

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Index in July 1914 = 100

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Cereals and pulses	Other articles of food	All food	Fuel and lighting	Clothing	House-rent	Cost of living
1923	123	116	122	188	147	161	211	172	152
October	124	116	124	187	147	161	225	172	153
November	132	116	130	189	152	161	219	172	157
December	133	120	131	192	154	161	224	172	159
1924	128	119	128	190	151	161	229	172	156
January	127	115	126	184	147	163	229	172	154
February	122	112	121	180	143	163	230	172	150
March	122	113	120	181	143	166	227	172	150
April	121	112	123	186	147	166	227	172	153
May	124	115	127	191	151	166	229	172	157
June	128	125	134	192	156	166	231	172	161
July	135	124	135	191	156	166	229	172	161
August	136	124	134	193	156	167	224	172	161
September	135	126	134	196	157	167	214	172	161
October	135	123	133	196	156	167	214	172	160
November	134	124	130	189	152	165	209	172	157
December	131	123	133	185	152	166	210	172	157
1925	134	128	138	183	155	165	207	172	159
January	139	128	136	181	153	165	207	172	158
February	137	122	132	182	151	165	207	172	156
March	133	119	129	184	149	165	198	172	154
April	133	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	126	118	124	182	146	165	188	172	151
August	128	121	128	182	146	165	192	172	153
September	129	132	129	182	149	165	185	172	153
October	129	132	129	182	149	165	185	172	153
November	132	137	133	183	151	165	176	172	155
December	132	140	133	183	151	165	173	172	155
1926	132	136	132	181	150	165	172	172	154
January	132	136	133	182	151	165	174	172	155
February	132	133	132	180	150	165	175	172	153
March	133	138	133	177	150	164	170	172	153
April	133	139	134	182	152	164	162	172	155
May	134	145	135	187	155	164	160	172	157
June	135	141	136	181	153	164	160	172	155
July	135	145	136	179	152	164	160	172	155
August	135	150	136	180	153	164	159	172	155
September	135	150	136	180	153	164	159	172	155
October	135	150	136	180	153	164	159	172	155

LABOUR GAZETTE

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

VOL. VII

BOMBAY, NOVEMBER, 1926

[No. 3

The Month in Brief

MIDDLE CLASS UNEMPLOYMENT

The response to the Labour Office circular letter on this subject has been very encouraging and many requests for additional copies of the schedule have been received. The Labour Office is indebted to employers and their staffs for their ready co-operation.

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 October 1926. The average absenteeism was 12.25 per cent. for Bombay City, 2.74 per cent. for Ahmedabad, 2.51 per cent. for Viramgaum, 14.48 per cent. for Sholapur and 9.83 per cent. for Broach.

In the Engineering industry in Bombay City the supply of both skilled and unskilled labour was adequate. Absenteeism was 13.10 per cent. in the Engineering workshops, 5 per cent. in the Marine Lines Reclamation of the Development Directorate, 12.79 per cent. in the Bombay Port Trust Docks and 10.90 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 9.70.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX

In November 1926, the Working Class Cost of Living Index Number was 154 as against 155 in the preceding month. The Index Number for food articles only was 152.

EUROPEAN COST OF LIVING INDEX

The European cost of living index stood at 158 in October 1926 as against 159 in July 1926.

INDEX NUMBER OF WHOLESALE PRICES

The Index Number of Wholesale Prices in Bombay was 147 for the month of October 1926.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

There were seven industrial disputes in progress during October 1926. The number of workpeople involved was 6120 and the number of working days lost 14,358.

BALANCE OF TRADE

During October 1926, the visible balance of trade, including securities, in favour of India amounted to Rs. 141 lakhs.

The Cost of Living Index for November 1926

A FALL OF ONE POINT

Increase per cent. over July 1914
 { All articles ... 54 per cent.
 { Food only ... 52 per cent.

In November 1926,* the average level of retail prices for all the commodities taken into account in the statistics of a cost of living index for the working classes in Bombay city declined by one point as compared with the previous month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914, the general index was 155 in October and 154 in November 1926. The general index was 39 points below the high-water mark (193) reached in October 1920 and one point below the twelve-monthly average of 1925.

The index number for the food group recorded a fall of one point during the month. There was a fall of 1, 4 and 9 points in the price of rice, jowari and bajri respectively. Gram went up by 2 points whilst wheat and turdal remained stationary. Amongst other food articles mutton and turdal remained stationary. Onions further advanced by 76 points but the price declined by 2 points. Potatoes showed no change. Coconut oil rose by 3 points but the prices of sugar (refined), gull, tea, salt, milk and ghee remained practically the same. The "other food" index stood at 180 both in October and in November 1926.

There was a rise in the price of coal but the "fuel and lighting" index remained steady at 164. The clothing group registered a further fall of 3 points thus reaching the lowest level (156) in 1926.

