

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	Maintenance	Other
1924	122	112	121	180	143	163	230	172	150
April	121	113	120	181	143	166	227	172	150
May	124	112	123	186	147	166	227	172	153
June	128	115	127	191	151	166	229	172	157
July	135	125	134	192	156	166	231	172	161
August	136	124	135	191	156	166	229	172	161
September	135	124	134	193	156	167	224	172	161
October	135	126	134	196	157	167	214	172	161
November	134	123	133	196	156	167	214	172	160
December	131	124	130	189	152	165	209	172	157
1925	134	123	133	185	152	166	210	172	157
January	139	128	138	183	155	165	207	172	159
February	137	128	136	181	153	165	207	172	158
March	133	122	132	182	151	165	207	172	156
April	130	119	129	184	149	165	198	172	154
May	136	119	134	183	152	165	192	172	157
June	126	119	125	184	147	165	191	172	152
July	125	118	124	182	146	165	188	172	151
August	128	121	128	182	148	165	192	172	153
September	129	132	129	182	149	165	185	172	153
October	132	137	133	183	151	165	176	172	155
1926	132	140	133	183	151	165	173	172	155
January	132	136	132	181	150	165	172	172	154
February	132	136	133	182	151	165	174	172	155
March	132	133	132	180	150	165	175	172	153
April	133	138	133	177	150	164	170	172	153
May	133	139	134	182	152	164	162	172	155
June	134	145	135	187	155	164	160	172	157
July	135	141	136	181	153	164	160	172	155
August	135	145	136	179	152	164	160	172	155
September	135	150	136	180	153	164	159	172	155
October	133	152	135	180	152	164	156	172	154
November	134	155	136	184	154	166	148	172	156
December	134	149	135	188	155	166	143	172	156
1927	134	154	136	180	152	166	148	172	155
January	134	159	137	179	152	166	152	172	155
February	134	159	137	179	152	166	152	172	155
March	133	153	135	178	151	166	143	172	153
April	133	153	135	178	151	166	143	172	153

LABOUR GAZETTE

"The Labour Gazette" is a journal for the use of all concerned in obtaining general and accurate information on matters specially affecting labour.

VOL. VII

BOMBAY, MAY, 1927

[No. 9

The Month in Brief

INDIAN TRADE UNIONS ACT

The following notification has been issued by the Government of India—
"In pursuance of sub-section (3) of section 1 of the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926 (XVI of 1926), the Governor General in Council is pleased to appoint the 1st June 1927 as the date on which the said Act shall come into force."

EMPLOYMENT IN THE TEXTILE AND ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES

In the textile industry as a whole the supply of labour was equal to the demand during the month of April 1927. The average absenteeism was 8.91 per cent. for Bombay City, 2.47 per cent. for Ahmedabad, 0.63 per cent. for Viramgaum, 14.73 per cent. for Sholapur and 8.35 per cent. for Broach.

In the engineering industry in Bombay City the supply of both skilled and unskilled labour was adequate. Absenteeism was 16.34 per cent. in the engineering workshops, 5 per cent. in the Marine Lines Reclamation of the Development Directorate, 12.55 per cent. in the Bombay Port Trust Docks and 8.90 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 8.40.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX

In May 1927, the Working Class Cost of Living Index Number was 152 as against 153 in the preceding month. The Index Number for food articles only was 150.

INDEX NUMBER OF WHOLESALE PRICES

The Index Number of Wholesale Prices in Bombay was 144 for the month of April 1927.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

There were four industrial disputes in progress during April 1927. The number of workpeople involved was 1738 and the number of working days lost 3298.

BALANCE OF TRADE

During April 1927, the visible balance of trade, including securities in favour of India amounted to Rs. 17 lakhs.

The Cost of Living Index for May 1927

A FALL OF ONE POINT

Increase per cent. over July 1914 — (All articles) 52 per cent.
 (Food only) 58 per cent.

In May 1927, 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 class in Bombay City was one point lower than in the previous month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914, the general index number was 153 in April and 152 in May 1927. The general index number is thus 41 points below the high-water mark (193) reached in October 1926, and 30 points lower than the twelve-monthly average for the year 1926.

The index number for all food articles declined by one point during the month. A fall of two points each in rice and jowari was nearly counter-balanced by a rise of 4 points in wheat and the index number for cereals remained the same. Pulses, however, went up by one point owing to the decrease of 2 points in gram being offset by a rise of 6 points in tur dal. Among other food articles, sugar (refined) and gul declined by 7 points each. Tea, beef and potatoes advanced by 7, 3 and 13 points respectively. Onions recorded a further fall of 77 points. The "other food" index number was 176 as against 178 in the preceding month.

The "fuel and lighting" index remained stationary at 166. The clothing group advanced by 4 points to 147 owing to an increase in the price of chudders and T cloths.

All items: Percentage increase over July 1914

	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927
January ..	83	69	73	56	59	57	55	56
February ..	81	62	65	55	56	57	55	56
March ..	77	60	65	54	54	59	54	55
April ..	72	60	62	56	50	58	53	55
May ..	73	67	63	53	50	56	53	53
June ..	81	73	63	52	53	54	53	52
July ..	90	77	65	53	57	57	55	
August ..	91	80	64	54	61	52	55	
September ..	92	85	65	54	61	51	55	
October ..	93	83	62	52	61	53	55	
November ..	86	82	60	53	61	53	54	
December ..	81	79	61	57	60	55	56	
Yearly average ..	83	73	64	54	57	55	55	

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 prices on which the index is based are those collected between April 16 and May 15.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX—MAY

Article	Unit of quantity	Actual price in 1927	Price per Unit of Quantity			Price = Base Unit		
			July 1914	April 1927	May 1927	July 1914	April 1927	May 1927
Cereals	Musad	100	100	100	100	100	100	
Total—Cereals								
Index Number—Cereals					100	100	100	
Pulses	Musad	10	4.362	6.652	6.738	43.62	58.42	60.19
Total—Pulses								
Index Number—Pulses					100	157.81	140.98	
Other food articles	Musad	14	7.620	14.267	17.685	57.24	78.57	127.79
Total—Food								
Index Number—Food					100	137.66	169.95	
Fuel and lighting	Case	5	4.375	7.656	7.656	21.98	38.28	38.28
Total—Fuel and lighting								
Index Number—Fuel and lighting					100	166	166	
Clothing	L.I.	27	0.594	0.844	0.859	16.94	22.79	23.19
Total—Clothing								
Index Number—Clothing					100	143	147	
House-rent	Per month	10	11.302	19.440	19.440	113.02	194.40	194.40
Total—House rent								
Index Number—House rent					100	172	172	
Grand Total								
Index of Living Index Number					100	153	152	

The following table shows the price levels of articles of food in April and May 1927 as compared with the price level for July 1914 which is taken as 100. The levels are calculated from the prices of articles per maund (or value) maund or seer.

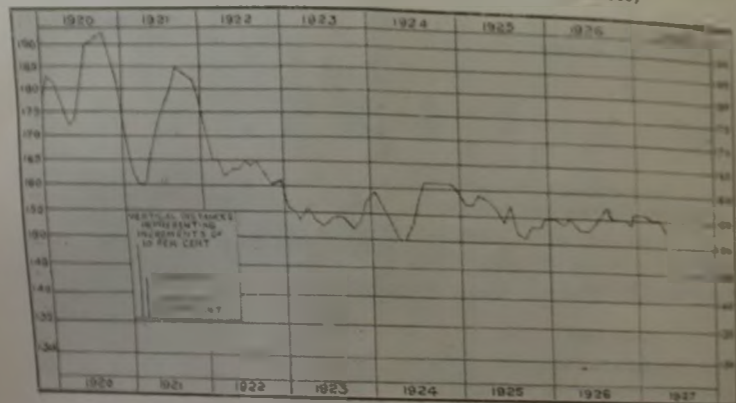
Articles	July 1914	Apr. 1927	May 1927	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in May 1927 over or below Apr. 1927	Articles	July 1914	Apr. 1927	May 1927	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in May 1927 over or below Apr. 1927
Rice	100	134	132	-2	Salt	100	156	151	-5
Wheat	100	130	134	+4	Beef	100	155	158	+3
Jowari	100	131	129	-2	Mutton	100	202	195	-7
Bajri	100	134	134	0	Milk	100	191	191	0
Gram	100	155	153	-2	Chee	100	191	185	-6
Turdal	100	148	154	+6	Potatoes	100	146	159	+13
Sugar (refined)	100	160	153	-7	Onions	100	307	230	-77
Raw sugar (gul)	100	160	153	-7	Cocconut oil	100	113	113	0
Tea	100	193	210	+17	All food articles (weighted average)	100	151	150	-1

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

Rice 24, Wheat 25, Jowari 22, Bajri 25, Gram 35, Turdal 35 (refined) 44, Raw Sugar (gul) 35, Tea 50, Salt 34, Beef 37, Mutton Milk 48, Chee 46, Potatoes 37, Onions 57, Cocconut Oil 12.

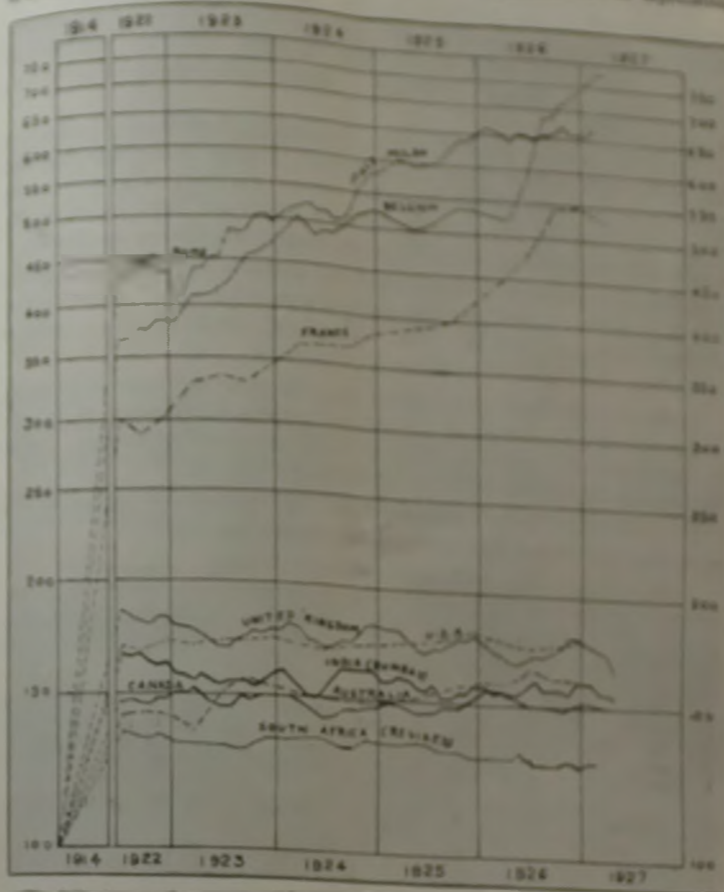
The purchasing power of the rupee being taken as 16 annas in July 1914 its purchasing power in the month under review was 10 annas 6 paise for all items and 10 annas 8 paise for food articles only.

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



Comparison with the Cost of Living in other Countries

The diagram on this page shows the comparative levels of the cost of living in Bombay and various other world centres from the middle of 1922. The diagram is on a logarithmic scale, with the position and movements of the curves allowing for a suitable comparison of currency.



The following are the sources of the data: (i) United Kingdom—Ministry of Labour Gazette, (ii) United States—Bureau of Economic Warfare, (iii) India—Monthly Statistical Digest, (iv) Australia—Monthly Statistical Digest, (v) South Africa—Statistical Abstract for the Union of South Africa, (vi) Japan—Monthly Statistical Digest, (vii) France—Statistical Abstract for France, (viii) Germany—Statistical Abstract for Germany, (ix) Italy—Statistical Abstract for Italy, (x) Canada—Statistical Abstract for Canada, (xi) South Africa—Statistical Abstract for the Union of South Africa.

The diagram is on a logarithmic scale, with the position and movements of the curves allowing for a suitable comparison of currency. The diagram shows that the cost of living in Bombay is generally higher than in other countries, and that the rate of increase in Bombay is generally higher than in other countries.

Wholesale and Retail Prices

I. WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY

A fall of four points

In April 1927, the index number of wholesale prices in Bombay was 144 as against 148 in the previous month. As compared with March 1927 there was a fall of 5 points in the food group and of 2 points in the non-food group. The general index number was 119 points below the highest peak (263) reached in August 1918 and 5 points below the twelve-monthly average of 1926.

The index number for food-grains declined by 8 points to 136 due to a fall of 8 points each in Cereals and Pulses. Except in the case of jowari which rose by 4 points, all the other cereals declined in price—rice by 2 points, wheat by 15 points, barley by 3 points and bajri by 10 points. Gram and turdal fell by 5 and 10 points respectively during the month.

A fall of 7 points in refined sugar was partially counterbalanced by a rise of 4 points in gul and the index number for the "sugar" group declined by 1 point to 134. The "other food" index rose by 1 point to 150 owing to a slight rise in the price of turmeric.

Under the non-food group, there was a decrease of 1 point in Oilseeds, of 4 points in Raw cotton, of 2 points in Cotton manufactures, of 7 points in Metals and of 5 points in Other raw and manufactured articles. Other textiles rose by 2 points and Hides and skins by 5 points.

The sub-joined table compares April 1927 prices with those of the preceding month and the corresponding month last year:—

Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay*

100 = average of 1926

Groups	No. of items	+ or - % compared with Mar. 1927	+ or - % compared with April 1926	Groups	Apr. 1926	July 1926	Oct. 1926	Jan. 1927	Mar. 1927	Apr. 1927
1. Cereals	7	- 5	- 3	1. Cereals	99	100	99	105	101	96
2. Pulses	2	- 6	+ 5	2. Pulses	94	102	102	106	106	99
3. Sugar	3	- 1	-11	3. Sugar	100	96	96	99	90	89
4. Other food	3	+ 1	- 4	4. Other food	103	98	97	93	99	99
All food	15	- 3	- 3	All food	99	99	99	101	99	96
5. Oilseeds	4	- 1	+ 9	5. Oilseeds	98	104	99	103	107	107
6. Raw cotton	5	- 3	- 7	6. Raw cotton	59	103	106	81	94	91
7. Cotton manufactures	6	- 1	-12	7. Cotton manufactures	104	102	94	88	93	91
8. Other textiles	2	+ 1	- 5	8. Other textiles	104	95	98	99	98	99
9. Hides and skins	3	+ 4	-17	9. Hides & skins	116	59	99	96	93	96
10. Metals	5	- 4	- 1	10. Metals	100	99	98	105	103	99
11. Other raw and manufactured articles	4	- 3	+ 4	11. Other raw and manufactured articles	59	97	100	105	106	103
All non-food	29	- 1	- 5	All non-food	102	100	98	96	98	97
General Index No.	44	- 3	- 5	General Index No.	101	100	99	98	99	97

* Wholesale prices in Karachi will be found on page 864.

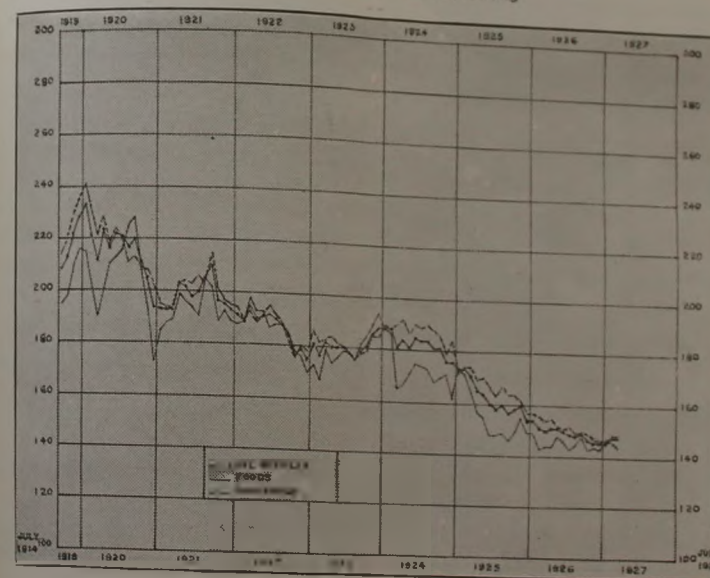
The following table is intended to show the annual movements of food, non-food and general wholesale prices:—

July 1914 = 100

	Food	Non-food	All articles
Twelve-monthly average 1918	171	269	236
" 1919	202	233	222
" 1920	206	219	216
" 1921	193	201	199
" 1922	186	187	187
" 1923	179	182	181
" 1924	173	188	182
" 1925	155	167	163
" 1926	145	152	149
Four-monthly 1927	144	148	147

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 1919.

Wholesale Price Index Numbers, Bombay



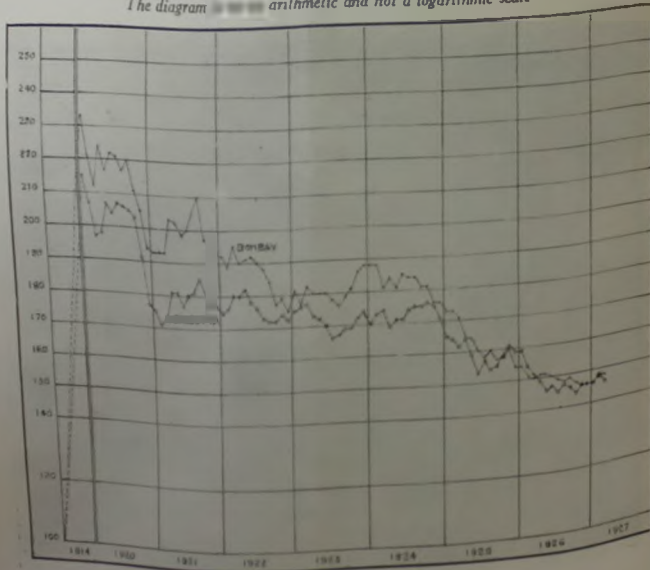
MAY, 1927

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.

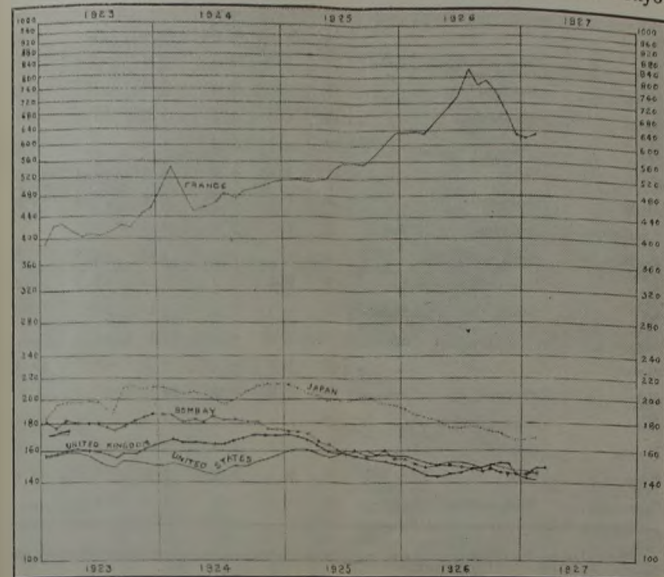
The items included in the indices are 44 for Bombay and 71 for Calcutta. The groups included in the Calcutta index but excluded from that for Bombay are tea (3 items), oil (2 items), jute-raw (3 items), jute manufactures (4 items) and building materials (1 item). There are no groups included in the Bombay 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 the two curves temporarily crossed. From November 1926 to February 1927 prices in Bombay were on the same level as those in Calcutta.

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), the Director, Labour Office, Dutch East Indies (by letter) ; Australia, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations ; Norway, Sweden and Holland figures republished in "The Statist."

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.

2. RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Equiva- lent in tolas	July 1914		April 1927		Increase % or decrease (-) in 1927 over 1914
				As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill.	Paylee	212	5 10	7 11	7 11	+2 1	
Wheat	Pisai Seoni	"	204	5 10	7 10	7 5	+1 7	-0 5
Jowari	Best Sholapuri	"	196	4 3	5 8	5 7	+1 4	-0 1
Bajri	Ghati	"	208	4 7	6 2	6 0	+1 5	-0 2
Gram	Delhi	"	192	4 4	6 8	6 5	+2 1	-0 3
Turdal	Cawnpore	"	204	5 11	9 1	8 10	+2 11	-0 3
Sugar (refined)	Java, white	Seer	28	1 1	2 0	2 0	+0 11	"
Raw Sugar (Gul)	Sangli, middle quality	"	28	1 2	1 11	1 11	+0 9	"
Tea	Loose Ceylon, powder	Lb.	39	7 10	15 3	15 1	+7 3	-0 2
Salt	Bombay, black	Paylee	176	1 9	2 11	2 11	+1 2	"
Beef	"	Lb.	39	2 6	3 11	3 11	+1 5	"
Mutton	"	"	39	3 0	6 4	6 7	+3 7	+0 3
Milk	Medium	Seer	56	2 9	4 11	4 11	+2 2	"
Ghee	Belgaum, Superior	"	28	7 1	13 3	13 7	+6 6	+0 4
Potatoes	Ordinary	"	28	0 8	1 0	0 11	+0 3	-0 1
Onions	Nasik	"	28	0 3	0 9	0 8	+0 5	-0 1
Coconut oil	Middle quality	"	28	3 7	4 0	4 0	+0 5	"

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

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

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

The variations in prices during April 1927 as compared with the previous month were within narrow limits. Under food-grains wheat, jowari and bajri declined by 5, 1 and 2 pies respectively per paylee while the price of rice showed no change. Gram and turdal fell by 3 pies each per paylee. Amongst other food articles mutton advanced by 3 pies per lb. and ghee by 4 pies per seer. Potatoes and onions recorded a fall of one pie each per seer and tea of 2 pies per lb. The prices of the other articles remained practically unchanged during the month under review.

As compared with July 1914 all articles show considerable increases. Mutton and onions are more than double their prewar prices. Sugar (refined), tea, milk, and ghee have risen by more than 75 per cent., gul, salt and beef by more than 50 per cent. and potatoes by 38 per cent. The rise in the price of food-grains is about 30 to 50 per cent. The price of coconut oil is only 12 per cent. above its prewar level.

COMPARATIVE RETAIL PRICES

The following table compares the retail food prices in Karachi, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Poona with those in Bombay in March and April 1927 (Bombay prices = 100). It will be seen that the average retail price levels in all the centres were below the level of Bombay in March and April 1927:—

Articles	Bombay prices in March 1927 = 100					Bombay prices in April 1927 = 100				
	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
Cereals—										
Rice	100	107	107	113	103	100	107	107	107	103
Wheat	100	81	95	92	109	100	85	96	102	116
Jowari	100	81	92	74	91	100	80	94	70	92
Bajri	100	92	104	73	95	100	88	107	74	97
Average—										
Cereals	100	90	100	88	100	100	90	101	88	102
Pulses—										
Gram	100	85	77	81	90	100	50	75	84	90
Turdal	100	112	100	95	103	100	115	103	100	137
Average—										
Pulses	100	99	89	88	97	100	103	89	92	114
Other articles of food—										
Sugar (refined)	100	88	94	102	98	100	85	93	97	93
Jagri (Gul)	100	83	83	67	59	100	83	83	60	56
Tea	100	102	102	117	108	100	103	103	118	109
Salt	100	60	69	101	86	100	60	69	106	83
Beef	100	113	51	56	75	100	113	55	44	75
Mutton	100	77	77	69	69	100	74	74	59	67
Milk	100	43	57	76	76	100	43	57	76	76
Ghee	100	75	75	75	70	100	73	73	73	77
Potatoes	100	66	48	93	74	100	75	51	76	66
Onions	100	84	93	83	65	100	65	93	65	57
Cocoa nut oil	100	90	112	112	98	100	90	112	112	98
Average—										
Other articles of food	100	80	78	86	80	100	79	78	81	78
Average—										
All food articles	100	85	84	87	86	100	84	85	84	88

Actual retail prices at these centres will be found among the miscellaneous tables at the end of the Gazette. The relative prices show a considerable difference at the different centres. As compared with the previous month, the relative average for all food articles fell by one point at Karachi and by 3 points at Sholapur and advanced by one and two points respectively at Ahmedabad and Poona. Referring back to April 1926 it is found that in relation to Bombay the average for all food articles is the same for Sholapur but it is lower by 4, 10 and 3 points respectively for Karachi, Ahmedabad and Poona.

As compared with the previous month, the relative price of rice remained stationary except at Sholapur. The relative prices of wheat, turdal and tea showed a rise, those of milk and coconut oil were stationary and of sugar and mutton registered a decrease at all the four mofussil centres. Ghee rose at Poona and onions were stationary at Ahmedabad but both fell at the other three centres. Potatoes were higher at Karachi and Ahmedabad. Gram rose at Karachi and Sholapur, was steady at Poona and fell at Ahmedabad. The relative price of bajri was higher except at Karachi where it registered a decrease.

Labour Intelligence—Indian and Foreign Industrial Disputes in the Presidency

Disputes in April .. 4 Workpeople involved .. 1,738

At the end of this issue will be found a statement of each dispute in progress during April 1927, with the number of workpeople involved, the date when the dispute began and ended, the cause and the result. The word "dispute" in the official sense means an interruption of work and it is here used in that sense as virtually synonymous with "strike." A dispute, as counted by the Labour Office, is an interruption of work involving ten or more persons and of not less than twenty-four hours duration. Detailed statistics have been collected since 1st April 1921, the date on which the Labour Office was instituted.

Summary tables have been constructed in order to show the position at a glance. Table I shows the number and magnitude of strikes in April 1927, and working days lost.

