

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Month	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No. food	Oils and fats	Base cotton	Cotton manufactures	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw and man-made articles	Index No. non-food	General Index No.
1928	149	123	156	153	148	137	138	102	143	155	151	146	152	151
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Aug
Sep
Oct
Nov
Dec

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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. VIII] BOMBAY, JULY, 1929

The Month in Brief

BOMBAY MILL STRIKE CONTINUES
 The general strike in the Bombay Cotton mills still continues but more and more men are returning to work. On July 31st, 71 mills were working out of 73, with some 98,000 men. Over two-thirds of the operatives are therefore at work. The Court of Inquiry, presided over by Mr. Justice Pearson, has started to take evidence. The representatives of the Girni Kamgar Union informed the Court that they were not prepared to call off the strike until the men's demands were granted.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE TEXTILE AND ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES
 In the textile industry, except in Bombay City where the strike affecting 64 mills was in progress, the supply of labour was equal to the demand during the month of June 1929. The average absenteeism was 3.48 per cent. for Ahmedabad, 1.41 per cent. for Viramgaum, 18.89 per cent. for Sholapur and 1.44 per cent. for Broach.

In the engineering industry in Bombay City the supply of both skilled and unskilled labour was adequate. Absenteeism was 13.44 per cent. in the engineering workshops, 5 per cent. in the Marine Lines Reclamation of the Development Directorate, 10.36 per cent. in the Bombay Port Trust Docks and 9.17 per cent. in the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust. In the engineering workshops of the Karachi Port Trust the percentage absenteeism was 6.10.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBER
 In July 1929, the Bombay Working Class Cost of Living Index Number was 148, as against 147 in the preceding month. The Index Number for food articles only was 145.

INDEX NUMBER OF WHOLESALE PRICES
 The Wholesale Prices Index Number in Bombay for June 1929 was 143.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES
 There were nine industrial disputes in the month of June 1929. The number of workpeople involved was 127,892 and the number of working days lost 1,768,382.

BALANCE OF TRADE
 During June 1929, the visible balance of trade, including securities, in favour of India amounted to Rs. 773 lakhs.

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

Month	1926	1927	1928	1929
May	146	146	147	146
April	146	146	147	146
March	146	146	147	146
February	146	146	147	146
January	146	146	147	146
Others	146	146	147	146
Wheat	146	146	147	146
Rice	146	146	147	146
Other cereals	146	146	147	146
Pulses	146	146	147	146
Other food articles	146	146	147	146
Metals	146	146	147	146
Hides and skins	146	146	147	146
Other textiles	146	146	147	146
Cotton fixtures	146	146	147	146
Raw cotton	146	146	147	146
Oilseeds	146	146	147	146
Other non-food articles	146	146	147	146
General index No.	146	146	147	146

The Cost of Living Index for July 1929
A RISE OF ONE POINT
Increase over July 1914 ... 48 per cent.

In July 1929, 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 City was 1 point higher than in the previous month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914, the general index number was 147 in June and 148 in July 1929. The general index number was 45 points below the high-water mark (193) reached in October 1920 and 1 point higher than the twelve-monthly average for the year 1928.

As compared with June 1929, the index number for all food articles advanced by 1 point to 145. A rise of 1 point in rice and of 2 points in bajri and the index number for Cereals remained the same. Pulses declined by 2 points due to a fall of 2 points in gram and of 1 point in tur dal. The combined average for all food grains stood at 137. Among other food articles, tea and cocoanut oil fell by 4 points each; but green and potatoes rose by 4 and 13 points respectively. Beef and mutton advanced by 13 and 11 points respectively. The price of the remaining articles was practically stationary during the month under review. The index number for the "fuel and lighting" group stood at 175. The index number for the "Clothing" group advanced by 1 point to 160 due to a rise in the price of shirtings.

Percentage increase over July 1914

	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929
Per cent.	73	56	59	57	55	56	54	49
January ..	65	55	56	57	54	55	48	46
February ..	65	54	54	59	55	55	45	49
March ..	62	56	50	58	53	52	47	47
April ..	63	53	50	56	53	53	44	48
May ..	63	52	53	54	55	54	47	47
June ..	65	53	57	57	55	54	46	47
July ..	64	54	61	52	55	57	46	48
August ..	65	54	61	51	55	54	45	45
September ..	62	52	61	53	55	51	46	46
October ..	60	53	61	53	54	50	47	47
November ..	61	57	60	55	56	51	48	48
December ..	61	57	60	55	56	51	48	48
Yearly average ..	64	54	57	55	55	54	47	47

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 index is based on those collected between June 16 and July 15, 1929.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX—JULY

Articles	Unit of quantity	Assumption (In crores)	Price per Unit of Quantity			Price X Mass Unit		
			July 1914	June 1929	July 1929	July 1914	June 1929	July 1929
Cereals—	Maund	70	Rs. 5.594	Rs. 6.651	Rs. 6.729	Rs. 391.56	Rs. 465.57	Rs. 471.63
Rice	..	21	5.594	7.484	7.141	117.47	157.16	149.96
Wheat	..	11	4.354	5.380	5.469	47.89	59.18	60.16
Jowari	..	6	4.313	6.292	6.125	25.98	37.75	36.75
Bajri
Other food articles	582.82	719.66	717.90
Total—Cereals	100	123	123
Pulses—	Maund	10	4.362	7.359	7.271	43.02	73.59	72.71
Gram	..	3	5.844	8.417	8.250	17.55	25.25	24.75
Turdal
Total—Pulses	60.55	98.84	97.46
Index	100	163	161
Other food articles	Maund	2	7.620	10.714	10.714	15.24	21.43	21.43
Sugar (refined)	..	7	8.557	13.693	13.693	59.90	95.65	95.65
Raw Sugar (Gul)	..	40	40.000	77.776	76.068	1.00	1.94	1.90
Salt	..	28	2.150	3.146	3.240	10.65	15.75	16.10
Beet	..	33	0.325	0.469	0.510	9.84	13.13	14.28
Mutton	Maund	14	9.198	17.583	17.583	128.77	246.16	246.16
Milk	..	11	50.792	89.880	92.859	70.19	134.62	139.29
Ghee	..	3	4.479	7.141	7.740	49.27	78.55	83.14
Potatoes	..	3	1.552	3.573	3.573	4.66	10.72	10.72
Other food articles	..	4	25.396	26.786	25.594	12.70	13.59	12.80
Total—Other food articles	381.18	654.59	668.19
House-rent	100	172	175
Total	1,024.55	1,473.09	1,483.55
Index	100	144	145
Case Maund	5	4.375	6.594	6.594	21.88	32.97	32.97	
..	48	0.792	1.099	1.099	38.02	52.75	52.75	
..	1	0.542	0.672	0.651	0.54	0.67	0.65	
Firewood	60.44	86.39	86.37
Coal	100	143	143
Clothing—
Chadders	Lb.	27	0.594	0.953	0.938	16.04	25.73	25.33
Shirtings	..	25	0.641	1.005	1.026	16.03	25.13	25.65
T. Cloths	..	36	0.583	0.938	0.938	20.99	33.77	33.77
Total—Clothing	53.06	84.63	84.75
House-rent	100	172	172
Total	1,251.07	1,838.51	1,849.07
Grand Total	100	147	148
Cost of Living Index Numbers

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

General Index No.	151	145	146	147	148
Index No. non-food articles	152	145	146	147	148
Other raw and man-made articles	146	145	146	147	148
Metals	151	149	147	147	147
Hides and skins	155	142	142	142	140
Other textiles	143	136	140	142	141
Cotton manufactures	182	161	161	163	177
Raw cotton	138	128	142	149	154
Oilseeds	137	143	145	143	143
Index No. food	148	141	143	141	143
Other food	153	150	155	164	161
Sugar	156	134	132	130	133
Pulses	123	125	127	130	129
Cereals	149	144	145	143	139
Month	1926	1927	1928	1929	1929
May	145	145	145	145	145
April	145	145	145	145	145
March	145	145	145	145	145
February	145	145	145	145	145
January	145	145	145	145	145

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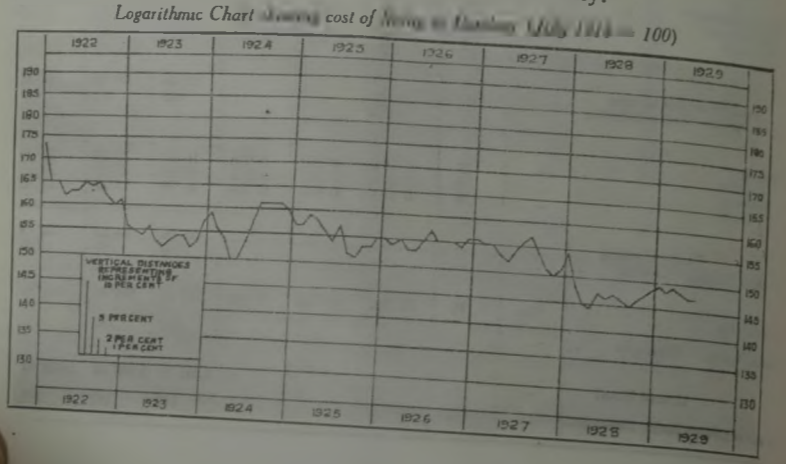
The following table shows the price levels of articles of food in June and July 1929 as compared with the price level for July 1914, which is taken as 100. The levels are calculated from the prices of articles per standard (or railway) maund or seer.

Articles	July 1914	June 1929	July 1929	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in July 1929 over or below June 1929	Articles	July 1914	June 1929	July 1929	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in July 1929 over or below June 1929
Rice	100	119	120	+ 1	Salt	100	148	152	+ 4
Wheat	100	134	128	- 6	Beef	100	145	158	+ 13
Jowari	100	124	126	+ 2	Mutton	100	166	177	+ 11
Bajri	100	146	142	- 4	Ghee	100	191	191	..
Gram	100	171	169	- 2	Potatoes	100	177	183	+ 6
Turdal	100	144	141	- 3	Onions	100	159	173	+ 14
Sugar (refined)	100	141	141	..	Cocoanut oil	100	230	230	..
Raw sugar (gul)	100	160	160	..	All food articles (weighted average)	100	144	145	+ 1
Tea	100	194	190	- 4					

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

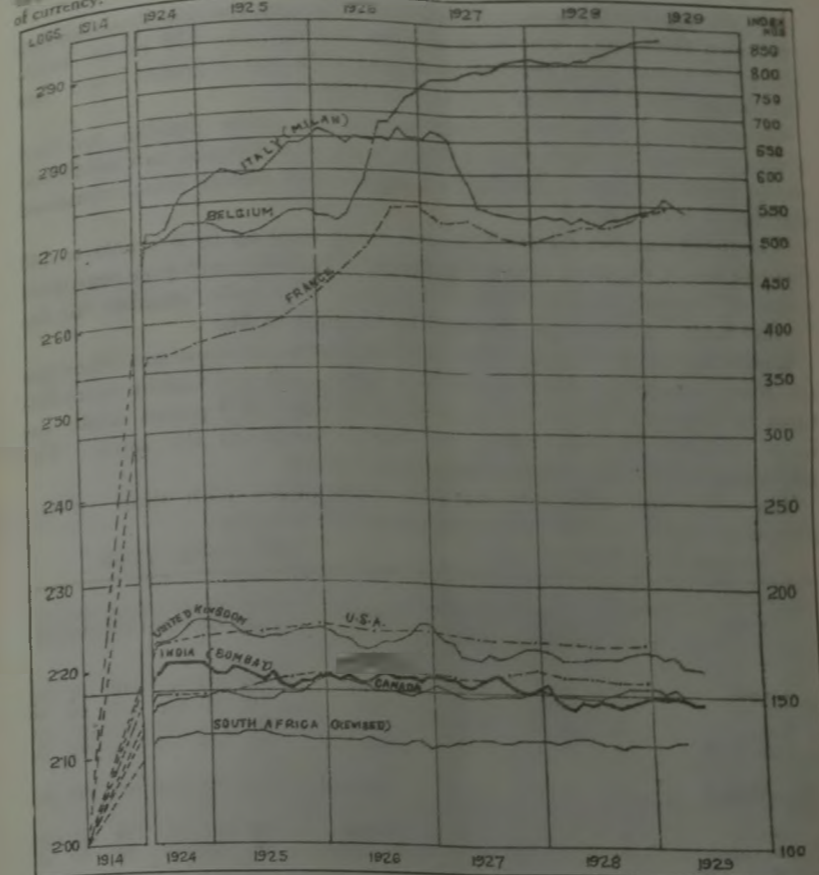
Rice 17, Wheat 22, Jowari 21, Bajri 30, Gram 41, Turdal 29, Sugar (refined) 29, Raw Sugar (gul) 37, Tea 47, Salt 34, Beef 17, Mutton 41, Milk 48, Ghee 45, Potatoes 42, Onions 57 and Cocoanut Oil 1.

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 and 10 pies for all items and 11 annas for food articles only.



Comparison with the Cost of Living in Other Countries

The diagram on this page shows the cost of living Index Nos. in Bombay middle of 1924. The diagram is on the logarithmic scale of currency.



The following are the sources of the Index Nos.: (1) India—Labour Office, Bombay, (2) The United Kingdom—Ministry of Labour Gazette, (3) New Zealand—Census and Statistics Office, Wellington (by cable), (4) South Africa—Monthly Bulletin of Union Statistics, (5) The U. S. A.—Bulletin issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, (6) Canada—The Labour Gazette, published by the Department of Labour, Canada, (7) Australia—Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations, (8) Belgium—The Revue du Travail, (9) All other countries—from the Ministry of Labour Gazette, United Kingdom. In the case of Italy the Index No. is for Milan. The India figure is for Bombay only.

In all cases the Index Number is for working classes 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.

Month	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
May	140	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168
June	140	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168
July	140	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168
August	140	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168

Wholesale and Retail Prices
WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY

Increase over July 1914

In June 1929, the index number of wholesale prices in Bombay was 143 as against 141 in the previous month. As compared with May 1929, there was a rise of 6 points in the all-foods index but the non-food average remained the same. The general index number was 141, 3 points below the highest peak (263) reached in August 1918 and 3 points lower than the twelve-monthly average for the year 1928.

As compared with the previous month, the index number for food grains advanced by 7 points to 144 due to a rise of 9 points in Cereals and of one point in Pulses. All the food grains except turdal, which was stationary, rose in price.

The index number for the "Sugar" group went up by 6 points to 140 due to a rise in the price of raw sugar (gul). Turmeric and ghee registered a rise of 3 points each and salt of 8 points. The index number for the "other food" group thus advanced by 5 points to 167.

Under the non-food group, Other textiles, Hides and skins and Other manufactures by 1 point. Oilseeds registered an increase of 3 points while the index number for Raw cotton and Metals remained the same. The index number for the non-food group stood at 141.

The sub-joined table compares June 1929 prices with those of the preceding month and the corresponding month last year.

Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay † 100 = Average of 1928

Groups	No. of items	+ or - % compared with May	+ or - % compared with June	Groups	June 1928	Sept 1928	Dec 1928	Mar 1929	May 1929	June 1929
1. Cereals	7	+ 2	+ 8	1. Cereals	102	103	107	101	101	101
2. Pulses	2	+ 1	+ 6	2. Pulses	99	100	106	99	98	97
3. Sugar	3	+ 1	- 8	3. Sugar	114	102	97	97	100	101
4. Other food	3	+ 1	- 15	4. Other food	111	109	94	90	91	92
All food	15	+ 4	- 1	All food	104	104	100	100	99	98
5. Oilseeds	4	+ 2	+ 4	5. Oilseeds	100	102	103	104	101	101
6. Raw cotton	5	- 22	- 22	6. Raw cotton	106	95	91	91	91	91
7. Cotton manufactures	6	- 1	- 1	7. Cotton manufactures	101	101	102	101	101	101
8. Other textiles	2	- 2	- 7	8. Other textiles	104	97	98	98	98	98
9. Hides and skins	3	- 1	- 5	9. Hides & skins	96	101	108	105	105	105
10. Metals	5			10. Metals	101	101	101	104	104	104
11. Other raw and manufactured articles	4	- 1	- 4	11. Other raw and manufactured articles	101	104	99	99	98	98
All non-food	29		- 5	All non-food	100	100	101	100	99	97
General Index No.	44	+ 1	- 4	General Index No.	102	101	101	101	101	97

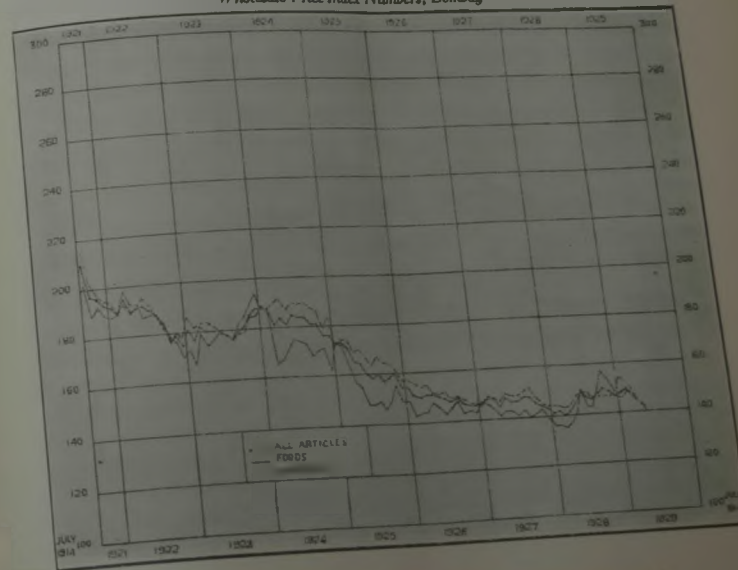
† Actual prices will be found on pages 1127. † Wholesale prices in Karachi will be found on pages 1128-1129.

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

	Food Index No.	Index No.	General Index No.
Twelve-monthly average for 1918 ..	171	275	239
" 1919 ..	202	234	223
" 1920 ..	206	219	216
" 1921 ..	193	201	198
" 1922 ..	186	187	187
" 1923 ..	179	182	181
" 1924 ..	173	188	182
" 1925 ..	155	167	163
" 1926 ..	145	152	149
" 1927 ..	143	148	147
" 1928 ..	144	146	146
Six-monthly 1929 ..	148	144	145

The diagram below shows the course of the changes in the Index Numbers for Foods, Non-foods and all articles in the Bombay wholesale market from September 1921.

Wholesale Price Index Numbers, Bombay



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

Month	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No. food	Oilseeds	Raw cotton	Cotton manufactures	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw materials and manufactures	Index No. non-food	General Index No.
May 1926	149	123	156	153	148	137	138	182	143	155	151	146	152	151
1927	144	125	157	150	141	140	128	161	136	142	149	147	147	146
April	145	127	158	151	143	141	149	161	137	142	142	146	149	147
June	143	120	155	149	143	140	149	161	137	142	142	146	149	147
July	143	120	155	149	143	140	149	161	137	142	142	146	149	147
August	142	121	154	154	141	141	154	165	136	142	142	146	149	147
September	142	121	154	154	141	141	154	165	136	142	142	146	149	147
October	135	131	153	163	140	140	163	172	135	140	140	146	152	146
November	135	131	153	163	140	140	163	172	135	140	140	146	152	146
December	136	135	153	166	141	141	166	164	134	141	141	144	148	144

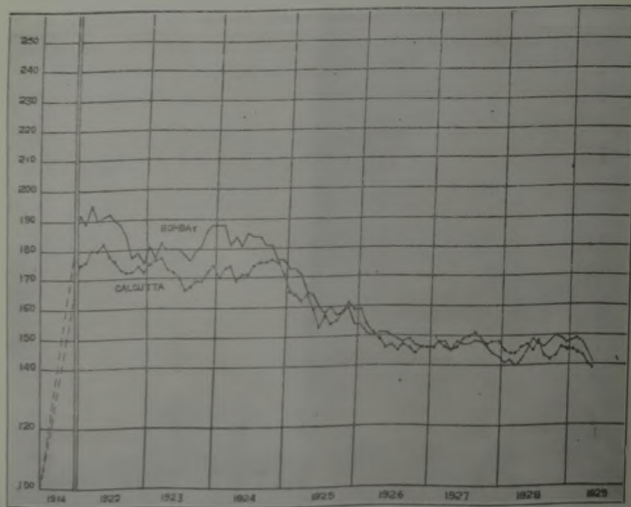
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COMPARISON BETWEEN THE INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA

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.

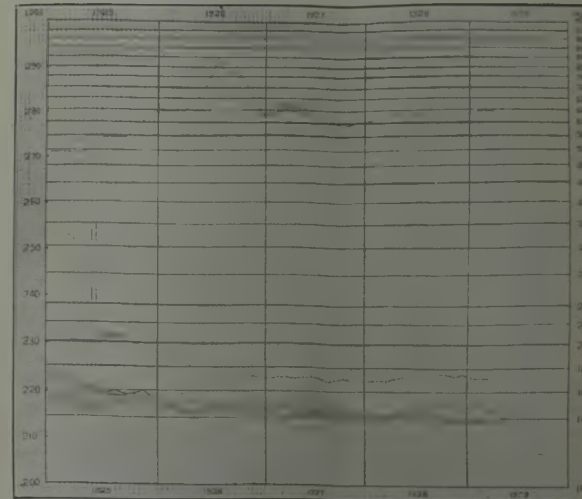
The items included in the indices are 44 for Bombay and 71 for Calcutta. The groups included in the Calcutta index but excluded from that for Bombay are tea (3 items), oil (2 items), jute-raw (3 items), jute manufactures (4 items) and building materials (1 item). There are no groups included in the Bombay 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. The increase in prices over July 1914 was definitely lower in Calcutta than in Bombay though there was a tendency for the divergence to diminish in degree, and at the end of 1925 and in the beginning of 1926 and the middle of 1927 the two curves temporarily crossed. Prices in Bombay were lower than those in Calcutta between June 1927 and May 1928 and in July 1928.

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 Labor Statistics; France and Japan, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations.

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), Ministry of Finance, Bureau of Markets, Shanghai; Egypt (Cairo), Monthly Agricultural Statistics, published by the Statistical Department, Ministry of Finance; Java (Batavia), Monthly Bulletins of Statistics of Prices and Index Numbers in the Neth.-Indies; Australia, Norway, Sweden and Holland, figures republished in the Monthly Bulletin of Statistics, published by the League of Nations.

The Labour Office also keeps on record 20 other Index Numbers, including three privately published for the United Kingdom and three 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 three for the United States of America are those of Bradstreet, Prof. Irving Fisher and Dun.

Month	1926	1927	1928	1929
May	151	152	153	154
June	155	156	157	158
July	160	161	162	163
August	164	165	166	167
September	168	169	170	171
October	172	173	174	175
November	176	177	178	179
December	180	181	182	183

Article	Grade	Rate per	Equiva- lent in tolas	July 1929			Increase (+) or decrease (-) in June 1929 over or below	
				July 1914	July 1929	June 1929	July 1914	July 1929
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill.	Paylee	208	5 10	7 1	6 11	+1 1	-0 2
Wheat	Pisi Seoni *	"	196	5 10	7 1	7 4	+1 6	+0 2
Jowari	Best Sholapuri	"	192	4 3	5 2	5 2	+0 11	"
Bajri	Chati	"	196	4 7	6 0	6 2	+1 7	+0 2
Gram	Delhi*	"	188	4 4	7 1	6 11	+2 7	+0 2
Turdal	Cawnpore	"	200	5 11	8 2	8 5	+2 6	+0 3
Sugar (refined)	Java, white	Seer	28	1 1	1 6	1 6	+0 5	"
Raw Sugar (Gul)	Sangli, middle quality	"	28	1 2	1 10	1 11	+0 9	+0 1
Tea	Assam, Darjeeling	Lb.	39	7 10	14 9	15 2	+7 4	+0 5
Salt	Best	Paylee	180	1 9	2 8	2 10	+1 1	+0 2
Beef	"	Lb.	39	2 6	3 6	3 8	+1 2	+0 2
Mutton	"	"	39	3 0	5 6	5 5	+2 5	-0 1
Milk	Medium	Seer	56	2 9	4 11	4 11	+2 2	"
Ghee	Belgaum, superior	"	28	7 1	12 5	12 7	+5 6	+0 2
Potatoes	Ordinary	"	28	0 8	0 11	1 0	+0 4	+0 1
Onions	Nasik	"	28	0 3	0 6	0 6	+0 3	"
Cocoanut oil	Middle quality	"	28	3 7	3 10	3 9	+0 2	-0 1

Collection of prices.—The following are the places where price quotations are obtained for articles other than butcher's meat:—
1. Dadar—Dadar Station Road, Ferguson Road,
2. Kumbharwada—Kumbharwada Road (North End), DeLisle Road,
3. Saitan Chowki—Kumbharwada Road (South End),
4. Elphinstone Road,
5. Naigam—Naigam Cross Road and Development Road,
6. Parel—Poiwadi,
7. ...
8. ...
9. ...
10. ...
11. ...
12. Nal Bazar.

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 shown in the margin of the table. The prices are collected by the investigators of the Labour Office.

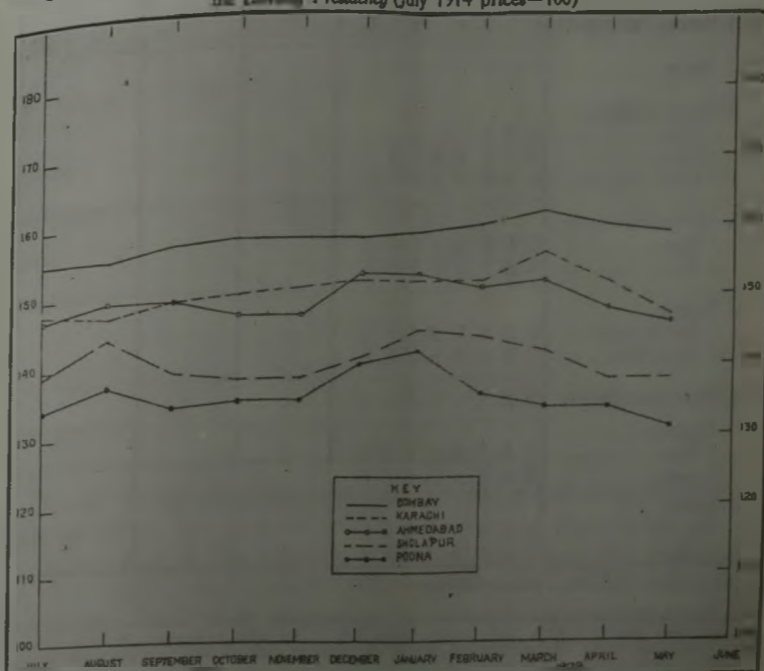
The variations in prices during June 1929 as compared with the preceding month were within narrow limits. Among food grains, rice and gram declined by 2 pies each per paylee, but wheat and bajri recorded a rise of 2 pies each per paylee and turdal of 3 pies per paylee. The price of jowari showed no change. Among other food articles, tea and beet rose by 5 and 2 pies respectively per lb. and salt by 2 pies per paylee. Raw sugar (gul) and potatoes advanced by 1 pie each per seer and ghee by 2 pies per seer; but mutton was cheaper by 1 pie per lb. and cocoanut oil by 1 pie per seer. The price of the remaining articles was practically stationary during the month under review.

As compared with July 1914, all articles show a rise in prices. Onions are double the prewar price. Tea, mutton, milk and ghee have risen by more than 75 per cent.; gul and salt by more than 60 per cent. and refined sugar and beef by more than 35 per cent. The price of cocoanut oil is only 5 per cent. above its prewar level.

*In the case of wheat and gram, the equivalents in tolas shown in columns 4 relate to "Pisi Sarabatti" and "Punjab" variety respectively.

Articles	May 1929					June 1929				
	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
Rice (1)	160	109	130	159	139	160	109	130	152	132
Wheat (1)	163	145	143	125	137	161	136	142	125	135
Jowari	122	131	131	128	127	128	132	131	137	127
Bajri	132	136	137	131	135	138	136	136	128	140
Gram	172	175	154	135	137	176	168	154	138	137
Turdal	153	120	144	132	131	156	120	144	129	131
Sugar (refined)	158	138	126	114	113	158	138	125	110	113
Jagri (Gul)	148	135	129	140	140	157	135	129	150	168
Tea	190	225	200	171	200	190	225	200	171	200
Salt	122	145	151	141	134	119	145	151	141	144
Beef	179	180	160	201	141	179	180	160	201	141
Mutton	161	167	167	133	150	169	167	167	133	158
Milk	191	195	200	136	133	191	200	200	138	133
Ghee	154	156	144	163	119	154	167	171	163	119
Potatoes	159	123	131	125	104	159	131	145	200	122
Onions	230	122	133	107	70	230	152	138	107	70
Cocoanut oil	100	96	160	109	100	106	96	160	109	100
Average—All food articles	159	147	148	138	131	161	149	148	143	134

Chart showing the unweighted Retail Prices Food Index Numbers (17 articles) in five centres of the Bombay Presidency (July 1914 prices=100)



(1) The Bombay index numbers for rice and wheat since June 1928 are for "Mandla" and "Pisi Sarabatti" varieties instead of for "Rangoon Small Mill" and "Pisi Seoni" respectively.

