

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

The "Labour Gazette" is a Journal for the use of all interested in obtaining prompt and accurate information on matters specially affecting labour.

VOL. IV]

BOMBAY, MAY, 1925

[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 Broach.

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.

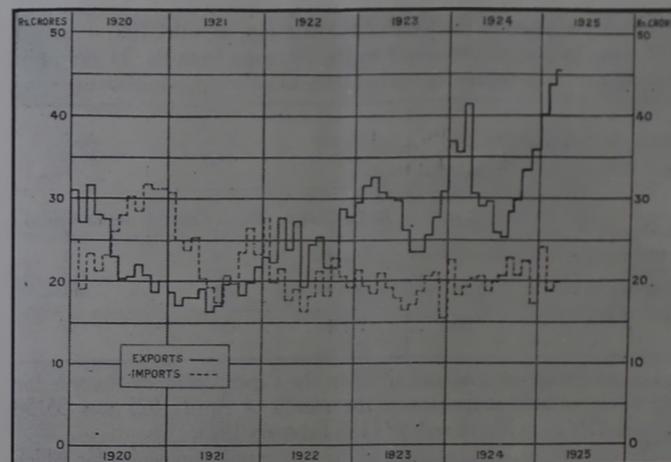
THE BALANCE OF TRADE

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

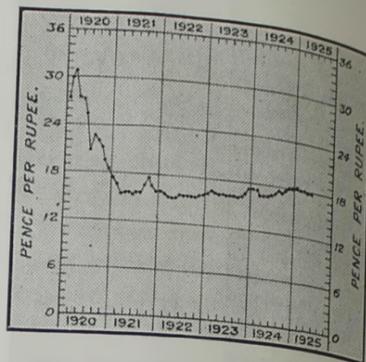


If the curve of exchange rates on the next page is consulted it will be seen that in 1920 and 1921 the exchange rate closely followed the movements of the balance of trade. At the end of 1922, when exports again jumped up and imports fell, it was expected that the value of the rupee would respond to 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.

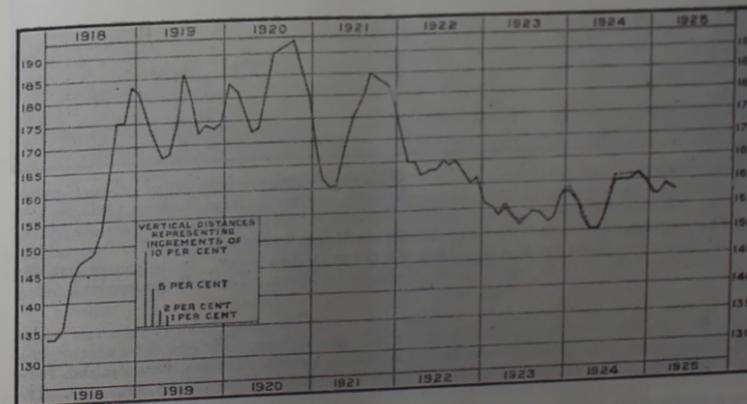
Articles	July 1914	April 1925	May 1925	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in May 1925 over or below April 1925	Articles	July 1914	April 1925	May 1925	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in May 1925 over or below April 1925
Rice ..	100	132	131	-1	Salt ..	100	137	156	+19
Wheat ..	100	155	139	-16	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.

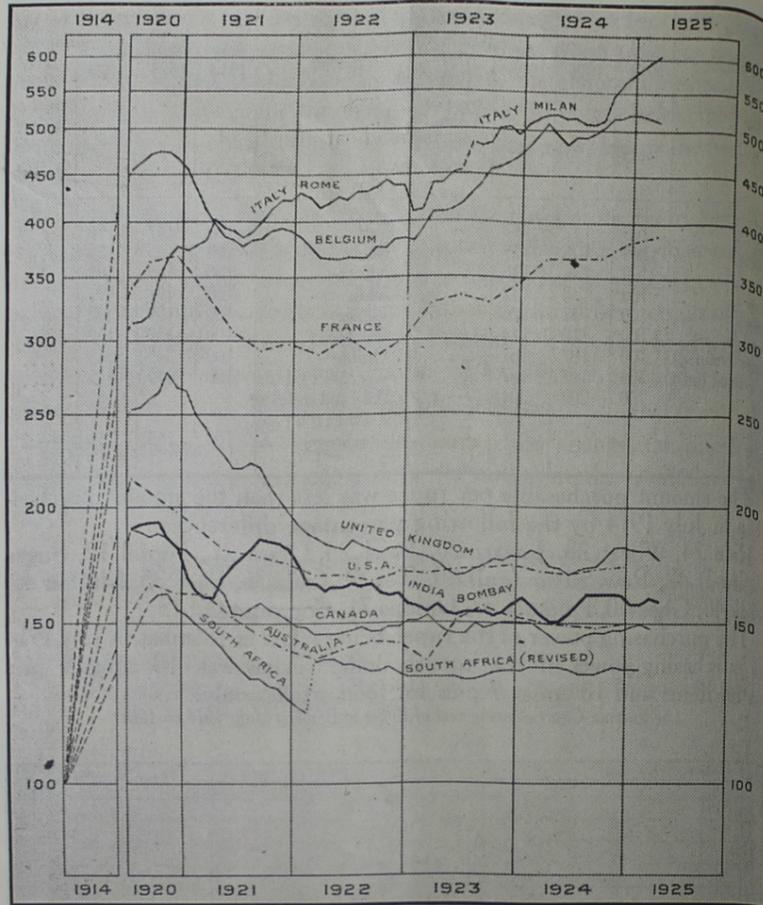
Logarithmic Chart showing cost of living in Bombay (July 1914 = 100)*



* 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.

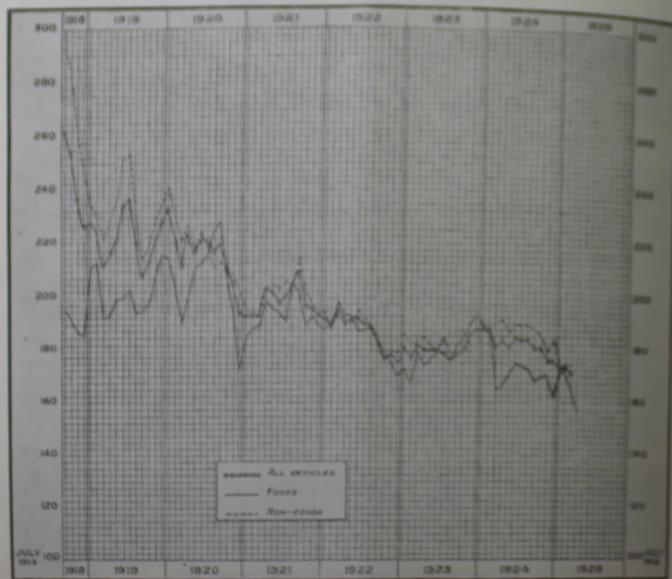
The following table is intended to show the annual movements in food, non-food and general wholesale prices:

July 1914 = 100

	Food	Non-food	All articles
Two-monthly average 1918	171	209	206
" " 1919	202	273	222
" " 1920	206	279	216
" " 1921	195	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

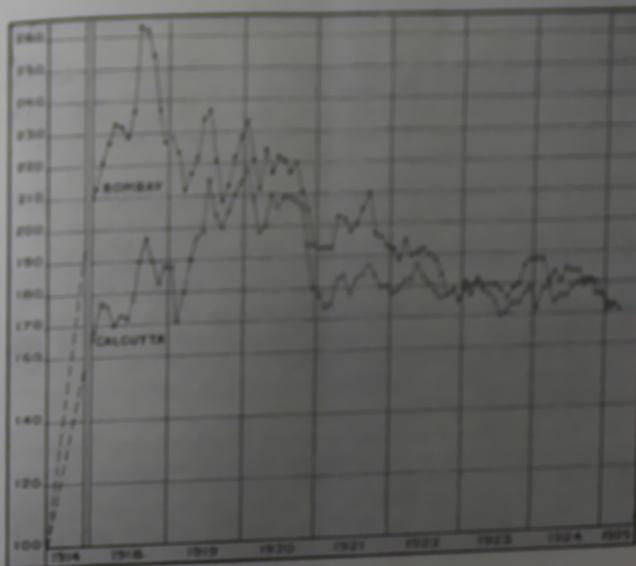


COMPARISON BETWEEN THE INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA

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.

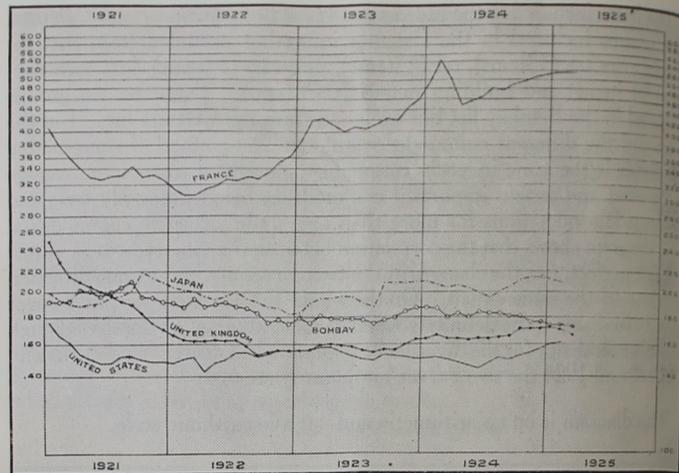
The items included in the indices are 42 for Bombay and 71 for Calcutta. The groups included in the Calcutta index but excluded from that for Bombay are tea (3 items), oil (2 items), jute raw (3 items), jute manufactures (4 items) and building materials (1 item). There are no groups included in the Bombay 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	96
Jagri (Gul) ..	100	75	93	93	84	Jagri (Gul) ..	100	75	93	93	81
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

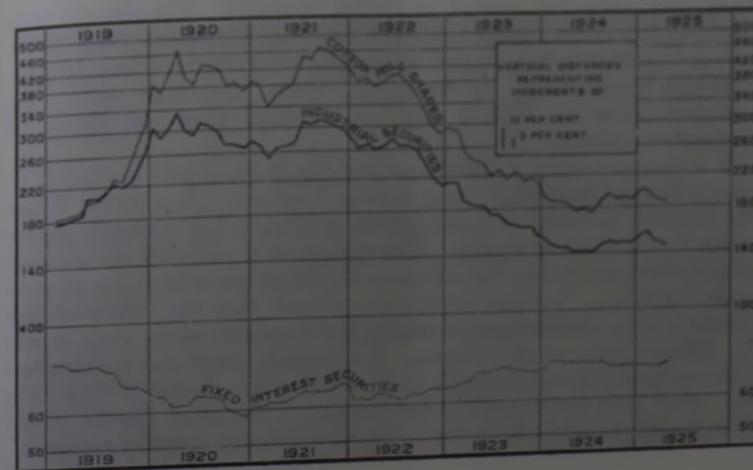
A FALL OF FOUR POINTS

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	500	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	13,890	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	4.00	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	36.00	21.02
Sauce ..	1/2 Bottle ..	12	1.625	2.000	2.000	19.50	36.00	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	72.00	36.00
Cigarettes ..	50 ..	72	1.250	2.375	1.875	90.00	171.00	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	12.50	10.50
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	94.50
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—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Butler ..	" ..	1	19.880	36.970	36.970	238.56	443.64	238.56
Cook ..	" ..	1	22.700	38.300	38.300	272.40	459.60	272.40
Hamal ..	" ..	1	15.900	27.300	27.300	190.80	327.60	190.80
Ayah ..	" ..	1	17.400	38.300	38.300	208.80	459.60	208.80
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	337.50
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	272.00
Inner tubes ..	Set of 4	1	67.000	54.069	53.104	67.00	54.07	67.00
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	1,258.50	1,919.88	1,258.50
Index No. ..	..	..	..	..	..	100	153	100
School fees ..	..	..	..	..	..	124.531	160.000	124.531
Passages ..	One return passage	1	1,138.500	1,866.688	1,879.750	759.00	1,244.46	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	111.00
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. ..	..	..	..	..	..	9,487.91	15,436.89	9,487.91
General Index No. ..	..	..	..	..	..	100	162	100

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

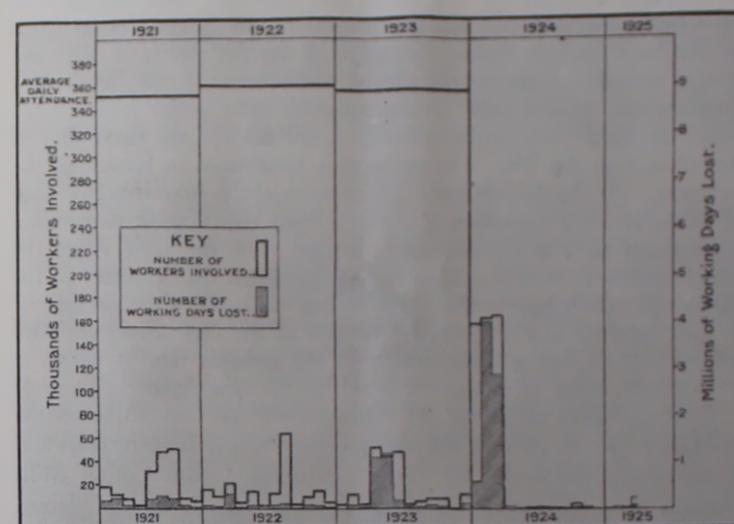
The last summary table shows, among other things, the proportion of strikes settled in favour of the employers and the employees, or compromised.

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	904	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	0 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	0 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	—	1,200	—	4	1,204
Baroda State	—	100	1	34	135
"Other Centres"	92	2,337	142	51	2,622
Bombay Presidency	2,200	60,000	454	212	62,866

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	Ahmed-abad	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	Ahmed-abad	Sholapur	Baroda State	"Other Centres"
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
<i>Men</i>					
Engine Piecers .. Time ..	1 4 8	1 2 0	0 14 8	1 0 0	1 1 8
.. Piece ..	1 8 4	..	..	..	1 0 10
Side Piecers .. Time ..	1 4 9	1 1 4	0 14 5	1 0 10	0 12 4
.. Piece ..	1 7 2	..	..	..	1 0 7
Spinners .. Time ..	1 13 11	1 2 10	1 7 11	0 12 7	0 9 10
.. Piece ..	2 1 0	..	..	..	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 × 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.)

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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.	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.
(ii) Railway Shed and Karachi Fitting Staff at Kotri.	357	....	20 April	....	
(iii) Railway Loco and Carriage Shops and Engine Shed, Sukkur.	1,958	....	20 April	....	

(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	..	..	..	..	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	15,527	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	635	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	..	..
Chudders	408	519	421	6,067	5,168	
Dhotis	3,914	3,690	3,374	42,145	35,681	
Drills and jeans	67	43	25	327	306	
Cambrics and lawns	12	13	13	234	95	
Printers	500	292	188	3,756	2,857	
Shirtings and long cloth	2,169	2,413	1,975	23,812	18,674	
T. cloth, domestics and sheetings	208	197	190	2,085	2,016	
Tent cloth	6	12	63	30	269	
Other sorts	389	390	233	4,543	4,921	
Total	7,673	7,569	6,582	82,999	69,987	
Coloured piece-goods	914	1,235	1,820	6,496	9,341	
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	1	1	1	10	9	
Hosiery	7	9	4	79	84	
Miscellaneous	2	3	6	23	48	
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	11	9	
Grand Total	8,597	8,817	8,413	89,618	79,478	

(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	163
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	153
August	123	116	122	164	149	165	205	172	154
September	124	116	123	164	149	163	206	172	154
October	123	116	122	166	147	161	211	172	152
November	124	116	124	167	147	161	225	172	153
December	132	116	130	169	152	161	219	172	157
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				Laba numbers								
			Jan 1914	Apr 1914	Mar 1913	Apr 1913	Jan 1914	Apr 1913	Mar 1913	Apr 1913					
Cashew	...	Rs. 4	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000	1000000
...

LARGE CASH

Article	Grade	Rate per	Price				Laba numbers								
			Jan 1914	Apr 1914	Mar 1913	Apr 1913	Jan 1914	Apr 1913	Mar 1913	Apr 1913					
...
...

LARGE CASH

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	145	265	235	203	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	..	..	487	429	..	166	130	..	..
.. August	154	171	149	..	158	(a) 483	429	..	164	130	..	..
.. September	154	173	148	..	..	487	453	232	164	131	..	..
.. October	152	175	149	156	..	502	458	..	167	132	331	172
.. November	153	175	150	..	..	502	463	..	167	132	..	..
.. December	157	177	150	..	..	499	470	..	167	133	..	..
1924 January	159	177	150	152	..	510	480	..	170	133	545	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	179	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>		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
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>

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 Aug.	73	216	153	138	168	161
1915	96	97	94	90	101	100	.. Sep.	73	225	133	133	166	159
1916	87	114	102	122	130	127	.. Oct.	72	213	133	131	163	157
1917	73	138	118	128	158	151	.. Nov.	71	216	122	135	163	156
1918	74	212	131	139	194	184	.. Dec.	71	215	122	131	160	154
1919	77	216	126	237	216	206	1924 Jan.	71	196	122	126	151	146
1920	65	438	168	246	313	296	.. Feb.	73	192	122	127	148	143
1921	65	450	158	212	311	295	.. Mar.	74	189	122	128	146	141
1922 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	138
.. 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
.. July .	72	229	147	136	176	169	.. April	73	192	131	147	146	141

* Also included in "Industrial Securities."

LABOUR GAZETTE

The "Labour Gazette" is a Journal for the use of all interested in obtaining prompt and accurate information on matters specially affecting labour.

VOL. IV]

BOMBAY, JUNE, 1925

[No. 10

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 June 1925 showed an average absenteeism of 11·7 per cent. as compared with 10·7 per cent. in the month ended 12th May 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 2·3 per cent. during the month as compared with 2·6 per cent. last month and 2·9 per cent. two months ago.

IN SHOLAPUR, the supply of labour was adequate, and absenteeism showed a decrease. The average was 13·4 per cent. as compared with 14·1 per cent. last month and 16·3 per cent. two months ago.

IN BROACH, absenteeism was 9·9 per cent. as compared with 14·5 per cent. in the last month. The supply of labour in this centre was not plentiful.

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

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 15·1 per cent. as compared with 13·4 per cent. last month and 12·2 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 three months.

On the construction of *chawls* (tenements) at Naigaum, DeLisle Road and Sewree, absenteeism was 2 per cent. as compared with 3 per cent. in the previous month. On the construction of *chawls* at Worli no absenteeism was recorded during the 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 as compared with 15·56 in the

preceding month and 16 per cent. 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 10·84 per cent. in the last month to 10·67 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 8 per cent. as compared with 7·5 per cent. in the preceding month and 6 per cent. two months ago.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING

In June 1925, the Working Class Cost of Living Index Number was 154, 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 154 for all articles and 149 for food articles only. There was a rise of 4 points as compared with this time last year and a fall of 39 points from the high water mark (October 1920) in the cost of living index. The fall of two points in the general index is mainly due to a decrease of 2 points in the food index. Cereals declined by 3 points owing to a fall of 2 points in rice, 7 points in wheat and 6 points in jowari. The fall of 4 points in gram and 3 points in turdal resulted in reducing the index number for pulses by 3 points. In other food articles, jagri (gul), tea and potatoes advanced, while salt, mutton, ghee, onions and cocoanut oil declined in price. The index number for fuel and lighting remained the same but that for clothing registered a fall of 9 points. The house-rent index number was taken to be 172, *i.e.*, equal to the weighted average for the year 1923-24.

Each commodity has been given a relative importance roughly corresponding with the estimated aggregate annual consumption of that article in the whole of India in the quinquennium 1909-10 to 1913-14. No allowance is made for any change in the standard of living, because an index number for any given community purporting to combine movements in prices with movements in standards of living would present great difficulties in construction and interpretation.

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.

THE WHOLESALE INDEX NUMBER

In May 1925, the general index of wholesale prices in Bombay was 164, one point below the level of the previous month. There was a fall of 2 points in the food and a rise of one point in the non-food group. The index number for food grains only was 139, the same as 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 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:—

		Increase per cent. over July 1914					
		Number of items	January 1925	February 1925	March 1925	April 1925	May 1925
Foods	..	15	73	72	64	57	55
Non-foods	..	27	72	74	74	69	70
All articles	..	42	73	73	71	65	64

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 this 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 this office.

SECURITIES INDEX NUMBER

In May 1925, the general level of quotations of 102 shares and securities, was 133, thus showing a fall of 8 points as compared with the previous month. Government and Corporation (fixed interest) securities remained stationary, while Railway companies and Banks advanced by 1 and 2 points respectively. Cotton mills declined by 19 points, cotton ginning and pressing companies by 10 points, Electric undertakings and Miscellaneous companies by one point each and Cement and Manganese companies by 4 points. Industrial securities registered a fall of 9 points during the month under review. The diagram printed elsewhere shows the movements of security prices since 1919.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

There were sixteen industrial disputes in progress during May 1925. The number of workpeople involved was 11,825 and the number of working days lost 202,683.

COTTON MILL PRODUCTION

Cotton Mill production in April 1925, as compared with the corresponding periods of the two preceding years, is shown in the following

table. In the production of both yarn and woven goods a slight fall is recorded in Ahmedabad while an improvement is recorded in Bombay City in the month under review as compared with the corresponding period of the previous year.

Month of April

	Millions of lbs. of yarn spun			Millions of lbs. of woven goods produced		
	April			April		
	1923	1924	1925	1923	1924	1925
Bombay City ..	26	20	29	15	15	18
Ahmedabad ..	1	8	8	4	8	8
Other centres ..	5	4	4	3	3	3
Total, Presidency..	32	32	41	22	26	29

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

	Net rate per lb. in annas		
	May 1924	April 1925	May 1925
Longcloth	22½	20½	19½
T. Cloths	21½	19½	18½
Chudders	20½	19½	18½

THE OUTLOOK

Fluctuations in the price of raw cotton were within very narrow limits. During the first two weeks of the month under review the market was steady but later on it became irregular and uncertain. Japanese firms bought in large lots during the month, which resulted in rather an exceptionally large turnover of ready cotton especially during the second week of the month. Business with Europe was by no means brisk, and was to some extent affected by the intervention of holidays in the last week. Local mills bought little and their purchases were especially poor during the third week.

The demand for English yarn was discouraging and only small retail lots were sold during the month. The local yarn market showed an appreciable turnover during the first week, due to low spot prices but declined towards the close of the month. Absence of enquiries from the upcountry centres, and the accumulation of stocks in mills, made dealers confident of getting easier prices and hence no forward business was recorded.

The demand for Manchester piece-goods was quiet and hardly encouraging. Prices were steady in the former half of the month because of the advance of cotton prices, but in the latter half the market became easier, and purchases were made cautiously. No fresh business was possible and only odd lots were attempted at lower rates. Business in local piecegoods was limited in the first week to immediate requirements, while in the second week some improvement was expected on account of demand from the consuming centres. In the latter half of the month there was no marked improvement in the local piecegoods market and only some odd lots were sold at easier prices.

The financial situation was easy during the month. The cash balance of the Imperial Bank of India increased by 150 lakhs during the first week, and 4 crores of rupees were paid back to the Currency Department during the second week, and in the third week there was an increase of 14 lakhs. In the last week, however, a decrease in the cash balance was recorded. Call money was available at 5½ to 6 per cent. The Security market remained firm and there was a steady absorption of bullion in Bombay.

The Working Class Cost of Living Index was two points lower in June as compared with the previous month. The wholesale prices index in May went down by one point. The decline in cotton mill shares was appreciable.

The bank rate declined to 5 per cent. from June 18. The rate of exchange in Bombay on London on 1st June 1925 was ls. 5 31/32d. as against ls. 5 13/16d. on 1st May 1925.

THE AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK ON 20th JUNE

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

The agricultural position in the Bombay Presidency during the period under review has been somewhat peculiar. While in some areas like the Konkan and the most of Gujarat there has been abundant rain both for the preliminary field operations and for putting the seed in the ground, in the other areas like the Karnatak and a large part of the Deccan there has been very little rain beyond a few good showers about the middle of May in the Karnatak and East Deccan and about the end of May in the West Deccan. These showers have certainly done much good in allowing preparatory tillage but they have been adequate only in a few places in the West and North Deccan to allow sowings. While thus in the Konkan and Gujarat generally the outlook is hopeful,—the lands being prepared and sowings made in most places,—in the Deccan and Karnatak considerable anxiety is felt nearly everywhere and people are anxiously waiting for good substantial rain to enable them to start sowing operations in right earnest.

The position in the different divisions of the Presidency may be briefly summarised as follows :—
Konkan.—There were a few scattered showers in the first half of May in the North Kanara district but really good and general rain started only from the 28th of May and it has continued so since, up to the present time. As a result lands have been prepared everywhere and sowings started in earnest. The agricultural outlook in this division is thus quite satisfactory, on the whole.

Gujarat and Kathiawar.—Here there were a few scattered but good showers between the 28th of May and 1st June but really adequate and general rain started from the 2nd of June and continued till about the end of the first week of the month. This rain was both abundant and widespread (except in some places in the North and in parts of Kathiawar) and gave an opportunity to finish the preparation of the land and to sow the seed, in time. The rain decreased from the end of the first week of June and except a few good showers in places, there was a general break in the second week. This spell of dry weather had a twofold effect. In areas like the south of Gujarat and south Kathiawar where the rain in the first week was very copious this break afforded an opportunity to continue the sowings that were retarded in places owing to continuous heavy rain, but in the other areas (i. e., North Gujarat and North Kathiawar) it proved a hindrance as the rain in the first week not being ample enough, a break in the second week meant a deficiency of moisture. The sowings were however pushed on, with what moisture was available and except in the North Gujarat

states and in Cutch where the situation is rather anxious, the outlook in the whole of Gujarat and Kathiawar is, on the whole, in no way disappointing.

Deccan and Karnatak.—The position in the North Deccan was generally akin to that of South Gujarat while the position in the West Deccan and Karnatak especially in the close vicinity of the Sahyadris, it was very similar to that of the Konkan. But in the remaining areas, and especially in the East, the position is becoming serious. Here except a few showers in the first half of May and some rain, confined to the Deccan, again on the 29th of May there has been hardly any rain worth the name and consequently considerable anxiety is being felt in these eastern areas as to the future. The rain in early May has certainly facilitated the preparation of the lands which are now quite ready for sowing but unless further rain occurs early and relieves the tension the beginning of the season cannot be regarded here as entirely satisfactory.

OUTLOOK IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

In the United Kingdom employment showed a very trifling change. The percentage unemployed at the end of April was 11·2 against 11·4 at the end of March.

A slight net change was reported in rates of wages during the month under review. According to the Ministry of Labour Statistics it resulted in an aggregate increase of nearly £10,400 in the weekly full-time wages of 410,000 workpeople and in an aggregate decrease of £9,000 in the weekly wages of nearly 180,000 workpeople.

There was a further decline in the wholesale prices of commodities but it is believed that the bottom has been reached, and a recovery is expected. There was also a slight decline in the average level of retail prices which, according to the Ministry of Labour Statistics, was 73 per cent. above the July 1914 level against 75 per cent. in the preceding month.

There was a general depression in the basic industries.

The position of the cotton industry was not encouraging, and clearances were slow. The American cotton prices at the end of April showed great weakness. Enquiries from India were reported to be brisk. Spot sales during April were 90,330 against 135,840 bales in March.

A continued depression was reported at the end of May in the coal industry and coal companies have suggested a return to autonomy in wage regulation in one case and a 10 per cent. reduction in salaries and wages in another case. Among minor industries of note the Gramophone industry is reported to be in a flourishing state. It is said to have made a profit 66 per cent. higher in 1924 than in 1923.

In France depreciation of the chief securities—notably Rentes—was recorded. The cost of living showed a further rise.

Money rates in Germany are now becoming a little easier; but there is no marked improvement in the money market, and credits by the Reichsbank record a decline. Unemployment in Germany showed a slight decrease in March as compared with January and February.

Business in the United States was far from satisfactory, and wholesale prices of basic commodities showed a steady decline except in foods. Call money was renewed at 3½ per cent. on 15th April and a slight improvement was recorded in the demand for commercial paper. A slight decline was observed in the iron and steel industry after a short bright period, and the cotton industry reported a heavy production which was viewed with apprehension on account of slow demand.

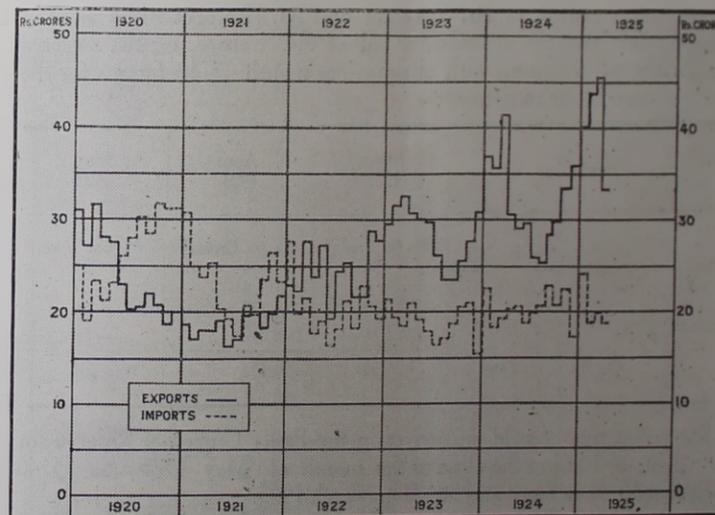
THE BALANCE OF TRADE

During May 1925, the visible balance of trade, including Securities, in favour of India amounted to Rs. 926 lakhs.

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

	India		Bombay		Karachi	
	April 1925	May 1925	April 1925	May 1925	April 1925	May 1925
	(In lakhs of rupees)		(In lakhs of rupees)		(In lakhs of rupees)	
Exports (private merchandise) ..	33.05	33.48	12.15	10.78	3.59	3.62
Imports do. ..	18.47	18.92	6.90	6.86	2.07	2.40
Balance of Trade in merchandise ..	+ 14.58	+ 14.56	+ 5.25	+ 3.92	+ 1.52	+ 1.22
Imports of treasure (private) ..			3.49	4.23	10	2
Exports of treasure (private) ..			15	35	1	2
Balance of transactions in treasure (private) ..	- 3.93	- 4.25	- 3.34	- 3.88	- 9	..
Visible balance of trade including securities ..	+ 10.48	+ 9.26				

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

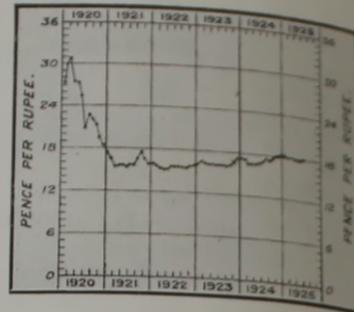


If the curve of exchange rates on the next page is consulted it will be seen that in 1920 and 1921 the exchange rate closely followed the movements of the balance of trade. At the beginning of 1923, when exports again jumped up and imports fell, it was expected that the value of the rupee would respond 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.

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



These rates are supplied by the Deputy Controller of the Currency, Bombay. On the 25th June 1925 exchange on London was 1s. 6 1/2d.