All items : Percentage increase over July 1914

	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
January	82	83	69	73	56	59	57	55
February	76	81	62	65	55	56	57	54
March	72	77	60	65	54	54	59	55
April	67	72	60	62	56	50	58	53
May	68	73	67	63	53	50	56	53
June	74	81	73	63	52	53	54	55
July	86	90	77	65	53	57	57	57
August	79	91	80	64	54	61	52	55
September	72	92	85	65	54	61	51	55
October	74	93	83	62	52	61	53	55
November	73	86	82	60	53	61	53	54
December	74	81	79	61	57	60	55	
Yearly average	75	83	73	64	54	57	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 October 16 and November 15.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX—NOVEMBER

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual consumption (Mass Units) (in crores)	Price per Unit of Quantity			Price x Mass Unit		
			July 1914	Oct 1926	Nov 1926	July 1914	Oct 1926	Nov 1926
Cereals—								
Rice	Maund	70	Rs. 5.594	Rs. 7.547	Rs. 7.469	Rs. 391.58	Rs. 528.29	Rs. 522.83
Wheat	"	21	5.594	7.547	7.354	117.47	154.43	154.43
Jowari	"	11	4.354	5.781	5.615	47.89	63.59	61.77
Bajri	"	6	4.313	6.490	6.089	25.88	38.94	36.53
Total—Cereals						582.82	785.25	775.56
Index Numbers—Cereals						100	135	133
Pulses—								
Gram	Maund	10	4.302	6.682	6.771	43.02	66.82	67.71
Turdal	"	3	5.844	8.089	8.089	17.53	24.27	24.27
Total—Pulses						60.55	91.09	91.98
Index Numbers—Pulses						100	150	152
Other food articles—								
Sugar (refined)	Maund	2	7.620	13.693	13.693	15.24	27.39	27.39
Raw Sugar (Gul)	"	7	8.557	14.287	14.287	59.90	100.01	100.01
Tea	"	5	40.000	78.630	78.630	1.00	1.97	1.97
Salt	"	5	2.130	3.313	3.313	10.65	16.57	16.57
Beef	Seer	28	0.323	0.547	0.547	9.04	15.32	15.32
Mutton	"	33	0.417	0.714	0.703	13.76	23.50	23.20
Milk	Maund	14	9.198	17.583	17.583	128.77	246.16	246.16
Ghee	"	11	50.792	95.240	95.240	76.19	142.86	142.86
Potatoes	"	11	4.479	7.141	7.141	49.27	78.55	78.55
Onions	"	3	1.552	5.953	7.141	4.66	17.86	21.42
Coconut Oil	"	1	25.396	27.974	28.573	12.70	13.99	14.29
Total—Other food articles						381.18	684.24	687.74
Index Numbers—Other food articles						100	180	180
Total—All food articles						1,024.55	1,560.58	1,555.28
Index Numbers—All food articles						100	153	152
Fuel and lighting—								
Kerosene oil	Case	5	4.375	7.406	7.406	21.88	37.03	37.03
Firewood	Maund	48	0.792	1.281	1.281	38.02	61.49	61.49
Coal	"	1	0.542	0.771	0.797	0.54	0.77	0.80
Total—Fuel and lighting						60.44	99.29	99.32
Index Numbers—Fuel and lighting						100	164	164
Clothing—								
Chudders	Lb.	27	0.594	0.969	0.938	16.04	26.16	25.33
Shirts	"	25	0.641	1.021	0.974	16.03	25.53	24.35
T. Cloth	"	36	0.583	0.906	0.922	20.99	32.62	33.19
Total—Clothing						53.06	84.31	82.87
Index Numbers—Clothing						100	159	156
House-rent								
	Per month.	10	11.302	19.440	19.440	113.02	194.40	194.40
Index Numbers—House rent						100	172	172
Grand Total						1,251.07	1,938.58	1,931.87
Cost of Living Index Numbers.						100	155	154

The following table shows the price levels of articles of food in Bombay and November 1926 as compared with the price level for July 1914, which is taken as 100. The levels are calculated from the prices of articles per standard (or railway) maund or unit :-

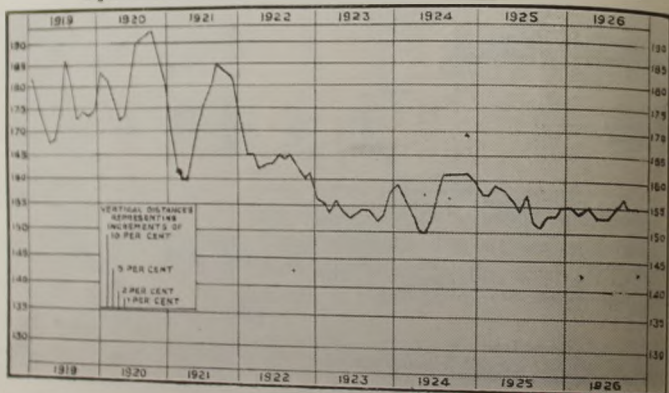
Articles	July 1914	Oct 1926	Nov 1926	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in Nov 1926 over or below Oct 1926	Articles	July 1914	Oct 1926	Nov 1926	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in Nov 1926 over or below Oct 1926
Wheat ..	100	131	131	..	Beef ..	100	169	169	..
Jowari ..	100	133	129	- 4	Mutton ..	100	171	169	- 2
Bajri ..	100	150	141	- 9	Milk ..	100	191	191	..
Gram ..	100	155	157	+ 2	Ghee ..	100	188	188	..
Turdal ..	100	138	138	..	Potatoes ..	100	159	159	..
Sugar (refined) ..	100	180	180	..	Onions ..	100	384	460	+ 76
Raw sugar (gul) ..	100	167	167	..	Cocoanut oil ..	100	110	113	+ 3
Tea ..	100	197	197	..	All food articles (weighted average) ..	100	153	152	- 1