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

Month	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
May	149	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161
June	149	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161
July	149	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161
August	149	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161
September	149	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161
October	149	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161
November	149	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161
December	149	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161

PROGRESS OF THE MONSOON, 1929

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

RAINFALL DIVISION	JUNE				JULY				AUGUST			SEPTEMBER			OCTOBER									
	5th	12th	19th	26th	3rd	10th	17th	24th	31st	7th	14th	21st	28th	4th	11th	18th	25th	1st	8th	15th	22nd	29th		
I BOMBAY PRESIDENCY																								
1 River (Rainfall)	F	F	F	F	S	S	S	S	S															
2 Gujarat	S	S	F	F	F	F	F	F	F															
3 Deccan	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F															
4 Konkan	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F															
II, MADRAS PRESIDENCY																								
1 Malabar	E	N	F	F	F	F	F	F	F															
2 Deccan	S	S	S	F	F	F	F	F	F															
3 Coast North	N	N	F	F	F	F	F	F	F															
4 South East	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F															
III, MYSORE	F	F	S	F	F	N	S	F																
IV, HYDERABAD																								
1 North	S	S	E	E	E	N	F	S																
2 South	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F																
V, CENTRAL PROVINCES																								
1 Berar	S	N	F	E	E	E	F	F																
2 West	N	E	S	N	F	F	F	F																
3 East																								
VI, CENTRAL INDIA																								
1 West	S	S	F	E	S	F	F	F																
2 East	E	E	S	N	S	F	S	E																
VII, BENGAL PRESIDENCY																								
1 North	E	E	S	N	N	N	F	E																
2 South	F	E	S	F	N	N	F	E																
VIII, ASSAM																								
1 North	F	E	S	F	N	N	F	E																
2 South	F	E	S	F	N	N	F	E																
IX, BIHAR & ORISSA																								
1 Bihar	F	F	S	F	N	N	N	N																
2 Orissa	S	F	F	S	S	F	E	E																
3 Chota Nagpur	N	F	S	S	F	N	E	E																
X, UNITED PROVINCES																								
1 East	E	F	S	E	N	N	F	N																
2 West	E	S	F	N	F	F	S	E																
XI, PUNJAB																								
1 East & North	E	S	E	E	S	F	F	E																
2 South West	N	S	N	S	S	F	E	E																
XII, NORTHWEST FRONTIER																								
1 West	S	S	N	N	E	F	N	E																
2 East	S	S	N	N	E	F	N	E																
XIII, RAJPUTANA																								
1 West	S	S	N	N	E	F	N	E																
2 East	S	S	N	N	E	F	N	E																
XIV, BURMA																								
1 Lower	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F																

Labour Intelligence—Indian and Foreign
Industrial Disputes in the Presidency

Disputes in June . 9 Workpeople involved .. 127,892

At the end of this issue will be found a statement of each dispute in progress during June 1929, 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 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 one 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. Table I shows the number and magnitude of strikes in June 1929 and the number of working days lost.

I.—Industrial Disputes Classified by Trades

Trade	Number of disputes in progress in June 1929		Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in June 1929	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in June 1929
	Started before June	Started in June		
Textile	6	3	9	127,892
Transport	...	...	...	...
Engineering	...	...	...	...
Metal	...	...	...	...
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...
Total	6	3	9	127,892

During the month under review the number of industrial disputes was nine of which five occurred in Bombay, three in Ahmedabad and one in Barsi. One of the disputes in Bombay City was the continuation of the strike which affected 64 textile mills. The number of workpeople involved in these disputes was 127,892 and the number of working days lost (i.e., the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days less workers replaced) was 1,768,382.

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

Month	Grains	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Foodstuffs	Oilseeds	Raw cotton	Cotton fabrics	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw and man-made articles	Index No. (July 1914 = 100)	General Index No.
July 1927	149	123	153	153	140	137	138	182	143	155	153	146	152	152
August	144	125	150	150	142	143	140	161	143	152	147	156	150	150
September	145	126	148	148	145	145	149	161	143	152	147	156	150	150
October	139	127	146	146	145	143	149	162	143	152	147	156	150	150
November	135	125	145	145	141	141	153	162	143	152	147	156	150	150
December	140	135	152	152	141	141	153	166	143	152	147	156	150	150
January 1928	136	139	155	155	142	143	148	164	143	152	147	156	150	150

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes.

II—Industrial Disputes—Causes and Results, July 1928 to June 1929

	July 1928	August 1928	September 1928	October 1928	November 1928	December 1928
Total number of disputes in progress ..	6	5	5	14	23	44
Disputes in progress at beginning of the month ..	4	3	3	4	3	7
Disputes which began during the month ..	2	3	2	10	20	37
Disputes ended during the month ..	3	3	1	11	16	37
Disputes in progress at end of the month ..	3	3	4	3	7	7
Number of workpeople involved ..	170,780	170,982	171,289	175,965	37,414	73,861
Number of working days lost ..	4,141,454	4,151,788	4,088,637	1,258,581	156,855	364,875
Demands—						
Wages ..	2	3	4	6	16	29
Bonus ..	2	1	....	....	....	....
Personal ..	....	....	....	4	6	10
Leave and hours ..	....	....	....	....	....	1
Others ..	2	2	1	4	1	4
Results—						
In favour of employees..	1	1	....	1	4	12
Compromised ..	2	....	....	4	3	3
In favour of employers..	....	2	1	6	9	22
Inconclusive ..	....	....	....	....	....	....

II—Industrial Disputes—Causes and Results, July 1928 to June 1929—contd.

	January 1929	February 1929	March 1929	April 1929	May 1929	June 1929
Total number of disputes in progress ..	16	6	10	12	11	9
Disputes in progress at beginning of the month ..	7	2	1	4	6	6
Disputes which began during the month ..	9	4	9	8	5	3
Disputes ended during the month ..	14	5	6	6	5	5
Disputes in progress at end of the month ..	2	1	4	6	6	4
Number of workpeople involved ..	20,890	4,335	29,728	126,570	130,222	127,892
Number of working days lost ..	34,800	36,800	368,690	595,742	2,342,100	1,768,382
Demands—						
Wages ..	4	3	2	6	1	....
Bonus ..	....	....	....	....	....	....
Personal ..	7	3	6	5	10	6
Leave and hours ..	....	....	1	1	....	....
Others ..	5	....	1	....	....	3
Results—						
In favour of employees..	3	....	3	2	....	2
Compromised ..	3	1	....	....	....	1
In favour of employers..	8	4	3	4	4	2
Inconclusive ..	....	....	....	....	1	....

It may be of interest to state that the highest peak (4,243,194) in respect of the number of working days lost through strikes in this Presidency since April 1921 was reached in May 1928, whereas the lowest level was reached in December 1927, when no strikes were reported. The nearest approach to this was in May 1924 when only 390 working days were lost.

GENERAL REVIEW OF DISPUTES

The number of industrial disputes involving stoppages of work reported as beginning in the month of June 1929 was 3 as compared with 5 in the previous month. The number of workpeople involved in these disputes was 507 and the number of working days lost amounted to 710. All these three disputes come under the classification "Other causes." In addition, six disputes including a strike affecting 64 textile mills in Bombay City involving 127,385 workpeople in all, which continued into the month under review, resulted in a time loss amounting to 17,67,672 man-days. Out of the nine old and new disputes settlements were arrived at in the case of five disputes during the month. The results were favourable to the employers in two cases, to the workers in two other cases and a compromise was effected in the remaining case.

Progress of Individual Disputes

BOMBAY CITY

During the month under review there were five industrial disputes in progress in Bombay City. One of these was the continuation of a dispute which affected the Spring Mill. The mill worked on all the working days during the month with a daily varying number of hands ranging from 3000 to 3770 except that on June 5th the number of hands working in the mill was 1895. The Bombay Girni Kamgar Union distributed rations to about 200 strikers on the 7th June. This strike continued into the next month.

The second was the continuation of a dispute which had begun in the Textile Mill in the month of March 1929. The number of hands working in the mill at the beginning of the month was 2475 and it rose to 2715 by the 8th June. The strike terminated on the 14th June on which day the mill worked with its full complement of 2800 hands. The result of this dispute was in favour of the employers.

The third was the continuation of a dispute in the Century Mill. The mill worked on all the working days with a varying numbers of hands. The attendance at the mill on the 29th June was 3647. The next day was Sunday and the mill remained closed. This strike continued into the next month.

The fourth was the continuation of a dispute which had begun in the Morarji Goculdas Mill in the month of April. The mill continued to work throughout the month under review. The attendance which amounted to 2115 at the beginning of the month dropped to 1000 on the 6th June. After this date, the mill worked with a daily increasing number of hands and on the 15th June, 1665 operatives were working in the mill. The attendance at the close of the month was 1925 and the dispute continued into the next month.

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

Month	General Index No.	Other raw materials	M	Hides and skins	Wool	Iron and alloys	New iron	Others	Grain	Other food	S	Prices	C
1926	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151
May 1927	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151
April	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151
May	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151
June	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151
July	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151
August	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151
September	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151
October	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151
November	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151
December	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151	151

The fifth dispute was the continuation of the strike which affected 64 textile mills in Bombay City and which had affected 109,232 workers by the beginning of the month of May. With four exceptions, all the mills in the City were working on the 1st June 1929. A meeting of the Managing Committee of the Bombay Girmi Kamgar Union was held on this day when a resolution was passed expelling Mr. Lalji Pendse, one of the Vice-Presidents of the Union, from Honorary Membership of the Union for carrying on strike-breaking and anti-working-class activities. On the 3rd June, six mills remained closed and seven other mills were closed in the afternoon for want of a sufficient number of hands. On the 4th and 5th June the numbers of mills which remained closed were 14 and 19 respectively. The Managing Committee of the Bombay Girmi Kamgar Union, at a meeting held on the 6th June, appointed Mr. H. L. Hutchinson as a Vice-President of the Union in the place of Mr. Lalji Pendse. A Relief Committee was also formed for collecting funds for the strikers from the public and from other trade unions.

On the 7th, a deputation of the Bombay Share and Stock-brokers' Association waited upon the Chairman and the Committee of the Mill-owners' Association to discuss the situation in connexion with the strike with a view to its solution. Nothing, however, came out of the meeting to settle the strike. The volunteers of the Bombay Girmi Kamgar Union went round the chawls occupied by mill-hands on Sunday the 8th advising them to abstain from going to work on the next day. In a Marathi leaflet issued by the Bombay Textile Labour Union on the 10th June, the strikers were advised to resume work as their places would otherwise be filled by outsiders.

The Honourable the General Member came down to Bombay on the 11th June and granted separate interviews to the representatives of the Girmi Kamgar Union, the Millowners' Association, the Indian Merchants' Chamber, the Native Stock Brokers' Association and the President of the Bombay Municipal Corporation. The representatives of the Bombay Girmi Kamgar Union were firm in their determination not to yield in respect of any of their demands all of which they stated must be acceded to by the Millowners before work was resumed.

On the 12th June the Labour Sub-Committee of the Bombay Provincial Congress Committee interviewed the Committee of the Millowners' Association and the representatives of the Bombay Girmi Kamgar Union with a view to bring about a settlement, but nothing came of it. Cases of assaults on workers of different mills were reported to the Police on each day from the 12th to the 17th June 1929. The workers in all the working mills were paid, on the 15th June, their outstanding wages for the month of May. On Sunday the 16th June, the volunteers of the Bombay Girmi Kamgar Union again went round the chawls of the workers and advised them to continue the strike.

His Excellency the Governor of Bombay came to Bombay from Poona on the 18th and held a Joint Conference with the representatives of eighteen public bodies and associations on the 19th June in order to ascertain public opinion on the best method of dealing with the strike. His Excellency, in his opening speech, said that the object of the conference was to consult

the widest possible interests from the point of view of the City as a whole as Government wished to learn the views held by representative public bodies as to the measures necessary to cope with the strike situation; and that if the conference were agreed in making any constructive suggestions he proposed to explain what the attitude of Government would be towards those suggestions and what each of them would involve. All the Bodies at the conference then expressed their views on the measures which should be taken by Government to deal with the situation. In concluding the day's proceedings, His Excellency stated that a summary and notes, on the existing legislation which was appropriate to the various forms of action which had been suggested, together with proposals regarding any additional legislation that might be necessary, would be circulated to the bodies which had been represented at the Conference; and the Meeting was adjourned until Friday the 21st June. When the Conference re-assembled on that date, the representatives of the various public bodies again expressed their views on the measures that were necessitated by the strike situation in the light of the discussions of the 19th June and the notes and the summary which had been forwarded to them by Government. His Excellency then outlined the steps which Government proposed to take to deal with the situation in the light of the opinions expressed at the Conference. He stated that Government equally with the members attending the Conference were against anything in the nature of repressive measures and that a Court of Enquiry under the Trade Disputes Act, 1929, would be set up immediately with the following terms of reference :-

1. To inquire into and ascertain the exact nature of the dispute or disputes between the employers and workmen of the following mills which led to the strike in those mills in March and April 1929.
2. If there was any such dispute, to what extent the employers or workmen or both are responsible in matters connected therewith.
3. What are the causes of the prolongation of the strike. Whether the employers or workmen or both are responsible for such prolongation, and if so, to what extent?
4. What are the difficulties in the way of a settlement of the dispute or disputes between the employers and the workmen?

His Excellency then said that intimidation and terrorisation of the kinds generally agreed to exist at some of the chawls of the workers could not be permitted to continue; and while he would strongly urge that the action of the parties concerned should in their own interests equally with those of the general public help to enforce their eradication, the Police would also be directed to pay particular attention to this. His Excellency further announced that Government intended to take all necessary steps to stop it and in order that the initiative might not be left to private persons, the Governor General would be moved to make and promulgate an Ordinance making the offence of criminal intimidation of the kind to which he had referred cognisable, pending the legislation necessary to effect this change in the Law. A Bill for the purpose of controlling picketing on the lines of the English Law would also be placed before the Legislative Council at its next session and if, in the meanwhile, circumstances compelled the

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

Month	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No. total	Oilseeds	Raw cotton	Cotton factories	Other textiles	Flax and jute	Metals	Other raw and finished articles	Index No. non-food	General Index No.
May 1926	140	25	56	153	140	137	136	182	43	55	151			
June 1927	148	27	132	157	141	143	28	161		56	157			
July	143	100	130	157	143	145	149	161		57	156			
Aug.	143	100	130	157	143	145	149	161		57	156			
Sept.	143	100	130	157	143	145	149	161		57	156			
October	143	100	130	157	143	145	149	161		57	156			
November	143	100	130	157	143	145	149	161		57	156			
December	143	100	130	157	143	145	149	161		57	156			

introduction of such a measure, it would be done by means of an Ordinance. Government also contemplated the introduction in the Legislative Council of a measure on the lines of the Presidency Areas Security Act of Bengal. Its object was to carry out in a very much better way than had been possible so far, the measures necessary to deal with hooligans and bad characters such as had necessitated the temporary prison at the Worli Chawls during the recent communal riots. In conclusion His Excellency said that it was his earnest hope that the employers of labour would, as one of the lessons of the present troubles, take counsel together and organise themselves in a determined effort to make a real difference in the life of the workpeople, and so with the confidence of a happier and contented population, place the mill industry of Bombay on a far sounder basis than ever before.

Some assaults on workers were reported on the 20th June, and on the next day a volunteer of the Bombay Girni Kamgar Union was arrested by the Police for obstructing and abusing the workers going into a mill. Meetings of the strikers were held on the 27th, 28th and 29th June, when the speakers exhorted them to continue the strike and to persuade other workers to abstain from working in the mills. They also advised the men not to believe in the figures of attendance at the mills published by the Millowners' Association. The Bombay Girni Kamgar Union distributed grain on all the four Mondays to a total of 24,923 strikers during the month under review.

Marathi leaflets were issued daily by the Bombay Girni Kamgar Union exhorting the strikers to remain firm in their demands and not to resume work. Leaflets in Hindi were also distributed for the benefit of the workers coming from Upper India. The Millowners' Association also continued to issue Marathi wall posters as a counter propaganda to that carried on by the Bombay Girni Kamgar Union.

Almost all the mills were picketed on all the working days throughout the month by the volunteers of the Bombay Girni Kamgar Union usually numbering over 150. Pickets were also posted every day at some of the mills by the millowners.

The number of hands working in all the affected mills was about 46,965 on the 21st June and it continued to rise every day up to the close of the month. The attendance at the mills was 54,880 on the 29th June. All the mills were closed on the next day as it was Sunday. The Managing Committee of the Bombay Girni Kamgar Union, which met on the 30th June decided to continue the picketing of mills vigorously. This dispute was in progress at the end of the month. In accordance with the announcement made by His Excellency the Governor on the 21st June a Court of Enquiry consisting of the following three persons was appointed by Government on the 3rd July 1929:—

The Honourable Mr. H. G. Pearson, Puisne Judge, Calcutta High Court, Chairman.

Mr. F. S. Talyarkhan, Bar-at-Law, Member.

Mr. Rupchand Bilaram, B.A., LL.B., Additional Judicial Commissioner, Sind, Member.

Mr. H. D. Warden, a Senior Superintendent in the General Department has been appointed to act as Secretary of the Court.

AHMEDABAD

There were three disputes in progress in Ahmedabad during June 1929. One of these disputes occurred in the Fine Knitting Mill. The workers of the mill were paid their wages on the 31st May instead of on the 30th May. Resenting this delay, 76 operatives of the Throstle department struck work in the morning on the 1st June and demanded regularity in payment of wages. The next day was Sunday and the mill remained closed. The management agreed to the demand of the strikers who resumed work on the 3rd June. This strike ended in favour of the workers.

The second dispute took place in the Rajnagar Spinning Weaving and Manufacturing Mill. As a protest against inadequate arrangements for drinking water and a dining shed, 236 operatives of the Throstle department struck work at noon on the 15th June. The next day was Sunday and on the 17th June, the officials of the Ahmedabad Labour Union persuaded the strikers to resume work. On the 18th June, all the strikers resumed work in the morning as the management promised to redress their grievances. The strike terminated in a compromise.

The third dispute occurred in the Ahmedabad New Standard Mill. The weavers working on the night shift used to leave their work incomplete on the machines. This affected the weavers on the day-shift in as much as they had to waste about an hour every day over the incomplete work. The day-shift weavers complained that they got less pay and 30 of them struck work at 1 p.m. on the 25th June, demanding the discontinuance by the weavers of the night shift leaving their work incomplete. On the morning of the next day 165 additional weavers also struck work in sympathy. Seventy-five strikers resumed work on the 27th June and the management engaged 50 new hands. The strikers were paid their wages in the afternoon of the Sunday. On the 28th, the Management agreed to compensate the day-shift weavers for the time they had to waste on the incomplete work left by the weavers of the night shift. Thereupon 100 strikers resumed work and in the place of the remaining 20 strikers new hands were working. The result of this strike was favourable to the workers.

BARSII

There was one dispute in progress in the Lokmanya Mill at the beginning of the month under review. In addition to the reinstatement of the two dismissed operatives, the strikers demanded an increase of one rupee in their monthly wages and the payment of a weekly bonus instead of a monthly one. The management refused these demands of the strikers, and stated that they were unable to pay more as the mill was started quite recently. 6 strikers resumed work on the 1st June and two more on the 2nd. By the 20th June, 41 additional strikers resumed work and the remaining four strikers left the service of the mill. The result of this strike was in favour of the employers.

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

Month	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Oilseeds	Wool	Iron	Cotton	Other	Machinery	Other raw	Index No.	General
May 1926	140	137	148	137	148	136	162	146	151	146	152	151
June 1927	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143
July	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143
August	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143
September	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143
October	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143
November	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143
December	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143

Employment Situation in June

THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY

The sources of the statistics regarding absenteeism in the Textile Industry in the Bombay Presidency are the returns prepared and sent in by the various mills in the different centres of the Presidency every month. Returns were received from 50 or 69.44 per cent. of the mills reported as working at the various centres of the Presidency except Bombay City where the strike in the Textile Industry, affecting 64 mills, was in progress throughout the month. On account of this fact, the Presidency average of percentage absenteeism in the Textile Industry as a whole has not been worked out for the month of June.

As 64 mills in Bombay City were affected by the strike no statistics of absenteeism have been compiled for this centre.

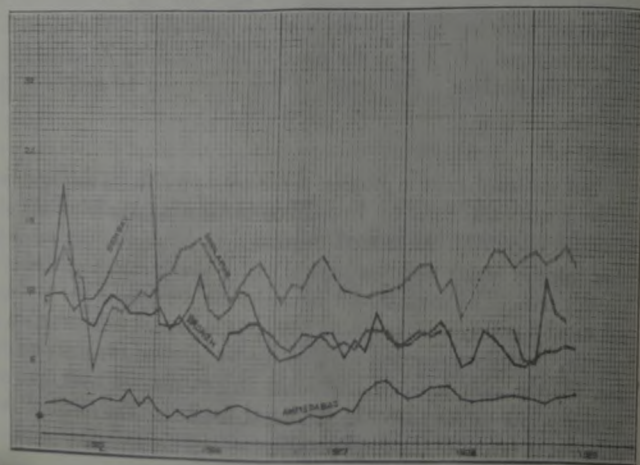
In Ahmedabad 62 mills were working during the month and 43 or 69.35 per cent. furnished information. Absenteeism amounted to 3.48 per cent. as against 4.15 per cent. in May 1929. The supply of labour was equal to the demand.

Returns were submitted by four mills in Sholapur. There was no shortage in the supply of labour and the average percentage absenteeism amounted to 18.89 as against 14.76 in the previous month.

Information was supplied by only one mill in Viramgaum which was working during the month. The percentage absenteeism amounted to 1.41.

One of the two mills in Broach which furnished information reported that the supply of labour was inadequate. The absenteeism amounted to 7.48 per cent. as against 7.97 per cent. in the preceding month.

Chart showing the average percentage absenteeism in the Cotton Mill Industry in the Presidency



THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY

In the engineering industry in Bombay City the supply of labour was adequate. The average absenteeism in representative workshops was 13.44 per cent. as against 15.26 per cent. in the previous month. In the Marine Lines Reclamation scheme, absenteeism was 5 per cent. and in the Bombay Port Trust Docks it amounted to 10.36 per cent. The average absenteeism in the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust was 9.17 per cent.

The Karachi Port Trust found both skilled and ordinary labour available in plenty. On an average 6.10 per cent. of the labourers absented themselves from work during the month under review.

Workmen's Compensation Act

Details of Proceedings

Information furnished by all the Commissioners in the Presidency for the month of June 1929 shows that out of 54 cases disposed of during the month 42 were reported by the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner in Bombay. The cases which were transferred from one Commissioner to another have not been included in the statistics. The gross amount of compensation awarded in lump sums was Rs. 22,847-2-0 as against Rs. 19,080-9-9 in the previous month and Rs. 14,610-15-0 in June 1928. Out of the 54 cases in which compensation was claimed, 20 were in respect of fatal accidents, 2 of temporary disablement, one of permanent total disablement and 31 of permanent partial disablement. The number of compensation cases in the textile industry amounted to 19 and in other industries 35. The corresponding figures for June 1928 were 28 and 18.

The total number of claimants for compensation in all the cases disposed of during the month was 54 of whom 48 were adult males, five adult females and one was a male under fifteen years of age.

Out of the cases disposed of during the month under review, 20 were original claims, 28 registration of agreements and 6 miscellaneous applications. Compensation was awarded in 25 cases, agreements were registered in 28 cases and one case was dismissed.

Prosecutions under the Indian Factories Act in June

BOMBAY

The weaving master of a cotton mill was prosecuted under section 41 (f) for breach of section 18 (1) (c) read with Rule 36 for not maintaining an efficient nip guard on a calender bowl whereby an accident caused to an operative. He was convicted and fined Rs. 30.

SHOLAPUR

The Manager of a cotton ginning factory was prosecuted under section 41 (a) for breach of section 23 for employing children without certificates. He was convicted and fined Rs. 15 in each of seven cases.

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

Month	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No. Food	Oilseeds	Raw cotton	Cotton factories	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw and man-made articles	Index No. Non-food	Control Index %
1926	149	23			148	137	138	182	143	125	121	146	152	151
May 1927	145	22			141	143	128	161	146	126	147	156	157	145
June	145	22			143	145	129	161	147	127	147	156	157	145
July	149	27			145	148	149	161	149	129	149	159	159	146
August	142	31			141	141	150	167	150	140	150	157	157	146
September	133	31			140	141	153	172	151	144	151	155	155	144
October	133	33			141	131	172	171	151	144	151	155	155	144
November	140	39			141	131	172	171	151	144	151	155	155	144
December	133	38			139	130	168	166	150	121	152	159	159	143

The same manager was also prosecuted under section 41 (j) for breach of section 35 for not maintaining "D" form register. He was convicted and fined Rs. 20.

BROACH

The manager of a cotton ginning factory was prosecuted under section 41 (a) for breach of section 26 for employing certain persons (women) before the specified hours of employment. He was convicted and fined Rs. 5 in each of six cases.

The manager of a second ginning factory was also prosecuted under section 41 (a) for a similar breach of section 26. He was convicted and fined Rs. 5 in each of six cases.

Agricultural Outlook in the Presidency

The following summary of conditions in the Presidency during the period ending 20th July 1929 has been supplied by the Director of Agriculture:—

The latest monsoon news to hand indicates that the position regarding crops and rainfall is, at the present moment, satisfactory in the major portion of the Bombay Presidency excepting two areas, viz.:

- (1) South Gujarat comprising almost the whole of the Surat district and portion of the Broach district; and
- (2) South-east corner of the Presidency (which is comparatively a much bigger tract than the above), including the south-east Deccan and east Karnatak.

In the first named area, viz., South Gujarat, the rains between the 12th and 14th of July have been very heavy with the result that in the Surat district *jowar* sowing has been delayed, young cotton and rice plants have been washed away in places and sugarcane, *suran* and other garden crops have suffered owing to water-logging while in the low-lying areas of the Broach district the cotton seedlings having been washed away, it has become necessary to resow the crop in places. The amount of damage so caused is not, however, large and if a break in rain occurs, matters may yet appreciably improve.

In the second area, viz., south-east of the Presidency, the rains received uptil now have been defective being either deficient in amount or fitful in their distribution with the result that it has not been possible for the cultivators in these areas to have the *kharrif* sowings made on any extensive scale while the germination of the seed, that has already been put in the ground either on the strength of what moisture there is available in the soil or in anticipation of further rains, has not been satisfactory. In fact, the situation in many places in this patch of country is becoming one of suspense and so far as the *kharrif* prospects are concerned everything depends on what turn the weather takes in the immediate future. Fortunately, there are signs that rain may occur soon in this tract and if so, the outlook may brighten yet. Besides, this part of the country is

mainly a *rabi* or late crop tract and as such there is always the possibility of any deficiency in the *kharrif* outturn being made good by plentiful *rabi* harvests.

If the above two areas are excluded, the position may be said to be quite satisfactory in the remainder of the Presidency. Thus, in North Gujarat the rains in the first fortnight of July have been splendid and have set the farmers busy sowing their fields with *jowar*, cotton, maize, groundnut and other *kharrif* crops. Similarly, in the Konkan, in areas adjoining the Sahyadris in the Deccan and the Karnatak and in Khandesh, the monsoon has been liberal during the last fortnight and this has enabled the timely completion of the sowing operations while the seed sown is showing healthy germination and the young rice crop is flourishing.

Strike in Bombay Textile Mills

APPOINTMENT OF A COURT OF INQUIRY UNDER THE INDIAN TRADE DISPUTES ACT, 1929

A notification issued by the Government of Bombay in the General Department, dated 3rd July 1929, appointing a Court of Inquiry under the Indian Trade Disputes Act of 1929, is reprinted below:—

Whereas a trade dispute has arisen between

- The Apollo Mills, Limited, and its workmen
- The Assur Veerjee Mills, Limited, and its workmen
- The Bombay Dyeing and Manufacturing Company, Limited, and its workmen
- The Bradbury Mills, Limited, and its workmen
- The Century Spinning and Manufacturing Company, Limited, and its workmen
- The Coorla Spinning and Weaving Company, Limited, and its workmen
- The Crescent Mills Company, Limited, and its workmen
- The Crown Spinning and Manufacturing Company, Limited, and its workmen
- The Currimbhoy Mills Company, Limited, and its workmen
- The David Mills Company, Limited, and its workmen
- The Dawn Mills Company, Limited, and its workmen
- The Ebrahimbhoy Pabaney Mills Company, Limited, and its workmen
- The Edward Sassoon Mills, Limited, and its workmen
- The E. D. Sassoon United Mills Company, Limited, and its workmen
- The Elphinstone Spinning and Weaving Mills Company, Limited, and its workmen
- The Fazulbhoy Mills, Limited, and its workmen
- The Finlay Mills, Limited, and its workmen
- The Framjee Petit Spinning and Manufacturing Company, Limited, and its workmen
- The Gold Mohur Mills, Limited, and its workmen

Month	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other Fibres	Other Textiles	Woolen and Cotton	Metals	Other non-ferrous metals	Index No. (1914=100)	General Index No.
May 1926	149	123	156	153	143	155	151	146	152	151
June 1927	144	128	154	150	136	152	142	156	152	146
July	143	126	150	149	136	152	142	156	152	146
August	143	126	150	149	136	152	142	156	152	146
September	142	125	149	148	135	151	141	155	151	145
October	142	125	149	148	135	151	141	155	151	145
November	141	124	148	147	134	150	140	154	150	144
December	140	123	147	146	133	149	139	153	149	144

- The Hindoostan Spinning and Weaving Mills Company, Limited, and its workmen
- The Indian Bleaching, Dyeing and Printing Works, Limited, and its workmen
- The Indian Manufacturing Company, Limited, and its workmen
- The Jamshed Manufacturing Company Limited, and its workmen
- The Jubilee Mills Limited, and its workmen
- The Kastoorchand Mills Company, Limited and its workmen
- The Khatau Makanji Spinning and Weaving Company, Limited, and its workmen
- The Kohinoor Mills Company, Limited, and its workmen
- The Madhowji Dharamsi Manufacturing Company, Limited, and its workmen
- The Madhorao Scindia Mills, Limited, and its workmen
- The Manockjee Petit Manufacturing Company, Limited (4), and its workmen
- The Mathradas Mills, Limited, and its workmen
- The Meyer Sassoon Mills, Limited, and its workmen
- The Moon Mills, Limited, and its workmen
- The Maranje Gocubdas Spinning and Weaving Mills Company, Limited, and its workmen
- The Mysore Spinning and Manufacturing Company, Limited, and its workmen
- The New China Mills, Limited, and its workmen
- The New City of Bombay Manufacturing Company, Limited, and its workmen
- The New Great Eastern Spinning and Weaving Company, Limited, and its workmen
- The New Kaiser-i-Hind Spinning and Weaving Company, Limited, and its workmen
- The Pearl Mills, Limited, and its workmen
- The Phoenix Mills, Limited, and its workmen
- The Prabhat Mills, Limited, and its workmen
- The Pralhad Mills, Limited, and its workmen
- The Premier Mills, Limited, and its workmen
- The Raja Bahadur Motilal Bombay Mills, Limited, and its workmen
- The Sassoon and Alliance Silk Mill Company, Limited, and its workmen
- The Sassoon Spinning and Weaving Company, Limited, and its workmen
- The Satya Mill, Limited, and its workmen
- The Simplex Mills, Limited, and its workmen
- The Sir Shapurji Broacha Mills, Limited, and its workmen
- The Shree Luxmi Mills, and its workmen
- The Standard Mills Company, Limited, and its workmen
- The Svadeshi Mills Company, Limited, and its workmen
- The Swan Mills, Limited, and its workmen
- The Tata Mills, Limited, and its workmen

- The Union Mills, Limited, and its workmen
 - The Victoria Mills, Limited, and its workmen
 - The Western India Spinning and Manufacturing Company, Limited, and its workmen
 - The Presidency Mills Company, Limited, and its workmen
 - The Jam Manufacturing Company, Limited, and its workmen
 - The Toyo Padar Cotton Mills, Limited, and its workmen
 - The Ruby Mills, Limited, and its workmen
 - The Bombay Cotton Manufacturing Company, Limited, and its workmen
 - The Bombay Industrial Mills Company, Limited, and its workmen
- and whereas it is expedient that the said dispute should be referred to a Court of Inquiry, the Governor in Council is pleased under section 4 of the Trade Disputes Act, 1929, to appoint a Court of Inquiry for investigating the said dispute.
- The terms of reference to the said Court shall be as follows—
1. To inquire into and ascertain the exact nature of the dispute or disputes between the employers and workmen of the abovenamed mills which led to the strike in those mills in March and April 1929.
 2. If there was any such dispute, to what extent the employers or workmen or both are responsible in matters connected therewith?
 3. What are the causes of the prolongation of the strike? Whether the employers or workmen or both are responsible for such prolongation, and if so, to what extent?
 4. What are the difficulties in the way of a settlement of the dispute or disputes between the employers and the workmen?
- The Governor in Council is further pleased to appoint the Honourable Mr. H. G. Pearson, Bar.-at-Law, to be the Chairman and Mr. F. Taleyarkhan, Bar.-at-Law, and Mr. Rupchand Bilaram, B.A., LL.B., to be the members of the said Court.
- The said Court shall meet at the Secretariat on Saturday the 6th July 1929.