During May 1925 the Bank clearings in Bombay and Calcutta showed improvement of Rs. 7 crores and Rs. 17 crores while those in Karachi and Rangoon recorded a fall of Rs. 1 crore and Rs. 2 crores respectively as compared with the previous month. The figures for the last three months are as follows :—

	March 1925	April 1925	May 1925
	Rs. (in Crores)	Rs. (in Crores)	Rs. (in Crores)
Bombay	54	44	51
Karachi	4	4	3
Calcutta	70	72	89
Rangoon	11	10	8
Total	139	130	151

The percentage of gold and silver in the Paper Currency Reserve for the whole of India at the close of the month of May 1925 was 55.46 as against 55.58 in April and 56.23 in March 1925.

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

Month	Year	Rs.	Month	Year	Rs.
June	1924	821	December	1924	877
July	"	817	January	1925	884
August	"	834	February	"	897
September	"	904	March	"	874
October	"	872	April	"	842
November	"	885	May	"	781

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

PROGRESS OF THE MONSOON, 1925

Abbreviations:— S = Scanty, F = Fair, N = Normal, E = Excess.

RAINFALL DIVISION	JUNE			JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER
	3rd	10th	17th				
I. BOMBAY PRESIDENCY							
1 Sind (River Rainfall)	S	N	N				
2 Gujarat	F	F	F				
3 Deccan	S	S	S				
4 Konkan	S	S	S				
II. MADRAS PRESIDENCY							
1 Malabar	F	S	S				
2 Deccan	F	S	S				
3 Coast North	F	S	S				
4 South East	F	F	F				
III. MYSORE	S	S	F				
IV. HYDERABAD							
1 North	F	S	S				
2 South	F	S	S				
V. CENTRAL PROVINCES							
1 Berar	E	N	F				
2 West	E	F	F				
3 East	E	S	F				
VI. CENTRAL INDIA							
1 West	E	F	S				
2 East	E	F	S				
VII. BENGAL PRESIDENCY	F	N	F				
VIII. ASSAM	F	N	F				
IX. BIHAR & ORISSA							
1 Bihar	N	E	F				
2 Orissa	N	S	S				
3 Chota Nagpur	F	N	S				
X. UNITED PROVINCES							
1 East	E	E	F				
2 West	E	E	E				
XI. PUNJAB							
1 East & North	E	E	E				
2 South West	N	N	S				
XII. NORTHWEST FRONTIER	E	S	S				
XIII. RAJPUTANA							
1 West	E	S	E				
2 East	E	E	F				
XIV. BURMA							
1 Lower	E	E	F				
2 Upper	N	F	E				

NOTES—

Blank entries are used for weeks before and after the usual calculating period, i.e., when the rainfall is of less importance. "Excess" means more than 120% of the normal; "Normal" from 80 to 120%; "Fair" from 40 to 80%; and "Scanty" below 40%. The values are communicated by the Director General of Observatories, Simla. Calculation is made in his office on the sum of the rainfall readings for recording stations in the Rainfall Division, excluding Hill Stations. The readings of levels of the Indus in Sind are communicated by the Indus River Commission, and the normal and deviations from the normal are calculated according to values for any given week ascertained from the P. W. D.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX—JUNE

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual consumption (Maund Units) (in round)	Price per Unit of Quantity			Price x Mass Unit		
			July 1914	May 1925	June 1925	July 1914	May 1925	June 1925
Cereals—			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Rice	Maund	70	5 5/4	7 3/13	7 2/4	591 5/8	511 9/8	568 3/8
Wheat	"	21	5 5/4	7 2/2	7 8/8	117 4/2	153 8/2	152 1/2
Jowari	"	11	4 3/4	5 9/7	5 6/7	47 8/9	63 8/9	62 1/4
Bajri	"	6	4 3/13	5 6/8	5 6/8	25 8/8	34 1/3	34 1/3
Total—Cereals						822 8/2	759 7/8	798 3/8
Index Numbers—Cereals						100	133	130
Pulses—								
Gram	Maund	10	4 3/2	5 4/7	5 2/5	43 0/2	54 1/2	52 3/8
Turdal	"	3	5 8/4	6 6/5	6 4/4	17 5/3	19 5/5	19 4/2
Total—Pulses						60 5/5	74 1/2	71 5/2
Index Numbers—Pulses						100	122	119
Other food articles—								
Sugar (refined)	Maund	2	7 6/20	14 2/8	14 2/8	15 2/4	28 3/2	28 3/2
Raw Sugar (Cul)	"	7	8 5/52	14 2/8	15 4/74	59 9/0	100 9/1	100 3/2
Tea	"	5	80 0/00	80 3/44	82 4/79	1 0/0	2 0/1	2 0/6
Salt	"	5	2 1/30	3 3/13	3 2/19	10 6/5	16 2/2	16 1/10
Beef	Seer	28	0 3/23	0 5/0	0 5/0	9 0/4	14 0/0	14 0/0
Mutton	"	33	0 4/17	0 7/71	0 7/40	13 7/6	25 4/4	24 0/0
Milk	Maund	14	9 1/98	17 5/83	17 5/83	128 7/2	246 1/6	246 1/6
Ghee	"	14	50 7/92	102 3/80	99 4/06	76 1/9	153 5/2	149 1/1
Potatoes	"	11	8 4/29	7 1/41	7 7/40	49 2/7	78 5/5	85 1/4
Onions	"	3	1 5/52	5 3/59	4 1/67	4 6/6	16 0/8	12 5/0
Coconut Oil	"	4	25 3/96	29 1/67	28 5/73	12 7/0	14 5/8	14 2/9
Total—Other food articles						381 1/8	695 5/4	700 6/2
Index Numbers—Other food articles						100	182	184
Total—All food articles						1,024 5/5	1,544 4/2	1,531 0/2
Index Numbers—All food articles						100	151	149
Fuel and lighting—								
Kerosene oil	Case	5	4 3/75	7 5/31	7 5/31	21 8/8	37 6/6	37 6/6
Firewood	Maund	48	0 7/92	1 2/81	1 2/81	38 0/2	61 4/9	61 4/9
Coal	"	1	0 5/42	0 8/70	0 8/39	0 5/4	0 8/7	0 8/4
Total—Fuel and lighting						60 4/4	100 0/2	99 9/9
Index Numbers—Fuel and lighting						100	165	163
Clothing—								
Chudders	Lb.	27	0 5/94	1 2/203	1 1/141	16 0/4	32 4/8	30 8/1
Shirtings	"	25	0 6/41	1 3/65	1 3/13	16 0/3	34 1/3	32 8/3
T. Cloth	"	36	0 5/83	1 2/203	1 1/156	20 9/9	43 3/1	41 6/2
Total—Clothing						53 0/6	109 9/2	105 2/6
Index Numbers—Clothing						100	207	198
House-rent	Per month.	10	11 3/2	19 4/40	19 4/40	113 0/2	194 4/0	194 4/0
Index Numbers—House-rent						100	172	172
Grand Total						1,251 0/7	1,948 7/8	1,938 6/7
Cost of Living Index Numbers						100	156	154

The Cost of Living Index for June 1925

A FALL OF TWO POINTS

All articles .. 54 per cent. Food only .. 49 per cent.

In June 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 156 in May and 154 in June 1925. This is 39 points below the high water mark (193) reached in October 1920 and three points below the twelve-monthly average of 1924.

The index number for all food articles fell by two points, the rise of two points in other food articles being offset by a fall of 3 points in food grains. The decrease of 3 points in cereals was due to a fall of 7 points in wheat, 6 points in jowari and two points in rice. Pulses declined by 3 points owing to a fall of 4 points in gram and 3 points in turdal. A rise of 14 points each in raw sugar and potatoes and of 5 points in tea more than counterbalanced a fall of 5 points in salt, 8 points in mutton, 6 points in ghee, 77 points in onions and 2 points in coconut oil thus resulting in an increase of two points in the index for other food.

Clothing declined by 9 points due to a fall in the prices of all the articles included in that group while the fuel and lighting group remained stationary.

All Data: Average percentage increase over July 1914

	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
January ..	34	62	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	56
May	47	66	73	67	63	53	50	56
June	48	74	81	73	63	52	53	54
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 May and June 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.

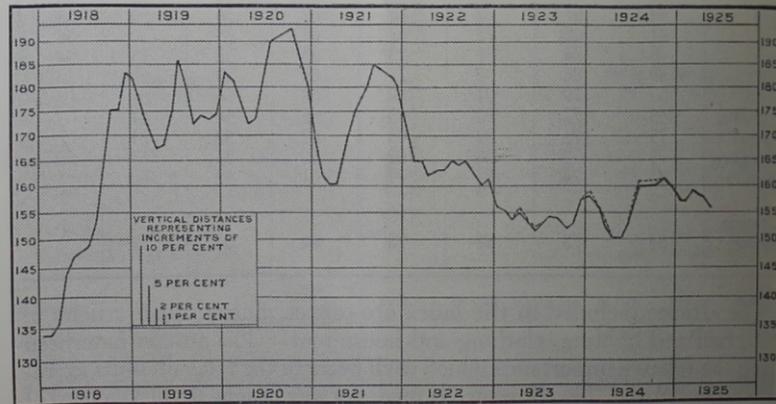
Articles	July 1914	May 1925	June 1925	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in June 1925 over or below May 1925	Articles	July 1914	May 1925	June 1925	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in June 1925 over or below May 1925
Rice ..	100	131	129	- 2	Salt ..	100	156	151	- 5
Wheat ..	100	139	132	- 7	Beef ..	100	155	155	....
Jowari ..	100	136	130	- 6	Mutton ..	100	185	177	- 8
Bajri ..	100	132	132	....	Milk ..	100	191	191	....
Gram ..	100	126	122	- 4	Ghee ..	100	202	196	- 6
Turdal ..	100	114	111	- 3	Potatoes ..	100	159	173	+14
Sugar (refined).	100	187	187	....	Onions ..	100	345	268	-77
Raw sugar (gul).	100	167	181	+14	Cocoanut oil ..	100	115	113	- 2
Tea ..	100	201	205	+ 5	All food articles (weighted average) ..	100	151	149	- 2

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

Rice 22, Wheat 24, Jowari 23, Bajri 24, Gram 18, Turdal 10, Sugar (refined) 47, Raw Sugar (gul) 45, Tea 51, Salt 34, Beef 35, Mutton 44, Milk 48, Ghee 49, Potatoes 42, Onions 63, Cocoanut Oil 12.

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 5 pies for all items and 10 annas 9 pies for food articles only.

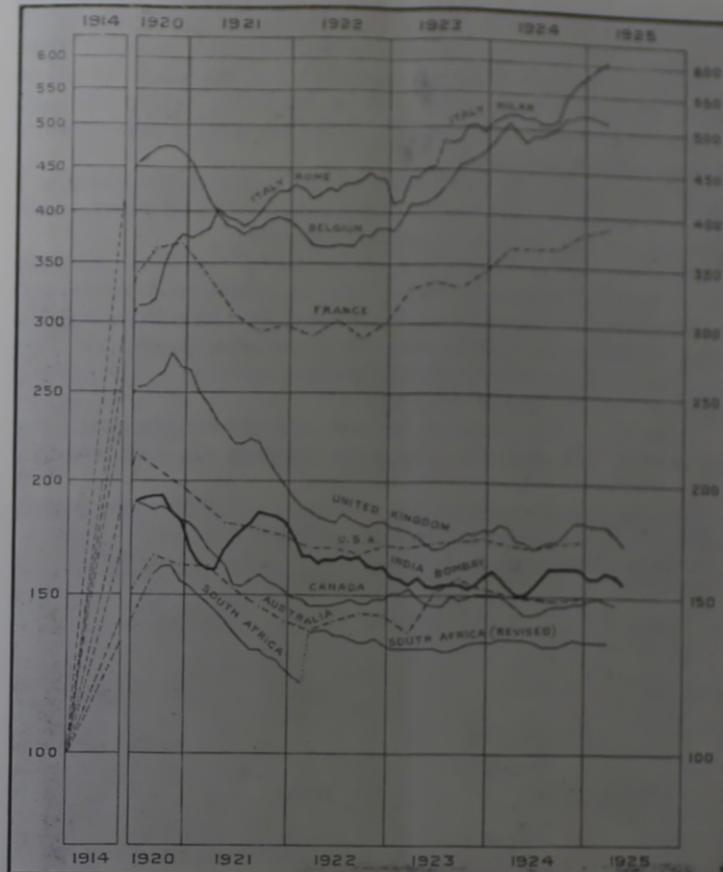
Logarithmic Chart showing cost of living in Bombay (July 1914 = 100)*



* 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 ONE POINT

In May 1925, the general level of wholesale prices in Bombay was 64 per cent. above the level in July 1914. The fall of 1 point in the general index was mainly due to a fall of 2 points in the food group which was partly offset by a rise of one point in the non-food group. The general index number has fallen by 99 points from the highest peak (263) reached in August 1918 and is 18 points below the twelve-monthly average of 1924.

A rise of 10 points in wheat was counterbalanced by a fall of 7 points in jawari, 10 points in barley and 6 points in bajri, thus keeping the index number for food grains steady at 139. Both Cereals and Pulses remained stationary during the month.

The index number for food articles fell by 2 points chiefly owing to a fall of 17 points in other food. Turmeric declined by 68 points, while sugar and salt rose by 2 and 17 points respectively.

The index number for non-food articles rose by one point, the main factors contributing towards this end being an increase of 7 points each in Oilseeds and Hides and Skins, 4 points in Cotton manufactures and 3 points in Metals. Raw cotton, other textiles and other raw and manufactured articles declined by 12, 15 and 4 points respectively. The price of imported coal declined by 11 points.

During May 1925, Cereals, Pulses and Oilseeds 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 May 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 Apr. 1925	+ or - % compared with May 1924	Groups.	May 1924	Aug. 1924	Nov. 1924	Feb. 1925	Apr. 1925	May 1925
1. Cereals ..	7	....	+19	1. Cereals ..	93	109	103	123	111	111
2. Pulses ..	2	....	+16	2. Pulses ..	96	105	103	115	113	113
3. Sugar ..	3	+1	-16	3. Sugar ..	102	95	90	84	85	86
4. Other food ..	3	-9	-40	4. Other food ..	104	93	100	82	68	62
All food ..	15	-1	-9	All food ..	99	100	99	99	91	90
5. Oilseeds ..	4	+5	+10	5. Oilseeds ..	95	104	104	101	97	102
6. Raw cotton ..	3	-6	-28	6. Raw cotton ..	102	103	93	83	79	74
7. Cotton manufactures ..	6	+2	-9	7. Cotton manufactures ..	102	101	95	92	91	93
8. Other textiles.	2	-9	-25	8. Other textiles.	100	106	84	87	83	75
9. Hides and skins	3	+5	+3	9. Hides & skins.	96	96	101	95	94	98
10. Metals ..	5	+2	-3	10. Metals ..	99	101	99	96	95	96
11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	4	-3	-7	11. Other raw and manufactured articles..	102	99	98	98	98	95
All non-food ..	27	+1	-9	All non-food ..	99	101	95	93	90	90
General Index No...	42	-1	-9	General Index No.	99	101	97	95	91	90

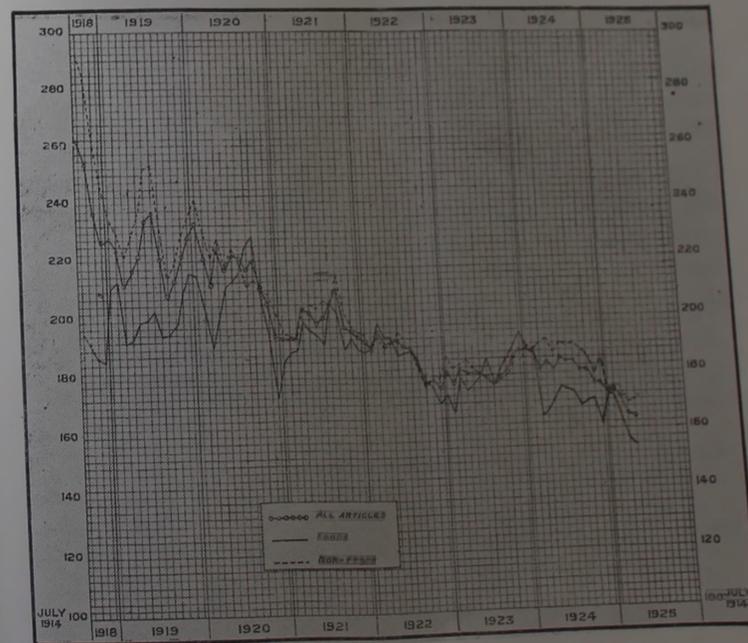
* Wholesale prices in Karachi will be found on page 1112

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
Twelve-monthly average 1918	171	269	236
" " 1919	202	233	222
" " 1920	206	219	216
" " 1921	193	201	199
" " 1922	186	187	187
" " 1923	179	182	181
" " 1924	173	186	182
Five-monthly .. 1925	164	174	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

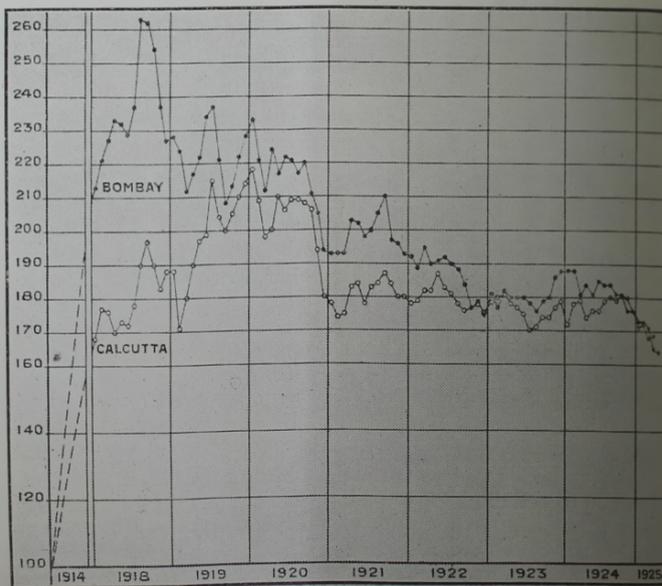


COMPARISON BETWEEN THE INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA

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.

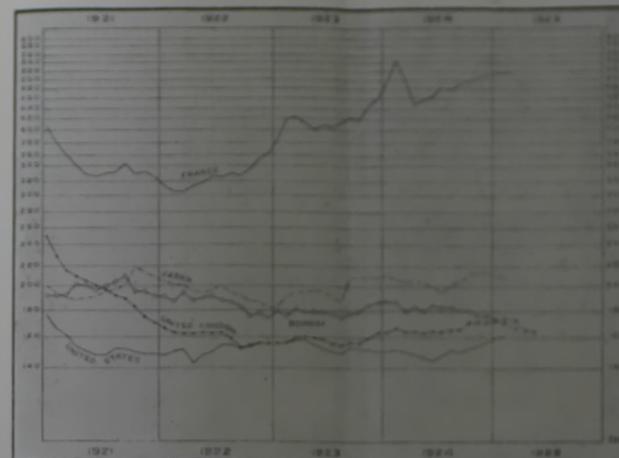
The items included in the indices are 42 for Bombay and 71 for Calcutta. The groups included in the Calcutta index but excluded from that for Bombay are tea (3 items), oil (2 items), jute-raw (3 items), jute manufactures (4 items) and building materials (1 item). There are no groups included in the Bombay 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 Dominion Bureau of Statistics; 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	Equivalent in tolas	July 1925			Increase (+) or decrease (-) in May 1925 over or below	
				July 1914	April 1925	May 1925	July 1914	April 1925
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill	Paylee	212	As. p. 5 10	As. p. 7 8	As. p. 7 9	+1 11	+0 1
Wheat	Pissi Seoni	..	216	5 10	8 8	8 5	+2 7	-0 3
Jowari	Best Sholapuri	..	200	4 3	5 11	5 11	+1 8	....
Bajri	Ghati	..	208	4 7	6 1	5 11	+1 4	-0 2
Gram	Delhi	..	200	4 4	5 7	5 5	+1 1	-0 2
Turdal	Cawnpore	..	208	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 9	15 8	+7 10	-0 1
Salt	Bombay, black	Paylee	176	1 9	2 9	2 11	+1 2	+0 2
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	14 2	14 4	+7 3	+0 2
Potatoes	Ordinary	..	28	0 8	1 0	1 0	+0 4	....
Onions	Nasik	..	28	0 3	0 9	0 9	+0 6	....
Cocoonut 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. | 7. Fergusson Road. |
| 2. Kumbharwada—Kumbharwada Road (North End). | 8. DeLisle Road. |
| 3. Saitan Chowki—Kumbharwada Road (South End). | 9. Suparibag—Suparibag Road. |
| 4. Elphinstone Road. | 10. Chinchpokli—Parel Road. |
| 5. Naigam—Naigam Cross Road and Development Chawls. | 11. Grant Road. |
| 6. Parel—Poibawdi. | 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 during May 1925 as compared with the previous month were within narrow limits. Except in the case of rice, which rose by one pie, food grains declined in price—wheat by 3 pies and bajri and gram each by two pies per paylee. Tea fell by one pie per lb. while ghee rose by two pies per seer. The price of salt increased by two pies per paylee, while other articles remained practically unchanged.

As compared with July 1914, ghee and onions have more than doubled themselves. Tea and mutton are twice their pre-war level. Sugar (refined), gul, salt, beef and milk are more than 50 per cent. above the prewar 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 April and May 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 April and May 1925:—

Articles	Bombay prices in April 1925 = 100					Bombay prices in May 1925 = 100				
	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
Cereals—										
Rice	100	109	121	114	121	100	109	122	115	122
Wheat	100	85	96	85	95	100	90	103	96	104
Jowari	100	75	75	76	91	100	75	75	76	91
Bajri	100	81	96	78	100	100	85	100	82	104
Average—										
Cereals	100	88	97	88	101	100	90	100	92	105
Pulses—										
Gram	100	81	97	85	95	100	84	96	87	99
Turdal	100	89	116	100	123	100	98	120	104	114
Average—										
Pulses	100	85	107	92	109	100	91	109	96	107
Other articles of food—										
Sugar (refined)	100	88	107	112	98	100	87	102	112	107
Jagri (Gul)	100	75	93	93	91	100	75	93	93	91
Tea	100	99	99	113	120	100	100	100	114	121
Salt	100	67	78	101	102	100	60	69	86	90
Beef	100	125	75	63	75	100	125	75	63	75
Mutton	100	97	65	81	81	100	97	65	81	81
Milk	100	57	57	76	76	100	51	65	76	76
Ghee	100	84	79	79	83	100	83	86	78	82
Potatoes	100	77	70	102	65	100	73	77	97	65
Onions	100	59	93	75	49	100	57	75	75	49
Cocoonut oil	100	104	110	115	104	100	104	110	115	104
Average—										
Other articles of food	100	85	84	92	86	100	83	83	90	86
Average—										
All food articles	100	85	90	91	92	100	85	90	91	93

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 one point at Poona and remained the same at Karachi, Ahmedabad and Sholapur. Referring back to May 1924 it is found that in relation to Bombay the Ahmedabad and Sholapur averages were lower by 6 and 6 points respectively, the Karachi average 3 points higher than in that month while the Poona average remained the same. Reading from left to right the relative prices of jagri (gul) were 100, 81, 102, 89 and 74 which bear no resemblance to the current prices. Of individual articles the relative prices of salt and cocoonut oil have decreased at all the mofussil centres except Karachi. Tea at Ahmedabad stood at 131 and is now 100. 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

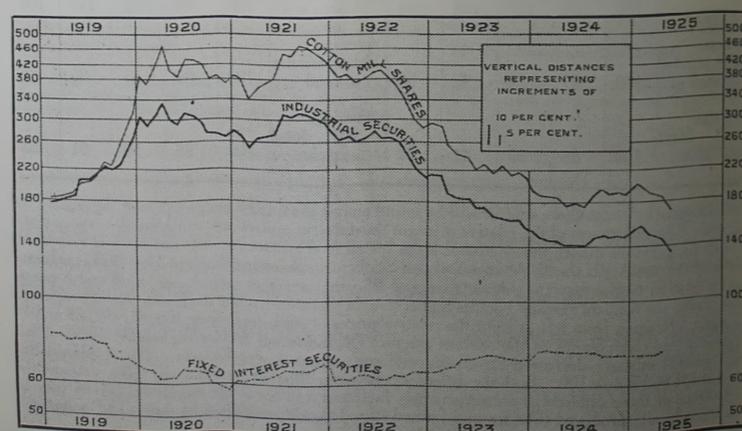
A FALL OF EIGHT POINTS

In May 1925, the general level of prices of 102 shares and securities included in the Labour Office Securities Index Number was 133 as compared with 141 during the previous month. Government and Corporation (fixed interest) securities remained stationary at 73. Banks and Railway companies rose by 2 points and 1 point respectively. Industrial Securities registered a decrease of 9 points, mainly due to a decrease of 19 points in Cotton mills, 10 points in Cotton ginning and pressing companies, 4 points in Cement and Manganese companies and one point each in Electric undertakings and Miscellaneous companies.

The Construction of the Index

No.	—	—	July 1914	May 1925	
				Total numbers	Average
1	Government and Corporation Securities ..	7 Index Nos. ..	700	510	73
2	Banks ..	6 " " ..	600	811	135
3	Railway Companies ..	10 " " ..	1,000	1,081	108
4	Cotton Mills ..	42 " " ..	4,200	7,277	173
5	Cotton Ginning and Pressing Companies ..	8 " " ..	800	971	121
6	Cement and Manganese Companies ..	5 " " ..	500	529	106
7	Electric Undertakings ..	2 " " ..	200	292	146
8	Miscellaneous Companies ..	22 " " ..	2,200	2,051	93
9	Industrial Securities ..	95 " " ..	9,500	13,012	137
10	General average ..	102 " " ..	10,200	13,522	133

Movements of Securities Index Nos. (Logarithmic Scale)



Labour Intelligence—Indian and Foreign

Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency

QUARTER ENDING JUNE 1925—AN INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP

The previous review of Trade Unions in the Presidency was published in the March 1925 issue of the Labour Gazette. The latest information of the second quarter of the present year is summarised in the two tables appended at the end of this issue. These tables show that the number of Unions has increased from 36 in the last quarter to 38 in the quarter under review and that the number of persons recorded as members has increased from 51,625 to 53,591, or by 3·8 per cent. This increase in the membership was partly due to the inclusion of two newly incorporated unions.

Information in connexion with Trade Unions is collected through the Secretaries of the Unions as well as through District Officers in the Presidency including Sind. Table I shows that at the present moment there are 10 Trade Unions with a membership of 23,787 in Bombay City, 9 Unions with a membership of 19,273 in Ahmedabad and 19 Unions with a membership of 10,531 in the rest of the Presidency. The total number of Unions and Members given in the present issue includes only those Unions actually known to be in existence.

Increase or Decrease of Membership in Individual Unions

In Bombay City the Indian Seamen's Union, the B. B. & C. I. Railwaymen's Union, the Bombay Presidency Postmen's Union, the G. I. P. Railway Staff Union and the Bombay Postal Union show an increase of 701, 300, 20, 280 and 135 members respectively, while the G. I. P. Railwaymen's Union records a fall of 50 in its membership. The membership of the Bombay Currency Association which has been incorporated in this review stands at 220. The memberships returned for the Port Trust Workshop Union, the Clerks' Union, and the Bombay Telegraph Workmen's Union remain unchanged.

In Ahmedabad an increase of 390 members in the Weavers' Union is reported while the membership of the Card Room, Blow Room, Frame Department Union has decreased to 2,320 from 2,400 in the previous quarter. The Motor Drivers' Union which was started in March 1925 has 200 members. The other unions in Ahmedabad do not report any change in membership.

In Sholapur the Barsi Light Railway Employees' Union reports a decrease of 150 members. There is no change in the membership of the rest of the Unions in the Presidency.

The position with reference to the G. I. P. Railway Staff Union which has its Head Office in Bombay and members scattered at various stations shows a small change in the figures published in the issue of the Labour

Gazette for March 1925. The membership of the Union stands as follows:—

Station	No. of Members	Station	No. of Members
Wadi Bunder (Bombay)	434	Sholapur	430
Administrative Office (Bombay)	542	Bhopal	222
Kalyan	500	Dhond	129
Bhusawal	672	Ahmednagar	126
Lonavla	250	Itarsi	150
Poona	150	Jhansi	1,000
Manmad	738	Jubbulpore	75
Total members			5,418

The following table summarises the position in regard to the membership of the Unions of the Presidency since June 1922:—

Summary table showing the membership of the Unions

Quarter ended	Number of Unions	Membership at end of quarter	Percentage increase (+) or decrease (-) on previous quarter	Quarter ended	Number of Unions	Membership at end of quarter	Percentage increase (+) or decrease (-) on previous quarter
June 1922 ..	22	57,914	..	Dec 1923 ..	19	46,037	+ 10.54
Sept 1922 ..	23	52,776	-8.87	Mar 1924 ..	21	48,502	+ 5.4
Dec 1922 ..	22	51,472	-2.47	June 1924 ..	21	49,729	+ 2.5
Mar 1923 ..	22	48,669	-5.45	Sept 1924 ..	21	47,242	-5.0
June 1923 ..	21	51,276	+5.08	Dec 1924 ..	36	52,277	+10.7
Sept 1923 ..	19	41,646	-18.77	Mar 1925 ..	36	51,625	-1.25
				June 1925 ..	38	53,591	+ 3.8

The Bombay Unions

The important unions in Bombay are:—

- (1) The Indian Seamen's Union,
- (2) The G. I. P. Railway Staff Union,
- (3) The B. B. & C. I. Railwaymen's Union,
- (4) The G. I. P. Railwaymen's Union,
- (5) The Port Trust Workshop Union,
- (6) The Bombay Presidency Postmen's Union, and
- (7) The Bombay Postal Union.

The Indian Seamen's Union.—In the quarter under review the chief activity of the Union is reported to have been directed towards the amelioration of the condition of the distressed Goan seamen who are at present faced with unemployment by regularising employment. With this end in view a system of registration has been adopted which ensures a fair rotation of employment by each member signing off after one year's continuous employment to enable others to be employed in turn. The Union anticipates that its strength will in the near future be augmented by the addition to its ranks of seamen of all classes and ratings.

G. I. P. Railway Staff Union.—At the present moment the Union does not appear to be very active, because the Agent has replied that he will not consider grievances sent by any body except the staff Council. The staff complain that the proceedings of the staff Council are not published and therefore they do not get any chance to know what subjects are considered. However the staff hope for a different system when the management of the Railway is taken over by the State on 1st July 1925. Lately there has been some changes in the staff union. The Shabdar branch has merged into the Sholapur branch recently opened with a membership of 430.

G. I. P. Railwaymen's Union.—As stated in the previous review the chief activity of the Union is at present directed towards the improvement of the morale of the workers. The Secretary of the Union Mr. S. H. Jhabwala and the Assistant Secretary Mr. V. P. Rele state that they visit the workmen frequently and explain to them the advantages of unionism and the consequences of extravagance and intemperance, and exhort them to lead a pure life, to practise economy, and to give up the bad habits of drinking, betting, etc. During the quarter under review this Union has paid death benefits to the amount of Rs. 94.

The Bombay Presidency Postmen's Union.—The most important activity in which this Union was engaged during the last quarter, was the preparation of an elaborate statement of the grievances and demands of the Postmen and menials of the Presidency. The statement was then submitted to the Government officials in connection with the Deputation on behalf of the All India Union of Postmen and Lower Grade Staff that was received by Government on the 22nd March at Delhi. The Union was represented by Mr. Dhondo Keshav Tendulkar, Overseer, Bombay, who in his oral examination replied to many points raised by the officials. The latter were quite sympathetic, and the Honourable Sir Bhupendranath Mitra, Member for Industries and Labour, Government of India, expressed his willingness to consider the whole list of grievances and demands in due course, excepting those that were not restricted to the Postmen alone, such as the cost of living, leave and pension rules, etc. Under the Death and Retirement Benefit Scheme, the union has some actual solid benefit to show. They paid altogether Rs. 475-1-0 during the last three months to those members who retired from service, and to the heirs of those that had died, 8 persons in all. Another very useful activity the union has recently taken up is the Debating Society. It holds its meetings on alternate Sundays, when social, religious, economic, and the like questions are discussed by the members.

