committee appointed to allocate the Miners' Welfare Fund, covering the twelve months ended on the 31st December 1924.

The fund was constituted by section 20 of the Mining Industry Act, 1920, by means of a levy of a penny a ton on the output of every coal mine during a period of five and a half years. The Committee in their present report repeat the suggestion made in their Second Report, that legislation should be introduced to extend this period.

The sum which has accrued to the Fund during the past year, including interest, is nearly £1,250,000, a sum which exceeds by over £140,000, the amount added in 1923. The number of allocations made during the twelve months was not so great as it was in 1923, being only 475, as compared with 502; but the amount allocated was greater, being £1,078,550 as compared with £1,032,500. The amount actually paid out from the Fund was £1,015,915, as compared with £634,807. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," Vol. XXXIII, No. 4, April, 1925.)

The Chancellor of the Exchequer gave the following statistics, in answer to a question in the House of Commons on the 26th March, as to the cost entailed on the State by the existence of health and unemployment funds, by old age pensions, and by unemployment grants:—

The cost, partly estimated, which will fall on the State for the year ending the 31st March, including cost of administration, is as follows:—

	£
Health Insurance Scheme	8,045,700
Unemployment Insurance Scheme.. ..	13,202,000
Old Age Pensions	25,810,000
Unemployment Grants	6,761,100
	53,818,800

In addition, loans totalling £1,417,000 were made to local and poor law authorities in connection with unemployment relief. The total of the outstanding loans made by the State to the Unemployment Insurance Fund stood at £10,350,000 on the 1st April 1924, and, it is estimated, will have been reduced to approximately £8,000,000 on the 31st March.

The Chancellor also stated that the State had not accumulated any reserves from either of the two insurance funds during the last twelve months. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," Vol. XXXIII, No. 4, April, 1925.)

* * * * *

Miners' minimum wage bill has been defeated in House of Commons of England. Bill provided for minimum wage to adult coal miners of from 10 to 12 shillings per day or about \$15 per week. Passage of this bill has been declared by miners' executive as necessary to prevent general coal strike. (From "Industrial News Survey," Vol. IX, No. 7, April 6, 1925.)

OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

The Governing Commission of the Saar Basin has promulgated an Order, dated 8 November 1924, limiting legal hours of work in industrial undertakings in the Saar territory to eight per day or 48 per week, in accordance with the principle of, and under the conditions fixed by, the Draft Convention adopted by the International Labour Conference in 1919. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Vol. XIV, No. 1, Monday, April 6, 1925.)

* * * * *

The Italian regulation of 28 August 1924, in execution of the Royal Decree of 30 December 1923 on compulsory invalidity and old age insurance, provided that a later decree should determine the rules concerning the appointment of representatives of employers and of insured persons to the administrative council of the National Fund and to the advisory committee of the various social welfare institutions. This has now been done in a Decree of 16 November 1924, completed by a circular of the Minister of National Economy, dated 30 December 1924.

The Norwegian trade union movement is growing steadily, despite the political disruption. In 1924, the unions affiliated with the National Centre increased their total membership from 86,000 to 93,000. If we add the membership of the Masons' Union, which withdrew from the Centre during the year, and also take account of the fact that the increase in membership has been continuing through the months of February and March, the advance of the trade unions in the last 1½ years may be estimated at about 14,000. (From *Press Reports of the International Federation of Trade Unions.*)

* * * * *

The negotiations carried on in Norway for the renewal of wages agreements covering from 50,000 to 60,000 workers have now been brought to an end by the acceptance of the proposals of the State Conciliation Official. All male adult workers obtain an increase of 15 öre per hour, and female adult workers 8 to 9 öre per hour. Piece-workers obtain a similar increase per hour. The minimum wage rates are raised by 10 and 6 öre per hour respectively. This arrangement is a success for the workers, inasmuch as it compensates them fully for the rise in the cost of living. (From *Press Reports of the International Federation of Trade Unions.*)

* * * * *

Italian Government has ratified Washington Hours Convention, on condition that ratification shall take effect only when Secretary-General of League of Nations has registered ratifications of Belgium, France, Germany, Great Britain and Switzerland. (From "*Industrial News Survey*," February 16, 1925.)

* * * * *

Railway Unions in Germany have refused to accept decision of arbitration court granting small increase in wages and ordering workers to return to work under assurance that they would be re-employed without penalty for participating in strike. Union officials have indicated their willingness to re-enter into negotiations with administration officials in co-operation with Minister of Railways. Union officials have requested those involved in strike not to organize or spread strike movement without further orders, but despite this, it is stated, movement has taken on new activity. (From "*Industrial News Survey*," March 23, 1925.)

* * * * *

Since 1st January 1925 the main French railways have introduced a new scale of salaries and wages, involving the abolition of the special cost-of-living allowance. The main points of the new system are: An increase in the basic wage, an increase in house allowances and an increase in family allowances.

As from 1st January, wages and salaries have been increased as follows:—
Wages up to Frs. 5,000, by 30 per cent.
Wages between Frs. 5,000 and Frs. 10,000, by 25 per cent.
Wages of Frs. 10,000 and over, by 10 per cent.

In view of the fact that the abolition of the Frs. 720 cost-of-living allowance and the granting of the above increase would benefit the lower grades only to a very small extent, the following minimum increases have been provided for:—

Frs. 1,200 for male permanent staff.
" 1,080 for adult non-permanent staff.
" 960 for female permanent staff (continuous service).
" 864 for minors of both sexes and for female non-permanent staff (continuous service).

According to information published by the railway administrations, these increases will involve an expenditure of 960 million francs. (From "*Industrial and Labour Information*," April 20, 1925.)

UNITED STATES

Standardization of working conditions among government employes was urged at a meeting of the executive council of the National Federation of Federal Employes, affiliated to the A. F. of L. The unionists recommended that a personal manager be employed by the government.

These federal employes show how they are bound by red tape and conflicting rules that each bureau chief evolves, according to his mood and not the needs of employes. There is no co-ordination between departments, and administrative officials, in many instances, are little czars in their own realm.

The manner of granting annual and sick leaves illustrates the conflicting regulations. Under the law these leaves are optional with the department executive or chief. Some departments give these leaves, and others do not. Ratings, classifications and efficiency standards are also involved in a hodge-podge of red tape and favoritism which discourages workers who resent being subject to the whim of a superior, rather than assured of their rights.

The executive council of the federation instructed President Luther C. Steward to present their views to the chairman of the senate and house committees on civil service. (From "*American Federation of Labour*," Vol. 15, No. 3, Saturday, April 4, 1925.)

* * * * *

Organized ladies' garment workers have established an unemployment fund along lines similar to New York employers and unionists in this industry. The local manufacturers will contribute 1½ per cent. of their pay roll and the employes ¾ per cent. of their earnings. A board will supervise the fund.

The agreement also includes wage increases. Button sewers are advanced from \$20.50 a week to \$24 and edge basters and fur sewers from \$31 to \$35. (From "*American Federation of Labour*," Vol. 15, No. 3, April 4, 1925.)