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

Rice 25, Wheat 24, Jowari 22, Bajri 29, Gram 36, Turdal 28, Sugar (refined) 44, Raw Sugar (gul) 40, Tea 49, Salt 36, Beef 41, Mutton 41, Milk 48, Ghee 47, Potatoes 57, Onions 78, Cocoanut Oil 12.

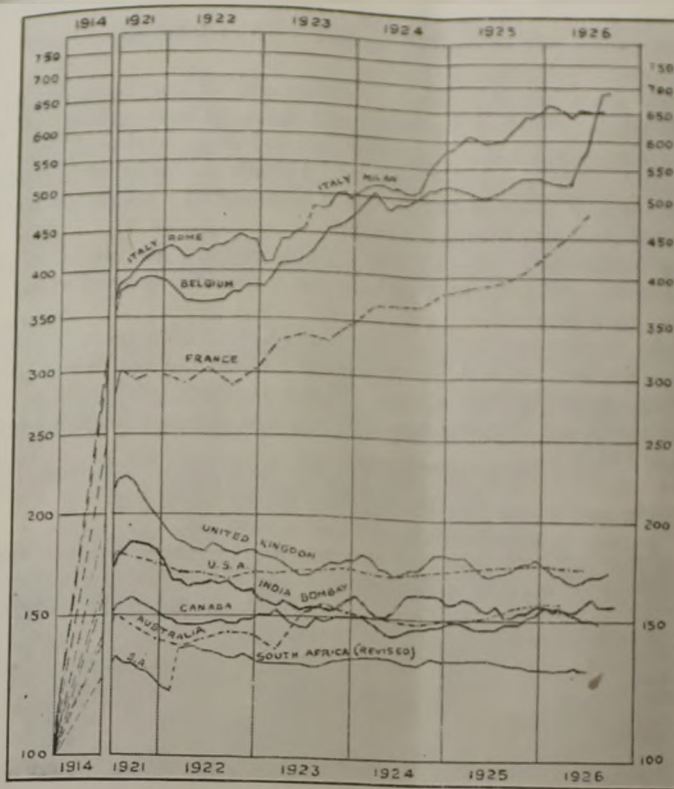
The purchasing power of the rupee being taken as 16 annas in July 1914 its purchasing power in the month under review was 10 annas 5 pies for all items and 10 annas 6 pies for food articles only.

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 index from 1914 to 1926 for various world centres from the middle of 1921. The diagram is on the logarithmic scale. In ascertaining the position and movements of the various elements it is to be made for depreciation of money.



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

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

Wholesale and Retail Prices

1. WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY

A fall of two points

In October 1926, the index number of wholesale prices in Bombay was 147 as against 149 in the previous month. As compared with September 1926, there was a fall of 5 points in the food group and of one point in the non-food group. The general index number was 116 points below the highest peak (263) reached in August 1918 and 16 points below the twelve-monthly average of 1925.

There was a fall of 5 points in cereals and of one point in pulses which led to a fall of 5 points in the index for food grains. All the food grains except wheat and turdal declined in price, there being a fall of 2 points each in rice and gram, of 24 points in jowari, of 3 points in barley and of 7 points in bajri. Wheat advanced by 2 points while turdal remained stationary during the month.

The "other food" index fell by 2 points due to a decrease of 5 points in turmeric. Sugar (Java white) showed a rise of 3 points but gul was cheaper by 8 points.

Under the non-food group, Oilseeds and Cotton Manufactures declined by 8 points each while Other textiles and Other raw and manufactured articles advanced by 1 point each. Metals and Hides and skins recorded increases of 2 and 13 points respectively. The non-food index fell by one point to 149.

The sub-joined table compares October 1926 prices with those of the preceding month and the corresponding month last year:—

Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay* 100 = average of 1925

Groups	No. of items	+ or - % compared with Sept 1926	+ or - % compared with Oct 1925	Groups	Oct 1925	Jan 1926	Apr 1926	July 1926	Sept 1926	Oct 1926
1. Cereals ..	7	-3	-1	1. Cereals ..	99	99	97	98	101	97
2. Pulses ..	2	-1	+16	2. Pulses ..	104	111	111	120	121	121
3. Sugar ..	3	-8	-5	3. Sugar ..	92	90	91	87	95	87
4. Other food ..	3	-1	-18	4. Other food ..	92	89	80	76	76	75
All food ..	15	-3	-4	All food ..	96	96	93	92	95	92
5. Oilseeds ..	4	-6	+2	5. Oilseeds ..	94	92	95	101	101	96
6. Raw cotton ..	5	-	-22	6. Raw cotton ..	101	81	73	76	79	79
7. Cotton manufactures ..	6	-5	-19	7. Cotton manufactures ..	98	90	88	87	84	80
8. Other textiles ..	2	+1	-12	8. Other textiles ..	99	97	93	84	86	87
9. Hides and skins ..	3	+10	-3	9. Hides & skins ..	103	106	117	101	92	101
10. Metals ..	5	+1	-4	10. Metals ..	98	96	96	96	93	94
11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	4	+1	-4	11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	101	100	95	94	96	96
All non-food ..	31	-1	-4	All non-food ..	98	94	93	91	90	89
General Index No...	44	-1	-7	General Index No...	97	94	93	91	91	90