Indian Mines Act, 1923

DRAFT NOTIFICATION UNDER SECTION 30 OF THE ACT

The following draft of a notification of the Government of Bombay in the Revenue Department No. 700/26 dated 2nd July 1929 published in the Bombay Government Gazette dated 2nd July 1929 is reprinted below.

No. 700/26.—The following draft of a notification which it is proposed to issue under section 30 of the Indian Mines Act 1923 (IV of 1923), is published, as required by sub-section (1) of section 31 of the said Act, for the information of persons likely to be affected thereby, and notice is hereby given that the draft will be taken into consideration by the Governor in Council on or after the 10th day of October 1929.

2. Any objection or suggestion which may be sent to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, by any person with respect to the draft before the date aforesaid will be considered by the Governor in Council.

Group	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922
Grains	149	144	142	132	125	118	115	118	121
Pulses	125	121	120	115	110	108	105	105	108
Sugar	126	122	118	112	108	105	103	103	107
Other food	153	148	142	135	130	128	125	125	127
Unmilled cotton	140	138	135	132	128	125	122	122	123
Others	148	145	142	138	135	132	130	130	133
Clothing	148	145	142	138	135	132	130	130	133
Home articles	138	135	132	128	125	122	120	120	123
Others	162	158	155	150	145	142	140	140	143
Others	145	142	138	135	132	130	128	128	130
Others	155	152	148	145	142	140	138	138	141
Others	153	150	148	145	142	140	138	138	141
Others	146	143	140	138	135	132	130	130	133
Others	152	149	148	145	142	140	138	138	141
Others	151	148	145	142	140	138	136	136	139
Others	151	148	145	142	140	138	136	136	139
Others	151	148	145	142	140	138	136	136	139
Others	151	148	145	142	140	138	136	136	139
Others	151	148	145	142	140	138	136	136	139
Others	151	148	145	142	140	138	136	136	139
Others	151	148	145	142	140	138	136	136	139

Draft Notification

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 30 of the Indian Mines Act, 1923 (IV of 1923), the Governor in Council is pleased further to amend the rules published in Government Notification in the Revenue Department No. 40023 dated the 6th September 1924, as follows:

For Schedule A appended to the said rules the following shall be substituted, namely:

SCHEDULE A

Register of work persons (section 28 of the Indian Mines Act, 1923)
(See rule 10)

Name of Mine
Name of Owner

Week commencing

Name	Age and Sex	Father's name	Caste or religion	Nature of work
1	2	3	4	5
During the week ending 19 . . .				
No. of days worked	No. of hours worked	Days of rest enjoyed		
6	7			

Employment of Children in Ceylon

At the annual meeting of the Colombo Friend-in-Need Society, held at Colombo on 27th March 1929, Mr. H. E. Newnham, Mayor of Colombo and President of the Society, made a statement about the employment of young children in the city of Colombo and in various parts of Ceylon.

In the course of his speech, Mr. Newnham said that it was known that small children were obtained from the villages in consideration of monetary payment, taken far from their homes and used as domestic servants in return for the mere provision of food and clothing. Undoubtedly the majority were well treated, but in the last year there had been 13 cases brought to the courts in which children had been grossly and cruelly ill-treated. The average age of these children was eight years. After giving details of some of these cases, Mr. Newnham continued:

It is time that a system which permits such abuses to occur with such a slender chance of detection should be abolished from the social life of the country. What is needed is a more rigorous enforcement of the regulations with regard to compulsory education so that these children shall attend school, where at least they will have some moments in their lives of freedom from their taskmasters. Such provision would also tend to make them of less value to their taskmasters and help to lessen the number of cases of such employment.

All children who are removed from the care of their parents should be under some adequate supervision by disinterested parties, who should satisfy themselves that they are properly treated. I was to-day authorised by the Colonial Secretary to state that Government contemplates action upon these lines. A Bill has been drafted to regulate the employment of children as domestic servants.

Under it it is proposed that parents and those taking over children shall produce the children before a magistrate, who will have power to enquire into the case and impose such condition, as he deems necessary. Probation officers will have power to enter and inspect at any time of the day premises in which such a child is kept, and severe penalties are provided for ill-treatment and cruelty. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Gazette, June 10, 1929.)

Maternity Benefit Act, 1929

RULES FRAMED UNDER THE ACT

The following draft of a notification of the Government of Bombay in the General Department No. 1066 dated 17th June 1929 which it is proposed to issue under section 14 of the Bombay Maternity Benefit Act, 1929 (Bom. VII of 1929), and which is published in the Bombay Government Gazette dated 20th June 1929 is reprinted below

Draft Notification

No. . . .—In exercise of the powers conferred by section 14 of the Bombay Maternity Benefit Act, 1929 (Bom. VII of 1929), the Governor in

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

Group	1914	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942
Wheat	149	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157
Pulses	123	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135
Sugar	136	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147
Other food	153	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163
Index No. food	146	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154
Oilseeds	137	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158
Wool	130	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141
Other non-food	143	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155
Hides and skins	155	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159
Metals	151	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162
Other non-food articles	146	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158
Index No. non-food	152	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162
Composite index No.	151	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159

1060 LABOUR GAZETTE JULY, 1929
Council is pleased to make the following rules, for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of the said Act, namely :-
1. Short title.—These rules may be cited as the Bombay Maternity Benefit Rules, 1929.

2. Definitions.—In these Rules :-
(a) "Act" means the Bombay Maternity Benefit Act, 1929.
(b) "Inspector" means an inspector of factories appointed under sub-section (1) of section 4 of the Indian Factories Act, 1911 and includes an additional inspector appointed under sub-section (4) of the said section.

3. Muster roll.—The employer of every factory in which women are employed shall prepare and maintain a muster roll in the form of Schedule I attached to these rules. The names and record of employment of all women employed in the factory shall be entered therein and also the other particulars prescribed therein. All entries in the muster roll shall be maintained up-to-date and it shall always be available for inspection by the Inspector.

4. Responsibility of Inspector.—The Inspector shall be primarily responsible for the administration of the Act, within the area assigned to him under the Indian Factories Act, 1911; provided that in areas where there are more than one inspector, the Collector of Bombay may allocate the factories within such areas to such inspector as he shall deem proper.

5. Powers of Inspector.—(1) The Inspector may, within the area for which he is appointed, examine the muster roll maintained under rule 3 and shall have power to make such enquiries and to require the production of such papers or documents as he considers necessary for the purpose of ascertaining whether the provisions of the Act and of these rules are properly carried out in any factory or not; provided that he shall not require any employer to answer any question or to give any evidence tending to criminate himself.

(2) Every notice given under sub-section (1) of section 6 of the Act and every receipt for maternity benefit paid to any person under the provisions of the Act or of these rules shall, on demand, be produced before the Inspector.

6. Penalty.—If any employer contravenes the provisions of rule 3 he shall be liable, on conviction, to a fine not exceeding fifty rupees.

7. Penalty.—Any person who wilfully obstructs an Inspector in the exercise of his powers or the performance of his duties or fails to produce on demand the muster roll, or notices given under section 6 (1) of the Act or receipts for maternity benefits paid or other papers or documents necessary to enable the Inspector to ascertain that the provisions of the Act and these rules have been complied with, shall be liable, on conviction, to a fine not exceeding fifty rupees.

8. Return.—Every employer of women in a factory shall furnish to the Chief Inspector of Factories by the 1st of August in each year a return in the form of Schedule II to these rules.

9. Records.—Records relating to the payment of maternity benefit under the provisions of the Act or these rules shall be preserved for a period of two years from the date of their preparation.

SCHEDULE I
(See rule 3)

Form of muster roll

Name of Factory

(Muster Roll to be maintained up to date under the Bombay Maternity Benefit Act, 1929)

Name	Date of preparation	Date	Total days	Month of		Date on which notice of pregnancy was given, [Section 6 (1)]	Date of birth of child	Date of production of certified extract from birth register	Date of first payment and amount of same, [Section 6 (3)]	Date (a) of subsequent payments and amounts thereof, [Section 6 (3)]	If the woman dies, date and amount of maternity benefit paid, and the name of persons to whom paid	Remarks
				19	19							
		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		

Month	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930
March	100	100	100	100	100
April	100	100	100	100	100
May	100	100	100	100	100
June	100	100	100	100	100
July	100	100	100	100	100
August	100	100	100	100	100
September	100	100	100	100	100
October	100	100	100	100	100
November	100	100	100	100	100
December	100	100	100	100	100
General	100	100	100	100	100
Industry	100	100	100	100	100
Commerce	100	100	100	100	100
Finance	100	100	100	100	100
Government	100	100	100	100	100
Transport	100	100	100	100	100
Public Utilities	100	100	100	100	100
Food	100	100	100	100	100
Textiles	100	100	100	100	100
Iron and Steel	100	100	100	100	100
Coal	100	100	100	100	100
Oil	100	100	100	100	100
Wool	100	100	100	100	100
Alumina	100	100	100	100	100
Other Minerals	100	100	100	100	100
Chemicals	100	100	100	100	100
Drugs	100	100	100	100	100
Metals	100	100	100	100	100
Iron and Steel	100	100	100	100	100
Other Metals	100	100	100	100	100
Other	100	100	100	100	100

SCHEDULE II

(See rule 8)

Return to be submitted to the Chief Inspector of Factories on or before the 1st August each year

- Name of factory
- Name of Occupier
- Name of Manager
- Year ending 30th June 19
- Average number of women employed daily
- Number of women who claimed maternity benefit under section 6 (1) of the Act
- Number of women who were paid maternity benefit for actual births
- Number of other persons who were paid maternity benefit (section 7)
- Total amount of maternity benefit paid

(Signature)

Employer.

Indian Factories Act, 1911

The following notifications of the Government of Bombay in the General Department, Nos. 2343 and 741, dated 27th June 1929 and 1st July 1929, respectively, published in the *Bombay Government Gazette* dated 4th July 1929, are reprinted below :—

DRAFT NOTIFICATION UNDER THE ACT REGARDING THE AMENDMENT OF RULES 44 AND 46

No. 2343.—The following draft notification which it is proposed to issue under the Indian Factories Act, 1911 (XII of 1911), as subsequently amended, is published as required by sub-sections (1) and (2) of section 39 of the said Act for the information of persons likely to be affected thereby, and notice is hereby given that the draft will be taken into consideration by the Governor in Council on or after the 1st November 1929.

2. Any objections or suggestions which may be sent to the Secretary to Government, General Department, Bombay, by any person with respect to the draft before the date aforesaid, will be considered by the Governor in Council.

Draft Notification

No. —In exercise of the powers conferred by section 37 of the Indian Factories Act, 1911 (XII of 1911), as subsequently amended, the Governor in Council is pleased to amend Rules 44 and 46 of the Factories (Amended) Rules, Bombay, 1923 (published in Government Notification, General

Department, No. 2343-D, dated the 1st July 1923), by the substitution of the words " a majority " for the words " not less than three-quarters " where they occur in these rules.

NOTIFICATION UNDER THE ACT REGARDING ELECTRICAL TRANSFORMING FACTORIES

No. 741.—In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (c) of sub-section (1) of section 30 of the Indian Factories Act, 1911 (XII of 1911), as subsequently amended, the Governor in Council is pleased to direct that, in the case of Electrical Transforming Factories, the work, viz., operation and maintenance of the transforming plant, switches and synchronous condensers, which necessitates continuous production for technical reasons, shall be exempted from the provisions of sections 21, 22 and 28 of the said Act subject to the conditions named below :—

- (1) that the persons engaged on continuous processes shall ordinarily be employed on daily eight-hour shifts ;
- (2) that each person shall have a rest period of at least 24 hours' duration on an average once per fortnight and as far as possible on every fourteenth day except where temporary difficulties prevent it ;
- (3) that the average weekly hours of each person shall not exceed fifty-six over each shift cycle of three weeks.

A Labour College for Bombay

TRAINING-GROUND FOR TRADE UNION ORGANISERS

Dr. G. Y. Chitnis writes :—

A Labour College has already been organised in Bombay and its classes will commence from the 20th of June. The Classes will be held in the evenings at 7-30 p.m. in the Rammohan Ashram, Girgaum. The course of studies in the College will cover a period of four years and the first year's course which begins from the 20th June will include English, Principles of Economics and Elements of Sociology. The lectures will be given in a very simple form, omitting, as far as possible, all the technical terms so that students who have studied English up to the Matriculation standard may avail themselves of these classes. Special efforts will also be made to make the course interesting to those who are working in the mills and factories. If we get a sufficiently large number of students from the mills and factories it is possible to arrange lectures in the vernacular of the people.

There is no doubt that this College will supply a great need in the City of Bombay. The Bombay University has within the last few years organised the School of Economics and Sociology but as it is intended as a post-graduate course, it does not serve a popular need. The Labour College will address itself to that class of students who have had not the advantage of University education.

In addition to the regular classes, the College will organise right types of trade unions and labour clubs and arrange public lectures by eminent men on the varied problems of labour. At this stage it will not be possible

for this institution to address itself directly to the workers of Bombay but it could pick up the best and the most intelligent workers among them and train them for their future work of guiding and organising labour. Some of the higher paid and higher educated workers in the mills and factories would, no doubt, take advantage of this opportunity. (From "Indian Daily Mail" Bombay, June 14, 1929.)

Mill Hours in Japan

PLANS TO COMPENSATE FOR LOSS OF NIGHT WORK

Plans are being drafted to enable the Japanese cotton-spinning industry to overcome some of the inevitable disadvantages attendant on the elimination of late night work by women. Mr. Motonosuke Fukumoto, vice-president of the Japan Cotton Spinning Company, of Osaka, has come forward with a scheme for the formation of a great holding company. This concern would take over the management of mills financially unable to meet the situation by enlarging capacity. The new company would be formed by the leading units in the industry and would present a medium through which they might lend their credit to the smaller mills for the benefit of the industry as a whole.

There are 55 members of the Japan Cotton Spinners' Association. Of these 17 were unable to declare dividends for the first half of 1928. Profits have been better since that time, due to wider spreads between prices and production costs, but it is recognised that the extraction of six hours' working time in each 24 hours will make serious inroads into their production and profits figures. The large companies have been able to prepare for this contingency by increasing spindle installations, but the less fortunately situated companies have been forced to rely on hope to pull them through. Without the outside aid which now is promised their eventual elimination as competitive factors would be assured, for the big mills, with the most modern of equipment and every sales facility, will be able to underbid them in any kind of market.

Reports from Osaka indicate that Mr. Fukumoto's plan has been received warmly. According to Mr. Fusajiro Abo, president of the Spinners' Association, negotiations are already in progress for the absorption of several small mills by larger competitors, but he believes the holding company plan to be more in line with present needs. It is suggested that the holding company take over all mills unable to expand facilities without outside aid, readjust them thoroughly, and, by extending credit, enable them to add spindles and other equipment of late design. Costing and pricing would be handled by the group. As the scheme is drafted, all the member mills not controlled by the new company would be interested in it financially.

Many of the larger companies are discontinuing night work ahead of time. The Fuji Gas Spinning Company, which placed its Oyama and Oita mills on the new schedule at the beginning of March, stopped late night work entirely at the beginning of April, when the units

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

Month	Cereals	Pulses	Sugars	Other food	Wool	Iron	Steel	Aluminium	Other metals	Textiles	Other articles	Hides and skins	Metals	Cotton raw	Spinning	Other	General
May 1926	149	123	156	153	146	137	138	102	143	155	146	153	153	152	151	144	144
1927	144	125	154	150	145	142	135	103	145	154	147	154	154	153	151	144	144
June	145	126	155	151	146	143	136	104	146	155	148	155	155	154	152	145	145
July	146	127	156	152	147	144	137	105	147	156	149	156	156	155	153	146	146
August	147	128	157	153	148	145	138	106	148	157	150	157	157	156	154	147	147
September	148	129	158	154	149	146	139	107	149	158	151	158	158	157	155	148	148
October	149	130	159	155	150	147	140	108	150	159	152	159	159	158	156	149	149
November	150	131	160	156	151	148	141	109	151	160	153	160	160	159	157	150	150
December	151	132	161	157	152	149	142	110	152	161	154	161	161	160	158	151	151
1928	152	133	162	158	153	150	143	111	153	162	155	162	162	161	159	152	152

at Kawasaki (near Tokio), Nagoya, Gifu, and Osaka also changed over. On March 26, the Matsuzaka establishment of the Kanegafuchi Spinning Company went off late work, and was followed by the main Hyogo plant on April 25. The Nisshin Spinning Company already is completely on the new schedule. Up to the end of March, Japan Spinning had two mills which had not yet taken the step, and Toyo Spinning has done so in all but four of its fifteen units. Up to that date, therefore, seven large companies have stopped work during the midnight hours in 38 different plants.

Production figures for Nisshin Spinning, which ceased night operation on February 1, show little change. Output dropped 223 bales, to 9145 bales, from January, but the former month had three more working days. It must be remembered that Japanese mills have been operating on a 23 per cent. restriction of production since the autumn of 1927. According to agreement, whenever a company abolishes late night operations, it is allowed to reduce the restriction on production from 23 to 15 per cent. in the unit affected. Consequently, working spindles in the plants of the Nisshin Company rose from 77 per cent. in January to 85 per cent. in February. Allowing 29 working days to the former month and 26 to the latter, January production totalled 323 bales a day and February 351.

By April 4, plants containing 3,562,644 spindles, or 56 per cent. of the 6,344,082 installed in Japan, had stopped late operations. (From "Commercial," Manchester, June 6, 1929.)

Compulsory Sickness Insurance of Seamen and Airmen in Italy

An Act of 10th January 1929 introduces compulsory sickness insurance for seamen and airmen. Up to the present, no general health insurance system has been established in Italy, and seamen have been protected by those sections of the Commercial Code which provide that, in the event of sickness or injury during a voyage, a seaman is entitled to his wages and to medical attention at the expense of the ship.

The new Act makes sickness insurance compulsory for all persons employed in civil maritime and aerial undertakings (exclusive of those employed in the administrative services of such undertakings), and represented by the National Fascist Confederation of Seamen and Airmen. Persons of foreign nationality are covered by the scheme, in so far as the legislation of the States to which they belong guarantees equivalent protection to Italian workers.

The insured person is entitled either to free medical treatment and to his wages in accordance with the relevant sections of the Commercial Code (which are now extended to cover airmen), or to free medical treatment and a daily allowance in all cases of illness not involving the application of the provisions of the Code. In the event of the insured person's death, a month's wages are paid to his widow or children. Maternity benefit is payable in respect of women covered by the new Act. The dependents

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LABOUR GAZETTE

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices to July 1914 = 100

Month	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Wheat	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105
Other cereals	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105
Oilseeds	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105
Raw cotton	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105
Spun cotton	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105
Other textiles	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105
Iron and steel	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105
Metals	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105
Other non-ferrous	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105
General index	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105

states that "the course of employment during 1928 was, on the whole, disappointing. There had been a substantial improvement during 1927 and this was maintained during the first quarter of 1928, the percentage of unemployment in that period among insured workers being lower than at any time since 1920. From April, however, up to the end of November a decline in employment set in, though the seasonal influences in the second half of the year were less pronounced than in 1927.

"The increased unemployment in Great Britain after April, apart from seasonal unemployment, was confined almost entirely to five industries: coal mining, shipbuilding and ship repairing, cotton, woollen and worsted, and boots and shoes. These five industries represent about one-fifth of the insured population, and at the end of November they represented one-third of the unemployment.

"The industries which have thus been mainly responsible for the increase of unemployment are to a large degree carried on in the northern part of Great Britain and in Wales, and it is interesting therefore to notice the disparity between the rate of unemployment in the northern and southern sections of the country in 1928 and 1927:

Division	Average percentage rates of unemployment among insured persons		Division	Average percentage rates of unemployment among insured persons	
	1927	1928		1927	1928
London ..	5.8	5.6	North-Eastern	13.7	15.2
South-Eastern	5.0	5.5	North-Western	10.7	12.4
South-Western	7.3	8.2	Scotland ..	10.6	11.7
Midlands ..	8.4	10.0	Wales	19.5	22.8
			Great Britain ..	9.6	10.7

It was this disparity between the north and Wales, on the one hand, and the south, the midlands, and the south-west, on the other hand, that formed the basis of the Report of the Industrial Transference Board.*

The Board took as a fact the necessity of transferring large numbers of unemployed workers, particularly in the coal-mining industry, to other districts and other employment; and they found in the expansion of industry in the south and midlands, in the resilience of the employment market, and in the development of migration to the overseas Dominions, opportunities for organised transfer which could be made effective through the Employment Exchanges, through the help of voluntary societies, and particularly through the decision of the unemployed workpeople to take advantage of any chances offered.

At the end of August 1928, the Prime Minister issued a letter to all employers asking for their co-operation in making the transfer policy effective, and the Employment Exchanges followed up this letter by

* Cmd. 3156. H. M. Stationery Office; price 1s. 6d. net.

personal canvass. As a result of these efforts and of the gradual expansion of the policy, e.g., by extension of training centres, the provision of financial facilities for transfer for married men, etc., the number of people transferred through the Employment Exchange system by the end of the year reached a figure of over 10,000, exclusive of migration overseas. Of these only a few hundreds are known to have returned to their home area. In addition, and partly as a result of this successful transfer, many others had transferred by their own efforts.

Apart from the ordinary use of the Employment Exchanges, special facilities for transfer have been offered to various classes through juvenile unemployment centres, domestic training centres (for girls and young women), "handymen" training centres (for young men), household removal schemes, etc.

The number on the live registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain at the end of each month in 1928 varied from a minimum of 1,033,845 on 26th March to a maximum of 1,520,730 on 31st December. The number of vacancies notified to Employment Exchanges during the year was 1,510,423, and the number of vacancies filled 1,327,218.

Of the vacancies notified in 1928 rather more than half (761,712) were for men; 408,296 were for women; and 340,415 for juveniles. Of the vacancies filled, 715,775 were filled by men, 329,871 by women, and 281,572 by juveniles.

The trade groups in which the largest number of vacancies for men were filled were: building; general labourers; engineering; transport trades; and construction of works, in the order named. These five groups accounted for rather more than half of the total number of men's vacancies filled. Other trade groups with more than 15,000 men's vacancies filled were: manufacture of metals; commercial occupations; agriculture; shipbuilding; cotton; mining and quarrying; and domestic service, in the order named.

The trade groups in which the largest number of women's vacancies were filled were: domestic service, cotton, dress, commercial occupations, and miscellaneous textiles. Domestic service alone accounted for nearly 40 per cent. of the women's vacancies filled.

The number of employers on the King's National Roll at the end of 1928 was approximately 27,500; they were employing approximately 380,000 disabled ex-service men. Special efforts were made during the year to stimulate the employment of tuberculous ex-service men, in various open air occupations.

The number of disabled ex-service men registered as unemployed at the end of the year was 25,896, or 6½ per cent. of the estimated number of such men in the country (400,000). This represents an increase on the figures for the previous year; but, even so, the proportion of unemployment among disabled men continues to be considerably lower than among the general insured population.

TRAINING FOR EMPLOYMENT

The Ministry's scheme for the training of young unemployed men provides for two kinds of training: one for giving those who desire to

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

Month	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Oilseeds	Raw cotton	Common features	Colony textiles	Filices and fibres	Metals	Other raw material articles	Inches No. from 1914	General Index No.
1928													
May	140	123	156	133	137	138	162	143	155	15		141	142
June	144	125	158	135	145	128	161	146	152	149		144	145
July	143	126	157	134	142	142	162	145	149	152		144	144
August	139	127	156	133	143	154	163	142	142	151		144	144
September	135	128	155	132	143	154	163	142	142	151		144	144
October	135	128	155	132	143	154	163	142	142	151		144	144
November	136	128	155	131	143	154	163	142	142	151		144	144
December	134	128	155	131	143	154	163	142	142	151		144	144

settle in the Dominions preliminary training in the rudiments of farm work; the other for improving the employability of men seeking industrial work in this country.

The two original farm training centres—at Claydon, in Suffolk, and at Brandon, in Norfolk—have accommodation for 250 men each for over-sea settlement, besides 50 places each for men in training for home employment. The normal training course at both centres for over-sea employment is now one of twelve weeks. In addition two training camps under canvas were improvised in May, each with accommodation for 200 men, where the men were taught milking and ploughing, and were given practice in felling timber, grubbing roots, and clearing land.

The total number of men who went over-sea in 1928 after a course of training at one of the Ministry's farm centres was 1031 to Australia, and 999 to Canada. The total numbers who have passed through the centres at Claydon and at Brandon (including the two camps) since they were opened in November 1925 and February 1926, respectively, up to the end of 1928 were 1791 (at Claydon) and 2077 (at Brandon), of whom 1481 and 1673, respectively, went over-sea after training.

Towards the end of 1928 arrangements were concluded with the Canadian Government for placing on the land in Canada during the current year (1929) up to 6000 trained and tested men; and four new centres have been established, three in Norfolk and one in Scotland, with a total accommodation for 720 men at a time. Arrangements have also been made with the War Office for training 200 men at a time at the Army Vocational Centre at Chisleton.

Furthermore, five additional centres provided with hutments have been established, with accommodation for 1200 men at a time, at which men are put through a practical test for their general suitability for open-air life on the land over-sea. No training in farm work is given, but the men are engaged in the work of timber felling, grubbing roots, clearing scrub, fencing, road-making, etc.; they are also instructed in the handling of horses, under instructors with Canadian experience.

Reports from the Canadian Department of Colonisation and Immigration indicate that 78 per cent. of the trainees who sailed to Canada in 1928 were making good on the land, and that 22 per cent. had either left the farms on which they had been first placed, or that their success in farm life was doubtful. Even of this minority, some are known to have established themselves successfully on other farms; and many who have abandoned farm work are earning their living successfully in industry or commerce.

Training for home employment is carried on at Birmingham and at Wallsend (where the centres were opened in October 1925 and January 1926, respectively), and at Dudley, Bristol, and Glasgow (all opened in 1928). A certain number of men for home employment are also, as mentioned above, received at the farm training centres at Claydon and at Brandon. A building is now being erected at Park Royal (in the London area), where a new centre will be established to accommodate 400 men; and two more centres in the south are contemplated.

The total number admitted to training at all the centres, from the time of their establishment to the end of 1928, was 9558, of whom 7869 passed through the centres. Of these, 6747 completed their training or passed into employment during the course; and 6394 are known to have found employment.

The Report observes, with regard to these home-training schemes generally: "There is no doubt that the training centres are a boon to men in the distressed mining areas who desire to move to other districts and obtain a living in some form of employment to which they have not been accustomed. The type of man voluntarily applying for training is excellent. He is for the most part readily adaptable and eager to assimilate the instruction given. At the end of his training period he has an improved industrial value which is recognised by most employers. During the twelve months ended 31st December 1928, 2973 men were placed in employment through the training centres. Arrangements were in hand for largely increasing the existing facilities, and it was expected that the rate of output might be at least doubled before the end of 1929. Even then the number would not be large in relation to the total absorptive power of industry, but would be a substantial contribution towards meeting the needs of young men who through no fault of their own find themselves without the opportunities and equipment for obtaining a decent livelihood."

Women's Training and Employment.—The Central Committee on Women's Training and Employment continued and extended its work during 1928. Centres have been provided in 42 towns (including ten in Northumberland and Durham, and nine in South Wales), in which three months' training in cookery, laundry, house-wifery, and needlework is given to unemployed women and girls, to enable them to take up domestic employment.

The total number of women and girls who completed training at the centres during 1928 was 3506, and the number in training at the end of the year was 810. In addition, the Central Committee administer, on behalf of the Oversea Settlement Department and the Australian Government, a residential training centre for women who desire to qualify for a free passage to Australia as household workers. Two hundred and sixty-eight trainees have completed training at this centre since it was opened in September 1927.

JUVENILES

The number of boys and girls between the ages of 14 and 18 available for employment has been gradually falling, in consequence of the falling birth rate both before, and still more during, the war. Since July 1925, the number of boys insured has fallen by about 7000; on the other hand, the number of girls insured has risen by 14,000, in spite of a reduction of 29,000 in the number of girls between the ages of 14 and 18 available for employment. These figures illustrate the increasing tendency for girls to enter employment after leaving school; of the girls who left public elementary schools in England and Wales in the school year 1927-28, after attaining the age of 14, as many as 73.5 per cent. intended to take up employment outside their homes.