Bombay Postal Union (Bombay Postal Clerks' Club).—Activities of the union during the quarter ending June 1925:—The Annual General Meeting of the union was held on the 4th April 1925 under the presidency of Mr. M. R. Jayakar, Bar.-at-Law, M.L.C.

The Constitution of the Union was amended and the name of the Bombay Postal Clerks' Club was changed to Bombay Postal Union. The Club could admit Clerical Workers only to its membership, whereas under the amended Constitution every employee of the Post Office serving in the

Town and Island of Bombay is eligible to be a member of the union. The monthly rates of subscription now are :—

	As.
Clerical Class	8
Postman Class	4
Other Inferior Employees	2

The rate of subscription for a member of the Clerical Class has been temporarily increased to Re. 1 in order to collect the 10 per cent. All-India Reserve Fund. The balance of the Union for the year ending March 1925 stood at Rs. 12,088-9-3; for the quarter ending June 1925 Rs. 250 have been paid towards relief in the case of 5 families of the Deceased Members. A provision of Rs. 250 has been made towards the maintenance of the Library and Free Reading-Room of the Union.

Bombay Presidency Postal and R. M. S. Association.—Activities during the quarter ending June 1925 :—

The Fifth Provincial Postal and R. M. S. Conference was held at Baroda under the presidency of Mr. N. C. Kelkar, M.L.A. There is no change in the general situation of the affiliated Postal Divisional Unions in the Presidency. Family Budgets have been distributed to every clerical member on the rolls of Divisional Unions and the Association is engaged in preparing returns of Family Budgets of Postal Clerical Workers throughout the Presidency. Every Divisional Union has held its Annual General Meeting during the months of April and May.

The activities of the other unions in Bombay City during the quarter under review do not call for special mention.

The Central Labour Board.—The Central Labour Board, with Rai Saheb Chandrika Prasad as President, Mr. F. J. Ginwalla as Vice-President and Mr. S. H. Jhabwalla as Honorary General Secretary, is a Federation comprising the following Unions and Trade Guilds :—

- (1) G. I. P. Railwaymen's Union.
- (2) Port Trust Workshop Union.
- (3) B. B. & C. I. Railwaymen's Union.
- (4) The Presidency Postmen's Union.
- (5) The Bombay Telegraphmen's Union.
- (6)* The Victoria Drivers' and Owners' Association.
- (7)* Saloon Keepers' and Hamamkhana Keepers' Association.

The Board obtains its revenue by donations from the different Unions and Guilds which are affiliated to it, and spends a part of the income so derived on propaganda work. The co-operative credit society, started in March 1922 under the auspices of this Board, is patronised by the first four unions mentioned above. The amount of loan granted to a member by the society is ordinarily four times the amount of contribution paid by him, subject to a limit of Rs. 100.

Ahmedabad Unions

In Ahmedabad there are five separate unions of cotton mill workers. These are :—

- (1) The Weavers' Union ;

* These are not recognized as Trade Unions by the Labour Office; vide *Labour Gazette*, September 1924, p. 22.

- (2) The Winders' Union ;
- (3) The Throstle Union ;
- (4) The Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union ;
and
- (5) The Drivers, Oilmen and Firemen's Union.

These various Unions, having a total membership of 13,610 are under the control and the management of the Labour Union Office at Ahmedabad. Miss Ansuya Sarabhai is the President of the various industrial unions, and Mr. Gulzari Lal Nanda is the Secretary of the Labour Union Office. Among the noteworthy features for the quarter under review may be mentioned (1) continuation of the system of collecting subscriptions by localities introduced in Saraspur and Gontipur, and (2) initiation of a scheme for opening savings Bank accounts for members the necessary regulations for the conduct of which have just been framed and circulated. It is interesting to note that the Bank will pay interest at the rate of 6 per cent. In addition the Union has hired a chawl with 58 tenements and has arranged to let these to members of the Union at Rs. 3-8-0 per tenement instead of Rs. 4-8-0 which they would have been obliged to pay to the contractor. The Union has also introduced the system of victimization benefit from half to full pay which comes into effect from the 1st of June 1925.

The Ahmedabad Postal and R. M. S. Union.—During this quarter it has succeeded in obtaining water allowance for the employees serving between Abu Road and Ahmedabad. The Secretary had been empowered by the managing committee during the month of May to conduct a Gujarati monthly under the auspices of the Union and the same committee has appointed a sub-committee of 9 men to recommend methods of strengthening its Reserve Fund and has deputed two members to the executive council of the Bombay Presidency Postal and R. M. S. Association, Girgaon Road, Bombay.

Rest of the Presidency

The Honorary Secretary of the Barsi Light Railway Employees' Union reports a decrease of 150 members. As regards activities of the unions in the rest of the Presidency there is very little which calls for special notice.

Accounts of the Unions

Table II shows the financial position of the unions so far as monthly income and expenditure is concerned. During the quarter under review the income of the Bombay Postal Union has increased while that of the G. I. P. Railwaymen's Union, the Bombay Presidency Postmen's Union and the Barsi Light Railway Employees' Union has decreased. Concomitant with these alterations the monthly expenditure of these Unions has changed. The monthly income of the Indian Seamen's Union has increased but the expenditure has increased in greater proportion. The statistics of income and expenditure of the Postal and R. M. S. Unions at the different parts of the Presidency relate to the quarter ending December 1924, later information not being available.

Quasi Unions

The following Associations are excluded from the lists of Trade Unions, as these are regarded as Associations rather than Trade Unions:—

- (1) The Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants of India and Burma.
- (2) The Kamgar Hitawardhak Sabha.
- (3) The Girni Kamgar Sabha.
- (4) The Victoria Owners' and Drivers' Union.
- (5) The Saloon, Hamamkhana Owners' and Barbers' Association.

The first association is very active. The second is now reviving its activities by the organisation of an anti-liquor campaign, carried on principally with the aid of magic lantern lectures and wrestling matches, at which small prizes are given to the winners. The Girni Kamgar Sabha has not been very active, since the last general strike. The Saloon, Hamamkhana Owners' and Barbers' Association reports a considerable decrease in membership, which is due entirely to the failure of the association to convince the Bombay Municipality against the licensing of all barbers in Bombay City. This association came into existence for one special purpose only, and is dying a natural death.

Summary.—The outstanding features of the quarter under review are (1) an increase in trade union membership in the Presidency of 3·8 per cent. over the previous quarter; and (2) the continued complete absence of unions of cotton mill workers in Bombay.

Workmen's Compensation

Details of Compensation and of proceedings during May 1925 under the Workmen's Compensation Act (Act VIII of 1923)

This article contains the summary of Compensation Statistics for the month of May 1925. Information has not, however, been received from 2 Commissioners and all the 13 cases disposed of during the month under review were reported by the Commissioner of Bombay as against 24 out of 26 in the preceding month. It should be remembered that this is not the number of cases which came within the purview of the Courts of the Commissioners but of cases actually disposed of. A gross amount of Rs. 3,570-12-0 was awarded in lump sum as compensation against 12,891-7-9 in April and Rs. 9,850-8-0 in March. Out of these 13 accidents, 3 were fatal, in 9 cases there was permanent partial disablement and in one case temporary disablement.

The number of Compensation cases in Cotton Mills was 7 during the month under review as against 9 in the preceding month. No disease case has come up since January 1925.

Claimants for Compensation were males over 15 in 9 cases and females over 15 in 4.

Awards and Agreements

Out of 13 cases in May 6 were original claims and 7 registrations of agreement. Compensation was awarded in 3 cases, agreement was effected in 7, two were not proceeded with and one application was dismissed.

Industrial Disputes in the Presidency

Disputes in May .. 16 Workpeople involved .. 11,825

At the end of this issue will be found a statement of each dispute in progress during May 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 May 1925.

I.—Industrial Disputes classified by Trades

Trade	Number of disputes in progress in May 1925			Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in May 1925	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in May 1925*
	Started before 1st May	Started in May	Total		
Textile ..	1	13	14	5,330	11,141
Engineering (a) ..	1	....	1	6,469	191,516
Miscellaneous ..	....	1	1	26	26
Total May 1925 ..	2	14	16	11,825	202,683
Total April 1925 ..	....	11	11	7,740	70,672

* 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 sixteen industrial disputes in progress in May 1925, fourteen of which occurred in textile mills, one in Railway workshops and Traffic Department and one in a Vacuum Oil Company. The number of workpeople involved was 11,825 and the working days lost (i.e., the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days less workers replaced) 202,683 which, it will be seen, is a large increase on the April 1925 statistics.

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes.

II.—Industrial Disputes—Results January to May 1925

	January 1925	February 1925	March 1925	April 1925	May 1925
Number of strikes and lock-outs ..	5	4	7	11	16
Disputes in progress at beginning ..	....	....	1	....	2
Fresh disputes begun ..	5	4	6	11	14
Disputes ended ..	5	3	7	9	15
Disputes in progress at end ..	....	1	....	2	1
Number of workpeople involved ..	1,277	862	2,570	7,740	11,825
Aggregate duration in working days ..	1,444	3,070	9,962	70,672	202,683
Demands—					
Pay ..	2	3	5	4	9
Bonus ..	....	....	....	....	....
Personal ..	1	1	1	4	3
Leave and hours ..	2	....	....	....	....
Others ..	....	....	1	3	4
Results—					
In favour of employees ..	2	....	1	1	2
Compromised ..	1	1	1	3	6
In favour of employers ..	2	2	5	5	7

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.)	Compromised. (Per cent.)	
May 1924 ..	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	17
December ..	6	941	67	16	17	..
January 1925 ..	5	1,444	40	40	20	..
February ..	4	3,070	50	..	25	25
March ..	7	9,962	72	14	14	..
April ..	11	63,140	46	9	27	18
May ..	16	202,683	44	13	37	6
Totals or (cols. 4 to 7) Average ..	81	314,994	60	16	16	8

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

BOMBAY CITY

During the month under review there were four industrial disputes in Bombay City, three of which occurred in textile mills and one in a Vacuum Oil Company. (1) On the 13th May, 1,500 weavers of the Spring Mill at Naigam Road complained against the new rule, which required them to clean their machines every day instead of twice a month as before, and struck work. Being asked by the Agent, the strikers formulated their demands as (i) Continuance of the old system, (ii) Permission to females carrying food to pass through the folding department as before, (iii) Sufficient supply of water for drinking and other purposes and (iv) Provision of gates for all latrines. The Proprietor insisted on cleaning the looms every day but promised to consider their other demands. Being satisfied, 1,000 strikers resumed work the next day and the strike terminated on the 15th when the remaining strikers resumed work. (2) The dispute in the Bombay Industrial Mill at Pipe Road, Parel, occurred on the 16th May when 355 operatives including 283 weavers and 72 winders complained against the alleged reduction in the April wages received on the previous day. The management informed the strikers that no reduction had been made in rates for April. The strike terminated on the 22nd the strikers resuming work unconditionally. (3) The dispute in the Indian Woollen Mill,

Haines Road, arose over the question of pay. On the 15th May the management put up a notice saying that the speed of the looms had been increased by 25 per cent. and consequently the rates of wages had been reduced by 15 per cent. leaving 10 per cent. increase in the speed to the advantage of the weavers. On the 16th the weavers demanded the continuance of old rates and went on strike. The operatives of the other departments also joined them out of sympathy, whereupon the management closed the mill and put up a notice that the men would be paid their outstanding wages on the 23rd May. On the 19th the Agent met the strikers and promised to pay proportionate increases if after a further month's work it was found that the men were getting less wages on account of the new rates but the men did not resume work and were paid their outstandings on the 20th. The Agent again met the strikers on the 21st and promised them to reduce their wages by 10 per cent. instead of by 15 per cent. as notified before. This satisfied the strikers and 1,070 men out of 1,185 resumed work and thus the strike terminated on the 25th May. (4) 26 coolies of the Vacuum Oil Company at Mazagaon Darukhana struck work on the 15th May complaining against the reduction in the number of hands and the discontinuance of the practice of engaging extra hands. The management sanctioning the employment of additional hands the strikers resumed work on the 16th.

AHMEDABAD

In Ahmedabad there were in all 10 disputes during May 1925. (1) The dispute in the Ahmedabad Laxmi Cotton Mills at Astodia Road, which began on the 17th April, was fully described in the previous issue of the *Labour Gazette*. The strike terminated on the 4th May, the majority of the strikers having resumed work and new hands engaged in place of the remaining. (2) 188 weavers of the Ahmedabad Jupiter Mills Co., Ltd., at Dudheswar Road demanded 0-4-0 instead of 0-3-6 per pair of dhoties and struck work on the 4th May. On the 5th the manager promised to consider their demand whereupon the strikers resumed work and the strike terminated. (3) The weavers of the Marsden Spinning Mills Co., Ltd., at Gontipur Road complained to the weaving master that they were given more damaged cloth every month and demanded increased wages. The weaving master asked them to wait for a day but the weavers numbering 176 did not listen to him and struck work on the 4th May. On the 5th the strikers presented an application to the agent stating their grievances. On a promise from the agent to look into their grievances the strikers resumed work and the strike ended on the 8th. (4) The dispute in the New Swadeshi Mills at Naroda Road arose over the question of pay. On the 5th 60 winders struck work demanding an increase in the rate of wages from 0-14-0 to 1-0-0 per 100 lbs. But when on the 7th the strikers saw that the manager was about to engage new men they gave up their original demand and asked the manager to dismiss their mukadam against whom they had a grudge. This request was complied with and the strikers resumed work on the same day. (5) The throstlemen of the Ahmedabad Advance Mills Co., Ltd., at Shahi Baug Road complained against the infliction of fine to the extent of wages in addition to the forfeiture of

wages for the days of absence without leave. The manager expressed his inability to change the rule in vogue whereupon 200 throstlemen went on strike on the 9th May. On the 11th the strikers resumed work on condition that the labourers should not be fined if they got leave from the head jobber. (6) On the 11th May 60 weavers of the Ahmedabad New Spinning and Weaving Mills Co., Ltd., situated outside Raipur struck work demanding reinstatement of a head jobber dismissed by the management. A new head jobber with 60 new hands was employed by the management and consequently the strike ended on the 12th. (7) The dispute in the Gordhan Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd., at Naroda Road arose over the question of pay. The wages of the weavers were reduced by one anna per sheet of 24 yards and three pies per pair of dhoties. On the 18th May 150 weavers struck work complaining that the reduction was very heavy. The next day the Secretary of the local Labour Union interviewed the manager on behalf of the strikers but no agreement was arrived at. On the 20th the Manager told the strikers that he would consider their request if they resumed work first. The strike terminated on the 21st when the strikers resumed work on condition that 9 pies instead of one anna per 24 yards and 2 pies instead of three per pair of dhoties would be reduced. (8) On the 13th May the throstlemen of the Saraspur Manufacturing Co., Ltd., at Saraspur requested the manager to lessen the excessive speed of the machine which caused the yarn to break very often. The request not being granted 280 throstlemen struck work on the same day, but the strikers resumed work on the 15th on an assurance from the agent to lessen the speed of the machine. (9) The Agent of the Shri Laxmi Weaving and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., at Gontipur transferred a jobber from this mill to another mill under his management. The weavers demanded the return of the jobber which was not complied with; whereupon on the 18th May 50 weavers went on strike. The strikers were paid off their wages. Only 5 of them resumed work unconditionally and new hands were engaged in place of others. The strike terminated on the 20th. (10) In the New Swadeshi Mills of Ahmedabad at Naroda Road 50 winders struck work on the 21st May demanding the reinstatement of a jobber dismissed by the Agent for inefficiency. The next day the strikers were paid off their wages and the strike terminated, 40 strikers resuming work unconditionally.

BROACH

The labourers in the Whittle Mills Nos. 1 and 11 were paid on the 16th May. On the 17th the spinners demanded that their wages (which were reduced by 12½ per cent. in August 1923) should be increased and brought up to the former rate. The manager refused to grant the demand. The spinners also refused to begin work whereupon the management declared a lock-out on the 17th May. On the 18th the strikers resumed work and the lock-out ended.

SIND

The cause of the N. W. Railway strike, its progress up to 4th May 1925 and the demands of the strikers were described in the previous issue of this Journal. Subsequently the following departments joined the strike—

Electric staff, Humpyard and Goods office in Karachi City on the 5th, 9th and 12th May respectively. Traffic staff in Karachi Cantonment on the 7th and Traffic staff and P. W. I.'s menial staff at Kotri on the 15th and 17th respectively. The numbers of strikers on the 7th June in different departments at the three centres were:—*Karachi city*—166 C. and W. Department, 106 Traffic Department, 26 Electric Staff, 28 Humpyard and 6 Goods Office; *Karachi Cantonment*—1,288 Carriage Shops, 938 Loco. shops, 349 Engine Shed, 128 Running Staff, 14 Gas Factory, 35 General Stores, 97 Engineering P. Way Staff and 8 Traffic Department; *Kamari*—56 Loco. Running Staff, 18 Loco. Running Shed and 79 C. and W. Staff; *Kotri*—97 Carriage Staff, 82 Loco. Running Staff, 223 Loco. Running Shed, 51 Traffic Staff, 73 P. W. I.'s menial staff; *Sukkur*—1,040 Loco. Shops, 866 Carriage shops and 412 Rohri Shed. The total number of strikers at the three centres was 6,186.

Accidents and Prosecutions

STATISTICS FOR MAY 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 May in Bombay city, Ahmedabad, Karachi and other centres of the Bombay Presidency. During May there were in all 218 factory accidents in Bombay city of which 1 was fatal, 5 serious and the remainder 212 minor accidents. Of the total, 61 or 28 per cent. were due to machinery in motion and the remaining 157 or 72 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, 46 per cent. in textile mills and one per cent. in miscellaneous concerns.

In Ahmedabad there were 27 accidents 25 of which occurred in cotton mills, one in a match factory and one in an engineering workshop. Out of these 27 accidents 16 were due to machinery in motion, and the rest to other causes. Five of these accidents were serious and the rest minor.

In Karachi there were in all three accidents which occurred in Railway Workshops. One of the three accidents was serious and the rest minor.

In the other centres of the Presidency, the total number of accidents was 31 out of which 14 occurred in cotton mills, 12 in workshops and 5 in miscellaneous concerns. Thirteen of these accidents were due to machinery in motion and the rest to other causes. Four of these accidents were serious and the rest minor.

II. PROSECUTIONS

During May 1925 one printing press was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) of the Indian Factories Act, 1911, as subsequently amended, for breach of Section 26 in respect of employing 4 persons beyond the hours specified. The Manager was convicted and warned, but no fine was imposed. (four cases).

Workmen's Compensation Act

ACCIDENT ARISING OUT OF AND IN THE COURSE OF EMPLOYMENT

In the Court of the Commissioner for Workmen's Compensation, Bombay.

EXHIBIT No. 5.

Miscellaneous Application No. 47—B 2 of 1924.

Under Section $\frac{R. 8 (1)}{S. 8 (1)}$ P. II of Act VIII of 1923.

Appearances.

Mr. Kolwalkar Kaloo Vithoo Chambar .. Petitioner ;

against

Mr. R. B. Parukh, Jivraj Baloo Mills, Tardeo .. Opponent.
M.A., LL.B.

Claim—Rs. 457-8-0.

The petitioner prays for the issue of an order requiring the employer to deposit compensation in accordance with section 8 (1) of the Act.

The applicant's wife by name Subhadra was employed in the Jivraj Baloo Mills as a sweeper in the Spinning Department. As usual she and another workwoman went out of the department at about midday to take their meals and for this purpose both these women sat just alongside a wall inside the mill compound according to the practice not objected to by the employers. This was a new wall and not completed, but so much of it as was erected was not to the knowledge of the employers unsafe. While these women were taking their meals, the wall collapsed and these women were injured and as a result of these injuries died soon afterwards. This accident took place on the 17th of October last.

Mr. Parukh for the employers admits all the facts and says that the question in this case is purely one of law. That question is :

Whether the accident arose out of and in the course of employment of the woman Subhadra.

Shortly stated Mr. Parukh's argument is as follows :—

Falling of a wall of the premises of the mill especially as it was not a wall of the building of the mill itself is not an accident within the meaning of the Act as it does not arise out of the workman's employment, because the workman by his employment runs no greater risk than any other outsider who might be temporarily inside the mill premises when the wall collapsed.

Further that taking meals during the interval for that purpose is not anything connected with the employment.

Therefore it cannot be said that the accident arose either (1) out of or (2) in the course of employment.

Although English decisions are not legally binding on me, I don't think I would be going out of my way, if I follow English cases when they are actually in point. I do not want to burden the record by citing them all here. But I want to mention two cases decided by their Lordships of the House of Lords. They are reported in B.W.C.C., Vol. XIII, p. 68 and Vol. XVI, p. 269. The first is the case of Armstrong Whitworth & Co., Ltd., v. Redford. The second is the case of Upton v. Great Western Railway Co. I specially refer to the passage in Lord Parmoor's judgment in the first case where His Lordship observes "I think that a midday meal is incidental to an employment such as that of the respondent, which commenced at 6 in the morning, and that the taking of such a meal does not in itself, and apart from special circumstances, create an interruption in the course of her employment."

Then quoting a passage from Lord Dunedin's judgment in Davidson v. McRobb which runs as follows "No doubt it need not be work, but it must, I think, be work or the natural incident connected with the class of work, e.g. in the workman's case, the taking of meals during the hours of labour", his Lordship observes "This passage supports the view that it cannot be said, as a matter of law, that the taking of meals within the dinner hour cannot come within the course of the workman's employment". I have quoted only a portion of his Lordship's judgment but the whole of that judgment bears on this case. The distinction between the case of a stranger and a workman, which so far as the falling of the wall is concerned Mr. Parukh says does not exist, is to my mind obvious by this. The stranger is there merely as a licensee whereas the workman is there on account of his employment.

Mr. Parukh cited a passage in support of his contention from Lord Sumner's judgment in Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company v. Highley. Instead of merely citing one sentence if the learned pleader had cited the whole of his Lordship's judgment he would have seen at once the distinction between that case and the present. There the workman took an added risk, and it is with reference to it that his Lordship observed "Was it a part of the injured person's employment to hazard to suffer or to do that which was the cause of the injury?" and the decision went entirely upon the answer to that question. In this case what the woman did was not a hazard or risk. The wall on the admitted facts was not unsafe. It is the most natural thing for a workman to do when going to take his meals to find some place of shelter from the sun.

I have not cited earlier cases though there are numerous and will be found usefully collected together in Addington Willis's well known work on the English Act at p. 24 in the 22nd edition.

I therefore answer the question in the affirmative.

The result is that the employers are liable to deposit the amount of compensation under section 8(1) of the Act. The amount is not disputed. It is Rs. 457-8, which I order the employer to deposit. As to costs as no legal practitioner was engaged on behalf of the petitioner Mr. Parukh contends that beyond actual expenses for court fees and witnesses nothing more can be awarded and he relies on the use of the word pleader in Rule 1

sub-clause (1) (c)*. I accept this contention and as no costs for court fee or witnesses have been incurred, there shall be no order as to costs.

(Signed) N. M. PATVARDHAN,
Commissioner for Workmen's
Compensation, Bombay.

* Note.—Since this decision on the question of costs, the question was argued on behalf of the Bombay Claims and General Agency in Application No. 64—B. 6 of 1924, when the Commissioner gave the following judgment:—

"After further consideration I think that the expression 'pleader' in the rules framed by Local Government as to costs, etc., is not to be restricted to legal practitioners. In this connection reference may be made to L. R. 8, Bombay. Taking the plain meaning of the expression I think anyone who appears after being authorised under Section 24 of the Act is a pleader and as such entitled to costs.

I award Rs. 5 for costs apart from Court-fee, etc. The Railway Company be informed to pay the same."

(Signed) N. M. PATVARDHAN,
Commissioner for Workmen's
Compensation, Bombay.

* * * * *

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE EXPRESSION CONSTRUCTION OF A BUILDING

In the Court of the Commissioner for Workmen's Compensation
at Bombay.

EXHIBIT No. 7.

Application No. 56—B-9 of 1925.

Under Rule 8 (1), part II
Section 8 (1) of Act VIII of 1923.

Pleaders.

Mr. Bhedwar, Bar.- Chimnabai Laxman, mother of .. Petitioner;
at-law. the deceased Lakha

against

Mr. B. K. Mistry, Messrs. Gagrat Morkar & Co. .. Opponent.
High Court Vakil.

Claim—Rs. 900.

The Petitioner prays for an order against the opposite party to deposit compensation on account of the death of one Lakha Laximan which occurred on the 2nd of February 1925 while he was employed on some building work undertaken by the opposite party.

The facts of the case shortly stated are as follows:

The opposite party are plumbers and as such they had undertaken the work of putting up a pipe for raising water by means of an electric pump to the storage tank on the top of a 3-storied building in 11 Khetwadi Lane. For this purpose the opposite party had left the work in the hands of what their witness Paymaster calls 3 workmen (by which he means men

qualified to do the fitting work required in their line) and 4 Begaris. The deceased was one of the four Begaris. On the evening of the 2nd of February last he fell from the scaffolding erected for the work in hand and died almost instantaneously. The defence of the opposite party is that the sort of work which they had undertaken is not covered by the Workmen's Compensation Act and further that the deceased came by the accident on account of his having wilfully disobeyed an express order issued for the purpose of securing his safety.

The issues to be decided in this case are two; *viz.*: (1) Whether the deceased was a workman within the meaning of the Workmen's Compensation Act; (2) Whether there was wilful disobedience on the part of the workman of an express order given by the employers for the purpose of securing his safety.

With regard to the first issue the argument of Mr. Mistry for the opposite party is that the work undertaken by the employers was not such a work as is covered by Section II, sub-clause (VI). He contends that putting up a pipe for a pump is neither construction, repair nor demolition of a building. This argument has merely to be mentioned to realize the fallacy underlying it. I test it in this manner. Does it make any difference if the pump was put up some years after the building itself was erected, for if the pump had been put up while the rest of the building was in the process of construction it could not have been contended that that work would not have formed part of the construction of the building. What difference does it make merely because it was put up later? It still is a part of the construction of some portion of a building. A Building as such has various components that go to make up the whole of it, *e.g.*, roof, floors, doors, staircases, watertanks, drainage pipes, water pipes, etc., and this pipe is one of such. I therefore find on the first issue in the affirmative.

As to the second issue I have first to determine if there was an express order of the nature contemplated by the Act and contended for by the opposite party. The order that the opposite party seeks to make out is to the effect that the deceased was told by the clerk Mr. Paymaster at the time of his first engagement with them nearly two years back that he was never to go on the scaffolding. Here again I am unable to accept the argument of the opposite party that there was any such order as is contemplated by the Act. When the deceased was first taken in service by the employer he could not be said to have the slightest notion of what he was told not to do. And the evidence is that it was then that he was given this order; I must take into consideration the class from which the deceased comes. How could it be contended that just at the time of his employment he could have been aware of what was intended to be expected of him by either doing or not doing a particular thing when he could not have any idea of the work he was to do. For it must be remembered that he was employed according to Mr. Paymaster merely as a Begari, *i.e.*, a cooly to carry materials. Coming nearer to the time of the work in this case we find none of the men of the employers in authority ever present on the spot except just on the first day when the men were

told what work was to be done. After that no one ever went there from amongst them till they heard of the accident. Again although Mr. Paymaster first tried to make out that the scaffolding was all put up first, later on he said that it was put up as the work of putting up the pipe progressed. Now there were only three men putting up the pipe. It is only natural that as the work was progressing they must be asking these Begaris to help them in putting up the scaffolding that when they asked them to do it the Begaris could not be expected to refuse. This particular accident happened when the work had progressed up to a height of 35 feet. What must have happened, appears to me to be this. Either for the purpose of the putting up of scaffolding or for the materials required the man must have gone at the instance of the fitters working up and then fallen down quite by an accident. Or even if he went of his own accord I do not think it could be said that he thereby disobeyed any express order; as I find there was no such order, what he was told two years back at the time of his engagement could not be said to be any such order. But apart from all this where is the evidence about the disobedience being wilful assuming there was an order and disobedience of it! Absolutely nothing. Mr. Mistry wants me to find that such a disobedience must be looked upon as necessarily wilful. I cannot accede to that contention.

I therefore find on the second issue in the negative.

The result is that the petitioner is entitled to the order to deposit Rs. 850 as Rs. 50 are admitted to have been given to the petitioner for funeral expenses. As to costs I award Rs. 15 and court fee stamps.

(Signed) N. M. PATVARDHAN,
Commissioner for Workmen's
Compensation, Bombay.

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ACCIDENT ARISING OUT OF AND IN THE COURSE OF EMPLOYMENT

In the Court of the Commissioner for Workmen's Compensation
at Bombay.

EXHIBIT No. 11.

Application No. 9—C-3 of 1925.

Under section 22 of Act VIII of 1923.

Mr. Kolwalkar Ramu Jivaba Petitioner;
from
Kolwalkar & Rane.

against

Mr. Bhadkamkar, The Emperor Edward Spinning
Vakil, High Court. and Manufacturing Co., Ltd.,
Bombay Opponent.

Claim—Rs. 262-8-0.

The Petitioner prays for Rs. 262-8-0 being awarded to him for compensation for the loss of index, middle, the ring and little fingers in an accident while he was working on Carding Machine in the Emperor Edward Mills on the 4th of September 1924. His story is that in the Carding Department he had 16 carding engines in his charge. His duty was to remove fly from the machine by means of a roller. On the day in question the belt of card No. 112 was loose so the Mukadam in the Department asked Ramoo the petitioner to get some dust from somewhere to throw it on the belt to make it tight. As there was no dust there, he went searching for it below every machine and under card No. 106 found some. He took it and he noticed some fly on the grid; he tried to get it as he thought he would get some dust in it and in doing it his fingers were caught in the licker in and crushed. The defence is that this was not a part of his duty as a stripper and therefore the accident did not arise out of his employment. The point for determination is whether the accident arose out of and in the course of his employment. I think it did, first because what he did was in pursuance of an order from his superior, *viz.*, to get dust, and further if his duty was to clear the fly from the doffer and cylinders, no doubt with a roller, it could not be said that if he found fly on the grid and tried to remove it, he did something out of his employment. But even if it were so, according to the story of Mr. Navroji, Carding Master, he removed the fly as he thought he might get dust out of it. There was no prohibition against doing this especially when he was doing something to obey the orders of his superiors. I find therefore that it arose out of his employment and in the course of it. As to the second point, *viz.*, of wilfully removing or disregarding a safety guard or device, there is no evidence on this point. Nor do I think there was any guard that the workman removed. The door below the machines is not a guard for the grid.

The employees are therefore liable. I order that the applicant should get 25 per cent. of what he would be entitled to if there had been permanent total disablement, 10 per cent. for index finger and 5 per cent. each for the other three fingers. This therefore amounts to Rs. 262-8-0.

I order Rs. 10 for costs for appearance of the Agent and Re. 1 for Court fee, in all Rs. 11.

(Signed) N. M. PATVARDHAN,
Commissioner for Workmen's
Compensation, Bombay.

* * * * *
IMPORTANCE OF NOTICE OF ACCIDENT TO THE EMPLOYER

In the Court of the Commissioner for Workmen's Compensation,
Bombay.