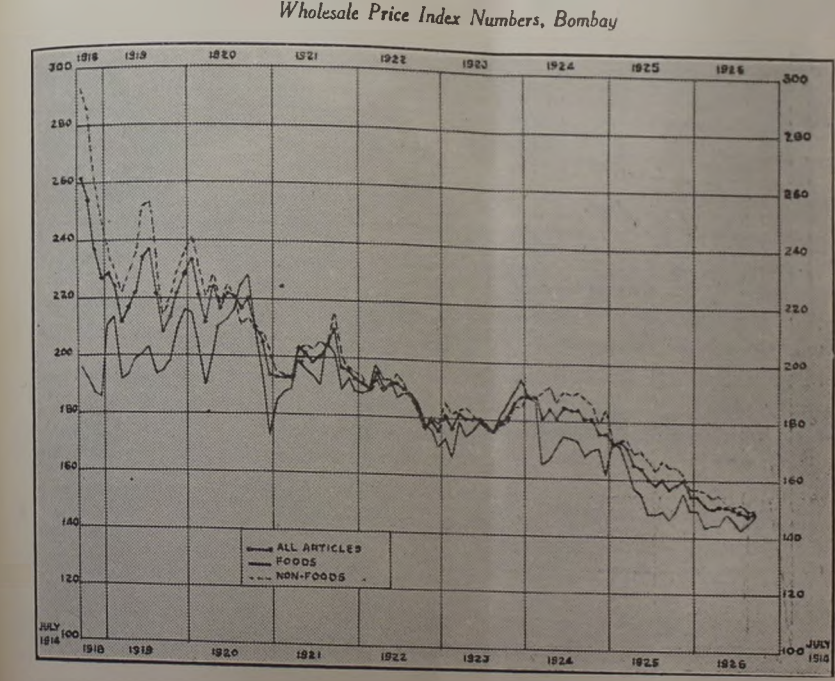
* Wholesale prices in Karachi will be found on page 280.

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

July 1914 = 100

	Food	Non-food	All articles
Twelve-monthly average 1918 ..	171	269	236
" " 1919 ..	202	233	222
" " 1920 ..	206	219	216
" " 1921 ..	193	201	199
" " 1922 ..	186	187	187
" " 1923 ..	179	182	181
" " 1924 ..	173	188	182
" " 1925 ..	155	167	163
Ten-monthly " 1926 ..	145	153	150

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

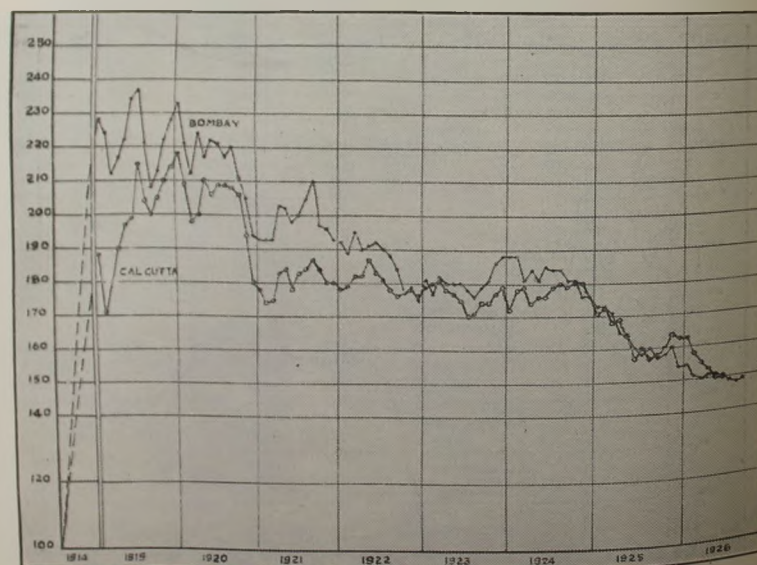


COMPARISON BETWEEN THE INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA

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.