As in the year 1927, the percentage of unemployment in 1928 amongst insured juveniles was far lower than among adult insured persons (3.6 against 11.4). Juvenile unemployment, however, even more than adult unemployment, is a "black spot" problem, and is really only serious in the distressed areas: in some parts of the country, indeed, there is already a definite shortage of juvenile labour. On the other hand, the percentage of juvenile unemployment is markedly above the average, both for boys and for girls, in the North-Eastern and North-Western divisions, in Scotland, and especially in Wales, where an average of 8.7 per cent. of the insured boys were unemployed in 1928.

The Report gives a forecast of the prospective employment position for juveniles; and deals with the arrangements for giving advice to boys and girls in choice of employment and for placing them in employment, and for transferring juveniles from the distressed mining areas; also with the juvenile unemployment centres, etc.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

The Unemployment Insurance Act of 1927 came into force generally on 19th April 1928; though certain of its provisions only took effect as from July 1928. The Act abolished the distinction between "standard" and "extended" benefit; and, since 19th April 1928, the only condition relating to the payment of contributions is that 30 contributions shall have been paid in respect of the applicant during the two years preceding the date of his application. During a transitional period, moreover, (originally fixed at one year from 19th April 1928, and since extended for another year), a greatly reduced contributory condition is in force for persons aged 18 years and over, *viz.*, the payment of eight contributions in the last two years, or, alternatively, of thirty contributions at any time.

The administration of unemployment insurance was also affected during the year by the coming into force, as from 2nd January 1928, of section 37 (1) of the Widows', Orphans', and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act, 1925. By virtue of that sub-section, the title to unemployment benefit ceased on 2nd January 1928, in the case of every person who had reached the age of 65 on that date; in the case of persons subsequently becoming 65, title to benefit ceased on their reaching that age.

The increase in unemployment during the year, from April onwards, was reflected in the state of the Unemployment Fund. The total amount of benefit paid out during the year was £44,260,606; of which £42,123,315 was paid out direct through the local offices of the Ministry, and £2,137,291 through associations; these sums include dependants' benefit. The average weekly number of persons paid benefit was about 954,000, and the average weekly payment per head 17s. 10d. In consequence of the heavy demand on the Fund, it became necessary to increase the borrowing powers of the Fund from £30,000,000 to a temporary limit of £40,000,000. The total outstanding debt of the Fund on 31st December 1928, was £31,720,000, of which nearly £20,000,000 was borrowed at 5 per cent. interest, and nearly £8,000,000 at 4½ per cent.; the remainder being, some at 5½ per cent. and the rest at 4½ per cent.

The rest of this section of the Report deals with the administration of unemployment insurance under various headings. One of the appendices summarises a number of the most important decisions of the Umpire.

TRADE BOARDS

There was no change during the year in the list of trades to which the Trade Boards Acts are applied, but provision was made for the establishment of a separate Trade Board for the keg and drum branch of the hollow-ware making trade. During the year there were 37 meetings of full Trade Boards, and 141 meetings of various Committees of the Boards: 27 Boards did not meet at all. The meetings of the Boards were chiefly occupied with questions of minimum rates.

The Report contains a brief review of the varying use which Boards have made of their general rate-fixing powers. All the Boards, as required by the Acts, have fixed general minimum time rates; all but two have fixed overtime rates, although in a further four trades the overtime rates do not apply to piece workers. All the Boards, again, have fixed special rates for juveniles, based either on age alone or on experience alone, or on a combination of the two. Twenty-one Boards have made it a condition of payment at the juvenile or learner's rate that the worker should have definite facilities for learning the trade; in nearly all these cases he or she must be the holder of a learner's certificate issued by the Board.

The number of learners certificated by the Boards again shows a large increase, from 30,117 in 1926 to 38,574 in 1927 and 45,517 in 1928. On the other hand, the number of indentured apprentices registered with the seven Trade Boards which provide special minimum rates for this class of workers shows a reduction, from 486 in 1927 to 423 in 1928.

Arrears, to the amount of £31,063, were claimed on behalf of 5937 workpeople, or approximately 5.9 per cent. of the workpeople whose wages were examined by the Ministry's inspecting staff.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR

The Report gives an account of the proceedings at the eleventh session of the International Labour Conference, held at Geneva in May and June 1928, at which a draft Convention concerning minimum wage-fixing machinery, and a Recommendation concerning the application of such machinery, were adopted. The Conference also adopted two questionnaires, dealing respectively with the prevention of industrial accidents, and with the protection against accidents of workers engaged in loading and unloading ships. They also passed a number of resolutions, one requesting the Governing Body to consider the possibility of investigating working conditions (including wages, hours, hygiene, etc.) in the textile industries of the world; while others dealt with the official languages of the International Labour Organisation, freedom of association, calendar reform, and the effect of rationalisation and international industrial agreements upon conditions of labour.

Representatives of the British Government attended the four meetings of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office; and the Report contains a brief account of the proceedings at these meetings. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, June 1929.)

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

Wheat	100	124	156	153	148	137	138	182	143	155	151	146	153	146
Rice	100	124	156	153	148	137	138	182	143	155	151	146	153	146
Sugar	100	124	156	153	148	137	138	182	143	155	151	146	153	146
Other food	100	124	156	153	148	137	138	182	143	155	151	146	153	146
Textiles	100	124	156	153	148	137	138	182	143	155	151	146	153	146
Other non-food articles	100	124	156	153	148	137	138	182	143	155	151	146	153	146
General index	100	124	156	153	148	137	138	182	143	155	151	146	153	146

Labour Conditions in Russia

THE COST OF LIVING AND WAGES

The press of the Soviet Union has for some time past drawn attention to the continual increase in the cost of living.

It is pointed out that the index numbers of the cost of living, calculated on the basis of the minimum monthly budget of a worker, increased by 6.3 per cent. during the first half of the financial year 1928-29. The increase was 6.5 per cent. in Moscow and 7.4 per cent. in Leningrad. The highest increase, amounting to from 9 to 10 per cent. is shown in agricultural produce, while the prices of industrial products have risen by 2 per cent.

The General Council of Trade Unions has examined the question, and arrives at the conclusion that these figures do not give an exact indication of the position, since the consumers' co-operative societies are only increasing to a relatively slight extent the prices of the products of which the worker's minimum monthly budget is composed, while making much greater increases in other goods. According to *Trud*, the minimum monthly budget of a worker includes a very limited selection of goods. Moreover, the Moscow worker has long ago replaced most of these goods by objects of better quality. For instance, the budget includes kitchen utensils of cast iron, while the worker prefers aluminium; it includes the commonest quality of soap, and high boots, while the worker prefers shoes and a better quality of soap. Again, the budget only makes provision for coarse woollen stuffs, while the worker generally buys ready-made clothes.

In Moscow, the consumers' co-operative society between October 1928 and March 1929 increased the prices of shoes by from 10 to 30 per cent., those of kitchen utensils by from 7 to 14 per cent., those of clothing by 15 per cent., those of coffee by 150 per cent., and those of cheap preserves by 15 per cent. Here again there is no question of luxuries, but of products of current use consumed by the worker, although not recognised by the budget. The co-operative societies have also increased the prices of certain products such as salt and oil. On an average, the selling prices of the co-operative societies increased by 10 per cent. up to the middle of March. The worker must spend from 10 to 30 per cent. more than is indicated by the index numbers of the cost of living, based on the worker's budget, which no longer expresses the real situation.

The rise in prices, according to the General Council of Trade Unions, may be explained partly by the growing difficulties of provisioning urban centres, and partly by the desire of many co-operative societies to take the fullest possible advantage of the present economic situation. The General Council urges the workers' co-operative societies and the trade unions to devote special attention to the problem of the cost of living, since it is evident that the present state of things is having a serious effect upon the real value of wages.

MOVEMENT OF WAGES

In State industry monthly and daily wages have fluctuated as follows

Period	Average monthly wage		Average daily wage	
	In chervonetz roubles	In prewar roubles	In chervonetz roubles	In prewar roubles
1925-1926 (1 October to 30 September)	54.04	26.68	2.36	1.16
1926-1927 (1 October to 30 September)	60.38	29.70	2.60	1.27
1927-1928 (1 October to 30 September)	66.90	32.53	2.82	1.37
1927-1928 (first quarter)	64.12	31.57	2.72	1.34
1927-1928 (second quarter)	66.58	32.63	2.75	1.35
1927-1928 (third quarter)	66.48	32.27	2.86	1.38
1927-1928 (fourth quarter)	70.41	33.69	2.95	1.41
1928-1929 (first quarter)	70.27	32.83	2.95	1.37

During 1928 the Department of Labour Statistics made certain changes in the composition and the method of calculation of the worker's monthly budget used as a basis for the estimation of the index numbers of the cost of living and for the calculation of the real value of wages. These changes were due to the reduction of the relative importance of private trade in the provisioning of the workers, in consequence of the gradual elimination of private traders brought about by the Government's policy. As prices were lower in the State shops and in the consumers' co-operative societies than in private trade, the new index numbers were slightly lowered. Thus the new index for the fourth quarter of 1927-1928 was only 202.1 as against the former index of 209. The monthly and daily wages estimated in pre-war roubles, according to the new index, would be respectively 34.87 roubles and 1.45 roubles for this period, as against 33.69 and 1.41 in the old index.

During the last quarter of the financial year 1927-1928 and the first two quarters of 1928-1929, the real value of monthly and daily wages fluctuated as follows according to the new index of the cost of living:—

Period	Monthly wage		Daily wage	
	In chervonetz roubles	In prewar roubles	In chervonetz roubles	In prewar roubles
Fourth quarter of 1927-1928	70.41	34.84	2.95	1.45
First quarter of 1928-1929	70.27	34.14	2.95	1.43
Second quarter of 1928-1929	69.69	32.85	3.02	1.42

Thus there has been a progressive reduction of the real value of wages from the fourth quarter of 1927-1928, and this reduction amounts roughly to 6 per cent. for monthly wages and 2 per cent. for daily wages. The nominal value of monthly wages was also reduced during this period. On the other hand, the nominal value of the daily wage, after being stabilised, increased by 2.4 per cent. in the course of the second quarter of 1928-1929.

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

Group	1928	1929
Grains	146	151
Other foodstuffs	151	152
Meats	151	152
Milk and cream	155	155
Other articles	145	145
Costly articles	182	182
Miscellaneous	138	138
Others	137	137
Before 1914	148	148
Other food	153	153
Sugar	156	156
Others	123	123
Others	146	146

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Group	Index No.	Index No. non-food	General Index No.
Pulses	123	125	151
Sugar	156	134	146
Other food	153	127	152
Tea	148	129	151
Other non-food	148	132	152
Iron and steel	137	127	151
Oilseeds	137	145	152
Raw cotton	138	142	151
Cotton manufactures	182	161	146
Metals	151	149	152
Other raw and manufactured articles	146	147	151
General Index No.	151	142	152

REVISION OF WAGE SCALES

The trade union press is also paying great attention to the revision of wage scales and standards of production, which is considered to be a threat to the real value of wages.

The Supreme Economic Council, the managing organ of State industry has found itself compelled to raise the standards of individual output and to reduce piece work rates and increase production according to the plans drawn up and so as to avoid exceeding the total sum allotted by the budget to the payment of wages. According to *Trud*, there exists a difference of opinion between the executive officials managing industry and the trade unions on the question of methods of application of the revised wage scales and standards of production. While the unions admit the necessity of an increase of individual output on the basis of the stabilised wages, and State industry is seeking economies by the reduction of wages while maintaining the present level of output, certain trusts have decided to carry out an automatic reduction of wages, without prejudice to further reduction by a rise in the standards of output.

This system, against which the unions have protested, consists in determining the total sum of savings to be made in the sphere of wages for a given group of undertakings. The next step is the distribution of the sums to be saved according to individual undertakings. The workers of the clothing trust of Moscow, for instance, find themselves threatened by this policy with a reduction of wages of from 30 to 35 per cent. In the chocolate factories and pastrycooks' establishments of Moscow the reduction would amount to 29 chervonetz roubles a month per worker, or more than 30 per cent. of present wages.

The economic and political danger to which such tactics on the part of the industrial bodies would give rise is pointed out by the trade unions, and attention is drawn to the growing number of labour disputes provoked by it. It is declared that a stubborn resistance must be opposed to all efforts to revise the totals of output and the piece work scales by means of an automatic reduction of wages. It is added that certain unions have unfortunately already signed supplementary collective agreements giving such powers to the management of industry.

The trade union press admits the necessity in many cases of raising the standards of output and even of reducing piece work rates, but only after a thorough study of the position of each undertaking, and only when improvements in the process of manufacture, such as mechanisation and rationalisation, justifying such measures, have been brought about. Hardly anything, it is said, has as yet been done in the sphere of rationalisation, and the study of the standards of individual output is still in an undeveloped condition.

In these conditions the General Council of Trade Unions categorically opposes any precipitate change in the standards of wage scales, and especially opposes the growing tendency of the managers of State industry to seek economies by reducing wages. (From *"Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, June 10, 1929.*)

Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923

Proposed Amendment by Government of India

VIEWS OF ORGANIZATIONS CONSULTED

In November 1928, the Government of India, in the Department of Industries and Labour, issued a circular letter to all Local Governments setting out the points on which Government are prepared to consider public opinion for an improvement of the Act in the light of the experience gained during its working for the last five years. The Government of Bombay in the General Department addressed certain officers and bodies in the matter, *vide* General Department, Government Resolution, No. 264, dated the 18th December 1928, and left it to the Labour Office, to consult any additional persons and bodies whom it might deem it necessary to address in this connection. In all 91 persons and bodies were consulted out of whom 57 replied. The Government of India letter together with the Recommendation of the Seventh International Labour Conference on Minimum Scales of 'Compensation' referred to in paragraph 5 of the letter, and the views forwarded by the non-official organisations consulted, classified under different heads, are reproduced below:—

LETTER FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIES AND LABOUR, NO. L. 1125, DATED THE 30TH NOVEMBER 1928

"I am directed to refer to letter No. F. 111-I-28-A., dated the 4th October 1928, from the Legislative Department forwarding a copy of a Bill further to amend the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, for certain purposes which was introduced during the last session of the Legislative Assembly and circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinions thereon. This Bill is confined to the amendment of those sections which are admittedly defective and to the introduction of changes which are likely to raise no important controversial points and which will be generally recognized as improvements. But now that some experience of the working of the Act is available, it is desirable to re-examine the principles underlying the present Act and its more important features. The Act was admittedly an experimental measure and many of its features owe their origin more to a desire to minimise the difficulties attendant on the introduction of an entirely new measure of this kind than to any belief in their permanent value.

"2. *The scope of the Act.*—In any revision of the Act the two most important questions which require consideration are the definition of the workmen to whom the Act applies and the scales of compensation payable. The present Act aimed at the inclusion only of persons employed in branches of industry which were both organized and hazardous, and in extending the Act to fresh classes the Government of India have endeavoured to follow this principle. The great majority of the workmen who satisfy these conditions already come under the operation of the Act and if these conditions are to be maintained, no large extension of the scope of the Act is possible. It is difficult, however, to justify the

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Month	Cereals	Oilseeds	Sugar	Other food	Index No. (Food)	Oilseeds	Beer	Other textiles	Wool and skins	Metals	Other raw materials	Index No. (non-food)	General Index No.
July 1928	149	123	156	153	131	138	143	155	151	146	152	151	
Aug 1927	144	125	155	155	131	142	142	142	142	142	142	142	
Jan 1927	145	127	156	156	131	142	142	142	142	142	142	142	
Mar 1927	148	129	157	157	131	142	142	142	142	142	142	142	
Apr 1927	149	130	158	158	131	142	142	142	142	142	142	142	
May 1927	150	131	159	159	131	142	142	142	142	142	142	142	
Jun 1927	151	132	160	160	131	142	142	142	142	142	142	142	
Jul 1927	152	133	161	161	131	142	142	142	142	142	142	142	
Aug 1927	153	134	162	162	131	142	142	142	142	142	142	142	
Sep 1927	154	135	163	163	131	142	142	142	142	142	142	142	
Oct 1927	155	136	164	164	131	142	142	142	142	142	142	142	
Nov 1927	156	137	165	165	131	142	142	142	142	142	142	142	
Dec 1927	157	138	166	166	131	142	142	142	142	142	142	142	

exclusion of other classes of workmen on grounds of logic alone. The mere fact that an occupation cannot be described as hazardous is hardly sufficient justification for denying compensation to those who suffer from the rare accidents which occur and the fact that an industry is not organized in no way minimises the hardship which accidents involve on workmen or their dependants.

" 3. No great difficulty would be created by the inclusion within the Act of workmen engaged in branches of industry which are not particularly hazardous and which are organized, e.g., to workmen employed on plantations. But the extension of the Act to workers in unorganized industries raises more serious problems, for the employer in an unorganized industry is not as a rule in a position to pay the compensation which would be due in the event of a serious accident. Nor would he be likely in most cases to take advantage of such facilities for insurance as are available. It would seem, therefore, that unless some scheme of compulsory insurance can be introduced, it would be unwise to contemplate any large extension of the scope of the Act. The Government of India are provisionally of the view that the endeavour to introduce any scheme of compulsory insurance, at any rate in unorganized industries, would be attended by serious administrative difficulties. In particular, the expense of administering such a scheme outside the more important urban areas would probably be prohibitive. But they would be glad if the local Government would consider, in the light of the above observations, the desirability of bringing further classes of workers within the scope of the Act. In particular, they would welcome any specific suggestions for additions to Schedule II of the Act.

" 4. *The scales of compensation.*—The main principles of the existing scales of compensation are :—

(1) The payment of a lump sum equivalent to 2½ years' wages of the deceased workman in cases of death of adult workmen.

(2) The payment of lump sums equivalent to 3 years' wages (or in the case of minors, 7 years' wages) in the case of complete permanent disablement with proportionately smaller sums for partial permanent disablement.

(3) The payment of allowances at half the wage rate for workmen temporarily disabled, with provisions for commutation. The most striking feature of the Indian Act in this respect is the preference shown for lump sums as against recurring payments and there is no doubt that in a country where industrial labour is drawn to a large extent from distant areas the payment of lump sums involves much less administrative difficulty than the payment of pensions. On the other hand, money received in the form of lump sums, particularly by ignorant workmen and their dependants, is apt to be expended in an improvident manner; and the payment of pensions, if it could be smoothly effected, would result as a rule in the receipt of substantially greater benefit for an equivalent amount of expenditure. The Government of India would be glad to know to what extent (if any) it is desirable, in the opinion of the local Government, that recurring payments should be substituted for lump sum payments in granting compensation.

" 5. As regards the level of the scales, I am to invite attention to the Recommendation on the minimum scale of compensation laid down by the Seventh International Labour Conference; a copy of this Recommendation is enclosed.* It will be observed that the main principle underlying this Recommendation is that the scales of compensation should be so framed as to provide the equivalent of two-thirds of the amount which the workman would have earned had he not been killed or incapacitated. The adoption of these principles in the Indian Act would involve an enhancement of one-third in the rate of payment for temporary incapacity and would probably involve substantial enhancements of the amounts payable on account of death or permanent incapacity; and the Government of India desire to receive opinions regarding the desirability of altering the scales. They are provisionally inclined to the view that in respect of the more poorly paid workmen in particular an enhancement would be justified and that, whether the scales for workmen generally are modified or not, the minimum scales of compensation which result from the application of Schedule IV of the Act might suitably be raised.

" 6. *The waiting period.*—A further question which arises in connection with the scales of compensation concerns the date from which compensation is payable. Under the Act as it stands at present, no compensation is payable in respect of the first ten days of disablement and it has been suggested that this waiting period is too long and results in hardship. While the period is admittedly longer than that prescribed by the great majority of Acts in other countries, the Government of India feel some doubt as to the wisdom of making a general reduction. It should be borne in mind that every reduction involves a very large increase in the number of cases that can be brought under the Act. Experience in other countries in respect of accident frequency indicates that a reduction of the present period by only three days would involve an increase of about 25 per cent. in the number of possible cases. And even if the period were reduced to as low as four days, the amount of compensation for temporary disablement due to a workman who was disabled for a period of less than ten days would seldom exceed Rs. 2 or 3, and it would not ordinarily be worth his while to contest such a claim where an employer refused to pay.

" 7. But the waiting period, in addition to excluding a large number of possible new claims for very short periods, operates to diminish the amount of compensation payable to workmen disabled for longer periods.

And it is possible to minimize this effect without opening the door to a large number of trivial claims by providing that, where the disablement has lasted more than ten days, the workmen should be entitled to receive compensation from an earlier date, e.g., from the fourth day of disablement. This method, which is known as 'dating back' has been adopted in a number of Acts in other countries and was at one time in force in England. The disadvantage attendant on it is that it provides in a number of cases a strong temptation to malingering. For the workman who returns to work, for example, on the tenth day is entitled to no compensation, whereas if his disablement lasts for one more day, he receives compensation for a

* Reproduced on page 1085.

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Month	Grains	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No. food	Oilseeds	Raw cotton	Cotton textile fabrics	Other textile	Wool and woolen articles	Metals	Other non-metallic minerals	Building and construction	Other	1914
May	49														
June															
July															
Aug.															
Sept.															
Oct.															
Nov.															
Dec.															

This might be advantageous; but it would not be an easy matter to define the accidents in respect of which returns were required. It should be remembered in this connection that claims for compensation can arise in respect of injuries sustained elsewhere than on the employers' premises. And to call for returns in respect of injuries arising out of and in the course of employment would be to compel the employer to choose between restricting the returns to the cases in which he has paid compensation (and this is what is required at present) and admitting that he was liable to pay compensation in a number of other cases.

13. Provisions relating to procedure in fatal accidents.—Finally, the Government of India desire to suggest some improvements in the procedure relating to fatal accidents, with particular reference to section 22 (1) of the Act. As the law stands at present, under sub-section (1) of section 22 a dependant who finds that no compensation has been deposited on behalf of a deceased workman must first approach the employer. This appears to be illogical as, in the case of fatal accidents, it is not possible for the parties to reach an agreement that will be final. The duty of deciding what compensation, if any, should be given to each dependant rests solely with the Commissioner and an agreement between any dependant and an employer is effective only in so far as it is an agreement on the employer's side to deposit compensation. The dependant can make no corresponding agreement to accept the compensation. As all cases of fatal accidents must come before the Commissioner and failure to deposit compensation is equivalent to a denial of the claim, the Government of India are inclined to the view that section 22 should be amended in such a manner as to enable a dependant who claims compensation to approach the Commissioner for the settlement of his claim without first applying to the employer. This change would not affect the right of the employer to a notice of the accident.

14. Section 22 of the Act effectively prevents the Commissioner from initiating proceedings on his own motion. It has been suggested that in a country like India where the class of people, from which workmen are drawn, is almost entirely illiterate, the Commissioner should be given powers to initiate proceedings to secure the payment of compensation in cases where, owing to ignorance, no claim has been made. The proposal, as stated in this form, is open to serious objections, the main one being that it would tend to remove the Commissioner from the position of a referee to that of a partisan and to weaken the confidence of employers in his impartiality. The Government of India, however, consider that the migratory character and the general illiteracy of the workers in India and the absence of well organized trade unions furnish grounds for taking special measures for securing to the dependants of a deceased workman the compensation which is due to them under the Act. For example, a provision might be made under which an employer would be bound to give notice to the Commissioner within a prescribed period of all accidents to his workmen which have terminated fatally. Failure to give such notice would render the employer liable to a fine. The notice would include certain specified details and would also include a statement whether the employer proposed to deposit compensation with the Commissioner or

not; and if not, his reasons for not doing so. Where the employer did not propose to deposit compensation, the Commissioner might be authorized to convey to the dependants of the deceased employee an intimation that it was open to the latter to take such further action in the matter as they might desire to take under the Act. Alternatively, other officers, e.g., Inspectors of Factories and Mines, might be authorised to prefer complaints (and to secure that the proper notice was served on the employer) in cases where they believed that a workman had been killed in circumstances giving rise to a claim for compensation, and where no compensation had been deposited. The Government of India would be glad if these suggestions could be considered; they will be ready to consider any other suggestions designed to meet the difficulty.

15. In a number of cases Commissioners for Workmen's Compensation have been unable to award compensation payable under the Act owing to the fact that the dependants of a deceased workman could not be traced, and a suggestion has been made that employers should be obliged to register the names and addresses of the nearest relatives of each of their workmen as soon as the workman is taken into employment. The Government of India are inclined to view such a proposal favourably, but they consider that the procedure suggested could only be introduced effectively for certain limited classes of workmen, e.g., those employed in factories, mines and railways. In the case of a factory, for example, the employer has to keep a register of all the persons employed, and the names and addresses of the nearest relatives could be entered at the time when the entry of a workman's name is first made. These registers could be examined periodically by Factory Inspectors. On the other hand, the enforcement of a rule in the building trades, for example, would be scarcely possible. Another possible objection to this proposal is that in some areas workmen might be unwilling to give their wives' names and the wife, when living, is the most important dependant.

16. Cases arise in which the amount of compensation deposited on account of a fatal accident is inadequate and the Commissioner is at present precluded from taking steps on his own initiative to secure that the full amount of compensation is paid. He must await an application from a dependant before taking any action in this respect. As the deposit of compensation is tantamount to an admission of liability, it would seem to be desirable that the Commissioner should be empowered to call upon the employer depositing compensation in any particular case to show cause why he should not deposit the additional amount sufficient to bring the compensation up to the prescribed sum.

17. Section 8 (1) of the Act does not prescribe any particular period during which the payment must be made by the Commissioner, but it is doubtful whether he can, without statutory authority, withhold a payment for the periods which are sometimes necessary for the decision of an appeal by a High Court. It has, therefore, been suggested that section 8 (1) of the Act should be amended so as to empower the Commissioner to withhold payment in cases where an appeal has been filed against his decision. The High Court might similarly be empowered to order in any particular case that the distribution of compensation should be suspended pending their decision.

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Month	General Index No.		Index No. non-food	Other raw and manuf. articles	Metals	Hides and skins	Other textiles	Cotton manuf. factories	Raw cotton	Oilseeds	Sugar	Other food	Wheat	Yarn	Cotton
	1926	1927													
May	151	151	152	146	151	155	143	182	138	137	138	155	138	140	140
June	151	151	152	146	151	155	143	182	138	137	138	155	138	140	140
July	151	151	152	146	151	155	143	182	138	137	138	155	138	140	140
August	151	151	152	146	151	155	143	182	138	137	138	155	138	140	140
September	151	151	152	146	151	155	143	182	138	137	138	155	138	140	140
October	151	151	152	146	151	155	143	182	138	137	138	155	138	140	140
November	151	151	152	146	151	155	143	182	138	137	138	155	138	140	140
December	151	151	152	146	151	155	143	182	138	137	138	155	138	140	140

"18. In conclusion, I am to set out briefly the main questions on which the Government of India desire to receive opinions. These are as follows—

- (1) To what fresh classes of employees, if any, should the Act be extended?
- (2) Should any provisions be introduced for securing workmen against possible loss by reason of the inability of their employer to pay any compensation that may be due?
- (3) To what extent, if any, should recurring payments be substituted for the lump sums at present payable under the Act?
- (4) Should the scales of compensation be enhanced either for the more poorly paid workmen or generally?
- (5) Should the waiting period be reduced either generally or in the case of those workmen who are disabled for more than ten days, and if so to what extent?
- (6) Should the list of relatives entitled to claim compensation be enlarged?
- (7) Should proof of dependence be required in order to enable a relative to claim compensation?
- (8) Should the compensation payable vary with the number of dependants and with the extent of their dependence on the deceased workmen?
- (9) Should section 12 of the Act be amended—
 - (a) so as to place the ultimate liability for compensation on the person directly employing the workmen in every case, or
 - (b) so as to place the ultimate liability for compensation on the principal, or
 - (c) in any other manner?
- (10) Should any penalty be provided in the Act for failure to comply with the provisions of section 16?
- (11) Should employers be required to submit returns of accidents in respect of which compensation has not been paid, and if so, to what accidents should this provision apply?
- (12) Should a dependant claiming compensation be relieved of the necessity of approaching the employer for the settlement of his claim?
- (13) What steps, if any, should be taken to ensure that dependants who may have valid claims for compensation do not lose compensation through ignorance of their rights?
- (14) Should employers be required to maintain a register of relatives of their workmen?
- (15) Should Commissioners be empowered to call on employers depositing inadequate compensation for fatal accidents to make a further deposit?
- (16) Should provision be made for the suspension of distribution by the Commissioner pending the disposal of an appeal against his decision?

Other amendments of the Act may suggest themselves to local Governments or those consulted by them, and the Government of India will also be glad to receive any suggestions relating to points which are not discussed in this letter. I am to request that, after consultation with

representative organizations of employers and employees and others who may be interested in the operation of the Act, a reply may be sent to this letter not later than 1st July 1929."

Recommendations of the Seventh International Labour Conference on Minimum Scale of Compensation

The General Conference recommends that each Member of the International Labour Organisation should take the following principles and rules into consideration:—

I. Where incapacity for work results from the injury, the national laws or regulations should provide for the payment of compensation at rates not lower than those hereinafter indicated—

- (1) In the case of permanent total incapacity, a periodical payment equivalent to two-thirds of the workman's annual earnings.
- (2) In case of permanent partial incapacity, a proportion of the periodical payment due in the event of permanent total incapacity calculated in reference to the reduction of earning power caused by the injury.
- (3) In case of temporary total incapacity, a daily or weekly payment equivalent to two-thirds of the workman's basic earnings as calculated for purposes of compensation.
- (4) In case of temporary partial incapacity, a proportion of the daily or weekly payment payable in the case of temporary total incapacity calculated in reference to the reduction of earning power caused by the injury.

Where compensation is paid in a lump sum, the sum should not be less than the capitalised value of the periodical payment which would be payable under the foregoing paragraphs.

II. Where the inquiry is such that the workman requires the constant help of another person, additional compensation should be paid to the workman, which should not be less than half the amount payable in the case of permanent total incapacity.