Application No. 30/C-3 of 1924.

Under Section 22 of Act VIII of 1923.

Luhar Atmaram Shivram Petitioner;

against

The Agents, The Bharatkhand Textile Mills, Ltd.,
Ahmedabad Opponent.

Claim—Rs. 504.

The petitioner prays for compensation being awarded to him on account of an injury to his left eye due to a particle of emery stone getting into it on the 12th of July while he was working in the mill as a turner. The amount claimed is Rs. 504 on the basis of permanent loss of the left eye.

There is no doubt that the vision of the left eye is gone. The two questions for decision are whether it is due (1) to an accident arising out of and in the course of his employment, (2) and whether the applicant is not to thank himself for the result in so far as he either did not take proper steps as required or did such things as aggravated, nay brought about the unfortunate result which otherwise would not have happened.

It is contended by the employers that the workman did not give notice as required by section 10 (1). The workman says he informed the Mistry on the day of the accident. I don't think Mistry is a person to whom notice could be properly given. However if the case had rested only on this difficulty, possibly, in this particular instance it could have been got over. But the main trouble is due to the manner in which the applicant dealt with the injury. And here I must point out that the applicant gave prevaricating answers and has not yet disclosed the whole truth. Having in the beginning been unwilling even to admit that he had ever gone to one Luhar Motiram, he later on most unwillingly said he did. No doubt even now he says Motiram did not treat it. I am not so sure that he did not. Whatever it may be by the time he went to Dr. Anklesaria for the first time for treatment the vision of the eye was gone for good on account of infective suppuration having started some time before. Now on this point the important evidence is the doctor's. He is an experienced qualified old gentleman who specializes in eye complaints. He is assisted by his son who is a D.O.M.S. According to the doctor the infection must have certainly existed more than 48 hours before he saw the eye. A particle of emery would not normally cause suppuration of an infective type if it is attended to within 12 hours. Here the unfortunate workman is alone to thank for going to a quack; the mischief had already been done before he went to the qualified man.

This is sufficient to dispose of the case. I don't discuss the question of want of notice. But I wish to point out one thing. It is of the utmost importance both in the interest of the workman and employers that the latter should be given information of the accident at the earliest opportunity. It is better if facilities are created for notice being given in some form and if anything this case illustrates how absence of such information may, apart from the legal aspect of it, cause in fact such mischief for which the workman alone is to blame. If only in this case the employers had been timely informed they would have taken immediate steps to see that the complaint was attended to; or if they did not then they would have been liable. But no such opportunity was given to them.

I therefore find that (1) the accident arose out of and in the course of employment, (2) the loss of vision was solely due to want of proper

treatment to the eye by the workman, no notice having been given to the employers till claim was made. I am sorry for the result but I have no option but to dismiss the application. The employers have taken him back on the same work on the same wages.

As to costs at my instance the employers have agreed not to claim costs.

(Signed) N. M. PATVARDHAN,
Commissioner for Workmen's
Compensation, Bombay.

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SCOPE OF EMPLOYMENT

In the Court of the Commissioner for Workmen's Compensation,
Bombay

EXHIBIT No. 9.

Application No. 7—B-2 of 1925.

Under Rule 8 (1), pt II of Act VIII
Section 8 (1) of Regulation of 1925.

Pleaders.

Mr. S. D. Bhedwar, Draupada Pandoo .. Petitioner;
Bar.-at-Law.

against

Mr. V. V. Bhadkamkar, The Emperor Edward Spinning
Vakil, High Court. and Manufacturing Co. .. Opponent.

Claim—Rs. 900.

The petitioner prays for an order calling on the opposite party to deposit the sum of Rs. 900 for compensation on account of the death of one Rama Pandoo who died on the 5th of December 1924 almost immediately after the accident to him while he was working on the coal crusher in the Boiler Room of the Emperor Edward Mills.

According to the evidence of Mr. Tadiwala, Foreman in the Engine Room, Rama Pandoo was a coal coolie in the Boiler Department. His duty was to bring coal, crush it by throwing it in the crusher, etc. By turns each coolie had to perform this duty on the crusher. On the day in question it was Rama's turn. As to what exactly took place just before or at the time when Rama got caught in the crusher no one knows. When after being caught he shouted for help, other coolies working on the boilers nearby rushed for help, sent for the Sarang and Navroji Foreman and stopping the machine extricated him from the machine but he soon expired.

Mr. Bhadkamkar for the employer has attached a plan to the written statement. On a look at the plan it would be seen that the crusher is inside the iron-box. On the top in the centre there is an opening about

1 square foot in dimension in which a workman working on the machine empties baskets of coal, standing on one of the sides marked with a red pencil cross, on a platform which is lower than the surface of the box by about 2 feet 6 inches.

As stated above we don't know what exactly happened or what the man was doing just before he got inside the crusher. But from the position in which the man was found it is surmised that finding a big piece of coal in the crusher which was not crushed the workman went on the top of the box and tried to push in the piece of coal by his foot. In this his foot got caught in the crusher and he was dragged in up to waist and got injured. This is all surmise. There is however this much in evidence that no poker or shovel is kept there for the purpose of pushing in the coal and that the work of crushing generally stops at about 5 p.m. and there was lot of coal to be crushed about the time of the accident.

Mr. Bhadkamkar raised three issues but the main question in the case really is whether it was a part of the employment of the workman to do something to a piece of coal if it is not easily caught and crushed by the crusher. As I have pointed out there is no evidence as to what the man did. It is surmised that he tried to push the coal by his foot. Does it, on this surmise, form part of his employment to do what he did? If the answer to this question is in the affirmative then we go to the next two issues. Mr. Bhadkamkar relies very strongly on the observations of Lord Sumner in the case of Lancashire and Yorkshire Ry. Co. vs. Highley, reported in 10 B.W.C.C. at page 241. The passage relied on is at page 263: "Was it a part of the injured person's employment to hazard to suffer, or to do that which caused the injury? If yes, the accident arose out of his employment, etc." To me it appears if a man is employed to do a particular thing, anything that is reasonably incidental to achieve what he is employed to do falls within the scope of his employment subject perhaps to any express prohibitions. As to express prohibitions, both Mr. Navroji and the Sarang say he was told not to do anything to the stone of coal that does not get crushed but inform the Sarang or Foreman. This prohibition as Mr. Bhadkamkar calls it, was mentioned in the beginning of his employment. We must remember that he was not employed solely for this purpose. Once in way when his turn came he had to work on the crusher. Whether this sort of casual warning given at the time of his engagement would work as a prohibition I very much doubt. It seems to me the most natural thing for the man on the crusher to do is to push the coal in. No poker is kept there. The only thing the man would do in the circumstances would be to use his hand or foot. I find therefore that it was within his employment to do what he did.

On the other two issues there is no evidence to establish the facts either as to express order or safety device. Mr. Bhadkamkar no doubt calls the box surrounding the crusher as a safety device. But the accident took place because there was no device which could prevent the hand or foot of the workman being caught in the crusher, the opening of the top being such as to allow the hand or foot being easily thrust in.

Therefore my findings on the issues are as follows :—

1. Whether the accident arose out of and in the course of the employment of the deceased workman? Yes.
2. Whether there was wilful disobedience of an order expressly given for securing the safety of the worker? No.
3. Whether there was disregard by the workman of any safety device? None.

The amount of compensation is not disputed. The wages of the workman were Rs. 30 per month. So I order the opposite party to deposit Rs. 900 for compensation to be given to dependants. I award Rs. 20 for costs to be paid to applicant by opposite party.

(Signed) N. M. PATVARDHAN,

Commissioner for Workmen's
Compensation, Bombay.

Sholapur Mill Welfare Activities

The following account of the welfare activities in the Sholapur mill is based upon the information collected by the Senior Investigator of the Labour Office during his visit to Sholapur last month.

The Sholapur Mill—the oldest in Sholapur—was established in the year 1876 and the Managing Agents—Messrs. Morarjee Goculdas & Co.—are very keen on ensuring the welfare of their employees. The Mill proper with its housing accommodation and Welfare institutions covers an area of about 164 acres of land, and provides employment to about 6,800 work-people—4,500 men, 1,700 women and 600 boys and girls.

A small school was opened in the year 1898 with not more than a dozen boys between the ages of nine and twelve. Since 1917, however, the Managing Agents have paid special attention to the care of the workers and the Welfare work comprehends today a long list of agencies for the benefit of Factory workers. Since 1919 the Mills have employed a whole-time Secretary for their Welfare Activities.

SCHOOL

The activities of the School, started in the year 1898, have since widened a great deal. Altogether 16 teachers are engaged by the Mills to teach 100 children of the operatives and 550 half-timers. The Mills have on their muster 600 half-timers, out of whom 50 belonging to the Criminal Tribes Settlement attend the Settlement School and the rest of the Half-timers attend the Mill school for two hours a day, and the curriculum is adjusted to meet the requirements and the short time at their disposal. Education though quite voluntary has become popular with the half-timers due to various facilities such as scholarships, free supply of slates, pencils and books, gymnasium room, picnics, etc. The Annual expenses on the School amount to Rs. 7,500 to 8,000.

The present school is not well situated and the rooms are very dark. The Agents have under consideration the question of shifting the school to a more suitable place.

NIGHT SCHOOL

The Mills have maintained two night schools. The first was started in the year 1920 on the mill premises and the average daily attendance is 42. The second was started in the current year in the workmen's chawls and the daily attendance is 24.

CLASSES FOR WOMEN

Classes for women are conducted during the recess hours from 12 noon to 1 p.m. and women are taught reading, writing, stitching, etc. The daily attendance is only 33.

BOY SCOUT MOVEMENTS

In March 1922 the Mill engaged the services of a qualified Scout-master from Baroda. The movement has made rapid progress and the strength of the organization today is two troops of 40 each, and a troop of 20 wolf cubs. The Association has a well-equipped club room and has its own badges and decorations. They have started a number of activities, the principal being Savings Bank, Ambulance Corps, Boxing troop band, Handicrafts and Periodical excursions. The Mills have to spend about Rs. 3,000 per annum on this movement.

MEDICAL AID

A dispensary was started in August 1917 with a full time Medical Officer. Free medical assistance is given to all Factory workers, their wives and children. The Doctor has under him six compounders and dressers and attends on an average to 6,050 patients per month. Annual expenses amount to Rs. 12,000.

MATERNITY HOME

A fully equipped Maternity Home accommodating 10 beds was opened in the beginning of 1920, in the vicinity of workmen's residential quarters. 154 labour cases have since been treated in the Maternity Home. Relatives of expectant mothers are given temporary free lodgings in the quarters near the Maternity Home.

PRE AND POST NATAL BENEFITS

A Prematernity Ward was started in July 1921. Expectant mothers are given light work in prematernity ward from the commencement of 7th month of pregnancy and are paid full wages for the period. 332 women have taken benefit of the Prematernity Ward. Lying-in cases at the Maternity Home are granted the post natal benefit of half the salary for three weeks.

CRECHES

The Mills have maintained three creches, where babies of women workers are cared for, while their mothers are at work. Two of these were started in April 1919 and the third one was added in the year 1924. A lady superintendent assisted by 5 Ayas is in charge of each Creche. Every morning babies are given a warm bath and are cleanly dressed. The infants remain in the cradle room while the little bigger ones pass their time merrily with toys, etc. Milk and parched rice are distributed

to the babies every day. Average daily attendance at the three crèches together is 120 and the expenses amount to about Rs. 4,000 a year.

RESTAURANT

The Restaurant was started in the year 1919 and its management is entrusted to a small committee of officers and workmen. Articles of diet such as bread, curry, vegetables and light refreshments such as milk, sweets, etc., are served to people all day through. The management takes pains to ensure that food is not only cheap but wholesome. The total monthly sales both cash and credit amount to Rs. 2,000.

EMPLOYEES' STORES

A stores dealing in grain, cloth and other necessities of life was started in the year 1918. A storied building was built in the year 1923. The stores is located in the northern portion of the ground floor of this building. Monthly sales at the stores amount to Rs. 3,000.

FLOUR MILL

This is started in the current year. The average monthly income is Rs. 130. About 125 maunds of corn are ground every month, the number of customers per month being 3,058.

GYMNASIUM ROOM

The average daily attendance is about 65. A band of energetic youngsters is well up with a few acrobatic performances. Wrestlers from the Mill were sent to Poona to compete in the All-India Wrestling Tournaments in 1920 and 1921 and several out of them have secured medals for proficiency.

JOBBER'S CLUB

An indoor Recreation Club for the jobbers of the Mill was started on 1st January 1925. It will take some time before the jobbers get into club habits.

LIBRARY AND READING ROOM

The Library holds 1,700 books in Marathi, Gujrathi and English on varied subjects and the reading room is kept open from 5 to 8 in the evenings.

EMERGENCY LOANS

Loans are advanced to the employees at only 6½ per cent. rate of interest on special occasions like marriage, thread ceremony, confinement, illness and funeral. These loans are repayable in 6 to 12 monthly instalments. Loans to the extent of 17 to 18 thousand are annually advanced and it is satisfactory that no loss has been caused on account of defaults.

PROVIDENT FUND

This fund was started in the year 1918. The benefit of the fund is open to all employees except those whose names are on 'Temporary establishment.' Every employee is allowed to subscribe in a year an amount equal to one month's salary and the company contributes an equal amount. Six per cent. compound interest is allowed on the member's subscription as also the company's contribution.

GRATUITY

Old employees are granted gratuity at the time of retirement. In the event of death payment is made to their legal heirs.

WORKING CONDITIONS

Every care is exercised to ensure the maximum safety and comfort to the workers. The most modern humidifying plant is installed in the Mills and the working conditions are made quite comfortable. Labour is steady and a number of people have put in a good length of continuous service. The following figures show the number of people who have put in over 5 years' service :—

No. of years' service.	No. of employees.
5 to 10	1,238
10 to 15	338
15 to 20	144
20 to 25	85
25 to 30	64
30 to 35	27
35 to 40	7
Above 40	9
	1,902

RESIDENTIAL QUARTERS

The Mills have provided 734 rooms for the work-people. These rooms accommodate 2,203 men, women and children out of whom only 936 are employees of the Mill.

WORKS COMMITTEE

A works committee has been established for the Weaving Department of the Mill. One for the Spinning will also be started in course of time. The Mill has started collecting statistical information of the work-people re: literacy, income, expenses, dependants, loans, etc.

Hukeri Labourers' Society, Ltd.

The following note prepared by Mr. M. S. Patil, B.A., LL.B., District Honorary Organizer, Hukeri, has been sent to the Labour Office by the Collector of Belgaum :—

" 1. The Society was first started in the year 1923. There are 23 members in the Society and all of them are Mahars by caste. Before the society started some of the Mahars used to work as coolies i.e. the Local Board. They did not then get fair wages and the low paid servants of the Board used to harass them much for their personal gain. In order to avoid this trouble and with a view to better the economic conditions of the Mahars in general this society of labourers was started.

2. The Mahar members in the Society have got their own Maharki lands to cultivate and are engaged in agricultural operations for about 5 months in the year and for the remaining 7 months they are without employment. The society helps them in securing contracts for the members during that period.

3. The society takes piecework contract from the Local Board and Village Panchayat Hukeri and distributes the works to the various members according to their capacity. The society fixes the wages and rates to be paid to the members for the works executed by the members. Sometimes the society engages the family members of the members of the society as its coolies and pays them their wages. The Chairman works as a Mokadam and supervises the work of the members. The Chairman is paid for by the Local Board as he undertakes to supervise other works of the Board also.

4. The nature of the contracts undertaken by the society is road construction. The society collects and supplies the material required for resurfacing the roads and constructs new roads. The members of the society have got their own bullocks and carts. They cart materials and carry on the rolling operations. There is marked improvement in the nature of the work turned by the Society.

5. The society in all undertook and executed 21 contracts of the value of Rs. 3,810-14-5. During the last year the society executed 9 contracts of the value of Rs. 2,143-14-0 and earned a profit of Rs. 114 after meeting all the expenses of the contracts. The members get ordinarily the same wages as the outside coolies and hence the profit earned by the society is very low.

6. The society has collected a share capital of Rs. 40-8-0 by monthly instalments of As. 8 from each member per month. The value of a share is Rs. 10. The Chairman is asked to collect the instalments of the share capital regularly.

7. The society has a very little money of its own for making advances to the members before the work is executed and billed for. The society therefore requests the Registrar to arrange to secure Government grant to the extent of Rs. 2,000 without interest for the next five years as a special case. This saves much of the inconvenience undergone by the members.

8. The members are illiterate and they have desire to learn to read and write and the society therefore requests the Registrar to arrange to give a night school for the members of the society.

9. The names of the members of the managing committee are:—

- (1) Siddappa Talvar, Chairman. He is also a member of the village panchayat, Hukeri. He is an influential member amongst the Mahars.
- (2) Shettappa Madiger.
- (3) Bharna Thaleppa.
- (4) Shivlingappa Basappa.
- (5) Kadeppa Talwar.
- (6) Irappa Laxman.
- (7) Subrai Gangawa.

10. Secretary Viragowda Shivgowda Patil is working in the society since the beginning of the society. His work is most satisfactory. He

has maintained the accounts properly though this is a new type of society. He has worked honorarily and he deserves encouragement.

11. The society was audited on 26th October 1924 and it was classed 'B'."

The First Session of the C. P. Labour Conference.

The following account was supplied to the Labour Office by Mr. R. S. Ruikar, the President of the Conference:—

"The first C. P. Labour Conference was held at Gondia under the Presidentship of Mr. R. S. Ruikar, M.A., LL.B., of Nagpur, on the 12th instant at 5-30 p.m. in the Local Sarai. The Chairman of the Reception Committee Mr. Kalicharana Nandagawali, an influential depressed class leader, welcomed the delegates and requested the President to open the proceedings of the conference; the proposal being duly supported, the President of the conference, Mr. Ruikar, occupied the chair. There was an influential gathering and most of the leading practitioners of the place, Messrs. Sathye, Tembhekar and others had attended the conference, along with other leading business men of the locality.

The President of the conference, Mr. Ruikar, then delivered his speech; he advocated the necessity of holding a separate labour conference, so as to ventilate the grievances of the working class; and said that the holding of such a conference shows that the working class is becoming conscious of its rights and privileges. He strongly criticised the attitude of indifference of both the Local and Central Government to the working class and demanded a non-official committee of inquiry into the conditions of workers in the Mines and Factories in C. P. at least. Referring to the Muddiman Committee's report, he strongly disapproved of the idea of having Government nominated representatives of labour in the legislature; and demanded 6 elected representatives of labour in the local council and 1 in the Assembly. He further advocated the formation of an Independent Labour Party in India on the lines suggested by Lala Lajpatrai and Col. Wedgewood. He depicted very vividly the poverty stricken condition of the peasants and factory workers in India, and said that if there was any country in the world, which required a Labour Party—that was India, as the economic condition, the hours of work, wages and housing, etc., was most unsatisfactory and undesirable. He lastly requested the working class to organise and start Trade Unions at various places and to carry on an agitation for their rights and privileges; and to achieve their object by peaceful means. The success of the conference was due to Mr. Kalicharana and his band of enthusiastic workers. The Bhandara District Depressed Classes Conference was held in the same pandal, after the Labour Conference was over, and various resolutions were passed, advocating internal reforms in the Mahar community. The Labour Conference, though first of its kind in C. P., proved a great success."

The following resolutions were passed by the first C. P. Labour Conference:—

- "(1) That the hours of work in industries and Railways, Mines, etc., should be eight and the Government should be requested to amend the Factories Act accordingly.

(2) That the Factory workers and working class in C. P. & Berar, should be granted representation in the Local Council and the Assembly; and they should be allowed to elect 6 members in the Local Council and one in the Assembly.

(3) That the Government should be requested to introduce legislation, so as to make provision, for minimum wages, old age pensions, sickness and unemployment insurance in the organised industries at least.

(4) This conference supports, the resolutions of the All-India Trade Union Congress held at Bombay suggesting changes in the Trade Union and Industrial Disputes Bill.

(5) This conference lends its hearty support to the Maternity Benefit Bill introduced by Mr. N. M. Joshi in the Legislative Assembly.

(6) This conference requests the Government to appoint a committee consisting of representatives of the labour, of the employees and the Government with a non-official President, to inquire into the economic conditions of the working class in Factories, Mines, etc., at an early date.

(7) That a Provincial Committee of the All-India Trade Union Congress be formed for the C. P. and Berar.

(8) That a sub-committee consisting of the following gentlemen be formed, to inquire into the economic conditions of workers in the Bidi Factories with powers to add:—

- (1) Mr. Kalicharana
- (2) Mr. R. S. Ruikar
- (3) Mr. Ratanalala.
- (4) Mr. Ganpatarao.

(9) That the C. P. Municipal Act be so amended, so as to remove the criminal liability imposed on the Municipal sweepers, discontinuing service, without due notices."

Questions in Parliament.

In the House of Commons replying to Mr. T. E. Groves Earl Winterton said there had never been any legislation aimed at the existence of trade unions as such in India and in that sense they had never been illegal.

A Bill had been introduced enabling trade unions to acquire legal status with definite rights and privileges by becoming registered.

Pay of Railway Subordinates.

Mr. David Grenfell asked for the scales of pay of subordinate employees in Eastern Bengal and other State Railways in India, and Earl Winterton promised to ask the Indian Railway Board for information.

Further replying to Mr. Grenfell Earl Winterton also promised to obtain from the Government of India information with regard to the minimum wages paid by the Government of India to the postmen, postal runners and telegraph messengers in the Madras Presidency.

Replying to Mr. Groves Earl Winterton pointed out that the Indian Mines Act, 1923, prohibited the employment of children in mines and

empowered the Government of India to make regulations prohibiting the underground employment of women.

The Government of India had consulted the local Governments whether such regulations should be made.

About 40,000 women or so were employed in 1924, which was last year, for which figures were available.

A Conservative member asked whether it was not a fact that married men in India refused to go down in the mines unless accompanied by their wives and the wives refused to stay aboveground when their husbands went down.

Earl Winterton said the Government of India would, doubtless, discuss this exceptionally difficult matter with the local Governments.

The Labourite Miss Wilkinson said that women had to take their young children into the mines with them, because there was no means of having them cared for, and suggested that, in view of the very high infant mortality in India, arrangements should be made for the establishment of welfare work, so that babies need not go into the mines.

Earl Winterton assured her that provincial Governments in India were giving sympathetic attention to this question. Several crèches had been established in recent years, and there was reason to believe that more would be established in the future partly by voluntary organisation and partly by Government assistance.

Captain Gee asked whether it was not a fact that owing to the interference with the customs of India we had now arrived at a conclusion that many women in India, who were children under the Factory Act, were themselves mothers of children.

Earl Winterton said he did not think there had been undue interference. The matter had been discussed in Legislative Assemblies and legislation was only passed after full consultation. (From the "Indian Daily Mail", 12th and 27th May 1925.)

The N. W. Railway Strike

The North Western Railway Strike commenced on 10th April 1925 in the Punjab and spread to Karachi, Sukkur and Kotri, three centres of this Presidency.

There have been conflicting opinions with regard to the real causes of the strike. It appears, however, that the immediate cause of the strike was the dismissal of one Nanakchand, a Union delegate in the Loco Shop at Rawalpindi. It is reported that the workmen protested against this dismissal on 24th March 1925 and representations were subsequently made to the authorities for the re-instatement of Nanakchand. After negotiations, the Working Committee of the N. W. Railway Union, Lahore, passed a resolution on 5th April requesting the Agent to negotiate the settlement at Rawalpindi. On the 10th April a general strike on the N. W. Railway was declared.

From the scanty and contradictory information available, it is difficult to ascertain the real causes of the general strike. It is, however, reported

that before the strike was formally announced, the workers had submitted fourteen demands to the authorities, which were as follows:—

1. All the workmen now on daily rated pay should be brought on monthly scale of pay with full privileges of casual, privilege and furlough leaves and other status of Ministerial Staff when they have completed five years' service in the Railway. This will be done on an average of 30 days' pay.
2. Scales of pay should be given retrospective effect from 1st January 1925.
3. Men reduced, promotions stopped, due to retrenchment in the past two years should be reinstated into their old pay plus promotions due.
4. House rent to be granted to all Railway employees in case quarters are not provided and should be increased by 50 per cent. on the present scale.
- No employee, after completion of five years' service, to be dismissed or discharged from the Railway.
5. No employee, after completion of employment, to be stopped in future until and unless arbitrated through the Union.
6. Travelling allowances sanctioned by the Government of India in 1922 and since reduced due to retrenchment should be restored at once.
7. Five per cent. of pay to be granted on each child born.
8. Gratuity to be increased to 30 days instead of 15 days per year and limit of service abolished.
9. Introduction of Unemployment Act on the lines of English Law.
10. Once a man has qualified for and worked in a position, he should not be re-examined for the same.
11. No Railway employee to work more than eight hours per day. Over-time should on no account be allowed. Action should be taken against officials infringing this rule which has been sanctioned by the Government of India.
12. Men discharged and dismissed from the service of the N. W. R. since 1922 over petty faults under the screen of retrenchment are to be reinstated in the Railway and brought on the supernumerary list till they are fitted up.
13. No evictions during strikes as per Madras High Court decision of 1913.
14. The date of 7th July 1922 for the grant of gratuity as agreed to by the Secretary of State to all the strikers then in service should be changed to that of 1st January 1920 when the general strike over the N. W. R. took place, as great number of men have suffered heavily due to this".

According to another report, the remote cause of the strike was the dismissal of one Mr. Miller from the recognised N. W. R. Union by the Executive Committee of the Union on account of his association with an "anti-party". On the return of Mr. Hall, the President of the Union from England, Mr. Miller in conjunction with Messrs. Hall and Khan started agitation against the recognised union, and succeeded in canvassing the support of a large number of union workers. This unrest spread to this Presidency and Karachi was first affected where 1,282 men of the Carriage

Shops, 791 from the Loco Shops and 150 from the Running Shed out of the total strength of 1,388, 1,269 and 427 respectively struck work on 17th April in sympathy with other strikers. Although the strike at Karachi was a sympathetic strike, the strikers took occasion to formulate and advance some demands of which the following were the most important:—(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 as 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.

On the 20th Miller and his party succeeded in getting 154 men of the Shed and the Fitter Staff at Kotri to absent themselves from work; and it was reported that the agitators unsuccessfully attempted to affect the Running Staff and Carriage Departments also. The contagion soon spread to Sukkur, the remaining centre and out of 1,350 men 352 struck work on the same day. Gradually the total number of strikers at these three centres increased and on the 7th June the total number was approximately 6,186.

The total number of working days lost at these centres till the end of May was 212,072 and the highest number of workpeople involved was estimated at 6,469. It may incidentally be mentioned that from a letter from the District Secretary of the N. W. Railway (Recognised) Union, at Sukkur, it appears that that Union is not in sympathy with the cause of the strike.

Efforts are now being made to effect an end of this general strike.

The New Pensions Scheme in England.

The *Statist* in a leading article in its issue of 9th May 1925, discusses the new Pensions Scheme which is to commence in England in January next. The new scheme embraces roughly those at present insured under the Health Insurance Acts and provides for pensions to their widows and orphans and old age pensions between the ages of 65 to 70.

When viewed in relation to the other two contributory schemes in operation, namely, the National Health Insurance and Unemployment Insurance, it will be seen that under all three schemes, the employer will be paying 1s. 7d. for each man and 1s. 3d. for each woman, the employed man contributing an additional 1s. 6d. and the employed woman an additional 1s. 1d. The new scheme alone, in the early years of its operation, will mean an additional burden of about £11,200,000 a year on industry, £11,100,000 a year on the workers and about £4,000,000 a year on the tax-payers—without allowing for incidental adjustments of other burdens.

While not denying the principle that the community as a whole should support the aged, the sick and disabled, the deserving poor and those temporarily thrown out of employment, the *Statist* complains that recently the tendency has been for the state to interfere too much in social matters, leaving little to private enterprise. It points out that state interference may be necessary and justifiable while dealing with abnormal states. But old-age, widowhood and orphanhood are not abnormal states, and the duty of providing for them should be left to private enterprise to avoid the danger of forcing the energetic and the prudent to assume responsibility for the support of the thriftless and intemperate. Besides this, the new scheme is not likely—as is often assumed—either to establish more cordial relations between employers and employed or to raise the moral of the workers. On the other hand, the new scheme is harmful in the sense that it cuts across a very widespread effort on the part of private enterprise along the same lines. But the main objection which the *Statist* raises is that it comes at an exceedingly ill-chosen moment.

The Human Factor in Industry

At a meeting of the Committee on Industry and Trade held at the London Board of Trade last month with Sir Arthur Balfour in the chair, evidence was submitted by Dr. C. S. Myers, Director of the National Institute of Industrial Psychology.

Dr. Myers stated that the Institute was incorporated in 1921 as a scientific association for promoting the application of psychology and physiology to industry and commerce. The Institute's experience was that such expert assistance and investigation were desirable in applying to specific cases the general principles which the Industrial Fatigue Research Board sought to discover. So much depended upon local conditions, especially when those general principles involved psychological factors. Indeed, each of the Institute's investigations for individual firms had constituted a piece of research. Its investigators lived the life of the worker for several months, and their attention was primarily directed to the obstacles which prevented the workers from giving their best. When such obstacles were removed increased output had invariably followed.

The experience of the Institute indicated that a large increase in the quantity and quality of the workers' output (using these two terms in the widest sense) could be obtained by more adequate consideration of the human factor. This factor involved the study of:—

I. Factors, such as ventilation, temperature, lighting. II. Methods of work, including routing, arrangement of material, the workers' posture and movements, and the elimination of needless movements. III. The most advantageous distribution of periods of rest and work. IV. The best methods of reducing monotony, increasing interest, introducing incentives, and of promoting agreeable relations between management and labour. V. The selection and training by more systematic and scientific methods than heretofore, not only of the worker, but of the personnel of management throughout all grades, so as to obtain the best applicants available.

Dr. Myers stated that so far as the human factor was concerned, the Institute's experience was that deficient output was due to conflict between the worker and his environment, even when it appeared to involve conscious wilful restriction. In no case had any trade union objected to the investigations; on the contrary, in several factories the works committees had given active co-operation, even suggesting an extension of the Institute's work in other directions.

The modern need in large works, Dr. Myers submitted, was the establishment of a department of persons specially trained in industrial psychology, which should be at least of equal rank to those of engineering and finance. The manager was, as a rule, now too closely occupied with technical and commercial details to be aware of the difficulties and obstacles which beset the worker at his work, or to be readily accessible and responsive to him; while the foreman was chosen primarily because of his ability as a craftsman or because of his knowledge of machinery, rather than for his capacity to comprehend and to improve the human factor. His duties were becoming increasingly executive; he was usually expert in dealing with mechanical defects, but he might lack the temperament, the knowledge and training—indeed he might not be given the necessary liberty—to diagnose and to remedy, as they occurred, the many obstacles of a psycho-physiological character which prevented the worker from producing his best.

In the course of a lecture on "Industrial Fatigue," delivered at East London College, Professor C. S. Myers said that an important cause of industrial fatigue arose from the employment of inexpert workers. Too often their inexpertness was due to lack of systematic training in the best methods of work. They were found to use considerably more effort than the more expert workers, and hence to tire far more rapidly. Their inefficiency might be also due to a natural unfitness for the particular occupation in which they were engaged. In order to choose more successfully the "square peg" for the "square hole," vocational selection tests were being introduced into various industries. Vocational misfits suffered from boredom, and were a prime cause of industrial unrest, generating within the factory an atmosphere of contagious dissatisfaction. (From the *Industrial Australian and Mining Standard*, April 16, 1925.)