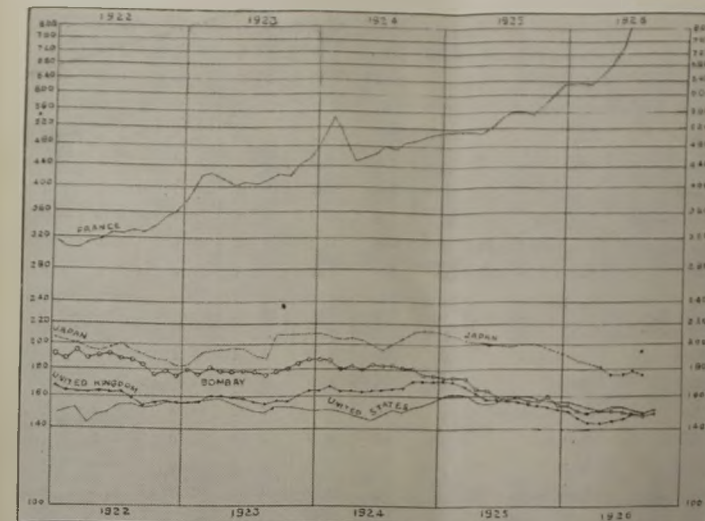
The items included in the indices are 44 for Bombay and 71 for Calcutta. The groups included in the Calcutta index but excluded from that for Bombay are tea (3 items), oil (2 items), jute-raw (3 items), jute manufactures (4 items) and building materials (1 item). There are no groups included in the Bombay 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 1922 and 1924 and during 1925 the two curves temporarily crossed.

The diagram is on an arithmetic and not a logarithmic scale



COMPARISON WITH WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN OTHER COUNTRIES

The following diagram illustrates the comparative level of Wholesale Prices Index Numbers in five countries. The basis 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 14 other Index Numbers, including three privately published for the United Kingdom and two for the United States of America. The three privately published figures for the United Kingdom are those of the *Statist*, the *Economist* and the *London Times* and the two for the United States of America are those of Bradstreet and the Federal Reserve Board.

2. RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Equiv- alent in tolas	July 1914		Sept. 1926		Oct. 1926		Increase (+) or decrease (-) by per cent. over or below	
				As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	July 1914	Oct. 1926
Rice	Paylee	212	5 10	8 0	8 0	+ 2 2					
Rice	Paylee	304	5 10	7 7	7 6	+ 1 8	- 6 1				
Rice	Best Sholapur	190	4 3	5 7	5 8	+ 1 5	+ 0 1				
Chol.		208	4 7	6 10	6 9	+ 2 2	- 0 1				
Dahl		192	4 4	6 2	6 5	+ 2 1	+ 0 3				
Lentils		204	5 11	8 1	8 3	+ 2 4	+ 0 2				
Peas	Java, white	Seer	28	1 1	2 0	1 11	+ 0 10	- 0 1			
Peas	Java, middle quality	28	1 2	2 0	2 0	+ 0 10	...				
Peas	Lucas Caylon, small	Lb.	39	7 10	15 1	15 4	+ 7 6	+ 0 3			
Peas	Bombay, black	Paylee	176	1 9	2 11	2 11	+ 1 2	...			
Peas		Lb.	39	2 6	4 3	4 3	+ 1 9	...			
Mutton		39	3 0	5 4	5 7	+ 2 7	+ 0 3				
Milk	Medium	56	2 9	4 11	4 11	+ 2 2	...				
Milk	Belgaum, Superior	28	7 1	13 2	13 4	+ 6 3	+ 0 2				
Milk	Ordinary	28	0 8	1 0	1 0	+ 0 4	...				
Onions	Nashik	28	0 3	0 9	0 10	+ 0 7	+ 0 1				
Cocoanut oil	Middle quality	28	3 7	4 0	3 11	+ 0 4	- 0 1				

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

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

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

The variations in prices during October 1926 as compared with the previous month were within narrow limits. Under food-grains the prices of jowari, turdal and gram rose by 1, 2 and 3 pies respectively per paylee, wheat and bajri recorded a fall of 1 pie each per paylee whilst the price of rice showed no change. Among other food articles tea and mutton advanced each by 3 pies per lb., onions and ghee by 1 and 2 pies respectively per seer while sugar (refined) and cocoanut oil each fell by 1 pie per seer. The other articles remained practically unchanged during the month.

As compared with July 1914 all articles show considerable increases. Onions are 233 per cent. above their pre-war level. Sugar (refined), tea, mutton, milk and ghee have risen by more than 75 per cent. and gul, salt and beef by more than 60 per cent. The rise in the prices of food-grains is about 30 to 50 per cent. The price of cocoanut oil is only 9 per cent. above its pre-war level.