III. Where death results from the injury, those entitled to be regarded as dependants for purposes of compensation should include at least the following:—

- (1) Deceased's husband or wife;
 - (2) Deceased's children under eighteen years of age, or above that age if, by reason of physical or mental infirmity, they are incapable of earning;
 - (3) Deceased's ascendants (parents or grand-parents) provided that they are without means of subsistence and were dependent on the deceased, or the deceased was under an obligation to contribute towards their maintenance;
 - (4) Deceased's grand-children and brothers and sisters, if below eighteen years of age, or above that age if, by reason of physical or mental infirmity, they are incapable of earning, and if they are orphans, or if their parents, though still living, are incapable of providing for them.
- Where compensation is paid by means of periodical payments, the maximum total of the yearly sum payable to all the dependants should not be less than two-thirds of the deceased's annual earnings.

Where compensation is paid in a lump sum, the maximum sum payable to all the dependants should not be less than the capitalised value of periodical payments equivalent to two-thirds of the deceased's annual earnings.

IV. The vocational re-education of injured workmen should be provided by such means as the national laws or regulations deem most suitable.

Governments should encourage institutions which undertake such re-education.

Classified Views of the Bodies and Persons Consulted on the Above Letter

Question I—To what Fresh Classes of Employees, if any, should the Act be extended?

EMPLOYERS' INTERESTS

The Chamber of Commerce, Bombay

The existing Act appears sufficiently comprehensive in regard to the industries in this Presidency and its further extension to unorganised industries is not recommended at present.

The Bombay Engineering Employers' Federation, Bombay

Agree with the views expressed above.

The Karachi Chamber of Commerce, Karachi

The Act should be extended to any unorganised industry not at present included. The exclusion of workmen engaged in the construction of buildings which are not more than one storey above ground level might with advantage be removed.

The Millowners' Association, Bombay

The extension of the scope of the Act to other industries will be beneficial. The mere fact that the application of the law to certain industries will be difficult, or that the occupation in such industries is not particularly hazardous, does not afford sufficient justification for the exclusion of a large number of operatives employed in such industries from the benefits conferred under the Act. It is suggested that plantations should be included in the scope of the Act and the restrictions at present imposed as regards the grant of compensation to workmen employed in the construction, repair or demolition of buildings and bridges should also be removed.

The Ahmedabad Millowners' Association, Ahmedabad

Workmen employed on plantations should be included within the scope of the Act owing to this industry (which is not particularly hazardous) being on an organised basis. The extension of the Act to workers in unorganised industries is obviously impossible in view of the impractical nature of its application in a country like India and the complexities that would arise in administration.

The Indian Merchants' Chamber, Bombay

Small industries, i.e., industries not coming under the Factories and Mines Acts, should be excluded from the operation of the Act. Those industries where the nature of the business of an employer is of a nomadic character should also be excluded. The same exclusion should also apply to industries where the employment of labour varies with the locality. Workmen engaged in such works as Dams and Tunnels should come under the Act.

The Karachi Indian Merchants Association, Karachi

The extension of the Act to fresh classes of employees should be done with great care with a view to doing justice to workmen on the one hand and securing simplicity and efficiency of administration of the Act on the other.

The Buyers and Shippers Chamber, Karachi

The scope of the Act should be enlarged so as to include all organised industries irrespective of their being hazardous or not and all unorganised industries in the important urban areas. In other words, only the unorganised industries in rural areas should be exempted from the scope of the Act at least for the present.

The Maharashtra Chamber of Commerce, Bombay

Small unorganised industries not coming under the Factory Act or the Mining Act should be excluded. It should really apply to those workmen who are exposed to risk. Industries wherein the nature of the business of an employer is of an unsettled and travelling character should also be excluded. Workers engaged in works such as dams and tunnels should be included.

The Chamber of Commerce, Aden

There is no objection to the proposals made by Government.

LARGE LABOUR EMPLOYING ORGANISATIONS

The Agent, B.B. & C.I. Railway, Bombay

The exception of the two classes of railway employees, viz., (1) purely office staff, and (2) such of the staff who come under the Factories Act when they draw more than Rs. 300 per mensem, is based on certain obvious principles which presumably it is not the intention of Government to modify. There is therefore no necessity for extending the scope of the Act so far as railways are concerned.

The Municipal Commissioner, Bombay Municipality, Bombay

The benefits of the Act may be extended to employees in large industries which are well organised even though they may be non-hazardous.

The Chairman, Bombay Port Trust, Bombay

As regards Ports it is considered that the scope of the Act should be extended so as to make it applicable to such of the following classes as are not already included, subject to the prescribed limit of pay—

(a) all Port employees working within Dock areas, including Dry Docks :

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Month	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	India No. 1	Oilseeds	Rice cotton	Cotton futures	Other textiles	Allyls and rubber	Metals	Others (incl. coal, gas, oil, etc.)	General index (incl. all)
May 1926	149	123	156	153	148	137	138	182	143	155	151	146	151
June 1927	144	127	154	150	141	143	128	161	136	152	149	146	152
July	144	127	154	150	141	143	128	161	136	152	149	146	152
Aug.	142	125	152	148	140	141	126	160	135	151	148	145	151
Sept.	142	125	152	148	140	141	126	160	135	151	148	145	151
October	140	123	150	146	138	139	125	159	134	150	146	144	150
November	140	123	150	146	138	139	125	159	134	150	146	144	150
December	134	118	131	137	139	130	124	154	131	149	143	140	149

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

Month	Cereals	Polish	Sugar	Other food	Ind. food	Oilseeds	Raw cotton	Cotton yarns	Other textiles	Alkalis and dyes	Metals	Other iron and engineering materials	Index No. 1914 = 100	Central Govt. No.
1926	149	123	136	153	137	138	182	143	155	151	146	51		
May 1927	141	123	136	150	145	137	181	141	142	146	147	47		
June	141	123	136	150	143	137	181	141	142	146	147	47		
July	141	123	136	150	143	137	181	141	142	146	147	47		
August	141	123	136	150	143	137	181	141	142	146	147	47		
September	141	123	136	150	143	137	181	141	142	146	147	47		
October	141	123	136	150	143	137	181	141	142	146	147	47		
November	141	123	136	150	143	137	181	141	142	146	147	47		
December	141	123	136	150	143	137	181	141	142	146	147	47		

(h) persons employed on dredgers, tugs, barges, launches or any other vessels owned or operated by a Port Authority ;
(c) persons engaged in submarine diving operations in connection with the service of a Port Authority ;
(d) persons employed in the service of any Electrical Supply or Distribution Company or attending upon any machinery connected therewith.

The Bombay Improvement Trust, Bombay

The Act should be extended to persons engaged on the construction of dams, quarrying and excavation requiring blasting operations, excavation on slopes of hills, and laying and maintaining underground electric cables.

The President, Ahmedabad Municipality, Ahmedabad

The idea underlying 'Compensation' ought to be that the employer has to make amends to injured workmen or to the heirs of deceased workmen for the supposed non-observance of due care and safeguard. In cases where the nature of the work itself is innocent, the occurrence of an unforeseen calamity or accident, absolutely foreign to the industry, ought not to entail a liability on the employer to pay compensation.

The President, Karachi Municipality, Karachi

This should be enlarged to include as many occupations as possible besides "organized and hazardous industries" as it is unfair to deny the benefits of the Act to workmen who fall under the first category. It is certainly unfair to deny the benefits of the Act to a workman engaged in an industry which may not be particularly hazardous but in which accidents occur though rarely. With regard to "unorganized industries" something should be done to assist the workmen. In fact it is the workmen belonging to this type of industries who are exposed to the greatest risks and receive the least protection.

The Chairman, Karachi Port Trust, Karachi

The Port Trust pays compensation to all employees irrespective of whether they come within the scope of the Act or not, but it seems desirable that in amending the Act the clause should be amended to include all workmen who are engaged in the various operations connected with the landing or shipping of goods from steamers in any place whether mechanical power, etc., is used or not.

The Chairman, Aden Port Trust, Aden

It is very difficult to suggest any fresh classes of employees to whom the Act should be extended. From the point of view of a Port Authority its present scope would appear adequate.

The Tata Hydro-Electric Company, Bombay

Certain important classes of workmen are excluded from the Act ; as, for instance, all men working on a dam where many accidents occur. Clause vi (b) of Schedule II to the Act refers to a building which is not less than 20 feet in height measured from the ground to the apex of the roof, and contemplates a building and not a dam. It is suggested, therefore,

that a clause should be added that where a project is undertaken which comprises large construction works, the whole project should come within the purview of the Act.

The Bombay Electric Supply & Tramways Co., Ltd.

There is no objection to the Act being extended to any fresh classes of employees. In Clause 7 of Schedule 2 of the Act, workmen employed in "laying, repairing and maintaining underground electric cables" should be included.

Messrs. Cowasjee & Sons, Karachi

The Act should be extended to all classes of workers who use any implements or where the work entails any risk to life and or limbs, howsoever remote—except domestic servants.

WORKERS' INTERESTS

The G.I.P. Railway Staff Union (including the V. T. Commercial Section Staff, the Wadi Bunder Staff, the Mechanical Department Office Staff and the Administrative Office Staff Unions)

The benefit of compensation for accidents should be extended to all classes of workers including clerks and others on the lines of the Law of England and other countries. A workman whether he is employed in an organised industry or not and whether his work is hazardous or otherwise, should in fairness, be entitled to get compensation for any injury resulting from an accident arising in the course of and out of his employment. It therefore stands to reason that every workman, irrespective of the nature of the industry in which he is employed and the nature of his work should be given the benefit of such legislation.

Should Government not be inclined to go so far and make the compensation Act universal in application, an alternative suggestion is that the Act should be extended to all classes of organised industries whether the nature of work is hazardous or not. If this is done, workmen in many industries which are quite well organised such as tea, coffee, rubber, indigo and other plantations would be included within the Act and will be eligible for compensation.

Workmen employed in the following classes of industries and workers who are both organised and undertake work of a hazardous nature have been omitted and require to be included in the scope of the Act :—

1. Undertakings or parts of undertakings for the production or manipulation of explosive, inflammable, poisonous or unhealthy materials.
2. All undertakings for loading or unloading.
3. Construction, repair and maintenance of Public Works Department, Railways, Ports, Roads, Canals, Embankments, Dykes, Harbours, Aqueducts, Drains, Bridges, Tunnels and similar works.
4. All undertakings for transport on land, sea, river, lakes and navigation canals.
5. All factories and workshops using power irrespective of the number of men employed.

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

Group	Index No. (1914=100)	General Index No.
General	151	151
India No. food	152	152
Other no. food	146	146
Metals	153	153
Wool and skins	155	155
Other textiles	143	143
Cotton manuf.	162	162
Raw cotton	161	161
Oilseeds	143	143
India No. food	148	148
Other food	153	153
Sugar	156	156
Pulses	123	123
Cereals	149	149

6. Undertakings for the erection, maintenance, demolition of classes of buildings and for the loading, transport and unloading of materials for such erection, maintenance or demolition.
7. Works necessary for preventing land slips.
8. Undertakings for the production and distribution of Gas and electric energy, telephone undertakings and works necessary for the placing, repair and removal of pipes and other conduits for gas, electricity and water, or of lightning conductors.
9. Lime, tiles and brick kilns.
10. Undertakings for cutting or trimming of trees in forests and the transport of the same to the ordinary places of deposit or the banks of rivers, or ports in the neighbourhood, or roads.
11. Transportation services inclusive of Tramways, Steam Road Rollers and Motor buses.
12. Seamen employed on board all kinds of vessels except sailing vessels of less than 100 tonnage.
13. Toddy drawers and fruit gatherers from trees for the purpose of trade or business.
14. Workers employed in ware-houses and godowns.
15. Workers employed in the manufacture of country gas produce and fire works.
16. Well sinkers.
17. Factory workers concerned both under clauses A and B of sub-clause 3 of Section 2 of Factory Act.
18. Workers employed in Dockyards.
19. Postal runners, mailguards, overseers, village postmen and others whose duties require constant travelling.
20. Workers in salt works.

As regards seamen, the definition of "Registered ship" in clause "j" of sub-section (1) of section 2 of the Workmen's Compensation Act of 1923, is unnecessarily restrictive. This restriction and another with regard to tonnage of vessels should be removed.

The Bombay Port Trust Railwaymen's Union

All classes of employees except those in private domestic service, employees in hotels, steamers, tea shops, restaurants and similar places of employment doing work of a domestic character should be included.

The All-India and Burmah Covenanted Non-Gazetted Railway Services Association, Bombay

Agree with the views expressed by the Government of India.

The Bombay Mill Workers' Union

The Act may be extended so as to include workmen in Municipal employ, or under the employ of any Corporation, or Industrial Institutes, whether joint-stock or privately owned, or constructional works of any kind which employ not less than 100 workmen, though their work may be of a non-hazardous nature. The workmen of Municipalities, Port Trusts, Improvement Trusts and their contractors and sub-contractors might also be included within the scope of the Act.

The Indian Seamen's Union, Bombay

The application of the Act should be extended to all persons whether they are employed in branches of industry which are organised or not and which are hazardous or otherwise. The primary object of a Workmen's Compensation Act should be to secure compensation to workmen who meet with accidents in the course of their employment. The hazardous character of an employment may make out a case for providing certain safeguards to minimise accidents both in the interests of workmen and employers; but to consider it to be the *sine qua non* of a claim for compensation would be to draw invidious distinctions between different kinds of employment. What is sought to be compensated is injuries to workmen and not the hazardous nature of employment. The utility of an employment to society is certainly independent of any hazardous nature attached to it and it would not be just to award unequal treatment to different kinds of workmen. Similarly, whether the industry is organised or not, an accident is nonetheless an accident and the case of a person receiving injury in the course of his employment in an unorganised industry should not be dismissed as one of misfortune merely because there are difficulties in the way of administration of the Act in case it is made applicable to unorganised industries. It is absolutely necessary and essential that some provisions on the lines of the Employers' Liability Act which were inserted in the original draft of the Workmen's Compensation Act by the Government of India should now find place in the proposed amendment of the Workmen's Compensation Act.

The G.I.P. Railwaymen's Union, Bombay

As this Act is applicable to all the employees of the G.I.P. Railway no amendment is necessary in respect of fresh classes of employees to which it need be made applicable.

The Textile Labour Association, Ahmedabad

According to the provisions of the present Act, persons employed in doing the work of digging, shifting materials from one place to another, or doing other odd jobs in the factory compound are debarred from claiming compensation if they meet with accident in the course of employment as this sort of job is not considered incidental to the manufacturing process. The purpose of the Act does not seem to exclude this class of workmen but the interpretation of the above-mentioned provision in the Act excludes them from claiming any compensation. An amendment or the proper wording of the provision is necessary so that all workmen on the muster-roll of the factory drawing less than Rs. 300 per month are included in the Act.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Bombay Accident Insurance Association, Bombay

Bearing in mind the aim of the present Act to include only those persons employed in industries which are both organised and hazardous, no large extension of the scope of the Act is admittedly possible. It is certainly neither practical nor desirable to extend the Act to cover all classes of

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

Month	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No. based on 1914	Oilseeds	Raw cotton	Cotton textiles	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw materials and fuels	Index No. based on 1914	General (Composite)
1926														
May		23		151										46
1927														46
May		152												46
June		150												46
July		151												46
August		125												46
September		135												46
October		138												46
November														46
December														46

manual labourers as in the case of England and other countries more highly industrially developed than India. For the present, workmen employed in unorganised industries, especially those in rural districts, cannot be brought within the scope of the Act.

Little difficulty would, however, be experienced in extending Schedule II of the Act to cover the following classes of workmen :—

(a) Workmen employed by Public Bodies such as Corporations and Municipalities, or their Contractors, in road repairing work and Scavenging.

(b) Workmen employed in earthworks and excavations exceeding 20 feet below the level of the surrounding surface as opposed to excavations for the purpose of searching for or obtaining minerals. This would bring within the purview of the Act such work as the construction of docks and or harbours.

(c) Members of crews of Inland Steam Vessels, as defined in Section 2 of the Inland Steam Vessels Act, of registered tonnage of less than 100 tons.

(d) Durwans, peons, bearers and messengers in the employ of the Government of India, Local Governments, Municipalities, Local Bodies and Registered Companies when employed within the limits of a Municipality or Corporation.

(e) Workmen employed in laying down, taking up, repairing or maintaining any underground telegraph or telephone line or electric cable.

At present Indian seamen employed on ships not registered under any Act in India are not, strictly speaking, covered under the Act but most Shipping Companies operating in India have by a special agreement agreed to pay compensation to such seamen under the terms of the Act, which agreement is entered on the Articles of the Crew. The Shipping Companies have honoured the terms of the agreement and paid compensation to Indian seamen injured on their ships but it is within the rights of these Companies to withhold payment of compensation in certain cases, especially in the case of death. In fact, the agreement does not apply to the dependants of Indian seamen at all as they are not parties to it. This question involves certain international difficulties but it nevertheless deserves the attention of the Government of India as it is necessary to see if some steps can be taken to mitigate the existing hardship to Indian seamen and their dependants.

The Millowners' Mutual Insurance Association Ltd., Bombay

The extension of the scope of the Act to other industries will certainly be beneficial. It is recommended that the present restrictions as regards compensation to workmen employed in the construction, repair or demolition of a building or a bridge should be removed.

The Bombay Claims and General Agency, Bombay

It is necessary that at least all the organised industries whether hazardous or not should be covered by the Act. There are instances to show that in the following cases the claimants have failed to get compensation because

the Act was not applicable although the industries concerned were both organised and hazardous.

(a) Workmen employed in factories where less than 20 persons have been employed, i.e., coming under sub-clause (b) of clause 3 of Section 2 of the Indian Factories Act, 1911.

(b) Persons who are employed on Crushers which are being worked either on roads or in quarries either by electrical power or some other mechanical power by Municipalities, Public Works Department or bodies like the Port Trust, Improvement Trusts and similar employers. The risk run by such persons is no less than that run by those who are employed in factories which are covered by the Indian Factories Act.

(c) Workmen employed in Commercial godowns and sheds for the purpose of either arranging or storing goods or in transportation services especially in connection with heavy articles like motors, tramways or railway lines, buses, etc. and similar articles.

(d) Workmen employed in docks for loading or unloading waggons or doing such other things in connection with that. Under the present Act, unless the process of loading or unloading has direct connection with a particular ship, it is not covered, but whether the process of loading or unloading a waggon has direct connection with a particular ship or not, the risk is the same. For instance, if a cooly is engaged to unload a waggon and to take goods directly to the crane to be loaded in a ship is injured, he is covered in that process; but if the goods are not directly to be taken to the crane but to a shed, then in that case it is contended that he is not covered. It is necessary that all dock hamals in general whether employed in sheds, godowns, on waggons, or on ships, should be covered, especially as the necessity of any water, electrical and or mechanical power being there is removed.

(e) Workmen employed in the construction, repair or demolition of all buildings without any limitation as to their heights etc.; if not, at least all commercial buildings.

(f) Workmen employed in the construction, repair, or upkeep or demolition of any underground pipes either of water, gas, electricity or otherwise, or any excavation, pipes, drains, gutters etc.

(g) Workmen employed in the Health Department of a Municipality as scavengers etc., or employed in the construction, or repair, or metalling of roads.

(h) Workmen employed in the construction, repair, etc., of any irrigation works, like canals, dams, etc., and other works like the Bombay Development Department scheme or the Sukkur Barrage, etc.

(i) Workmen employed as seamen excluded from the scope of the present definition. "We have had very sad experience about the people employed on coast-line steamers belonging to the Bombay Steam Navigation Co., Ltd., and the Scindia Steam Navigation Co., Ltd. It is to be regretted that in the disaster of the s.s. "Jayanti" and "Tukaram" the dependants of the deceased seamen had no legal remedy. They could not recover compensation under the Indian Act, because the ships were not registered under any of the Acts mentioned in the definition of a registered ship. They could not get it under the English Act

because neither Company had its office in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. Moreover it was too difficult for them to go there and institute claims. As the tonnage was below 300 tons, they were not entitled to the benefit of even the additional stipulation in the articles of agreement that are required to be signed under the Indian Merchants Shipping Act. The result was that although about 150 or more seamen lost their lives, their dependants could not legally recover even a single farthing towards compensation. It is understood that the employers made some *ex gratia* payments. It is therefore quite essential that either the Indian Workmen's Compensation Act or the Indian Merchants Shipping Act should be amended so as to include all such seamen. It may be stated here that the number of persons affected may come to several thousands in the whole of India.'

The Bombay European Textile Association, Bombay

The Act should be made as comprehensive as possible, covering all manual labour.

Question II—Should any Provision be Introduced for securing Workmen against possible loss by reason of the Inability of their Employer to pay any Compensation that may be due?

EMPLOYERS' INTERESTS

The Chamber of Commerce, Bombay

The only provision for securing workmen against possible loss is some form of compulsory insurance but in the present circumstances it is not possible to suggest any scheme of compulsory insurance which would be equitable alike to employers and employees.

The Bombay Engineering Employers' Federation, Bombay

Agree with the views expressed above.

The Karachi Chamber of Commerce, Karachi

Employers should be liable to be sued in a civil court for default in paying compensation.

The Millowners' Association, Bombay

There has been no attempt on the part of the employers to evade payment of compensation, and where claims have either been proved or ordered to be paid by the authorities concerned, they have been settled with due promptness. The necessity of introducing a scheme of compulsory insurance has not been established, and an endeavour to introduce such legislation would affect certain mills which are at present their own insurers. There is no objection, however, to treat all payments due under the Act by an insolvent employer as the first charge upon the estate.

The Ahmedabad Millowners' Association, Ahmedabad

Any scheme of compulsory insurance is beset with difficulty, and the expenses and organisation for efficient administration of such a scheme

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1918 = 100

Group	July 1918 = 100	July 1929
Minerals	117	117
Grains	108	108
Oilseeds	102	102
Other articles	103	103
Wool and hides	155	155
Metals	151	151
Other raw materials	146	146
Other articles	152	152
Construction	153	153
Services	154	154
Finance	155	155
Government	156	156
General	157	157
Composite	158	158
All India	159	159

would far outweigh the small advantages that are calculated to be derived therefrom.

The Indian Merchants Chamber, Bombay

The Commissioner's award is practically accorded the status of a decree of a court which can be executed against the assets of a defaulter and no further measures are therefore necessary. The Committee of the Chamber do not think it advisable to introduce a system of compulsory insurance.

The Karachi Indian Merchants' Association, Karachi

Compulsory insurance of the workmen is a very good proposal but it is one in which the State ought to take the initiative for its own employees. That would give experience and then the scheme could be extended among other employers.

The Buyers and Shippers Chamber, Karachi

The Chamber is not in favour of a scheme for compulsory insurance for the following reasons:—

- (a) That it would tend to drain away Indian money outside of India as no legislation exists that premia paid by Indian subjects should be with Indian owned and Indian managed concerns.
- (b) That as the rate of premium asked for would be high it would mean an additional cost to industry and no additional costs can be borne by any industry owing to keen outside competition.

It is not correct to say that Labour has not received compensation wherever same was due. The labourers have been vigilant enough to claim the same either direct or through some society. In fact the demand for compensation has been, at times, more than that allowed by the present Act.

The Maharashtra Chamber of Commerce, Bombay

The introduction of compulsory insurance seems to be premature at the present stage of industrial development in this country and hence it is not necessary.

The Chamber of Commerce, Aden

There is no objection to the proposals made by Government.

LARGE LABOUR EMPLOYING ORGANISATIONS

The Agent, B.B. & C.I. Railway, Bombay

Provision should be introduced if experience has shown it as necessary.

The Municipal Commissioner, Bombay Municipality, Bombay

Compulsory insurance for employers of labour against claims under the Act is not likely to present any insuperable administrative difficulty so long as the Act is confined to industries which are large and are well organised.

The Chairman, Karachi Port Trust, Karachi

It seems reasonable that a workman should be secured against inability of the employer to pay any compensation, but it would be very difficult to legislate for, and would possibly result in, making Employers' Liability Insurance compulsory.

The Bombay Improvement Trust, Bombay

No provision need be introduced for securing workmen against possible loss by reason of the inability of their employers to pay any compensation that may be due because this is a risk consequent of all employment.

The President, Karachi Municipality, Karachi

Payment of compensation by recurring monthly instalments is desirable and should be encouraged. Payments can be made through the agency of Registered Co-operative Societies or Compulsory Insurance Departments of Government and a small percentage could be charged for administering the work. It should however be insisted that the employer should pay the whole amount in one lump sum to avoid the consequences of the risk of the failure of a private employer.

The Chairman, Bombay Port Trust, Bombay

No such provisions are necessary so far as Port Authorities are concerned.

The Chairman, Aden Port Trust, Aden

The introduction of a scheme of compulsory insurance appears to be the only means of securing workmen against possible loss by reason of the inability of their employer to pay any compensation which may be due.

The Tata Hydro-Electric Company, Bombay

The only provision that could be made for securing workmen against inability of an employer to pay would be a system of compulsory insurance which can only be applied to bodies of importance with proper organisation.

The Bombay Electric Supply & Tramways Co., Ltd.

No fresh provisions need be introduced.

Messrs. Cowasjee & Sons, Karachi

To safeguard the workmen against remote cases where an employer will not be able to compensate the workmen, would entail an unnecessary burden on all employers, the majority of whom are in a position to compensate the workmen. In the common interest of the country the expedient of compulsory insurance should be avoided.

WORKERS' INTERESTS

The G.I.P. Railway Staff Union (including the V.T. Commercial Section Staff, the Wadi Bunder Staff, the Mechanical Department Office Staff and the Administrative Office Staff Unions)

The effective provision for securing workmen against possible loss by reason of the inability of an employer to pay compensation that may be due would be a system of compulsory insurance by the employer. The advantages of such compulsory insurance will outweigh the hardships that may be caused to the employers.

The Bombay Port Trust Railwaymen's Union

An employer with insufficient financial resources must arrange for payment of any compensation by a reputable insurance company doing business in India, and failure to do so should be made a penal offence.

The All-India and Burmah Covenanted Non-Gazetted Railway Services Association, Bombay

Agree with the views expressed by the Government of India.

The Indian Seamen's Union, Bombay

If it be that the employer is not in a position to pay compensation it would be necessary to devise a scheme of national insurance. It would be practicable to make employers in such industries contribute to the Fund and it would not be difficult to collect the contributions if the work is undertaken by Income-Tax Officers.

The Textile Labour Association, Ahmedabad

No difficulty has been found in securing compensation from the employer owing to his inability to pay, but in view of the fact that such a contingency might arise in cases where the concern goes into liquidation or changes hands, it is prudent to provide that the claim for compensation is the first charge on the assets of the concern or the private employer in the former case, and in the latter case the successor should be held liable to pay the compensation to the workmen whether the contract with the former employer was explicit or not on this point.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Bombay Accident Insurance Association, Bombay

It is not necessary to introduce any provisions for securing workmen against possible loss by reason of the inability of their employers to pay any compensation that may be due. Not a single case of failure on the part of a workman to obtain compensation by reason of the inability of his employer to pay has occurred to the knowledge of the association even among uninsured employers, and workmen are already sufficiently protected by the provisions of section 14 of the present Act in the case of insured employers.

The Millowners' Mutual Insurance Association, Ltd., Bombay

No change in the present Act seems at present to be necessary. This question should be considered when further experience is gained.

The Bombay European Textile Association

The question presents difficulties which can only be solved by some form of State Insurance.

Question III—To what extent, if any, should Recurring Payments be substituted for the lump sums at present payable under the Act?

EMPLOYERS' INTERESTS

The Chamber of Commerce, Bombay

From the employers' point of view, lump sum payments are preferable to recurring payments but the amount of compensation should be payable to the Commissioner who should have discretionary powers to issue it in instalments.

Index for July 1914 = 100

Group	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929
Foodstuffs	100	105	110	115	120	125	130	135	140	145	150	155	160	165	170	175
Textiles	100	102	104	106	108	110	112	114	116	118	120	122	124	126	128	130
Iron and Steel	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115
Coal	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115
Oil	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115
General	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115

The Bombay Engineering Employers' Federation, Bombay
Agree with the views expressed above.

The Karachi Chamber of Commerce, Karachi

The lump sum is preferable and there seems to be no need for alteration.

The Millowners' Association, Bombay

Lump sum payments, particularly to poor workmen or their dependants, are apt to be expended in an improvident manner, and to overcome this difficulty, it is suggested that in all cases of lump sum payments, the full amount should be deposited with the Commissioner who should be given the necessary discretionary powers to decide whether recurring payments should be ordered, and if so, by what instalments. Under this arrangement, the Commissioner would be the sole judge to decide in what proportion the amount deposited with him should be split up so as to cover the extended period during which the workman should be in receipt of monetary help.

The Ahmedabad Millowners' Association, Ahmedabad

In granting compensation the Commissioner should be empowered to substitute for lump sums recurring payments if he thinks that ignorant workmen and their dependants are likely to spend the amount in an improvident manner.

The Indian Merchants' Chamber, Bombay

It should be left to the injured party to say whether he prefers a lump amount or recurring payments.

The Karachi Indian Merchants' Association, Karachi

The payment of monthly instalments is preferable to payment in a lump sum. This should, however, be done through insurance or co-operative societies or a Compulsory Insurance Department of Government to whom the employer might pay in lump sum to avoid risk of failure of payment.

The Buyers and Shippers Chamber, Karachi

In case of accidents resulting in permanent disablement or death the lump sum should, in the first instance, be paid by the employer to the Commissioner who should arrange to invest the same in gilt edged securities and to pay out as required in each case so that in the case of minors or the aged they may not be left without resources owing to the improvidence or cupidity of relatives or guardians.

The Chamber of Commerce, Aden

There is no objection to the proposals made by Government.

LARGE LABOUR EMPLOYING ORGANISATIONS

The Agent, B.B. & C.I. Railway, Bombay

Apart from the fact that employees concerned or their dependants would presumably prefer lump sum payments, employers generally prefer this procedure equally well as the institution of a system of pensions

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUP'S

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Group	Index July 1914 = 100	Index July 1929
Cereal	14	140
Pulses	123	138
Sugar	156	131
Oilseed	137	130
Raw cotton	118	166
Cotton manufactures	143	166
Colours and dyes	155	132
Mixes	151	132
Other raw materials	146	132
Index July 1929	151	132

payable over a long period would considerably add to their work and might cause administrative difficulties. Moreover, the recurring trouble and expenses the payees would have to incur for receiving payment at appointed centres at long distances from their homes would be looked upon as a hardship. Further that a pension will stop with the death of the payee is likely to lay open the scheme in the minds of workmen to the suspicion that it is intended to deprive them of the full benefit of compensation that would otherwise have been payable to them in a lump sum. It is desirable therefore, that no change should be made in the present procedure in this respect.