Seasonal Cycles in the Birth rate in Western India.

This enquiry originated from some data tabulated by the Health Department of the Bombay Municipality for births in Hospitals. A clearly marked cycle being there observed, the Municipal Health Officer referred to the Labour Office to know whether there was any corresponding cycle in the immigration and emigration of labourers or their families to and from Bombay at special seasons. Statistical information on this particular point is not as a matter of fact at the moment available. But since, in order to determine whether local and special causes such as seasonal migration were sufficient to explain the city birth cycle, it was necessary to ascertain whether a similar cycle was or was not observable in the rural districts, data for each district were obtained from the Director of Public Health, the facts observed in other parts of the world were compared, and the whole phenomenon was studied in detail.

The following eleven years were chosen:—1910-1917 and 1922-1924. The four intervening years (1918-21) were deliberately excluded, not only because they were seriously disturbed by epidemics, especially the terrible Influenza epidemic of 1918, but also because the severity of those epidemics differed in different tracts. Only in the case of the first diagram, showing the actual number of births recorded in Bombay City since 1908, are these four years included for convenience. In all the remaining diagrams and statistical data the period referred to is the eleven years mentioned above. There was no particular reason for taking 1910 as the starting point, or for the number of 11 years. It will be seen, however, that the period studied is sufficient for the purpose.

The expression "monthly deviations from the mean", whether for one year or a series of years, indicates departures from 100 in the values for each given month, where the value for the whole year, or the whole series of years, is reduced to 1,200, so that, with an absence of cyclical movement, the values for any month should be 100, subject only to the normal accidental variations which all statistical data must necessarily show. The term "Uncorrected" means that each month is treated as exactly 1/12th part of a year, and the term "corrected" means that the different number of days in each month is taken into consideration. For correcting the monthly values for the whole series of eleven years the February figures were divided by 28.3, and those for each of the other months by 31 or 30 as the case may be, before treating them as 1/12th part of the year. This is equivalent to taking, instead of the total recorded births for any month, the per day incidence of births.

The figures are in all cases recorded births and not actual births, the number of which is unknown. In European countries the difference between these two figures would be small. In this part of India there is no compulsory registration of births and deaths except in some municipal towns. The Bombay City figures are the births registered by the Municipal registration staff, and are known to be subject to considerable errors of omission. The figures for each district are compounded of the figures

for a number of "Rural Circles" and a number of "Urban Circles". In the former the reporting staff is the "Village Officers", and in the latter the Registration Staff of the local Municipality, which may or may not have applied compulsion. The extent to which omissions occur varies very much, and is dependent on local conditions. In most of the Presidency proper, where registration of vital statistics by village officers has been going on continuously during living memory, and is a well understood part of their duties, omissions are few.* But in Sind, where there are no village headmen, and the village accountant is a non-resident officer with other arduous duties, omissions are more numerous than registrations. In all districts the visits of the Vaccination staff form a useful check on registration, since the vaccination officer actually finds out the young children, and gets their births entered in the Birth and Death Register, if they have been omitted.

The present study does not consider the Birth Rate (namely, ratio of births to population) but only the variations in the incidence of births month by month.† Consequently, even in Sind, where the registered births are statistically speaking, only a "sample", the existence of omissions would not in any way invalidate the results of this enquiry, unless there is any tendency for omissions to be proportionately more frequent in some months and less frequent in others. How far this is the case is uncertain. Such a cause should certainly not operate in Bombay City with a permanent and whole time registration staff. In the Districts, where village inspection is more vigorous in the open season, and especially the winter, there might be a tendency for omitted births to be subsequently entered during or just in advance of that season. It must here be explained that a birth is counted to the month in which it is registered and not to the month in which it occurred, where that is different. There is reason to think that some of the minor irregularities in the corrected or uncorrected curves which are given below are due to irregularities in the energies of the registering staff. For instance the December drop (below the November and January levels) in the Sind curve is quite possibly due to the general closing down of all administrative activities from about the 24th or 23rd December for the Christmas holidays, which are in Sind an important annual event. And a similar December depression occurs in some other regions. On the other hand a December drop often follows a November rise, and we would be equally justified in suggesting that in November, which is the opening of the touring and inspecting season the registering officers make an effort to bring their registers up to date, by entering births omitted in previous months.

However these outside and artificial causes can only be suggested as explanations of special minor irregularities. The main rise and fall of the curves are evidently dependent on genuine, deep-seated and permanent causes.

*In British Districts, although there is no compulsion on the parent to register the birth, there is compulsion on the village officers to ascertain and record. This form of compulsion is, of course, based on administrative order and not on law.

†The title "Seasonal Cycles in the Birth Rate" is chosen because we are accustomed to speaking of "rate". Any variations in actual numbers of births for any population can be converted into rates if required. But in this study it was unnecessary.

The existence of seasonal cycles in the Birth Rate in India has been known for a long time, and the explanation offered by the *Imperial Gazetteer of India, Vol. I, p. 509*, is as follows:—

"Similar influences may be traced in the normal seasonal incidence of the birth-rate, which is stamped with the same characteristic features in every Province though these are subject to slight local modifications referable to the period of the harvest and of the greatest sickness and mortality. Speaking generally where the staple food harvest is reaped in October there is a sudden rise in the birth-rate in July, continued through August to the maximum in September-October. There is a gradual fall during November-December, though the rate is still above the mean, which is reached in January; thenceforth the decline persists more or less steadily, to attain the lowest point in June. Where the staple food harvest comes in December, events are consistently postponed for about two months. The influence of the general health is manifest if the birth and death-rates are plotted together on a chart with an interval of nine or ten months between them, i.e., the death-rate for January against the birth-rate for October, and so on; the result is a striking contrast in the curves, the one falling as the other rises, though there may be occasional trifling exceptions to the rule. Again, on irrigated tracts with adequate drainage where the crops are secure, the birth-rate is consistently high; conversely, where in water-logged areas the soil deteriorates and the people are prostrated by chronic malarial disease, there is often depopulation from impairment of fecundity."

From what follows it will be seen that when the data are analysed down to the District as unit (in one case down to the Rural Circle) the conclusions of the writer in the *Imperial Gazetteer* just quoted are found to be erroneous, and are a conspicuous example of the danger of adopting the first explanation that suggests itself. The North Konkan curves, where the cycle reaches its maximum degree of variation and perhaps a minimum degree of variability, definitely disprove the theory that the time of harvest is necessarily the time of maximum conceptions. In this tract, where practically the whole crop is rice and hill-millet, and there is only one crop season, the harvest is not ready till October in early years and November in late ones; yet conceptions begin to increase in June and reach their maximum in August and September. The two districts of the South Konkan, though exhibiting certain deviations from the North Konkan cycles, do not show conceptions increasing with the harvest. In the Deccan Dry Districts there are two harvests, one in September-October and the other in January. The second is the more important. Conceptions rise strongly in September, but when we come to the more important January harvest they fall steeply. In the face of these facts we should not be justified in following the writer of the *Gazetteer* in his harvest theory, and must regard such cases as we find of the births cycle rising nine months after the harvest as accidental and independent.

Nor is it a fact that there is any constant inversion between the curve of the births cycle and the curve of the deaths cycle. It is hoped to analyse the latter in a later number of the *Labour Gazette*. But it may be stated in passing that the deaths cycle is more or less uniform throughout the Presidency, whereas, as will be seen from the diagrams which follow, the births cycle differs tract by tract. The exceptions to the rule propounded by the writer of the *Gazetteer* are neither occasional nor trifling.

The third point raised by the writer of the *Gazetteer*, namely the difference between the birth rate on irrigated and unirrigated tracts is quite irrelevant to the subject in hand, since it has nothing to do with the question of the seasonal cycle.

We can now turn to the corresponding phenomena in Europe and the opinion of Western writers. *Mulhall's Dictionary of Statistics, 1909, p. 92,*

shows the monthly deviations (whether corrected or uncorrected is not stated) for 13 countries and 1 city (Geneva). The years studied are not stated, but the data appear to relate to the third quarter of the nineteenth century. The figures for Algeria, which are highly irregular, must be excluded, since they are believed to refer to the French population only—a population of an abnormal kind and subject to migrational disturbances. Hungary must also be excluded because of the highly irregular character of the figures, suggesting irregularity in registration.

The remaining 11 countries and the city of Geneva are found on examination to be separable into four clearly recognizable types as follows:—

Type I.—Peak period in January-April; secondary peak in September absent or hardly noticeable:—France, Belgium, Geneva, Spain, Italy.

Type II.—Peak period in January-April; clearly marked and isolated secondary peak in September:—Germany, Holland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark.

Type III.—Peak period in October-February; no secondary peak:—Greece.

Type IV.—Peak period in March-July; secondary peak in October:—Scotland.

It will be seen that these four types group themselves fairly satisfactorily upon the map of Europe. Scotland and Greece are both isolated; and the countries in Types I and II belong to two homogeneous regions. So far as the main peak, January-April is concerned—and this applies to the main continent of Europe, from Norway to Italy and from Germany to Spain—we have the ordinarily accepted phenomenon of increased conceptions in the spring months, to which reference will be made below. The secondary and isolated peak in September is remarkable. It is a definite phenomenon, and in the case of Sweden and Norway this secondary peak is actually higher than any point touched in the main January-April peak. An explanation immediately suggests itself in the form of the holidays, the better living, and the increased license of the Christmas season, though this explanation, so facile and obvious, is quite possibly utterly wrong. In Scotland, with the main peak moved forward from January-April to March-July the secondary peak also moves forward from September to October; and yet on the other hand supporters of the explanation just offered might retort that in Scotland the New Year rather than Christmas is the season of holidays and feasting!

Before considering the physiological (or anthropological) explanation usually offered for increase of conceptions in the spring months it would be as well to consider the influence, if any, exerted by preference or aversion for any given month or months for marriages. We are able to compare the two sets of phenomena for some of the European countries. In *Webb's New Dictionary of Statistics, 1911, pp. 393,4* the "Average number of marriages per month out of 1,000 marriages per year" is shown for certain countries. Since marriage in Europe always means the immediate commencement of cohabitation, the births cycle figures would be bound to be affected by preference or aversions for particular

months as marriage months, if it were a fact that conception takes place immediately after cohabitation in any considerable proportion of cases.

A comparison of Webb's marriage figures with Mulhall's figures for births appears to show that the preference or aversion for any given month for celebration of marriage exercises no *effect whatever* on the births cycle. Thus in Germany there is a strongly marked preference for marriages in May, October and November. This would mean peaks in the births curve in February, July and August. A peak does occur in February; but it covers January and April also, though there is no preference, or even an aversion, for those months for marriages, while, so far as July and August go, they are right in the births cycle depression. In Denmark there is a particularly strong preference for November as a marriage month, but without any corresponding peak in the births cycle in August. In Sweden there is a marked preference for December for marriages; and this would at once be taken as the cause of the peak in the births cycle in September, until we observe that in Norway, where the September births peak is even more strongly marked, there is no preference at all for December for marriages.

Reflection will show that as every married woman in Europe bears on the average 2 or 3 children not more than a half or a third of the births would be liable to be influenced by choice of marriage month. Even so, preference or aversion for particular months would be bound to leave their marks on the births cycle if it were a fact that any considerable proportion of marriages result in immediate conceptions. From the above data from Webb, when compared with the data from Mulhall, one is disposed to believe that such is not the case.

In India the preference for any month for marriages is not relevant, since marriage does not as a rule mean immediate cohabitation. The question would however arise whether there are any months when it is considered specially desirable or undesirable for the bride to go for the first time to her father-in-law's house. In this part of India, or at any rate in the regions nearest to Bombay, there are three lunar months or parts of months during which it is considered undesirable for a woman to be at her husband's house in the first year of her married life but not afterwards. These periods are (1) *Ashadh*, which usually falls during July and August; (2) the second (dark) half of *Bhadrapad*, when the Hindus propitiate their Manes; this usually falls in September; and (3) *Paush*, which usually falls about January. The lunar months being moveable in relation to the Solar, the effects of these restrictions would in any case be considerably obscured in a study like the present, where the Solar month is used throughout. It is also to be remembered that social customs like the above differ with different castes. And there is also a tendency for such customs to weaken. It would not be justifiable therefore to assume that by any means all Hindus observe them. Beyond saying that the December depression already alluded to *might* conceivably be *partially* due to the second of the restrictions listed above we must admit from the curves that social customs in the matter of preference for particular months for first cohabitation do not appear to influence our figures any more than the European preferences influence Mulhall's figures.

We can now pass to what has been called above the "anthropological" explanation of the births cycle. Briefly stated the theory is that the anthropoid ape from which man originated possessed an annual rutting season, or in the alternative a season in which alone the female could conceive, that this season was the spring, that the numerous erotic feasts which occur in the spring among many diverse peoples are traceable to this influence, and are borne out by the known existence of an annual rutting season among some primitive human tribes at the present day, and that therefore we see the phenomenon of a maximum number of births in the months of January to April.

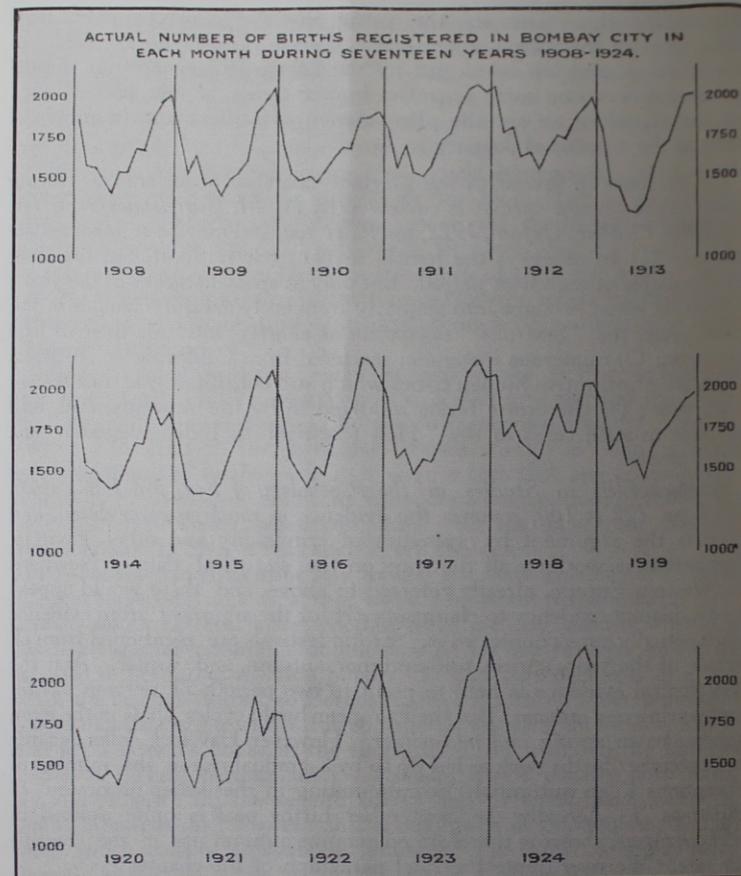
The evidence in favour of the original existence of an annual rutting season in the human species is reviewed by A. M. Carr-Saunders in *The Population Problem*, Oxford, 1922, pp. 92 *et seq.* and may be summarised as follows:—(1) In monkeys the female sexual cycle is short, but breeding is not possible at each heat period, but only at special seasons of the year; (2) animals when brought into captivity frequently exhibit changes in the sexual cycle, the "oestrous" occurring at shorter intervals than in the wild state; (3) numerous instances, scattered from California to Australia are known of primitive human tribes which still cohabit only at one season of the year; (4) the erotic feasts indulged in by the ancients, and still surviving in such cases as the "Holi" festival in India, suggest a relic of this season.

Havelock Ellis in *Studies in the Psychology of Sex*, 3rd Edn., 1920, Vol. I, pp. 122 to 160, reviews the evidence in much greater detail, and supports the argument by statistics of criminality and other matters. This author is working all the time on the statistical data of Northern and Western Europe, already referred to above, and there would appear to be a distinct tendency to claim support for the argument from evidence which actually runs counter to it. Erotic festivals are mentioned from all periods of the year, spring, mid-summer, autumn, and winter. And the physiological evidence is held to point to two periods of nervous excitement, spring and autumn. But the European births cycles show in the main conceptions in spring and mid-winter. However Havelock Ellis regards the September births peak as led up to by a gradual rise in the number of conceptions ("an autumnal rise culminating in the lesser maximum of Christmas"). Actually the September births peak is quite isolated in most countries, showing therefore no genuine autumn rise in the conception rate. We may quote the final paragraph of the chapter:—

"Thus, while the sexual climaxes of spring and autumn are rooted in animal procreative cycles which in man have found expression in primitive festivals—these again, perhaps, strengthening and developing the sexual rhythm—they yet have a wider significance. They constitute one among many manifestations of spring and autumn physiological disturbance corresponding with fair precision to the vernal and autumnal equinoxes. They resemble those periods of atmospheric tension, of storm and wind, which accompany the spring and autumn phases in the earth's rhythm, and may fairly be regarded as ultimately a physical reaction to cosmic influence."

It is suggested, as a result of the curves now presented for various parts of Western India, that these wide generalisations are profoundly mistaken, and that the births cycle is a reaction to local and not to universal climatic influences.

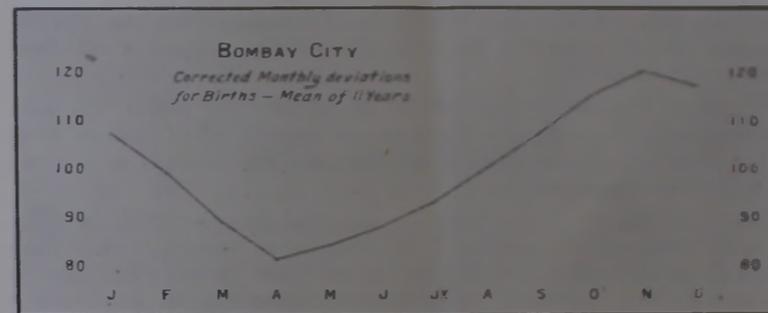
We may now take the first diagram, which represents the simplest type of graph, the curve of the actual number of births recorded in Bombay city in each month from January 1908 to December 1924.



Even a casual glance at this chart would at once demonstrate the existence of a strongly marked rhythm. There is a clearly marked maximum period in October to December, and a clearly marked minimum period in April to June. The exact point at which the fall commences varies, January in a few cases maintaining the winter peak, and in the same way the rise may commence in June or July. A perfectly smooth curve would not be expected in any single year according to statistical experience, accidental variations being natural. But where there are violent disturbances special causes may be assumed; thus the Influenza epidemic

of September 1918 is reflected in the sudden depression in the births curve in September and October of that year. The marked irregularity of the curves for the four years 1918 to 1921 a period of sudden and violent epidemics, will be seen to justify the complete exclusion of these years from the general study attempted in this paper.

The next diagram shows the monthly deviations combined and corrected (see above) for the eleven years chosen, viz., 1910-17 and 1922-24.



Before proceeding to compare the Bombay City cycle with those exhibited by rural districts it would be as well to discuss the character of the seasons in India. The four seasons known in Europe—Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter—do not correspond with climatic and vegetative conditions in the Indian peninsula. There is with us a dual spring; almost all the deciduous trees put forth flowers followed by leaves in the period April and May, some rather earlier, some rather later; but the herbaceous vegetation remains entirely withered until the rains break in June, when there occurs a riotous outburst from the ground, of a rapidity and intensity unknown in high latitudes. In some regions thunderstorms in May or even April may cause some of the more vigorous grasses and herbs to come out in green leaf. But even in such places the bulk of the herbaceous vegetation delays till the rains. From mid-June to the end of September is a season of continuous cloud and rain; and it is during this period that the great bulk of vegetative processes have to be completed. Everything dies down gradually during October and November, and from December onwards the vegetation is subject to a rest period as intense as, though not homologous with, the winter rest pause in high latitudes. The hot weather period is from March to June.

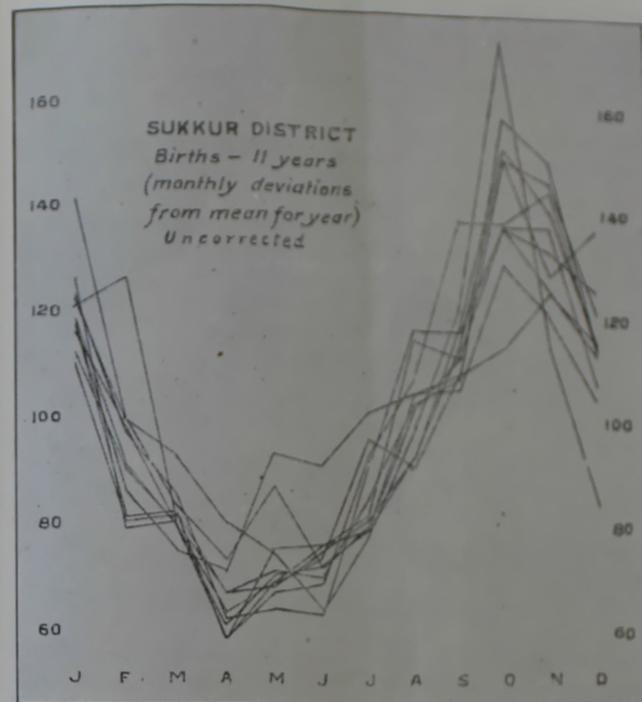
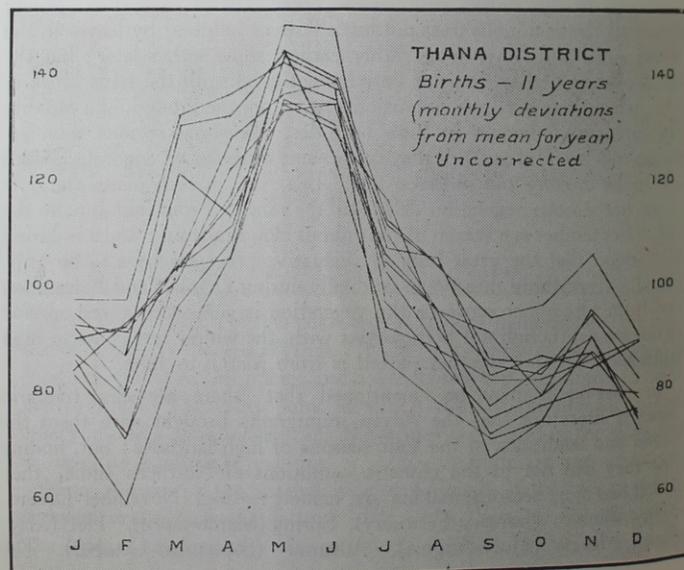
In passing it may be mentioned that there are clear traces in Sanskrit literature that the Aryan immigrants brought with them the names and traditions of the four seasons of high latitudes; but, finding that they did not fit the climatic conditions of Northern India, they added two more seasons, making six, namely:—Cool (November-December), Winter (January-February), Spring (March-April), Hot (May-June), Rains (July-August), Autumn (September-October). The

solar months shown against each season are only approximate, since the Hindus use and always have used the Lunar year, adding an intercalary month where necessary.

Now it is important to note that both the heat of the hot weather and the amount of the rainfall vary tract by tract. A rainfall of 200 inches and over in three months occurs on the Ghat crest and between the Ghata and the sea (The Konkan), while a rainfall of 25 inches in the same period, with only high passing clouds, is characteristic of the Deccan plateau. Again the heat in April to July is in Sind very intense and inhibits activity, whereas the hot weather in the south of the region studied is mild and even invigorating.

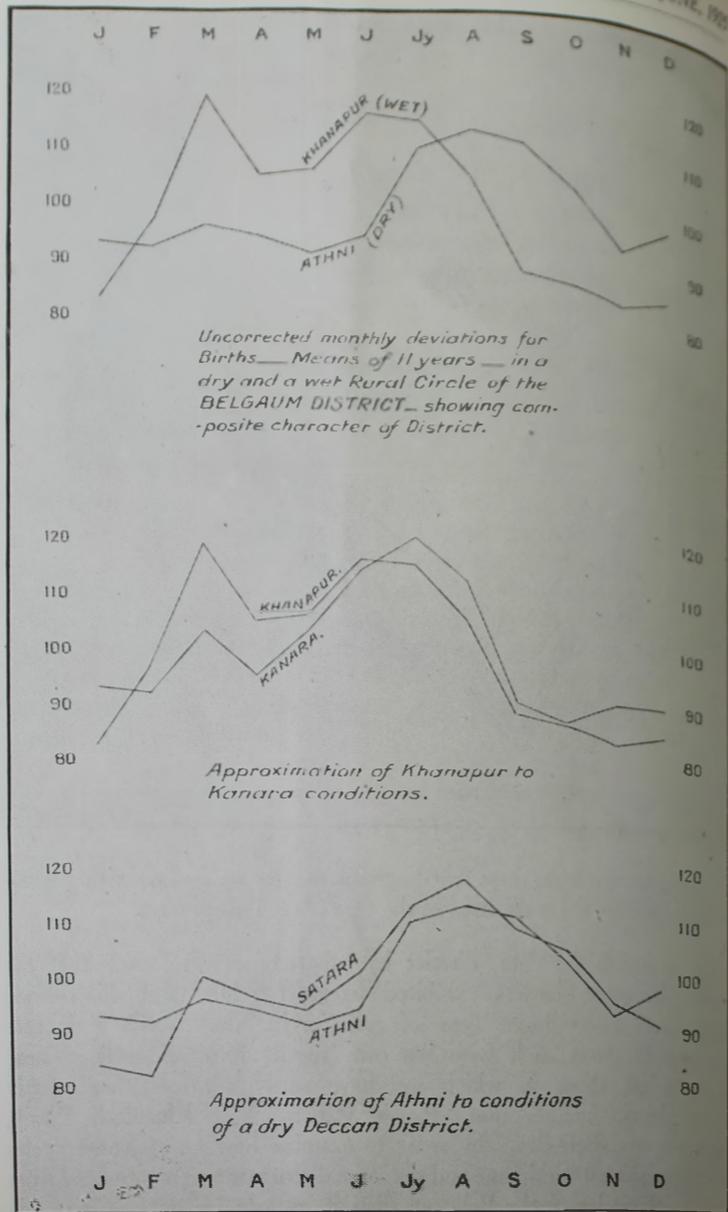
It will be suggested below that the particular form which the birth cycle assumes in any tract is the result of reaction of the human body to the local climatic conditions of that tract, and that there is no evidence of any universal tendency.

The first diagram has already demonstrated that the Bombay City cycle is a constant phenomenon. But in order to make sure that there could be no claim that the combined 11-year curve for any tract may be the result of the combination of quite erratic annual curves, producing a purely accidental result, which would be modified if a different series of years were taken, the eleven separate annual curves are now shown for (1) the Thana district, and (2) the Sukkur district of Sind—these two districts being chosen because they exhibit quite opposite and strongly-marked types.



It will be seen from these two diagrams that we are dealing with phenomena which are quite constant in the case of each given tract.

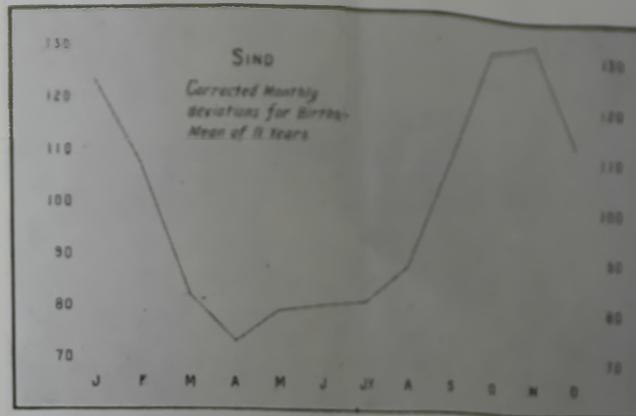
In analysing the data district by district it was found that the curves for some districts exhibited irregular trends, and this seemed to indicate a composite type of cycle, or in other words a mixture of smaller tracts each with its own special form of cycle. These districts are those in which we have partly wet forest and partly drier plains, viz.:—Surat, Panch Mahals, West Khandesh, Nasik, Dharwar and Belgaum. In order to examine how far separate cycles could be isolated within one and the same district data were obtained from two rural circles of the Belgaum district, namely, Khanapur, a purely forest region on the edge of the Ghats above the Kanara District, and Athni, a particularly dry black soil region with a low rainfall, and representing pure Deccan plateau conditions. In the diagram which follows it is shown how the cycles for these two rural circles approximate in the one case to the cycle of the adjoining wet forest district, and on the other to the cycle of a typical Deccan district.



This detailed study justifies us in considering the cycles for the six districts listed above as composite in character. A particularly fascinating possibility here emerges. It is suggested in this paper that the cycle for any region is the result of the reaction of climatic conditions on the human body. But on the other hand it is a fact that it is in the forest regions

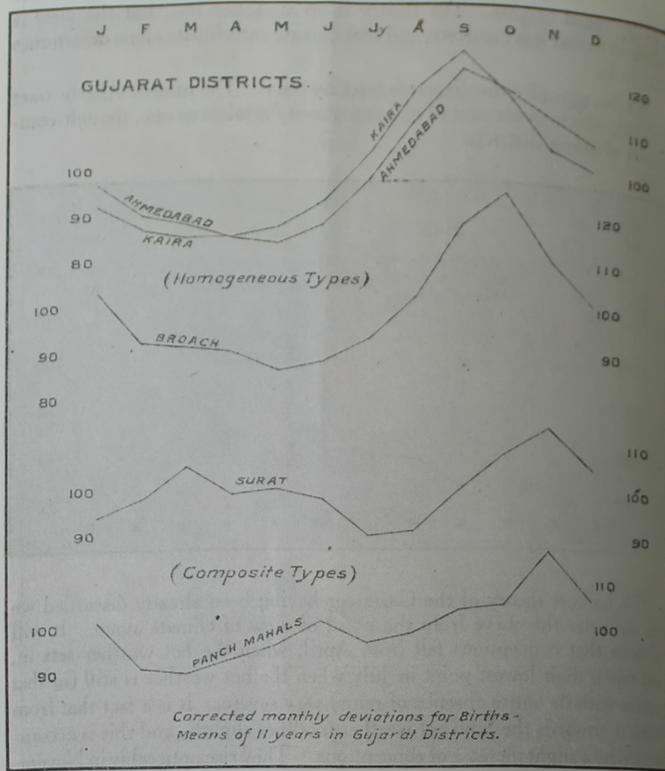
that the primitive "Pre-Dravidian" tribes survive. And an anthropologist might therefore suggest that the cycles are determined not by climate but by racial origins. The theory is an attractive one, but the view is adhered to that it is incorrect, and that climate and climate alone determines the cycle.

We can now give the diagrams tract by tract. The most northerly tract is Sind, which on account of its homogeneity is taken as one, though composed of seven districts.