COMPARATIVE RETAIL PRICES

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

Standard prices in September 1925 = 100

Bombay prices in October 1926 = 100

Articles	Bombay prices in October 1926 = 100					Articles	Bombay prices in October 1926 = 100				
	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona		Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
Cereals—						Cereals—					
Rice ..	100	118	118	112	116	Rice ..	100	113	118	112	116
Wheat ..	100	82	98	91	108	Wheat ..	100	78	99	96	109
Jowari ..	100	84	94	62	96	Jowari ..	100	85	92	62	98
Bajri ..	100	104	102	75	95	Bajri ..	100	95	103	81	99
Average—						Average—					
Cereals ..	100	97	103	85	104	Cereals ..	100	93	103	88	106
Pulses—						Pulses—					
Gram ..	100	84	89	88	88	Gram ..	100	83	86	84	89
Turdal ..	100	102	126	93	112	Turdal ..	100	104	124	98	110
Average—						Average—					
Pulses ..	100	93	108	91	100	Pulses ..	100	94	105	91	100
Other articles						Other articles					
of food—						of food—					
Sugar (re-						Sugar (re-					
hined) ..	100	83	93	93	91	hined) ..	100	87	93	97	95
Jagri (Gul).	100	80	93	70	74	Jagri (Gul).	100	80	93	70	69
Tea ..	100	103	103	118	109	Tea ..	100	102	102	116	107
Salt ..	100	75	69	105	86	Salt ..	100	67	69	108	86
Beef ..	100	103	69	57	69	Beef ..	100	103	65	57	69
Mutton ..	100	92	92	92	101	Mutton ..	100	88	88	88	96
Milk ..	100	47	57	76	76	Milk ..	100	51	57	76	76
Ghee ..	100	82	76	76	90	Ghee ..	100	78	75	75	88
Potatoes ..	100	79	112	112	103	Potatoes ..	100	104	102	93	79
Onions ..	100	58	57	62	60	Onions ..	100	57	56	67	47
Cocoa nut						Cocoa nut					
oil.	100	90	112	112	98	oil.	100	92	114	114	100
Average—						Average—					
Other articles						Other articles					
of food ..	100	81	85	88	87	of food ..	100	83	83	87	83
Average—						Average—					
All food						All food					
articles ..	100	86	92	88	92	articles ..	100	86	90	88	90

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 remained steady at Karachi and Sholapur while it fell by 2 points each at Ahmedabad and Poona. Referring back to October 1925 it is found that in relation to Bombay the average for all food articles declined at all the four centres, there being a drop of 6 points at Karachi, 8 points at Ahmedabad, 5 points at Sholapur and 2 points at Poona.

Of individual articles the price of rice declined at Karachi and that of gul at Poona while both were stationary at the other centres. Tea, mutton, and ghee were lower at all the four centres. Milk remained steady except at Karachi. Potatoes, gram and onions increased at Karachi, Poona, and Sholapur respectively whilst all of them declined at the other centres. Wheat and bajri increased except at Karachi. Sugar was steady at Ahmedabad but advanced at the remaining centres. Jowari advanced at Karachi and Poona, fell at Ahmedabad and remained steady at Sholapur.

European Cost of Living Index—Oct. 1926

A FALL OF ONE POINT

Average increase over July 1914	(All items ..	58 per cent.
	(Food only ..	71 per cent.

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

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

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

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

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

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

As compared with July 1926, the general index number in October 1926 showed a fall of one point. The general index number is the same as in October 1925.

Group Fluctuations

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

Group or item	Month and Year			
	October 1920	October 1925	July 1926	October 1926
I. Food—				
Bazaar	204	168	172	172
Stores	216	168	171	168
All food	207	168	172	171
II. Fuel and lighting	159	117	112	115
III. Clothing	249	158	161	160
IV. House-rent	132	163	163	163
V. Miscellaneous—				
Servants	140	184	184	184
Conveyance	157	145	139	134
School-fees, etc... .. .	116	128	130	130
Passages	123	162	173	173
Income-tax	200	200	200	200
Household necessities	168	136	136	128
Others	220	211	194	194
All miscellaneous	144	158	158	157
General Index No.	157	158	159	158

It will be seen that as compared with July 1926 the food index declined by one point mainly due to a fall of 3 points in "food stores." There was a rise in the price of beef, kidneys, suet, and onions but chickens, eggs, tomatoes and oats recorded a fall. The fuel and lighting group went up by 3 points as a result of an increase in the prices of coal and kerosene oil. The index number for clothing was lower by one point during the quarter under review. Further decreases in the price of tyres and inner tubes resulted in bringing down the "conveyance" index by 5 points. Household necessities decreased by 8 points whilst the other sub-groups showed no change. The index for the miscellaneous group was 157 as against 158 in July 1926.

General Index Numbers

The following are the general index numbers for certain months in the years 1920, 1923, 1924, 1925 and 1926:—

Month and Year		July 1914 = 100	
Month and Year	Index No.	Month and Year	Index No.
October 1920	157	October 1925	158
October 1923	164	January 1926	158
October 1924	162	April 1926	158
April 1925	162	July 1926	159
July 1925	160	October 1926	158