Roundhouse labourers employed by the Great Northern railroad are forced to accept a 10-hour day, though the railroad labour board has ruled that these workers shall be paid time and one-half after eight hours. The railroad management ignores this decision, and is defended by its company "union".

At the recent convention of the company "Union" in this city, the roundhouse workers were denied representation. Then they asked that their grievances be considered, but this, too, was ignored.

Trade unionists declare that every working rule is violated by the company whenever it finds such course profitable. The Company "union" invariably defends or excuses such action. It is charged that certain officials of the fake union have served the Great Northern as undercover men. (From "American Federation of Labour," Vol. 15, No. 3, April 4, 1925.)

* * * * *

Textile employes who suspended work against a wage reduction have returned to work pending arbitration. All strikers have secured their old positions, and the strike breakers were dismissed. (From "American Federation of Labour," Vol. 15, No. 4, Saturday, April 11, 1925.)

OTHER COUNTRIES

An experiment, probably the first of the kind ever tried in Japan, in workers' management of a factory was recently begun, according to the *Miyako* of 1st February, at the Kawagoye Spinning Factory.

Owing to financial depression, the factory was about to close down without the payment of wages and discharge allowances to the workers, and there was naturally much agitation among them. Their representatives negotiated with the president of the Company and, as a result, the company finally consented (having, as it said, no money to pay the workers) to let the workers' union run the factory for a period, so that they may earn for themselves sums equivalent to their discharge allowances as well as their wages. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," April 6, 1925.)

* * * * *

The Argentine National Department of Labour has recently made an enquiry into hours of closing in commercial undertakings in Buenos Aires.

The enquiry showed that, of the undertakings covered, 582 closed at 8 p.m. and 619 after 8 p.m.

The staff engaged in these undertakings numbered 6,862 persons, of whom 3,928 were employed in undertakings which closed at 8 p.m. and 2,934 in those closing after 8 p.m. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," March 9, 1925.)

* * * * *

In an interview at Quebec with the delegation of the Quebec Provincial Trades and Labour Council, the Honourable A. Galipeault, Minister of Public Works and Labour, promised that the Government would create

during the present Session of the Quebec Legislature the Commission needed to carry out the provisions of the Quebec Women's Minimum Wage Act, passed in 1919.

Under the Act provision is made whereby a Commission consisting of three members may be appointed, one of whom shall be the Deputy Minister of Labour or another person designated by the Minister, and a second member shall be a woman.

The Commission has power to investigate the conditions of work done by women in industrial factories, and the wages paid them, and may examine employers' books and pay lists to secure necessary information.

If the Commission comes to the conclusion that the wages paid are insufficient, it may summon a Conference to consider the matter, the Conference to be composed half of persons selected by employers and half of members selected by employees.

After hearing the evidence taken before the Conference the latter body will by a majority vote determine the minimum wage to be paid to the women in the industry concerned.

The decision of the Conference is then to be submitted to the Commission, which may approve, reject, or amend the decision, or may even order the holding of a new Conference.

The decision of the Commission fixing the minimum wage shall be binding, to come into effect sixty days after publication in the Quebec Provincial *Official Gazette*, unless the Commission extends the delay according to circumstances, and this decision is to be sent to the employers concerned who must post it up in the establishment for the women workers to see.

The Commission may permit a lower wage in case of apprentices, or women whose physical condition does not allow of their doing the work of ordinary workwomen, and may also fix a special scale of wages for girls under 18 years of age.

When an employer pays an employee wages lower than those fixed by the Commission, such employee may recover the difference before the courts. An employer who employs a woman on wages lower than those fixed by the Commission is liable to a penalty of not more than 50 dollars. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," March 9, 1925.)

* * * * *

The Trade Union Movement in the Dutch East Indies consists of two sections: the native and the European workers. Manual work is as a rule done by the native workers, and such Indo-Europeans as are on much the same level of civilization as the native workers. The European Trade Union Movement mainly comprises non-manual workers (administrative and supervisory workers, etc.). The difference of race is reflected in a corresponding difference of outlook. The native workers' unions connect the race question with that of the employers and the ruling classes. The European employees take sides with the employers against the native workers in any industrial dispute. Even in such fundamental demands as the recognition of the native unions by the employer, the European

union leaders are reluctant to admit that they are concerned also. Then, again, the sectarianism which is so strongly marked a feature of Holland finds its echo in the Dutch East Indies. In 1924, there were 112 unions with a total membership of about 58,000. 59 of these are affiliated to some federation, the other 53 are independent. There are 4 national centres: The Federation of Civil Servants, with 21 organizations, and about 10,500 members; the Federation of European Workers, comprising 8 organizations and 4,100 workers; the National Centre of Associations of Higher-grade Civil Servants, with 11 organizations and about 700 members; and the Indian Trade Union Centre, with 19 organizations and about 33,000 members. The first three centres cater for non-manual workers, the Indian Centre consists mostly of native workers. The Soerabaya Branch of the Railwaymen's Union has now submitted to the Union a proposal to put an end to the present chaos by forming a single national federation comprising all four existing federations, the constitution for the new Federation be drawn up later on. The Railwaymen's Union Executive has approved the proposal, which will be discussed at the next congress. In the interests of all concerned, it is to be hoped that one national centre will be formed. (From the Press Reports of the I. F. T. U.)

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Average hours of work per day of employees in commercial organizations in Buenos Aires, Argentina, as obtained by survey of Argentine National Department of Labor, are 9 hours and 39 minutes. Greatest number of hours per day are worked by employees in cafés and breweries who work on an average of 12 hours and 7 minutes. (From "Industrial News Survey," March 9, 1925.)

* * * * *

According to the news recently received from the Tokio Correspondent of the International Labour Office, there has been in Japan since last year a definite movement towards the founding of a "National Association to support the International Labour Organization, and particularly to act as a medium for the hastening of the ratification and enforcement of International Labour Conventions and Recommendations and also to discuss other labour and industrial problems".

Government Officials and employers' and workers' delegates and advisers who have attended the Conference at its various Sessions, appear to be supporting the proposal, and a large number of people belonging to the professional and intellectual classes are also stated to be in its favour.

The intention, it is reported, is to have three groups represented in the Association—a workers', an employers' and an impartial group—with a Managing Committee consisting of representatives of each group.

Prominent persons who might constitute the employers' and impartial groups, and certain important workers' organisations, have already been approached and have expressed their willingness to assist the movement. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," March 23, 1925.)

It is understood that the first report of the Australian Commission on National Insurance, which body has been engaged on an investigation of this question for upwards of twelve months, was presented to the Prime Minister early last month. The report, it is stated, deals chiefly with the sick and accident side of national insurance, and that it makes some strong recommendation, which might be set out under the heading "Nationalisation of Health". Maternity questions are dealt with exhaustively, and if the proposals are adopted by the Ministry the present system of maternity allowances will be radically altered. (From "Industrial Australian and Mining Standard," Vol. LXXIII, No. 1895, Thursday, April 9, 1925.)