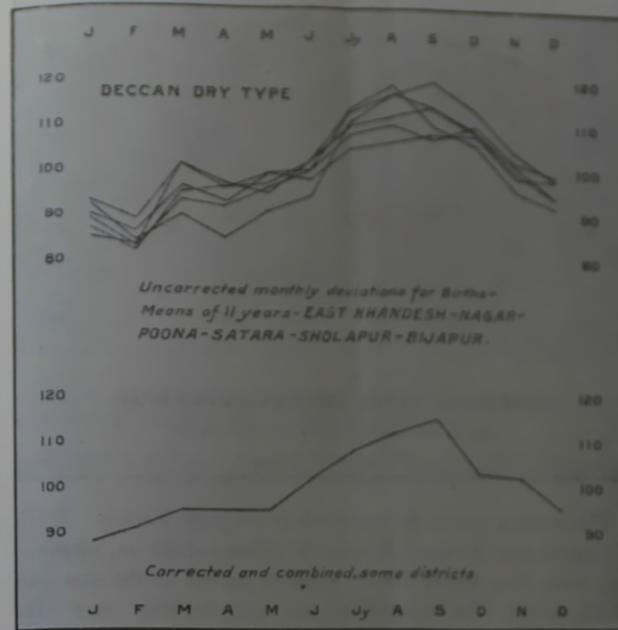
The harvest theory of the Gazetteer having been already discarded we can consider the curve from the point of view of climate alone. It will be seen that conceptions fall from April, when the hot weather sets in, and reach their lowest point in July when the hot weather is still (in that region with its entire absence of rains) very severe. It is a fact that from August onwards the Sind hot weather modifies slightly, and this is accompanied by a slight increase of conceptions. They rise noticeably in November, which is the first cool month, still higher in December, which is the first winter month, and leap to their peak in January, when the invigorating North Indian winter is at its best. This peak is maintained for about three months. So far as the December drop in the births curve is concerned it has already been suggested that this is due to the suspension of all administrative activities during the Christmas holidays.

We next pass southwards to Gujarat. Here the hot weather in April and May is nearly as severe as in Sind, but owing to the region being subject to a strong monsoon, which sets in in June, causing a fall in the temperature, and on the other hand to a less invigorating winter, the depression in the births curve is neither so deep nor so prolonged. Conceptions are at their maximum in mid-winter, Dec-January. In February the weather gets much hotter and conceptions fall, the fall continuing till June or later. They do not rise till the cooler autumn weather sets in.



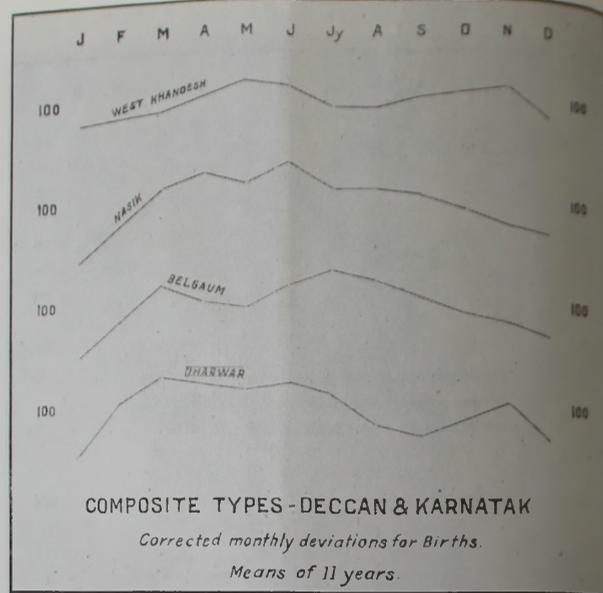
The composite curves for Surat and the Panch Mahals may be regarded as composed of separate curves for the open country and the forest country.

We can now pass to the Deccan dry type, namely, all districts on the Deccan plateau in which the figures are not disturbed by the existence of much forest country. The separate curves (uncorrected) for six districts are first given, in order to show the homogeneity of the type, followed by the combined and corrected curve for the whole region.



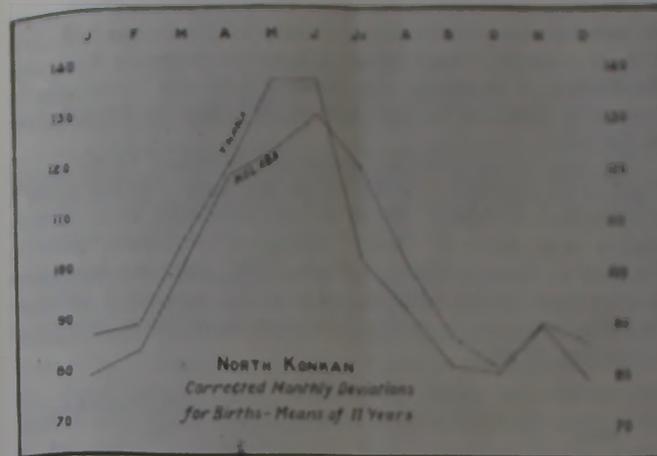
It is noteworthy that in the upper part of the diagram the curve with the lowest depression from March to June and the highest peak from September to November is actually (See Table at the end) the District of Sholapur, where the hot weather is the most severe and the absence of forest country the most complete. The combined curve shows conceptions at their minimum in April, when the climate is here undoubtedly at its hottest, and highest in December, when it is at its coldest and pleasantest.

A diagram is also given showing the four Deccan districts with a composite type.

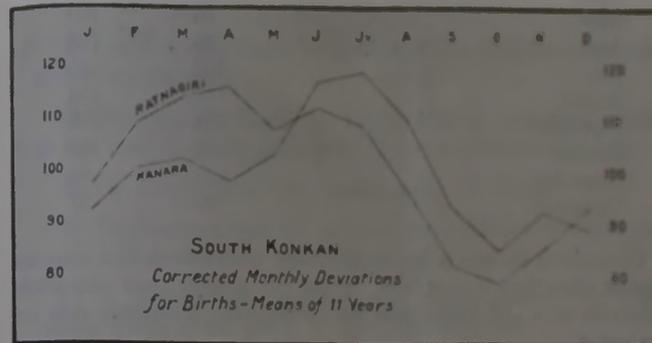


The remaining tract is the coastal belt known as the Konkan. This is the narrow strip of country between the Ghats and the sea, subject to very heavy rains, ranging from 90 to 200 inches, and for the most part heavily wooded. The curves fall into two, or possibly three types. The two Northern Konkan districts of Thana and Kolaba exhibit one type and that of a definite kind and different in every way from any type of the dry regions already studied.

Conceptions are here at their lowest in the winter and hot weather. Of course under the influence of a coastal and not a "continental" climate the range of variation in the temperature month by month is small. Whereas in Upper Sind the absolute range of the maximum day temperature is from 127° Fht. in June to 55° or thereabouts in January, on the North Konkan coast the range will be from about 99° to 79°; and whereas log fires are needed every night of the winter in Sind and frosts are frequent, the occurrence of a night that could by any stretch of imagination be called cold is on the Konkan coast rare. Air temperature therefore does not appear to affect the incidence of conceptions in this region. Conceptions rise sharply in July and reach their maximum in August and September. It is possible that the heavy rain, which produces local cooling effects, as well as perhaps the impossibility of sleeping out of doors in this season, are the determining factors.



The two South Konkan curves seem to be variations from one common type, and are therefore plotted and shown together.



Here again conceptions are at their lowest in the winter, but they commence to rise rather earlier than in the North Konkan, and there is a post-ponement of the peak and a lesser concentration. The rains in Kanara commence earlier and end later than in Thana or Kolaba, and the weather is still very rainy in October. This may be the explanation of the post-ponement of the fall in the curve by one month. A careful comparison of the four curves will show that the fall in births from June onwards (fall in conceptions from September onwards) becomes later and later as one passes south from Thana through Kolaba and Ratnagiri to Kanara.

The District cycles have now been demonstrated, and it is necessary to revert to the Bombay City curve. Bombay City is situated in the very

centre of the region represented by the Thana and Kolaba Districts, yet its cycle is almost exactly the inverse of the cycle for that region. We have hitherto suggested climatic influences as almost exclusively responsible for the shape of the curves. The climate of Bombay is theoretically the same as the climates of the North Konkan. Why then the utter difference in the cycles?

The curve of conceptions is certainly not determined by the general health of the population. In Bombay the best index of general health is the prevalence of Malaria. We can ascertain the monthly variations from malaria by the figures of "fever" admissions to hospitals given in *Dr. Bentley's Report on Malaria in Bombay, 1911*. Reducing these figures to uncorrected monthly deviations, and taking the uncorrected deviations for births, but moving the months three places forward so as to arrive at conceptions, we get—

Month	Deviations (uncorrected) for	
	Malaria admissions.	Conceptions.
January	84	86
February	72	87
March	80	86
April	82	93
May	86	100
June	86	104
July	102	116
August	119	116
September	124	118
October	143	109
November	123	93
December	99	92

Conceptions are seen to be actually lowest when there is least fever and highest when there is most fever. Fever may possibly lower what would otherwise be a still higher peak for conceptions; it certainly does not prevent it.

The question of migration is more difficult. We have no satisfactory data to show how far Bombay is depleted at particular annual dates, nor how far women will go to the mofussil for their confinements more freely at one time of year than at another. Possibly *part* of the hot weather depression in the birth cycle is caused by women being delivered in rural villages, who would, had they been expecting confinement in the winter, have remained in Bombay. But this phenomenon, the very existence of which is uncertain, cannot apparently, explain everything. The Bombay curve is smoother than that for any rural tract. Births fall steadily from November to April and rise steadily from April to November. Migration, if it occurs to an extent able to modify the figures, is not likely to be so steady and continuous in its rise and fall.

The idea of correlating the hot weather depression in the Bombay City births cycle with the hot weather peak in the Konkan Districts is facile

and attractive. But it has to be remembered that, though seasonal and semi-permanent immigrants from Ratnagiri to Bombay are very numerous, this is not the case with Thana, immigrants from Thana being no more numerous, or indeed less numerous, than immigrants from the nearest Deccan Districts, and especially Ahmednagar, which shows a depression and not a peak in the hot weather. In face of these facts migration does not appear to be the right line of explanation. At any rate the converse, namely the idea that the North Konkan hot weather peak is the result of emigration from Bombay, is certainly not correct.

A possible line of explanation for the Bombay curve may be suggested. In explaining the Konkan and composite curves reference has been made to the influence of forest country. Bombay, though situated in the Konkan coast strip, is completely urbanised. Forest or other natural conditions are almost entirely absent. The rainfall, though heavy (about 70-80 inches), is not nearly so heavy as in the Konkan rural tracts, and is subject to elaborate and complete drainage. Possibly therefore, the city, as such, approaches in the matter of climate the conditions of a plain or plateau district rather than a forest tract. This is, however, rather vague and unsatisfactory, and the Bombay curve remains at the moment a puzzle.

We may sum up the whole discussion as follows:—

- (1) The birth cycle curves for districts of this Presidency are either simple or composite.
- (2) The composite curves can be shown to be curves compounded of data from tracts assignable to one or other of the simple types.
- (3) The simple types differ widely region by region.
- (4) The European type, on which so many theories have been built up, is entirely absent.
- (5) In particular the anthropological theory, namely the annual rutting season in the spring, is completely disproved.
- (6) The harvest theory of the Imperial Gazetteer of India is also disproved.
- (7) The dominating factor seems to be local climatic conditions, conceptions being far more frequent in cold than in hot months.
- (8) The forest and coastal country with a more or less equable climate there is a tendency for conceptions to be most frequent in the latter portion of the rainy season, the cause being obscure.
- (9) The Bombay city curve is independent of the general health of the city. It may be modified by migration, but migration is apparently not likely to be a complete explanation.

The values of the corrected monthly deviations are now given.

Corrected monthly deviations for births—means of 11 years.

District.	BIRTHS											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
BOMBAY CITY ..	107	99	89	81	84	88	93	100	107	115	120	117
SIND ..	124	107	82	73	79	80	81	88	109	131	133	117
GUJARAT												
Ahmedabad ..	97	90	88	85	84	88	98	111	122	118	112	107
Kaira ..	92	87	85	85	87	93	104	118	126	117	105	101
Broach ..	103	92	91	90	86	88	93	102	118	125	111	101
DECCAN DRY ..	88	91	95	95	95	102	108	112	114	103	102	95
KONKAN--												
Thana ..	87	89	106	120	137	137	102	92	81	80	90	79
Kolaba ..	79	84	101	118	123	130	120	101	87	81	90	86
Ratnagiri ..	97	109	114	116	108	112	109	96	82	79	85	93
Kanara ..	92	100	102	98	103	117	119	110	93	85	92	89
(Composite types)												
Panch Mahals ..	101	91	90	93	96	101	97	99	104	105	117	106
Surat ..	94	96	105	99	100	98	90	91	100	108	114	105
West Khandesh ..	96	97	98	101	104	103	99	99	101	102	103	97
Nasik ..	89	96	103	106	104	108	103	103	102	99	96	94
Belgaum ..	90	97	104	101	100	104	107	105	102	99	97	94
Dharwar ..	91	101	106	105	104	105	103	97	95	98	101	94

CONCEPTION

April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March
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Reviews of Books

Trade Unions, Their Past, Present and the Future, by W. A. Appleton.,
(London: Philip Allan & Co.), 1925, pp. 178.

This little book is written essentially from the worker's point of view. But the author is not a socialist, and does not believe in the socialist's "emotional excursions into metaphysically conceived realms of bliss". And he even confesses that "There are serious dangers to trade unionism from socialism and socialist propaganda". This does not, however, preclude him from arriving at the conclusion, that the cleavage between Capital and Labour in England has been due largely to the fault of the employers.

The book contains nothing new or original either in the treatment of the subject matter or the interpretation of the facts. The chapter entitled "Philosophy of Trade Unionism", where the reader expects some originality on the part of the author, is disappointing in the extreme. We are told that Trade Unionism is a movement not only for the regulation of wages, but is in addition an expression of human emotions, tendencies and desires. Now, it may be asked, whether there is any movement on the face of the earth to which this description does not equally apply. To be the expression of emotions, tendencies and desires is in no way special to trade unionism.

The principal merit of the book, however, is that it presents in a clear and lucid manner important facts regarding Trade Unionism in England. And to those who have not the leisure to wade through Webb's bulky volumes, or the training necessary to follow Cole's analysis of the subject, this book would be useful.

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Indian Currency and Exchange, by H. L. Chabani, (Oxford University Press), 1925, pp. 184, price Rs. 4-8.

This is a useful little book on a very difficult and a highly controversial subject. It is divided into two parts, the first of which deals partly with the history of Indian Currency and Exchange and partly with the elementary concepts regarding the theory of money. The second part is mainly critical, though, here again, a great deal of the discussion is historical.

One does not find in this book a critical analysis of the subject matter as in Keynes' *Indian Currency and Exchange*, nor does one come across the freshness and originality in the presentation and interpretation of facts which are found in such abundance in Mr. Ambedkar's *Problem of the Rupee*. But all the same, there are evident traces in this book of industry and care, and the author seems capable of drawing correct conclusions from his facts. In Currency matters, he says, that "The main object to be aimed at should be to ensure the automatic expansion and contraction of our currency. For this it is enough to have a

'convertible rupee,' convertible not in gold coins but in gold bullion only." And with the former half of this statement at least, no one can have any quarrel.

A few defects may here be pointed out. In the table on p. 14, figures regarding bank deposits for various years have been given. For purposes of comparison, it would have been more helpful to give five or ten yearly averages. Another criticism which may be made is, that the book is not well planned, and there is often no connection between the various chapters.

The book would however serve as an admirable text-book for students preparing for the degree examination of Indian universities.

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The World's Industrial Parliament, by E. M. Oliver, with an introduction by the Right Honourable Viscount Burnham (London: George Allen Unwin, Ltd.), 1925, pp. 63, price 2s. net.

This little book gives an account of the International Labour Office which was set up by the Covenant of the League of Nations. But although the League of Nations established it, we are told that it would not have come into existence but for the preliminary efforts of the International Association of Labour Legislation which was formed in the year 1900.

The activities of the International Labour Office have been described in considerable detail. To give the reader an idea of the International Labour Conference held annually, the proceedings of the Conference of 1921 have been given. The achievement of the Organization is illustrated by presenting a graphic picture of labour conditions in the Persian Carpet Industry before and after the intervention of the International Labour Office.

The book would be found useful by every one interested in the labour problem.

* * * * *

Trade Unions, by Geoffrey Drage (Methuen & Co.), pp. 203.

This book is an introduction to the study of the Trade Union Movement in England. The author has traced the growth of the movement since 1824 when the combination laws were repealed. The true development of Trade Unionism, it is pointed out, began since the appointment of the Royal Commission and the subsequent passing of the Trade Union Act, 1871. At the end of the last century the total number of unions was 1,292 and the total membership 1,802,518.

One of the most interesting chapters in the book, is the chapter on the organisation and functions of trade unions. The author has attempted—and very successfully—to disprove the general belief that the only function of the trade union is to foster strikes. He has pointed out that trade unions devote a great deal of their attention to helping the members of the unions

by giving such benefits as unemployment benefits, superannuation benefits, sick benefits, etc., and we are informed that during 1922-1902, 61 per cent. of the total expenditure of 100 trade unions in England was on unemployed and friendly benefits alone.

The history of the Trade Union Congress is another interesting chapter in this book. The eventful career of this institution has been described in a manner which is both interesting and instructive.

The only defect in this book seems to us to be that the facts and the figures given have not been brought up to date. Otherwise this book is in every respect an admirable introduction to the subject.

Current Periodicals

Summary of titles and contents of special articles

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR REVIEW, VOL. XI, No. 5 (INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE, GENEVA).

Special Articles.—(1) *Social Insurance Benefits, by Professor Alfred Meunier, Doctor of Law and of Philosophy, Berlin.*—Historical considerations; nature of benefits; the object of insurance; forms of benefit;—pensions, lump sum payments, benefits in kind; qualifications for benefits; magnitude of benefits; period of benefits; overlapping of benefits; protection of benefits; conclusions. pp. 611-631.

(2) *The Medical Profession and Health Insurance in Great Britain by Alfred Cox, M.B., B.S., Medical Secretary, British Medical Association.*—Outline of the present system; administration of medical benefit; control of the service; organization of insurance practitioners; public opinion on the system; free choice of doctor; the service provided; the lesson of the insurance committee; the ideal local controlling authority; the duty of the central authority; the approved societies and the doctor; provision of drugs; certification; the country doctor; remuneration; the insurance doctor's list of patients; conclusion. pp. 632-658.

(3) *Compensation for disablement of Deferred Pensioners by Fritz Hoel, Chief of Section, Swiss National Insurance Office.* pp. 659-664.

(4) *The Recommendations of the Shanghai Child Labour Commission by Dora Adelaide Anderson, D.B.E.*—The influence of new conditions; the movement of reform; part II of the report of the Commission; the attitude of Shanghai. pp. 665-681.

(5) *The Minimum Wage by Theodor Bruner, Professor of Social Economics at the Karlsruhe Technical College, formerly Secretary of the German Confederation of Christian Trade Unions.*—1924 of minimum wage; methods of fixing minimum wages; the direct method; the indirect method; the anti-sweating wage; the minimum wage rate; the standard-of-living wage. pp. 682-700.

THE JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE, VOL. VII, No. 3 (AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF INDUSTRIAL PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS).

Special Articles.—(1) *Examination of the Heart in Industry by N. C. Gilbert, M.D.* pp. 105-112.

(2) *The Toxicology of Hydrogen Sulphide by Howard W. Haggard, M.D. (From the Department of Applied Physiology Sheffield Scientific School, Yale University).*—Hydrogen Sulphide as an irritant gas; fate of hydrogen sulphide in body; toxic concentrations of hydrogen sulphide; systemic poisoning by hydrogen sulphide; action of hydrogen sulphide on respiration; action of hydrogen sulphide on general nervous system; chronic hydrogen sulphide poisoning; prophylaxis of hydrogen sulphide poisoning; resuscitation from acute hydrogen sulphide poisoning; pathology of hydrogen sulphide poisoning; conclusions. pp. 113-121.

(3) *Observations in blast furnace Gassing by R. C. Engel, M.D., Medical Director, Machinery Steel Company, Cleveland, Ohio.* pp. 122-123.

(4) *Industrial Poisoning by Inhalation by Professor Luigi Preti, M.D.*—Introduction; effects of gases, fumes and vapors on the respiratory tract; effects of dusts on the respiratory tract; general toxic effects of gases, fumes and dusts; preventive measures; diagnosis and treatment; conclusion. pp. 124-142.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE LABOUR MAGAZINE, VOL. IV, No. 1 (MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE LABOUR MOVEMENT, LONDON).

Special Articles.—(1) *The Belgian Election, by Camille Huzmans (Deputy for Antwerp and former Secretary of the Second International).* pp. 3 and 4.

(2) *The Campaign against the I. L. O. by Margaret Bondfield.* pp. 5-8.

(3) *French Socialism and the Geneva Protocol by Pierre Renandel (Deputy; Member of the Executive Committee of the French Socialist Party and the Labour and Socialist International).* pp. 9-11.

- (4) *Why are the Rates so High?* by Sir Edgar Harper F. S. I. (Late Chief Valuer to H. M. Commissioners of Inland Revenue). pp. 12-14.
 (5) *Ushering in the Dawn—V.* (Stray Reminiscences of a Propagandist). pp. 15-17.
 (6) *Ruskin College: A Retrospect*, by W. G. Hall. pp. 18-20.
 (7) *In the Eight-Fifteen, A discourse on the wickedness of Confucius*, by T. S. Dickson. pp. 21-23.
 Routine matter.—As in the previous issues.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE, CANADA—VOL. XXV, No. 4 (THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR, CANADA).

Special Articles.—(1) *Workmen's Compensation in Ontario*.—General review of the Board's work during 1924 and in the past ten years; ten years' operation of Act. pp. 348 and 349.

- (2) *Mining Accidents in Ontario in 1924*. pp. 350-351.
 (3) *Factory Inspection in Nova Scotia in 1924*. pp. 351-352.
 (4) *Labour Departments and Bureaus in Canada*.—Outline of the functions of the federal and provincial organisations; the Department of Labour of Canada; Quebec Department of Public Works and Labour; Ontario Department of Labour; Manitoba Bureau of Labour; Saskatchewan Bureau of Labour and Industries; Alberta Bureau of Labour; British Columbia Department of Labour. pp. 353-357.
 (5) *Prophecies of Industrial Peace* (Article by Dr. Charles W. Eliot, President, Emeritus of Harvard University, Contributed to the "New York Times" March 22, 1925).—Text of Dr. Eliot's Article; Department of Labour of Canada; Co-operative management; International Harvester Company; the Mitten management; the Bethlehem steel plan; Columbia Conserve Company; Pacific Coast Coal Company; agreement in clothing industry; general motors corporation; trade unions as managers; consumers' co-operation; the union label; subsidiary enterprises; industrial ownership; "Baltimore and Ohio" plan; conclusions. pp. 358-369.

(6) *Notes on Vocational Education and Apprenticeship*.—Advancement of gifted children in industry; printing school at Montreal; vocational schools in British Columbia; linking up industry and education in Great Britain; apprentices in London; unemployment among apprentices in New York building trades; Chamber of Trades promotes apprenticeship and vocational education in France. pp. 371-374.

(7) *Notes on Industrial Safety and Health*.—Safety work in Saskatchewan; illness amongst workers, accidents in Ontario; injuries to eyes in welding; industrial diseases in Australia; international safety devices; proposed labour safety division in the United States; wood-working safety code; posture and rest in muscular work. pp. 374-377.

(8) *Notes of Labour Union Activities*.—Dates of coming conventions; new Brunswick Federation of Labour; Fishermen's Union in Prince Edward Island; Edmonton Trades and Labour Council; Vancouver Trades and Labour Council; Central Council of Catholic Syndicates; Miners' Officials confer on working of co-operative plan; president Green on "joint responsibility" in industry; trade union organisation in Great Britain. pp. 379-381.

(9) *League of Nations International Labour Organisation*.—Seventh session opens on May 19; Great Britain and Maritime draft conventions; Canadian delegate to second conference of labour statisticians; coming Empire Labour Conference. p. 382.

THE NEW SOUTH WALES INDUSTRIAL GAZETTE—VOL. XXVII, No. 3 (DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR AND INDUSTRY, SYDNEY).

Special notes from routine articles.—(1) *The Industrial situation*.—Shop closing times; early closing acts; Easter holiday period, 1925; apprenticeship - regulations operating. pp. 718 and 720.

(2) *Departmental Activities*.—Factories and Shops Act, 1912 - boiler inspection; factory inspection; Scaffolding and Lifts, 1912 - crane, hoist and sheerleg inspection; lift inspection; scaffolding inspection. pp. 754-756.

(3) *Workmen's Compensation Act, 1916*.—Departmental advising - accident arising out of employment, - risk of accident - neighbouring wall falling on workmen. p. 756.

THE QUEENSLAND INDUSTRIAL GAZETTE—VOL. X, No. 4 (DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR, BRISBANE).

Special Articles.—(1) *The Apprentices Act*.—Administration of Act; attitude of employers; special concessions; employers' rights. pp. 275-276.

(2) *Industrial Rehabilitation by John A. Watson, The Insurance Commissioner, Queensland, 7th April 1925*. pp. 279-281.

(3) *Rehabilitation of Disabled civilian Workers and of returned Soldiers - Canada*.—Vocational training for returned soldiers; retraining of injured civilians. pp. 284-287.

(4) *Sugar Industry*.—Austrian producers' meeting; list of delegates; annual report; the report adopted; Mr. Bruce's visit to sugar districts; the sugar award; experiment stations; Herbert river district. pp. 302-304.

(5) *Trade Unionism in Russia*.—Sixth Pan-Russian Congress wages, output, employment and unemployment; employment exchanges; social insurance; housing questions; trade union organisation; works councils; education; basis of representation. pp. 304-306.

(6) *Uniform hours for opening and closing shops*. pp. 310-311.
 Routine Matter.—As in the previous issues.

Current Notes From Abroad

INTERNATIONAL

The International Organisation of Workers in the Printing and Allied Trades has instituted a system of identity cards to be carried by any of its members who emigrate. These cards act as introductions to the local branch of the organisation at the destination of the emigrants. The individual unions in the place from which the member emigrates and to which he is going correspond with each other so that it may be possible to know whether a post offered is actually vacant and whether the circumstances justify recruitment of labour in a foreign country. (From the "Industrial and Labour Information," Monday, May 4, 1925.)

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The Governing Body of the International Labour Office of the League of Nations, which met at Geneva last month, adopted estimates for the Budget for 1926, the figure being £270,000, showing a reduction of about £12,000 on that for 1925.

Great Britain's contribution will be reduced by about £1,000. (From the "Labour Magazine," May, 1925.)

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Following its usual custom regarding items placed on the agenda of the annual session of the International Labour Conference of the League of Nations, the International Labour Office sent a series of questions regarding the possibilities and scope of an international agreement on the question of workers' compensation—which will be discussed at the seventh annual session opening at Geneva on May 19—to the 57 states which are members of the International Labour Organisation, and has already received 26 replies, including many from the more important countries.

The Australian and Canadian replies include individual answers from the various states and provinces. A "blue" report, embodying these replies and the conclusions to be adduced from them, has now been issued. (From the "Labour Magazine," May, 1925.)

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The second International Conference of Labour Statisticians, which met at Geneva under the auspices of the International Labour Office from May 20 till May 25 and which consisted of about 40 representatives of 25 different countries adopted a number of resolutions regarding the classification of industries, index numbers of cost of living, and unemployment statistics.

On the subject of the classification of industries the Conference requested the International Labour Office to prepare a list of the principal industries for which internationally comparable statistics might be established.

The Conference also examined the various methods adopted for the compilation of cost of living index numbers.

Attention was specially directed to the possibility of obtaining as correct an appreciation as possible of the fluctuations in the cost of living. The Conference was of opinion that the States Members of the International Labour Organisation should as far as possible make enquiries with regard to family budgets before the end of 1928, and expressed the desire that new series of index numbers internationally comparable might be established in 1930.

The Conference then considered the report prepared by the International Labour Office on the comparisons it has been making of real wages in the various capitals and invited the Office to continue its work in collaboration with the competent authorities of the States concerned.

On the subject of unemployment statistics a resolution was adopted which indicates the best methods of measuring the magnitude of unemployment and its fluctuations. (From the "International Labour Office Weekly News Service.")

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The International Commission on Safety and Industrial Hygiene held its first session in the International Labour Office, in Geneva, on the 9th, 10th and 11th May. It included experts from the following countries: Belgium, France, Great Britain, Italy, Netherlands and Switzerland.

The Commission confined itself to an examination of problems of industrial safety in the degree in which they concern industrial undertakings, docks and building, to the exclusion of mines, transport and agriculture.

It discussed the best methods for the preparation of monographs on certain problems of accident prevention on an international basis. These monographs, it was considered, would contribute in a real degree to the progress of the measures taken for the prevention of accidents.

Resolutions were adopted by the Commission on the introduction in national legislation of the principle of industrial safety, penal sanctions for failure to observe the measures taken for this purpose, and co-operation between the various bodies dealing with insurance and the prevention of accidents. (From the I. L. O. Weekly News Service.)

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The Governing Body of the International Labour Office met on the 18th May, Monsieur Arthur Fontaine, delegate of the French Government, presiding.

The Governing Body considered the Report of the Director of the Office, Monsieur Albert Thomas, on the work of the office since its last session and on the state of ratifications, which proceed satisfactorily.

Approval was given to various matters relating to the work of the Seventh Session of the International Labour Conference and the preparation for the Conference of 1926.

The Governing Body took note of the work of the Joint Maritime Commission and the Conference of Labour Statisticians, which met last month under the auspices of the International Labour Office. It thereafter definitely established the lists of experts for the Emigration Committee and the Committee of Industrial Hygiene. (From the I. L. O. Weekly News Service.)

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The International Parliamentary Commercial Conference held its Eleventh Session in Rome from 17-20 April last.

The inaugural sitting was held at the Capitol under the Presidency of H. M. the King of Italy. An address of welcome was delivered by Mr. Mussolini, the Prime Minister, which was responded to by the heads of the various delegations. The Conference was attended by more than 200 delegates representing the Parliamentary Commercial Committees of 36 countries. (From the "Industrial and Labour Information," May 25, 1925.)

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UNITED KINGDOM

Employment showed a slight improvement during March. Among the 11,500,000 workpeople insured against unemployment under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed at 23rd March, 1925 was 11.4, compared with 11.6 at 23rd February 1925, and 9.9 at 24th March 1924. Among the members of those Trade Unions from which returns were received the percentage unemployed was 9.0 at the end of March 1925 compared with 9.4 at the end of February 1925, and with 7.8 at the end of March 1924. The total number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland as unemployed at 30th March 1925 was approximately 1,249,000 of whom 959,000 were men and 228,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls; at 23rd February 1925, it was 1,287,000 of whom 980,000 were men and 239,000 were women; at 31st March 1924 it was 1,094,000, of whom men numbered 812,000 and women 218,000. (From the "Ministry of Labour Gazette," April, 1925.)

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Mr. J. S. Middleton, Assistant Secretary of the Labour Party of Great Britain, states that a provisional agenda has been drawn up for a British Empire Labour Conference to be held next July. The final agenda will be settled by the labour parties of the Dominions concerned, but one of the subjects which the labour party of Great Britain proposes for discussion is the ratification of the International Labour Convention concerning the use of white lead in painting and the question of the prevention of anthrax. (From the "Labour Gazette," Canada, April 1925.)

In order to protect children above 14 years of age, Lord Henry Bentinck has introduced into the House of Commons the Education (Employment of Young Persons) Bill, which gives optional powers to local authorities to bring the work of young persons between the ages of 14 and 18 within by-laws issued in pursuance of section 90 of the Education Act, 1921. The present Bill introduces no new principle but lays down that children who have just left school require at least as much protection as those who are still in school. The powers which the Bill gives to local authorities are purely optional and would be exercised only in areas where there is clear evidence that children are being exploited.

The Bill has been well received by all parties, and it is hoped that Government also would lend its support to it. (Abstracted from the "Times Educational Supplement," London, May 9, 1925.)