The Municipal Commissioner, Bombay Municipality

Recurring payments are desirable in the case of stationary labour, while lump sum payments may continue to be made in the case of migratory labour.

The Chairman, Bombay Port Trust, Bombay

From the employer's point of view, as far as organised industries are concerned, lump sum payments are decidedly preferable to any general system of monthly disbursements which would involve heavy clerical work and resulting expense to the employer. From the employee's standpoint it is considered that on the whole the lump sum payment is also preferable for the following reasons—

(a) in many industrial centres, especially ports, the bulk of the working population is not indigenous and periodical visits from their villages in order to collect payments or, alternatively, the uncertainty of accurate delivery of remittances through the post to out of the way addresses offer grave objections;

(b) in the case of permanent disablement a lump sum payment enables the recipient to set up a shop or purchase land or otherwise invest his capital in such a way as to support himself. A hopelessly improvident person or one who is in the hands of unscrupulous relatives will derive little or no benefit from his compensation in whatever form it is paid to him. It is, however, considered that some reasonable discretion should be given to the Commissioners as regards the form of payment.

The Bombay Improvement Trust, Bombay

As labour is often recruited from a distance, there would be great difficulty in making recurring payments.

The President, Ahmedabad Municipality, Ahmedabad

It is true that large amounts of money in the hands of a workman are likely to be squandered away on worthless objects and the purpose of the Act would be defeated. If Government could arrange that the amounts of compensation, especially in cases of death or permanent disablement, could be deposited in a bank, specially opened for the purpose and special rates of interest allowed thereon regularly, the person entitled to compensation could be assured of a steady income. It will be possible to keep a record of the addresses of such persons from time to time and remittances to them could be made every month through local officials to ensure payment to the correct persons.

Month	Cereals	Pulses	Oilseeds	Raw cotton	Cotton manufactures	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw and semi-raw articles	Index No. (base 100)	General Index No.
May 1926	100	100	137	138	162	143	155	151	146	152	151
April 1927	100	100	143	143	161	143	155	151	146	152	151
May	100	100	145	145	161	143	155	151	146	152	151
June	100	100	143	143	161	143	155	151	146	152	151
July	100	100	141	141	167	141	155	151	146	152	151
August	100	100	141	141	172	141	155	151	146	152	151
September	100	100	136	136	166	141	155	151	146	152	151
October	100	100	136	136	166	141	155	151	146	152	151
November	100	100	130	130	164	141	155	151	146	152	151

The President, Karachi Municipality, Karachi

It may be that compulsory Insurance of workmen is attended with administration difficulties but a beginning should certainly be made in this direction.

The Chairman, Karachi Port Trust, Karachi

While recurring payments are desirable in as much as they would be a check on improvidence, they would entail a large and unnecessary volume of work on big employers of labour. It might, however, be found possible for employers to pay a lump sum and this sum to be paid out through District Officers in instalments.

The Chairman, Aden Port Trust, Aden

Undoubtedly, in the case of certain types of workmen, it would be to their ultimate advantage to substitute recurring payments for the lump sums at present payable under the Act. By the term "Recurring payments" is meant "payment in instalments" not a form of pension, and the most suitable arrangement would appear to be to give the Commissioner discretion, under the Act, to order the payment of compensation by instalments in individual cases where there is reason to believe that the person to whom compensation is due would waste the money if paid a lump sum.

The Tata Hydro-Electric Company, Bombay

In a country as large as India where workmen on a large scale are drawn from distant parts, the making of recurring payments has certain administrative defects inasmuch as a certificate that the injured party is alive has to be produced from some Government official where he resides and he has to be identified on each occasion that a payment is made, which certificate and identification may probably cost the party in a distant village something on each occasion. It would seem that in the case of death, lump sum payment is undoubtedly the only thing to be done in this country. For, in the case of periodic payments till the children come of age or till a widow re-marries, frauds can easily be practised where the employer has to deal with parties hundreds of miles away.

The Bombay Electric Supply and Tramways Co. Ltd.

The substitution of payment of pensions in place of lump sums would involve great administrative difficulty in cases where workmen are drawn from different parts of India. Experience shows that the present system has worked satisfactorily and there is no reason why changes should be made. In any event the employer should be relieved of his liability as soon as he has paid the appropriate lump sum to the Commissioner.

The Bombay Telephone Company Limited, Bombay

The payment of pensions instead of lump sums although in theory undeniably desirable, would in practice be extremely difficult to carry out smoothly and satisfactorily, in particular because many ex-employees would be in comparatively isolated places and far away from the town in which they were employed.

Messrs. Cowasjee & Sons, Karachi

The employers should be made to pay a lump sum to the Commissioner who should invest the same in Government securities *only* and pay to the dependants such sums from month to month as each case demands. This procedure would safeguard a minor or an aged dependant against the abuses of an improvident guardian or kinsman.

WORKERS' INTERESTS

The G.I.P. Railway Staff Union (including the V. T. Commercial Section Staff, the Wadi Bunder Staff, the Mechanical Department Office Staff and the Administrative Office Staff Unions)

The present system of making payments should continue as it has worked quite satisfactorily. Discretion may, however, be given to the Commissioner to sanction only recurring payments instead of lump sums for special reasons such as the age, sex and habits of the person entitled to this benefit.

The Bombay Port Trust Railwaymen's Union

Recurring payments should be made up to the time the employee is declared physically fit to resume his employment when the balance due should be paid in a lump sum.

The All-India and Burmah Covenanted Non-Gazetted Railway Services Association, Bombay

Agree with the views expressed by the Government of India.

The Bombay Mill Workers' Union

The suggestion of recurring payments instead of payments of lump sums presents a complex problem which may for the present be put off.

The Indian Seamen's Union, Bombay

In view of the illiteracy of the working classes in India the payment of lump sums as compensation in cases of permanent total incapacity or in case of death should be discouraged as far as possible and periodical payments should be made as a rule. However a judicial discretion should be given to the Commissioner to award a lump sum if an application is made by the claimant and if he considers that such a payment would be to the benefit of the worker or his dependants as the case may be.

The G.I.P. Railwaymen's Union, Bombay

The present system of payment of compensation in lump sums is desirable. In some cases workmen might have spent the sums received by them as compensation without proper thought, but it has been the experience of the Union that workmen seldom desire to part with such sums as these are their last earnings and such sums are a source of some recurring income to them for they can (and do) start the business of money lending, though on a small scale. The same sums also act as a legacy for their issue, while if monthly compensation is adhered to the workmen would be losers financially.

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

Month	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No., food	Oilseeds	Raw cotton	Cotton manuf. factories	Other textiles	Mills and other	Months	Other non-factories	Index No. non-fact.	General Index No.
1926	149	123	156	153	148	137	138	182	143	155	151	146	152	151
May 1927	145	125	134	150	141	143	138	181	136	142	149	156	147	146
April	145	127	132	150	141	145	142	182	142	145	142	156	147	146
May	143	127	130	164	143	145	149	161	142	146	136	156	149	146
July	143	129	132	162	143	141	159	167	138	146	133	155	152	146
August	143	131	132	165	140	141	152	169	131	144	133	141	148	146
September	135	125	132	162	141	130	172	166	131	144	133	141	148	146
October	136	125	132	162	141	130	172	166	131	144	133	141	148	146
November	136	130	138	157	139	130	168	164	130	121	132	139	144	143
December	134	138	131	157	139	130	168	164	130	121	132	139	144	143

MISCELLANEOUS

The Bombay Accident Insurance Association, Bombay

This is one of the most important questions affecting the underlying principles of the present Act. Generally speaking, Schedule I of the Act, giving a list of the injuries which are deemed to result in permanent partial disablement, has worked admirably since 1924 and there is no case for any alteration or discontinuance of this valuable provision. It has reduced litigation in no small degree. It provides for the payment of a substantial lump sum thus enabling the injured workman to return to his village to purchase land or engage in some business. It is not considered that the average adult Indian workman is improvident after receipt of a lump sum as compensation. Lastly but no less important, the Schedule enables the employer to settle the claim rapidly and with equity.

The new Amendment Bill, now before the Central Legislature, provides that every payment of lump sum to a minor, i.e., a person under the age of 15 years, shall be deposited with the Commissioner and no such payment made directly by an employer to any such minor shall be deemed to be a payment of compensation. Such sums deposited with the Commissioner, may, in the discretion of the Commissioner, be invested, applied or otherwise dealt with for the benefit of the minor as the Commissioner thinks fit. Thus, any payment of lump sum compensation to a minor will, under the amending Act, be protected against being expended in an improvident manner. In view of this additional protection, the substitution of lump sum payments by recurring payments or pensions is both unnecessary and undesirable.

Again, under the proposed amendment to Section 8, referred to above, any lump sum compensation payable to a woman or person under a legal disability, other than a minor, may similarly be invested, applied or otherwise dealt with for the benefit of the woman, or other person as the case may be, in such manner as the Commissioner may direct. This impending change will protect adequately the interests of the female dependants of a deceased workman. Adult males are not likely to be mulcted of any lump sum compensation to which they may be entitled and no special protection is in their case called for. Too much emphasis cannot be given to the fact that one of the main reasons why the present Act has worked so smoothly and has been so remarkably free from difficulty is the principle of paying lump sum compensation as opposed to pensions. If this principle were changed it is extremely likely that considerable difficulty and litigation would arise.

The Millowners' Mutual Insurance Association Ltd., Bombay

Recurring payments would be more advantageous in some cases. In all cases the compensation, according to the present scale, should be deposited with the Commissioner who should be given discretion to decide the necessity and the method of payments in particular cases.

The Bombay Claims and General Agency, Bombay

Though in some hard cases periodical payments would be more preferable or more suitable, lump sum payments would be more preferable

both from the employers' and workmen's point of view with a little more check on the persons receiving them.

Bombay European Textile Association

If there is even a remote probability of the workman being fit for further employment, recurring payments should be made.

Question IV—Should the Scales of Compensation be Enhanced either for the more Poorly Paid Workmen or Generally?

EMPLOYERS' INTERESTS

The Chamber of Commerce, Bombay

The present scales of compensation are sufficient.

The Bombay Engineering Employers' Federation, Bombay

Agree with the views expressed above.

The Karachi Chamber of Commerce, Karachi

The scales of compensation should not be enhanced. But if any enhancement is made at all it should be general.

The Millowners' Association, Bombay

The past experience of the working of the Act shows that the present scale of compensation is reasonable. The minimum scales of compensation recommended by the Seventh Session of the International Labour Conference might be advisable in European countries, but it is extremely doubtful whether such a high standard is called for in India, and for this reason, the case of more poorly paid workmen does not require special consideration. Experience shows that the present scale in the case of workmen generally is adequate, and a higher scale would lead to an increase of malingering.

The Ahmedabad Millowners' Association, Ahmedabad

The experience of the working of the Act does not warrant under the present circumstances any increase in the level of the scales of compensation on the lines laid down by the Seventh International Labour Conference.

The Indian Merchants' Chamber, Bombay

(a) The compensation for temporary disablement should be increased in respect of the maximum laid down. The present maximum of Rs. 15 should be raised to Rs. 25.

(b) In the case of permanent total disablement the amount should be 50 months' wages instead of 42, and the maximum should be Rs. 4500 instead of Rs. 3500 whichever is lower, in cases where the number of dependants exceeds two.

(c) In the case of death the amount of compensation should be 32 months' wages instead of 30 or a maximum of Rs. 3000 instead of Rs. 2500 as at present, whichever is lower, in cases where the number of dependants exceeds two.

The Buyers and Shippers Chamber, Karachi

The present condition of industry in India does not warrant any enhancement in the scales for compensation in view of keen outside competition.

The Maharashtra Chamber of Commerce, Bombay

Scales of compensation for temporary disability should be increased to Rs. 25 maximum. In case of permanent total disability the compensation should be 50 months' wages instead of 42 months as at present and the minimum should not be less than Rs. 4500. In case of death the amount should be 32 months' wages instead of 30, with a minimum of not less than Rs. 3000.

The Chamber of Commerce, Aden

There is no objection to the proposals made by Government.

LARGE LABOUR EMPLOYING ORGANISATIONS

The Agent, B.B. & C.I. Railway, Bombay

The present scales of compensation appear to be sufficiently liberal or, at any rate, equitable. Labour employed on hazardous occupations usually receives higher wages than other labour and this fact should be borne in mind in fixing scales of compensation payable. The scale proposed by the Seventh International Labour Conference for lump sum payments is in fact an indefinite annuity on far too generous a scale and might react adversely in many cases on the scales of wages paid to workmen by exposing employers to the constant though uncertain risk of heavy financial obligations on this account. It is therefore urged that the present scales should remain, but the minimum for the more poorly paid workmen in the table of assumed wages, Schedule IV of the Act, may be raised by fixing the first stage at Rs. 15.

The Municipal Commissioner, Bombay Municipality, Bombay

The scale of compensation recommended by the International Labour Conference is too heavy for Indian Industries to bear in their present stage. A small enhancement in the case of the more poorly paid workmen seems, however, to be justified.

The Chairman, Bombay Port Trust, Bombay

The scales of compensation laid down in the case of death, permanent total disablement or permanent partial disablement are considered reasonable and adequate except that the minimum monthly "assumed wages" under Schedule IV of the Act might be raised to Rs. 15. The compensation allowed for temporary disablement, *vide* Section 4 (1) D (i), is considered inadequate for employees whose pay is over Rs. 60 per mensem, e.g., a coolie earning Rs. 30 a month is eligible for compensation at the rate of Rs. 15 a month while an employee on Rs. 300 is limited to Rs. 30 only. To rectify this inequality it is suggested that the limit of compensation be raised to Rs. 75 per half month or one-fourth of the monthly wages, whichever is less.

The Bombay Improvement Trust, Bombay

The scales of compensation should be enhanced only for the more poorly paid workmen. But it is difficult to fix a limit as wages vary in different districts.

The President, Ahmedabad Municipality, Ahmedabad

The minimum scales recommended by the Seventh International Labour Conference may be adopted.

The Chairman, Karachi Port Trust, Karachi

Schedule IV—Table of assumed wages—for the purposes of calculating compensation commences at Rs. 8. It is considered a minimum of Rs. 15 might be fixed.

The Chairman, Aden Port Trust, Aden

It is not considered that the scales of compensation as at present based should be enhanced, either for the more poorly paid workmen, or generally.

The Tata Hydro-Electric Company, Bombay

Half wages during temporary disability are payable under the Act, whilst the International Labour Conference required two-thirds of the normal daily or weekly payment to be paid as compensation. This would mean an enhancement of one-sixth only. The International Labour Conference does not seem to have recommended any waiting period. There is no objection to the small increase but the increase might possibly be effected by taking the assumed wages in Schedule IV as the maximum for each class mentioned therein; for instance, where the sum arrived at by calculation is between Rs. 13 and Rs. 17-8-0, the assumed wage should be taken to be Rs. 17-8-0 up to a limit, say of Rs. 50 as, it is felt that beyond that the employee is sufficiently well paid and this additional concession is not called for.

The Bombay Electric Supply and Tramways Company Ltd.

In the case of better paid workmen the scale fixed for temporary disablement is somewhat on the low side. It is suggested that this might with advantage be slightly raised on a graduated scale.

The Bombay Telephone Company Limited, Bombay

It would seem that what might be a reasonable scale of compensation in European countries, for example, would be unnecessarily high in India. In a very high percentage of cases the dependants of an injured workmen, more especially in case of total incapacity, would not be living in an expensive urban area, such as that in which the workman was employed but would be living in some comparatively small place far away where the cost of living is low and where the person or persons concerned would in many cases in the ordinary way be earning a certain amount of income themselves. If this be the correct view, it would appear that the scale in India should be lower than that recommended by the Seventh International Labour Conference.

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Month	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No. food	Oils and fats	Raw cotton	Costly fabrics	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw materials	Index No. non-food	General Index No.
1926	149	123	156	153	148	137	138	162	143	155	151	146	152	151
Mar	148	122	155	152	147	136	137	161	142	154	150	145	151	150
Apr	147	121	154	151	146	135	136	160	141	153	149	144	150	149
May	146	120	153	150	145	134	135	159	140	152	148	143	149	148
June	145	119	152	149	144	133	134	158	139	151	147	142	148	147
July	144	118	151	148	143	132	133	157	138	150	146	141	147	146
Aug	143	117	150	147	142	131	132	156	137	149	145	140	146	145
Sept	142	116	149	146	141	130	131	155	136	148	144	139	145	144
Oct	141	115	148	145	140	129	130	154	135	147	143	138	144	143
Nov	140	114	147	144	139	128	129	153	134	146	142	137	143	142
Dec	139	113	146	143	138	127	128	152	133	145	141	136	142	141

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBER IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS
Prices in July 1919 = 100

Month	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No., food	Oils and fats	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw and man-made articles	Index No., non-food	General Index No.
1926	140	123	164	153	141	137	143	155	151	158	152	151
May 1927	141	134	164	150	141	137	143	155	151	158	152	151
June	142	132	164	150	141	137	143	155	151	158	152	151
July	143	130	164	150	141	137	143	155	151	158	152	151
August	144	130	164	150	141	137	143	155	151	158	152	151
September	144	130	164	150	141	137	143	155	151	158	152	151
October	144	130	164	150	141	137	143	155	151	158	152	151
November	144	130	164	150	141	137	143	155	151	158	152	151
December	144	130	164	150	141	137	143	155	151	158	152	151

Messrs. Cowasjee and Sons, Karachi

The scales of compensation as enacted at present are sufficient. Any increase would mean an additional burden on the trade, which cannot be borne.

WORKERS' INTERESTS

The G.I.P. Railway Staff Union (including the V. T. Commercial Section Staff, the Wadi Bunder Staff, the Mechanical Department Office Staff and the Administrative Office Staff Unions)

The present scales of compensation are too inadequate and require to be substantially increased. In the first place it is absolutely necessary to provide a minimum for the compensation payable in every case, irrespective of the wages. The minimum amount of the compensation should be at least Rs. 750 in the case of a fatal accident. Where the injury results in partial disablement, the amount of compensation to be paid by way of half-monthly payments, should be raised to three-fourths from one-half the present rate of wages, with a minimum of Rs. 10 every fortnight. In the case of permanent total disablement the amount of compensation to be paid should be for a period of 5 years, instead of for 42 months' wages as under the present Act, with a maximum of Rs. 5000 instead of Rs. 3500 as at present. Similarly, the compensation in the case of fatal accidents should be four years' wages, instead of 30 months, with a maximum of Rs. 4000 instead of Rs. 2500. In the case of minors the maximum of the amount of compensation should be Rs. 500 instead Rs. 200 as at present.

The Bombay Port Trust Railwaymen's Union

The scales should be enhanced generally. If an employee gets no pay or salary from his employer during the period he is incapacitated, the amount of compensation should be the equivalent of his average monthly weekly or daily pay or salary.

The All-India and Burmah Covenanted Non-Gazetted Railway Services Association, Bombay

Agree with the views expressed by the Government of India.

The Bombay Mill Workers' Union

It is absolutely necessary that a minimum amount payable as compensation in all cases for which a maximum has been fixed should also be provided for in the Act. Compensation in fatal accidents to any workman should not be less than Rs. 1000. The amount of compensation both for fatal and non-fatal cases should vary according to the age of the workman and the period of service such workman might put in if he did not meet with the accident.

The Indian Seamen's Union, Bombay

In this connection the recommendation of the International Labour Conference should be fully given effect to.

The G.I.P. Railwaymen's Union, Bombay

The compensation in case of death should be enhanced from 30 months' to 60 months' wages.

The recommendations of the Seventh International Labour Conference are sound and may be adopted.

The Textile Labour Association, Ahmedabad

Scales of compensation require to be enhanced generally, considering that the majority of workmen do not earn more than Rs. 30 each per month. In cases of fatal accidents the dependants should be entitled at least to 60 months' wages of the deceased workman and in cases of permanent total disability, the scale of compensation should not be less than 84 months' wages of the injured workmen. This will mean doubling the present scales of compensation, but when one considers the general poverty of the working classes in this country, their inability to lay by anything owing to their small income, and the total lack of the spread of life insurance among this class, the absolute necessity of doubling the scales of compensation will be apparent.

It is also suggested that the proportionate amount payable for the entire loss of the use in the case of a thumb should be 40 per cent. and 25 per cent. in the case of an index finger. This change is found to be absolutely necessary as most of the workmen who lose either the thumb or the index finger are not able to get jobs in the same industry and as a result in most cases their earning capacity is considerably reduced.

Half-monthly payments should be equal to full earnings instead of half. It should be borne in mind that the injured workman has to maintain himself and his family during this forced absence in addition to extra medical expenses he might be called upon to pay. It has been found that in all cases the employer deducts the conveyance and other incidental charges he pays on behalf of the workman when he meets with an accident. In some glaring instances these charges amounted to as much as Rs. 10, while the compensation for temporary disablement would not even come up to this amount.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Bombay Accident Insurance Association

The present scales of compensation for death and permanent disablement are on a liberal basis while that for temporary disablement is sufficient to maintain a workman during his temporary disablement. Thus, the dependants of deceased workmen and workmen permanently disabled receive substantial sums by way of compensation while the payment of approximately half-monthly wages, after the expiry of the "waiting period" of 10 days, in the case of workmen temporarily disabled, acts as an incentive to them to return to work as speedily as possible, which is as it should be.

The present scales of compensation should not be enhanced either for the more poorly paid workmen or workmen generally as they are adequate. If the scales for temporary disablement were enhanced, one of the greatest safeguards to the employer against malingering would be removed. There

is, however, some case for the "waiting period" to be reduced as the present period of 10 days, combined with the payment of only half wages, causes hardship in the case of a worker temporarily disabled. This is dealt with in the reply to the following question.

The Millowners' Mutual Insurance Association Ltd., Bombay
Experience shows that the present scale is quite reasonable.

The Bombay Claims and General Agency, Bombay

It is most essential in the first place that the scale should be enhanced in the case of more poorly paid workmen. In such cases the maximum may be fixed at a certain figure irrespective of the wages. Similarly the compensation may be increased in cases of temporary total disablement from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{8}$ or so. For death and permanent total disablement also compensation may be increased to some extent with the same maximum or more. Also compensation for death in the case of minors may be raised to Rs. 400 or so.

Bombay European Textile Association

In the case of poorly paid workmen more generous rates should be paid. A minimum should be fixed as compensation.

Question V.—Should the Waiting Period be reduced either Generally or in the case of those Workmen who are Disabled for more than ten days, and if so to what extent?

EMPLOYERS' INTERESTS

The Chamber of Commerce, Bombay

The waiting period should remain at 10 days.

The Bombay Engineering Employers' Federation, Bombay

Agree with the views expressed above.

The Karachi Chamber of Commerce, Karachi

The waiting period might be reduced to a week or even five days, but the ten days minimum should be preserved.

The Millowners' Association, Bombay

The present waiting period of ten days should be reduced, and it is provisionally suggested that this period should be reduced to seven days. The system of dating back provides too great a temptation to malingering, and is, for this reason, unsuitable for adoption in India. The fact is that the dating back system has been discarded in England is an additional argument against the adoption of the system in India.

The Ahmedabad Millowners' Association, Ahmedabad

There is no objection if workmen receive compensation from the sixth day of disablement provided the disablement has lasted for more than twenty days.

The Indian Merchants' Chamber, Bombay

Compensation should be dated back to the fifth day of disability if it lasts at least 21 days. There should be no dating back if it lasts less than

21 days in which case compensation would be payable as from the 11th day.

The Karachi Indian Merchants' Association, Karachi
Agree with the views expressed by the Government of India.

The Buyers and Shippers Chamber, Karachi

The present legislation is satisfactory. The system of "Dating back" is emphatically opposed.

The Maharashtra Chamber of Commerce, Bombay

The method of "dating back" should be introduced and the workmen should receive compensation from an earlier day, say, from the 5th day if the disability lasts at least 21 days. In case it lasts less than 21 days there should be no dating back and it should begin on the 11th day.

The Chamber of Commerce, Aden

There is no objection to the proposals made by Government.

LARGE LABOUR EMPLOYING ORGANIZATIONS

The Agent, B.B. & C.I. Railway

So far as this Railway is concerned, full wages for the waiting period of ten days are granted to permanent employees and to temporary employees whose service is not less than a year. Reduction of the waiting period will, therefore, adversely affect the employees of this Railway who will then receive full wages for a shorter period than hitherto, since the pay for the revised waiting period will be full pay while the balance will be on half pay under the Act. As, however, the idea of a change in this respect is to extend the benefits now admissible to an injured employee, it is suggested that the waiting period be abolished.

The Municipal Commissioner, Bombay Municipality, Bombay

The waiting period may be reduced to a week.

The Chairman, Bombay Port Trust, Bombay

It is not considered that the waiting period should be reduced as this course would encourage malingering over trifling injuries. While appreciating the loophole for abuse it is considered that "dating back" provisions to say the 4th day might suitably be introduced as it is undoubtedly a hardship for men whose injuries incapacitate them for some weeks to lose ten days compensation.

The Bombay Improvement Trust, Bombay

There should be no waiting period if the disability lasts for more than 30 days.

The President, Ahmedabad Municipality, Ahmedabad

The system of "dating back" should be adopted, and the disabled workman should be entitled to compensation from the fourth day if the disablement lasted for more than ten days.

1026

GAZ

Price in July 1924 = 00

Year	1926	1927	1928	1929
Millowners' Association, Bombay	10	10	10	10
Chamber of Commerce, Bombay	10	10	10	10
Bombay Engineering Employers' Federation, Bombay	10	10	10	10
Karachi Chamber of Commerce, Karachi	10	10	10	10
Millowners' Association, Bombay	10	10	10	10
Ahmedabad Millowners' Association, Ahmedabad	10	10	10	10
Indian Merchants' Chamber, Bombay	10	10	10	10
Chamber of Commerce, Aden	10	10	10	10
Municipal Commissioner, Bombay Municipality, Bombay	10	10	10	10
Chairman, Bombay Port Trust, Bombay	10	10	10	10
Bombay Improvement Trust, Bombay	10	10	10	10
President, Ahmedabad Municipality, Ahmedabad	10	10	10	10

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

Month	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No., food	Oils and fats	New cotton	Cotton manufactures	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw and man-made materials	Index No., non-food	General Index No.
May 1926	149	123	156	153	148	137	136	102	148	155	151	146	152	152
1927														
April	145	122	134	150	141	143	128	101	142	147	147	147	147	147
May	143	122	132	155	143	145	140	101	142	146	147	147	147	147
June	143	122	130	162	143	145	156	102	142	146	147	147	147	147
July	142	122	132	161	143	145	156	102	142	146	147	147	147	147
August	142	122	132	161	143	145	156	102	142	146	147	147	147	147
September	135	122	132	162	141	141	172	102	142	146	147	147	147	147
October	140	122	132	162	141	141	172	102	142	146	147	147	147	147
November	140	122	132	157	139	130	168	102	142	146	147	147	147	147
December	134	122	131	157	139	130	168	102	142	146	147	147	147	147

The President, Karachi Municipality, Karachi

Government proposals in this connection are laudable and deserve support.

The Chairman, Karachi Port Trust, Karachi

In so far as Port Trust employees on the permanent or temporary establishment are concerned, the waiting period of 10 days is treated as leave that may be due to them under the leave rules applicable to them. Daily wages men are paid full pay for the waiting period and thereafter under the Workmen's Compensation Act; this is an incentive to return after the tenth day and not malingering as if they returned after the eleventh day, they would be losers. It is not considered that the period should be reduced.

The Chairman, Aden Port Trust, Aden

The waiting period might be reduced to one week.

The Tata Hydro-Electric Company, Bombay

The waiting period of ten days is a very wholesome precaution in a country where illiteracy and poverty can induce a tendency to keep off from work for the least excuse. Any system of dating back cannot be agreed to, as the temptation to malingering would be great.

The Bombay Electric Supply and Tramways Co., Ltd.

The present waiting period of 10 days should not be altered.

The Bombay Telephone Company Limited, Bombay

The method of "dating back" would seem to be far too great an encouragement to the malingering. The lessening of the waiting period would seem to be a better method of dealing with the question if it is though essential to do something, but it would seem doubtful if the benefit to the employees would be sufficient to justify the additional expenditure directly or indirectly involved.

Messrs. Cowasjee & Sons, Karachi

The present waiting period of 10 days is satisfactory. Notwithstanding that the waiting period has been put down to 10 days, a daily labourer has the tendency to pretend that his injury lasts for as long a period as he can possibly feign, because he feels sure of getting half his daily wages regularly after 10 days, whilst he is uncertain of getting work on full wages continuously from day to day.

WORKERS' INTERESTS

The G.I.P. Railway Staff Union (including the V. T. Commercial Section Staff, the Wadi Bunder Staff, the Mechanical Department Office Staff and the Administrative Office Staff Unions)

The principal object of the waiting period is to stop malingering by the workmen. The Union is of opinion that there should be no waiting period. In view of the fact that there are many employers who actually pay their workmen full wages for absence due to any little injury that may

be caused to the workmen by an accident, there is no reason why legislative sanction should not be given to the existing practice. It is suggested that there should be no waiting period. If Government is not inclined to do away with the waiting period, the present waiting period of ten days should be reduced to 3 days.

The Bombay Port Trust Railwaymen's Union

The waiting period should be 7 days but compensation should be paid from the first day of disablement.

The All-India and Burmah Covenanted Non-Gazetted Railway Services Association, Bombay

Agree with the views expressed by the Government of India.

The Bombay Mill Workers' Union

The proposed dating back procedure is agreed to. In cases of accidents of a less serious nature where a workman is detained for treatment for ten days or more but for less than a month, compensation should be calculated from the fourth day of the accident. Apart from this, care should be taken that in any case of compensation for this kind of accidents the daily minimum should not be less than Re. 0-8-0. An additional provision to the effect, that "in cases where the injuries of a workman are of such nature that involve treatment for one month or over, the workman should get compensation as defined in the Act from the date of the accident" is also suggested.