* * * * *

According to reports in the Japanese press, unemployment has been very serious in Japan during the winter.

On 6th January the *Chuo* stated that an investigation made by the Bureau of Social Affairs shortly before that date had shown that there were more than 932,000 workers out of employment.

Other newspapers stated that tens of thousands of workers were without either food or shelter. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," April 20, 1925.)

* * * * *

A special committee of the Argentine Chamber of Deputies entrusted with the study of causes of infant mortality has reported in favour of a Bill for Maternity Insurance.

The Bill prohibits the employment of women in any industrial or commercial establishment 30 days before and 45 days after childbirth. During that time the woman must be paid her full wages and must be given free medical aid or attendance by a midwife, and her place must be reserved for her. The cost of the insurance will be met out of a fund into which the State, the employer and every employed woman between 15 and 45 years of age will contribute equal amounts. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," April 20, 1925.)

* * * * *

An Emergency Powers Bill was recently introduced in the Parliament of South Africa conferring exceptional powers on the Government in cases where essential public services would be stopped by strike. The bill would enable the Government, by declaring a state of emergency to prevent action being taken or threatened affecting food supplies, water, fuel, light or the means of locomotion, and to facilitate conciliation with a view to a speedy settlement of the dispute, and a general resumption of work. (From "The Labour Gazette," Canada, Vol. XXV, No. 3, March, 1925.)

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN APRIL 1925

Name of concern and locality	Approximate number of work-people involved		Date when dispute		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
<i>Textile Trades</i>						
1. The Bombay Industrial Mills, Lower Parel, Bombay.	299	894	3 April	13 April	Dismissal of two Head Jobbers.	New men engaged.
2. The Gordhan Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd., Naroda Road, Ahmedabad.	75	...	6 April	7 April	Alleged illtreatment at the hands of a Jobber.	Work resumed by some and new men engaged in place of others.
3. The Ahmedabad Silver Cotton Mills Co., Ltd., near Kankaria Railway Station, Ahmedabad.	85	...	7 April	9 April	Alleged illtreatment at the hands of a Mukadam (Foreman of labourers).	Work resumed unconditionally.
4. The Aryodaya Spinning and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Naroda Road, Ahmedabad.	225	...	9 April	14 April	Demand for the dismissal of a Jobber newly employed.	Work resumed on a promise to take action against any illtreatment.
5. The New Swadeshi Mill, Naroda Road, Ahmedabad.	275	...	13 April	14 April	Against the reduction of 6 pies per sheet of cloth.	Work resumed on a promise to increase the rate.
6. The Ahmedabad Laxmi Cotton Mills Co., Ltd., Astodia Road, Ahmedabad.	390	...	17 April	...	Demand for a separate entrance.	No settlement reported.
7. The Vivekanand Mills Co., Ltd., Gomtipur, Ahmedabad.	75	...	20 April	23 April	Demand for an increase in wages to compensate the loss the weavers are liable to on account of the prevailing system of paying wages in damaged cloth.	Demands granted.
8. The Ruby Mill, Lady Jamshedji Road, Dadar, Bombay.	50	...	17 April	20 April	Against the dismissal of a Line Jobber for inefficiency.	Work resumed by some and new men engaged in place of others.

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN APRIL 1925—contd.

Name of concern and locality	Approximate number of work-people involved		Date when dispute		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
<i>Textile Trades</i>						
9. The Aryodaya Ginning and Manufacturing Co. Ltd., Asarwa Road, Ahmedabad.	35	...	27 April	29 April	Out of sympathy for the Mukadam of the Winding Department who left the mill on account of a quarrel with the Mukadam of the Spinning Department.	Work resumed by some and new hands engaged in place of others.
<i>Engineering Trades</i>						
10. B. B. & C. I. Railway Loco Shop, Baroda.	110	...	5 April	15 April	Demand for (1) increase in wages; (2) better facilities; (3) supply of clothing; and (4) change in other miscellaneous duties.	Work resumed on a promise of consideration of their demands.
11. N. W. Railway (a) (i) Carriage and Loco shops and Running Shed, Karachi. (ii) Railway Shed and Karachi Fitting Staff at Kotri. (iii) Railway Loco and Carriage Shops and Engine Shed, Sukkur.	2,912	...	17 April	...	Sympathy with the strikers at Rawalpindi, the ostensible demands being (1) payment of gratuity from 1st January 1920; (2) reduction of working hours to eight; (3) increase in pay and (4) reinstatement of men dismissed in 1922 or discharged or reduced owing to retrenchment.	No settlement reported.

(a) Including Transport.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING APRIL 1925
1. Bombay City

Class of Factory.	No. of accidents due to				Nature of injury						Total No. of persons injured	
	Machinery in motion		Other causes		Fatal		Serious		Minor		Jan to Mar 1925	April 1925
	Jan to Mar 1925	April 1925	Jan to Mar 1925	April 1925	Jan to Mar 1925	April 1925	Jan to Mar 1925	April 1925	Jan to Mar 1925	April 1925		
I Textile Mills— Cotton Mills ..	122	53	78	42	6	2	17	1	177	92	200	95
Woolen Mills ..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..
Others ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
Total ..	123	56	78	42	6	2	17	1	178	95	201	95
II Workshops— Engineering ..	8	1	59	13	..	..	..	1	67	13	67	14
Railway ..	12	5	295	93	1	..	1	..	305	98	307	58
Mint ..	1	1	2	..	..	..	1	..	2	1	3	1
Others ..	3	1	5	2	..	..	2	..	6	3	8	1
Total ..	24	8	361	108	1	..	4	1	380	115	385	116
III Miscellaneous— Chemical Works..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Flour Mills ..	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
Printing Presses..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	..
Others ..	3	3	4	3	1	..	..	..	6	6	7	6
Total ..	5	4	6	3	2	1	..	..	9	6	11	7
Total, All Factories ..	152	68	445	153	9	3	21	2	567	216	597	221

2. Ahmedabad

Class of Factory.	No. of accidents due to				Nature of injury						Total No. of persons injured	
	Machinery in motion		Other causes		Fatal		Serious		Minor		Jan to Mar 1925	April 1925
	Jan to Mar 1925	April 1925	Jan to Mar 1925	April 1925	Jan to Mar 1925	April 1925	Jan to Mar 1925	April 1925	Jan to Mar 1925	April 1925		
I Textile Mills— Cotton ..	46	17	19	12	1	1	21	9	43	19	65	29
Total ..	46	17	19	12	1	1	21	9	43	19	65	29
II Miscellaneous— Match Factory ..	5	2	..	..	..	..	1	1	4	1	5	2
Flour Mills ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..
Oil Mills ..	..	..	..	1(a)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Engineering ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
Total ..	5	2	1	1	..	2	1	1	5	1	6	4
Total, All Factories ..	51	19	20	13	1	3	22	10	48	20	71	33