I.—Industrial Disputes Classified by Trades

Trade	Number of disputes in progress in April 1927			Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in April 1927	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in April 1927
	Started before 1st April	Started in April	Total		
Textile	1	2	3	503	210
Transport .. .. .	....	....	....	....	....
Engineering .. .. .	....	....	....	....	....
Metal .. .. .	....	....	....	....	....
Miscellaneous .. .. .	....	1	1	1,235	3,088
Total	1	3	4	1,738	3,298

During the month under review the number of industrial disputes was four, three of which occurred in cotton mills. One of the disputes occurred in Ambernath, and the rest in Ahmedabad. The number of workpeople involved in these four disputes was 1738 and the number of working days lost (i.e., the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days, less workers replaced) was 3298.

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes.

II.—Industrial Disputes—Causes and Results, December 1926 to April 1927

	December 1926	January 1927	February 1927	March 1927	April 1927
Number of strikes and lock-outs	2	5	4	7	4
Disputes in progress at beginning	1	....	1	2	1
Fresh disputes begun	1	5	3	5	3
Disputes ended	2	4	2	6	4
Disputes in progress at end .. .. .	....	1	2	1	....
Number of workpeople involved	712	4,002	1,177*	1,521	1,738
Aggregate duration in working days	1,251	16,507	775	5,987	3,298
Demands					
Pay	2	3	4	3	1
Bonus .. .. .	....	....	....	....	....
Personal .. .. .	....	1	....	4	2
Leave and hours .. .. .	....	....	....	....	....
Others .. .. .	....	1	....	....	1
Results—					
In favour of employees	1	....	1	....	....
Compromised .. .. .	....	....	....	1	2
In favour of employers	1	4	1	5	2

* This figure includes number of strikers originally involved in the dispute in the Emperor Edward Mill, viz., 692, which carried forward from January.

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

III.—Industrial Disputes—Progress for last 12 months †

Month	Disputes in progress	Disputes which began during the month	Disputes ended during the month	Aggregate number of working days lost	Disputes Settled		
					In favour of employers (Per cent.)	In favour of employees (Per cent.)	Compromised (Per cent.)
May 1926	6	6	4	8,457	100		..
June	9	7	7	1,752	100		..
July	4	2	4	661	100		..
August	7	7	7	22,457	86		14
September	3	3	3	3,558	100		..
October	7	7	7	14,358	86	14	..
November	4	4	3	3,094	67		33
December	2	1	2	1,251	50	50	..
January 1927	5	5	4	16,507	100		..
February	4	3	2	775	50	50	..
March	7	5	6	5,987	83		17
April	4	3	4	3,298	50		50

† This table differs from the tables published till January 1927 in two respects. Firstly, the third and the fourth columns are newly added, and secondly, the totals at the end have been omitted.

It may be of interest to state that the highest peak (4,062,879) in respect of the number of working days lost through strikes in this Presidency since April 1921 was reached in February 1924 whereas the lowest level (390) was reached in May 1924.

GENERAL REVIEW OF DISPUTES

The number of industrial disputes involving stoppages of work, reported as beginning during the month of April 1927, was 3 as compared with 5 in the previous month. The total number of workpeople involved in these disputes was 1610. In addition, 128 workpeople were involved in a dispute which had begun in March and was still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of new and old disputes was thus 4, involving a total number of 1738 workpeople and resulting in a time loss of 3298 working days. Of the 3 disputes beginning in April one arose over a question of wages, another related to the question of employment of particular persons and the third was due to "Other causes." Settlements were arrived at in the case of all the disputes. The results were favourable to the employers in 2 disputes and the remaining 2 were compromised.

Progress of Individual Disputes

BOMBAY SUBURBAN

The management of the Western India Match Factory, Ambarnath, notified their workers on the 14th March that certain alterations and adjustments were proposed to be made in the rates of wages for piece-workers. The workers, however, demanded the continuance of the old rates of wages. On the 8th, 1235 workmen did not resume work after the recess. The management wanted to know the reason for the sudden stoppage of work and 6 representatives of the strikers discussed the matter with the manager in the afternoon on the 11th and arrived at the following terms of settlement of the dispute:—

1. That the strikers should resume work on the 12th; and
2. That house-rent and water charges charged by the Company should be reduced in view of the reduction in wages.

Accordingly all the strikers resumed work on the 12th. The strike thus ended in a compromise.

AHMEDABAD

Three disputes were in progress in Ahmedabad during the month under review. One of these was a continuation of the dispute which had begun in the previous month in the Shri Ambika Mills. On the 1st, 20 strikers resumed work unconditionally. The management dispensed with the services of the remaining strikers and engaged new hands in their place. This strike ended in favour of the employers.

The second dispute occurred in the Gordhan Spinning and Manufacturing Company. On the 1st, the management dismissed a jobber on account of inefficiency and engaged a new jobber in his place. One hundred and seventy-five operatives refused to work under the new jobber and struck work on the 2nd demanding the reinstatement of the dismissed jobber. The efforts of the local Labour Union to persuade the strikers

to resume work were of no avail. The management employed 30 new hands and informed the strikers that if they did not resume work their outstanding wages would be forfeited and new hands employed in their place. In the afternoon, the management engaged 70 additional new hands. On the 3rd, 25 strikers resumed work unconditionally and the management employed 50 new hands. The strikers met the manager on the 5th and they were asked to come the next day when the manager proposed either to reinstate them or to pay them off. The strikers, however, did not turn up on the 6th as they intended to recover their dues through the Civil Court and the management, therefore, dispensed with their services. The strike thus terminated in favour of the employers.

The third dispute took place in the Gujarat Cotton Mills where 200 weavers suspended work in the morning on the 26th as a protest against the system of giving damaged cloth in lieu of wages. The manager put up a notice stating that the outstanding wages of the strikers would be paid in the evening. After some time the strikers interviewed the manager and he promised to look into their grievances. Consequently 100 strikers resumed work at 10-30 a.m. The remaining strikers also resumed work in the morning of the following day. This dispute ended in a compromise.

Accidents in the Bombay Presidency

STATISTICS FOR MARCH AND APRIL 1927

(Supplied by the Chief Inspector of Factories)

The preliminary statistics of accidents in factories and workshops in the Bombay Presidency published at the end of this issue, contain details of accidents reported during the months of March and April 1927 in Bombay City, Ahmedabad, Karachi and other centres of the Presidency. During March and April 1927 there were 563 accidents in Bombay City. The injuries caused by these accidents were fatal in 5 cases, serious in 108 cases and minor in 452 cases. One hundred and sixty-nine or 30 per cent. of the accidents were due to machinery in motion and the rest to other causes. The largest number of accidents occurred in workshops, the percentages in different classes of factories being 70.5 per cent. in workshops, 27.7 per cent. in textile mills and 1.8 per cent. in miscellaneous concerns.

During the months under review there were in all 75 accidents in Ahmedabad, all of which occurred in textile mills. Out of the total number of accidents, 50 were due to machinery in motion and 25 to other causes. One of these accidents proved fatal, 41 caused serious and the rest minor injuries.

In Karachi there were 7 accidents, out of which 6 occurred in railway workshops and 1 in a miscellaneous concern. Out of the total number of accidents 3 were due to machinery in motion and the remaining 4 to other causes. Two of these accidents caused serious injuries and the rest minor injuries.

In the other centres of the Presidency there occurred 108 accidents, of which 37 were in textile mills, 59 in workshops and 12 in miscellaneous concerns. Machinery in motion was the cause of 41 accidents while other causes were responsible for the remaining 67 accidents. The injuries caused by these accidents were fatal in 1 case, serious in 34 cases and minor in 73 cases.

The figures shown in the tables for January and February are corrected figures and differ slightly from those published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for March 1927.

Prosecutions under the Factories Act in the Bombay Presidency, April 1927

WEST KHANDESH

The manager of a cotton ginning factory was prosecuted under section 41 (a) for breach of section 23 (a) for employing uncertified children. He was convicted and fined Rs. 15 in each of six cases.

AHMEDABAD

The manager of a cotton mill was prosecuted under section 41 (f) for breach of section 18 (1) (c) read with Rule 36 for not keeping the nip guard on a calender machine in efficient order whereby a person was injured. He was convicted and fined Rs. 75.

Workmen's Compensation

Details of Compensation and Proceedings during April 1927 under the Workmen's Compensation Act (Act VIII of 1923)

This article contains the summary of compensation statistics for the month of April 1927. All Commissioners except one furnished information and out of a total number of 37 cases disposed of during the month, 31 were reported by the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner in Bombay. It must be remembered that these are not the numbers of cases which came within the purview of the courts of the Commissioners but of cases actually disposed of. The gross amount of compensation awarded in lump sums during the month amounted to Rs. 18,538-11-2 as against Rs. 26,951-10-3 in the previous month and Rs. 19,625-6-6 in April 1926. Out of the 37 cases in which compensation was claimed 16 were fatal accidents and 21 of permanent partial disablement. No case of occupational disease has come up since January 1925. The number of compensation cases in the textile industry amounted to 12 and in other industries 25. The corresponding figures for April 1926 were 25 and 20.

The total number of claimants for compensation in all the 37 cases was 39, of whom 34 were adult males, 3 adult females and the remaining two were males under 15 years of age.

Out of the cases disposed of during the month under review 23 were original claims and 14 registration of agreements. Compensation was awarded in 23 cases and agreements were registered in 14 cases.

Labour News from Ahmedabad

THE LABOUR UNION

With reference to the two resolutions passed by the Joint Council of Representatives of the Frame and Throstle Unions on 7th April and which were published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for April 1927, the Labour Union have addressed a letter to the Secretary of the Ahmedabad Millowners Association to give their earnest consideration to these resolutions and to the proposals made for a Labour Exchange and a Joint Committee. It was pointed out that the institutions which were proposed to be created are necessary and desirable and that such institutions exist and have worked satisfactorily in western countries. The Millowners' Association have, however, not arrived at any decision in the matter.

Some mills in Ahmedabad gave a holiday on the day following the "Id" against the wishes of the workers and it is alleged that in some of these mills they were required to work for more than 10 hours on the following days. The workers of these mills passed a resolution to the effect that, in future, the workers should not be given work for more than 10 hours a day under any circumstances. Copies of this resolution were forwarded to the mills concerned.

The Labour Union has received about twenty essays in connection with the competition on the subject "What should be done to increase the membership of the Union." The essays are under examination and two prizes of Rs. 10 and Rs. 5 respectively will shortly be given to the first two best essays.

The Labour Union had decided some time ago to hold at least one meeting every month in each mill. This work is reported to be progressing fairly satisfactorily and altogether about fifteen meetings were held at which lectures were given on the subject "What return do the workmen get for their subscription of four annas to the Union."

The first illustrated number of the *Majur Sandesh* was issued on 18th April.

THE B. B. & C. I. RAILWAY EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION

The Agent of the B. B. & C. I. Railway is reported to have given an interview to the President of the B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Association at Bombay on the 27th April. The Agent stated that he was quite willing to recognise the Association when it is registered under the Trade Unions Act which comes into force from the 1st June 1927. The President of the Union showed his willingness to register and in the discussion that followed, several important points of detail were settled. When the Association is recognised, it will have the right to make direct representations to the Railway Authorities on behalf of the members regarding their grievances and the Executive will also have the right to approach District Officers, Heads of Departments and the Agent personally or to send deputations to wait on them in order to discuss various questions affecting the welfare of railway employees. The railway administration are framing draft rules for governing the conduct of business between the Railway Authorities and the Association at such meetings and these rules are to be discussed in a subsequent joint meeting. It was also agreed

at the meeting that the Agent or his nominee will always have access to the register of membership of the Union. It was further decided that the existing right of access of every employee to his superior officers and ultimately to the Agent should not be affected; but that railway employees, who are members of the Association, can if they so desire, submit their representations through the Association subject to the rules to be framed as stated above. Meetings of the Union will be allowed to be held on railway premises, if suitable places elsewhere are not available provided that the members who are on duty are not interfered with. The railway institutes are, however, not to be used for this purpose.

Agricultural Outlook in the Presidency

The following summary of conditions in the Presidency during the period ending 20th May 1927 has been supplied by the Director of Agriculture.

During the period under review there has been no appreciable change in the Agricultural outlook of the Bombay Presidency except that in places in the South Deccan, the whole of the Karnatak and North Kanara, some rainfall has been received chiefly during the third week of April. The situation regarding crops and rainfall in the different divisions of the Bombay Presidency as it appears at this moment may be briefly summarised as follows:—

Gujarat.—There was no rainfall anywhere. The harvesting of *rabi* crops such as wheat, barley, etc., is now completed while the preparation of lands for the next season is in full swing. The condition of irrigated crops is generally satisfactory.

Konkan.—Since the submission of the last report there has been practically no rainfall except during last week of April in North Kanara. The preliminary field operations are going on everywhere. The progress of garden crops is satisfactory.

Deccan and Karnatak.—Some light to fair scattered showers were received by about the end of April in the South Deccan and most of the Karnatak and in places in Dharwar in the first week of May. The harvesting of *rabi* crops was finished everywhere and their threshing was nearing completion. The preparation of lands for the coming season was in full swing. The irrigated crops were generally doing well.

Employment Situation in April 1927

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 118 or 78.67 per cent. of the mills reported as working during the month of April 1927. The average absenteeism in the textile industry as a whole amounted to 8.58 per cent. as against 8.11 per cent. in the preceding month.

In Bombay City all the 80 mills which were working during the month furnished returns. The supply of labour was reported as adequate by a

large majority of the mills and the average absenteeism amounted to 8.91 per cent. as compared with 9.05 per cent. during March.

In Ahmedabad 59 mills were working during the month and 26 or 47.46 per cent. furnished information. Absenteeism amounted to 2.47 per cent. as against 1.83 per cent. in March. The supply of labour was equal to the demand.

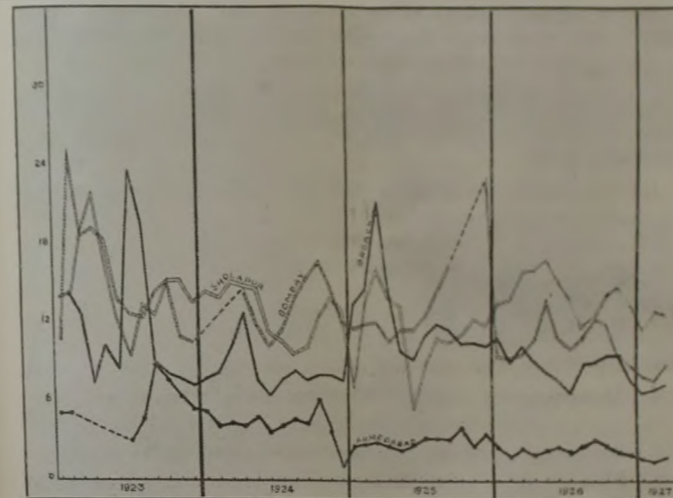
Returns were submitted by 5 mills in Sholapur. None of these mills reported any shortage in the supply of labour and the average percentage absenteeism amounted to 14.73.

Both the mills in Viramgaum reported that the supply of labour was equal to the demand and the average absenteeism amounted to 0.63 per cent.

All the three mills in Broach supplied information. The supply of labour was equal to the demand and the average absenteeism was 8.35 per cent. as against 7.48 per cent. in the preceding month.

Taking the industry as a whole the supply of labour was equal to the demand in all centres.

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 engineering workshops was 16.34 per cent. as against 14.50 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 12.55 per cent. The average absenteeism in the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust amounted to 8.90 per cent.

In the Karachi Port Trust both skilled and ordinary labour was available in plenty and on an average 8.40 per cent. of the labourers absented themselves from work during the month under review.

Factory Legislation in China

REGULATIONS FOR THE PROVINCE OF HOO-PEI

With a view to settling disputes between capital and labour, the Political Committee of the Kuomintang Government for the Province of Hoo-Pei has drawn up factory regulations, the main points of which we give below.

SCOPE

The Regulations are applicable to all factories in the province of Hoo-Pei which employ more than twenty workers, or which are in any way dangerous or unhealthy.

COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS

Employers are required to recognise the right of the workers to conclude collective agreements with them.

WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Employers are forbidden to employ children under 12 years of age.

Employers are forbidden to give night work (between 9 p.m. and 5 a.m.) to children under 15 years of age, or to women. As regards women, however, these provisions will not enter into force until four months after the promulgation of the Regulations.

Employers are forbidden to employ women or children in dangerous or unhealthy work, which is described as follows:—

DANGEROUS WORK

- (a) The starting and stopping of electric machines or other machines productive of motive power;
- (b) Greasing;
- (c) Work on belts and pulleys;
- (d) Handling of explosives;
- (e) Building work carried on above ground level.

UNHEALTHY WORK

- (a) Manufacture of matches with yellow phosphorus;
- (b) Work involving the use of white lead;
- (c) Work involving the use of sulphur and its compounds;
- (d) Manufacture of products for washing which are reckoned to be injurious;
- (e) Work in factories for the manufacture of chemical products involving the use of poisonous substances;
- (f) Work connected with heating or the transport of coal;
- (g) Work involving exposure to a temperature above or below the normal.

WAGES

The minimum wage is fixed at 13 dollars (Chinese) per month. This provision does not apply to apprentices.

In the event of a rise in the cost of living, it is for the trade unions to agree with the employer for a wage increase.

HOURS OF WORK AND HOLIDAYS

Daily hours of work may not exceed ten. A weekly rest, with payment of wages, must be granted to workers. If the worker works on a day when he is legally entitled to rest, his wages must be doubled.

In cases of *force majeure* or accident, employers may, with the permission or approval of the public authorities, prolong hours of work under conditions agreed upon between them and the trade unions.

SEX EQUALITY

Work of the same kind must be paid for by the same wage, without distinction of sex.

MATERNITY

Six weeks' rest, with payment of wages, must be granted to women workers before and after childbirth.

COMPENSATION FOR INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS

A worker who is the victim of an industrial accident is entitled to claim medical and pharmaceutical assistance from the employer in addition to his normal wage. If the accident involves total incapacity for work, the employer must pay the victim, for the rest of his life, a pension equal to the wages which he would have received. If the factory closes down, the pension will be continued to be paid by the Government. In the event of a fatal accident the employer must bear the funeral charges, and must make the deceased's family an allowance for a period of five or ten years, according to the age of the victim.

SICK PAY

A worker who falls sick is entitled, on medical authority, to claim half wages, and medical and pharmaceutical assistance. An exception is made in the case of workers suffering from venereal disease. If a worker dies as the result of an illness, the family is entitled to an allowance, the amount of which varies according to the number of years of the worker's service in the factory, and according to the particular agreement which may exist between his trade union and the employer.

OTHER ALLOWANCES AND INDEMNITIES

When work is stopped in the factory on the initiative of the employer, the employer must pay the workers, throughout the days of unemployment, the wage which they would normally receive. In the event of the employer finding great difficulty in meeting his obligations under this Section he may apply for Government assistance.

The employer may engage or dismiss a worker only with the consent of the trade union.

An employer who infringes the provisions of the foregoing Sections will be punished by a fine of from 500 to 1000 dollars (Chinese).

TRADE UNIONS AND DISPUTES

Workers and their trade unions are not allowed to take part in the recruitment of the managing or supervising staff of the factory, except in the event of their legitimate interests being seriously threatened.

Workers are forbidden to prevent others from working during hours of work, or to cause trouble or disorder of any kind.

When a trade union, either orally or in writing, addresses a request to an employer or a manager of a factory with the object of settling a labour dispute, the employer or manager must reply to the communication within 48 hours.

CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION

In the event of a labour dispute failing to be settled by conciliation through a joint committee set up by the parties concerned, the employer or the manager is required to inform the Arbitration Committee, which is composed of representatives of the Kuomintang Party, of the Government, of the central trade union, and of the General Chamber of Commerce. During the proceedings of the Committee, the parties are required to suspend all hostile action. The arbitration award must be issued within a week at latest.

Both employers and workers are required to conform to the award issued by the Arbitration Committee.

Employers and trade unions must submit to enquiries ordered by the authorities, and must respect all measures taken under the Regulations.

The Regulations also state that collective agreements concluded before the promulgation of the Regulations, and which are not in manifest contradiction with them, shall remain valid. The Political Committee may implement, and if need arises, amend the Regulations, which, with the exception mentioned above (night work of women), are to enter into force as from the day of their promulgation. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, March 28, 1927.)

Unemployment in Japan

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNMENT

At the request of the Japanese Minister of the Interior, the Commission for the Investigation of Social Works recently submitted a report outlining certain suggestions for dealing with unemployment.

The Commission points out that unemployment is a complicated problem, the solution of which should be sought in a healthy development of industry, an improvement in the present system of education, the institution of an unemployment insurance scheme, the organisation of public relief works, etc., and suggests that it would be desirable to appoint a special committee to consider and propose appropriate measures under those various headings.

In the meantime, however, the Commission makes a number of proposals relating more particularly to the social aspect of unemployment.

RELIEF WORKS

Among other things, the Commission advises the Government to devote special attention to the provision of public relief works, to be advanced or delayed according to need in order to meet seasonal or exceptional unemployment. Such works should either be subsidised out of State

funds or be facilitated by the grant of Government loans at a low rate of interest. In principle, relief works should be carried out by local authorities and public organisations, although private undertakings should not be excluded from the benefit of State assistance if it is recognised that their schemes are of a nature to reduce unemployment.

EDUCATION

The Commission is of opinion that an important factor in the unemployment problem is the providing of young persons with an opportunity to select the right vocation. It recommends therefore that vocational guidance centres should be established by cities, towns and villages, and that private persons and organisations carrying out such work should receive State subsidies. The Government itself should establish a central body to deal with vocational mental tests for young persons.

INSURANCE

The Commission recommends that the Government should entrust the Social Insurance Investigation Commission with an enquiry into the question of the institution of a system of unemployment insurance, and that, pending its report, the existing mutual relief associations should be improved and should continue to distribute relief to the unemployed. In the large cities, local public organisations should provide, under Government supervision and with its assistance, outdoor relief for the casual unemployed worker.

MIGRATION

In the belief that encouragement of migration and emigration would contribute to reduce unemployment, the Commission recommends that the Government should establish an overseas museum, and subsidise similar institutions to be set up by local public organisations, which would be entrusted with the task of popularising the idea of emigration and of furnishing information on foreign countries or on settlement areas within the borders of Japan. Steps should be taken to control agents who spread false or exaggerated information relating to facilities for settlement at home or abroad.

For the training of qualified emigrants the Government should provide migration schools and other facilities, and should assist similar institutions maintained by local public organisations. A close relation should be established between the public employment offices and the various institutions concerned with the movement of emigrants. Finally, hostels should be provided for emigrants, and emigration inspectors should be appointed to protect the health and the general interests of emigrants before their departure and during their voyage.

While recognising that there may be many other means of providing against unemployment, the Commission lays particular stress on the view that what is most urgently needed at present is a fundamental improvement in the existing system of education and it expresses the hope that the Government will at an early date adopt an adequate and well-considered policy in this matter. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, April 11, 1927.)

Factory Workers in Japan

The Bureau of Statistics in Japan published recently a report on the results of an investigation into labour conditions in factories initiated in October 1924. Some of the main points of this report are summarised below :—

HOURS OF WORK

The factories covered by the enquiry may be classified as follows, according to hours of actual work, excluding rest periods :

14	per cent. of factories worked	12 hours a day.
29	"	" " 11 " "
26	"	" " 10 " "
23	"	" " 9 " "
7	"	" " 8 " "

In the textile and paper industries, the group working 11 hours was the largest, with those working 12 and 10 hours next.

More than half the factories in the wood and bamboo, metal, clothing, porcelain, pottery, etc., industries worked 9 hours or more.

In the gas and electricity, food and drink, leather, machinery and tool industries, more than half the factories worked less than 9 hours.

HOLIDAYS

The factories may be classified, according to the holidays allowed monthly to their workers, as follows :

1	per cent. of factories allowed	1 day per month.
76	"	" " 2 days per month.
5	"	" " 3 " "
12	"	" " 4 " "
4	"	" " 5 " "

The factories allowing no holidays, and those allowing 6 to 8 holidays a month, amounted in each case to less than 1 per cent. of the total.

REST PERIODS

The factories may be classified, according to the length of the rest periods allowed, as follows :

12	per cent. of factories allowed	30 minutes.
2	"	" " 50 minutes.
62	"	" " 1 hour.
15	"	" " from 1 to 1½ hours.
7	"	" " 2 hours.

The remaining 2 per cent. of the factories allowed 40 minutes, more than 2 hours, or no rest interval at all.

PAYMENT IN KIND

From the point of view of payment in kind, the factories may be classified as follows :

46	per cent. of factories gave	board and lodging.
45	"	" " board.
26	"	" " lodging.
25	"	" " clothing.
3	"	" " rice.

Part payment in board and lodging or in board only is given mostly in textile factories, and part payment in clothing and lodging is given mostly in gas and electricity works. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, April 25, 1927.)

Employment of Young Persons in Japan

It will be remembered that the Bureau of Social Affairs, in March of last year, initiated a scheme for the placing in employment of young persons on leaving school.

The number of boys and girls who were due to leave the elementary schools in March 1927 was estimated at 1,700,000 and of these approximately 25 per cent. or 400,000 were expected to seek immediate employment.

The efforts of the Bureau last year in this direction having proved fairly successful, a meeting of the Central Employment Exchanges Committee was called at the end of January of the present year, to discuss with representatives of the Department of Education and others interested what measures could be adopted to ensure closer co-operation between the labour exchanges and the schools, and to make possible a more careful consideration of the aptitudes and physical condition of the applicants for employment in the selection of occupations for them.

The Education Department of the Tokyo Prefecture recently decided, with a view to collecting material for use in juvenile guidance work, to distribute forms to be filled in by boys and girls leaving elementary schools in the Prefecture, with indications of the name of the school, whether the young person proposes to continue his or her studies, what kind of occupation, if any, is desired immediately, and the name of the school, if any, in which it is proposed to continue studies in spare time. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, April 11, 1927.)

The Workers' Point of View

BUSINESS MEN'S ADVICE TO EMPLOYERS

The committee appointed by the Association of British Chambers of Commerce to inquire into the subject of industrial unrest have now issued a second report, which deals with the question of the desirability of informing the workers on matters affecting the industries in which they are employed.