BOMBAY EUROPEAN COST OF LIVING INDEX

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual No. or quantity required per family	Price per unit of quantity			Price x Annual No. or quantity required		
			July 1914	July 1926	Oct. 1926	July 1914	July 1926	Oct. 1926
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Foodstuffs								
Wheat	Pound	152	0.250	0.406	0.438	33.00	53.99	57.82
Maize	"	720	0.125	0.141	0.172	90.00	101.52	123.84
Barley	"	192	0.250	0.469	0.469	48.00	90.05	90.05
Peas	"	96	0.047	0.063	0.073	4.51	6.05	7.01
Beans	"	96	0.313	0.406	0.438	11.27	14.62	15.77
Onions	Each	36	0.375	0.688	0.625	18.00	31.02	30.00
Garlic	"	36	0.375	0.688	0.625	18.00	31.02	30.00
Spinach	"	36	0.375	0.688	0.625	18.00	31.02	30.00
Tomatoes	"	36	0.375	0.688	0.625	18.00	31.02	30.00
Apples	Each	24	1.000	1.375	1.375	24.00	33.00	33.00
Oranges	"	24	0.375	0.688	0.594	135.00	236.16	213.64
Lemons	"	24	0.375	0.688	0.500	225.00	450.00	450.00
Guavas	"	24	0.375	0.688	0.500	225.00	450.00	450.00
Coconuts	"	24	0.375	0.688	0.500	225.00	450.00	450.00
Tea	Each	900	0.250	1.250	1.250	72.00	120.00	120.00
Coffee	"	96	0.750	1.250	1.250	33.64	56.16	56.16
Sugar	"	360	0.094	0.109	0.109	22.68	39.24	39.24
Starch	"	360	0.063	0.109	0.109	22.68	39.24	39.24
Flour	"	360	0.021	0.042	0.063	2.52	5.04	7.56
Wheat	"	120	0.094	0.203	0.109	5.64	12.18	6.54
Onions	"	96	0.094	0.203	0.109	5.64	12.18	6.54
Coconuts	"	24	0.188	0.313	0.313	4.51	7.51	7.51
Total						729.97	1,258.14	1,258.34
Index No.						100	172	172
Foodstuffs								
Wheat	Pound	12	1.625	1.750	1.750	19.50	21.00	21.00
Maize	"	12	0.938	1.875	1.875	11.26	22.50	22.50
Barley	"	12	0.313	0.375	0.375	11.27	13.50	13.50
Peas	"	6	1.000	1.750	1.750	6.00	10.50	10.50
Beans	"	6	0.125	0.250	0.250	30.00	60.00	60.00
Onions	"	240	0.438	1.000	1.000	1.75	4.10	60.00
Garlic	"	24	1.000	2.000	2.000	24.00	48.00	4.00
Spinach	"	24	1.000	2.000	2.000	21.02	48.00	48.00
Tomatoes	"	24	1.000	2.000	2.000	19.50	21.00	21.00
Apples	"	12	1.625	1.750	1.750	19.50	21.00	21.00
Oranges	"	12	1.438	2.875	2.875	17.26	34.50	34.50
Guavas	"	24	0.625	0.813	0.813	15.00	21.00	19.51
Coconuts	"	96	0.375	0.938	0.938	36.00	90.05	90.05
Tea	"	72	1.250	1.750	1.750	90.00	135.00	126.00
Coffee	"	30	1.500	1.625	1.625	18.00	19.50	19.50
Total						320.56	548.55	538.06
Index No.						100	171	168
All-Food Total						1,050.53	1,806.69	1,796.40
Index No.						100	172	171
Household Necessaries								
Tea	Unit	12	18.000	21.000	22.000	216.00	252.00	264.00
Spoons, table	Dozen	36	0.250	0.250	0.250	192.00	192.00	192.00
Knives, table	Dozen	36	0.094	0.250	0.250	3.38	9.00	9.00
Tea-set	Unit	6	2.185	3.688	3.703	13.11	22.13	22.22
Total						424.45	475.13	487.22
Index No.						100	112	115
Wearing Apparel								
Shirts	Each	1 dozen	3.000	4.500	4.500	36.00	54.00	54.00
Trousers	"	1 dozen	1.375	2.750	2.875	8.25	16.50	17.25
Coats	"	1 dozen	2.500	3.500	3.583	22.50	31.50	32.25
Underclothing	Dozen	1	2.500	12.500	12.500	7.50	12.50	12.50
Collars (soft white)	"	1 dozen	2.500	12.500	12.500	7.50	12.50	12.50
Button shirts	"	1 dozen	35.000	52.500	52.500	90.00	210.00	195.00
Coats, sports	"	1	39.500	39.500	39.500	26.33	26.33	26.33
Pyjamas, suits	"	1	27.000	27.000	27.000	60.00	60.00	60.00
Hats	"	1	15.500	15.500	12.500	108.00	108.00	108.00
Shoes	"	1	34.000	38.000	38.000	18.00	38.00	38.00
Lounge suit	"	1	110.000	110.000	32.500	55.00	55.00	55.00
Rain coat	"	1	97.500	97.500	13.000	19.50	19.50	19.50
Ties	"	4	4.375	4.583	11.000	17.50	18.33	18.33
Total						342.08	616.83	604.16
Index No.						100	180	177

BOMBAY EUROPEAN COST OF LIVING INDEX—contd.