Explanations:—1. The progressive figures do not always agree with the figures shown in the previous issue, but are corrected to date.
2. "Fatal" means causing the death of the injured persons without specification of period.
"Serious" means causing absence from work for more than 20 days.
"Minor" means causing absence from work for more than 48 hours and up to 20 days.
(a) Two persons killed by one accident.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING APRIL 1925—contd.
3. Karachi

Class of Factory.	No. of accidents due to				Nature of injury						Total No. of persons injured	
	Machinery in motion		Other causes		Fatal		Serious		Minor		Jan to Mar 1925	April 1925
	Jan to Mar 1925	April 1925	Jan to Mar 1925	April 1925	Jan to Mar 1925	April 1925	Jan to Mar 1925	April 1925	Jan to Mar 1925	April 1925		
I Workshops— Railway and Port Trust ..	1	..	5	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	5	3
Engineering ..	1	..	4	3	1	..	1	..	5	3	4	3
Total ..	2	..	9	3	1	..	2	..	6	3	11	3
II Miscellaneous ..	2	..	2(a)	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	5	..
Total ..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	5	..
Total, All Factories ..	4	..	11	3	1	..	2	..	11	3	16	3

(a) Two persons received minor injuries by one accident.

4. Other Centres

Class of Factory.	No. of accidents due to				Nature of injury						Total No. of persons injured	
	Machinery in motion		Other causes		Fatal		Serious		Minor		Jan to Mar 1925	April 1925
	Jan to Mar 1925	April 1925	Jan to Mar 1925	April 1925	Jan to Mar 1925	April 1925	Jan to Mar 1925	April 1925	Jan to Mar 1925	April 1925		
I Textile Mills— Cotton Mills ..	15	4	12	4	1	..	6	..	38	8	27	8
Others ..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	..
Total ..	17	4	12	4	1	..	6	..	40	8	29	8
II Workshops— Railway ..	5	..	23	2	..	..	3	..	25	2	28	2
Arms and Ammu- nition Works ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
Others ..	10	..	5	7	1	..	2	1	12	6	15	7
Total ..	15	..	28	10	1	..	5	1	37	9	43	10
III Miscellaneous— Ginning and Pres- sing Factories ..	11	..	7	1	7	..	2	..	9	1	18	1
Paint Works ..	..	..	5	5	2	..	..	..	6	5	8	5
Others ..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	14	..	12	6	9	..	2	..	15	6	26	6
Total, All Factories ..	46	4	52	20	11	..	13	1	74	23	98	24

Note.—For Explanations see previous page.

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND THE COUNTS
(OR NUMBERS) OF YARN SPUN
BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Count or Number	Month of March			Twelve months ended March		
	1923	1924	1925	1923	1924	1925
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Pounds	5,466	1,091	5,986	81,045	63,191	68,944
Nos. 1 to 10	19,026	6,456	19,838	242,562	188,044	226,242
Nos. 11 to 20	12,141	6,089	13,034	159,518	131,209	159,052
Nos. 21 to 30	908	842	1,106	12,226	13,129	14,176
Nos. 31 to 40	162	190	401	1,891	2,799	5,682
Above 40	11	8	81	110	180	196
Waste, etc.						
Total	37,714	14,676	40,446	497,352	398,552	474,292

BOMBAY CITY

Count or Number	Month of March			Twelve months ended March		
	1923	1924	1925	1923	1924	1925
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Pounds	4,987	570	5,331	74,226	56,122	61,164
Nos. 1 to 10	13,431	1,485	13,692	171,829	125,910	156,150
Nos. 11 to 20	6,864	1,332	8,290	95,405	79,538	98,954
Nos. 21 to 30	396	130	556	5,587	6,605	7,961
Nos. 31 to 40	73	33	241	1,028	1,338	3,212
Above 40	2	..	72	24	73	101
Waste, etc.						
Total	25,753	3,550	28,182	348,099	269,586	327,542

AHMEDABAD

Count or Number	Month of March			Twelve months ended March		
	1923	1924	1925	1923	1924	1925
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Pounds	128	137	192	1,983	1,892	2,394
Nos. 1 to 10	2,612	2,554	3,288	33,783	31,387	37,264
Nos. 11 to 20	4,148	3,661	3,686	48,250	36,437	45,803
Nos. 21 to 30	420	535	430	5,472	4,880	4,949
Above 40	68	110	120	595	1,005	1,596
Waste, etc.					1	..
Total	7,376	6,997	7,716	90,083	75,602	92,006

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND DESCRIPTION
OF WOVEN GOODS PRODUCED
BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Description	Month of March			Twelve months ended March		
	1923	1924	1925	1923	1924	1925
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi (a)	956	930	1,288	15,993	15,522	15,321
Chudders	6,854	5,368	6,646	74,356	66,431	72,037
Dhotis	846	146	1,429	7,919	6,393	12,485
Drills and jeans	46	36	38	655	440	593
Cambrics and lawns	668	431	298	5,714	4,672	4,121
Printers	7,589	6,213	10,183	93,912	86,979	106,307
Shirtings and long cloth						
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	992	630	1,100	12,095	10,575	12,090
Tent cloth	58	28	162	965	943	2,138
Other sorts	1,615	1,038	540	22,071	23,122	6,373
Total	19,624	14,810	22,629	233,680	217,077	241,208
Coloured piece-goods	6,561	4,602	8,268	81,207	82,795	102,566
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	144	23	203	2,218	1,672	1,919
Hosiery	15	11	10	189	180	185
Miscellaneous	113	39	82	1,324	1,038	1,659
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	15	7	16	113	153	135
Grand Total	26,492	19,492	31,208	318,781	307,915	347,672

BOMBAY CITY

Description	Month of March			Twelve months ended March		
	1923	1924	1925	1923	1924	1925
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi (a)	424	366	780	8,315	9,050	9,847
Chudders	1,849	746	1,968	20,434	19,446	21,116
Dhotis	741	85	1,346	7,362	7,771	11,311
Drills and jeans	21	21	20	332	273	447
Cambrics and lawns				306	65	33
Printers	4,859	3,287	7,687	63,537	61,959	71,844
Shirtings and long cloth						
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	776	393	881	9,743	8,358	9,692
Tent cloth	41	9	96	804	561	931
Other sorts	1,045	462	207	14,860	15,189	2,795
Total	9,756	5,369	13,757	125,693	122,672	138,825
Coloured piece-goods	4,970	2,322	5,615	66,771	68,723	78,162
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	132	21	197	2,172	1,585	1,851
Hosiery	8	2	6	111	96	91
Miscellaneous	110	36	77	1,299	990	1,348
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	13	5	16	99	140	115
Grand Total	14,989	7,755	19,668	196,145	194,216	220,392

(a) Included under 'other sorts' prior to April 1924.

DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND DESCRIPTION OF WOVEN GOODS PRODUCED—contd.