The Indian Seamen's Union, Bombay

The period of disablement for which no compensation need be paid should be reduced from 10 days to 5 days. This may result in an increase in the number of possible cases but the interest of the employees should be considered paramount. If any employer refused to pay compensation for temporary disablement, either total or partial, and if the claim is proved, the employer should be penalised by being ordered to pay the costs of the application which will act as a deterrent on his unreasonableness. If the period is reduced to 3 days, there will be no need of resorting to the method of "dating back."

The Textile Labour Association, Ahmedabad

The waiting period should be reduced generally to 3 days only. The present period of 10 days is unnecessarily high and it entails great hardships on the workmen.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Bombay Accident Insurance Association, Bombay

The great majority of Workmen's Compensation Laws specify that incapacity lasting less than a certain number of days disentitles the injured workman to compensation. The provision of a "waiting period" as well as its plan and length are the result of a compromise. On the other hand, the workman's right to compensation is essentially the same whether his incapacity lasts for one or any number of days. On the other hand,

Month	General	Food	Oilseeds	Textiles	Commerce	Others	Millowners	Metals	City rate	Index No. (1914=100)	General
May 1926	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
June 1927	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
July 1927	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
August 1927	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
September 1927	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
October 1927	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
November 1927	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
December 1927	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

there is the inexpediency of paying compensation for a brief duration of disablement. One object of the "waiting period" is to avoid a large volume of administrative work on account of trifling injuries. If waiting period were provided, the employer or Insurance Company would have to handle a very large volume of small claims and the work of investigating and dealing with these would be disproportionately great in relation to the amount of compensation payable. The second object of a waiting period, and from the employer's point of view the most important, is to discourage malingering by making the workman bear the loss of wages himself during the first few days of incapacity.

All waiting periods can be arranged on three plans as follows

(1) Incapacity lasting less than n days is in no case compensated; if it lasts n days or more it is compensated from n th day.

(2) Incapacity lasting less than n days is not compensated; if it lasts n days but less than m days it is compensated from the n th day; if it lasts n plus m days or more it is compensated from the first day.

(3) Incapacity lasting less than n days is not compensated; if it lasts n days or more it is compensated from the first day.

In all three plans, the handling of claims for trifling injuries is avoided but it is difficult to estimate their comparative success in avoiding malingering. Under the second and third plans there is great inducement to the workman to prolong his incapacity to n plus m and n days respectively. But this is not the case in regard to the first plan which is the one in vogue in India at present and which, in the opinion of the Association, is the most suitable to local conditions. Any principle of "dating back" in India is, owing to the strong temptation to malingering, most undesirable but the disadvantage to the workman of the present waiting period of 10 days can be mitigated by reducing it to 7 days. This reduction of 3 days would involve an increase of about 25 per cent. in the number of possible cases and an increase of about 10 per cent. in the average cost of all cases of temporary disablement. The change would not cause any administrative difficulty as all large employers are fully acquainted with the method of payment of compensation for temporary disablement and it is, without doubt, more desirable to effect such a change than to introduce any principle of "dating back."

The Millowners Mutual Insurance Association Ltd., Bombay

The present waiting period of ten days should be reduced. The question then would be whether to fit it at a smaller number of days or advocate the system of "dating back." As this system is admittedly disadvantageous, the waiting period should be reduced to seven days.

The Bombay Claims and General Agency, Bombay

It is quite impossible for the Indian workman to live without any wages for the first ten days of his injuries, taking into consideration that he is required to spend something more than the mere maintenance of himself and his family when injured, and therefore it is quite justifiable that he should get at least something more than he gets now. The waiting period may therefore be reduced to 3 days as in the English Act or to some such period.

Bombay European Textile Association

The present system is satisfactory.

Question VI.—Should the List of Relatives entitled to claim Compensation be enlarged?

EMPLOYERS' INTERESTS

The Chamber of Commerce, Bombay

The list appears already long but widowed sisters and widowed daughters might reasonably be included provided proof of dependence is obtained to substantiate every claim for compensation.

The Bombay Engineering Employers Federation, Bombay

Agree with the views expressed above.

The Karachi Chamber of Commerce, Karachi

The list of relatives entitled to claim compensation should not be enlarged and the present rule should be more clearly defined.

The Millowners Association, Bombay

The present definition of "dependants" appears to be more or less exhaustive, but a "widowed sister" and, and a "widowed daughter" who, on the death of their brother or father, are left without any support and do not at present get any compensation, should be included in this definition.

The Ahmedabad Millowners Association, Ahmedabad

The list of dependants embodied in Section 2 (1) (d) of the Act is comprehensive and it includes even minor sons, unmarried daughters, minor children of a deceased son and, when no parent of the workman is alive, even a paternal grand parent. As all or any of these persons are entitled to claim compensation, it is not advisable to enlarge the list of relatives. However, any widows of the family who are legitimately dependant on the deceased person and who are without other means of livelihood may be included in the list.

The Indian Merchants' Chamber, Bombay

The list of dependants should be enlarged so as to include widowed sisters and/or widowed daughters provided they are maintained by the party injured.

The Karachi Indian Merchants' Association, Karachi

Agree with the views expressed by the Government of India.

The Buyers and Shippers Chamber, Karachi

Compensation should be awarded only to those relatives who were dependent wholly or partially on the deceased immediately before his death or disablement.

The Maharashtra Chamber of Commerce, Bombay

The list of dependants should include widowed sister or daughter, provided they are supported by the injured person.

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

Month	1926	1927	1928	1929
March				
Cereals				
Pulses				
Sugar				
Other food				
Index No., food				
Clothing				
Raw cotton				
Other textiles				
Hides and skins				
Metals				
Other raw and man-made articles				
Index No., non-food				

The Chamber of Commerce, Aden

There is no objection to the proposals made by Government.

LARGE LABOUR EMPLOYING ORGANIZATIONS

The Agent, B. B. & C. I. Railway, Bombay

Widowed sisters and widowed daughters, particularly the latter, may be added to the list of dependants if it will not materially add to the difficulties of the Commissioner.

The Municipal Commissioner, Bombay Municipality, Bombay

The existing list of dependants is satisfactory. The only addition requiring to be made are widowed sisters and widowed daughters. Logically, in the case of these two classes, some proof of dependence should be required. No investigation for proof of dependence or the extent of dependence is necessary. Nor should compensation vary with the number of dependants. All these investigations are administratively troublesome. Widowed sisters and widowed daughters should be added to the existing list, or if that is not considered logical in the absence of evidence of dependence the present list may be kept as it is.

The President, Karachi Municipality, Karachi

It is admitted that this should be enlarged. In several cases the workman in this country has in addition to his family in the restricted sense other relations dependent upon him and who by his death or disablement are actually deprived of their means of support. It is understood that in some cases a kept mistress of a deceased workman claims a part of the compensation on the ground of being a dependant. It would be a good thing if the revised Act excludes such mistresses and concubines from the list of the dependants. At the same time the risk of ignoring legitimate claims in some cases has to be guarded against. It is well known that in several such cases these persons live as husband and wife for years together without undergoing any religious ceremony and thus there is no marriage in the accepted sense of the term. In such cases the woman although a kept mistress is to all intents and purposes a wife and should not be done out of her dues by other interested relatives.

The Chairman, Bombay Port Trust, Bombay

It is considered that the inclusion of widowed sisters and widowed daughters would sufficiently enlarge the present list of dependants but the Commissioners are in the best position to offer an opinion on this matter.

The Chairman, Karachi Port Trust, Karachi

This should not be extended.

The Bombay Improvement Trust, Bombay

The list of relatives entitled to compensation should not be enlarged.

The Chairman, Aden Port Trust, Aden

The principle of the Act would appear to be to compensate those who were dependent on the wage-earner for their sustenance, for his loss.

Consequently, any enlargement of the list of relatives entitled to claim compensation should be accompanied by some proviso with regard to proof of dependency.

The Tata Hydro-Electric Company, Bombay

Widowed sisters and widowed daughters may be added to the statutory circle of dependants, provided that, in the case of widowed sisters and widowed daughters, proof must be adduced to the satisfaction of the Commissioner that such widowed sisters or daughters were dependent on the deceased.

The Bombay Telephone Company, Limited, Bombay

There would be no objection to increasing the list of dependants as defined in the Act by such additions as widowed sisters, daughters, etc., provided the scales of compensation are fixed regardless of the number of dependants.

Messrs. Cowasjee & Sons, Karachi

The list of relatives should not be enlarged. As it is, it is already large.

The Bombay Electric Supply & Tramways Company

The list of relatives need not be enlarged.

WORKERS' INTERESTS

The G. I. P. Railway Staff Union (including the V. T. Commercial Section Staff, the Wadi Bunder Staff, the Mechanical Department Office Staff and the Administrative Office Staff Unions)

The present list of dependants is nearly exhaustive. There are, however, cases of widowed daughters-in-law and widowed daughters who are actually dependent on the deceased workmen and therefore they should be classed amongst the dependants.

The Bombay Port Trust Railwaymen's Union

The list of relatives should only include wife, children, unmarried daughters and boys not earning their own livelihood and not above 18 years of age. In case an employee has none of these dependants, then only should the other near relatives who are actually dependent and living with the employee be considered. If the father and mother were incapacitated from earning their own livelihood and were supported by the employee at the time of his disablement, they should come under the second category, preference being given over other near relatives.

All-India and Burmah Covenanted Non-Gazetted Railway Services Association, Bombay

Agree with the views expressed by the Government of India.

The Bombay Mill Workers' Union

In cases where there are no legal dependants the Commissioner should take into consideration the claims of illegitimate children, widowed sisters or widowed daughters or any other relative who is really dependent on the deceased.

Month	Cotton	Pulses	Sugar	Wheat	Oilseeds	Rubber	Iron	Copper	Alloys	Metals	Other raw materials	General Index No.
July 1926	121	121	121	121	121	121	121	121	121	121	121	121
August	122	122	122	122	122	122	122	122	122	122	122	122
September	123	123	123	123	123	123	123	123	123	123	123	123
October	124	124	124	124	124	124	124	124	124	124	124	124
November	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125
December	126	126	126	126	126	126	126	126	126	126	126	126
January	127	127	127	127	127	127	127	127	127	127	127	127
February	128	128	128	128	128	128	128	128	128	128	128	128
March	129	129	129	129	129	129	129	129	129	129	129	129
April	130	130	130	130	130	130	130	130	130	130	130	130
May	131	131	131	131	131	131	131	131	131	131	131	131
June	132	132	132	132	132	132	132	132	132	132	132	132
July	133	133	133	133	133	133	133	133	133	133	133	133
August	134	134	134	134	134	134	134	134	134	134	134	134
September	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135	135
October	136	136	136	136	136	136	136	136	136	136	136	136
November	137	137	137	137	137	137	137	137	137	137	137	137
December	138	138	138	138	138	138	138	138	138	138	138	138

The Indian Seamen's Union, Bombay

The question of defining "dependants" presents various difficulties. On the one hand it must be admitted that the present list of dependants is both restricted and arbitrary. There have happened cases where the persons who were actually dependent on the deceased had to go without obtaining any relief but to institute an inquiry into the actual dependency of the relatives and try to determine the degree or extent of dependency would involve many points of fact, which in the absence of reliable evidence will be difficult to be decided. Not only this, but things may be so manipulated by unscrupulous persons as to exclude rightful claimants. In this connection, the analogy of the principles of Mahomedan Law of Inheritance will afford some guidance. Under Mahomedan law, the claimants to the property of the deceased are divided into two classes, namely, heirs proper and sharers. Without going into the intricacies of those principles, an attempt should be made to divide "Dependants" into two classes, namely, heir dependants and dependants proper. A wife, husband and minor children of either sex and minor children of a deceased son should be classed as heir-dependants. Other relatives such as major children, parent, brother, unmarried sister, grand-child of either sex, paternal grand parent, deceased brothers' minor children, widowed sisters' minor children, widowed daughters' minor children should be classed as dependants. (The list need not be taken as exhaustive.)

The Textile Labour Association, Ahmedabad

The following persons should be included in the list of dependants

- (1) Paternal aunt who is dependent upon the deceased.
- (2) Sisters and brothers who owing to old age, incapacity or madness are dependent upon the deceased.
- (3) Maternal grandfather and grandmother if they have to depend upon the deceased.

The abovementioned additions to the list of dependants are deemed to be necessary owing to the joint family system prevailing among the working classes in India. The prior claim to compensation should of course lie with the dependants mentioned in the present Act of 1923, but the dependants suggested should also be entitled to compensation.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Bombay Accident Insurance Association

The list of relations who come within the definition of "dependant" under section 2 (1) (d) of the present Act is by no means small. The principle which has been followed since the inception of the Act is that the compensation is distributed by the Commissioner to all or any of the dependants named whether they were in fact actually dependent or not. Section 2 (1) (d) has operated extremely well in the past and, as it has covered the vast majority of cases without causing any hardship, it would be undesirable to depart from the present practice, bearing in mind that the Act is intended to meet the requirements of the generality of cases and not any particular one.

In view of the peculiar conditions of domestic life in India, the relations named in section 2 (1) (d) are almost invariably dependent upon the deceased worker and a case where the Commissioner is compelled to grant the whole of the compensation to a relative who was in no way dependent, would be the exception rather than the rule. It would, however, be an advantage to add "widowed sisters" and "widowed daughters" to the list contained in section 2 (1) (d) but no radical change in this subsection is called for.

The Millowners' Mutual Insurance Association Ltd., Bombay

The present list of dependants should be enlarged with the addition of widowed sisters and widowed daughters.

The Bombay Claims and General Agency, Bombay

Perhaps a widowed sister, widowed daughter-in-law and step-mother may be added to the list of the dependants as in some cases these persons though they deserved some help did not get anything not being dependants under the Act, though in fact there were no other dependants.

The Bombay European Textile Association, Bombay

The list should include only the members of the family of the workman.

[To be continued.]

Workmen's Compensation in the Dutch East Indies

The Labour Office of Weltevreden (Java) is at present engaged in drafting legislation relating to industrial accidents.

For the first five years insurance will not be compulsory. In regard to the compulsion to grant compensation, the explanatory memorandum states that the accident in question must arise out of the occupational activity of the worker. Occupational diseases will provisionally be excluded from insurance. Accidents eligible for compensation may be caused by tools or machines, natural phenomena or human agency, as in the case of ill-treatment of a strike breaker, if there is a connection between such ill-treatment and the occupation.

All undertakings coming under section 1 of the Safety Regulation will be liable to compulsion to grant compensation; these undertakings are those engaged in transport, mines, the loading and unloading of goods, electrical and building operations, and forest clearing, and all undertakings employing workers under penal sanctions. The compensation allows for medical treatment and costs of burial. Cash benefit, as envisaged by a preliminary note, will be granted up to a maximum basic wage of 500 florins. For the initial period a guarantee fund will be established for the purpose of covering risks. Failure to declare an accident will be considered a penal offence. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, June 10, 1929.)

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

Month	Cereals	Pulses	Grains	Other food	Index No. food	Oilseeds	Raw cotton	Cotton factories	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw materials	Index No. non-food	General Index No.
1926	140	123	106	133	118	137	138	182	143	155	151	151	151	151
July	145	125	107	135	121	141	142	181	136	142	149	142	152	152
Aug.	145	127	107	135	121	141	142	181	136	142	147	142	152	152
Sept.	145	127	107	135	121	141	142	181	136	142	147	142	152	152
Oct.	145	129	107	135	121	141	142	181	136	142	147	142	152	152
Nov.	145	131	107	135	121	141	142	181	136	142	147	142	152	152
Dec.	145	131	107	135	121	141	142	181	136	142	147	142	152	152
Jan.	145	131	107	135	121	141	142	181	136	142	147	142	152	152
Feb.	145	131	107	135	121	141	142	181	136	142	147	142	152	152
Mar.	145	131	107	135	121	141	142	181	136	142	147	142	152	152
Apr.	145	131	107	135	121	141	142	181	136	142	147	142	152	152
May	145	131	107	135	121	141	142	181	136	142	147	142	152	152
June	145	131	107	135	121	141	142	181	136	142	147	142	152	152
July	145	131	107	135	121	141	142	181	136	142	147	142	152	152
Aug.	145	131	107	135	121	141	142	181	136	142	147	142	152	152
Sept.	145	131	107	135	121	141	142	181	136	142	147	142	152	152
Oct.	145	131	107	135	121	141	142	181	136	142	147	142	152	152
Nov.	145	131	107	135	121	141	142	181	136	142	147	142	152	152
Dec.	145	131	107	135	121	141	142	181	136	142	147	142	152	152
Jan.	145	131	107	135	121	141	142	181	136	142	147	142	152	152
Feb.	145	131	107	135	121	141	142	181	136	142	147	142	152	152
Mar.	145	131	107	135	121	141	142	181	136	142	147	142	152	152
Apr.	145	131	107	135	121	141	142	181	136	142	147	142	152	152
May	145	131	107	135	121	141	142	181	136	142	147	142	152	152
June	145	131	107	135	121	141	142	181	136	142	147	142	152	152
July	145	131	107	135	121	141	142	181	136	142	147	142	152	152

Current Periodicals

Summary of titles and contents of special articles

THE LABOUR MAGAZINE—VOL. VIII, NO. 2, JUNE 1929. (The Trades Union Congress and the Labour Party, London.)

- Special Articles: (1) *The Second Labour Government*, by "Garw." pp. 51-54
 (2) *General Election Jaunts of a Journalist*, by R. B. Suthers. pp. 55-57.
 (3) *Peers in Politics*, by Lord Thomson. pp. 58 and 59.
 (4) *Fighting Communism Without Gloves*, by Wm. Stephen Sanders, M.P. pp. 60 and 61.
 (5) *The Women's Victory*, by Barbara Ayrton Gould. pp. 62 and 63.
 (6) *Lord Rosebery: The Last of the Victorian Liberals*, by Lieut.-Commander the Honourable J. M. Kenworthy, R.N., M.P. pp. 64 and 65.
 (7) *London's Labour Majority*, by Herbert Morrison, M.P. (Secretary to the London Labour Party). pp. 66-68.
 (8) *The Co-operative Congress*, by James Haslam. pp. 69-71.
 (9) *The Belgian Elections, May 26, 1929*, by Emile Vandervelde (Brussels). pp. 78 and 79.
 (10) *The General Election in Denmark*, by Alsing Anderson (Party Secretary). pp. 80 and 81.
 (11) *The Gold Tooth: A Study of American Letters*, by R. M. Fox. pp. 83-85.
 (12) *Is American Prosperity Real?* by Mark Starr. pp. 86-88.
 Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INDUSTRIAL WELFARE—VOL. XI, NO. 126, JUNE 1929. (Industrial Welfare Society, London.)

- Special Articles: (1) *An Experiment in Training Foremen*.—Opportunity for self-government; difficulties to be overcome; defects of a course; manual of instruction; details of the booklet; a specimen chapter; industrial science courses; foremen's attitude to conferences; results of the scheme; finding future foremen. pp. 185-189.
 (2) *Problems of Industrial Nursing*. pp. 193 and 194.
 (3) *A Foreman's Views on Accident Prevention*. pp. 195 and 196.
 (4) *Introducing the Team Spirit*.—Officials from ranks; jubilee gift to employees; landmark in industrial history; co-operative convalescent home; large scale group insurance; pension scheme; rewards for bravery; prosperity sharing; relations with workpeople; a personnel problem; introducing machinery. pp. 199-202.
 (5) *Mobilising Foremen's Co-operation*.—Foremen's conferences; avoiding transit delays; cost of foremanship; efficiency rate reckoning. pp. 203-205.
 (6) *Training the Key-men of Industry*.—Changing foremen's job; a flying squad. pp. 205 and 206.
 (7) *Monotony and Output*.—Printers and tuberculosis. pp. 207-209.
 Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR REVIEW—VOL. XIX, NO. 6, JUNE 1929. (International Labour Office, Geneva.)

- Special Articles: (1) *The International Regulation of Hours of Work of Salaried Employees*, by Dr. R. Fuhs (Chief of Section, International Labour Office).—Origin of the movement for international regulation of the question; existing law and practice—the scope of national regulations, the limits and distribution of normal hours of work, exceptional extension of the general or special normal hours of work, enforcement of the regulations; international regulations connected with the question; the possibilities of international regulation. pp. 769-796.
 (2) *The Reform of Social Insurance in Austria*, by Dr. Max Lederer (Former Chief of Section in the Ministry of Social Administration, Vienna).—Historical survey; employees' insurance—scope of the Act, risks and benefits, sickness insurance, accident insurance, pensions insurance, finance, organisation, relations to other provident institutions, transitional provisions, statistics; workers' insurance—scope of the Act, wage classes, sickness insurance, accident insurance, old-age and invalidity insurance, finance, organisation, transitional provisions, date of coming into force; agricultural workers' insurance—scope of the Act, wage classes, sickness insurance, accident insurance, old-age and invalidity insurance, finance, organisation, date of coming into force; conclusion. pp. 797-828.
 (3) *The Problem of Rural Settlement in Spain*, by O. Gorni (Agricultural Service, International Labour Office).—Historical survey; attempts at rural settlement; the distribution of land and systems of farming; methods and problems of rural settlement; state action; the redemption of long-term leases; the voluntary break-up of estates; problems of tenant-farming and share farming. pp. 829-858.
 (4) *The Regulation of Child Employment in Non-industrial Occupations*.—Scope of legislation; age limits; school attendance; conditions attaching to employment; restrictions upon hours; night work; enforcement. pp. 859-868.

- (5) *Conditions of Agricultural Workers in Spain*.—Conditions of labour, wages, hours, methods of engagement. pp. 868-871.
 Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

MONTHLY LABOUR REVIEW—VOL. XXVIII, NO. 1, JANUARY 1929. (U. S. Department of Labour, Washington.)

- Special Articles: (1) *Relative Cost of Material and Labour in Building Construction*.—Relative cost of material and labour in new buildings; relative material and labour costs in each item of building; how the building dollar goes. pp. 1-8.
 (2) *"High Wages" in Colonial America*.—Scarcity of labour; control of wages; wage legislation; indentured coolies; contemporary data in process. pp. 8-15.
 (3) *Stability of Employment in the Men's Clothing Industry*.—Results of the study. pp. 16-18.
 (4) *Legal Restrictions on Hours of Labour of Men in the United States*.—Hours of labour of men in public works, private employment. pp. 16-25.
 (5) *Beneficial Activities of American Trade Unions*.—General welfare activities; recreation and sports; business enterprises; housing; general industrial questions. pp. 26-32.
 (6) *German Metal Workers' Federation*, by Fritz Kummer (Stuttgart, Germany).—Contributions and relief; education of officers and members; congress of the federation. pp. 32-38.
 (7) *A Comparison of Labour Turnover Among Men and Women in Two Large Chicago Companies*, by Thomas Wesley Rogers (Drake University). pp. 39-41.
 (8) *Working Conditions of Journalists in Various Countries*.—Organization; settlement of working hours; vacations and sick leave; regulation of dismissal. pp. 45-48.
 (9) *Accidents in the Construction Industry*, by Ethelbert Stewart (United States Commissioner of Labour Statistics).—Premium cost of hazard; need of safety standards in demolition and excavation work; safety regulation by legislation. pp. 63-68.
 (10) *Metal Workers' Dispute and Compulsory Arbitration in Germany*, by Peter A. Speck. pp. 116-120.
 (11) *Movement of Population in Western and Northern Europe*.—Birth rates; measurement of fertility; net reproduction rates; pp. 121-127.
 (12) *Wages and Hours of Labour in the Men's Clothing Industry, 1928*. pp. 128-134.
 (13) *Wages and Working Conditions in Shanghai Leather Trade*.—Tanneries—labour force, unionism and industrial relations, wages; shoemaking and leather manufacture. pp. 138-140.
 Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE—VOL. XXIX, NO. 5, MAY 1929. (The Department of Labour, Canada.)

- Special Articles: (1) *Women's Minimum Wages in Quebec: Orders governing Boot and Shoe and Leather Trades*. pp. 489 and 490.
 (2) *Workmen's Compensation for Dominion Government Employees in 1927-28*. pp. 490 and 491.
 (3) *Report of Commission on Workmen's Compensation in Saskatchewan*. pp. 491-494.
 (4) *Workmen's Compensation in Nova Scotia in 1928*. pp. 494 and 495.
 (5) *Farm Labour in Ontario—Wages*. pp. 495 and 496.
 (6) *Constitutional Validity of Dominion Legislation Respecting Combines: Combines Investigation Act and Section 498 of Criminal Code declared intra vires by Supreme Court of Canada—Combines Investigation Act; Criminal Code, section 498; former combines legislation*. pp. 477-499.
 (7) *Old Age Pensions in Canada: Statistics for British Columbia, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan for First Quarter of 1929*. pp. 499 and 500.
 (8) *Old Age Pensions in Nova Scotia—Interim Report of Provincial Commission of Inquiry—Development of legislation; procedure in inquiry; aged population in Nova Scotia; estimated cost of pensions; employment and savings of aged persons; pensions and poor relief; administration; possible source of revenue; share of municipalities; position of Eastern Provinces*. pp. 501-503.
 (9) *Industrial Relations Problems in Small Plants*.—Various types of plans; plans not suitable for small plants; cost of existing plans; reasons for spread of movement. pp. 508 and 509.
 Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN INDIA IN MAY BY DISTRICTS
Prices of July 1914 = 100

Month	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Wool	Iron and steel	Others and allied	Months	Raw cotton	Spinning	Wool	Others and allied	Months	Raw cotton	Spinning	Wool	Others and allied	Months	Raw cotton	Spinning	Wool	Others and allied	Months	
May 1926	140	127	127	140	140	140	137	138	138	140	140	137	138	138	140	140	137	138	138	140	140	137	138
June	145	127	127	141	141	141	137	138	138	141	141	137	138	138	141	141	137	138	138	141	141	137	138
July	146	127	127	141	141	141	137	138	138	141	141	137	138	138	141	141	137	138	138	141	141	137	138
August	142	127	127	141	141	141	137	138	138	141	141	137	138	138	141	141	137	138	138	141	141	137	138
September	136	127	127	141	141	141	137	138	138	141	141	137	138	138	141	141	137	138	138	141	141	137	138
October	140	127	127	141	141	141	137	138	138	141	141	137	138	138	141	141	137	138	138	141	141	137	138
November	140	127	127	141	141	141	137	138	138	141	141	137	138	138	141	141	137	138	138	141	141	137	138
December	134	127	127	141	141	141	137	138	138	141	141	137	138	138	141	141	137	138	138	141	141	137	138

Current Notes from Abroad

UNITED KINGDOM

In the industries for which statistics are regularly compiled by the Ministry of Labour, the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation during May resulted in a reduction of about £8700 in the weekly full-time wages of 95,000 workpeople, and in an increase of £4130 in those of 81,000 workpeople.

There were reductions, under Trade Board Orders, affecting piece-workers in the boot and shoe repairing trade and piece-workers and certain classes of time-workers in the brush and broom making trade. Other bodies of workpeople affected by reductions included chain makers, coopers and building trade operatives at Liverpool and Birkenhead.

The largest bodies of workpeople whose wages were increased were coal miners in the Cannock Chase district, and steel workers in various districts. In the case of the former there was an increase equivalent to about 3½ per cent. on current rates. Workpeople employed in steel melting shops in England and Scotland had their wages increased by about 1 or 1½ per cent. on current rates, and there was an increase of about 1 per cent. on current rates in the wages of steel millmen. The increases for steel workers did not affect certain classes of lower-paid men who had been exempt from the effects of recent reductions. Other workpeople whose wages were increased included workpeople employed at certain collieries in Warwickshire, and blastfurnace workers in Cumberland and in Lincolnshire. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette" London, June 1929.)

At 1st June the average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, and miscellaneous items) was approximately 60 per cent. above that of July 1914, as compared with 61 per cent. a month ago and 65 per cent. a year ago. For food alone the corresponding figures were 47, 49 and 56. The fall since a month ago is due to reductions in the prices of several articles of food, especially potatoes, butter and bacon. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette" London, June 1929.)

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Ministry of Labour as beginning in May, was 32. In addition, 17 disputes which began before May were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in May (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 17,200, and the aggregate duration of all disputes during May was about 218,000 working days. These figures compare with totals of 23,100 workpeople involved and 159,000 working days lost in the previous month, and with 21,500 workpeople involved and 114,000 days lost in May 1928. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, June 1929.)