In the consideration of this question the committee have had the advantage of hearing the views of members engaged in various branches of trade and industry as well as the views of Chambers of Commerce. They have also considered the work which is being carried on by various organizations with the object of combating unsound economic theories and teachings and of counteracting the effect of the views expressed by those who show by their actions or otherwise that they are opposed to industrial progress in this country.

The committee are convinced that there is an urgent need for closer personal co-operation between the heads of industrial concerns and the

workers in those concerns. They are also convinced that there is a need for a better system of informing employees in matters which relate to the progress and advancement of the particular industries in which they are engaged.

Many of the troubles in industry to-day are due to misunderstanding and a lack of appreciation and tolerance of the point of view of the other side. The committee believe that these obstacles to progress could be considerably reduced if there was closer contact between the actual employer and his workpeople so that each might be better informed as to the needs and difficulties of the other.

Joint Consideration of Problems

The committee had examples given of the result of closer contact. In one case where a large order could only be secured if it could be completed within six weeks, the firm, from previous experience, had no hope of being able to accept the order on such terms. They called all the men together, placed the facts before them, and it was finally agreed to accept the order. The work was completed four days before the specified time.

The committee believe as a result of the testimony offered from many quarters that the relationship of those employed and those who immediately employ them was never better than it is to-day, but unfortunately when difficulties arise and matters of importance have to be decided upon, instead of employers and employees amicably discussing the matters, there is a tendency for each party to go its own way without consulting the other.

In the days of personal ownership, the proprietor of a firm knew all his men personally, but in the general progress, which is continually going on, the personal employer has given way to the limited liability company, and to-day the limited liability company is in many cases giving way to the large combine or group of companies.

In the same way the individual workman is now represented by the trade union and the trade unions have in turn formed themselves into a federation of trade unions. On the employer's side there are now associations of employers and these associations are in turn combined in large federations.

The results of these evolutions are primarily reflected in the divided loyalties of those who are constituents of those large federations. The workman is divided in his loyalty to his employer and to his trade union; the employer is divided in his loyalty to his workpeople and to his association.

Education

The committee believe that the end in view can be achieved by the closest possible co-operation between all parties. On the one hand employers and heads of departments should seek to know on more friendly terms those for whom they are responsible; they should assist them in their work and in personal difficulties; they should encourage them in their studies and in their efforts to better their position; they should take opportunities of meeting them from time to time in friendly gatherings

and they should show them how every one can gain by increased output, better production, better time-keeping and closer attention to work; and in this connection nothing is more inspiring than personal example.

The committee feel that education in the form of information and explanation of economic facts and human psychology is desirable both in the case of the employer and the employed. It should be individual and general. The individual information can best be imparted by the personal contact between the parties to which reference has been made, but it must be continuously maintained in order to be effective.

General information can also be presented by the printed word, but this is insufficient if not supported by individual contact. The committee would point out that information of the fullest possible character has been given and published regarding the position of the coal trade and of the railways, but unfortunately this has not averted trouble nor allayed suspicion. The committee feel that failure was possibly due to the lack of personal local contact between those who actually employed and those who were employed.

The committee consider that there is no specific remedy applicable alike to all industries apart from the general remedy to which reference has been made of closer personal contact and of fuller and freer information than has been given hitherto. Each industry has its own particular difficulties. At the same time, the committee confidently believe that if the actual employer personally responsible for those in the employment of the company he represents were to take some means of informing those on the company's pay roll on matters of vital importance to the well being of the company, it would create an interest by all concerned which would have valuable results. Furthermore in the course of such explanations, the workman would learn something of the difficulties of the employer in carrying on his concern and the employer would also learn something of the difficulties and aspirations of those whom he employed.

A new machine introduced into a shop is always a subject of much interest and speculation by the workers in that shop. No one would appreciate more than they some information as to the reason why the firm was spending capital money on the machine, what it was expected to do, and how it did it, and what effect it might have on the volume of trade that might be obtained.

There is need for the publication of simple economic principles, and also facts regarding the position of industry generally, including the wages paid and conditions of employment in other countries. While individual employers might do something in the way of supplying information, the teaching of such subjects would necessarily be mainly done by organisations which have for their object economic study circles and the giving of general industrial information.

Where appropriate machinery exists for the regulation of wages the committee are of the opinion that an opportunity is thereby afforded of discussing the position of the industries concerned and the various matters which affect results from time to time, having special regard to conditions in competing countries.

The committee is of opinion that in the past a true understanding of the nature of the difficulties encountered would have done much to prevent stoppages which have taken place, and that it would be of great advantage to have in all cases of dispute a free interchange of views regarding the questions involved, and, before any stoppage, a clear and definite statement of the questions at issue, both for the information of the public and of those directly interested. (From "Times Trade and Commerce Supplement," London, March 19, 1927.)

Wage Changes in Germany

The German Federal Statistical Office has published statistics of hourly rates of wages and weekly earnings in certain groups of industries in Germany, based on collective agreements in operation in December 1926 and January 1927.

Weekly earnings are for the most part based on a week of 48 hours. The full-time week in the building trades is 47.5 hours in Hamburg, Dresden and Chemnitz, and 46.5 hours in Leipzig; in the woodworking trades it is 46 hours in Berlin; in the metal trades, 54 hours in Hamburg and Cologne and 56 hours in each of the five towns forming the north-western group; for State railways, the full-time week is 54 hours; and for surface workers at coal-mines, 60 hours.

The figures published by the Statistical Office are weighted averages of the hourly rates and weekly earnings of adult workers in the principal centres of the respective industries. In the mining, metal working, chemical, paper-making, textile and brewing industries, and for State railways, the figures are inclusive of allowances for wives and children, in far as these were paid.

The table given below shows the rates of wages in January 1927:—

Industry	Skilled Workers		Unskilled Workers	
	Per hour	Per week	Per hour	Per week
	Pl.	M.	Pl.	M.
Mining	106.3	51.00	60.9	36.18
Metal	91.7	45.77	62.4	31.12
Chemical	85.2	40.90	72.0	34.56
Building	115.2	55.03	93.4	44.62
Woodworking	97.1	46.14	84.4	40.72
Papermaking	68.1	32.69	61.3	29.44
Textile - Males	66.3	31.82	55.5	26.64
Females	51.5	24.72	41.0	19.68
Brewing	103.5	49.88	90.9	43.65
Sugar, confectionery, etc.	84.9	40.75	73.3	35.16
Printing	95.9	46.05	83.7	40.16
Cardboard - Males	77.4	37.15	65.8	31.56
Females	50.9	24.43	42.0	20.16
State Railways	82.2	44.39	64.9	35.85

The following comparison of the weighted averages for all the industries covered, for December 1926 and January 1927, shows that there was little movement in the rates of wages during January:—

	December 1926	January 1927
Skilled Workers		
Per hour	98.7	99.0
Per week	48.34	48.40
Unskilled Workers		
Per hour	60.7	60.7
Per week	34.44	34.47

In January 1927, rises in the rates of wages were obtained as follows:—skilled males, 1.5 to 8.3 per cent.; skilled females, 1.1 to 8.3 per cent.; unskilled males, 1.5 to 5 per cent.; unskilled females, 1.5 to 8.1 per cent. In certain instances in Luxembourg, increases were obtained of 1.4 to 2.9 per cent. for skilled and 1.8 to 3.8 per cent. for unskilled workers.

Other important groups whose wages were increased in January were clerical and various (of adjustment) of the maritime custom and persons employed in inland navigation on the waterways of the port of Hamburg (2 to 5 per cent.). (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, April 25, 1927.)

The Growth of Unemployment in France

In so far as statistical data can be considered to give a clear indication of its movement, unemployment in France, which diminished steadily in December last and in January and February 1927, reached a stage in March which it may be hoped is the maximum. The following figures give the existing position and the position in recent months:—

Date	Number of Unemployed	
	In receipt of unemployment relief	Registered with employment exchanges*
24 February	60,000	96,466
1 March	60,941	95,362
10 March	61,956	96,170
17 March	60,614	94,199

There are no statistics showing the distribution of unemployed by industry for the whole of the country, but only for the Department of the Seine, where the number of unemployed in receipt of relief was 60,000 on 17th March, of whom 17,000 were manual labourers, 12,500 metal workers, 5,500 wood workers, 5,500 building workers, 4,000 workers in the clothing trade, 3,500 workers in the hide and skin trade, 3,000 in the food and drink industry, 2,000 in transport, 2,000 in commercial offices, etc. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, April 11, 1927.)

* The figures in this column refer to a date previous by several days to the date indicated in the first column.

British Trade Union Legislation

THE TRADE DISPUTES AND TRADE UNION BILL, 1927*

Below is set forth the full text of the British Government's Trade Disputes and Trade Union Bill, which is described as "a bill to declare and amend the law relating to trade disputes and trade unions, to regulate the position of civil servants and persons employed by public authorities in respect of membership of trade unions and similar organisations, to extend section 5 of the Conspiracy and Protection of Property Act, 1875, and for other purposes connected with the purposes aforesaid." *Comments* heads have been inserted to indicate some of the principal proposals.

1. (1) It is hereby declared that any strike having any object besides the furtherance of a trade dispute within the trade or industry in which the strikers are engaged is an illegal strike if it is a strike demanded or calculated to coerce the Government or to intimidate the community or any substantial portion of the community, and that it is illegal to commence, or continue, or to apply any sums in furtherance or support of any such illegal strike.

For the purposes of the foregoing provision a trade dispute shall not be deemed to be within a trade or industry unless it is a dispute between employers and workmen, or between workmen and workmen, in that trade or industry, which is connected with the employment or non-employment or the terms of the employment, or with the conditions of labour, of persons in that trade or industry.

(2) If any person declares, instigates, furthers, or takes part in a strike declared by this Act to be illegal he shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £10 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months, or on conviction on indictment to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years.

(3) The provisions of the Trade Disputes Act, 1906, shall not, nor shall the second proviso to sub-section (1) of Section 2 of the Emergency Powers Act, 1920, apply to any act done in contemplation or furtherance of a strike which is by this Act declared to be illegal, and any such act shall not be deemed for the purposes of any enactment to be done in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute.

Protection of Non-Strikers

2. (1) No person refusing to take part or to continue to take part in any strike which is by this Act declared to be illegal, shall be, by reason of such refusal or by reason of any action taken by him under this section, subject to expulsion from any trade union or society, or to any fine or penalty, or to deprivation of any right or benefit to which he would otherwise be entitled, or liable to be placed in any respect either directly or indirectly under any disability or at any disadvantage as compared with other members of the union or society, anything to the contrary in the rules of a trade union or society notwithstanding.

(2) No provisions of the Trade Union Acts, 1871 to 1917, limiting the proceedings which may be entertained by any court, and nothing

* Taken from *The Daily Telegraph*, Tuesday, April 5, 1927.

of the rules of a trade union or society requiring the reference of disputes to arbitration shall apply to any proceeding for enforcing any right or compensation secured by this section, and in any such proceeding the court may in lieu of ordering a person who has been expelled from membership of a trade union or society to be restored to membership, order that he be paid out of the funds of the trade union or society such sum as may be determined by the court in the way of compensation or damages as the court thinks just.

(3) As respects any strike before the passing of this Act which is declared by this Act to have been illegal, this section shall have effect as if it had been in operation when the strike took place.

Prevention of Intimidation

3. (1) It is hereby declared that it is unlawful for one or more persons (whether acting on their own behalf or on behalf of a trade union or of an individual employer or firm, and notwithstanding that they may be acting in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute) to attend at or near a house or place where a person resides or works or happens to be, for the purpose of obtaining or communicating information or of persuading or inducing any person to work or to abstain from working, if they so attend in such numbers or otherwise in such manner as to be calculated to intimidate any person in that house or place, or to obstruct the approach thereto or egress therefrom, or to lead to a breach of the peace; and attending at or near any house or place in such numbers or in such manner as is by this sub-section declared to be unlawful shall be deemed to be a watching or besetting of that house or place within the meaning of Section 7 of the Conspiracy and Protection of Property Act, 1875.

(2) In this section the expression "to intimidate" means to cause in the mind of a person a reasonable apprehension of injury to him or to any member of his family or of violence or damage to any person or property, and the expression "injury" includes injury other than physical or material injury, and accordingly the expression "apprehension of injury" includes an apprehension of boycott, or loss of any kind, or of exposure to hatred, ridicule, or contempt.

(3) In section seven of the Conspiracy and Protection of Property Act, 1875, the expression "intimidate" shall be construed as having the same meaning as in this section.

(4) Notwithstanding anything in any Act it shall not be lawful for one or more persons, for the purpose of inducing any person to work or to abstain from working, to watch or beset a house or place where a person resides or the approach to such a house or place, and any person who acts in contravention of this sub-section shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £20 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months.

Political Fund

4. (1) It shall not be lawful to require any member of a trade union to make any contribution to the political fund of a trade union unless before the date upon which the contribution is levied he has delivered

at the head office or some branch office of the trade union, notice in writing in the form set out in the First Schedule to this Act of his willingness to contribute to that fund and has not withdrawn the notice in the manner hereinafter provided; and every member of a trade union who has not delivered such notice as aforesaid, or who, having delivered such a notice, has withdrawn it in manner hereinafter provided, shall be deemed for the purposes of the Trade Union Act, 1913, to be a member who is exempt from the obligation to contribute to the political fund of the union, and references in that Act to a member who is exempt shall be construed accordingly:

Provided that, if at any time a member of a trade union who has delivered such a notice as aforesaid gives notice of withdrawal thereof, delivered at the head office or at any branch office of the trade union, he shall be deemed for the purposes of this sub-section to have withdrawn the notice as from the first day of January next after the delivery of the notice of withdrawal.

For the purposes of this sub-section a notice shall be deemed to have been delivered at the head or a branch office of a trade union if it has been sent by post properly addressed to that office.

(2) All contributions to the political fund of a trade union from members of the trade union who are liable to contribute to that fund shall be levied and made separately from any contributions to the other funds of the trade union, and no assets of the trade union, other than the amount raised by such a separate levy as aforesaid, shall be carried to that fund or directly or indirectly applied or charged in furtherance of any political object to which section three of the Trade Union Act 1913, applies; and any charge in contravention of this sub-section shall be void.

(3) All rules of a trade union made and approved in accordance with the requirements of section three of the Trade Union Act, 1913, shall be amended so as to conform to the requirements of this Act, and as so amended shall be approved by the Registrar of Friendly Societies (in this Act referred to as "the Registrar") within six months after the commencement of this Act or within such further time as the Registrar may in special circumstances allow, and if the rules of any trade union are not so amended and approved as aforesaid they shall be deemed not to comply with the requirements of the said section.

(4) If the Registrar is satisfied, and certifies, that rules for the purpose of complying with the provisions of the foregoing sub-section have been approved by a majority of the members of a Trade Union voting for the purpose or by a majority of delegates of such a trade union voting at a meeting called for the purpose, the Registrar may approve those rules and those rules shall thereupon have effect as rules of the union notwithstanding that the provisions of the rules of the union as to the alteration of rules or the making of new rules have not been complied with.

(5) Section sixteen of the Trade Union Act, 1871 (which provides for the transmission to the Registrar of annual returns by registered

trade unions), shall apply to every unregistered trade union so far as respects the receipts, funds, effects, expenditure, assets and liabilities of the political fund thereof.

Position of Civil Servants

5. (1) Amongst the regulations as to the conditions of service in his Majesty's civil establishments there shall be included regulations prohibiting established Civil Servants from being members, delegates, or representatives of any organisation of which the primary object is to influence or affect the remuneration and conditions of employment of its members, unless the organisation is an organisation of which the membership is confined to persons employed by or under the Crown and is an organisation which complies with such provisions as may be contained in the regulations for securing that it is in all respects independent of, and not affiliated to any such organisation as aforesaid the membership of which is not confined to persons employed by or under the Crown or any federation comprising such organisations, that its objects do not include political objects, and that it is not associated directly or indirectly with any political party or organisation:

Provided that the regulations made in compliance with the provisions of this section shall not prevent—

(a) an established Civil Servant from remaining a member of any trade union or organisation of which he had, at the commencement of this Act, been a member for more than six months if under the rules thereof he is or may become entitled to any payment during incapacity, or by way of superannuation, or on the death of himself or his wife, or as provision for his children; or

(b) a person who in addition to being an established Civil Servant is, apart from his service as such, also engaged in some other employment or occupation from being any member, delegate, or representative of a trade union or organisation, of which the primary object is to influence or affect the remuneration or conditions of employment of persons engaged in that employment or occupation.

(2) If any established Civil Servant knowingly contravenes any of the provisions of the said regulations he shall be disqualified for continuing to be a member of the Civil Service.

(3) In this section the expression "established Civil Servant" means a person serving in an established capacity in the permanent service of the Crown, and includes any person who, having been granted a certificate by the Civil Service Commissioners, is serving a probationary period preliminary to establishment.

Local Authorities' Workers

6. (1) It shall not be lawful for any local or other public authority to make it a condition of the employment or continuance in employment of any person that he shall or shall not be a member of a trade union, or to impose any condition upon persons employed by the authority whereby employees who are or who are not members of a trade union are liable to be placed in any respect either directly or indirectly under any disability or disadvantage as compared with other

employees, and any condition imposed in contravention of this section shall be void.

(2) There shall be added to section five of the Conspiracy and Protection of Property Act, 1875, the following provision, that is to say:

If any person employed by a local or other public authority wilfully breaks a contract of service with that authority, knowing or having reasonable cause to believe that the probable consequence of his so doing, either alone or in combination with others, will be to hinder or prevent the discharge of the functions of the authority, he shall be liable, on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding £10 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months.

7. Without prejudice to the right of any person having a sufficient interest in the relief sought to sue or apply for an injunction to restrain any application of the funds of a trade union in contravention of the provisions of this Act, such an injunction may be granted at the suit or upon the application of the Attorney-General.

In the application of this section to Scotland there shall be substituted therein for references to an injunction references to an interdict, and for the reference to the Attorney-General a reference to the Lord Advocate.

8. (1) This Act may be cited as the Trade Unions and Trade Disputes Act, 1927, and shall be construed as one with the Trade Union Acts 1871 to 1917, and this Act and the Trade Union Acts 1871 to 1917, may be cited together as the Trade Union Acts 1871 to 1927.

(2) In this Act the expression "strike" means the cessation of work by a body of persons employed acting in combination, or a concerted refusal or a refusal under a common understanding of any number of persons who are, or have been employed, to continue to work or to accept employment.

(3) This Act shall not extend to Northern Ireland.

(4) The enactments mentioned in the Second Schedule to this Act are hereby repealed to the extent specified in the third column of that schedule.

SCHEDULES

FIRST SCHEDULE

Form of Political Fund Contribution Notice

Name of Trade Union

Name of member's branch (if any)

Political Fund (Contribution Notice)

I hereby give notice that I am willing, and agree, to contribute to the Political fund of the Union and I understand that I shall, in consequence, be liable to contribute to that Fund and shall continue to be so liable unless I deliver at the head office, or some branch office, of the Union a written notice of withdrawal: I also understand that after delivering such a notice of withdrawal I shall still continue to be

liable to contribute to the political fund until the next following first day of January.

A.....B.....
Address.....
Membership number (if any).....
.....day of.....19 .

SECOND SCHEDULE

Enactments Repealed

Session and Chapter	Short Title	Extent of Repeal
2 & 3 Geo. 5. c. 30	Trade Union Act, 1913.	In subsection (1) of section three the words from "and for the exemption" to "objects to contribute"; section five: section six: the Schedule.

Trade Disputes in Germany

The number of trade disputes in the industries of Germany* causing stoppages of work, which were reported as ended in 1926, was 314, as compared with 1740 in 1925.

The number of workpeople directly involved in the disputes and the aggregate number of working days lost were much smaller in 1926 than in the previous year. The decrease was due to the unfavourable state of employment.

During the last quarter of 1926 the scope of industrial disputes was somewhat wider, as is shown by the following figures.

	Disputes	Establishments affected	Workers directly involved	Days lost
1925	1,740	25,155	756,680	17,104,862
1926				
January—September	254	1,498	39,757	1,006,492
October—December	60	988	47,142	305,913

As in 1925, the number of workpeople on strike or locked-out was highest in 1926 in the metal trades (238,937) and in the building trades (218,754).

These figures are preliminary and subject to revision. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, April 11, 1927.)

*Exclusive of agriculture and forestry.

Hours of Work in Various Countries

The following notes contain information relating to recent legislation and enquiries in various countries on the subject of hours of work.

FRANCE

During November and December 1926 several Decrees were issued in France embodying public administrative regulations for the enforcement of the Eight Hour Day Act of 23rd April 1919.

A Decree of 4th November 1926 extended to plate glass manufacture and the automatic manufacture of glass the provisions of the Decree of 19th February 1925, as amended by a Decree of 5th March 1926, relating to all other kinds of glass manufacture.

The special provisions relating to automatic glass works contained in this Decree apply to glass works in which the gathering and annealing, as well as the actual glass blowing, are done automatically, without the employment of any skilled glass-worker's labour, either at the furnace itself, or at an adjoining tank or separate tank.

In such works, hours of work may be arranged over a period of three consecutive weeks where three shifts are employed, and over a period of four consecutive weeks where four shifts are employed, provided that the total number of hours does not exceed, in the former case, 144 hours made up of not more than eighteen shifts, and in the latter case, 192 hours made up of not more than 24 shifts.

In addition to the permanent exceptions which may be granted for certain classes of workers by Section 5 of the Decree of 19th February 1925, the present Decree provides for the authorising of a prolongation of hours of work in the following cases:—

(1) Workers specially employed in any work on molten glass for the purpose of keeping the automatic machines continuously supplied—not more than two hours.

(2) Charge hands, salaried employees and workers specially employed in experiments and trials with automatic machines, etc., and workers employed in adjusting moulds—not more than two hours.

(3) In plate glass works, watchers, melters and fillers—24 hours for a period of three weeks; each period must be followed by 24 hours' uninterrupted rest.

Another new Decree applies to workshops, yards, shops, warehouses and offices of stevedoring establishments in ports not accessible to ocean-going ships.

In these establishments "the distribution of the forty-eight hours of actual work must be arranged in the proportion of eight hours a day."

As in all similar Decrees, it is stated that a time-table of work must be drawn up. Hours lost in any week or month may be made up during the same or the following week or month, in cases of collective interruption of work; the hours of work for any day may, however, in no case exceed ten hours, and a register must be kept at the disposal of the factory inspection officials.

The hours of work per day may be increased, beyond the limits given above, as follows: By not more than two hours for mechanics, electricians and stokers, and workers employed in upkeep and cleaning; by not more than four hours for watchmen, messengers, waggon drivers, drivers of motor vehicles and other "transport workers," as well as employees of the medical service and of workers' welfare institutions. Such exceptions may, however, in no case involve a reduction of the period of uninterrupted rest between two working days to less than twelve hours.

The hours of actual work may be temporarily prolonged in the case of urgent work, or for the purpose of national defence or public service, and particularly:—

(1) When the extra hours are necessary and sufficient to finish the unloading of a boat.

(2) When a boat would be liable to extra port duties if the hours of work were limited to the legal period, provided that the extra hours are sufficient to avoid the risk.

(3) When a boat has become liable to extra port dues.

(4) When a boat has to go into dry dock or a repairing yard.

(5) When the unloading of certain merchandise is necessary in order to enable work to be resumed at the regular hour on the following day—not more than two hours a day.

Apart from these particular cases, overtime "may also be sanctioned by the authority in charge of the supervision of the port, when he is of the opinion, after consulting the persons concerned, that it is required by the public interest."

The provisions of a third Decree apply to "the wholesale halls of the Central Market in Paris, the open spaces adjoining and the establishments situated within the limits of the central market, engaging in wholesale commerce in similar food products and also to the stores or annexes of the said establishments, whether or not they are situated within the boundaries of the central market."

In these establishments the hours of work shall be eight hours per day or forty-eight hours per week, and not more than nine hours on any one day, in order to permit a weekly half-holiday. In cases of accidental or unavoidable collective interruption of work, lost time may be made up within the periods generally prescribed by public administrative regulations, provided that the daily hours shall in no case be prolonged by more than one hour.

As in all similar Decrees, longer hours are provided for the management and supervisory workers, as well as temporary exceptions in the case of urgent work or work for purposes of national defence. This Decree specially provides for unusual pressure of work—"60 hours per year and 100 hours in the fruit and vegetable trades; but in no case may the working day exceed ten hours."

The French Council of State has rejected an appeal of the Central Committee of French Shipowners against the Public Administrative Regulation of 31st March 1925 which, in addition to provisions relating to hours of work in the merchant marine, contains clauses concerning the organisation of work on board ship.

The shipowners alleged that this Regulation exceeded the powers granted to the executive authorities by the Act of 2nd August 1919, which merely provides that the methods of application of the principle of limitation of hours of work to eight hours per day and fortyeight hours per week, or the equivalent, shall be determined by Public Administrative Regulations. They also alleged that the Regulation conflicted with certain sections still in force of the Act of 17th April 1907 relating to safety in navigation and the regulation of labour on board.

In rejecting the appeal, the Council of State pointed out that, according to the terms of the Act of 1919, the conditions of application of the new system of regulation of hours of actual work was to be carried out by Public Administrative Regulations. The powers thus bestowed on the head of the State therefore extended to the organisation and supervision of labour within the limits of this new programme. By the Act of 1919, the Act of 1907 is automatically repealed, inasmuch as the Regulations contemplated in the 1919 Act contain provisions which conflict with the 1907 Act.

AUSTRALIA

One of the most important provisions in the Coal Mines Regulation Act (Amendment) Act which was passed last year in Western Australia and received the assent of the Governor on 16th December, is that providing for a seven hour shift "from bank to bank" in coal mines.

It should, however, be noted that this has been in force for some time past by virtue of an award of the Arbitration Court.