AHMEDABAD

Description	Pounds	Month of March			Twelve months ended March		
		1923	1924	1925	1923	1924	1925
Grey and bleached piece-goods—							
Khadi (a)	100	..	..	3,201
Chudders	408	519	421	6,067	5,168	4,752
Dhotis	3,914	3,690	3,374	42,145	35,681	39,536
Drills and jeans	67	43	25	327	306	268
Cambrics and lawns	12	13	13	234	95	123
Printers	500	292	188	3,756	2,857	2,812
Shirtings and long cloth	2,169	2,413	1,975	23,812	18,674	22,772
T. cloth, domestics and sheetings	208	197	190	2,085	2,016	2,160
Tent cloth	6	12	63	30	269	1,105
Other sorts	389	390	233	4,543	4,921	2,346
Total	7,673	7,569	6,582	82,999	69,987	79,075
Coloured piece-goods	914	1,235	1,820	6,496	9,341	14,239
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	1	1	1	10	9	9
Hosiery	7	9	4	79	84	94
Miscellaneous	2	3	6	23	48	262
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	11	9	8
Grand Total	8,597	8,817	8,413	89,618	79,478	93,682

(a) Included under 'other sorts' prior to April 1924.

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Month	Cereals	Pulses	Cereals and pulses	Other articles of food	All food	Fuel and light	Clothing	Housing	Cost of living
1922									
May	145	177	148	175	158	167	253	165	163
June	140	174	143	162	156	167	260	165	163
July	141	174	145	166	160	167	260	165	163
August	140	172	143	167	159	167	256	165	164
September	138	172	142	164	161	167	245	165	164
October	136	164	138	161	156	167	234	165	162
November	134	160	137	167	155	167	229	165	160
December	131	160	133	166	157	167	222	165	161
1923									
January	124	158	127	160	151	166	225	165	156
February	125	153	128	167	150	166	223	165	155
March	127	150	129	162	149	164	223	165	154
April	130	147	132	162	150	164	216	172	156
May	126	136	127	164	148	164	208	172	153
June	124	116	124	164	146	164	205	172	152
July	125	116	124	169	148	165	205	172	151
August	123	116	122	164	149	165	205	172	154
September	124	116	123	164	149	161	206	172	154
October	123	116	122	166	147	161	211	172	152
November	124	116	124	167	147	161	225	172	151
December	132	116	130	169	152	161	219	172	152
1924									
January	133	120	131	192	154	161	224	172	159
February	128	119	128	190	151	161	229	172	156
March	127	115	126	184	147	163	229	172	154
April	122	112	121	180	143	163	230	172	150
May	121	113	120	181	141	166	227	172	150
June	124	112	123	186	147	166	227	172	153
July	128	115	127	191	151	166	229	172	157
August	135	125	134	192	156	166	231	172	161
September	136	124	135	191	156	166	229	172	161
October	135	124	134	193	156	167	224	172	161
November	135	126	134	196	157	167	214	172	161
December	134	123	133	196	156	167	214	172	160
1925									
January	131	124	130	189	152	165	209	172	157
February	134	123	133	185	152	166	210	172	157
March	139	128	138	183	155	165	207	172	159
April	137	128	136	181	153	165	207	172	158
May	133	122	132	182	151	165	207	172	156

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Price				Units							
			Jan 1914	Apr 1914	Mar 1913	Apr 1913	Jan 1914	Apr 1913	Mar 1913	Apr 1913				
Coarse...	...	Rs. 4	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000
...

LARGE CATTLE

Article	Grade	Rate per	Price				Units							
			Jan 1914	Apr 1914	Mar 1913	Apr 1913	Jan 1914	Apr 1913	Mar 1913	Apr 1913				
...
...

LARGE CATTLE

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN KARACHI

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices				Index Numbers				
			July 1914	April 1924	Mar. 1925	April 1925	July 1914	April 1924	Mar. 1925	April 1925	
Cereals—											
Rice	Larkana No. 3	Candy.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.					
Wheat, white	5% barley, 3% dirt, 30% red.	"	39 0 0	49 0 0	60 0 0 (1)	61 10 0 (1)	100	126	154	158	
" red	5% barley, 3% dirt, 92% red.	"	31 8 0	35 8 0	54 0 0	51 0 0	100	113	171	162	
" white	2% barley, 14% dirt	"	31 4 0	34 12 0	53 0 0	49 0 0	100	111	170	157	
" red	2% barley, 14% dirt	"	32 8 0	36 8 0	55 10 0	52 8 0	100	112	171	162	
Jowari	2% barley, 14% dirt	"	32 4 0	35 12 0	54 10 0	50 8 0	100	111	169	157	
Barley	Export quality	"	25 8 0	26 8 0	43 12 0	40 4 0	100	104	172	158	
	3% dirt	"	26 8 0	27 8 0	35 0 0	37 0 0	100	104	132	140	
Index No.—Cereals							100	112	163	156	
Pulses—											
Gram	1% dirt	Candy	29 8 0	25 8 0	33 0 0 (2)	33 12 0 (2)	100	86	112	114	
Sugar—											
Sugar	Java white	Cwt.	9 2 0	22 0 0	16 15 0	16 5 0	100	241	186	179	
"	" brown	"	8 1 6				100				
Index No.—Sugar							100	241	186	179	
Other food—											
Salt		Bengal Maund.	2 2 0	1 10 6	1 10 0	1 10 3	100	78	76	77	
Oilseeds—											
Cotton seed		Maund.	2 11 3	4 0 0	3 13 0	3 11 0	100	148	141	136	
Rapeseed	3% admixture	Candy.	51 0 0	63 8 0	70 8 0	73 8 0	100	125	138	144	
Gingelly	Black 9% admixture	"	62 0 0		84 8 0	86 0 0	100		136	139	
Index No.—Oilseeds							100	137	138	140	
Textiles—											
Jute bags	B Twills	100 bags	3P 4 0	56 0 0	67 0 0	64 8 0	100	146	175	169	