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

Count or Number	Month of May			Two months ended May		
	1927	1928	1929	1927	1928	1929
	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	6,054	715	2,377	12,082	3,902	7,862
Nos. 11 to 20	18,446	5,784	9,426	37,250	17,729	24,670
Nos. 21 to 30	16,185	6,320	9,776	32,064	18,253	24,395
Nos. 31 to 40	2,090	1,428	2,219	3,917	3,622	5,297
Above 40	986	425	780	1,958	1,231	1,711
Waste, etc.	117		19	209	92	111
Total	43,878	14,672	24,597	87,480	44,829	64,046

BOMBAY CITY

	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	5,337	102	1,709	10,633	2,620	6,434	
Nos. 11 to 20	12,544	380	3,233	25,223	6,725	12,604	
Nos. 21 to 30	10,100	350	3,056	19,989	6,336	10,774	
Nos. 31 to 40	906	72	543	1,663	997	1,991	
Above 40	470	28	242	956	417	716	
Waste, etc.	117		19	209	92	111	
Total	29,474	932	8,802	58,673	17,187	32,630	

AHMEDABAD

	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10	185	183	217	379	375	472	
Nos. 11 to 20	3,213	3,031	3,502	6,596	5,965	6,566	
Nos. 21 to 30	4,938	4,670	5,025	9,653	9,499	10,240	
Nos. 31 to 40	850	1,039	1,278	1,612	1,959	2,515	
Above 40	376	277	429	716	566	780	
Waste, etc.							
Total	9,562	9,200	10,451	18,956	18,364	20,573	

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Month	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No. food	Oilseeds	Raw cotton	Cotton manufactures	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw and manuf. articles	Index No. manuf. food	General Index No.
1926	14	123	156	153	148	137	138	182	151	15	151	152	152	152
May 1927	14	122	156	150	141	143	128	162	151	15	151	152	152	152
June	14	122	156	150	141	143	142	161	151	15	151	152	152	152
July	14	122	156	150	141	143	154	161	151	15	151	152	152	152
August	14	122	156	150	141	143	155	162	151	15	151	152	152	152
September	14	122	156	150	141	143	155	162	151	15	151	152	152	152
October	14	122	156	150	141	143	155	162	151	15	151	152	152	152
November	14	122	156	150	141	143	155	162	151	15	151	152	152	152

LABOUR GAZETTE JULY, 1929
 DETAILED STATEMENT OF THE QUANTITY (IN POUNDS) AND DESCRIPTION OF WOVEN GOODS PRODUCED BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Description	Month of May			Two months ended May		
	1927	1928	1929	1927	1928	1929
Grey & bleached piecegoods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi	1,727	221	401	2,701	942	(000)
Chudders	1,588	580	469	2,904	1,413	1,148
Dhotis	8,402	4,758	7,755	15,769	11,347	1,736
Drills and jeans	1,295	205	614	2,896	1,502	15,918
Cambrics and lawns	33	39	40	111	108	2,230
Printers	153	147	77	371	365	79
Shirtings and long cloth	10,973	2,688	5,107	20,990	9,060	226
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	1,410	457	703	3,037	1,611	13,404
Tent cloth	86	5	13	180	71	41
Other sorts	504	183	408	1,051	681	1,029
Total	26,171	9,283	15,767	49,600	27,100	37,623
Coloured piecegoods	10,050	2,757	5,236	20,244	9,921	13,802
Grey and coloured goods, other than piecegoods	241	41	132	433	271	467
Hosiery	37	47	45	65	95	97
Miscellaneous	281	55	70	566	276	242
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	418	151	160	736	532	386
Grand Total	37,178	12,334	21,410	71,644	38,195	52,617

BOMBAY CITY

Description	Month of May			Two months ended May		
	1927	1928	1929	1927	1928	1929
Grey & bleached piecegoods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi	854	70	223	1,697	619	868
Chudders	1,144	142	117	1,588	637	949
Dhotis	2,886	194	1,422	5,324	2,106	2,000
Drills and jeans	1,221	96	519	2,515	1,277	2,036
Cambrics and lawns	13	21	26	27	27	44
Printers	8,013	448	2,277	15,977	1,077	1
Shirtings and long cloth	1,169	103	338	2,474	815	7,667
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	80	1	5	166	64	1,078
Tent cloth	256	10	147	565	281	24
Other sorts						460
Total	15,576	1,064	5,219	30,732	10,405	17,147
Coloured piecegoods	6,770	567	1,968	13,517	4,688	6,975
Grey and coloured goods, other than piecegoods	239	12	120	428	223	425
Hosiery	11	2	5	19	10	13
Miscellaneous	237	4	45	452	126	160
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	214	13	46	399	190	137
Grand Total	11,677	1,662	7,403	45,547	15,642	24,857

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

AHMEDABAD

Description	Month of May			Two months ended May		
	1927	1928	1929	1927	1928	1929
Grey & bleached piecegoods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi	8	30	41	23	60	65
Chudders	310	378	294	569	668	598
Dhotis	4,174	3,590	5,039	8,113	7,445	9,446
Drills and jeans	11	10	45	61	21	89
Cambrics and lawns	17	31	18	30	71	34
Printers	54	68	9	169	171	72
Shirtings and long cloth	1,847	1,609	2,299	3,423	3,359	4,596
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	217	233	216	387	495	417
Tent cloth	1	..	1	2	..	1
Other sorts	149	111	157	306	243	360
Total	6,609	6,660	8,119	13,083	12,533	15,678
Coloured piecegoods	2,118	1,516	2,206	4,530	3,657	4,568
Grey and coloured goods, other than piecegoods	2	2	3	4	2	14
Hosiery	26	45	40	46	86	85
Miscellaneous	44	49	25	112	147	81
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	199	134	113	329	336	248
Grand Total	9,198	7,806	10,506	18,104	16,761	20,674

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

Month	Grains	Textiles	Sugar	Other food	Index No., food	Oilseeds	Iron	Steel	Other	Wool	Alumina	Other and manufactured articles	Index No., non-food	General Index No.
1926	149	123	156	153	148	137	138	182	143	155	151	146	152	151
Jan.							128	161	136	142	149	156	147	145
Feb.							142	162	142	148	147	159	150	148
March							149	161	149	137	142	156	149	147
April		125	134	150	141	143	145	163	142	139	136	159	149	147
May		127	132	155	143	145	145	163	142	139	136	156	150	148
June		130	130	162	141	143	154	167	138	142	133	153	152	148
July		129	132	161	143	143	159	172	141	140	133	141	148	146
August		131	133	165	140	141	183	167	131	144	134	140	145	144
September		135	132	162	141	136	179	166	131	115	132	139	144	143
October		139	138	155	143	131	172	164	130	121	132			
November		138	131	157	139	130	168							
December													144	141

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN JUNE 1929

Name of concern and locality	Approximate number of workpeople involved		Date when dispute		Cause	Result	Number of working days lost during the month	Total number of working days lost in the dispute on termination
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended				
<i>Textile Industry</i>								
1. The Spring Mill, Naigaum, Bombay.	600	4,000	1 Mar.	1929	Demand for re-instatement of a spinner.	No settlement reported	31,493	
2. The Textile Mill, Parbhadevi Road, Bombay.	185	2,018	2 Mar.	14 June	Demand for re-instatement of two operatives.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.	1,405	113,711
3. The Century Mill, De-Lisle Road, Bombay.	1,350	5,150	12 Mar.		Demand for re-instatement of dismissed men.	No settlement reported	65,033	....
4. The Morarji Goculdas Mill, Supari Baug Road, Bombay.	505	3,495	10 Apr.		Proposed retrenchment of hands.	Do.	53,764	....
5. The strike in the Bombay Textile Mills :—								
(a) 41 Cotton Mills ..	74,675	....	26 Apr.	} Alleged victimisation of Unionist workers and demand for re-instatement of old hands.	Do.	..	1,615,836	....
(b) 13 Cotton Mills ..	19,084	....	27 Apr.					
(c) 7 Cotton Mills ..	9,634	....	29 Apr.					
(d) 1 Cotton Mill	1,420	....	30 Apr.					
(e) 2 Cotton Mills	4,419	....	1 May					
6. The Lakshmi Mill, Barsi.	53	....	29 May	20 June	In accordance with the terms of a settlement.	The strike ended in favour of employers.	141	300
7. The Fine Knitting Mill, Asarva Road, Ahmedabad.	76	....	1 June	3 June	Demand for regular payment of wages.	The strike ended in favour of the workers.	76	76
8. The Rajnagar Spinning Weaving and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Asarva Road, Ahmedabad.	236	....	15 June	18 June	Inadequate arrangements for drinking water and dining shed.	The strike ended in a compromise.	354	354
9. The Ahmedabad New Standard Mills Co., Ltd., Sonaspur Road, Ahmedabad.	195	....	25 June	28 June	Demand for the discontinuance of leaving the work incomplete by the weavers of the night shift.	The strike ended in favour of the workers.	280	280

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index numbers					
			July 1914	June 1928	May 1929	June 1929	July 1914	June 1928	May 1929	June 1929		
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.						
Cereals—												
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill	Maund	4 11 3	5 4 8	5 0 10	5 6 0	100	113	107	114		
Wheat	Delhi No. 1	Cwt.	5 9 6	7 10 9	9 0 9(6)	9 0 9(6)	100	137	162	162		
Do.	Khandwa Seoni	Candy	45 0 0	91 0 0	70 0 0	70 0 0	100	202	156	156		
Do.	Jubbulpore	..	40 0 0	48 0 0	53 0 0	59 0 0	100	120	133	148		
Jowari (1)	Cawnpore	Maund	3 2 6	3 11 3	4 0 4	4 3 9	100	117	129	134		
Barley ..	..	..	3 4 6	4 0 4	4 3 9	4 7 1	100	123	129	135
Bajri ..	Chati ..	..	3 4 6	4 8 10	5 1 3	5 13 1	100	139	155	177	
	Index No.—Cereals	....	....	....	....	....	100	136	138	147
Gram ..	Punjab yellow (2nd sort)	Maund	4 3 9	4 12 2	5 9 9	5 11 5	100	112	132	135		
Turdal..	Cawnpore	..	5 10 5	7 15 0	7 6 6	7 6 6	100	140	131	131		
	Index No.—Pulses	....	....	....	....	....	100	126	132	133
	Index No.—Food grains	....	....	....	....	....	100	134	137	144
Sugar—												
Sugar (refined)	Mauritius	Cwt.	9 3 0	..	..	..	100	..	..	..
Do. (do.)	Java, white	..	10 3 0	17 12 0	13 2 0	13 1 0	100	174	129	128		
Do., Raw (Cul)	Sangli or Poona	Maund	7 14 3	10 3 3	10 14 2	11 15 7	100	129	138	152		
	Index No.—Sugar	....	....	....	....	....	100	152	134	140
Other Food—												
Turmeric	Rajapuri ..	Maund	5 9 3	15 10 4	11 4 8	11 6 10	100	280	202	205		
Ghee ..	Deshi ..	..	45 11 5	75 11 5	71 6 10	72 13 9	100	166	156	159	
Salt ..	Bombay (black)	..	1 7 6	2 2 0	1 14 0	2 0 0	100	145	128	136		
	Index No.—Other food	....	....	....	....	....	100	197	162	167
	Index No.—All Food	....	....	....	....	....	100	150	142	148
Oilseeds—												
Linseed	Bold ..	Cwt.	8 14 6	10 8 0	10 9 0	10 12 0	100	118	119	121		
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown)	..	8 0 0	10 10 0	10 0 0	10 0 0(7)	100	133	125	125		
Sesam seed	..	..	10 14 0	17 2 0	20 0 0	21 0 0	100	157	184	193
Gingelly seed	White ..	..	11 4 0	12 9 0	11 3 0	11 3 0	100	112	99	99	
	Index No.—Oilseeds	....	....	....	....	....	100	130	132	135

Textiles—Cotton—												
(a) Cotton, raw—†	Good	Candy	251 0 0	399 0 0	328 0 0	332 0 0	100	159	131	132		
Broach	Fully good	..	222 0 0	366 0 0	287 0 0	288 0 0	100	165	129	130		
Oomra	Saw-ginned	..	230 0 0	397 0 0	346 0 0	347 0 0	100	173	150	151		
Dharwar	Machine-ginned	..	205 0 0	342 0 0	250 0 0	249 0 0	100	167	122	121		
Khandesh	Do.	..	198 0 0	336 0 0	232 0 0	228 0 0	100	170	117	115		
Bengal	..	..	..	..	..	..	100	167	130	130
	Index No.—Cotton, raw	....	....	....	....	....	100	149	141	141
(b) Cotton manufactures—	40 s	Lb.	0 12 9	1 3 0	1 2 0	1 2 0	100	158	162	160		
Twist	Fair 2,000	Piece	5 15 0	9 0 0	9 10 0	9 8 0	100	203	212	212		
Grey shirtings	6/600	..	4 3 0	8 8 0	8 14 0	8 14 0	100	183	178	176		
White mulls*	Liepmann's 1,500	..	10 6 0	19 0 0	18 8 0	18 4 0	100	163	163	163		
Shirtings	Local made 36" x 37½ yds.	Lb.	0 9 6	0 15 6	0 15 6	0 15 6	100	155	158	158		
Long Cloth (3)	54" x 6 yds.	..	0 9 6	0 14 9	0 15 0	0 15 0	100	169	169	168		
Chudders (4)	..	..	..	..	..	..	100	168	151	151
	Index No.—Cotton manufactures	....	....	....	....	....	100	121	120	117
	Index No.—Textiles—Cotton	....	....	....	....	....	100	137	123	123
Other Textiles—	Manchow	Lb.	5 2 6	6 4 0	6 2 11	6 0 9	100	121	120	117		
Silk	Mathow Lari	..	2 15 1	4 0 6	3 10 1(5)	3 10 1(5)	100	129	122	120		
Do.	..	..	..	..	..	..	100	129	122	120
	Index No.—Other Textiles	....	....	....	....	....	100	139	102	104
Hides and Skins—	Tanned	Lb.	1 2 6	1 9 8	1 2 11	1 3 2	100	88	72	78		
Hides, Cow	Do.	..	1 1 3	0 15 3	0 12 6	0 13 6	100	213	250	234		
Do. Buffalo	Do.	..	1 4 0	2 10 7	3 1 11	2 14 9	100	147	141	139		
Skins, Goat	..	..	..	..	..	..	100	147	141	139
	Index No.—Hides and Skins	....	....	....	....	....	100	99	107	109
Metals—	Copper braziers	Cwt.	60 8 0	60 0 0	65 0 0	66 0 0	100	175	175	175		
Iron bars	..	..	4 0 0	7 0 0	7 0 0	7 0 0	100	116	111	116
Steel hoops	..	..	7 12 0	9 0 0	8 10 0	9 0 0	100	133	138	133
Galvanised sheets	..	..	9 0 0	12 0 0	12 6 0	12 0 0	100	166	157	157
Tin plates	..	Box	8 12 0	14 8 0	13 12 0	13 12 0	100	138	138	138		
	Index No.—Metals	....	....	....	....	....	100	142	125	120
Other raw and manufactured articles—	Bengal ..	Ton	14 12 0	21 0 0	18 8 0	17 12 0	100	92	96	93		
Coal (2)	Imported	..	19 11 6	18 2 1	18 15 0	18 4 4	100	153	151	151		
Do.	Elephant Brand	2 Tins	4 6 0	6 11 0	6 9 6	6 9 6	100	171	170	170		
Kerosene	Chester Brand	Case	5 2 0	8 12 0	8 11 6	8 11 6	100	140	136	134		
Do.	..	..	..	..	..	..	100	150	142	148
	Index No.—Other raw and manfd. articles	....	....	....	....	....	100	149	141	141
	Index No.—Food	....	....	....	....	....	100	149	141	143
	Index No.—Non-food	....	....	....	....	....	100	149	141	143
	General Index No.	....	....	....	....	....	100	149	141	143

† In absence of price-quotations for the grade 6/600 the price quoted for white mulls is for the grade 6,000/56 since June 1925 and for 6,000/54 x 19 since October 1927.
 * Quotation for raw cotton are for the following five varieties, viz., Broach, Fully good; Oomra, Fine; Dharwar, Saw-ginned, F. G.; Khandesh, Fully good; Bengal, Fully good, since March 1926. (2) Since June 1925, the quotation is for Bengal, 1st Class Jheria. (3) Quotation for 37" x 37½ yds. since March 1926. (4) Quotation for 50" x 6 yds. since March 1926. (5) Quotation for October 1928. (6) Quotation for January 1929. (7) Quotation for May 1929.

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN KARACHI*

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices for the month of				Index numbers				
			July 1914	June 1928	May 1929	June 1929	July 1914	June 1928	May 1929	June 1929	
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.					
Cereals—											
Rice (1)	Larkana No. 3	Candy	39 0 0	66 4 0	54 4 0	52 4 0	100	170	139	134	
Wheat, white	5% barley, 3% dirt, 30% red	"	31 8 0	39 8 0	37 12 0	36 4 0	100	125	120	115	
" " white	2% barley, 3% dirt, 92% red	"	31 4 0				100				
" " red	2% barley, 14% dirt	"	32 8 0	40 12 0	38 14 0	37 6 0	100	125	120	115	
Jowari	2% barley, 13% dirt	"	25 8 0	34 0 0	40 12 0	39 12 0	100	133	160	144	
Barley	Export quality 3% dirt	"	26 8 0	33 4 0	35 4 0	32 12 0	100	125	133	124	
Index No.—Cereals			....	....	....	....	100	136	134	129
Pulses—											
Gram (2)	1% dirt	Candy	29 8 0	36 8 0	44 0 0	41 8 0	100	124	149	141	
Sugar—											
Sugar	Java white	Cwt.	9 2 0	14 6 0	12 14 0	12 13 0	100	158	141	140	
"	" brown	"	8 1 6	13 8 0	12 12 0	12 12 0 (7)	100	167	158	158	
Index No.—Sugar			....	....	....	....	100	163	150	149
Other food—											
Salt		Engal Maund	2 2 0	1 8 0	1 8 0	1 8 0	100	71	71	71	
Oilseeds—											
Cotton seed		Maund	2 11 3	3 6 0	3 6 0 (3)	3 6 0 (3)	100	125	125	125	
Rapeseed, bold	3% admixture	Candy	51 0 0	66 10 0	66 10 0 (4)	66 10 0 (4)	100	131	131	131	
Gingelly seed	Black 9% admixture	"	62 0 0	75 8 0	76 0 0	76 0 0 (7)	100	122	123	123	
Index No.—Oilseeds			....	....	....	....	100	126	126	126
Textiles—											
Jute bags	B. Twills	100 bags	38 4 0	51 4 0	52 12 0 (6)	39 4 0	100	134	138	103	

LABOUR GAZETTE
JULY, 1929

Textiles—Cotton—										
(a) Cotton, raw ..		Maund	20 4 0	36 6 0	24 14 0	25 10 0	100	180	123	127
(b) Cotton manufactures—										
Drills	Pepperell	Piece	10 3 6	19 4 0	17 8 0 (5)	17 8 0 (5)	100	188	171	171
Shirtings	Liepmann's	"	10 2 0	18 0 0	18 8 0	18 0 0	100	178	183	178
Index No.—Cotton manufactures			....	....	....	....	100	183	177	175
Index No.—Textiles—Cotton			....	....	....	....	100	182	159	159
Other Textiles—Wool	Kandahar	Maund	28 0 0	36 0 0	39 0 0	36 0 0	100	129	139	129
Hides—										
Hides, dry	Sind	Maund	21 4 0	17 8 0	13 12 0	13 0 0	100	82	65	61
" " "	Punjab	"	21 4 0	17 8 0	13 12 0	13 0 0	100	82	65	61
Index No.—Hides			....	....	....	....	100	82	65	61
Metals—										
Copper Braziers..		Cwt.	60 8 0	60 12 0	70 0 0	66 8 0	100	100	116	110
Steel Bars		"	3 14 0	6 8 0	7 0 0	7 2 0	100	168	181	184
" Plates		"	4 6 0	7 4 0	7 2 0	6 12 0	100	166	163	154
Index No.—Metals			....	....	....	....	100	145	153	149
Other raw and manufactured articles—										
Coal	1st class Bengul	Ton	16 0 0	19 4 0	19 4 0	19 4 0	100	120	120	120
Kerosene	Chester Brand	Case	5 2 0	8 6 0	8 9 0	8 9 0	100	163	167	167
"	Elephant	2 Tins	4 7 0	6 4 0	6 7 0	6 7 0	100	141	145	145
Index No.—Other raw and manufactured articles			....	....	....	....	100	141	144	144
Index No.—Non-food			100	133	132	128
General Index No.			100	138	135	131

JULY, 1929
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* Grey, Plough) has been omitted from the index for want of quotation. (1) Quotation for Sialkot since August 1928. (2) Quotation for 3% admixture since April 1924. (3) Quotation for September 1927. (4) Quotation for May 1928. (5) Quotation for August 1928. (6) Quotation for January 1929. (7) Quotation for May 1929.

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Month	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No. food	Oilseeds	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Index No. non-food
1926										
June ..	150	128	152	148	146	142	141	182	131	144
1927										
May ..	145	127	132	155	143	145	142	162	142	148
June ..	143	130	129	164	143	145	149	161	149	137
July ..	139	129	130	162	141	143	154	163	142	139
August ..	142	131	132	161	143	143	159	167	138	142
September ..	135	125	133	165	140	141	163	172	141	140
October ..	136	135	132	162	141	136	179	167	131	144
November ..	140	139	138	155	143	131	172	166	131	115
December ..	134	138	131	157	139	130	168	164	130	121
1928										
January ..	130	140	123	153	136	129	166	164	124	141
February ..	133	136	121	155	136	124	163	162	122	157
March ..	128	129	122	161	135	124	162	162	124	140
April ..	130	135	127	162	137	128	158	162	126	153
May ..	130	131	129	161	141	132	165	164	130	151
June ..	136	126	152	197	150	130	167	169	123	146
July ..	130	124	129	196	143	131	167	169	129	147
August ..	131	127	132	191	143	128	151	169	124	155
September ..	140	134	136	154	150	132	150	168	120	155
October ..	148	143	147	195	157	134	149	170	120	162
November ..	144	144	145	189	153	134	149	170	120	162
December ..	146	142	129	168	148	134	143	171	122	165(a)
1929										
January ..	152	141	131	180	154	137	141	171	119	162
February ..	149	136	131	176	152 (a)	140	142	170	122	177
March ..	149	136	129	170	148	135	144	168	122	160
April ..	138	131	161	144	144	131	138	169	122	154
May ..	132	134	162	142	142	132	130	169	122	138
June ..	147	140	167	148	148	135	130	168	120	138

(a) Revised figures.

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India (Bombay)	United Kingdom	Canada	Australia	New Zealand	Italy (Rome)	Switzerland	South Africa	U.S. of America
Items included in the index	Food, fuel, light, clothing and rent	Food, rent, light, clothing and miscellaneous	Food, fuel, light and rent	Food and rent	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heat, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating, lighting and rent	Food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100(f)	(b) 100	(b) 100	(c) 100	100	(a) 100
1914 Aug	104	125	97	119	(f) 108	99	117	103	(m) 105
1914 Sept	108	148	102	115	117	116	146	106	118
1914 Oct	118	180	130	116	128	146	190	114	142
1914 Nov	149	203	146	118	144	197	253	118	174
1914 Dec	186	208	155	132	157	205	275	222	199
1915 Jan	190	252	190	154	182	313	307	224	238(n)
1915 Feb	177	219	152	152	178	387	379	200	(p) 341
1915 Mar	165	184	147	140	159	429	366	164	(r) 302
1915 Apr	153	169	146	151	158	(k) 487	429	164	(s) 334
1915 May	152	170	144	149	160	512	493	169	(t) 366
1915 Jun	157	173	146	153	163	598	509	168	(u) 390
1915 Jul	157	170	150	161	165	649	637	162	(v) 485
1915 Aug	156	166	149	(a) 155	(l) 161	548	790	203	(w) 525
1915 Sep	145	164	149	157	157	531	806	193	(x) 507
1915 Oct	144	164	149	157	162	526	805	193	170
1915 Nov	147	164	148	157	162	530	811	193	170
1915 Dec	146	165	148	157	162	526	811	193	170
1916 Jan	146	165	150	157	161	526	819	192	170
1916 Feb	145	165	151	155	155	526	825	185	170
1916 Mar	146	166	152	155	162	528	834	184	170
1916 Apr	147	167	152	155	162	534	845(k)	184	170
1916 May	148	168	152	155	162	538	852	183	171
1916 Jun	149	167	152	155	162	541	856	181	171
1916 Jul	149	165	151	155	161	544	859	181	171
1916 Aug	148	166	152	155	161	561	862	180	171
1916 Sep	148	162	150	155	161	551	862	180	171
1916 Oct	147	161	149	155	161	542	862	180	171
1916 Nov	147	160	148	155	161	542	862	180	171
1916 Dec	148	161	149	155	161	542	862	180	171

(a) From 1914 to 1927 figures relate to second quarter. (b) First half of 1914. (c) April 1914. (d) From 1915 to 1919 June figures are given. (e) June 1914=100. (f) Average for 1914=100. (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 1927 refer to August. (l) Figures from 1915 to 1927 refer to December. (m) First half of the year. (n) Yearly averages for the years 1918-1927. (o) June figures.

RETAIL PRICES OF ARTICLES OF FOOD IN MAY AND JUNE 1929*
 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
		May 1929	May 1929	May 1929	May 1929	May 1929	June 1929	June 1929	June 1929	June 1929	June 1929
		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.
<i>Cereals—</i>											
Rice (1)	Maund	8 15 5 160	7 4 4 109	8 0 0 130	8 6 9 159	7 7 11 130	8 15 5 160	7 4 4 109	8 0 0 130	8 0 4 152	7 9 11 132
Wheat (1)	"	9 2 3 163	6 1 6 145	6 10 8 142	6 7 3 125	7 5 8 137	9 0 3 161	5 11 5 136	6 10 8 142	6 7 3 125	7 4 1 135
Jowari	"	5 5 4 122	4 13 7 133	5 0 0 131	3 10 10 128	4 5 8 127	5 8 11 128	4 13 0 112	5 0 0 131	3 14 9 137	4 5 8 127
Bajri	"	5 11 3 132	5 11 5 146	6 7 5 137	4 9 11 131	5 8 11 135	5 15 0 138	5 11 5 136	6 6 5 136	4 7 11 128	5 11 9 140
<i>Index No.—Cereals</i>		144	131	135	136	132	147	128	135	136	134
<i>Pulses—</i>											
Gram	Maund	7 6 6 172	6 10 8 175	6 2 6 154	5 13 1 135	6 10 8 137	7 9 0 176	6 6 5 168	6 2 6 154	5 14 8 138	6 10 8 137
Turdal	"	8 15 5 153	8 0 0 120	8 14 3 144	7 11 1 132	8 10 0 131	9 2 3 156	8 0 0 120	8 14 3 144	7 8 9 129	8 10 0 131
<i>Index No.—Pulses</i>		163	148	149	134	134	166	144	149	134	134

<i>Other articles of food—</i>											
Sugar (refined)	Maund	12 0 6 158	10 0 0 138	10 1 3 126	11 6 10 114	10 8 5 113	12 0 6 158	10 0 0 138	10 0 0 125	11 0 7 110	11 11 7 117
Jagri (gul)	"	12 11 2 148	9 6 7 111	11 6 10 129	10 13 7 140	10 8 5 150	13 7 2 157	9 6 7 135	11 6 10 129	11 10 2 150	11 12 11 168
Tea	Lb.	0 14 10 190	0 15 7 225	0 15 7 200	1 1 10 171	1 0 5 200	0 14 10 190	0 15 7 201	0 15 7 200	1 1 10 171	1 0 5 200
Salt	Maund	2 9 7 122	1 14 6 145	2 4 7 151	3 2 4 141	2 8 4 134	2 8 8 179	1 14 6 145	2 4 7 151	3 2 4 141	2 11 2 144
Beef	Seer	0 9 3 179	0 9 0 180	0 6 0 100	0 5 0 201	0 6 0 141	0 9 3 179	0 9 0 180	0 6 0 100	0 5 0 201	0 6 0 141
Mutton	"	0 11 3 169	0 10 0 167	0 10 0 167	0 8 0 133	0 9 6 158	0 11 3 169	0 10 0 167	0 10 0 167	0 8 0 133	0 9 6 158
Milk	Maund	17 9 4 191	8 10 5 195	10 0 0 200	10 0 0 138	13 5 4 133	17 9 4 191	8 14 3 200	10 0 0 200	10 0 0 138	13 5 4 133
Ghee	"	78 0 9 154	66 10 8 156	64 0 0 144	91 6 10 163	61 8 7 119	78 0 9 154	71 1 9 167	76 3 1 171	91 6 10 163	61 8 7 119
Potatoes	"	7 2 3 159	6 10 8 123	5 0 0 131	5 0 0 125	3 8 2 104	7 2 3 159	7 1 9 131	5 8 3 145	8 0 0 200	4 1 9 122
Onions	"	3 9 2 230	2 3 7 122	2 10 8 133	2 10 8 107	1 6 5 70	3 9 2 230	2 12 2 152	2 12 2 138	2 10 8 107	1 6 5 70
Cocanut oil	"	25 6 4 160	23 11 3 96	32 0 0 160	29 1 5 109	28 1 1 100	26 14 3 106	23 11 3 96	32 0 0 160	29 1 5 109	28 1 1 100
<i>Index No.—Other articles of food</i>		164	153	149	140	129	165	158	153	148	133
<i>Index No.—All food articles (unweighted)</i>		159	147	146	138	131	161	149	148	143	134

*The sources of the price-quotations used in this table are the Monthly Returns of Average Retail Prices Current supplied by the Director of Agriculture, Poona
 (1) The Bombay price quotations for rice and wheat since June 1928 are for 'Mandla' and 'Pissi Sarbatti' varieties instead of for 'Rangoon small mill' and 'Pissi Seoni' respectively.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY
BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Cereals and pulses	Other articles of food	All food	Fuel and lighting	Clothing	Rent	Cost of living
1926	134	145	135	187	155	164	160	172	157
August ..	135	141	136	181	153	164	160	172	155
September ..	135	145	136	179	152	164	160	172	155
October ..	135	150	136	180	153	164	159	172	155
November ..	133	152	135	180	152	164	156	172	154
December ..	134	155	136	184	154	166	148	172	156
1927	134	149	135	188	155	166	143	172	156
January ..	134	154	136	180	152	166	148	172	155
February ..	134	159	137	179	152	166	152	172	155
March ..	133	153	135	178	151	166	143	172	153
April ..	133	154	134	176	150	166	147	172	152
May ..	134	156	136	177	151	166	147	172	154
June ..	136	153	138	181	154	166	149	172	156
July ..	136	157	138	184	155	166	152	172	157
August ..	132	151	134	180	151	166	163	172	154
September ..	127	151	129	180	148	156	163	172	151
October ..	125	151	127	180	147	156	157	172	150
November ..	129	155	131	178	149	156	154	172	151
December ..	132	160	135	180	151	156	152	172	154
1928	127	152	129	174	146	144	153	172	148
January ..	123	146	126	171	142	144	151	172	145
February ..	121	147	124	168	140	145	153	172	144
March ..	123	153	126	175	144	145	155	172	147
April ..	122	142	124	172	142	158	156	172	146
May ..	120	144	123	177	143	158	158	172	147
June ..	119	144	121	176	142	158	159	172	145
July ..	120	143	122	174	141	151	157	172	145
August ..	121	155	124	174	142	144	156	172	146
September ..	122	157	125	174	144	143	158	172	147
October ..	125	156	128	173	145	143	160	172	148
November ..	127	163	130	173	146	148	160	172	149
December ..	126	162	130	173	146	143	160	172	(a)143
1929	129	166	132	169	146	143	159	172	149
January ..	127	161	131	169	145	143	160	172	148
February ..	125	162	128	168	143	143	160	172	147
March ..	123	163	127	172	144	143	159	172	147
April ..	123	161	127	175	145	143	160	172	148

(a) Revised figure.

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

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