In introducing the second reading of this measure in the House of Assembly on 26th August 1926, Mr. M. F. Troy, the Minister for Mines, said :—

"This principle has been observed in Collie for the last five years, and is embodied in the Arbitration Court's award. It was the custom in England until recently, and the struggle that is now taking place there is due to the desire of the owners to increase hours or decrease rates. In Collie, fortunately, both parties are of opinion that the most efficient and economical means of working is secured by keeping a man at his task for seven hours a day, but no longer. As this principle has been in operation for the last five years and is embodied in the award of the Arbitration Court, the House can have no objection to its being embodied in legislation. The clause dealing with this principle is not intended to apply to a manager or his deputy, or to an engineer, a mechanic, an electrician, or a pumper.

On the second reading in the Legislative Council, on 15th September 1926, the Minister in charge of the Bill, Mr. J. W. Hickey, said :—

"Anyone with mining experience will agree that whatever justification there may be for insisting upon an eight hour shift in surface occupations there is no doubt that seven hours is sufficient underground. Men employed on the surface in God's fresh air never raise any strenuous objection to hard work, but, speaking from personal experience, I maintain that seven hours is a long enough shift to work underground. Both parties to the agreement desire that it should be embodied in this Bill and,

seeing that both parties are in agreement, we should have no hesitation in passing the measure. Coal miners who work under the piecework system at high pressure have not much to look forward to except an early grave and often a lingering death. I do not wish to become sentimental, but this clause of the Bill, at any rate, has much to commend it."

CHILE

On 24th January 1927 the Chilean Government promulgated a decree granting the eight hour day to railwaymen throughout Chile, as from 1st March 1927.

ITALY

An Italian Royal Legislative Decree of 13th January 1927 authorises the Government to require one hour per day of overtime from the permanent staff of Government offices.

This provision is intended solely for the purpose of meeting the special demands of postal and telegraphic offices subject to extreme pressure of work.

The personnel has been so reduced that it is "absolutely and urgently" necessary to grant the Department of Posts and Telegraphs the right to enforce a permanent and compulsory lengthening of the normal working day, as laid down in section 106, paragraph 2 of the Royal Decree of 30th December 1923, No. 2960, by one hour for established employees, except those in subordinate grades.

The rate of payment for this overtime will be determined by a Decree issued by the Minister of Communications in conjunction with the Minister of Finance.

BELGIUM

A Belgian Royal Decree of 27th December 1926 extended to retail shops, subject to certain adjustments, the Act of 14th June 1921 for the establishment of the eight hour day and the fortyeight hour week.

The main provisions of the Decree are based on the conclusions adopted by the Superior Council of Labour on 13th October 1926, except that the Decree does not specify the hours of beginning and ceasing work.

Shops employing three or more persons may, provided that the Weekly Rest Act offers no obstacle, be allowed four hours of work, strictly confined to Sunday, in addition to the regular fortyeight hours, on condition that not less than thirteen days per year are granted as holidays in compensation; the fortyeight hours may, moreover, be distributed unequally over six working days, subject to a daily maximum of nine hours.

The same provisions apply to shops employing only one or two persons, provided that in such cases the reckoning is one of hours of attendance, which shall be nine hours a day and fiftyfour hours a week.

SPAIN

A Spanish Royal Decree of 17th December 1926 approves regulations for the application of the Legislative Decree of 8th June 1925 relating to the Sunday rest, which replaced the Act of 3rd March 1904.

By the new Decree, all days other than Sundays are to be regarded as working days.

All shops, factories, workshops, and commercial and industrial establishments not expressly exempted are to be closed throughout the day on Sundays.

Special provision is made for :

(1) Establishments in which the manufacturer or merchant is domiciled and which have only one entrance ;

(2) Establishments for the sale of articles permitted to be sold on Sundays as well as articles not permitted to be sold on Sundays.

The Decree determines the methods by which compensatory rest periods are to be granted to employees of theatres and other places of entertainment, gamekeepers, herdsman, the employees of casinos, clubs, billiard saloons, etc., and employees of distributive co-operative societies.

Next follows the list of exempted occupations. Certain of these exceptions (e.g., for agricultural work, urgent repairs and demolitions) require an authorisation issued by the local representative of the Labour Council. Special procedure is laid down, however, for cases of emergency.

Exceptions may be made at the request of the municipalities, based on declarations by employers' associations, trade unions, etc., in favour of markets, fairs and pilgrimages traditionally taking place on Sundays. Such exceptions will be authorised by the Minister of Labour, Commerce and Industry, after consultation with the Standing Committee of the Labour Council, and may be renewed every five years.

Similar exceptions may be made in the case of industries handicapped by special conditions or fortuitous circumstances.

The Decree determines the methods of application of the weekly rest in the following trades and establishments : work on board ships of the merchant marine ; fishing ; hotels and restaurants ; food and fuel shops ; florists ; porters ; newspapers and press agencies ; shops of the company which has a concession from the State for the sale of tobacco and postage stamps ; savings banks and pawnbrokers ; bathing establishments ; and forwarding, loading and unloading of merchandise.

The Decree also determines the general conditions of Sunday work in industries in which it is permitted, e.g., rotation of shifts, number of workers employed, work of women and persons under 18 years of age, maximum hours, agreements between employers and workers, or agreements between local representatives of the Labour Council and the Local Joint Committees and channels of appeal against such agreements.

Infringements are to be punished according to the provisions of Section 246 of the Labour Code.

The State, provinces and municipalities are bound to observe the provisions of the Legislative Decree and the Regulations.

A Legislative Decree of 26th December 1926 makes a new exception in favour of toyshops, when the eve of Twelfth Night is a Sunday ; a period of rest is provided for as compensation.

ARGENTINA

The Committee appointed by the Government of Argentina at the end of 1925 to draw up a Labour Code has sent to the various national and provincial departments concerned a questionnaire on the subject of hours of work.

The Chief points on which information is requested are as follows :—

- Length of the working day ;
- Commercial and industrial establishments and classes of workers affected by the limitation of hours ;
- Special and exceptional cases ;
- Position of the State ;
- Exceptions ;
- Compensation ;
- Overtime ;
- Preparatory and complementary work and work done in shifts ;
- Possibility of modifying the law by agreement between employers and workers ;
- The " English week " ;
- Rest pauses ;
- Holidays ;
- Work of women and children ;
- Home work ;
- Night work ;
- Application to transport and communications ; and
- Supervision and penalties.

GREAT BRITAIN

The British *Ministry of Labour Gazette* for December 1926 and February and March 1927 contained further preliminary figures obtained by the enquiry instituted by the Department into earnings and hours of labour in Great Britain during the four weeks in 1924 ending 19th January, 12th April, 12th July and 18th October.

The number of workpeople in public utility services regarding whom returns were received was 473,860.

Figures covering 466,366 workpeople show that their normal weekly hours, exclusive of meal times, were as follows :—

7·6	per cent.	worked 44 hours or less.
3·2	"	" from 44¼ to 46¾ hours.
48·1	"	" 47 hours.
0·4	"	" 47¼ to 47¾ hours.
28·1	"	" 48 hours.
12·6	"	" over 48 hours.

The following table shows average weekly earnings and hours for the period mentioned—

Service	Average earnings in the four weeks (for 473,860 workpeople)	Average weekly normal hours (for 466,366 workpeople)	Average hours actually worked in the four weeks (for 298,762 workpeople)
	s. d.		
Local authority non-trading services ..	50 6	47 3	46 2
Gas supply: ..	60 4	48 5	48 7
Local authorities ..	60 7	48 3	48 5
Other ..	60 2	48 5	48 8
Electricity supply: ..	64 6	47 3	48 6
Local authorities ..	63 10	47 2	48 6
Other ..	65 11	47 5	48 6
Tramway and omnibus services: ..	68 6	47 8	
Local authorities ..	64 2	47 6	47 3
Other ..	73 5	48 2	*
Water supply: ..	57 8	47 5	46 6
Local authorities ..	55 7	47 6	46 5
Other ..	60 6	47 3	46 7
Canal, dock and harbour authority services ..	73 8	45 8	*
All the above ..	58 10	47 6	47 2

In the case of the gas supply, a high percentage (18·0 per cent.) of employees is shown as having a week of over 48 hours: this is mainly accounted for by the inclusion of a considerable number of men working 7 shifts of 8 hours.

In the electricity and gas industries substantial proportions of the workers were employed on continuous shift systems.

In the electricity supply industry 7,974 workpeople out of the total of 40,257 covered by the returns were working on continuous shift systems, practically the whole being employed on a system of three shifts in each 24 hours. Of these, 5,881 were working 6 morning, 6 afternoon and 6 night shifts in successive weeks, each shift consisting of 8 hours. In a few cases a shift of 12 hours was worked on Sunday. In the case of 177 workers an average of 7 morning, 7 afternoon and 7 night shifts of 8 hours were worked.

In the gas supply industry, 19,888 workpeople out of the total of 95,726 covered by the returns were working on continuous shift systems, practically the whole being employed on a system of 3 shifts in each 24 hours. Of these, 10,766 were working 7 morning, 7 afternoon and 7 night shifts in successive weeks, each shift consisting of 8 hours. In a few cases a shift of 12 hours was worked on Sunday. In the case of

*The information received was insufficient to admit of representative figures being calculated.

4257 workers, an average of 6 morning, 6 afternoon and 6 night shifts of 8 hours were worked in successive weeks.

Account should be taken of the fact that, during the four weeks in question, of a total of 441,544 workpeople in all services, from 0·3 to 0·9 per cent. were on short time.

The number of workpeople in the food, drink and tobacco industries regarding whom returns were received varied during the four weeks covered by the enquiry from 378,829 to 402,192, the average being 390,041.

Figures covering 398,911 workpeople show that their normal weekly hours in the week ended 18th October 1924 were as follows:—

15·5 per cent. worked 44 hours or less.
8·8 from 44½ to 46½ hours.
19·2 47 hours.
2·7 from 47½ to 47¾ hours.
39·8 48 hours.
14·0 over 48 hours.

The following table shows the average weekly earnings and hours for the period mentioned:—

Industry	Average earnings in the four weeks (for 390,041 workpeople)	Average weekly normal hours (for 398,911 workpeople)	Average hours actually worked in the four weeks (for 218,046 workpeople)
	s. d.		
Grain milling ..	34 11	46 7	47 6
Bread baking ..	40 1	48 9	48 6
Biscuit manufacture ..	39 10	47 6	47 8
Cocoa, Chocolate and sugar confectionery ..	36 4	46 2	43 8
Preserved food, jams and sauce ..	36 9	46 8	45 5
Bacon curing and sausage making ..	48 1	48 6	48 0
Fish curing ..	40 9	51 3	49 7
Sugar refining ..	61 7	47 2	49 2
Seed crushing and cattle food manufacture ..	54 10	45 7	46 1
Brewing, malting and bottling ..	53 11	47 9	47 6
Spirit distilling and compounding ..	51 4	46 9	46 4
Aerated waters, cider, etc. ..	41 8	47 4	46 7
Tobacco ..	42 7	47 1	42 1
Other food ..	47 4	48 3	47 7
All the above ..	46 2	47 5	46 2

Figures are given with regard to shift workers employed in the food industries, from which it would appear that in a considerable number of cases either two or three shifts of eight hours each are worked where

necessary, with free Sundays. In the beet sugar factories, 756 operatives were working on a system of 7 shifts per week, of 8 hours on Monday to Saturday, and of 2 hours, 10 hours, and 12 hours on Sundays in successive weeks.

Account should be taken of the fact that during the four weeks in question, of a total of 372,092 workpeople in all industries, from 7.5 to 12.3 per cent. were on short time.

Returns were received covering a weekly average of 304,117 workpeople in the following industries:—

Industry	Workpeople covered		
	No.	Males	Females
		per cent.	per cent.
I. Fellmongering and leather tanning.	31,371	82.2	12.8
II. Saddlery and leather goods ..	14,749	52.2	47.8
III. Indiarubber manufacture	35,482	56.3	43.7
IV. Brush and broom manufacture	9,007	53.4	46.6
V. Piano, organ and musical instrument (other than metal) manufacture.	13,521	91.5	8.5
VI. Quarrying	48,778	99.7	0.3
VII. Metalliferous and shale mining	15,318	99.7	0.3
VIII. Carting and warehousing	75,594	92.6	7.4
IX. Waste reclamation (other than metal).	9,977	43.0	57.0
X. Various other industries, including patent fuel, games and toys, fancy goods, pencils and artists' materials, floor-cloth, roofing and flax felts, building materials, etc.	50,320	71.9	28.1
All the above	304,117	82.0	18.0

The normal weekly hours, exclusive of mealtimes, of 306,164 workpeople in the above industries were as follows:—

14.2 per cent.	worked 44 hours or less.
8.0	“ “ 44½ to 46¾.
19.5	“ “ 47 hours.
1.9	“ “ 47½ to 47¾.
41.1	“ “ 48 hours.
15.3	“ “ over 48 hours.

The average weekly normal hours for all these workpeople were 47.3.

The following table shows average hours actually worked, average weekly earnings and average hourly earnings in these industries, each

industry being indicated by the Roman numerals used in the above table:

Industry	Average hours actually worked for 100 per workpeople)	Average weekly earnings (for 304,117 workpeople)		Average hourly earnings for 100 per workpeople)
		s.	d.	
I	45.7	51	1	13.6
II	46.4	37	1	9.9
III	46.8	44	4	11.6
IV	44.6	37	11	19.1
V	47.9	60	11	15.2
VI	45.2	51	4	14.0
VII	45.2	48	8	13.1
VIII	47.4	51	7	12.9
IX	44.2	36	7	16.0
X	46.4	47	11	12.4
All ..	46.3	48	10*	12.7

Of 285,248 workpeople, from 6.5 to 9.1 per cent. were on short time during the four weeks covered by the returns.

Information supplied by the Ministry of Transport relating to the week ended 29th March 1924 shows that the total number of male employees on the railways, other than shop and artisan staff, clerical staffs and supervisory staffs, was 426,928, and the average weekly earnings were 65s. 1d. per week. The normal hours of labour were 48 per week, and the approximate time actually worked was 5.5 per cent. in excess of the normal hours. The amount of short time was stated to be negligible.

CANADA

The results of an enquiry into the hours of labour in manufacturing establishments in Canada, undertaken on the occasion of the 1924 census, have now been published.

Tables are also given showing the results of two previous enquiries of a similar nature made in 1919 and 1923; but it should be noted that certain groups of industries, such as transportation, mining and quarrying, logging, etc., included in these two enquiries were excluded from the 1924 enquiry.

The number of establishments covered by the 1924 census was 40,000, employing 501,724 workers, whereas the 1923 enquiry covered only some 3,000 manufacturing establishments, employing 326,557 workers. Nevertheless, the percentage of employees on the eight hour day and less is approximately the same, namely, 37.3 per cent. for the 3,000 establishments and 33.5 per cent. for all establishments.

It will be seen that the eight hour day in manufacturing is most in vogue in the non-ferrous metal products group (55 per cent.), and that the textiles group shows the next largest proportion (39.1 per cent.).

* The average for males was 53s. 11d. and for females 26s. 5d.

The following table shows the numbers and percentages of workers in the various manufacturing industries working specified hours per day during 1924, according to the 1924 census enquiry:—

Groups of Industries	8 hours or less		9 hours		10 hours	
	Number	per cent.	Number	per cent.	Number	per cent.
I. Vegetable Products.	18,816	25.5	29,542	40.0	20,367	27.6
II. Animal Products.	7,598	25.9	13,380	45.6	6,883	23.5
III. Textiles, etc.	37,414	39.1	35,958	37.5	20,369	21.3
IV. Wood and Paper	50,199	32.8	35,715	23.3	61,012	39.9
V. Iron and its Products.	30,045	35.2	36,369	42.7	14,617	17.1
VI. Non-Ferrous Metal Products.	10,784	55.0	6,863	35.0	1,664	8.5
VII. Non-Metallic Mineral Products.	1,535	13.2	5,244	45.2	4,085	35.2
VIII. Chemicals and Allied Products.	4,218	35.4	5,491	46.1	1,913	16.1
IX. Miscellaneous	7,375	35.0	9,231	43.8	3,974	18.8
All ..	167,984	33.5	177,793	35.5	134,884	26.9

Groups of Industries	Over 10 hours		Total	Number of establishments	Average number of employees during year
	Number	per cent.			
I. Vegetable Products.	5,100	6.9	73,825	4,414	56,266
II. Animal Products ..	1,465	5.0	29,326	4,816	47,679
III. Textiles, etc.	2,277	2.4	95,782	1,781	82,364
IV. Wood and Paper ..	6,225	4.0	153,151	6,906	109,879
V. Iron and its Products.	4,640	5.4	85,212	1,003	66,912
VI. Non-Ferrous Metal Products.	307	1.5	19,618	341	17,213
VII. Non-Metallic Mineral Products.	774	6.7	11,638	1,095	21,196
VIII. Chemicals and Allied Products.	360	3.0	11,982	457	10,201
IX. Miscellaneous	610	2.9	21,190	1,365	20,563
All ..	21,758	4.3	501,724	22,178	432,273

GENERAL

The five day working week has been put into operation at the Ford motor works in Manchester and in Rotterdam.

The Manchester management state that they are satisfied that, with the up-to-date plant employed in the Trafford Park Factory, they will be able to produce the same volume in five days as in the previous longer working period.

The local District Delegate of the Amalgamated Engineering Union, commenting upon the innovation, stated that he had had opportunities of comparing Ford methods with those of other works, and considered that the workers could easily do just as much in 40 as in 44 hours, as everything

was simplified and there was no wastage of time or effort. Certain other engineering firms (he added) concentrate the fortyseven hour week into five days, owing to the distances which have to be travelled by the workers, but the Ford proposition was better in every way.

After two months' working of the scheme, the company considers that output has been maintained, and an official of the company has stated his opinion that the workers earn as much as they previously did on the longer week, and that they are more efficient and more effective in team work. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, April 4, 1927.)

National Health Insurance

At the meeting of the Royal Statistical Society on the 15th March 1927 Sir Alfred Watson, K.C.B., read a paper entitled "National Health Insurance: a Statistical Review." In introducing the subject the author referred to the objects of the scheme and to the fact that 97 per cent. of the insured population were members of approved societies, leaving 3 per cent. only to be divided between the "deposit contributors" and the men of the Forces, whose contributions were paid into the Navy, Army and Air Force Insurance Fund. He stated that the accumulated funds now approached £120 million, one-half of which was represented by valuation surpluses and cognate reserves which were in course of application to raise the general level of benefits and to extend their scope. He then examined the movement of the industrial population with reference to insurance under the national scheme in the years 1913 to 1923. He estimated the number of insured workers in October 1913 as 10,300,000 men and 4,610,000 women, exclusive of persons within what is now the Irish Free State. Ten years later these figures had increased, he estimated, to 10,699,000 men and 4,977,000 women of whom 930,000 were married. The comparatively small increase among men was explained by the war deaths, numbering over 600,000. The number of insured women had been considerably higher; this section of the contributors had decreased since 1918 by about 540,000 following the exodus from industry of women who took up employment during the war. He estimated that 2,630,000 men and 2,633,000 women had entered insurance between 1919 and 1923, and that 60 per cent. of them came in at the age of 16 when the compulsory insurance of those in employment begins; over 1,800,000 men and 3,000,000 women had gone out of insurance in the same period, 820,000 of the women having left industrial employment on marriage. He found that nearly 50 per cent. of the men who left insurance were over the age of 35, and concluded that a majority of these had taken up forms of occupation other than employment. A corresponding feature was found also in the case of women; it seemed evident that, quite apart from those who left employment on marriage, many women resorted only temporarily to industrial employment. Sir Alfred in his paper also dealt with the experience of sickness and disablement claims of men, unmarried women, and married women respectively. Examining the question of maternity benefits he emphasised the relatively low birth rates among employed married women. (From "Statist," London, March 19, 1927.)

All India Trade Union Congress*

SEVENTH SESSION

The Seventh Session of the All India Trade Union Congress opened at Delhi on Saturday, the 12th March 1927, in the hall of the Hindu College. Rai Saheb Chandrika Prasad presided over the deliberations of the Congress.

Seventeen Trade Unions from various parts of the country sent delegates to the Congress and several prominent persons were present.

After the General Secretary's speech of welcome the President delivered his address. He thanked all those present very heartily for the great honour done to him by electing him to preside over the Seventh Session of the Congress. He pointed out that the condition of the working classes was very deplorable. The Imperialistic system of Government followed by the bureaucracy in India was crushing down the poor, but the rich were getting richer. Monopolies and privileges of various kinds were flourishing, while 93 per cent. of the people were illiterate. Taxation has been raised which fell heavily upon the poor. He expressed the opinion that the State should control the uneven distribution of wealth, destroy monopolies and privileges of all kinds, put an end to poverty and make it possible for all to live easily and comfortably.

The workers in India, the President said, were being exploited both by the well-to-do classes of India and by foreigners in various ways. The workers did not get a living wage and were consequently deteriorating in their physical condition. The land cultivators, for instance, were exploited by several parties, namely, Government taking land revenue, money lenders and speculators buying the farmer's produce at low rates and reselling it to consumers at market rates governed by distant markets of England and America. The taxation of the country also was not on principles of democracy. Only about 11 per cent. of the taxes were levied direct on incomes while 89 per cent. of the taxes were indirect, being levied on consumption. Even the municipal taxes fell very heavily on the poor. Indebtedness among the agriculturists prevailed to an alarming extent and the position of the Indian agriculturist was thus one of chronic poverty. The President estimated the agricultural indebtedness of India at 600 crores of rupees. As regards the organisation of the workers the President pointed out that the 96·33 millions of agricultural workers in the country needed to be organised. He said that one organisation was required for each centre, if not for each of the 263 districts in British India. A single organiser, according to him, would soon find capable assistants to carry on the work in each city, town or village provided the initial work was started on a sound basis. In his opinion the work of organisation should be directed by the existing central body as well as by the existing provincial organisations of the Trade Union Congress. The funds required for propaganda work would be forthcoming as work proceeded. If competent leaders took up the work in a self-sacrificing

* Summary based on the report published in the All India Trade Union Bulletin, March and April 1927.

spirit, there would be no dearth of funds. Each locality would automatically provide the necessary funds and once the people were convinced of the real character of the work done, there would be no shortage of money.

As regards agriculture as an occupation, the President remarked that agriculture was a losing occupation. It did not cover the cost of production and consequently the land cultivators whether they were tenants or owners of land, were gradually sinking down in debt. In the opinion of the President the organisation of the people in the rural areas was far more important than of those in cities and towns. For the organisation of the agriculturists generally, he said, we had the excellent example of Denmark which was a purely agricultural country and from whom lessons had been taken by up-to-date countries like America, Scotland, Ireland, etc. Denmark had very successfully solved the problem of poverty among the agriculturists, especially of those holding small farms.

As regards Trade Unionism, the President pointed out that the movement was in vogue in India from ancient times. With the changes brought about by British rule, however, the Trade Union movement also took shape on Western lines, with modifications to suit the modified conditions of Indian society. Thus instead of trade unions, we had single unions of various trades employed in the Railway Workshops, textile mills, etc.; in other words, we had adopted the industrial structure instead of the craft structure for unions. This movement took a regular shape from the year 1918 and was, therefore, still in its infancy. It was growing as fast as it could but had many difficulties to contend with among which two could be specially mentioned, namely, the illiteracy of the workers and the opposition of the exploiters who abused their powers to keep down the real workers, in order to maintain their own inordinate profits and excessive emoluments. The President complained of the capitalistic tendency of the Railway companies and enumerated several grievances of the railway employees. He also referred to the racial discrimination on Indian Railways and quoted certain figures regarding the number of Europeans and Anglo-Indians employed on Railways.

As regards unemployment, the President pointed out that unemployment had increased especially amongst the educated middle classes. It was necessary, he said, that the extent of unemployment should be ascertained and adequate measures taken to remedy it. He was of opinion that the attention of Government should be drawn to this matter and that the organisers should be instructed to maintain a record of persons seeking employment at the provincial centres.

Referring to labour representation in the Legislatures, the President pointed out that labour could not have adequate representation unless and until there was adult suffrage. It was a matter of regret that while employers of labour were specially represented in the Legislatures, labour remained unrepresented there. In conclusion he pointed out the necessity of co-operation. Spiritually, he said, all humanity was one and the movement could not succeed unless this unity was recognised.

After the presidential address, the General Secretary read the report. He pointed out that there were 57 Unions affiliated to the Trade Union Congress. The membership of the affiliated Unions was 125,000 during

the year under report. Two meetings of the Executive Council were held, one at Bombay and the other at Calcutta. Business was also transacted by consulting the Executive Council by circular letters. No additional provincial committees of the Congress were formed during the year under report.

The following is the full text of some of the important resolutions passed at the Congress :—

1. This Congress views with approval the efforts which have been made by the Anglo-Russian Unity Committee to bring about unity between the International Federation of Trade Unions and Red International of Labour Unions and expresses a hope that the International Unity will soon be achieved and regrets its inability to consider joining the International Movement till such unity is achieved.

2. (a) This Congress looks upon Imperialism as a form of capitalist class government intended to facilitate and perpetuate the exploitation of all workers, both white and coloured, in the interests of the small ruling class, and declares that the only safeguard against exploitation lies in the creation by the working-class of a corresponding measure of unity and solidarity.

(b) This Congress therefore expresses its willingness and desire to bring about the greatest possible solidarity and co-ordinated activity on the part of the Trade Unions throughout the British Empire in order to counteract the ruthless exploitation carried on under the aegis of British Imperialism.

3. This Congress sincerely thanks the Trade Union Congress of South Africa for giving a hearing to Mr. C. F. Andrews, who was requested to place before it the grievances of Indian workers in South Africa, and also thanks the Trade Union Congress of South Africa, for agreeing to have a conference with the representatives of the All-India Trade Union Congress; but is of opinion that as a result of the settlement arrived at by the Round Table Conference arranged by the Governments of the two countries such Conference is not now necessary. However this Congress hopes that the South African Trade Union Congress and Labour Party will support and initiate measures for the organisation and uplift of the Indian Workers in South Africa and instructs the General Secretary to remain in communication with the authorities of the Labour organisations in South Africa.