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The General Council of the British Trades Union Congress has instituted an inquiry into methods of trade union organization, in accordance with a decision of the Hull Congress last September. The Hull Resolution insisted particularly on the following points: (1) that the number of trade unions should be reduced to an absolute minimum; (2) that organization by industry should be aimed at as far as possible; (3) that a united front should be formed for improving the standards of life of the workers.

The International Federation of Trade Unions in a communication recently issued to the press, states that in view of the rapid growth of organizations of transport workers, unskilled workers, municipal workers, etc., which are outside the scope of trade organizations pure and simple, a strictly industrial basis of organization in Great Britain would appear to be almost impossible. The development of the organizations mentioned has already led to difficulties, and the General Council is now attempting to adopt a fixed policy which will facilitate the united front without endangering to too great an extent the principle of purely occupational or purely industrial organizations. (From the Labour Gazette, Canada, April 1925.)

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At a recent Conference at Nottingham of the National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants and Clerks, resolution was passed in favour of amalgamation with the National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers, the Journeymen Butchers' Federation, the National Union of Clerks (food-workers' section) and the Union of Women Clerks and Secretaries. (From the Press Reports of I. F. T. U., May 19, 1925.)

The British Labour Women's Conference was held at Birmingham on the 27th and 28th May. Among the questions discussed were social politics, emigration, the anti-war campaign, etc. (Abstracted from the Press Reports of the I. F. T. U.)

OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

It now appears certain that the gigantic lockout affecting the leading Swedish industries and involving 250,000 workers has practically reached settlement, without important concessions being made, however, by either side in the conflict. This strike, which has been pending for several months and which became general on March 16, started in the paper industry and extended to the pulp, lumber, engineering, and textile industries. In spite of the wide-spread influence of the strike, it has progressed with very little disorder or violent disturbance of any kind. (From the "Guaranty Survey", April 27, 1925.)

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In Holland there were 238 strikes during 1924, involving 25,800 workers. Of these 26 strikes carried on into 1925, 59 ended in victory, 85 in compromise and 50 in defeat, and the results of 17 have not yet been declared. Fifty-two per cent. were concerned with wages, 12 per cent. with collective agreements, and 9 per cent. with hours. The longest strike was in the textile industry. (From "Labour Research Department, Monthly Circular", May 1, 1925.)

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The Bank of Manual and Non-Manual Workers and Civil Servants Limited, which belongs to the "free" Trade Unions, and was founded on May 31, 1924, has just submitted its first report on activities.

The balance sheet of December 31 shows a gross profit of 229,061 marks and a net profit of 139,558 marks. Out of this net profit, 75,000 marks will be allocated to the statutory reserve fund, and 25,000 marks to a special reserve fund. A 10 per cent. dividend has been paid. (From the "Labour Magazine", May, 1925.)

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There has been a marked tendency of late among some Italian trade unions covering kindred trades to establish permanent links between each other.

For example, at a meeting held in Milan on 6 February, representatives of the workers in the printing trade, who belong to separate national federations for the several branches of the trade, all affiliated to the General Confederation of Labour, it was decided to set up a Joint Council for the Printing Industry, which should have as its objects:

(1) The examination of technical and trade union problems common to the four federations concerned, such as the drawing up of a standard of national labour contract, apprenticeship, women's work, occupational education, etc.

- (2) The co-ordination of the revision of wage rates.
 (3) The combined defence of all reforms obtained by trade union effort.
 (4) The gradual establishment of uniformity in the objects, rules and activities of the four federations.
 (5) The study of the possibility of publishing a periodical organ, dealing with the problems for the settlement of which the Joint Council is created. (From *Industrial and Labour Information*, Monday, 27 April 1925.)

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From the 5th to the 7th May the Danish Trade Union National Centre held its annual congress, 660 delegates attending to represent 230,000 workers. The chief subject of discussion was the policy to be adopted in regard to the widespread lock-out proclaimed by the Association of Employers' Organisations.

Sassenbach, the representative of the I. F. T. U., and delegates from Germany, Norway and Sweden who were also present, conveyed to the congress the greetings and fraternal sympathy of the workers of other countries. After long and close discussion a resolution, which will smooth the way to the resumption of discussions with the employers' organisation, was passed almost unanimously, one vote only being against it. On the third day of the Congress when the employers' association had been informed of the resolution, negotiations were recommenced. It is still doubtful whether or not they will lead to practical results in the form of a final settlement of the dispute, so that the relief action inaugurated by the I. F. T. U. must continue to run its course.

During the course of the Congress, the Executive's Report on Activities was approved unanimously, it was also resolved unanimously that every member should contribute 4 öre per annum to a national educational fund. The annual contribution to the national centre was unanimously fixed at 72 öre for members paying full dues, and 36 öre for members paying half trade union dues. An agreement was concluded between the trade union and the co-operative societies arranging for the settlement of disputes and providing for reciprocity of representation of the two bodies. (From *Press Reports of the I. F. T. U.*, May 14, 1925.)

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Dutch employers are not to be represented at the Seventh International Labour Conference (opening at Geneva on May 19th), because they and the Dutch Government cannot agree as to the number of technical advisers to be sent. The employers desired to nominate three, the Dutch Government insisted that there should be only two. The employers are taking advantage of Art. 389, Clause 3 of the Peace Treaty, and declining to send any. Unfortunately, the effect of this incident will be to deprive the Dutch Workers' delegate of his vote, for Art. 390 of the Peace Treaty provides that, if there is no employers' delegate, the Labour delegate may take part in the work of the Conference, but may not vote. (From *Press Reports of the I. F. T. U.*, May 14, 1925.)

In application of Section 8 of the French Decree of 26 September 1922, dealing with vocational guidance, the Under Secretary of State for Technical Education has issued an Order relating to the formation of a National Vocational Guidance Committee.

The Committee will comprise four sections: (1) economic; (2) scientific; (3) pedagogic; and (4) administrative.

These sections will deal respectively with questions concerning occupations and the labour market, problems of a medical, psychological and physical nature, the question of the part played by the school in vocational education, and the question of the creation of vocational guidance offices. (From the "*Industrial and Labour Information*", May 11, 1925.)

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Apprenticeship in Germany is controlled in many cases by means of collective agreements. Protests have recently been raised by craftsmen, who wish a clear distinction to be made between the regulation of conditions of apprenticeship and the regulation of conditions of labour in general.

Under a recent award on this question given by the State Tribunal of Cologne, conditions of labour established by means of collective agreements become conditions of apprenticeship, in the event of the parties concerned (employers and apprentices) being at the same time contracting parties to the collective agreement. (From the "*Industrial and Labour Information*", May 11, 1925.)

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The Act of 18 July 1924, which set up a system of compulsory unemployment insurance in Poland, has led during recent weeks to the publication of a number of Decrees, some to extend the scope of insurance and others to increase the period of benefits.

Further, a Bill for the inclusion of "intellectual" workers in the scheme of unemployment insurance is at present under discussion.

Section 1 of the 1924 Act, defining the scope of insurance, states that it applies only to workers in undertakings employing more than five workers. Under this definition, so-called "intellectual" workers were excluded. Unemployment, however, has of late developed to such an extent among "intellectual" workers that the Government has decided at once to submit a Bill to Parliament for the inclusion of such workers within the scope of unemployment insurance.

In view of the financial position of the country, the Government thought proper to relieve the State from any financial participation in this new branch of insurance, the cost of which is to be covered entirely by the contributions of employers and employees.

This has necessitated an increase in the contributions of undertakings, which will amount to 2.5 per cent. of the wages paid to "intellectual" workers, three-fifths of this sum being borne by the employers.

As the wages of "intellectual" workers are comparatively higher than those of manual workers, the rates of the benefits which will be paid to them in the event of unemployment are relatively lower, varying between 25 and 40 per cent. of their daily wage; the maximum wage for the purposes of the calculation of this percentage is reckoned at 8 zloty per day.

Workers who receive from their employer a discharge indemnity when their contracts are terminated will be entitled to unemployment relief only after the period on which such discharge indemnity is calculated.

Insurance will be compulsory only for "intellectual" workers whose wages do not exceed 400 zloty a month; for workers receiving between 400 and 700 zloty a month, insurance will be optional. (From the "Industrial and Labour Information", May 11, 1925.)

UNITED STATES

Average hourly earnings in pulp mills in 1923 ranged from 27.3 cents in Louisiana to 49.1 cents in Michigan and Ohio, according to U. S. Department of Labour. Figures were limited to mills making pulp by ground-wood, sulphite and sulphate processes. Average hourly earnings in paper mills ranged from 42.6 cents in writing-paper mills in Wisconsin to 65.9 cents in book-paper mills in New York. Average full time hours per week in pulp mills ranged from 50.3 hours in New England to 67.3 hours in Louisiana while in paper mills average full time hours ranged from 48.1 in newsprint mills in New England to 59.5 in wrapping-paper mills in Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia. (From the "Industrial News Survey", May 11, 1925.)

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A Bill has been introduced into the United States Senate for the promotion of pre-vocational education. It stipulates that in carrying out the Act for the Promotion of Vocational Education, passed on 23 February 1917, provision should be made for pre-vocational education on the same conditions as are specified in the Act in question, i.e., provision for co-operation between the Federal Government and the States.

By the term "pre-vocational" is meant preliminary and simplified training in subjects of general science and manual art, with a view to the development of the capacities of pupils and to enable them to prepare themselves for their work by means of supplementary vocational training. (From the "Industrial and Labour Information", May 11, 1925.)

OTHER COUNTRIES

The Japanese press during February reported a strike of Chinese workers employed in Japanese silk mills in Shanghai.

The strike, which involved, according to some reports, as many as 30,000 workers, and lasted nearly three weeks, began in the Nagai-men Spinning Factory on 10 February, when 6,000 Chinese stopped work. The dispute soon spread throughout the factory, in which 13,000 Chinese men and women are employed. A declaration to the following effect was issued by the strikers:

Though we work more than 12 hours a day, our wages are extremely low.....We demand the following conditions:

- (1) Henceforth, no beating of workers shall be tolerated.
- (2) Our wages shall be raised by 10 per cent.
- (3) The workers who have been discharged shall be reinstated, and the workers who have been detained shall be released.
- (4) Wages shall henceforth be paid fortnightly.
- (5) Wages shall be paid for the period of the strike.
- (6) Henceforth, no worker shall be discharged without proper cause.

On 12 February, about half the strikers in this factory returned to work; but the strike quickly spread to other factories, where it assumed the character of a riot rather than an orderly strike. A number of men, armed with revolvers, rifles and other weapons, attacked some work premises and smashed the machinery.

Within a week, eight out of eleven silk works owned by Japanese were involved; in terms of spindles, only 86,000 out of 913,000 remained unaffected.

In view of the grave outlook, the Spinners' Federation of Japan held a meeting in Osaka on 18 February and, in the name of sixteen spinning companies, adopted a resolution calling on the Government to open negotiations with the Chinese Government with regard to the dispute.

A telegram from Shanghai dated 27 February reported that the strike came to an end on the previous day, and that all the workers had returned to work.

According to the Jiji of 27 February, a compromise was reached on the following terms:

- (1) The workers will be treated kindly, as heretofore. If any case of maltreatment is found, the workers may appeal to the factory owner and redress will be given forthwith.
- (2) Workers who are content with their present conditions will be invited to remain in their present employment.
- (3) The detained workers will be released.
- (4) Grants for the encouragement of workers' savings will be given to workers who have been employed for more than five years. In the case of workers with a specially good record, the grants may be given even if they have not been employed for that period.
- (5) Wages will henceforth be paid fortnightly. (From "Industrial and Labour Information", Monday, 27 April 1925.)

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The Council of Secretaries of State in Chile has approved an Act for the protection of working women, the draft of which was presented by Mr. Jose Salas, Minister of Health and Social Welfare. The chief provisions of this Act are as follows:

Working women shall be entitled to a period of rest before and after childbirth amounting to 60 days; the employer may not dismiss a woman worker in such a case except in circumstances which thoroughly justify dismissal.

Every undertaking which employs more than 20 women must provide a room for children, under one year old, of their women workers. Workers to their children.

Managers of factories employing women must supply to each woman worker a copy of the text of the Act.

Any infringement of the Act is punishable by a fine of from 100 to 500 pesos.

Representatives of the Labour Department shall have the right, when they think desirable, to visit the factories in order to see that the law is being observed.

The President of the Republic will issue a Regulation for the application of the Act, which will supersede Act No. 3185 of 13 February 1917.

The new provisions will come into force 60 days after their publication in the Official Journal. (From the "Industrial and Labour Information", May 25, 1925.)

The Uruguayan National Council of Administration on 26th December 1924 approved a regulation granting to sailors on national coastwise boats a 48-hour week, with one day's rest in seven to be given at the discretion of the ship's master, either as a whole day or in two half-days.

A total or partial holiday period may be accumulated every three, six, or nine months by working during rest periods, at the rate of four hours work per half-day of holiday. On the expiration of his agreement, the sailor must be paid for the rest or holiday time accumulated, in proportion to his wages.

Crews who receive 20 per cent. or more of the ship's profits in addition to wages do not come under the eight-hour regulation.

Every boat is to carry a record, to be stamped by an agent of the Office of Labour, showing each month the hours of daily labour and the weekly rest periods given to the crew. (From the "Industrial and Labour Information", Monday, May 4, 1925.)

Owing to the great divergence between the various estimates, official and unofficial, of the number of persons unemployed at any time the need for the collection of accurate statistics of unemployment has long been felt in Japan. It is now reported that the Diet has approved the appropriation of 150,000 yen for the purpose of a national unemployment census. Of this sum, 130,000 yen will be expended in the course of the current year and the remainder next year. The census will be taken next October. (Abstracted from the "Industrial and Labour Information", 11th May, 1925.)

TABLE 1—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Name of District	Name of Union or Federation and Date of formation	Number of members	Name and address of	
			President or Chairman	Secretary
1. Bombay City	1. The Indian Seaman's Union—April 1921.	12,000	J. J. Adachi, Subah Building, Colaba Road, Fort, Bombay. Director—Dr. Theodor Frenkel	S. A. Bhatia, Subah Building, Colaba Road, Fort, Bombay.
	2. The B. & C. I. Railwaymen's Union—July 1920.	1,000	R. S. Chaudhary, 125, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay. Vice-President—F. J. Gonsalla, 125, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay.	S. H. Bhatwala, 125, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay. C. Chatterjee, B. B. & C. I. B. Work, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay.
	3. The G. I. P. Railwaymen's Union (Carriage and Wagon Departments)—May 1919.	950	F. J. Gonsalla, 125, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay.	S. H. Bhatwala, 125, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay. Assistant Secretary—V. P. Bhat.
	4. The Fort Trust Workshop Union—March 1920.	1,000	F. J. Gonsalla, 125, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay.	S. H. Bhatwala, 125, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay.
	5. The Clerks' Union—April 1918.	500	B. M. Anandani, B.A., Malabar Lumbering Company, Bank Street, Fort, Bombay. Vice-President—Nandlal Pathak, 125, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay.	1. Anant Pathak, 33, Malabar Street, Fort, Bombay. 2. S. Bhatwala, 125, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay.
	6. The Bombay Presidency Postmen's (including Packers) Union—April 1918.	1,064	F. J. Gonsalla, 125, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay.	S. H. Bhatwala, 125, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay. Assistant Secretary—D. B. D. K. Yashwanth, 1, Kankarwadi, Bombay.
	7. The G. I. P. Railway Staff Union—May 1921.	5,418	Motilal J. Mehta, Ag. Assistant Auditor, Audit Office, G. I. P. Railway, Bombay.	1. M. N. Vankar, 2. S. C. Joshi, Advocates.

* The name of this Union is misleading, as the Union is purely for the union staff and its members are of Goan nationality.

TABLE I—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Name of District	Name of Union or Federation and Date of formation	Number of members	Name and address of	
			President or Chairman	Secretary
1. Bombay City— <i>contd</i>	8. The Bombay Telegraph Workmen's Union—July 1922.	350	Not elected	S. H. Jhawalal, 123, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay.
	9. Bombay Postal Union (a)—1907.	1,285	None	D. S. Joshi, Soman Buildings, Gangaum Road, Bombay.
	10. The Bombay Currency Association—March 1923. Total Members, Bombay City ..	220 23,787	R. M. Dongre	1. S. C. Joshi. 2. B. B. Acharya. 3. M. D. Batliwala.
2. Ahmedabad ..	1. The Weavers' Union—February 1920.	3,990	Anusuya Sarabhai, Sewa Ashram, Ahmedabad.	Gulzari Lal Nanda, Labour Union Office, Ahmedabad. <i>Assistant Secretary</i> —Khan d u b h a i Kasanbhai Desai, Raipur, Ahmedabad.
	2. The Winders' Union—June 1920.	125	Do.	Do.
	3. The Throstle Union—February 1920.	6,975	Do.	Do.
	4. The Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union—August 1920.	2,320	Do.	Do.
	5. The Drivers, Oilmen and Firemen's Union—September 1920.	300	Do.	Do.
	6. The Post and Railway Mail Service Association—February 1919.	200	V. J. Patel, Khama, Ahmedabad.	M. V. Kothari, Raipur, Ahmedabad.
	7. The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees Association—February 1920.	5,000*	Do.	Do. <i>Assistant Secretary</i> —B. N. Sandil, Dolatkhana Sarangpur, Ahmedabad.
	8. Ahmedabad Postal and R. M. S. Union—1923.	263	None	D. S. Patel, Post Office, Ahmedabad.

* Approximate.

(a) The name of the union has been changed since April 1925.

TABLE I—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Name of District	Name of Union or Federation and Date of formation	Number of members	Name and address of	
			President or Chairman	Secretary
	9. The Motor Drivers' Union—March 1925.	200	Mahomed Nazir Jan Mahomed, Delhi Gate, Ahmedabad.	1. Sunilji Hingji Bhurucha, Solapur Road, Ahmedabad. 2. Hakim Abdul Raheman Hanumanji, Jamalpur, Solapur, Poona, Ahmedabad.
	Total Members, Ahmedabad ..	19,275		
3. Sukkur	N. W. Railway Union (Sukkur District)—September 1920.	3,574	Mr. Thakurdad, Head Clerk, District Loco Office, Sukkur, Portabai B. Adani.	Trikunath Kari, Station Road (Garibad), Sukkur.
4. Karachi	N. W. Railway Union (Karachi District)—1920.	3,500		Alim T. Gidwai.
5. Sholapur	The Barshi Light Railway Employees' Union—March 1921.	300	G. G. Bhadliwade, Kurduwadi.	G. T. Melgi, Kurduwadi.
6. Poona	1. The Press Workers' Union—February 1921.	110	John Mathews, Foreman, Scottish Mission Press, Poona Cantonment.	1. G. T. Salgal, 879, Shukrawar Peth, Poona City. 2. N. B. Parshat, Gaurishankar Press, Poona City. 3. Krishaji Shridhar Bende, Aryabhushan Press, Poona City. 4. D. S. Rajhagkar, Govardhan Press, Poona City.
	2. Poona Postal and R. M. S. Union—1919.	300	N. C. Kelkar, M.L.A., Editor, "Kesari".	N. V. Bhande, Poona.
7. Broach	1. The Fine Counts Mill Labour Union—October 1923.	360	None	Dinkarrao Narbheram, Pleader, Broach. Do.
	2. The Saraswati Mill Labour Union—October 1923.	360	Do.	Do.
8. Ahmednagar	Ahmednagar Postal and R. M. S. Union—1920.	311	Do.	H. K. Patvardhan, B.A., LL.B., Ahmednagar.
9. Belgaum	Belgaum Postal and R. M. S. Union—1920.	80	Y. V. Sundal-gikar, Belgaum.	G. D. Limaye, Belgaum.
10. Dharwar	Dharwar Postal and R. M. S. Union—1920.	170	N. N. Jog, B.A., LL.B., M.L.C., Dharwar.	L. N. Kurzagal, Dharwar.

JUNE, 1925

TABLE I—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—*concl.*

Name of District	Name of Union or Federation and Date of formation	Number of members	Name and address of	
			President or Chairman	Secretary
11. East Khandesh.	Jalgaon Postal and R. M. S. Union—1920.	101	None	C. B. Kulkarni, Jalgaon.
12. Nasik	Nasik Postal and R. M. S. Union—1920.	339	None	A. R. Rahalkar, Nasik.
13. Ratnagiri	Ratnagiri Postal and R. M. S. Union—1922.	228	Do.	A. K. Murtaza, Ratnagiri.
14. Satara	Satara Postal and R. M. S. Union—1919.	124	R. V. Deshpande.	T. K. Date, Satara.
15. Surat	Surat Postal and R. M. S. Union—1921.	150	None	B. N. Mistry, Surat.
16. Baroda	1. Baroda Postal and R. M. S. Union—1920.	150	Do.	R. J. Shah, Baroda.
	2. Baroda R. M. S. Union—1924.	150	Do.	M. K. Bhatt, Baroda.
17. Bhavnagar	Bhavnagar Postal and R. M. S. Union—1923.	75	Do.	T. J. Parekh, Bhavnagar.
18. Rajkot	Rajkot Postal and R. M. S. Union—1923.	149	Do.	H. K. Chhaya, Rajkot.
	Total, rest of Presidency ..	10,531		
	Total Members, Presidency ..	53,591		

TABLE II—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Name of District	Name of Union or Federation	Income per month	Sum paid per member per month	Expenditure per month
1. Bombay City ..		Rs.		Rs.
	1. The Indian Seamen's Union.	1,270	Rs. 6 (per year)	1,500
	2. The B. B. & C. I. Railwaymen's Union.	299	From As. 8 to 2 annas according to pay.	96
	3. The G. I. P. Railwaymen's Union.	271	Do. do.	157
	4. The Port Trust Workshop Union.	150	As. 4 for those earning Rs. 50 and under per month; As. 8 for those earning above Rs. 50.	45
	5. The Clerks' Union ..	100	As. 4	30
	6. The Bombay Presidency Postmen's (including Packers) Union.	611	From Rs. 1 to 4 annas	495
	7. The G. I. P. Railway Staff Union.	200	One day's pay per year	200
	8. The Bombay Telegraph Workmen's Union.	60	As. 4	16
	9. Bombay Postal Union (a).	813	As. 8 per clerk; As. 4 per postman; As. 2 for inferior employees.	594
2. Ahmedabad ..	10. The Bombay Currency Association.	40	Rs. 3 for clerk; and As. 8 for mensal per year.	33
	1. The Weavers' Union.	972	As. 4	175
	2. The Winders' Union.	151	As. 2	12
	3. The Throstle Union.	1,468	As. 4 per labourer; As. 2 per doffer; Anna 1 per half-day worker.	500
	4. The Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union.	580	As. 4	226
	5. The Drivers, Oilmen and Firemen's Union.	125	As. 6 per oilman; As. 8 per driver or fire-man.	14
	6. *The Post and Railway Mail Service Association.	Not reported.	.....	Not reported.
	7. The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Association.	Exact amount not available.	Rs. 2 per year for workers earning Rs. 50 and under per month; Rs. 3 for those earning Rs. 50 to 100; Rs. 4 for those earning Rs. 100 and upwards.	300
	8. Ahmedabad Postal and R. M. S. Union.	26	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk.	14
	9. The Motor Driver Union.	125	Entrance fee Rs. 5 and Re. 1 per month per public motor driver and entrance fee Rs. 2 and As. 8 per month per private motor driver.	75

* The members are not paying fees at present.
(a) The name has been changed since April 1925.

TABLE II—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Name of District	Name of Union or Federation	Income per month	Sum paid per member per month	Expendi-
				ture per month
		Rs.		Rs.
3. Sukkur	The N.W. Railway Union (Sukkur District).	540	Subscription at the rate of $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of monthly pay from all members.	160
4. Karachi	The N.W. Railway Union (Karachi District).	700	Do. do. do.	300
5. Sholapur	The Barsi Light Railway Employees' Union.	From 20 to 30.	An amount equal to one day's pay as drawn by a member on the 1st of January of each year.	From about 20 to 30.
6. Poona	1. The Press Workers' Union. 2. Poona Postal and R. M. S. Union.	4 182	As. 2 to As. 3 As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk.	About 2 196
7. Broach	1. The Fine Counts Mill Labour Union. 2. The Saraswati Mill Labour Union.	90 90	As. 4 per member Do.	Nil* Nil*
8. Ahmednagar	Ahmednagar Postal and R. M. S. Union.	53	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk.	87½
9. Belgaum	Belgaum Postal and R. M. S. Union.	53	Do.	28
10. Dharwar	Dharwar Postal and R. M. S. Union.	74	Do.	86
11. East Khandesh.	Jalgaon Postal and R. M. S. Union.	72	Do.	50
12. Nasik	Nasik Postal and R. M. S. Union.	94	Do.	40
13. Ratnagiri	Ratnagiri Postal and R. M. S. Union.	46	Do.	14
14. Satara	Satara Postal and R. M. S. Union.	62	Do.	84
15. Surat	Surat Postal and R. M. S. Union.	206	Do.	93
16. Baroda	1. Baroda Postal and R. M. S. Union. 2. Baroda R. M. S. Union.	70 75	Do. Do.	50 (†)
17. Bhavnagar	Bhavnagar Postal and R. M. S. Union.	34	Do.	Not reported.
18. Rajkot	Rajkot Postal and R. M. S. Union.	18	Do.	34

* Except some casual printing charges. † Newly established.

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN MAY 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 Ahmedabad Laxmi Cotton Mills Co., Ltd., Astodia Road, Ahmedabad.	390	...	17 April	4 May	Demand for a separate entrance.	Work resumed by majority and new hands engaged in place of others.
2. The Marsden Spinning Mills, Co., Ltd., Corruptur Road, Ahmedabad.	176	...	4 May	8 May	Demand for an increase in wages.	Work resumed on a promise to look into men's grievances.
3. The Ahmedabad Jupiter Mills Co., Ltd., Dudheshwar Road, Ahmedabad.	188	...	4 May	5 May	Demand for wages at the rate of 0-4-0 per pair of dhotis instead of 0-3-6.	Work resumed on a promise of considering the demand.
4. The New Swadeshi Mills, Naroda Road, Ahmedabad.	60	...	5 May	7 May	Demand for an increase in the rate of wages from 0-14-0 to 1-0-0 per 100 lbs.	Work resumed.
5. The Ahmedabad Advance Mills Co., Ltd., Shahibag Road, Ahmedabad.	200	...	9 May	11 May	Against the infliction of fine to the extent of wages for the days of absence without leave in addition to the forfeiture of wages for the days.	Demands granted.
6. The Ahmedabad New Spinning and Weaving Mills Co., Ltd., outside Raipur, Ahmedabad.	60	...	11 May	12 May	Demand for the reinstatement of a dismissed head looper.	New hands engaged.
7. The Saraspur Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Saraspur, Ahmedabad.	280	...	13 May	15 May	Against the excessive speed of the machine which broke the yarn very often.	Work resumed on an assurance of redressing the men's grievances.

JUNE, 1925

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN MAY 1925—contd.

Name of concern and locality	Approximate number of work-people involved		Date when dispute		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
8. The Spring Mill, Naigam Road, Bombay.	1,500	...	13 May 1925	15 May 1925	Men's demands were:— (1) Continuan c e of the old system in place of the new which required the weavers to clean the looms every day instead of twice a month under the old system, (2) Permission to females carrying food to pass through the folding department as before, (3) Sufficient supply of water for drinking and other purposes, (4) Provision of gates for all latrines.	Work resumed on a promise to look into the men's grievances.
9. The Bombay Industrial Mill, Pipe Road, Parel, Bombay.	355	...	16 May	22 May	Against the alleged reduction in wages for April 1925.	Work resumed unconditionally.
10. The Indian Woollen Mill, Haines Road, Bombay.	1,185	...	16 May	25 May	Against the reduction in the rates of wages.	Work resumed after a compromise.
11. The Whittle Mills Nos. I and II, Broach City.	686	...	17 May	18 May	Demand for an increase of 12½ per cent. in wages.	Work resumed.
12. The Shri Laxmi Weaving and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., G o m t i p u r, Ahmedabad.	50	...	18 May	20 May	Against the transfer of a jobber to another mill.	Work resumed by a few and new hands engaged in place of others.
13. The Gordhan Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd., Naroda Road, Ahmedabad.	150	...	18 May	21 May	Against the reduction in the rates of wages.	Work resumed after a compromise.

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PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN MAY 1925—contd.

Name of concern and locality	Approximate number of work-people involved		Date when dispute		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
14. The New Swadeshi Mills of Ahmedabad, Ltd., Naroda Road, Ahmedabad.	50	...	21 May 1925	22 May 1925	Against the dismissal of a jobber for inefficiency.	Work resumed unconditionally by majority and new hands engaged in place of the remaining.
<i>Engineering Trades.</i>						
15. N. W. Railway (a)						
(i) Carriage and Loco shops and Running Shed, Karachi.	3,339	...	17 April	...	Sympathy with the strikers at Rawalpindi, the ostensible demands being (1) payment of gratuity from 1st January 1923; (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.
(ii) Railway Shed and Karachi Fitting Staff at Kotri.	647	...	20 April	...		
(iii) Railway Loco and Carriage Shops and Engine Shed, Sukkur.	2,483	...	20 April	...		
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>						
16. The Vacuum Oil Co., Mazgaon, Darukhana Bombay.	26	...	15 May	16 May	Against the reduction in the number of hands.	Demands granted.

(a) Including Transport.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING MAY 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 April 1925	May 1925
	Jan to April 1925	May 1925	Jan to April 1925	May 1925	Jan to April 1925	May 1925	Jan to April 1925	May 1925	Jan to April 1925	May 1925		
I Textile Mills— Cotton Mills .. Woolen Mills .. Others ..	175 3 1	55	120	44	8	1	18	4	269 3 ..	94	295 3 1	99
Total ..	179	55	120	44	8	1	18	4	273	94	299	99
II Workshops— Engineering .. Railway .. Mint .. Others ..	9 17 2 4	2 .. 1 2	72 388 2 7	13 97 .. 1	.. 1 .. ..	.. 1 .. ..	.. 1 .. 2	.. .. .. ..	80 403 3 9	15 97 1 3	81 465 4 11	15
Total ..	32	5	469	111	1	..	5	..	495	116	501	116
III Miscellaneous— Chemical Works .. Flour Mills .. Printing Presses .. Others ..	.. 2 1 6	.. .. .. 1	1 .. 1 7	1 .. 1 1	.. .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	1 .. 2 12	1 .. 1 1	1 2 2 13	1
Total ..	9	1	9	2	3	..	..	1	15	2	18	3
Total, All Factories ..	220	61	598	157	12	1	23	5	783	212	818	218

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 April 1925	May 1925
	Jan to April 1925	May 1925	Jan to April 1925	May 1925	Jan to April 1925	May 1925	Jan to April 1925	May 1925	Jan to April 1925	May 1925		
I Textile Mills— Cotton ..	63	14	31	11	2	..	30	5	62	20	94	25
Total ..	63	14	31	11	2	..	30	5	62	20	94	25
II Miscellaneous— Match Factory .. Flour Mills .. Oil Mills .. Engineering ..	7	1 .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	.. .. 2 ..	.. .. .. ..	2 .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	5 1	1 1	7 .. 2 1	1
Total ..	7	2	2	..	2	..	2	..	6	2	10	2
Total, All Factories ..	70	16	33	11	4	..	32	5	68	22	104	27

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 MAY 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 April 1925	May 1925
	Jan to April 1925	May 1925	Jan to April 1925	May 1925	Jan to April 1925	May 1925	Jan to April 1925	May 1925	Jan to April 1925	May 1925		
I Workshops— Railway and Port Trust .. Engineering ..	1 1	2 ..	5 7	1 ..	1 ..	.. ..	1 ..	1 ..	3 4	2 ..	5 4	3
Total ..	2	2	12	1	1	..	2	1	11	2	14	3
II Miscellaneous ..	2	..	(a) 2	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	3	..
Total ..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	3	..
Total, All Factories ..	4	2	14	1	1	..	2	1	14	2	17	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 April 1925	May 1925
	Jan to April 1925	May 1925	Jan to April 1925	May 1925	Jan to April 1925	May 1925	Jan to April 1925	May 1925	Jan to April 1925	May 1925		
I Textile Mills— Cotton Mills .. Others ..	19 2	8 1	16 ..	5 ..	1 ..	.. ..	6 ..	4 ..	38 2	9 1	47 3	13
Total ..	21	9	16	5	1	..	6	4	40	10	50	14
II Workshops— Railway .. Arms and Ammu- nition Works .. Others ..	5 .. 1 10	.. .. .. ..	25 .. 1 12	8 .. 1 2	.. .. 1 ..	.. .. .. ..	3 3	.. .. .. ..	27 1 18	8 1 22	36 1 22	8
Total ..	15	1	38	11	1	..	6	..	46	12	58	12
III Miscellaneous— Ginning and Pres- sing Factories .. Paint Works .. Others ..	11 .. 3	1 .. 2	8 .. 10	2	7 .. 2	.. .. ..	2 .. ..	.. .. ..	18 .. 11	3 2 13	19 2 13	3
Total ..	14	3	18	2	9	..	2	..	21	5	26	5
Total, All Factories ..	50	13	72	18	11	..	14	4	97	27	122	31

Note.—For Explanations see previous page.