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LABOUR GAZETTE

MAY, 1925

Textiles—Cotton—											
(a) Cotton, raw	Sind	Maund.	20 4 0	57 12 0	45 8 0	42 8 0	100	285	225	210	
(b) Cotton manufactures—											
Drills	Pepperill	Piece.	10 3 6	30 0 0	22 6 0	22 0 0	100	294	219	215	
Shirtings	Liepmann's	"	10 2 0	27 0 0	25 0 0	24 0 0	100	267	247	237	
Yarns	40s Grey (Plough)	Lb.	0 12 2				100				
Index No.—Cotton manufactures							100	281	233	226	
Index No.—Textiles—Cotton							100	282	230	221	
Other Textiles—Wool	Kandahar	Maund.	28 0 0	42 8 0	48 0 0	45 0 0	100	152	171	161	
Hides—											
Hides, dry	Sind	Maund.	21 4 0	18 0 0	20 8 0	20 0 0	100	85	96	94	
" "	Punjab	"	21 4 0	18 0 0	20 8 0	20 0 0	100	85	96	94	
Index No.—Hides							100	85	96	94	
Metals—											
Copper Braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	74 0 0	69 0 0	69 0 0	100	122	114	114	
Steel Bars		"	3 14 0	6 12 0	6 8 0	6 8 0	100	174	168	168	
" Plates		"	4 6 0	8 0 0	7 4 0	7 6 0	100	183	166	169	
Index No.—Metals							100	160	149	150	
Other raw and manufactured articles—											
Coal	1st class Bengal	Ton.	16 0 0	35 0 0	23 0 0	22 8 0	100	219	144	141	
Kerosene	Chester	Case.	5 2 0	9 6 0	9 6 0	9 6 6	100	183	183	184	
"	Elephant	2 Tins.	4 7 0	7 2 6	7 6 6	7 6 6	100	161	167	167	
Index No.—Other raw and manufactured articles							100	188	165	164	
Index No.—Food							100	119	151	146	
Index No.—Non-food							100	175	162	159	
General Index No.							100	153	158	154	

(1) Larkana, white. (2) 3% Mutual New crop.

MAY, 1925

LABOUR GAZETTE

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WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS
Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No.. food	Oil-seeds	Raw cotton	Cotton manufactures	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw and manufactured articles	Index No.. non-food	General Index No.
1922														
April	179	160	228	212	193	144	179	251	191	137	187	190	189	150
1923														
April	128	92	242	269	174	134	204	217	195	167	185	176	184	180
May	124	88	248	284	176	131	205	217	195	161	185	172	182	180
June	128	91	234	302	179	134	211	212	195	144	186	166	180	180
July	127	90	215	317	178	132	217	211	196	139	182	169	178	178
August	120	85	202	343	176	131	210	209	195	138	178	168	176	176
September	124	85	209	354	182	136	211	215	196	149	177	162	178	179
October	122	85	214	368	185	133	211	217	192	153	178	169	179	181
November	125	90	228	365	189	138	203	235	187	161	174	158	185	186
December	125	91	243	375	194	141	286	229	187	146	167	162	185	188
1924														
January	127	92	244	340	188	138	273	236	182	157	166	160	189	188
February	125	88	236	348	187	136	248	234	173	158	174	160	188	181
March	123	84	220	263	165	129	244	238	235	140	171	164	190	184
April	122	84	217	279	167	127	258	237	229	146	169	170	192	184
May	125	88	212	293	171	131	258	236	191	149	168	166	187	181
June	131	92	213	293	175	137	259	236	201	149	170	158	190	185
July	143	98	211	260	174	146	260	232	187	150	170	166	189	184
August	146	97	198	262	173	150	265	232	187	150	170	166	189	184
September	142	95	197	250	168	148	260	232	181	145	170	161	190	184
October	141	95	196	263	170	154	260	223	178	156	167	167	188	181
November	138	95	187	283	171	147	234	221	160	157	167	160	179	176
December	139	95	167	256	162	143	209	219	168	210	165	168	184	176
1925														
January	153	102	174	267	173	143	210	216	168	118	165	159	172	173
February	165	106	174	231	172	142	209	213	166	148	163	159	174	173
March	154	99	175	219	164	136	209	212	160	145	162	166	174	171
April	149	104	177	193	157	137	199	211	158	146	160	159	169	165

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India (Bombay)	United Kingdom	Canada	Australia	New Zealand	Italy (Rome)	Belgium	Norway	Switzerland	South Africa	France (Paris)	U. S. of America
Items included in the index	Food, fuel, light, clothing and rent	Food, rent, fuel, light, clothing, etc.	Food, fuel, light, rent, household utensils and furnishing	Food and rent	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heat, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, light, fuel and household utensils	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent, tax, etc.	Food, heating and lighting	Food, fuel, light and rent	(f)	Food, clothing, heating and lighting, rent and miscellaneous items
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100	(b) 100	(c) 100	(d) 100	(e) 100	100	100	100	(g) 100
1915 ..	104	125	97	119	(f) 108	99	..	117	119	103	..	105
1916 ..	108	148	102	115	117	116	..	146	140	106	..	118
1917 ..	118	180	130	116	128	197	..	190	180	114	..	142
1918 ..	149	203	146	118	144	197	..	253	229	118	..	174
1919 ..	186	208	155	132	157	205	..	275	261	126	238	177
1920 ..	190	252	190	154	182	313	453	302	253	155	..	217
1921 ..	177	219	152	147	178	387	379	302	209	133	..	..
1922 ..	165	184	147	140	(d) 159	429	366	(d) 249	158	(f) 135	..	..
1923 July	153	169	146	..	158	(a) 487	429	..	166	130	..	..
.. August	154	171	149	..	..	483	429	..	164	130	..	..
.. September	154	173	148	156	..	487	453	232	164	131	331	172
.. October	152	175	149	..	..	502	458	..	167	132	..	..
.. November	153	175	150	..	..	502	463	..	167	132	..	..
.. December	157	177	150	152	..	499	470	234	167	133	..	..
1924 January	159	177	150	..	..	510	480	..	170	133	345	173
.. February	156	179	150	..	162	517	495	..	168	134	..	..
.. March	154	178	148	150	..	521	510	249	166	134	..	..
.. April	150	173	143	..	..	522	498	..	166	134	365	170
.. May	150	171	145	..	..	518	485	..	166	134	..	..
.. June	153	169	143	149	..	518	492	..	168	133	..	..
.. July	157	170	144	..	..	512	493	251	168	133	366	169
.. August	161	171	145	..	160	511	498	..	169	132	..	..
.. September	161	173	146	148	..	516	503	260	167	132	367	171
.. October	161	176	146	..	..	546	513	..	169	133	..	..
.. November	161	176	146	..	..	562	520	..	170	134	..	..
.. December	160	180	147	148	..	573	521	269	170	133	377	173
1925 January	157	180	147	..	..	580	521	..	170	133	..	..
.. February	157	180	149	..	..	592	517	..	170	133	..	..
.. March	157	179	150	..	161	602	511	272	170	133	..	..
.. April	158	175	148	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	386	..
.. May	156	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

(a) From 1914 to 1922 figures relate to second quarter. (b) First half of 1914. (c) April 1914. (d) From 1915 to 1922 June figures are given. (e) June 1914 = 100. (f) Expenditure of a family of four persons. (g) Average 1913 is the base. (h) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan. (i) Revised series from March 1922. (j) Revised figures. (k) Figures from 1915 to refer to August.

INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Country	India (Bombay) (b)	Japan	China (Shanghai)	Java (Batavia)	Australia	Egypt (Cairo)	United Kingdom (1)	France	Netherlands (b)	Norway	Sweden	Canada	United States of America (2)
No. of articles	43	56	151	51	92	24	150	45	48	93	47	272	325
1913 Average	100	100	(d) 100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1914	95	95	..	..	106	100	..	102	105	(a) 100	116	100	98
1915	97	..	..	..	147	102	..	140	145	(c) 159	145	109	101
1916	117	..	..	..	138	124	..	188	222	233	185	134	127
1917	148	..	..	..	153	169	..	262	286	341	244	175	177
1918	236	196	..	..	178	207	..	339	392	345	339	205	194
1919	222	239	..	..	189	226	..	356	297	322	330	216	206
1920	216	260	150	203	228	299	307	510	281	(c) 377	347	246	226
1921 December	193	210	149	197	155	170	168	326	165	269	172	170	140
1922	175	183	149	196	168	147	156	362	153	220	155	165	155
1923 April	180	196	158	..	174	133	161	415	156	231	159	168	159
.. May	180	199	158	..	178	134	160	401	149	233	158	169	156
.. June	180	198	155	200	187	128	159	409	149	230	160	167	153
.. July	178	192	155	194	189	123	157	407	145	235	157	166	151
.. August	176	190	153	191	184	120	155	413	142	231	160	164	150
.. September	179	210	157	193	180	123	158	424	145	234	155	163	154
.. October	181	212	156	194	179	129	158	420	148	237	153	163	153
.. November	186	210	157	197	181	134	161	446	153	242	151	164	152
.. December	188	211	158	207	182	137	164	458	154	244	150	164	151
1924 January	188	211	157	205	182	133	165	494	156	250	152	164	151
.. February	188	208	160	205	180	135	167	544	158	266	153	166	152
.. March	181	206	158	204	175	136	165	499	155	260	154	166	150
.. April	184	207	154	205	174	134	165	450	154	267	156	164	148
.. May	181	205	154	..	173	135	164	459	153	263	151	163	147
.. June	185	199	152	..	171	131	163	465	151	264	149	164	145
.. July	184	195	152	..	171	132	163	481	151	271	148	164	147
.. August	184	200	149	..	169	143	165	477	151	274	152	165	150
.. September	181	207	149	..	170	148	167	486	158	275	153	164	149
.. October	181	213	153	..	171	156	170	497	161	276	162	165	152
.. November	176	214	155	..	171	158	170	503	161	277	162	165	153
.. December	176	214	157	..	173	156	170	508	160	278	163	168	157
1925 January	173	213	160	..	171	157	171	515	160	279	164	174	160
.. February	173	210	159	..	..	161	169	516	158	281	164	164	161
.. March	171	..	160	..	..	..	166	515	..	..	164	..	161
.. April	165	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

* July 1914 = 100. (a) Average Dec. 1913 to June 1914 = 100. (b) Revised figures. (c) The figures from 1915-1920 are for December. (d) February 1913 = 100. (1) Board of Trade. (2) Bureau of Labour.

RETAIL FOOD INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India	United Kingdom	Canada	South Africa	Australia	New Zealand	United States of America	France (b)	Italy	Belgium	Finland	Holland	Norway	Sweden (b)	Denmark	Switzerland
No. of articles	17	20	29	18	46	59	43	13	9	..	37	27	..	51	..	
No. of stations	Bombay	630	60	9	30	25	51	Paris	Rome	59	20	Amsterdam	30	44	100	2
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100	(c) 100	(d) ..	00	100(c)	100	100	100	100
1915	105	132	105	107	131	112	98	120	95	..	..	114	..	114	124	119
1916	105	161	114	116	130	119	109	129	111	..	..	117	160	142	146	141
1917	114	204	157	128	126	127	143	183	137	..	..	146	214	181	166	179
1918	142	210	175	134	131	139	164	206	203	..	..	175	279	268	187	222
1919	187	209	186	139	147	144	186	261	206	..	..	196	289	310	212	250
1920	188	258	227	197	194	167	215	373	318	..	..	962	210	319	207	253
1921	174	220	148	139	161	164	145	306	402	100	1,278	180(c)	295	232	236	207
1922 July	160	180	138	116	148	144	139	297	459	87	1,105	140	233	179	184	157
.. August	148	162	137	116	164	142	144	321	(f) 496	105	968	140	218	160	188	164
.. September	149	165	142	115	165	143	146	328	490	109	1,052	137	220	161	..	162
.. October	149	168	141	115	161	145	146	339	496	115	1,067	143	218	165	..	163
.. November	147	172	143	117	157	147	147	349	502	115	..	142	217	165	..	166
.. December	147	173	144	120	157	147	148	355	503	119	..	142	221	164	..	166
1924 January	152	176	145	118	156	147	147	365	499	121	1,083	140	226	164	194	166
.. February	154	175	145	120	155	149	146	376	515	124	..	144	230	165	194	168
.. March	151	177	146	122	153	149	144	384	516	129	1,042	144	234	162	..	167
.. April	147	176	143	122	152	149	141	392	523	130	1,037	141	241	162	..	167
.. May	143	167	137	123	150	150	138	380	524	122	1,000	140	240	159	..	165
.. June	143	163	133	122	151	150	138	378	519	114	1,000	139	241	159	..	165
.. July	147	160	133	120	149	150	139	379	518	120	1,004	136	240	158	..	168
.. August	156	164	137	117	147	146	141	366	507	125	1,089	146	257	163	..	166
.. September	156	166	139	117	146	145	144	374	514	127	1,089	145	261	165	..	166
.. October	156	172	139	120	147	146	146	383	543	135	1,120	150	264	172	..	169
.. November	157	179	141	122	147	148	147	396	567	140	1,127	150	269	172	..	170
.. December	156	180	142	121	148	150	149	404	579	140	1,126	150	274	172	..	169
1925 January	152	178	145	120	148	147	151	408	590	141	1,100	150	277	170	215	168
.. February	152	176	147	120	149	146	148	410	610	..	1,089	..	283	170	..	168
.. March	155	176	145	..	..	..	..	415	624	..	..	..	284	171	..	168
.. April	153	170	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
.. May	151	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

(a) Average for the year 1914. (b) Includes fuel and lighting. (c) January to June 1914. (d) Revised series—1921-100. (e) Figures from 1914 to 1921 are annual averages. (f) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan.

RETAIL PRICES OF ARTICLES OF FOOD IN MARCH AND APRIL 1925

NOTE.—The figures in italics are index numbers of prices taking July 1914 prices as 100 in each case.