4. This Congress protests against the failure of the Government of India to give effect to the Scheme placed before them last year by the All-India Trade Union Congress for Labour Representation in the Central and Provincial Legislatures though the demand was modest and tentative, far short of the real requirements of the workers in the country.

5. This Congress is of opinion that legislation shall immediately be passed providing for all workers working in factories, mines, tea, coffee and rubber plantations and in all other organised Trades and Industries—

1. Adult Franchise,
2. An eight hours' day,
3. Machinery for fixing minimum wages,
4. Sickness and unemployment insurance,
5. Old age Pensions and Pensions for widows and orphans.
6. Maternity Benefits,
7. Weekly payment of wages.

6. This Congress re-affirms its old resolution protesting against the system of fines prevailing in industrial and commercial firms and railways and requests the Government of India to pass legislation making illegal all agreements between the employers and the employed enabling the employers to make deductions on account of fines from the wages or salaries of the employees.

7. Realising that every adult worker has a right to work and in view of the fact that there is at present widespread unemployment in the country, this Congress urges upon the Government of India to take as the first step to establish immediately public free employment bureaus in all industrial and commercial towns.

8. This Congress is of opinion that the workers styled and ranked as menials, employed by Government, municipalities, and other local bodies, and by railways, should be given the same privileges as are enjoyed by the ministerial staff with regard to leave, pensions, provident fund, gratuity, etc.

9. This Congress is strongly of opinion that more qualified Indian women should be employed on the staff for Factory Inspections in all the provinces of the country.

10. (a) This Congress expresses its deep regret at the unwillingness of the Government of India to carry out the resolution passed by the Legislative Assembly without division on the 5th February 1925 for an inquiry into the grievances of the Railway subordinate employees, at the attitude adopted by the Honourable Member for Commerce and Railways towards appeals preferred by aggrieved Railway employees, ignoring the Fundamental Rules and principles laid down for the protection of Public Servants against unjust treatment by Officials of Government or agency companies working State Railways on behalf of the Government of India and urges the Legislative Assembly to insist upon the enquiry being made publicly.

(b) This Congress re-affirms Resolution No. 23 of the Trade Union Congress of 1925, and urges upon the Government of India to amend the Indian Railways Act by inserting provisions for the constitution in India of a Central Wages Board for settling disputes concerning wages and conditions of service and for making it obligatory on Railway Administrations to establish joint Industrial Councils on the lines of the English Railways Act of 1921, Part IV, with modifications to suit Indian conditions.

11. (a) This Congress re-affirms Resolution No. IV of the First All-India Railway Men's Conference that the daily rate system be substituted by a monthly rate system of pay in the Railway Workshops with all the privileges of the regular staff and all Railwaymen to work 208 hours which should constitute a month except for the clerical staff whose total number of working hours should be only 144, gazetted holidays being reckoned as working hours in the month in which they fall.

(b) This Congress is further of opinion that the work done over and above this should be paid at $1\frac{1}{2}$ (one and half) times between six and eighteen hours and at double the rates of pay drawn by men between sunset and sunrise and on gazetted holidays.

12. This Congress regrets to state that notwithstanding the declarations made by the Government of India from time to time regarding the removal

of racial discrimination, differentiations are still being practically made in matters of appointments, pay, leave, housing, etc., and Indians are not appointed generally to certain higher posts even in the subordinate grades, and this Congress, therefore, urges upon the Government of India to direct all the Railway Administrations to remove in actual practice all the discriminations which have been abolished in theory.

13. (a) This Congress urges the Government of India to insist upon the Companies working the State Railways to follow the State Railway Rules and practices relating to matters concerning the Railway Servants. Any failure on the part of the said Companies to observe the said conditions should be regarded as mismanagement of the State property and their contracts should forthwith be terminated.

(b) This Congress observes that the Government of India possess ample powers over the working of these Companies, as the Government Director sitting on the Board of Directors of the Companies has the power of *Veto* in all proceedings of the Board, besides the general supervision and control exercised by the Government on the Companies' administration.

14. This Congress strongly condemns the practice of Indian Railways employing contractors who levy a fee from porters licensed to handle passengers' luggage at stations and recommends direct enlistment and control of such porters by the Railway Administration without levying any fee from the porters, as such fees inflict hardships upon the porters and the public.

15. This Congress, while disapproving of the action of the Government of India in not enforcing the recommendations of the Seamen's Recruitment Committee by introducing a bill for amending the Indian Merchant Shipping Act in the Legislative Assembly, strongly urges upon the Government of India to introduce the same in the next Session of the Indian Legislature without any further delay.

16. This Congress strongly urges upon the Government of India the necessity of setting up an Advisory Committee along with the establishment of the Seamen's Recruitment Bureau as recommended by the majority of the members of the Seamen's Recruitment Committee on the lines of the Geneva International Labour Conference.

17. (a) This Congress urges upon the Government to legislate for eight hours' work for seamen employed in inland navigable rivers on the lines recommended by the Geneva International Labour Conference of 1920, in consultation with the organisations of shipowners and seamen.

(b) This Congress, while disapproving of the action of the A. O. H. and R. S. N. Companies of Bengal in compelling their employees engaged on steamers, launches, etc., to work for 12 hours per day and 16 hours when the steamers are in port strongly urges upon them the necessity of introducing at an early date the system of 8 hours' work per day, or, in the alternative, to pay extra wages for overtime work.

18. This Congress urges upon the I. C. N. and R. S. N. Companies (a) to grant holidays allowable under the Negotiable Instruments Act to their employees engaged on steamers, launches, ferries, etc., like the Railway Employees, and (b) to make proper accommodation for their employees in steamers.

19. This Congress urges upon the Indian Jute Mills Associations or the municipal boards in the areas to acquire the bustees in the Jute Mill area described by Mr. Thomas Johnstone, M.P., as "vile, filthy, disease-ridden hovels and heaps of pestilence" and build sanitary dwellings for housing Jute Mill Labour.

20. The Trade Union Congress urges on the owners of Jute Mills to revise the scandalously low wages averaging rupees fifteen per month paid to the workers of the Jute Industry which has been paying an average dividend of 90 per cent. for the last 10 years.

21. This Congress deplors the practice of the employment of women working underground and requests the Government to prohibit it immediately.

22. This Congress urges that Sundays be observed as full holidays and rules for granting leave on full pay be made for all mines in India.

23. This Congress welcomes the legislation introduced by the Government of India in the Legislative Assembly introducing Shift System in Indian Mines, but is of opinion that no shift of a period longer than eight hours should be permitted.

24. This Congress calls upon the Government to give immediate effect to the demands of Telegraph peons as made at the last annual meeting of the All-India Telegraph Workers' Union.

25. The Congress deplors the insanitary conditions under which most of the press employees in Calcutta and other large cities have to work and urges upon the Government to adopt remedial measures.

26. The Congress considers that the salaries of the Press employees all over India are inordinately low and urges upon the employers to grant them a living wage.

27. In view of the universal opposition to the piece system as it at present obtains in this country, this Congress views with apprehension the steps that are being taken by the authorities of the E. I. R. Press to convert a large number of their salaried workers into piece-workers and invites the attention of the Honourable Members in charge respectively of the Railways and of Industries and Labour with a view to stop the extension of the system which is worked in India on the basis of maximum labour for minimum wages.

28. This Congress, while welcoming the recent order of the Administrations to admit menials drawing up to Rs. 30 per month and over as eligible to the benefits of the Provident Fund, requests that all menials irrespective of pay be allowed the option of joining the Provident Fund.

29. This Congress is of opinion that the rate of compensation provided under the Workmen's Compensation Act are inadequate and suggests that the Act be immediately amended to bring it into line with the British legislation.

30. This Congress urges the Government of India and Provincial Governments to take immediate steps to reach the goal of total prohibition at an early date as the liquor traffic considerably affects the general welfare of the working classes in India.

31. (a) This Congress deploras the tendency in the Trade Union movement towards the creation and maintenance of small and overlapping Unions resulting in inter-Union rivalry, unnecessary dissipation of money and reduction of strength of workers in negotiating with employers.

(b) The Congress therefore declares in favour of developing Trade Unions on Industrial lines with one National Federation for each industry and hereby resolves to appoint a thoroughly representative Committee which shall formulate detailed plans whereby the existing local and sectional unions shall be amalgamated into national industrial organisations. This Committee shall have power to co-opt accredited representatives of Unions not affiliated to the Congress.

32. The Congress appoints a Negotiations Committee—National and International—consisting of the following members:—

(1) Lala Lajpat Rai, (2) Mr. Jawahirlal Nehru, (3) Mr. T. C. Goswami, (4) Mr. N. M. Joshi, (5) Mr. D. Chaman Lal, (6) Mr. D. R. Thengdi, (7) Mr. B. F. Bharucha, (8) Mr. K. N. Joglekar, and (9) Rai Sahib Chandrika Prasada.

The Committee shall not take any action without the sanction of the Executive Council of the Congress.

33. This Congress appoints the Workers' Welfare League of India as the Agents of the All-India Trade Union Congress in Britain for the supply and distribution of information regarding the Trade Union Congress within the limits of the resolutions of the Congress.

34. This Congress resolves that the following be elected as office bearers for the year 1927:—

President.—Dewan Chaman Lal, M.L.A.

Vice Presidents.—(1) Mr. Earnest Kirk.

(2) Mr. Mrinal Kanti Bose.

General Secretary.—Mr. N. M. Joshi, M.L.A.

Administrative Secretary.—Mr. D. R. Thengdi.

Assistant Secretaries.—(1) Mr. R. R. Bakhale.

(2) Mr. S. V. Ghate.

Treasurer.—Mr. F. J. Ginwalla, M.L.C.

Auditors.—Gharda, Davar & Co.

35. This Congress resolves that the following persons be appointed as Provincial Organisers:—

Bombay.—Mr. S. H. Jhabwala.

Madras.—(1) Mr. E. I. Iyer, (2) Mr. L. Shiva Rao.

Central Provinces.—Mr. R. S. Ruikar.

Bengal.—Mr. Kishori Lal Ghosh.

Punjab.—Mr. Ram Chandra.

Assam.—Mr. T. R. Phookan.

Sind.—Mr. Naranji Anandji.

Bihar.—Mr. P. C. Bose.

United Provinces.—Mr. Ramzan Ali.

All-India Women's Organiser.—(1) Mrs. Santosh Kumari Gupta.

The New German Labour Protection Bill

In the February 1927 issue of the *International Labour Review* there appears an article on the above subject by Dr. Johannes Feig in which will be found a detailed and authoritative account of the new German Labour Protection Bill.

Dr. Feig prefaces his article with a short historical survey of labour legislation in Germany. He divides the history of German Social policy into four periods; the first beginning with the Prussian Children's Protection Act of 1839, the second with the Imperial message of 1881 announcing the enactment of workers' insurance legislation, the third with the Circular issued by Emperor William II in 1890 and the fourth beginning with the war and its aftermath in Germany.

It is not known when the present bill will become law. It was submitted to the Provisional Federal Economic Council on 1st December 1926 and also to the Federal Council. It will afterwards go to the Reichstag. These three bodies may easily take a year to discuss the bill.

The present bill as the title shows is intended to cover the whole field of the protection of labour and not only the question of the hours of work. The term "Labour protection" is taken to cover the whole body of legislation which in the public interest imposes obligations on the employer in relation to his workers, the fulfilment of these being secured by the means established by public law.

The new Labour Protection Bill is based on existing German law which it endeavours to co-ordinate, unify, and improve. It aims particularly at improving the regulations regarding the hours of work. It also aims at restricting the far reaching powers of the authorities with respect to the granting of exceptions. And in general the object of the bill is to make the greatest possible protection of the workers compatible with the unquestioned requirements of industry.

The Bill is divided into seven parts; the first contains provisions regarding the field of its application, the definition of the term "worker," and the persons responsible for the administration of protective regulations. The second part deals with industrial safety. The third contains rules and provisions for hours of work. The fourth part deals with Sunday rest, the fifth with the closing hours of shops, the sixth with labour inspection and the seventh with the enforcement of the act, in particular the powers of the authorities, the date at which it comes into force and expires, and the effects on existing law.

INDUSTRIAL SAFETY

The portion of the Bill dealing with Industrial Safety lays down that the employer must equip his undertaking and organise the work in such a way that the workers are protected against risks to life, health and morals in so far as the nature of the undertaking allows, and, if he employs young persons and women, he must take further special measures for their protection.

An innovation of considerable importance relates to the so-called protection of machinery. The Federal Minister of Labour may prescribe

that certain forms of machinery and equipment may not be traded in or used unless they satisfy the conditions laid down for the protection of life and health.

HOURS OF WORK

The most important part of the Bill deals with the hours of work. It begins by postulating the principle of 8 hours day and the 48 hours week, and applies this maximum not only to employment in the undertaking itself, but also to work given out for being done at home, and to the aggregate hours of work done for all the employers for whom a worker may be employed.

The Bill makes provision for four important cases of actual extension of hours of work. This is allowed (a) for preparatory or complimentary work, (b) for essentially intermittent work or work consisting largely of periods of mere presence on duty, (c) for overtime in cases of urgent necessities and (d) in cases of emergencies.

PROTECTION OF WOMEN, YOUNG PERSONS AND CHILDREN

In the third part of the Bill dealing with the protection of women, young persons and children, the new provisions have been based on the existing measures, but they have been made more uniform and extended in various respects; in particular, the protective regulations, which formerly mainly covered the work of wage earners, are extended to salaried employees. Further the age limit for the protection of young persons is raised from 16 to 18 years, and in the provisions for the protection of children, the employers' own children are treated more like the other children of the employees than formerly. Finally, the protection of motherhood is much improved.

As regards night work, according to the existing law, it is prohibited for women and for young persons up to 16 years of age. This prohibition is now extended to persons between 16 and 18 years of age, and to all salaried employees under 18, but not to salaried women employees over 18. The night is reckoned from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m., but where the work is performed in shifts, the period of prohibition for workers over 16 years of age is limited to hours between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m., provided the rest period of not less than 15 hours is allowed.

Women and young workers are to have an uninterrupted rest period of not less than 11 hours, and women have to be given a free afternoon on Saturdays and the days before holidays. Further, certain minimum breaks must be given to young workers and women. In certain occupations, especially those of commerce, hotels and restaurants and theatres, the provisions in question apply only with limitations.

As compared with the existing law, the protection of motherhood is substantially extended in the new bill, on the lines laid down in the Washington Convention. A woman worker producing a medical certificate stating that her confinement would probably take place within six weeks may leave her work. She may not be employed during the six weeks following confinement, and she may remain away from work for a further six weeks on the production of a medical certificate. During this period she is entitled to the maternity benefit payable under the sickness insurance system.

A woman nursing her child is to be allowed half an hour twice a day, or an hour once a day during her working hours for this purpose. Notice of dismissal by the employer cannot take effect for a period of 6 weeks before and 6 weeks after confinement, with the additional period when any work is not possible.

SUNDAY REST

The provision regarding Sunday rest was already stricter in Germany than in most other countries. The new Bill maintains the existing conditions, but enlarges the scope of the provision and in particular defines clearly the connection between admissible Sunday work and the working week. In principle work on Sundays and Statutory Holidays is prohibited. The rest period must last 24 hours in undertakings which work continuously except on Sundays. Exceptions are made in the case of certain industries only.

With very few exceptions, Sunday work is altogether prohibited for young persons under 16 years of age. Workers employed on permissible Sunday work must be allowed a compensatory rest period during the week. As a rule, the length of actual Sunday work is limited to a few hours.

LABOUR INSPECTION

The term "Labour inspection" is now substituted for the term "industrial inspection." The powers of the inspectors remain on the whole unaltered. The competence of the Federal Government which has hitherto been very small has been somewhat extended and the Federal Minister of Labour is empowered to make decisions and lay down rules to secure the necessary uniformity in both the appointment of officials and their activities.

Statistics of Trade Unions and Employers' Organisations in South Africa

For some years the Director of Census and Statistics has made a compilation as at the 30th of September each year of membership figures of trade unions and employers' associations. Preparations for the 1926 compilations have now been completed and the opportunity taken, in consultation with the Director of Census and Statistics, to introduce two new features.

The Divisional and Industrial Inspectors of the Department of Labour have been co-opted to collect the information in their own inspectorates, collection as a whole being co-ordinated by the Registrar of Trade Unions and Employers' Organizations. An element which has hitherto been absent, *viz.*, the possibility of checking the figures on the spot, is thus introduced. The second innovation is the classification of organisations in accordance with lines laid down in the Industrial Conciliation Act. The collection will be made separately in regard to:—

- Trade Unions registered under the Act;
- Employers' Organizations registered under the Act;
- Trade Unions not registered under the Act;
- Employers' Organizations not registered under the Act.

Forms for completion are now being distributed to the organizations concerned. (From "Social and Industrial Review, Pretoria, March 1927.)

Minimum Wage Fixing Machinery

We have received the Report and the Draft Questionnaire on the above subject, issued by the International Labour Office. The Report is divided into two parts: Part I gives a general survey of the whole question while Part II deals with the minimum wage systems of different countries.

In the Preamble to Part XIII of the Peace Treaty "the provision of an adequate living wage" is mentioned among the problems of urgent importance which require solution. This problem has therefore been receiving the close attention of the International Labour Office. The research work which the International Labour Office has carried out in the sphere of legislation for the fixing of wages has led it to the conclusion that this question might usefully be examined by the Conference. And it was therefore decided to place the subject of minimum wage regulation on the agenda of the Tenth Session of the International Labour Conference, 1927.

It was in the latter half of the 19th century that legislation for the regulation of minimum wages came into existence. The earliest system of minimum wage regulation in modern times was that introduced into New Zealand and Australia during the last decade of the 19th century. The first law was that of New Zealand in 1894. Australia soon followed the example of New Zealand. In the meanwhile, the European and North American countries were watching these experiments in the Southern hemisphere which later formed a suitable basis for legislation in these countries. Thus, after a careful study of the Australasian systems, the British Parliament passed a minimum wage law in 1909. In the United States, Massachusetts adopted the minimum wage principle in 1912, while eight other states followed in 1913. During the greater part of the war the ordinary progress of legislation was interrupted in many countries, but various temporary measures regulating the wages, especially of munition workers, were passed. After the war, especially during the period 1918-1920, there was a very great extension of the minimum wage legislation.

The scope of the laws in force in various countries varies greatly, as also the methods of their application.

The legislation of some countries, e.g., New Zealand and Australia, provides for the fixing of minimum rates in almost all trades. Other laws apply only to certain occupations, while yet others provide for the fixing of minimum rates of wages for certain specified categories of workers, generally women or homeworkers.

The objects of minimum wage legislation are twofold: (1) the prevention of the payment of unduly low wages to the workers and (2) the elimination of unfair competition between employers with regard to wages.

The most important types of machinery for the regular fixing of minimum wage rates are trade boards and general boards. Where the trade board system is adopted a separate board is set up for each trade or industry. Each board acting independently of other boards fixes minimum rates for its own trade or industry. In the case of the general board system a single board fixes minimum rates for a number of different industries. A third

type of minimum wage-fixing machinery is the court of compulsory arbitration. Such courts cannot, however, be regarded as machinery for the regular and systematic adjustment of wages. But this machinery differs from a trade board in so much as the object of a trade board or general board is the satisfactory regulation of wages and other conditions of labour while the essential purpose of an arbitration court is to prevent disputes and no action can be taken apart from the existence of a dispute. A fourth way in which wages are regulated is the system adopted in a small number of States by which minimum rates are specified in the law itself, the legislature thus being the minimum wage fixing authority.

The number of countries which have adopted the system of trade boards is considerable. Great Britain, France, Australia, Czechoslovakia, Germany, Norway, the Argentine Republic and the Australian States of Victoria and Tasmania, all follow the trade board system. In other Australian States the trade board system is in force in combination with general boards and arbitration courts. In Hungary where the minimum wage system applies only in agriculture, minimum rates are fixed by district trade boards.

The essential feature of the trade board system is that a separate board is set up in each trade. The board fixes minimum rates for its own trade independently of the boards for other trades. As regards membership, the composition of trade boards is, broadly speaking, similar in different countries. It generally consists of a number of members representing employers in the trade and an equal number of members representing workers in the same trade. To these are added one or two disinterested persons. The essential feature of the activity of these disinterested persons is to act as conciliators in order to secure agreements between the employers and workers. In the event of disagreement between employers and workers the disinterested members become the deciding factor.

Various laws providing for the establishment of trade boards specify the number of the proportion of disinterested members in relation to representative members. Some laws also indicate the total membership of boards.

A trade board may be set up for an industry for a given district only or it may be established on a national basis. Where the latter course is adopted the board may either fix uniform rates for the whole country or for different trades according to districts. Where a national board fixes district rates it often sets up district committees for advisory purposes.

The essential feature of the general board system is that minimum rates in a number of industries are fixed by the same body. The system thus provides greater possibilities of avoiding unnecessary differences between minimum rates of wages in the various trades where these are fixed independently by a separate board in each trade. This type of machinery has been adopted in the United States, Canada, in certain Australasian States and in South Africa.

The general trade board usually consists of 3 or 5 members charged with the duty of fixing and in some cases of enforcing minimum rates in different trades. Often the Chairman of a board is a member of the legal profession or an official of the public administration. The remaining members may consist of representatives, in equal numbers, of employers and workers, or they may be disinterested persons. The boards are

generally given wide powers of investigation including the examination of witnesses on oath and the production of relevant documents.

A general board may fix rates which differ according to trade or district or it may fix uniform basic rates applicable to all industries. In the United States and Canada the general practice has been to fix rates applicable to a given trade throughout the state or province.

The principles regarding the bases to be adopted are difficult to be defined from the international point of view. In Australia and New Zealand the problem of bases for fixing minimum wages has received the greatest attention. In the United States and Canada also much consideration has been given to this problem for fixing minimum rates for women workers. According to a number of minimum wage laws, the wage fixing body is free to fix minimum wages on whatever principle it may consider most satisfactory in the circumstances. Other laws lay down with greater or less precision the bases which the wage fixing body shall adopt in reaching its decisions. The bases specified in various laws include the living wage basis and that of fixing minimum wage in any trade in relation to the wages paid to the workers in the same trade in other districts or in relation to the wages paid to workers of similar grades in other trades. There is a third important basis, the capacity of the individual industry or of industry in general, which, though sometimes not expressly mentioned in the minimum wage laws, must always be taken into account in practice.

The living wage principle has received its greatest application by wage fixing bodies in Australia, New Zealand, the United States and Canada. For instance, in New South Wales the Industrial Commission is required, after public enquiry, to declare from time to time what shall be the living wages to be paid to adult male employees and adult female employees in the State. For adult male workers the living wage must be based on the requirements of a man with a wife and two children under 14 years of age and for adult female workers the wage is to be based on the requirements of a woman without dependents.

The principle of the "capacity of industry to pay" is interpreted in two ways. For instance, in Australia and New Zealand the wages of a given group of workers are determined on the basis of the capacity of the industry in general without taking account of the capacity of individual industries except for the purpose of estimating general capacity. From this point of view the basis is similar for the purposes of fixing the minimum wages of the lowest grade of workers to the living wage basis. Capacity to pay is also interpreted to mean the capacity of each separate industry and the minimum wages of each industry are fixed solely, or almost solely, according to the conditions in that industry. This basis is often adopted where minimum wages are fixed by independent trade boards.

Wages are also fixed in relation to those paid to other groups of workers. But in so far as the average level of wages in a large number of industries closely represents the capacity of industry as a whole to pay, the wages of one group of workers fixed in relation to this level would be similar to the wages fixed according to the capacity of industry in general; and thus the three principles, of living wage, capacity of industry to pay and payment in relation to the wages of other groups of workers, give practically similar results.

Two methods are usually followed for the demarcation of trades and occupations for purposes of minimum wage regulations. According to one method all similar establishments in a given area are grouped into one industrial unit and common wage scales apply to all workers in the establishments covered. According to the second method, *viz.*, the occupational method of grouping, the individual workers are classified according to their occupation or craft, irrespective of the industry in which they work.

To ensure that the minimum rates fixed are actually paid is of primary importance, otherwise the legislation fails to give protection to the worker, while employers who observe the law are placed at a disadvantage owing to the unfair competition of their rivals. The difficulties of enforcement are especially great in the case of homeworkers and those in small undertakings. These workers are often afraid to complain of underpayment lest they should prejudice their remaining in employment. Also, in their case, the discovery of evasion is difficult.

Minimum wage laws may be enforced by the wage-fixing body or by some other authority. In the former case special inspectors are usually appointed. In the latter case also, a special staff of inspectors may be appointed, or the ordinary factory inspectorate may be charged with the duty of determining whether or not there is compliance with the law. Complaints are generally investigated by inspectors of the authority responsible for the enforcement of the legislation. In order to ensure, as far as possible, that the necessary information is available to enable an inspector to satisfy himself that a complaint is well founded, or to discover cases of non-compliance during routine visits of inspection to any establishment, most laws require the employer to keep proper wage records. These records must include the names and actual earnings of all workers covered. The various records which an employer is required to keep are to be submitted for inspection at all reasonable times, generally during working hours. Submission of false records involves liability to fine.

In cases of underpayment most minimum wage laws provide for the recovery from the employer, by civil action, of the difference between the wages actually paid and the legal minimum. In addition to the recovery of arrears by civil action minimum wage laws generally contain provisions for the imposition of a penalty by criminal proceedings. Liability to fine or imprisonment is the penalty provided by most minimum wage laws for failure to pay the minimum rates in force. According to Massachusetts law the only penalty is publicity. This penalty of publicity suffers from the defect that it operates somewhat unequally according to industry. For instance, where the workers come into direct contact with the public or where the sale of goods produced depends largely on the reputation of the firm, the penalty may be severe, but in other cases, the penalty may be insignificant.