JUNE, 1925

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

Count or Number	Month of April			
	1923	1924	1925	
	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	5,724	3,911	6,236	
Nos. 11 to 20	16,622	14,507	19,699	
Nos. 21 to 30	8,543	12,045	13,636	
Nos. 31 to 40	621	1,302	1,168	
Above 40	112	341	404	
Waste, etc.	14	12	10	
Total	31,636	32,118	41,153	

BOMBAY CITY

	Pounds		
	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	5,409	3,321	5,636
Nos. 11 to 20	13,544	9,182	13,432
Nos. 21 to 30	6,838	6,746	9,084
Nos. 31 to 40	432	609	612
Above 40	64	158	229
Waste, etc.	4	3	2
Total	26,291	20,019	28,995

AHMEDABAD

	Pounds		
	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	4	237	182
Nos. 11 to 20	437	2,931	3,486
Nos. 21 to 30	425	4,101	3,552
Nos. 31 to 40	80	489	371
Above 40	18	145	128
Waste, etc. .. .. .	..	..	..
Total	964	7,903	7,719

JUNE, 1925

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

Description	Month of April		
	1923	1924	1925
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi (a)	702	772	700
Chudders	4,065	4,149	4,980
Dhotis	743	677	1,275
Drills and jeans	33	77	37
Cambrics and lawns	316	423	367
Printers	6,633	8,579	8,866
Shirtings and long cloth	1,046	630	1,376
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	62	111	176
Tent cloth	1,544	543	564
Other sorts			
Total	15,144	19,154	21,177
Coloured piece-goods	6,258	6,891	7,781
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	119	102	279
Hosiery	15	28	17
Miscellaneous	54	114	119
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	13	3	54
Grand Total	21,583	26,284	29,427

BOMBAY CITY

Description	Pounds		
	(000)	(000)	(000)
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi (a)	425	524	617
Chudders	1,799	1,551	2,382
Dhotis	696	757	1,098
Drills and jeans	22	59	23
Cambrics and lawns	28	2	7
Printers	4,893	5,717	6,657
Shirtings and long cloth	894	475	795
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	53	79	125
Tent cloth	1,133	206	246
Other sorts			
Total	9,543	9,910	12,417
Coloured piece-goods	5,073	4,740	5,199
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	114	99	267
Hosiery	7	8	8
Miscellaneous	52	108	103
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	13	..	53
Grand Total	14,812	14,865	18,047

(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	Month of April		
	1923	1924	1925
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi (a)	..	169	59
Chudders	..	246	411
Dhotis	..	1,684	3,469
Drills and jeans	..	15	42
Cambrics and lawns	..	6	11
Printers	..	145	288
Shirtings and long cloth	..	1,209	2,307
T. cloth, domestics and sheetings	..	140	140
Tent cloth	..	4	20
Other sorts	..	222	214
Total	3,671	7,071	6,339
Coloured piece-goods	..	551	1,308
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods
Hosiery	..	7	11
Miscellaneous	..	3	6
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	1
Grand Total	4,232	8,397	8,252

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

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months	Cereals	Fuel	Clothing and other necessities	Other necessities	All India	Food and clothing	Household	Cost of living
1922								
June	140	124	140	102	108	102	100	100
July	141	124	140	102	108	102	100	100
August	140	122	140	102	108	102	100	100
September	138	122	142	104	101	102	100	100
October	136	124	138	101	108	102	100	100
November	134	120	137	102	105	102	100	100
December	131	120	133	106	107	102	100	100
1923								
January	124	118	127	100	101	100	100	100
February	125	113	126	102	100	100	100	100
March	127	110	129	102	100	100	100	100
April	130	107	132	102	100	100	100	100
May	126	106	127	104	100	100	100	100
June	124	106	126	104	100	100	100	100
July	125	106	126	100	100	100	100	100
August	123	106	122	104	100	100	100	100
September	124	106	123	104	100	100	100	100
October	123	106	122	100	100	100	100	100
November	124	106	124	102	100	100	100	100
December	132	106	130	100	100	100	100	100
1924								
January	133	120	131	102	104	100	100	100
February	128	119	128	100	101	100	100	100
March	127	115	126	104	100	100	100	100
April	122	112	121	100	100	100	100	100
May	123	113	120	101	100	100	100	100
June	124	112	123	100	100	100	100	100
July	128	115	127	101	101	100	100	100
August	135	125	134	102	100	100	100	100
September	136	124	135	101	100	100	100	100
October	135	124	134	100	100	100	100	100
November	135	126	134	100	100	100	100	100
December	134	123	133	100	100	100	100	100
1925								
January	131	124	130	100	102	100	100	100
February	134	123	133	100	102	100	100	100
March	139	128	138	100	100	100	100	100
April	137	128	136	101	100	100	100	100
May	133	122	132	102	101	100	100	100
June	130	119	129	104	100	100	100	100

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Price				Index numbers			
			July 1914	May 1924	April 1925	May 1925	July 1914	May 1924	April 1925	May 1925
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.				
Cereals—										
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill	Md.	4 11 3	6 6 10	6 1 2	6 1 2	100	117	129	129
Wheat	Delhi No. 1	Cwt.	5 9 6	8 9 6	8 6 9	8 9 0	100	118	151	151
Do.	Khandwa Sonni	Candy	45 0 0	65 0 0	70 0 0	80 0 0	100	144	156	159
Do.	Jubbulpore	"	40 0 0	47 0 0	60 0 0	62 0 0	100	116	150	155
Jowari	Cawnpore	Maund	3 2 6	3 12 11	4 7 1	4 3 9	100	121	141	154
Barley	"	"	3 4 6	3 12 11	4 15 7	4 10 6	100	116	152	146
Bajri	Ghati	"	3 4 6	4 0 4	5 4 8	5 10 3	100	123	161	155
Index No.—Cereals			....	....	....	....	100	125	149	149
Pulses—										
Gram	Punjab yellow (2nd sort)	Maund	4 3 9	3 9 7	4 7 1	4 7 1	100	85	105	105
Turdal	Cawnpore	"	5 10 5	5 1 3	5 13 1	5 13 1	100	90	103	103
Index No.—Pulses			....	....	....	....	100	88	104	104
Index No.—Food grains			....	....	....	....	100	117	139	139
Sugar—										
Sugar	Mauritius	Cwt.	9 3 0	24 12 0	18 0 0	17 11 0	100	268	196	195
Do.	Java, white	Maund	10 3 0	24 4 0	18 4 0	17 14 0	100	238	179	175
Raw (Gul)	Sangli or Poona	"	7 14 3	10 3 3	12 3 11	13 5 4	100	129	155	169
Index No.—Sugar			....	....	....	....	100	212	177	179
Other Food—										
Turmeric	Rajapuri	Maund	5 9 3	29 14 11	14 4 7	10 7 7	100	537	296	188
Ghee	Delhi	"	45 11 5	85 11 5	85 11 5	85 11 5	100	188	188	188
Salt	Bombay (black)	"	1 7 6	2 4 0	2 0 0	2 4 0	100	153	136	133
Index No.—Other food			....	....	....	....	100	293	193	176
Index No.—All Food			....	....	....	....	100	271	197	193
Oilseeds—										
Linseed	Bold	Cwt.	8 14 6	22 4 0	22 6 0	22 6 0	100	128	128	128
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown)	"	10 14 0	22 6 0	22 6 0	22 6 0	100	117	128	128
Poppy seed	"	"	11 4 0	22 6 0	22 6 0	22 6 0	100	117	128	128
Gingelly	White	"	11 4 0	22 6 0	22 6 0	22 6 0	100	117	128	128
Index No.—Oilseeds			100	117	128	128

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LABOUR GAZETTE

Article	Grade	Rate per	Price				Index numbers			
			July 1914	May 1924	April 1925	May 1925	July 1914	May 1924	April 1925	May 1925
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.				
Textile—Cotton—										
(a) Cotton, raw—										
Branch	Fully good	Candy	18 0 0	55 0 0	40 0 0	40 0 0	100	74	89	89
Combed	Do.	"	18 0 0	55 0 0	40 0 0	40 0 0	100	74	89	89
Uncombed	New-ginned	"	18 0 0	55 0 0	40 0 0	40 0 0	100	74	89	89
Chandab	Machine-ginned	"	18 0 0	55 0 0	40 0 0	40 0 0	100	74	89	89
Bongal	Do.	"	18 0 0	55 0 0	40 0 0	40 0 0	100	74	89	89
Index No.—Cotton, raw			....	....	....	....	100	74	89	89
(b) Cotton manufactures—										
Twist	40S	Lb.	8 0 0	14 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	100	100	100	100
Grey shirtings	For 2,000	Yds.	4 0 0	12 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	100	100	100	100
White muslin	4,000	"	4 0 0	12 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	100	100	100	100
Shirtings	Lawson's 1,500	"	4 0 0	12 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	100	100	100	100
Long Cloth	Local made 36" x 37 1/2 yds.	"	4 0 0	12 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	100	100	100	100
Chaddars	14" x 8 yds.	"	4 0 0	12 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	100	100	100	100
Index No.—Cotton manufactures			....	....	....	....	100	100	100	100
Index No.—Textile—Cotton			....	....	....	....	100	100	100	100
Other Textile—										
Silk	Messora	Lb.	12 0 0	24 0 0	18 0 0	18 0 0	100	100	100	100
Do.	Messora Lark	"	12 0 0	24 0 0	18 0 0	18 0 0	100	100	100	100
Index No.—Other Textile			....	....	....	....	100	100	100	100
Hides and Skins—										
Hides, Cow	Top	Lb.	10 0 0	20 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	100	100	100	100
Do. Buffalo	"	"	10 0 0	20 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	100	100	100	100
Skins, Goat	"	"	10 0 0	20 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	100	100	100	100
Index No.—Hides and Skins			....	....	....	....	100	100	100	100
Meats—										
Cattle mutton		Lb.	10 0 0	20 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	100	100	100	100
Goat mutton		"	10 0 0	20 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	100	100	100	100
Chicken mutton		"	10 0 0	20 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	100	100	100	100
Do. mutton		"	10 0 0	20 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	100	100	100	100
Index No.—Meats			....	....	....	....	100	100	100	100
Other raw and manufactured articles—										
Raw wool	For 2,000	Lb.	10 0 0	20 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	100	100	100	100
Do. 4,000	"	"	10 0 0	20 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	100	100	100	100
Do. 8,000	"	"	10 0 0	20 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	100	100	100	100
Do. 16,000	"	"	10 0 0	20 0 0	15 0 0	15 0 0	100	100	100	100
Index No.—Other raw and manufactured articles			100	100	100	100

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WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN KARACHI

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Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices				Index Numbers			
			July 1914	May 1924	April 1925	May 1925	July 1914	May 1924	April 1925	May 1925
Cereals—			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.				
Rice	Larkana No. 3	Candy.	39 0 0	54 0 0	61 10 0(1)	57 4 0	100	138	158	147
Wheat, white	5% barley, 3% dirt, 30% red.	"	31 8 0	37 12 0	51 0 0	49 12 0	100	120	162	158
" red	5% barley, 3% dirt, 92% red.	"	31 4 0	36 12 0	49 0 0	47 12 0	100	118	157	153
" white	2% barley, 1 1/2% dirt	"	32 8 0	38 14 0	52 8 0	51 4 0	100	120	162	158
" red	2% barley, 1 1/2% dirt	"	32 4 0	37 14 0	50 8 0	49 4 0	100	117	157	153
Jowari	Export quality	"	25 8 0	28 0 0	40 4 0	41 12 0	100	106	158	164
Barley	3% dirt	"	26 8 0	29 8 0	37 0 0	39 12 0	100	111	140	150
Index No.—Cereals	....	....	..	..	..	..	100	119	156	155
Pulses—										
Gram	1% dirt	Candy	29 8 0	26 12 0	33 12 0(2)	34 8 0	100	91	114	117
Sugar—										
Sugar	Java white	Cwt.	9 2 0	22 12 0	16 5 0	16 2 0	100	249	179	177
"	" brown	"	8 1 6	..	..	..	100	..	..	..
Index No.—Sugar	....	....	..	..	..	..	100	249	179	177
Other food—										
Salt	....	Bengal Maund.	2 2 0	1 10 6	1 10 3	1 10 0	100	78	77	76
Oilseeds—										
Cotton seed	....	Maund.	2 11 3	4 2 0	3 11 0	3 13 0	100	153	136	141
Rapeseed	3% admixture	Candy.	51 0 0	63 8 0	73 8 0	76 12 0	100	128	144	150
Gingelly	Black 9% admixture	"	62 0 0	..	86 0 0	88 0 0	100	..	139	142
Index No.—Oilseeds	....	....	..	..	..	..	100	141	140	144
Textiles—										
Jute bags	B. Twills	100 bags.	38 4 0	58 0 0	64 8 0	61 0 0	100	152	169	159

LABOUR GAZETTE

JUNE, 1925

Textiles—Cotton—										
(a) Cotton, raw	Sind	Maund.	20 4 0	..	42 8 0	41 2 0	100	..	210	203
(b) Cotton manufactures										
Drills	Pepperill	Piece.	10 3 6	30 0 0	22 0 0	21 0 0	100	294	215	205
Shirtings	Liepmann's	"	10 2 0	27 0 0	24 0 0	24 0 0	100	267	237	237
Yarns	40s Grey (Plough)	Lb.	0 12 2	..	..	..	100	..	..	..
Index No.—Cotton manufactures	....	....	..	..	..	..	100	281	226	221
Index No.—Textiles—Cotton	....	....	..	..	..	..	100	281	221	215
Other Textiles—Wool	Kandahar	Maund.	28 0 0	40 0 0	45 0 0	36 0 0	100	143	161	136
Hides—										
Hides, dry	Sind	Maund.	21 4 0	18 8 0	20 0 0	18 8 0	100	87	94	87
" "	Punjab	"	21 4 0	18 8 0	20 0 0	18 8 0	100	87	94	87
Index No.—Hides	....	....	..	..	..	..	100	87	94	87
Metals—										
Copper Braziers	....	Cwt.	60 8 0	72 0 0	69 0 0	68 0 0	100	119	114	112
Steel Bars	....	"	3 14 0	6 8 0	6 8 0	6 8 0	100	168	168	168
" Plates	....	"	4 6 0	7 12 0	7 6 0	7 4 0	100	177	169	166
Index No.—Metals	....	....	..	..	..	..	100	155	150	149
Other raw and manufactured articles—										
Coal	1st class Bengal	Ton.	16 0 0	35 0 0	22 8 0	23 0 0	100	219	141	144
Kerosene	Chester	Case.	5 2 0	9 6 0	9 6 6	9 6 6	100	183	184	184
"	Elephant	2 Tins.	4 7 0	7 6 6	7 6 6	7 6 6	100	167	167	167
Index No.—Other raw and manufactured articles	....	....	..	..	..	..	100	190	164	165
Index No.—Food	....	....	..	..	..	..	100	125	146	145
Index No.—Non-food	....	....	..	..	..	..	100	167	159	156
General Index No.	100	150	154	152

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

JUNE, 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														
May ..	180	160	218	220	193	149	190	250	139	139	186	192	187	189
1923														
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	84	220	263	165	129	244	238	235	140	182	169	178	178
August ..	120	85	202	317	178	132	217	211	196	139	182	169	176	176
September ..	124	85	209	343	176	131	210	209	195	138	178	168	176	176
October ..	122	85	214	368	182	136	211	215	196	149	177	162	178	179
November ..	125	90	228	365	185	133	211	217	192	153	178	169	179	181
December ..	125	91	243	375	189	138	303	235	187	161	174	158	185	186
					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	188
March ..	123	84	217	263	165	129	244	238	235	140	171	164	190	181
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	185
June ..	131	92	213	293	175	137	259	236	201	149	170	158	190	185
July ..	143	98	211	260	174	150	265	232	187	150	166	166	189	184
August ..	146	97	198	262	173	146	260	235	203	150	170	161	190	184
September ..	142	95	197	250	168	148	260	232	181	145	169	167	188	181
October ..	141	95	196	263	170	154	260	223	178	156	167	161	186	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
May ..	149	104	179	176	155	144	187	215	143	153	163	155	170	164

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, 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	(b) 100	(e) 100	100	(c) 100	100	100	(g) 100
1915 ..	104	125	97	119	(d) 108	99	116	146	117	119	103	105
1916 ..	108	148	102	115	117	116	146	146	146	140	106	118
1917 ..	118	180	130	116	128	146	146	146	146	180	114	142
1918 ..	149	203	146	118	144	197	251	229	229	118	118	174
1919 ..	186	208	155	132	157	205	313	379	302	281	238	177
1920 ..	190	252	190	154	182	313	379	302	302	151	151	217
1921 ..	177	219	152	152	178	387	453	302	302	155	155	217
1922 ..	165	184	147	140	(f) 159	429	366	249	(d) 249	158	(g) 158	217
1923 August ..	154	171	149	156	158	(A) 483	439	332	332	164	130	172
September ..	154	173	148	156	158	487	453	332	332	164	131	172
October ..	152	175	149	156	158	502	458	332	332	167	132	172
November ..	153	175	150	156	158	502	463	332	332	167	133	172
December ..	157	177	150	152	158	499	470	332	332	168	133	173
1924 January ..	159	177	150	152	158	510	480	332	332	170	133	173
February ..	156	179	150	150	162	517	495	332	332	168	134	173
March ..	154	178	148	150	162	521	510	332	332	168	134	170
April ..	150	173	145	148	162	518	495	332	332	168	134	170
May ..	150	171	143	148	162	518	495	332	332	168	134	170
June ..	153	169	143	149	160	512	493	332	332	168	133	169
July ..	157	170	144	149	160	511	498	332	332	167	132	169
August ..	161	171	145	145	160	516	503	332	332	169	133	169
September ..	161	173	146	148	160	516	503	332	332	167	132	169
October ..	161	176	146	148	160	546	513	332	332	169	133	171
November ..	161	180	147	148	160	562	520	332	332	170	134	171
December ..	160	181	147	148	160	573	521	332	332	170	133	173
1925 January ..	157	180	149	149	161	580	521	332	332	170	133	173
February ..	157	179	150	148	161	592	517	332	332	170	133	173
March ..	159	179	148	148	161	602	517	332	332	170	133	173
April ..	158	175	147	147	161	602	511	332	332	170	133	173
May ..	156	173	147	147	161	602	511	332	332	170	133	173
June ..	154	173	147	147	161	602	511	332	332	170	133	173

(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) Representative of a family of four persons. (g) Average 1913 is the base. (A) The figures for July 1925 are for Milan. (B) Revised series from March 1922. (C) Revised figures. (D) 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 (b)	Sweden	Canada (b) (2)	United States of America (3)
No. of articles	43	56	151	51	92	24	150	45	48	93	47	236	325
1913 Average ..	* 100	100	(d) 100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1914 ..	100	95	..	..	106	100	..	102	105	(a) 100	100	100	100
1915 ..	97	..	..	..	147	102	..	140	145	(c) 159	116	103	98
1916 ..	117	..	..	..	138	124	..	188	222	233	145	109	101
1917 ..	148	..	..	..	153	169	..	262	392	341	244	131	122
1918 ..	236	196	..	..	178	207	..	339	392	341	244	179	177
1919 ..	222	239	..	..	228	226	..	356	297	322	330	199	194
1920 ..	216	260	150	203	228	299	307	510	281	(c) 377	347	244	206
1921 December ..	193	210	149	..	155	170	168	326	165	269	172	151	226
1922 ..	175	183	149	196	168	147	156	362	155	220	155	153	140
1923 May ..	180	199	158	..	178	134	160	401	149	233	158	155	156
.. June ..	180	198	155	200	187	128	159	409	149	230	160	156	152
.. July ..	178	192	155	194	189	123	157	407	145	235	160	156	153
.. August ..	176	190	153	191	184	120	155	413	142	231	160	154	151
.. September ..	179	210	157	193	180	123	158	424	145	234	155	153	150
.. October ..	181	212	156	194	179	129	158	420	148	237	153	155	154
.. November ..	186	210	158	197	181	134	161	446	153	242	151	153	152
.. December ..	188	211	158	207	182	137	164	458	154	244	150	154	151
1924 January ..	188	211	157	205	182	133	165	494	156	250	152	157	151
.. February ..	188	208	160	205	180	135	167	544	158	260	153	157	151
.. March ..	181	206	158	204	175	136	165	499	155	266	154	157	150
.. April ..	184	207	154	205	174	134	165	450	154	267	156	151	148
.. May ..	181	205	154	..	173	135	164	459	151	263	156	151	147
.. June ..	185	200	152	..	171	131	163	465	151	264	149	152	145
.. July ..	184	195	152	..	171	132	162	481	151	271	148	153	147
.. August ..	184	200	149	..	169	135	165	477	151	274	152	157	150
.. September ..	181	207	149	..	170	148	167	486	158	275	153	154	149
.. October ..	181	213	153	..	171	158	170	497	161	276	162	157	152
.. November ..	176	214	155	..	171	156	170	503	161	277	162	158	151
.. December ..	176	214	155	..	173	156	170	508	160	278	163	161	157
1925 January ..	173	214	160	..	171	157	171	515	160	279	164	165	160
.. February ..	173	214	160	..	170	161	169	516	158	281	164	165	161
.. March ..	171	..	160	..	..	155	166	515	155	276	164	162	161
.. April ..	165	..	159	..	..	..	163	..	..	267	160	157	160
.. May ..	164	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

* 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) Dominion Bureau of Statistics. (3) 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) ..	..	100(a)	100	100	100	100
1915 ..	105	132	105	107	131	112	98	120	95	..	..	114	..	124	128	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	239
1920 ..	188	258	227	197	194	167	215	373	318	..	..	210	319	297	253	250
1921 ..	174	220	148	139	161	164	145	306	402	100	1,278	1,000(a)	295	232	236	207
1922 ..	160	180	138	116	148	144	139	297	459	87	1,105	142	253	179	104	137
1923 August ..	149	165	142	115	165	143	146	328	(f) 490	109	1,052	137	220	161	..	162
.. September ..	149	168	141	115	161	145	146	339	496	115	1,067	143	218	165	..	168
.. October ..	147	172	143	117	157	147	147	349	502	115	..	142	217	165	..	168
.. November ..	147	173	144	120	157	147	148	355	503	119	..	142	221	164	..	166
.. December ..	152	176	145	118	156	147	147	365	499	121	1,083	140	226	164	..	166
1924 January ..	154	175	145	120	155	149	146	376	515	124	..	144	230	163	..	168
.. February ..	151	177	146	122	153	149	144	384	516	129	1,042	144	234	162	..	167
.. March ..	147	176	143	122	152	149	141	392	523	130	1,037	141	241	162	..	167
.. April ..	143	167	137	123	150	150	138	380	524	122	1,080	140	246	158	..	165
.. May ..	143	163	133	122	151	150	138	378	519	114	1,000	139	241	158	..	165
.. June ..	147	160	133	120	149	150	139	370	518	120	1,004	136	240	158	..	168
.. July ..	151	162	134	117	149	149	140	360	508	124	1,016	138	240	159	290	168
.. August ..	156	164	137	117	147	146	141	366	507	125	1,008	140	237	163	..	168
.. September ..	156	166	139	117	146	145	144	374	514	127	1,009	135	240	162	..	168
.. October ..	156	172	139	120	147	146	146	383	543	135	1,120	136	244	162	..	169
.. November ..	157	179	141	122	147	148	147	396	567	140	1,127	136	249	162	..	170
.. December ..	156	180	142	121	148	150	149	404	579	140	1,179	135	252	162	..	169
1925 January ..	152	178	145	120	148	147	151	408	590	141	1,180	135	257	160	215	168
.. February ..	152	176	147	120	149	146	148	410	610	139	1,099	135	263	160	..	168
.. March ..	155	178	145	121	151	150	148	415	624	..	1,119	..	264	161	..	168
.. April ..	153	172	142	..	152	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	266	161	..	168
.. May ..	151	167	..	..	..	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	168
.. June ..	149	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	168

(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 tabs from July 1923 are for Milan.

RETAIL PRICES OF ARTICLES OF FOOD IN APRIL AND MAY 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
		April 1925	April 1925	April 1925	April 1925	April 1925	May 1925	May 1925	May 1925	May 1925	May 1925
<i>Cereals—</i>		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Rice	Maund ..	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>	7 5 0 <i>131</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 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>	7 12 8 <i>139</i>	7 0 6 <i>167</i>	8 0 0 <i>170</i>	7 6 6 <i>143</i>	8 1 4 <i>150</i>
Jowari .. ..	.. ..	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>	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 13 7 <i>115</i>	5 11 5 <i>121</i>	4 10 4 <i>132</i>	5 15 0 <i>145</i>	5 11 0 <i>132</i>	4 13 0 <i>114</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>140</i>	<i>133</i>	<i>140</i>	<i>148</i>	<i>152</i>	<i>135</i>	<i>131</i>	<i>138</i>	<i>148</i>	<i>152</i>
<i>Pulses—</i>											
Gram	Maund ..	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>	5 8 8 <i>126</i>	4 9 2 <i>120</i>	5 5 4 <i>133</i>	4 11 5 <i>110</i>	5 6 2 <i>111</i>
Turdal	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>	6 10 5 <i>114</i>	6 8 6 <i>98</i>	8 0 0 <i>130</i>	6 14 10 <i>119</i>	7 0 0 <i>114</i>
<i>Index No.—Pulses</i>		<i>125</i>	<i>107</i>	<i>134</i>	<i>115</i>	<i>120</i>	<i>120</i>	<i>109</i>	<i>137</i>	<i>119</i>	<i>115</i>

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<i>Other articles of food—</i>											
Sugar (refined)	Maund ..	14 4 7 <i>187</i>	12 8 9 <i>173</i>	15 3 10 <i>189</i>	16 0 0 <i>190</i>	14 0 7 <i>180</i>	14 4 7 <i>187</i>	12 8 9 <i>173</i>	14 0 0 <i>182</i>	16 0 0 <i>190</i>	15 3 10 <i>189</i>
Jaggi (gul) .. ..	.. ..	14 4 7 <i>187</i>	10 10 8 <i>159</i>	13 5 4 <i>180</i>	13 5 4 <i>172</i>	12 15 9 <i>185</i>	14 4 7 <i>187</i>	10 10 8 <i>159</i>	13 5 4 <i>180</i>	13 5 4 <i>172</i>	12 15 9 <i>185</i>
Tea	Lb. ..	0 15 0 <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>	0 15 8 <i>201</i>	0 15 7 <i>200</i>	0 15 7 <i>200</i>	1 1 10 <i>171</i>	1 2 11 <i>230</i>
Salt	Maund ..	2 14 10 <i>137</i>	1 15 7 <i>130</i>	2 4 7 <i>131</i>	2 15 4 <i>133</i>	2 15 11 <i>139</i>	2 14 10 <i>137</i>	1 15 7 <i>130</i>	2 4 7 <i>131</i>	2 15 4 <i>133</i>	2 15 11 <i>139</i>
Beef	Seer ..	0 8 0 <i>135</i>	0 10 0 <i>160</i>	0 6 0 <i>100</i>	0 5 1 <i>101</i>	0 8 0 <i>140</i>	0 8 0 <i>135</i>	0 10 0 <i>160</i>	0 6 0 <i>100</i>	0 5 1 <i>101</i>	0 8 0 <i>140</i>
Mutton .. ..	.. ..	0 12 4 <i>185</i>	0 17 0 <i>200</i>	0 8 0 <i>130</i>	0 10 0 <i>147</i>	0 10 8 <i>147</i>	0 12 4 <i>185</i>	0 17 0 <i>200</i>	0 8 0 <i>130</i>	0 10 0 <i>147</i>	0 10 8 <i>147</i>
Milk	Maund ..	17 9 4 <i>291</i>	10 0 0 <i>200</i>	10 0 0 <i>200</i>	13 5 4 <i>230</i>	13 5 4 <i>230</i>	17 9 4 <i>291</i>	10 0 0 <i>200</i>	11 5 10 <i>200</i>	13 5 4 <i>230</i>	13 5 4 <i>230</i>
Ghee .. ..	.. ..	101 5 1 <i>200</i>	87 5 4 <i>200</i>	90 0 0 <i>200</i>	90 0 0 <i>200</i>	90 5 4 <i>200</i>	101 5 1 <i>200</i>	87 5 4 <i>200</i>	90 0 0 <i>200</i>	90 0 0 <i>200</i>	90 5 4 <i>200</i>
Potatoes .. ..	.. ..	7 2 3 <i>130</i>	5 0 1 <i>107</i>	5 0 8 <i>110</i>	7 4 4 <i>137</i>	4 10 10 <i>130</i>	7 2 3 <i>130</i>	5 0 1 <i>107</i>	5 0 5 <i>108</i>	7 4 4 <i>137</i>	4 10 10 <i>130</i>
Onions .. ..	.. ..	5 5 9 <i>260</i>	3 2 8 <i>174</i>	5 0 0 <i>200</i>	4 10 0 <i>200</i>	2 15 1 <i>131</i>	5 5 9 <i>260</i>	3 2 8 <i>174</i>	5 0 0 <i>200</i>	4 10 0 <i>200</i>	2 15 1 <i>131</i>
Common oil .. ..	.. ..	26 2 8 <i>117</i>	26 2 7 <i>116</i>	22 0 8 <i>100</i>	22 15 15 <i>116</i>	26 2 7 <i>116</i>	26 2 8 <i>117</i>	26 2 7 <i>116</i>	22 0 8 <i>100</i>	22 15 15 <i>116</i>	26 2 7 <i>116</i>
<i>Index No.—Other articles of food</i>		<i>200</i>	<i>170</i>	<i>200</i>	<i>200</i>	<i>200</i>	<i>200</i>	<i>170</i>	<i>200</i>	<i>200</i>	<i>200</i>
<i>Index No.—All food articles (average)</i>		<i>200</i>	<i>157</i>	<i>196</i>	<i>196</i>	<i>196</i>	<i>207</i>	<i>170</i>	<i>196</i>	<i>196</i>	<i>196</i>

JUNE 1925
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