Articles	Price per	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
		Mar. 1925	Mar. 1925	Mar. 1925	Mar. 1925	Mar. 1925	April 1925	April 1925	April 1925	April 1925	April 1925
<i>Cereals—</i>											
Rice	Maund ..	7 8 6 <i>135</i>	8 0 0 <i>120</i>	8 14 3 <i>144</i>	8 2 11 <i>155</i>	8 14 3 <i>154</i>	7 5 11 <i>132</i>	8 0 0 <i>120</i>	8 14 3 <i>144</i>	8 6 9 <i>159</i>	8 14 3 <i>154</i>
Wheat .. ..	.. ..	8 9 4 <i>153</i>	7 9 0 <i>180</i>	8 0 0 <i>170</i>	7 1 9 <i>138</i>	8 1 4 <i>150</i>	8 10 8 <i>155</i>	7 6 3 <i>176</i>	8 5 0 <i>177</i>	7 6 6 <i>143</i>	8 1 4 <i>150</i>
Jowari .. ..	.. ..	6 2 8 <i>142</i>	4 7 1 <i>122</i>	4 7 1 <i>117</i>	4 8 1 <i>157</i>	5 11 11 <i>167</i>	5 14 8 <i>136</i>	4 7 1 <i>122</i>	4 7 1 <i>117</i>	4 7 7 <i>156</i>	5 6 2 <i>157</i>
Bajri .. ..	.. ..	5 15 5 <i>138</i>	4 14 5 <i>116</i>	5 11 5 <i>121</i>	4 15 0 <i>140</i>	5 15 0 <i>145</i>	5 15 5 <i>138</i>	4 13 7 <i>115</i>	5 11 5 <i>121</i>	4 10 4 <i>132</i>	5 15 0 <i>145</i>
<i>Index No.—Cereals</i> .. ..	.. ..	<i>142</i>	<i>135</i>	<i>138</i>	<i>148</i>	<i>154</i>	<i>140</i>	<i>133</i>	<i>140</i>	<i>148</i>	<i>152</i>
<i>Pulses—</i>											
Gram	Maund ..	5 11 2 <i>132</i>	4 12 5 <i>125</i>	5 11 5 <i>143</i>	4 12 1 <i>111</i>	5 2 9 <i>106</i>	5 11 2 <i>132</i>	4 10 2 <i>122</i>	5 8 3 <i>138</i>	4 11 5 <i>110</i>	5 6 2 <i>111</i>
Turdal .. ..	.. ..	6 14 8 <i>118</i>	6 1 11 <i>92</i>	8 0 0 <i>130</i>	6 14 10 <i>119</i>	8 8 2 <i>129</i>	6 14 8 <i>118</i>	6 2 6 <i>92</i>	8 0 0 <i>130</i>	6 14 10 <i>119</i>	8 8 2 <i>129</i>
<i>Index No.—Pulses</i> .. ..	.. ..	<i>125</i>	<i>109</i>	<i>137</i>	<i>115</i>	<i>118</i>	<i>125</i>	<i>107</i>	<i>134</i>	<i>115</i>	<i>120</i>

<i>Other articles of food—</i>											
Suger (refined) ..	Maund ..	14 4 7 <i>187</i>	13 0 2 <i>179</i>	13 14 7 <i>155</i>	16 0 0 <i>160</i>	13 11 9 <i>147</i>	14 4 7 <i>187</i>	12 8 9 <i>173</i>	15 3 10 <i>169</i>	16 0 0 <i>160</i>	14 0 7 <i>150</i>
Jagri (gul) .. ..	.. ..	14 4 7 <i>167</i>	10 10 8 <i>153</i>	13 5 4 <i>150</i>	13 5 4 <i>172</i>	12 0 6 <i>171</i>	14 4 7 <i>167</i>	10 10 8 <i>153</i>	13 5 4 <i>150</i>	13 5 4 <i>172</i>	12 15 3 <i>185</i>
Tea	Lb. ..	0 15 10 <i>203</i>	0 15 7 <i>225</i>	0 15 7 <i>200</i>	1 1 10 <i>171</i>	1 0 5 <i>200</i>	0 15 9 <i>202</i>	0 15 7 <i>225</i>	0 15 7 <i>200</i>	1 1 10 <i>171</i>	1 2 11 <i>230</i>
Salt	Maund ..	3 0 3 <i>142</i>	2 2 7 <i>165</i>	2 4 7 <i>151</i>	2 15 9 <i>134</i>	2 15 11 <i>159</i>	2 14 10 <i>137</i>	1 15 7 <i>150</i>	2 4 7 <i>151</i>	2 15 4 <i>133</i>	2 15 11 <i>159</i>
Beef	Seer ..	0 8 0 <i>155</i>	0 10 0 <i>200</i>	0 7 0 <i>117</i>	0 5 0 <i>201</i>	0 6 0 <i>141</i>	0 8 0 <i>155</i>	0 10 0 <i>200</i>	0 6 0 <i>100</i>	0 5 0 <i>201</i>	0 6 0 <i>141</i>
Mutton .. ..	.. ..	0 12 4 <i>185</i>	0 12 0 <i>200</i>	0 9 0 <i>150</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 9 0 <i>150</i>	0 12 4 <i>185</i>	0 12 0 <i>200</i>	0 8 0 <i>133</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>
Milk	Maund ..	17 9 4 <i>191</i>	10 0 0 <i>225</i>	10 0 0 <i>200</i>	13 5 4 <i>183</i>	13 5 4 <i>133</i>	17 9 4 <i>191</i>	10 0 0 <i>225</i>	10 0 0 <i>200</i>	13 5 4 <i>183</i>	13 5 4 <i>133</i>
Ghee .. ..	.. ..	99 6 6 <i>196</i>	82 0 10 <i>192</i>	80 0 0 <i>180</i>	80 0 0 <i>142</i>	84 3 4 <i>163</i>	101 3 1 <i>199</i>	85 5 4 <i>200</i>	80 0 0 <i>180</i>	80 0 0 <i>142</i>	84 3 4 <i>163</i>
Potatoes .. ..	.. ..	7 11 10 <i>173</i>	5 11 5 <i>105</i>	5 0 0 <i>131</i>	8 0 0 <i>200</i>	4 13 0 <i>143</i>	7 2 3 <i>159</i>	5 8 3 <i>102</i>	5 0 0 <i>131</i>	7 4 4 <i>182</i>	4 10 10 <i>139</i>
Onions .. ..	.. ..	5 5 9 <i>345</i>	4 0 10 <i>223</i>	5 9 10 <i>281</i>	4 0 0 <i>160</i>	3 3 10 <i>162</i>	5 5 9 <i>345</i>	3 2 8 <i>174</i>	5 0 0 <i>280</i>	4 0 0 <i>160</i>	2 10 1 <i>131</i>
Cocconut oil .. ..	.. ..	29 2 8 <i>115</i>	30 7 7 <i>124</i>	32 0 0 <i>160</i>	33 10 11 <i>126</i>	30 7 7 <i>109</i>	29 2 8 <i>115</i>	30 7 7 <i>124</i>	32 0 0 <i>160</i>	33 10 11 <i>126</i>	30 7 7 <i>109</i>
<i>Index No.—Other articles of food</i> .. ..	.. ..	<i>187</i>	<i>181</i>	<i>170</i>	<i>165</i>	<i>153</i>	<i>186</i>	<i>175</i>	<i>166</i>	<i>163</i>	<i>155</i>
<i>Index No.—All food articles (unweighted)</i> .. ..	.. ..	<i>169</i>	<i>162</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>155</i>	<i>149</i>	<i>168</i>	<i>157</i>	<i>156</i>	<i>154</i>	<i>150</i>