Cases of underpayment are tried and penalties imposed by the wage-fixing authority or by some other authority or court, or by the ordinary courts. It is usually provided by the laws that the existence of an agreement between employers and workers for work to be done at a rate lower than the legal minimum is no defence against a charge of underpayment.

The following tables give a summary of the minimum wage systems of various countries:—

TABULAR SUMMARY OF THE MINIMUM

Country	Law and date	Trades and workers covered	Machinery ¹
GERMANY	Homework Act of June 1923. ³	Trades: Any home or out-work trade. Persons: Male and female workers.	Type: Local trade boards. Membership: Not specified; three impartial members. Ratification of Rates: Only if resolution fixing rates not adopted by two-thirds majority of representative members on board together with chairman and one other impartial member. In such cases, authority which constituted the board ratifies.
AUSTRIA	Homework Act of 19 December 1918.	Trades: Any home or out-work trade ⁴ ; workshop trades in which machinery set up for regulating wages of homeworkers also covered. Persons: Male and female workers	Type: National trade boards, with local boards for advisory purposes where necessary. Membership: At least nine, employers, workers and impartial persons equally represented. Ratification of Rates: By Minister of Social Administration.
FRANCE	Law of July 1915. ¹⁰	Trades: Primarily clothing and allied trades performed by homework; law may be extended to other homework trades. Persons: Female workers. ⁵	Type: Trade boards in each Department. ⁶ Membership: Two to four workers, an equal number of employers, with a "juge de paix" as chairman. Ratification of Rates: No provision. Objections to decisions of boards examined by Central Commission in Paris.

¹ Throughout this table, in cases where boards other than general boards are set up they consist of employers and workers equally represented, usually with one or more impartial members.

² Throughout this table, in addition to penalties for non-observance, most laws provide for the payment of arrears of wages due to a worker.

³ The minimum wage principle is also adopted by the Conciliation Order of 30 October 1923, which provides for compulsory arbitration as a last resort in cases of dispute.

WAGE SYSTEMS OF VARIOUS COUNTRIES

Basis for fixing minimum rates	Provisions for juveniles and sub-standard workers	Enforcement ⁸
Trade boards to endeavour to fix adequate wages. Wages are inadequate if homeworkers of full capacity working normal hours cannot earn wage customary in locality, or wage for similar work in other districts with similar economic conditions, or wage paid in factories or workshops in district for similar work.	Juveniles: No provision. Sub-standard workers: No provision.	Authority: The local trade boards. Inspectors: No special provision. Penalty: Fine.
Not specified. Account to be taken of differences in local conditions and competition between different districts. In certain circumstances provisions of collective agreement remain valid even where contrary to trade board determination.	Juveniles: No provision. Sub-standard workers: No provision.	Authority: District industrial authorities. Inspectors: Ordinary staff. Penalty: Fine. Intermediaries repeatedly convicted may be prohibited from acting as intermediaries in the trade for all time or specified term.
In relation to average wage for same or similar work in workshops. If such work not done in workshops in district or in similar districts, wage to be fixed in relation to wage usually paid to women in district.	Juveniles: No provision. Sub-standard workers: No provision.	Authority: Minister of Labour. Inspectors: Ordinary staff. Penalty: Worker underpaid, in addition to recovery of balance due, can obtain damages. Trade unions and certain other authorised associations can also take civil proceedings and obtain damages. Fine for failure to keep registers of homeworkers and wage records, post wage scales, etc.

⁴ The Act provided for its immediate application in the case of the manufacture, by means of homework, of clothing, including boots and shoes.

⁵ Male homeworkers paid less for similar work than minimum fixed for females may institute proceedings to ensure that the same minimum shall apply also to them.

⁶ On the basis of the time rates fixed by the boards, piece rates are calculated by occupational committees of assessors consisting of two employers, two workers, and a "juge de paix".

TABULAR SUMMARY OF THE MINIMUM

Country	Law and date	Trades and workers covered	Machinery
GREAT BRITAIN	Trade Boards Acts, 1909 and 1918. ¹	Trades: Any trade in which Minister of Labour is of opinion that no adequate machinery exists for effective regulation of wages throughout the trade, and that, having regard to rates of wages prevailing in the trade or any part thereof, it is expedient that the Acts should be applied. Persons: Male and female workers.	Type: Trade boards, generally national. Membership: Not specified; members not less than half total of representative members. Ratification of Rates: By Minister of Labour
	Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924. ²	Trades: Agriculture including dairy farming and use of land as grazing, meadow, pasture, orchard or osier land, or woodland or for market gardens or nursery grounds. Persons: Male and female workers.	Type: Local (county) boards, and national board for co-ordination. Membership: Local boards total number not specified; three impartial members. National board, number not specified; impartial members not to exceed one-quarter total membership of board. Ratification of Rates: Rates fixed by local board require ratification by national board.
	Coal Mines (Minimum Wage) Act, 1912.	Trades: Coal mining (including stratified ironstone mines). Persons: All underground workers (male), with minor exceptions.	Type: Local boards. Membership: Number not specified; impartial chairman. Ratification of Rates: No provision.
HUNGARY	Act of 28 May 1923.	Trades: Agricultural work. Persons: Male and female day labourers.	Type: Local wage boards Membership: Chairman vice-chairman, two members representing employers, two representing workers; district inspector of agriculture member without vote. Ratification of Rates: Minister of Agriculture orders payment of rates fixed by boards, and examines protests against such rates

¹A similar system is in force in the Irish Free State. In Northern Ireland, the legislation differs somewhat from that in force in Great Britain, especially as regards scope and rate-fixing powers.

WAGE SYSTEMS OF VARIOUS COUNTRIES—contd.

Mode of fixing minimum rates	Provisions for juveniles and sub-standard workers	Enforcement
Not specified.	Juveniles: Trade board may fix special minima. Apprenticeship premiums permitted only in pursuance of instrument of apprenticeship not later than four weeks after commencement of employment. Sub-standard workers: Exemption permits granted to workers handicapped by infirmity or physical injury.	Authority: Minister of Labour. Inspectors: Special staff. Penalty: Fine.
As far as practicable, a wage for able-bodied men adequate to enable worker in ordinary case to maintain himself and family in accordance with reasonable standard of comfort in relation to nature of his occupation.	Juveniles: Boards may fix special minima. Sub-standard workers: Exemption permits granted to workers handicapped by physical or mental deficiency, age or other cause.	Authority: Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries. Inspectors: Special staff. Penalty: Fine.
Account taken of average daily rate of wages paid to workers of class for which minimum to be fixed.	Juveniles: No special provision. Boards may fix lower minima. Sub-standard workers: Exemption of workers handicapped by age or infirmity.	Authority (administrative): Minister of Mines. Inspectors: Ordinary staff. Penalty: No special provision; payment of minima ensured according to law governing contracts of employment.
Account to be taken of working capacity, sex, age.	Juveniles: Boards may fix special minima. Sub-standard workers: Boards may fix special minima according to capacity.	Authority: In first instance, wage boards, in last resort, Minister of Agriculture. Inspectors: Ordinary staff. Penalty: Fine.

²This Act applies only to England and Wales.

TABULAR SUMMARY OF THE MINIMUM

Country	Law and date	Trades and workers covered	Machinery
ITALY	Act of 3 April 1926 for legal regulation of collective relations in connection with employment.	Trades : Any trade. Persons : Male and female workers.	Type : Local arbitration courts. Membership : Three magistrates who are members of local Court of Appeal, and two citizens expert in production and labour problems. Ratification of Rates : No provision; appeals against decisions of a court examined by Court of Cassation.
NORWAY	Homework Act of 15 February 1918.	Trades : Primarily clothing and needlework performed by home or out-work. Act may be extended to other homework trades and to prevent homework from being driven out, to workshop and factory trades in which homeworkers are employed. Persons : Male and female workers.	Type : Local trade boards controlled by general board. Membership : Trade board consists of impartial chairman and at least four other members; general board consists of three or five members, employers and workers being equally represented. Ratification of Rates : Rates fixed by trade board to be ratified by general board, which has power to modify.
ROUMANIA	Act of 4 September 1920.	Trades : Public utility services employing at least ten workers. Persons : Male and female workers.	Type : Arbitration Court. Membership : Two from each side to dispute, and impartial president. Ratification of Rates : Award of Court final.
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	Homework Act of 12 December 1919.	Trades : Any home or out-work trade. ¹ Workshop trades in which machinery set up for regulating wages of homeworkers also covered. Persons : Male and female workers.	Type : National trade boards with local boards for advisory purposes where necessary. Membership : At least nine; employers, workers and impartial persons equally represented. Ratification of Rates : By Minister of Social Welfare.
ARGENTINE REPUBLIC	Homework Act of 8 October 1918. ²	Trades : Any homework occupation except domestic serv.ce. Persons : Male and female workers.	Type : Local trade boards. Membership : Number not specified; one impartial member chairman. Ratification of Rates : None required.

¹ Immediate application provided for in the case of homework in the textile trades, clothing (including boots and shoes), glass, and mother of pearl manufacture.

WAGE SYSTEMS OF VARIOUS COUNTRIES

Basic law fixing minimum rates	Provisions for juveniles and sub-standard workers	Enforcement
In conformity with principles of equity. Account to be taken of superior interests of production.	Juveniles : No special provision. Court may fix lower minima. Sub-standard workers : As above.	Authority : Ministry of Corporations and provincial prefect. Inspectors : Ordinary staff. Penalty : Fine and imprisonment.
Account to be taken of wages current for similar work in workshops and factories and for homework in other trades. Minima to be fixed in relation to earning capacity of workers of average skill and to be such that homework is not driven out of existence.	Juveniles : No provision. Sub-standard workers : No provision.	Authority : For homework, the health councils; for other work generally the factory inspection authority. Inspectors : Ordinary staff. Penalty : Fine.
Not specified.	Juveniles : No provision in law. Court may fix special rates in award. Sub-standard workers : As above.	Authority : Minister of Labour. Inspectors : Minister may appoint special staff. Penalty : Fine. Authority : District industrial authorities. Inspectors : Ordinary staff. Penalty : Fine. Employers, middlemen and other intermediaries punished for breach of wage determination or agreement may, if convicted again, be excluded from acting in such capacity.
Not specified. Account to be taken of differences in local conditions and competition between different districts. In certain circumstances, collective agreements remain valid though contrary to trade board determination, but either party may withdraw from such agreement after six weeks' notice.	Juveniles : No provision. Sub-standard workers : No provision.	Authority : National Department of Labour. Inspectors : Ordinary staff. Penalty : Fine.
Account to be taken of nature of work, price of finished article, cost of living, wages of factory and workshop workers in district producing similar article, value of accessories or tools required by worker.	Juveniles : No provision. Sub-standard workers : No provision.	Authority : National Department of Labour. Inspectors : Ordinary staff. Penalty : Fine.

² In 1923, Acts were passed by the provincial legislatures of Tucuman and San Juan respectively fixing statutory minima for various categories of workers.

TABULAR SUMMARY OF THE MINIMUM

Country	Law and date	Trades and workers covered	Machinery
CANADA¹ Nova Scotia Quebec Ontario Manitoba Saskatchewan Alberta British Columbia	Laws passed in the seven Provinces during the years 1917-1920. Various amendments of original legislation.	<i>Trades:</i> Nova Scotia, British Columbia, Ontario all except farm work and domestic service ² ; Alberta, all except domestic service, in twelve specified towns; Manitoba and Saskatchewan, all in shops (including hotels) and factories; Quebec, all in industrial undertakings. <i>Persons:</i> Females only except British Columbia and Alberta; British Columbia, females and men ³ ; Alberta, men not to be paid less than minimum for women on similar work.	<i>Type:</i> General boards, usually with trade boards or conferences. <i>Membership:</i> General boards, three or five usually including one or more women; Manitoba and Alberta provide for representation of employers and workers. <i>Ratification of Rates:</i> Decisions of general boards final.
UNITED STATES⁴ Arkansas California Colorado Massachusetts Minnesota North Dakota Porto Rico ⁵ Oregon Utah Washington Wisconsin ⁶ South Dakota	Laws passed in the seventeen States during the years 1912-1923. Various amendments of original legislation. Certain laws repealed, several declared unconstitutional.	<i>Trades:</i> In most States, any trade; North Dakota, all except farm work and domestic service; Porto Rico, industrial, commercial, and public service; South Dakota, any in factories, commercial, laundry, hotel, restaurant or packing house; Arkansas, any in factories, commercial, laundry or transportation. <i>Persons:</i> In most States, females and male minors; Arkansas, Porto Rico, South Dakota and Utah, females.	<i>Type:</i> Porto Rico, South Dakota and Utah, minima fixed by legislature; remaining States, general boards or branch of State Department usually with advisory trade boards or conferences. <i>Membership:</i> General boards, three or five where number specified, in certain States, one or more women to be included (Arkansas, California); Arkansas, Colorado, Massachusetts, Oregon provide for the representation of employers and workers. <i>Ratification of Rates:</i> Usually decision of general board, or other wage-fixing body, final.

¹ In addition to the laws summarised here, mention should be made of the Nova Scotia Industrial Peace Act, 1925, which provides for compulsory arbitration as a last resort, primarily in mining and public utility undertakings.

² In British Columbia, male and female fruit pickers, and male fruit packers, fruit and vegetable canners are excluded.

³ One law applies to females and a second to men.

⁴ Special minima generally fixed also for adult learners and part-time workers; many Provinces limit the proportion of such workers in any establishment.

WAGE SYSTEMS OF VARIOUS COUNTRIES—contd.

Basin for fixing minimum rate	Provisions for juveniles and sub-standard workers	Enforcement
<i>Saskatchewan, necessary cost of living</i> <i>Alberta, necessary cost of living and maintenance body (British Columbia, Manitoba) provided for similar</i> <i>Ontario, cost of living and maintenance body</i> <i>Quebec, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, Nova Scotia, and British Columbia (juvenile) as incorporated in legislation</i>	<i>Juveniles:</i> Special minima ⁷ in various Provinces, number limited. <i>Sub-standard workers:</i> Exemption (Ontario, Saskatchewan, British Columbia, Manitoba, Ontario, Manitoba, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, physical or mental handicap; other Provinces, any handicap. Permits issued in some Provinces, number limited.	<i>Authority:</i> Usually general boards; Saskatchewan, Bureau of Labour. <i>Inspectors:</i> Usually special staff. <i>Penalty:</i> Fine.
<i>Women workers:</i> In most States, necessary cost of living, maintenance of health and welfare; Massachusetts, both cost of living and financial condition of industry; Utah, basis not specified. <i>Minors:</i> Same basis with few exceptions, in which cases wage to be suitable or not unreasonably low.	<i>Juveniles:</i> Special minima in most States, also for inexperienced adults; in certain States, number limited. <i>Sub-standard workers:</i> Exemption in most States for physical or mental handicap. Permits issued. In some States, number limited.	<i>Authority:</i> General board, or other wage-fixing body, with few exceptions. <i>Inspectors:</i> Usually special staff. <i>Penalty:</i> Usually special staff.

⁵ The position of minimum wage legislation in the United States has been rendered uncertain by decisions of the Federal Supreme Court declaring the laws of the District of Columbia and those of Arizona to be unconstitutional.

⁶ The Courts of Porto Rico accepted the decision regarding the District of Columbia law as controlling the legislation enacted in Porto Rico.

⁷ The United States District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin ruled that the decision regarding the District of Columbia law made it impossible for the Wisconsin Statute to regulate the wage of adult females.

⁸ The penalty of publicity is the only penalty in cases of underpayment. Fines may be imposed for failure to post wage schedules or to keep adequate wage records and submit them to inspection.

TABULAR SUMMARY OF THE MINIMUM

Country	Law and date	Trades and workers covered	Machinery
MEXICO	Federal Court and Minimum Wage Laws, various dates.	Trades: All trades. Persons: Male and female workers.	Type: General board in each municipality. Members: 2-3 members including employers and workers representatives; an impartial person with one employer and one worker from each industry. Ratification of Rates by Central Board of Conciliation and Arbitration in each State.
URUGUAY	Agricultural Minimum Wage Act, February 1923.	Trades: Agricultural or cattle breeding on estates assessed for real estate tax at over 20,000 pesos. Persons: Workers over 16 years of age.	Type: Minima fixed by legislature.
AUSTRALIA	Laws passed by Parliaments of Commonwealth and the six States during years 1896-1910. Numerous amendments of original legislation.	Trades: Commonwealth, any in which inter-State dispute occurs; New South Wales, any trade; Queensland, any except domestic service and farm work; South Australia, Tasmania, any except farm work, Victoria, any except Government service; Western Australia, any except domestic service; where not more than six boarders and/or lodgers. Persons: Male and female workers.	Type: Victoria, Tasmania, trade boards Commonwealth, Arbitration Court. South Australia, boards and Arbitration Court. Western Australia, New South Wales, Queensland, same both acts as Arbitration Court and General Board; trade boards also established. Membership: Trade boards, generally 2 to 10 representative members, and impartial chairman. Arbitration courts and general boards, generally three or five; on some employers and workers represented. Ratification of Rates: Tasmania, decisions of boards final; Victoria, objections examined by Court of Industrial Appeals. In other States, decisions of courts and general boards usually final. Where court and trade boards both established, appeals from decisions of boards go to Court.

WAGE SYSTEMS OF VARIOUS COUNTRIES—cont.

Basis for fixing minimum rates	Provisions for juveniles and sub-standard workers	Enforcement
Wage adequate to satisfy normal needs, including educational needs, and legitimate pastimes of worker considered as head of family. Principle of equal pay for equal work without regard to sex or nationality recognized.	Juveniles: Generally no provision. Unemployment laws allow exceptions to standard minimum when circumstances make it infeasible. Sub-standard workers: As for juveniles.	Authority: Not specified. Inspectors: Generally ordinary staff. Penalty: Generally not specified.
Higher minima for workers 18 to 55 years of age on large than on small concerns. In addition to money wages, employees shall benefit all workers with healthy accommodations and sufficient food, to specified minimum standards.	Juveniles: Low from some minimum for workers 16 to 18 years of age than for workers 18 to 55. Sub-standard workers: Local authorities may issue licences fixing special minima for workers handicapped by physical defects, infirmity, or other disability. Low fixed lower minima for workers over 55 years of age than for workers 18 to 55.	Authority: Labour Department. Inspectors: Ordinary staff. Penalty: Fine.
Commonwealth, no definite basis specified in law; living wage principle applied in practice. Victoria, Tasmania, basis indefinite; Court of Industrial Appeals of Victoria to take account of conditions of industry and cost of living. Queensland, living wage basis regard to conditions of living prevailing in calling. South Australia, Western Australia, New South Wales, living wage.	Juveniles: Special minima. Proportion of apprentices often limited; also of other learners. Sub-standard workers: Permits issued to workers handicapped by infirmity. Proportion often limited.	Authority: Some States, the Arbitration Court; others, Department responsible for factory inspection, where specially appointed official (registrar). Inspectors: Ordinary staff in Victoria and Western Australia, special staff may be appointed in other States. Penalty: Fine.

TABULAR SUMMARY OF THE MINIMUM

Country	Law and date	Trades and workers covered	Machinery
NEW ZEALAND	Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1925.	Trades : All trades. Persons : Male and female workers	Type : Court of Arbitration. Membership : Judge and two other members, one nominated by employers' associations and one by workers' unions. Ratification of Rates : Awards of Court final.
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA	Wage Act of 25 July 1925.	Trades : All trades except in agriculture, horticulture, pastoral or forestry work, domestic service, or occupations governed by Acts relative to Public Service, Railways or Harbours. Determinations under Act do not apply to employers and workers covered by awards or agreements under Industrial Conciliation Act, 1924. Persons : Male and female workers.	Type : General Board with divisions for different trades. Membership : General Board, three members for investigation in any trade, Minister may appoint not more than two additional members. If Board desires, a representative group of employers or workers nominates, one such additional member shall represent employers, and one the workers. Division, three members, one of whom may be member of Board. Ratification of Rates : Minister fixes rate in accordance with recommendation of Board and examines objections lodged within given period.

¹ Minister means Minister of Labour or other Minister charged with the administration of the Act.

WAGE SYSTEMS OF VARIOUS COUNTRIES

Rate by living conditions	Provisions for juveniles and sub-standard workers	Enforcement
Not specified in law. In practice, less standard of living subject to that, a court takes account of conditions of industry and nature of work.	Juveniles : Special minima. Sub-standard workers : Permits to work at special rates.	Authority : Minister of Labour. Penalty : Fine.
Cost of living and financial condition of industry. If Board finds cannot recommend for any trade, wage for maintenance on civilised standard, it shall report this to Minister. Minister may then direct Board to make recommendation.	Juveniles : Special minima. Sub-standard workers : Permits to work at special rates. Proportion may be limited. Persons handicapped by physical disabilities work at special rates.	Authority : Minister. Inspectors : Minister may appoint any officers in public service as inspectors under the Act. Penalty : Fine.

² An Act of 1922 provides for regulation of conditions of apprenticeship. The Industrial Conciliation Act, 1924, includes provision for compulsory arbitration as a last resort in cases of dispute in public utility undertakings.

Current Periodicals

Summary of titles and contents of special articles

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR REVIEW—VOL. XV, NO. 4, APRIL 1927. (International Labour Office, Geneva.)

Special Articles: (1) *International Labour Legislation in the Light of Economic Theory*, by Herbert Feis (Professor of Economics, University of Cincinnati, U. S. A.). pp. 491-518.

(2) *The Austrian Works Councils Act in Practice: II*, by Dr. Emanuel Adler (Professor in the University of Vienna).—Objections to dismissal; immunity of members of the works council; liability of the works council to damages for breach of duty; conclusion. pp. 519-546.

(3) *Vocational Guidance in Great Britain*, by Charles E. Clift (Ex-Chairman, Salford Juvenile Employment Committee; Honorary Secretary, Salford Lads' Club; Secretary, League of Nations, Manchester).—The pioneer work of voluntary agencies; juvenile employment before the war; juvenile employment during the war; juvenile employment since the war; historical survey of official activities; the existing position; conclusion. pp. 547-567.

(4) *Industrial Unionism in the Building Trades of the United States*, by E. E. Cummins, Ph.D. (Yale), of the Department of Economics the College of Wooster, Wooster, Ohio, U. S. A. pp. 568-580.

(5) *Filipino Labour in Hawaii*—Statistics; recruitment; conditions of employment on plantations; conditions in towns; conclusions. pp. 581-586

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INDUSTRIAL WELFARE—VOL. IX, NO. 100, APRIL 1927. (Industrial Welfare Society, London.)

Special Articles: (1) *Welfare in a Country Mill*. pp. 111-115.

(2) *The Steam Road Driver—Benefits in the Sentinel Club notwithstanding "no rules or subscriptions"*; five thousand members. pp. 115-116.

(3) *An Edinburgh Staff Hostel*. pp. 116-120.

(4) *Education and Entertainment*. pp. 120-121.

(5) *A Staff Benefit Society*—Payments; limit of insurance; benefits; claims for sick pay; members leaving the company's service; division of funds; notifications to secretary. pp. 121-122.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE—VOL. IX, NO. 4, APRIL 1927. (Harvard School of Public Health, Baltimore.)

Special Articles: (1) *The Silicosis of the South African Gold Mines, and the Changes Produced in it by Legislative and Administrative Efforts*, by W. Watkins-Pitchford, M.D. (Lond.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.), (Director of the South African Institute for Medical Research; Chairman of the Miners' Phthisis Medical Bureau, Johannesburg; Honorary Professor of Pathology and Bacteriology, University of the Witwatersrand).—Local circumstances; name of the disease; causation; latent silicosis; clinical forms of silicosis: simple silicosis, tuberculosis with silicosis, tuberculo-silicosis and silico-tuberculosis; liability of simple silicosis to become overtly tuberculosis; apparent immunity of the wife; changes which characterize simple silicosis; changes which characterize tuberculosis with silicosis; detection of silicosis during life: simple silicosis, tuberculosis with silicosis, differential diagnosis; detection of silicosis after death; effective period; incidence: working miners, native laborers; constitutional and racial susceptibility to silicosis; special hazard of certain underground occupations; stages of silicosis: from the clinical aspect, from the legal aspect; prognosis; efforts to prevent silicosis: mechanical precautions, medical precautions; changes in character and incidence of compensable lung diseases: improvement in general standard of health, effect of initial examination, reductions in incidence of all forms of pulmonary tuberculosis, appearance of simple silicosis in less severe form, increased prospects of survival in cases of simple silicosis, lengthening of effective period, decrease in extent and number of silicotic lesions found postmortem; other diseases among mine workers; future progress. pp. 109-139.

(2) *Experimental Electric Shock*, by R. W. Ian Urquhart, M.A., M.B. (of the Laboratory of Physiology, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada).—Introduction; Review; present investigation; equipment; effects of current; artificial respiration; countershock; graphic records; cause of phenomena observed—circulatory system, nervous system; summary; conclusions. pp. 140-166.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE LABOUR MAGAZINE—VOL. V, NO. 11, MARCH 1927. (The Trades Union Congress, and the Labour Party, London.)

Special Articles: (1) *Twenty-one Years Hard Labour* by Herbert Tracey. pp. 483 and 484.

(2) *Trade Unionism Under Attack. IV.—The Right to Picket*, by Walter M. Citrine (General Secretary of the Trades Union Congress). pp. 485-487.

(3) *Housing Legislation and its Results*, by R. Conant (General Secretary, National Federation of Building Trades Operatives). pp. 488-492.

(4) *How I Became a Socialist Last Week*, by R. B. Suthers. pp. 493-495.

(5) "Colour" *Problems of the Emperors*, by Major D. Graham Pole (Hon. Secretary of the British Committee on Indian Affairs). pp. 496-499.

(6) *Education and Industry*, by Barbara Wootton, M.A. (Principal of the Morley College for Working Men and Women). pp. 500 and 501.

(7) *Memories and Reflections*, by Propagandist. pp. 508-510.

(8) *Research and Agricultural Policy*, by A. W. Ashby. pp. 517-519.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE LABOUR MAGAZINE—VOL. V, NO. 12, APRIL 1927. (The Trades Union Congress and the Labour Party, London.)

Special Articles: (1) *The Parliamentary Labour Party Comes of Age*, by J. S. M. pp. 531-535.

(2) *Trade Unionism Under Attack—V Picketing and the Political Levy*, by Walter M. Citrine (General Secretary of the Trades Union Congress). pp. 536-539.

(3) *The Colwyn Report—Labour Proposes an Alternative to the Capital Levy*, by F. W. Pethick-Lawrence, M.P. pp. 540-542.

(4) *Memories and Reflections*, by Propagandist. pp. 543-545.

(5) *In the "Eight-fifteen"*—Lord Oxford has an Idea, by T. S. Dixon. pp. 546-548.

(6) *The New Balkan Problem*, by David Mitrany (Special Correspondent for South-East Europe of Carnegie Endowment for International Peace). pp. 549-551.

(7) *The Valley of Sorrow—Among the miners of Cwm*, by W. M. C. pp. 556-559.

(8) *American Adventures in Communism*, by Edward Levinson (Assistant Editor, "The New Leader," U. S. A.). pp. 560-562.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE—VOL. XXVII, NO. 3, MARCH 1927. (The Department of Labour, Canada.)

Special Articles: (1) *Report of Board in Dispute between the Canadian Pacific Railway Company and its Clerks, Freight Handlers, Station Employees, etc.*—Report of Board; minority report. pp. 259-263.

(2) *Old Age Pension Bill Before Parliament of Canada—Minister of Labour Outlines Provisions of Government Measure.*—Statement by Minister of Labour; bill passed in House of Commons. pp. 268-271.

(3) *Minimum Wages for Women in Quebec—Issue of Order Number 2, Governing Laundries, etc., Outside Montreal District.*—Maximum of inexperienced workers; overtime; lost time; deductions for absence; waiting; permits; penalties; posting. pp. 271-272.

(4) *Workmen's Compensation in the Province of Quebec—New Act to be effective on April 1.*—Division I—Compensation; division II—liability; division III—procedure. pp. 272-275.

(5) *Report of Manitoba Bureau of Labour for Fiscal Year ending April 30, 1926.*—Maximum Wages; accidents; accident prevention and first aid; fair wages under government contracts; unemployment relief. pp. 276-277.

(6) *Labour and Industry in Saskatchewan*—Industrial accidents: manufacturing industries; coal mining; other industries; employment service; labour legislation; minimum wages: shops and stores; laundries and factories; mail order houses, all establishments except hotels, restaurants and refreshment rooms; hotels, restaurants and refreshment rooms in cities. pp. 278-279.

(7) *The Mining Industry in Nova Scotia in 1926*. pp. 280-281.

(8) *Rock-Dusting in Alberta Coal Mines—New Regulations Providing against Danger of Coal Dust Explosions*. pp. 281-282.

(9) *Annual Report of the National Research Council of Canada*. pp. 283-284.

(10) *Report of Committee on Unemployment Insurance in Great Britain.*—Alleged abuses of the dole; a contributory scheme: unemployment fund, scope, rates of benefit, conditions for the receipt of benefit, contributions, administration; trade cycles. pp. 284-285.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

Current Notes From Abroad

INTERNATIONAL

The 13th International Congress of Agriculture will be held in Rome from 23 to 28 May 1927.

The programme includes:

"The Position of Agriculture and the Work of Agricultural Associations"

"The Scientific Organisation of Agricultural Work"

"Women's Organisations in Rural Districts and Allied Subjects."

(From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, March 21, 1927.)

UNITED KINGDOM

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work reported to the Ministry of Labour as beginning in March was 22. In addition, 13 disputes which began before March were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in March (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 14,000; and the aggregate duration of all disputes during March was about 137,000 working days. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, April 1927.)

* * * * *

At 1st April the average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, and miscellaneous items) was approximately 65 per cent. above that of July, 1914, as compared with 71 per cent. a month ago and 68 per cent. a year ago. The corresponding figures for food alone were 55, 62 and 59, respectively.

The index number for 1st April is the lowest recorded since January 1917; the fall since 1st March is mainly due to decreases, largely seasonal, in the prices of eggs, milk and butter, and to reductions in the prices of coal and gas from the abnormal levels which resulted from the coal-mining stoppage. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, April 1927.)

* * * * *

While employment in a number of important industries remained very bad during March, there was nevertheless, in industry generally, a pronounced improvement throughout the month. A satisfactory feature was a substantial decrease in the numbers of insured persons recorded as wholly unemployed. The improvement in employment occurred principally in tailoring, pottery, and earthenware manufacture, general and marine engineering, shipbuilding, building and public works contracting, the cotton industry, and textile bleaching, dyeing, etc. In the coal-mining industry there was a reduction in the numbers recorded as wholly unemployed, but this was more than counterbalanced by an increase in the numbers temporarily stopped from the service of their employers.

Among the workpeople (numbering approximately 12,000,000) insured against unemployment under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great

Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped as well as those wholly unemployed) in all industries taken together at 21st March 1927, was 9.9 as compared with 10.9 at 21st February 1927 and 9.8 at 22nd March 1926. The percentage wholly unemployed declined from 8.8 at 21st February to 7.9 at 21st March. The total number of applicants for employment registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 28th March 1927, was approximately 1,115,000 of whom 905,000 were men and 153,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls; at 28th February 1927, it was 1,208,000 of whom 970,000 were men and 172,000 were women; and at 29th March 1926, it was 1,070,000 of whom 842,000 were men and 175,000 were women. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, April 1927.)

* * * * *

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 in March resulted in an aggregate net increase of nearly £47,000 in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 200,000 workpeople, and in a reduction of nearly £24,000 in those of 148,000 workpeople. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, April 1927.)

* * * * *

For the past few years the cost-of-living sliding-scale as a method of adjusting wage rates has been subject to criticism on the ground that it involves, in several industries, an apparently unnecessary variation in wages at comparatively frequent intervals of three or six months on account of seasonal fluctuations in the price of certain articles of food, mainly eggs, milk and butter. In a few industries, writes a correspondent, this objection has been largely responsible for alterations in the arrangements for adjusting wages. In the wool textile industry the sliding-scale method was abandoned some time ago, though the agreements indicate that there may be a reversion to the method if circumstances warrant it. More recently, in the building industry, it has been arranged that the adjustment of wage rates shall be based on the average of the index numbers over a period of twelve months, instead of six months, as formerly. In the boot and shoe industry, also, adjustments now take place at yearly intervals. Recent events have brought into prominence another undesirable feature of the sliding-scale method. In certain cases workers are at present in receipt of increases in wages as a direct result of the disaster of the coal stoppage, which caused a temporary inflation in the cost-of-living index number mainly owing to the rise in the price of household coal and gas. It is somewhat hazardous to estimate what would have been the index number if there had been no coal stoppage, but it is fairly certain that it would not have been sufficiently high in the latter part of 1926 to warrant the increases in wages which have taken place recently in the railway service, the textile bleaching and dyeing industry, the electrical contracting industry, and in the Civil Service. The increase in the latter case may be regarded as an additional charge on the Exchequer resulting directly from the dispute. It is becoming more clear that the value of the sensitive cost-of-living sliding-scale has now

passed, and that there is much to be said in favour of stabilising that part of wage rates which fluctuates with the index number until there is a substantial variation, say of 10 points in either direction from the level of about 70 per cent. above that of 1914. (From "Economist," London, March 5, 1927.)

* * * * *

Since the inception of the Unemployment Grants Committee in Great Britain in December 1920, it has approved more than 11,900 schemes for State assistance to the extent of about £40,000,000. (From "Social and Industrial Review," Pretoria, March 1927.)

* * * * *

OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

In the Irish Free State an Act of 1926 excludes from unemployment insurance teachers in secondary schools, assistant mistresses beginning in elementary schools, lay assistant teachers in the elementary sectarian schools and in the convents, and needlework instructresses and manual work instructors in the elementary schools.

The classes of workers thus excluded are exempted from the charges, as well as deprived of the advantages, of unemployment insurance. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, April 11, 1927.)

* * * * *

The French Government recently informed the Secretary General of the League of Nations of the measures it has taken in connection with the Recommendation adopted at the Sixth Session of the International Labour Conference (Geneva 1924) concerning the utilisation of workers' spare time.

The development of facilities for the utilisation of spare time is ensured by the general application to all workers in industrial and commercial undertakings of the Act of 23 April 1919 on the eight hour day. The Government has already issued fiftyfour administrative regulations to ensure enforcement of this Act. Thus "out of about 10,000,000 workers in commercial and industrial undertakings, the number of salaried workers or employees who have still to be brought under the regulations based upon the eight hour day and the fortyeight hour week system may be estimated at 500,000 at most." (From "International Labour Office Weekly News Service, No. 45, Geneva.)

* * * * *

The number of unemployed among intellectual workers in Poland was 22,500 at the beginning of February 1927. This figure is about 10 per cent. of the total number of unemployed registered at that time.

On 11th January the Government issued a Decree regulating the grant of emergency unemployment relief to those intellectual workers who were no longer entitled, or had never been entitled, to the statutory allowances under the Insurance Act. The Decree provides that the emergency relief may not exceed 100 zloty for unemployed persons with a family of more than five persons dependent on them, 55 zloty for unemployed persons who have to keep two persons, and 45 zloty for single persons. In each case the allowance will be calculated according to the wages actually received in the period immediately preceding unemployment.

The Decree also provides that emergency relief may not be granted to unemployed persons who lost their employment before 31st December 1923.

In this connection mention may be made of the initiation by the municipality of Warsaw of a certain number of public works, in which 200 unemployed intellectual workers will be employed throughout the year in clerical work. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, April 11, 1927.)

* * * * *

The number of intellectual workers unemployed in Germany is estimated at 200,000 out of a total of about 1,600,000 unemployed. Theatrical artists would seem to be particularly affected. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, April 11, 1927.)

UNITED STATES

According to the Press Reports of the International Federation of Trade Unions, the total amount of the deposits in Labour Banks in the United States on the 30th June 1926 was nearly \$111,000,000.

The total number of banks is now thirtysix. (From "Social and Industrial Review," Pretoria, March 1927.)

OTHER COUNTRIES

It is reported that the Japanese Bureau of Social Affairs proposes to draft a Bill for the protection of mining workers, and that this protection is necessary would appear from the following figures relating to accidents in Japanese mines. During 1925 there were 223,236 workers of both sexes involved in accidents, of whom 840 died. 190,487 men and 31,456 women were injured and 900 men and 393 women suffered from sickness. According to the figures for the end of June 1926, the total number of workers employed was 289,201 which, shows that the rate of accidents is exceedingly high. The above figures include not only serious accidents, but also accidents or sickness which did not involve more than thirty days' disability, to which category more than 200,000 cases belong. (From "Social and Industrial Review," Pretoria, March 1927.)

* * * * *

The Japanese Government Delegation to the Governing Body of the International Labour Office states that an Act which gives effect to the Convention fixing the minimum age for the admission of young persons to employment as trimmers or stokers (Geneva, 1921) was passed by the Diet and promulgated on 24th February 1927. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, March 21, 1927.)

* * * * *

According to returns received from 383 unions, with a membership of 441,560, there were 25,351 unemployed during the December quarter, 1926, representing an unemployment rate of 5.7 per cent. Industrial disputes during the September quarter, 1926, numbered 80, which involved 21,773 workpeople, whose estimated loss of wages amounted to £155,317. Changes in rates of wages affected 346,837 workpeople, the net increase in wages a week amounting to £35,091. (From "Queensland Industrial Gazette," Brisbane, March 24, 1927.)

LABOUR GAZETTE
PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN APRIL 1927

Name of industry and locality	Approximate number of work-people involved		Date when dispute		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
			1927	1927		
1. Textile Mills— Shri Amalaka Mills, Ltd., Kanheria, Ahmedabad.	128	..	30 Mar	1 April	Sympathy with a dismissed jobber and protest against the system of giving damaged cloth in lieu of wages.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.
2. The Gordhan Spinning and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Naroda Road, Ahmedabad.	175	..	2 April	6 April	Demand for reinstatement of a dismissed jobber.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.
3. The Gujarath Cotton Mills Co., Ltd., Naroda Road, Ahmedabad.	200	..	26 April	27 April	Damaged cloth given in lieu of wages.	The strike ended in a compromise.
Miscellaneous						
4. The Western India Match Factory, Ambernath.	1,235	..	8 April	12 April	Proposal to make alterations in the piece work rates of wages.	The strike ended in a compromise.

LABOUR GAZETTE
ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES*
1. Bombay City

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to				Nature of injury						Total No. of persons injured	
	Machinery in motion		Other causes		Fatal		Serious		Minor		Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927
	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927		
I. Textile Mills— Cotton Mills Others	75 (41)	99 (64)	43	56 (60)	4	3	41	34	75	86	120	133
Total ..	76	98	44	58	4	3	47	68	76	86	122	138
II. Workshops— Engineering Railway Misc Others	12	3	73	73	1	1	14	7	71	34	258	319
Total ..	45	65	401	332	2	2	58	39	346	380	447	597
III. Miscellaneous— Chemical Works Flour Mills Printing Presses Others	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	4	6	5	4	..	..	6	4	4	6	10	10
Total, All Factories ..	121	169	450	394	4	5	106	108	469	452	579	565

2. Ahmedabad

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to				Nature of injury						Total No. of persons injured	
	Machinery in motion		Other causes		Fatal		Serious		Minor		Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927
	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927		
I. Textile Mills— Cotton	33	50(a)	26	25	1	1	30	41	28	34	59	76
Total ..	33	50	26	25	1	1	30	41	28	34	59	76
II. Miscellaneous— Match Factories Flour Mills Oil Mills Engineering Others	2	..	1	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	3	..
Total ..	2	..	1	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	3	..
Total, All Factories ..	35	50	27	25	1	1	32	41	29	34	62	76

* The figures for January and February have been revised; and those for March and April are preliminary.
Explanation.—(a) 2 persons injured by one accident.
(b) 3 persons injured by one accident.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES—(contd.)
3. Karachi City

MAY, 1927

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to				Nature of injury						Total No. of persons injured	
	Machinery in motion		Other causes		Fatal		Serious		Minor			
	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927
I. Workshops—												
Railway and Port Trust Engineering ..	..	3	4	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	5
Total ..	..	3	4	3	..	..	..	1	..	..	4	5
II. Miscellaneous—												
Total ..	2	..	3	1	..	..	1	1	4	..	5	1
Total, All Factories ..	2	3	7	4	..	..	1	2	8	5	9	7

4. Other Centres

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to				Nature of injury						Total No. of persons injured	
	Machinery in motion		Other causes		Fatal		Serious		Minor			
	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1917	Mar and April 1927	Jan and Feb 1927	Mar and April 1927
I. Textile Mills—												
Cotton Mills ..	13	20	(d)	7	13	1	15	16	10	10	38	27
Others ..	2	6	12 (a)	4	..	..	5	5	1	5	2	10
Total ..	15	26	12	11	13	1	16	21	11	15	40	37
II. Workshops—												
Railway Arms and Ammunition ..	5	7	57	46	..	..	11	4	51	49	62	53
Others ..	1	2	5	2	..	..	2	..	4	2	6	2
Total ..	7	9	64	50	..	..	14	6	57	53	71	59
III. Miscellaneous—												
Ginning and Pressing Factories ..	5	3	5 (c)	1	6	..	2	2	5	2	13	4
Paint Works ..	2	3	7	5	1	..	3	5	5	3	9	8
Others ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	7	6	12	6	7	..	5	7	10	5	22	12
Total, All Factories ..	29	41	88	67	20	1	35	34	78	73	133	108

Explanation:—(a) 2 persons injured by one of the accidents.
(b) 4 persons injured by one of the accidents.
(c) 15 persons injured by one of the accidents.

MAY, 1927

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

Count or Number	Month of March			12 months ended March		
	1925	1926	1927	1925	1926	1927
	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 ..	5,986	6,968	6,393	68,944	66,337	82,549
Nos. 11 to 20 ..	19,838	18,737	18,922	226,242	197,165	226,172
Nos. 21 to 30 ..	13,034	14,529	15,265	159,052	140,333	171,683
Nos. 31 to 40 ..	1,106	1,518	1,629	14,176	13,576	19,684
Above 40 ..	401	646	975	5,682	5,422	10,677
Waste, etc. ..	81	83	99	196	618	1,257
Total ..	43,446	42,481	43,283	474,292	423,451	512,022

BOMBAY CITY

Count or Number	Month of March			12 months ended March		
	1925	1926	1927	1925	1926	1927
	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 ..	5,331	6,286	5,643	61,164	56,981	72,798
Nos. 11 to 20 ..	13,692	12,473	12,816	156,150	116,559	153,361
Nos. 21 to 30 ..	8,290	8,859	9,242	98,954	79,114	104,049
Nos. 31 to 40 ..	556	656	764	7,961	5,885	9,201
Above 40 ..	241	234	455	3,212	2,503	4,307
Waste, etc. ..	72	74	89	101	520	1,143
Total ..	28,152	28,582	29,009	327,542	261,962	344,859

AHMEDABAD

Count or Number	Month of March			12 months ended March		
	1925	1926	1927	1925	1926	1927
	Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 ..	192	212	191	2,394	3,016	2,560
Nos. 11 to 20 ..	3,288	3,527	3,480	37,264	44,783	40,002
Nos. 21 to 30 ..	3,686	4,366	4,728	45,803	47,050	50,260
Nos. 31 to 40 ..	430	647	610	4,949	5,766	8,261
Above 40 ..	120	305	373	1,596	2,126	4,825
Waste, etc. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	7,716	9,057	9,382	92,006	102,741	105,908

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

MAY, 1927

Description	Month of March			12 months ended March		
	1925	1926	1927	1925	1926	1927
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi	945	867	1,070	15,321	13,372	21,322
Chudders	1,208	1,069	1,067	15,943	16,692	17,278
Dhotis	6,646	7,373	7,159	72,037	66,905	89,841
Drills and jeans	1,429	1,281	1,345	12,485	10,667	13,869
Cambrics and lawns	38	16	22	593	520	351
Printers	298	424	226	4,121	3,037	2,779
Shirtings and long cloth	10,183	9,203	9,629	100,107	97,238	109,317
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	1,100	802	1,530	12,690	11,817	16,995
Tent cloth	162	128	89	2,138	1,575	1,341
Other sorts	540	702	631	6,373	6,235	5,628
Total	22,629	21,865	22,768	241,208	242,468	277,672
Coloured piece-goods	8,268	8,389	10,608	102,366	94,540	121,786
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	203	269	182	1,919	2,514	2,635
Hosiery	10	16	27	185	243	274
Miscellaneous	82	63	245	1,659	1,606	2,900
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	16	88	234	135	653	2,016
Grand Total	31,208	30,690	34,064	347,672	342,000	407,283

BOMBAY CITY

Description	Month of March			12 months ended March		
	1925	1926	1927	1925	1926	1927
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi	772	734	923	10,809	9,723	16,544
Chudders	780	652	722	9,847	10,400	11,791
Dhotis	1,908	2,155	2,179	21,116	21,053	26,090
Drills and jeans	1,346	1,145	1,242	11,311	9,019	12,228
Cambrics and lawns	20	9	15	447	223	75
Printers	—	219	33	33	278	—
Shirtings and long cloth	2,687	6,743	7,536	71,844	68,565	84,760
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	881	520	1,277	9,692	8,019	12,477
Tent cloth	96	87	84	931	979	1,035
Other sorts	207	368	348	2,795	2,667	3,104
Total	13,757	12,632	14,326	138,825	131,996	172,295
Coloured piece-goods	5,615	5,235	7,088	78,162	63,429	86,482
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	197	263	178	1,851	2,409	2,542
Hosiery	6	6	7	91	76	67
Miscellaneous	77	58	198	1,348	1,281	2,362
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	16	28	132	115	468	1,371
Grand Total	19,668	18,222	21,929	220,392	199,659	265,119

MAY, 1927

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

861

Description	Month of March			12 months ended March		
	1925	1926	1927	1925	1926	1927
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi	100	29	19	3,201	1,100	751
Chudders	421	325	291	4,752	4,628	4,241
Dhotis	3,374	4,331	4,077	39,536	47,111	50,574
Drills and jeans	25	34	37	268	302	322
Cambrics and lawns	13	5	6	123	219	269
Printers	188	169	132	2,812	1,881	1,080
Shirtings and long cloth	1,975	1,920	1,571	22,772	22,821	18,417
T. cloth, domestics and sheetings	190	212	190	2,160	3,313	3,532
Tent cloth	63	30	—	1,105	499	21
Other sorts	233	238	192	2,346	2,486	1,432
Total	6,582	7,293	6,516	79,075	84,925	80,639
Coloured piece-goods	1,820	2,266	2,346	14,239	20,124	22,629
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	1	2	2	9	13	19
Hosiery	4	10	20	94	166	205
Miscellaneous	6	4	44	262	276	482
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	—	59	99	8	174	627
Grand Total	8,413	9,634	9,027	93,687	105,678	104,601

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index numbers					
			July 1914	April 1926	Mar. 1927	April 1927	July 1914	April 1926	Mar. 1927	April 1927		
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.						
Cereals—												
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill	Md.	4 11 3	6 6 10	6 4 11	6 3 1	100	137	134	132		
Wheat	Do. 1	Cwt.	5 9 6		7 12 0	7 12 3	100		139	139		
Do.	Khandwa Seoni	Candy	45 0 0	74 0 0	91 0 0	55 8 0	100	164	202	153		
Do.	Jubbulpore	"	40 0 0	55 0 0	54 8 0	55 8 0	100	138	136	139		
Jowari	Cawnpore	Maund	3 2 6	4 2 0	4 5 5 (1)	4 7 1 (1)	100	131	137	141		
Barley	Do.	"	3 4 6	4 5 5	4 7 1	4 5 5	100	132	135	132		
Bajri	Ghati	"	3 4 6	5 4 8	4 15 7	4 10 6	100	161	152	142		
	Index No.—Cereals		....	....	....	....	100	144	148	140
Pulses—												
Gram	Punjab yellow (2nd sort)	Maund	4 3 9	4 13 11	4 13 11	4 10 6	100	115	115	110		
Turdal	Cawnpore	"	5 10 5	6 14 1	8 7 5	7 15 0	100	122	150	140		
	Index No.—Pulses		....	....	....	....	100	119	133	125
	Index No.—Food grains		....	....	....	....	100	138	144	136
Sugar—												
Sugar	Mauritius	Cwt.	9 3 0	15 14 0	17 0 0	16 5 0	100	173	167	160		
Do.	Java white	"	10 3 0	16 0 0	17 0 0	16 5 0	100	157	163	160		
Raw (Gul)	Sangli or Poona	Maund	7 14 3	9 8 5	8 2 7	8 7 0	100	121	103	107		
	Index No.—Sugar		....	....	....	....	100	150	135	134
Other Food—												
Turmeric	Rajapuri	Maund	5 9 3	8 13 6	8 11 4	8 13 6	100	159	156	159		
Ghee	Deshi	"	45 11 5	78 9 2	74 4 7	74 4 7	100	172	163	163		
Salt	Bombay (black)	"	1 7 6	2 0 0	1 14 0	1 14 0	100	136	128	123		
	Index No.—Other food		....	....	....	....	100	156	149	150
	Index No.—All Food		....	....	....	....	100	144	144	139
Oilseeds—												
Linseed	Bold	Cwt.	8 14 6	10 7 0	10 10 0	10 15 0	100	117	119	123		
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown)	"	8 0 0	11 12 0	11 2 0	11 6 0	100	147	139	142		
Poppy seed	Do.	"	10 14 0	13 2 0	17 8 0	16 8 0	100	12	161	152		
Gingelly seed	White	"	11 4 0	15 12 0	17 12 0	17 4 0	100	140	158	153		
	Index No.—Oilseeds		....	....	....	....	100	131	144	143

Textiles—Cotton—										
(a) Cotton, raw	Fully good	Candy	251 0 0	348 0 0	307 0 0	295 0 0	100	139	122	118
Do.	Do.	"	222 0 0	319 0 0	291 0 0 (2)	2 0 0 0 2	100	144	131	126
Oomra	Saw-ginned	"	230 0 0				100			133
Dharwar	Machine-ginned	"	205 0 0	284 0 0	283 0 0	272 0 0	100	139	138	136
Khandesh	Do.	"	198 0 0	256 0 0	274 0 0	269 0 0	100	129	138	136
Bengal	Do.	"					100	138	132	128
	Index No.—Cotton, raw		....	....	....	....	100	149	137	127
(b) Cotton manufactures	40 S	Lb.	0 12 9	1 3 0	1 1 6	1 0 3	100	149	149	147
Twist	Farl 2,000	Piece	5 15 0	10 0 0	8 14 0	8 12 0	100	168	149	147
Grey shirtings	6,000	"	4 3 0	9 10 0	9 0 0	9 0 0	100	230	215	215
White mulls	Liepmann's 1,500	"	10 6 0	20 0 0	18 8 0	18 8 0	100	193	178	178
Shirtings	Local made 36" x 37" yds.	Lb.	0 9 6	1 1 9	0 14 9	0 14 9	100	187	155	155
Long Cloth	54" x 6 yds.	"	0 9 6	1 0 3	0 13 6	0 13 6	100	171	142	142
Chudders	Do.	"					100	183	163	161
	Index No.—Cotton manufacture		....	....	....	....	100	165	151	148
	Index No.—Textile—Cotton		....	....	....	....	100	125	117	121
Other Textiles—										
Silk	Manchow	Lb.	5 2 6	6 7 3	6 0 9	6 4 0	100	160	151	151
Do.	Mathow Lari	"	2 15 1	4 11 3	4 7 0	4 7 0	100	143	134	136
	Index No.—Other Textiles		....	....	....	....	100	155	131	138
Hides and Skins—										
Hides, Cow	Tanned	Lb.	1 2 6	1 12 8	1 8 2	1 1 1	100	138	79	99
Do. Buffalo	Do.	"	1 1 3	1 7 9	0 13 7	2 6 1	100	219	201	190
Skins, Goat	Do.	"	1 4 0	2 11 10	2 8 3		100	171	137	142
	Index No.—Hides and Skins		....	....	....	....	100	98	97	93
Metals—										
Copper braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	59 0 0	58 8 0	56 0 0	100	175	169	169
Iron bars		"	4 0 0	7 0 0	6 12 0	6 12 0	100	129	131	129
Steel hoops		"	7 12 0	10 0 0	10 2 0	10 0 0	100	160	148	143
Galvanised sheets		"	9 0 0	14 6 0	13 5 0	12 14 0	100	194	254	211
Tin plates		Box	8 12 0	17 0 0	20 8 0	18 8 0	100	151	156	149
	Index No.—Metals		....	....	....	....	100	129	142	142
Other raw and manufactured articles—										
Coal	Bengal, 1st Class Jheria	Ton	14 12 0	19 0 0	21 0 0	21 0 0	100	116	135	114
Do.	Imported	"	19 11 6	22 12 6	26 10 4	22 6 9	100	170	175	175
Kerosene	Elephant Brand	Case	4 6 0	7 7 0	7 10 6	7 10 6	100	185	191	191
Do.	Chester Brand	"	5 2 0	9 8 0	9 12 6	9 12 6	100	150	161	156
	Index No.—Other raw and manfd. articles		....	....	....	....	100	144	144	139
	Index No.—Food		....	....	....	....	100	155	149	147
	Index No.—Non-food		....	....	....	....	100	151	148	144
	General Index No.		....	....	....	....	100	151	148	144

(1) Quotation for Sholapur quality (2) Quotation for Oomra, Fine.

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN KARACHI*

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index Numbers					
			July 1914	Apr. 1926	Mar. 1927	Apr. 1927	July 1914	Apr. 1926	Mar. 1927	Apr. 1927		
			Rs. s. p.	Rs. s. p.	Rs. s. p.	Rs. s. p.						
Cereals—												
Rice	Larkana No. 3	Candy	39 0 0	58 4 0	60 4 0	61 12 0	100	149	154	156		
Wheat, white	5% barley, 3% dirt, 30% red	"	31 8 0	48 0 0	42 0 0	43 0 0	100	152	133	137		
" red	5% barley, 3% dirt, 92% red	"	31 4 0	47 0 0	39 10 0	39 10 0	100	150	127	127		
" white	2% barley, 14% dirt	"	32 8 0	49 8 0	43 4 0	44 6 0	100	152	133	137		
" red	2% barley, 14% dirt	"	32 4 0	48 8 0	40 14 0	40 14 0	100	150	127	127		
Jowari	Export quality	"	25 8 0	43 0 0	37 0 0	38 0 0	100	169	145	149		
Barley	3% dirt	"	26 8 0	31 0 0	34 8 0	34 12 0	100	117	133	131		
Index No.—Cereals			....	....	..	....	100	148	136	138
Pulses—												
Gram	1% dirt	Candy	29 8 0	35 8 0	40 0 0	35 8 0	100	130	136	120		
Sugar—												
Sugar	Java, white	Cwt.	9 2 0	15 6 6	15 4 0	15 10 0	100	162	167	171		
"	" brown	"	8 1 6	....	14 8 0	14 10 0	100	..	179	181	
Index No.—Sugar			....	....	..	....	100	169	173	176
Other food—												
Salt		Bengal Maund	2 2 0	1 11 0	1 11 0	1 10 6	100	79	79	79		
Oilseeds—												
Cotton seed		Maund	2 11 3	3 8 0	3 12 0	3 13 0	100	129	139	141		
Rapeseed, bold	3% admixture	Candy	51 0 0	..	..	70 8 0	100	..	..	138
Gingelly	Black 9% admixture	"	62 0 0	95 0 0	99 0 0	102 0 0	100	153	160	165		
Index No.—Oilseeds			....	....	..	....	100	141	150	148
Textiles—												
Jute bags	B. Twills	100 bags	38 4 0	59 8 0	52 8 0	51 0 0	100	156	137	133		

LABOUR GAZETTE

MAY, 1927

Textiles—Cotton											
(a) Cotton, raw	Sind	Maund.	20 4 0	26 4 0	29 6 0	27 0 0	100	156	140	145	
(b) Cotton manufactures	Pepperill	Piece.	10 3 6	20 0 0	14 0 0	13 9 0	100	196	137	133	
Drills	Liepmann's	"	10 2 0	21 0 0	17 8 0	17 0 0	100	207	173	163	
Shirtings											
Index No.—Cotton manufactures			....	....	..	....	100	202	155	151
Index No.—Textiles—Cotton			....	....	..	....	100	178	152	150
Other Textiles—Wool	Kandahar	Maund	28 0 0	34 0 0	34 8 0	35 8 0	100	121	123	127	
Hides—											
Hides, dry	Sind	Maund.	21 4 0	13 4 0	14 8 0	14 8 0	100	62	68	68	
"	Punjab	"	21 4 0	13 4 0	14 8 0	14 8 0	100	62	68	68	
Index No.—Hides			....	....	..	....	100	62	68	68
Metals—											
Copper Braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	60 8 0	58 0 0	57 8 0	100	100	96	95	
Stove Bars		"	3 14 0	6 6 0	6 2 0	6 2 0	100	165	158	158	
" Plates		"	4 6 0	6 1 0	6 12 0	7 0 0	100	139	154	160	
Index No.—Metals			....	....	..	....	100	135	136	133
Other raw and manufactured articles—											
Coal	1st class Benga.	Ton.	16 0 0	21 0 0	22 0 0	22 0 0	100	131	138	138	
Kerosene	Chester Brand	Case	5 2 0	9 6 0	9 10 0	9 10 0	100	183	188	188	
"	Elephant ..	2 Tons.	4 7 0	7 5 0	7 8 0	7 8 0	100	165	169	169	
Index No.—Other raw and manufactured articles			....	....	..	....	100	160	165	165
Index No.—Food			....	....	..	....	100	141	137	138
Index No.—Non-food			....	....	..	....	100	140	137	137

MAY, 1927

LABOUR GAZETTE

* Yarn (40 Grey, Plough) has been omitted from the index for want of quotation. (1) Quotation for Larkana, white. (2) Quotation for 3 per cent. mutual. (3) Quotation for Sindur, white.

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Month	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No. food	Oil-seeds	Raw cotton	Cotton manufactures	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw and manufactured articles	Index No. non-food	General Index No.
1914														
April	122	84	217	171	167	127	258	237	229	146	169	170	192	184
1925														
April	149	104	177	193	157	137	199	211	158	146	160	159	169	165
May	149	104	179	193	155	144	187	215	143	153	163	155	170	164
June	141	102	160	181	148	142	190	209	144	142	157	157	167	160
July	141	102	159	184	148	140	182	208	144	139	153	155	163	158
August	146	100	158	183	149	140	184	206	155	161	153	159	167	160
September	143	104	159	183	149	136	184	205	155	141	153	159	164	157
October	147	111	151	178	149	130	(a) 191	203	153	151	154	159	162	(a) 158
November	153	128	161	175	155	133	169	195	152	155	153	159	162	160
December	149	122	148	168	149	129	159	191	148	149	150	155	157	154
1926														
January	147	119	148	172	149	127	154	186	149	155	151	158	157	154
February	143	117	148	158	143	129	150	186	147	153	152	153	156	151
March	148	117	146	152	144	127	(a) 144	186	145	147	151	153	(a) 154	(a) 150
April	144	119	150	156	144	131	138	183	143	171	151	150	155	151
May	149	123	156	153	148	137	138	183	143	155	151	146	152	151
June	150	128	152	148	146	142	141	182	143	155	151	146	152	151
July	146	128	144	148	146	142	141	182	131	144	149	147	151	150
August	148	133	146	146	145	134	149	178	130	147	150	148	152	149
September	150	130	156	148	148	140	149	173	133	134	147	148	149	148
October	145	129	144	146	143	132	119	165	134	147	148	148	150	149
November	144	133	152	146	144	131	116	157	131	144	150	160	147	146
December	143	131	156	144	143	133	109	156	132	150	161	158	147	146
1927														
January	153	133	149	140	147	138	113	154	135	142	158	160	146	146
February	149	137	139	150	146	143	125	163	135	155	158	159	149	148
March	148	133	135	149	144	144	132	161	134	137	156	161	149	148
April	140	125	134	150	139	143	128	161	136	142	149	156	147	144

(a) Revised figures from October 1925 to March 1926.

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India (Bombay)	United Kingdom	Canada	Australia	New Zealand	Italy (Rome)	Belgium	Norway	Switzerland	South Africa	France (Paris)	U. S. America
Items included in the index	Food, fuel, light, clothing and rent	Food, rent, fuel, 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, light, fuel and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating, lighting and rent	Food, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating, light, rent and miscellaneous items
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100 (f)	(b) 100	(b) 100	(c) 100	100	(e) 100	100 (f)	100 (f)	(a) 100
1915 ..	104	125	97	119	117	99	....	(d) 117	119	103	....	105 (m)
1916 ..	108	148	102	115	117	116	....	146	140	106	....	118
1917 ..	118	180	130	116	128	146	....	190	180	114	....	142
1918 ..	149	203	146	118	144	197	....	253	229	118	....	174
1919 ..	186	208	155	132	157	205	....	275	261	126	....	199
1920 ..	190	252	190	154	182	313	....	453	302	155	....	200
1921 ..	177	219	152	152	178	387	....	302	209	133	....	174
1922 ..	165	184	147	140	159	429	....	366	255	158	....	170
1923 ..	153	169	146	151	158	(h) 487	....	429	239	166	....	173
1924 ..	157	170	144	149	160	512	....	493	332	169	....	178 (m)
1925 ..	153	176	146	(a) 153	(f) 163	598	....	509	354	169	....	176
November	153	176	152	146	163	643	....	534	311	165	....	178
December	155	177	154	156	162	649	....	534	234	165	....	178
1926 January	155	175	155	155	162	665	....	527	....	167	....	178
February	154	173	154	154	162	661	....	526	....	167	....	178
March	155	172	154	156	162	654	....	521	....	167	....	178
April	153	168	153	156	162	642	....	529	....	167	....	178
May	153	167	152	156	162	652	....	558	....	167	....	178
June	155	168	150	161	162	650	....	579	....	167	....	178
July	157	170	150	161	162	649	....	637	....	162	....	178
August	155	170	150	163	163	652	....	681	....	161	....	178
September	155	172	149	158	163	657	....	684	....	161	....	178
October	155	174	148	158	163	672	....	705	....	161	....	178
November	154	179	150	157	162	657	....	730	....	161	....	178
December	156	179	151	157	162	657	....	741	....	161	....	178
1927 January	156	175	152	157	162	655	....	725	....	160	....	178
February	155	172	151	157	162	667	....	770	....	160	....	178
March	153	171	150	157	162	671	....	771	....	160	....	178
April	153	165	150	157	162	671	....	771	....	160	....	178
May	152	165	150	157	162	671	....	771	....	160	....	178

(a) First half of 1914. (b) First half of 1914. (c) April 1914. (d) From 1915 to 1925 June figures are given. (e) June 1914 = 100. (f) Average for 1914 = 100. (g) Revised series from March 1922. (h) Revised figures. (i) Figures from 1915 to 1925 refer to August. (j) Figures from 1915 to 1925 refer to December. (k) First half of the year. (l) June figures.

INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Country	India (Bombay)	Japan	China (Shanghai)	Java (Batavia)	Australia	Egypt (Cairo)	United Kingdom (1)	France	Holland	Norway	Sweden	Canada (2)	United States of America (3)
No. of articles	44	56	147	†	92	26	150	45	48	100	47	236	404
1913 Average	100	100	(d) 100	100	100	100	100	100	100	(a) 100	(f) 100	100	100
1914	100	96	...	...	...	(e) 100	102	102	102	(c) 115	(j) 116	102	98
1915	117	97	...	...	...	147	109	140	146	159	145	110	101
1916	149	117	...	...	...	138	124	188	224	233	185	132	127
1917	149	149	...	...	...	153	169	262	276	341	...	179	177
1918	236	196	...	...	...	178	207	339	373	345	...	199	194
1919	222	236	...	...	...	189	226	356	304	322	331	209	206
1920	216	259	152	...	...	228	299	509	292	347	(a) 377	244	226
1921	199	200	150	...	...	175	180	345	182	298	211	172	147
1922	187	196	146	170	162	146	159	327	160	233	160	152	149
1923	181	199	156	176	179	131	159	419	151	233	157	153	154
1924	182	207	154	176	173	143	166	489	156	269	155	155	150
1925	163	202	159	170	170	152	159	550	155	251	157	160	159
.. May	164	199	158	174	167	151	159	520	151	260	158	159	155
.. June	160	200	157	173	170	150	158	543	153	258	159	159	157
.. July	158	198	163	175	170	151	158	557	155	254	160	158	163
.. August	160	200	160	176	170	151	157	557	155	245	154	160	160
.. September	157	201	160	175	170	152	156	556	155	231	151	157	160
.. October	(b) 158	200	159	175	171	153	155	572	154	221	148	157	158
.. November	(b) 160	197	158	174	173	145	154	605	154	217	150	161	158
.. December	(b) 154	194	158	173	168	140	153	633	155	218	149	164	156
1926 January	(b) 154	192	164	172	169	134	151	634	153	214	150	164	156
.. February	(b) 151	188	165	170	168	134	149	636	149	211	148	162	155
.. March	(b) 150	184	164	167	171	134	144	632	145	204	148	160	152
.. April	151	181	163	165	176	133	144	650	143	198	145	161	151
.. May	151	177	160	165	175	128	145	688	143	196	145	157	152
.. June	150	177	156	159	171	129	146	738	144	195	143	156	152
.. July	149	179	157	159	169	129	149	838	141	196	143	156	151
.. August	148	177	161	158	170	129	149	768	139	196	143	154	149
.. September	149	176	164	158	166	129	151	787	140	197	142	151	150
.. October	147	177	171	(b) 161	162	129	152	751	143	185	142	151	151
.. November	146	172	174	(b) 160	163	137	152	684	147	182	142	152	149
.. December	146	170	171	159	162	130	146	627	147	177	141	151	147
1927 January	148	171	172	159	162	126	144	622	145	170	140	151	147
.. February	148	171	172	159	162	126	144	622	145	170	140	151	147
.. March	144	175	175	159	162	126	141	632	144	170	140	150	145

(a) Average for half year ended June 1914 = 100. (b) ... (1) Board of Trade. (2) Dominion Bureau of Statistics. (3) Figures from ... February 1913 = 100. (4) Average January ...

RETAIL FOOD INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India	United Kingdom	Canada	South Africa	Australia	New Zealand	United States of America	France (b)	Italy	Belgium	Finland	Holland	Norway	Sweden	Denmark	Poland	Czechoslovakia	Yugoslavia
No. of articles	17	20	29	18	46	...	43	13	9	...	37	27	...	...	51	...	...	...
No. of stations	Bombay	630	60	9	30	25	51	Paris	Rome	59	21	Amsterdam	30	49	100	23	...	...
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100	(c) 100	(d)	100	(e) 100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1915	105	132	105	107	131	112	98	122	95	...	...	...	160	142	128	119	141	178
1916	105	161	114	116	130	119	109	132	111	...	...	...	142	214	181	168	151	178
1917	114	204	157	128	126	127	143	183	137	...	...	...	176	279	268	187	151	178
1918	142	210	175	134	131	139	164	206	203	...	...	...	210	289	310	212	245	245
1919	187	209	186	139	147	144	186	261	206	...	...	...	211	319	310	245	245	245
1920	188	258	227	197	194	167	215	373	318	...	...	...	211	319	310	245	245	245
1921	174	220	148	139	161	164	145	306	402	100	1,278	180	295	...	...	...	...	...
1922	160	180	138	116	148	144	139	297	459	87	1,105	140	293	179	164	157	164	157
1923	148	167	137	116	164	142	144	321	(f) 100	105	968	136	218	160	188	165	164	157
1924	151	162	134	117	149	140	140	360	508	124	1,016	138	348	199	190	179	164	157
1925	152	167	141	120	156	151	199	421	602	133	1,107	152	348	199	190	179	164	157
.. October	148	147	147	118	157	155	158	433	646	144	1,120	147	348	199	190	179	164	157
.. November	149	172	151	117	156	156	164	444	649	144	1,130	148	348	199	190	179	164	157
.. December	151	174	161	116	156	154	162	463	660	147	1,108	145	348	199	190	179	164	157
1926 January	151	171	157	116	155	154	161	480	681	142	1,082	142	348	199	190	179	164	157
.. February	150	168	155	117	154	153	158	495	676	142	1,076	142	348	199	190	179	164	157
.. March	151	165	154	118	159	152	157	497	654	138	1,064	142	348	199	190	179	164	157
.. April	150	159	153	119	163	151	190	503	645	142	1,049	142	348	199	190	179	164	157
.. May	150	158	152	119	163	151	190	522	664	152	1,041	143	348	199	190	179	164	157
.. June	152	158	149	118	162	151	190	544	657	161	1,052	143	348	199	190	179	164	157
.. July	155	161	149	116	159	149	190	574	654	165	1,062	143	348	199	190	179	164	157
.. August	153	161	150	117	157	149	190	587	660	163	1,116	143	348	199	190	179	164	157
.. September	152	162	147	117	155	148	190	590	652	164	1,110	143	348	199	190	179	164	157
.. October	153	163	147	120	153	147	157	674	654	167	1,091	143	348	199	190	179	164	157
.. November	152	169	148	119	155	146	164	678	630	166	1,081	143	348	199	190	179	164	157
.. December	149	169	151	117	158	149	190	599	611	168	1,081	143	348	199	190	179	164	157
1927 January	155	167	153	116	158	148	190	599	611	168	1,081	143	348	199	190	179	164	157
.. February	152	164	151	117	153	146	190	599	611	168	1,081	143	348	199	190	179	164	157
.. March	152	162	149	117	153	146	190	599	611	168	1,081	143	348	199	190	179	164	157
.. April	151	155	149	117	153	146	190	599	611	168	1,081	143	348	199	190	179	164	157
.. May	151	155	149	117	153	146	190	599	611	168	1,081	143	348	199	190	179	164	157

(a) Average for the year 1914. (b) Includes food and lighting. (c) January to June 1914. (d) Revised series—1921=100. (e) Figures for June. (f) The figures for July from July 1923 are for Milan. (g) Figure for August. (h) June 1914=100. (i) Figures from 1915 to 1919 are for June. (j) The figures from January 1926 are for the Hague Base, January to July 1914 = 100.

RETAIL PRICES OF ARTICLES OF FOOD IN MARCH AND APRIL 1927

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

Articles	Price per	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
		Mar. 1927	Mar. 1927	Mar. 1927	Mar. 1927	Mar. 1927	April 1927	April 1927	April 1927	April 1927	April 1927
<i>Cereals—</i>		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Rice	Maund	7 7 6 <i>134</i>	8 0 0 <i>120</i>	8 0 0 <i>130</i>	8 6 9 <i>159</i>	7 11 1 <i>133</i>	7 7 6 <i>134</i>	8 0 0 <i>120</i>	8 0 0 <i>130</i>	8 0 4 <i>152</i>	7 11 1 <i>133</i>
Wheat	"	7 10 11 <i>137</i>	6 3 5 <i>148</i>	7 4 4 <i>154</i>	7 1 0 <i>137</i>	8 6 5 <i>156</i>	7 4 4 <i>130</i>	6 2 6 <i>146</i>	6 15 4 <i>148</i>	7 6 10 <i>144</i>	8 6 5 <i>156</i>
Jowari	"	5 12 6 <i>133</i>	4 11 4 <i>130</i>	5 5 4 <i>140</i>	4 4 2 <i>148</i>	5 3 10 <i>153</i>	5 11 2 <i>131</i>	4 9 2 <i>126</i>	5 5 4 <i>140</i>	3 15 11 <i>139</i>	5 3 10 <i>153</i>
Bajri	"	5 14 10 <i>137</i>	5 7 6 <i>130</i>	6 2 6 <i>131</i>	4 5 2 <i>123</i>	5 9 10 <i>137</i>	5 12 4 <i>134</i>	5 1 3 <i>121</i>	6 2 6 <i>131</i>	4 4 0 <i>121</i>	5 9 10 <i>137</i>
Index No.—Cereals ..		<i>135</i>	<i>132</i>	<i>139</i>	<i>142</i>	<i>145</i>	<i>132</i>	<i>128</i>	<i>137</i>	<i>139</i>	<i>145</i>
<i>Pulses—</i>											
Gram	Maund	6 15 1 <i>161</i>	5 14 10 <i>156</i>	5 5 4 <i>133</i>	5 10 2 <i>131</i>	6 3 5 <i>128</i>	6 10 11 <i>155</i>	6 0 7 <i>159</i>	5 0 0 <i>125</i>	5 10 2 <i>131</i>	6 0 1 <i>123</i>
Turdal	"	8 14 6 <i>152</i>	10 0 0 <i>150</i>	8 14 3 <i>144</i>	8 7 10 <i>145</i>	9 2 8 <i>159</i>	8 10 7 <i>148</i>	10 0 0 <i>150</i>	8 14 3 <i>144</i>	8 10 0 <i>148</i>	11 13 8 <i>179</i>
Index No.—Pulses ..		<i>157</i>	<i>153</i>	<i>139</i>	<i>138</i>	<i>134</i>	<i>152</i>	<i>155</i>	<i>135</i>	<i>144</i>	<i>151</i>

<i>Other articles of food—</i>											
Sugar (refined) ..	Maund	14 4 7 <i>187</i>	12 8 9 <i>173</i>	13 7 7 <i>168</i>	14 8 9 <i>145</i>	14 0 7 <i>150</i>	14 4 7 <i>187</i>	12 1 2 <i>166</i>	13 5 4 <i>167</i>	13 14 7 <i>139</i>	13 3 7 <i>141</i>
Jagri (gul)	"	13 11 1 <i>160</i>	11 6 10 <i>164</i>	11 6 10 <i>129</i>	9 2 3 <i>118</i>	8 11 4 <i>114</i>	13 11 1 <i>160</i>	11 6 10 <i>164</i>	11 6 10 <i>129</i>	8 3 3 <i>106</i>	7 10 6 <i>109</i>
Tea	Lb.	0 15 3 <i>196</i>	0 15 7 <i>225</i>	0 15 7 <i>200</i>	1 1 10 <i>171</i>	1 0 5 <i>200</i>	0 15 1 <i>193</i>	0 15 7 <i>225</i>	0 15 7 <i>200</i>	1 1 10 <i>171</i>	1 0 5 <i>200</i>
Salt	Maund	3 5 0 <i>156</i>	2 0 0 <i>152</i>	2 4 7 <i>151</i>	3 5 9 <i>151</i>	2 13 5 <i>151</i>	3 5 0 <i>156</i>	2 0 0 <i>152</i>	2 4 7 <i>151</i>	3 11 1 <i>158</i>	2 12 0 <i>146</i>
Beef	Seer	0 8 0 <i>155</i>	0 9 0 <i>180</i>	0 4 1 <i>68</i>	0 4 6 <i>180</i>	0 6 0 <i>171</i>	0 8 0 <i>155</i>	0 9 0 <i>180</i>	0 4 5 <i>74</i>	0 3 6 <i>140</i>	0 6 0 <i>141</i>
Mutton	"	0 13 0 <i>195</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 9 0 <i>150</i>	0 9 0 <i>150</i>	0 13 6 <i>202</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 8 0 <i>133</i>	0 9 0 <i>150</i>
Milk	Maund	17 9 4 <i>191</i>	7 9 11 <i>172</i>	10 0 0 <i>200</i>	13 5 4 <i>183</i>	13 5 4 <i>133</i>	17 9 4 <i>191</i>	7 9 11 <i>172</i>	10 0 0 <i>200</i>	13 5 4 <i>183</i>	13 5 4 <i>133</i>
Ghee	"	94 10 3 <i>186</i>	71 1 9 <i>167</i>	71 1 9 <i>160</i>	71 1 9 <i>127</i>	66 10 8 <i>129</i>	97 0 5 <i>191</i>	71 1 9 <i>167</i>	71 1 9 <i>160</i>	71 1 9 <i>127</i>	74 6 8 <i>144</i>
Potatoes	"	7 2 3 <i>159</i>	4 11 4 <i>87</i>	3 6 6 <i>89</i>	6 10 8 <i>167</i>	5 4 2 <i>156</i>	6 8 9 <i>146</i>	4 14 9 <i>91</i>	3 5 4 <i>88</i>	5 0 0 <i>125</i>	4 5 1 <i>128</i>
Onions	"	5 5 9 <i>345</i>	4 8 1 <i>248</i>	5 0 0 <i>250</i>	4 7 1 <i>178</i>	3 8 2 <i>175</i>	4 12 2 <i>307</i>	3 1 3 <i>169</i>	4 7 1 <i>222</i>	3 1 3 <i>123</i>	2 11 6 <i>136</i>
Cocanut oil	"	28 9 2 <i>113</i>	25 9 7 <i>104</i>	32 0 0 <i>160</i>	32 0 0 <i>120</i>	28 1 1 <i>100</i>	28 9 2 <i>113</i>	25 9 7 <i>104</i>	32 0 0 <i>160</i>	32 0 0 <i>120</i>	28 1 1 <i>100</i>
Index No.—Other articles of food ..		<i>186</i>	<i>167</i>	<i>158</i>	<i>154</i>	<i>145</i>	<i>182</i>	<i>160</i>	<i>156</i>	<i>139</i>	<i>139</i>
Index No.—All food articles (unweighed) ..		<i>170</i>	<i>157</i>	<i>151</i>	<i>149</i>	<i>144</i>	<i>167</i>	<i>152</i>	<i>149</i>	<i>139</i>	<i>142</i>