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual No. or quantity required per family	Price per unit of quantity			Price x Annual No. or quantity required		
			July 1914	July 1926	Oct. 1926	July 1914	July 1926	Oct. 1926
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Outfitting—women and children								
Woolen	Yard	12	0.750	1.000	1.000	9.00	12.00	12.00
Manila	"	12	0.625	1.500	1.500	7.50	18.00	18.00
Printed	"	3	7.500	13.750	13.750	22.50	41.25	41.25
Silk for dresses	"	12	5.500	5.250	5.250	66.00	63.00	63.00
Crêpe de Chine	"	12	4.500	7.500	7.500	54.00	90.00	90.00
Blouses, suits	"	9	0.375	0.375	0.375	6.75	6.75	6.75
Stockings	"	9	10.500	13.000	14.000	94.50	117.00	126.00
Vests	"	4	7.500	10.500	10.500	30.00	42.00	42.00
Shoes, walking	"	2	14.000	27.500	27.500	28.00	55.00	55.00
Total						318.25	465.00	451.25
Index No.						100	140	142
All-outfitting Total						660.33	1,261.83	1,247.61
Index No.						100	161	160
House-rent								
Per month	12 months	150.000	244.500	244.500	1,800.00	2,934.00	2,934.00	
Index No.						100	163	163
Miscellaneous								
Soap	"	1	19.000	36.970	36.970	236.56	441.64	441.64
Cook	"	1	15.400	27.300	27.300	272.00	459.60	459.60
Hamal	"	1	17.400	36.300	36.300	306.00	527.00	527.00
Arab	"	1	15.000	23.000	23.000	165.00	285.00	285.00
Total						1,076.16	1,976.04	1,976.04
Index No.						100	184	184
Carriage								
Charabanc	"	1	45.000	82.000	82.000	540.00	984.00	984.00
Petrol	Gallon	360	0.937	1.344	1.344	337.50	483.84	483.84
Oil	"	12	8.938	4.750	4.750	42.00	57.00	57.00
Tires	Set of 4 covers	1	272.000	189.000	156.000	272.00	189.00	156.00
Inner tubes	Set of 4	1	67.000	38.000	33.000	67.00	38.00	33.00
Total						1,280.00	1,751.84	1,691.16
Index No.						100	139	134
School fees								
Passages	One return	8	124.531	1,136.500	1,136.500	1,616.78	1,494.37	1,940.14
Income-tax	Per month	12 months	55.000	1.0.000	1.10.000	660.00	1,320.00	1,320.00
House-hold necessaries								
Tea, table	Dozen	36	27.500	43.000	43.000	4.13	6.45	6.45
Knives, table	"	36	27.500	43.000	43.000	1.37	2.15	2.15
Tea-set	Set of 40 pieces	1	19.500	45.000	45.000	5.85	13.50	13.50
Tea-set	Set of 93 pieces	1	5.000	9.750	9.750	2.50	4.88	4.88
Towels	Pair	12	29.000	52.750	52.750	4.83	8.79	8.79
Sheets	Pair	6	91.000	124.000	124.000	9.10	12.40	12.40
Total						198.78	270.17	255.17
Index No.						100	138	128
Stationery								
Stationery	5 quires (paper)	4	0.563	1.000	1.000	2.25	4.00	4.00
Medicine	Month	12 months	8.625	16.750	16.750	103.50	201.00	201.00
Total						105.75	205.00	205.00
Index No.						100	194	194
Miscellaneous Total						5,552.56	8,776.69	8,702.64
Index No.						100	158	157
All Items Total						9,687.91	15,054.34	14,977.67
Index No.						100	159	158

Labour Intelligence—Indian and Foreign Industrial Disputes in the Presidency

Disputes in September .. 7 Workpeople involved .. 6120

At the end of this issue will be found a statement of each dispute in progress during October 1926, with the number of workpeople involved, the date when the dispute began and ended, the cause and the result. The word "dispute" in the official sense means an interruption of work and it is here used in that sense as virtually synonymous with "strike." A dispute, as counted by the Labour Office, is an interruption of work involving ten or more persons and of not less than twenty-four hours' duration. Detailed statistics have been collected since 1st April 1921, the date on which the Labour Office was instituted.

Summary tables have been constructed in order to show the position at a glance, and the diagram at the end of this article shows graphically the same facts. Table I shows the number, magnitude and duration of strikes in October 1926.

I.—Industrial Disputes Classified by Trades

Trade	Number of disputes in progress in October 1926			Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in Oct 1926	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in Oct 1926
	Started before 1st Oct	Started in Oct	Total		
Textile	7	7	6,120	14,358
Transport
Engineering
Metal
Miscellaneous
Total	7	7	6,120	14,358

During the month under review the number of industrial disputes was seven all of which occurred in cotton mills, one in Ahmedabad and the rest in Bombay. The number of workpeople involved in all these seven disputes was 6120 and the number of working days lost (i.e., the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days, less workers replaced) was 14,358.

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes.

II.—Industrial Disputes—Causes and Results, June to October 1926

	June 1926	July 1926	August 1926	Sept 1926	October 1926
Number of strikes and lock-outs	9	4	7	3	7
Disputes in progress at beginning	2*	2	..	..	..
Fresh disputes begun	7	2	7	3	7
Disputes ended	7	4	7	3	7
Disputes in progress at end	2	..	..	..	..
Number of workpeople involved	1,281	384	6,900	3,778	6,120
Aggregate duration in working days	1,752	661	22,457	3,558	14,358
Demands—					
Pay	3	2	4	2	4
Bonus	..	..	..	..	..
Personal	4	1	2	1	3
Leave and hours	..	..	..	..	..
Others	2	1	1	..	..
Results—					
In favour of employees	..	..	1	..	1
Compromised	..	..	..	..	..
In favour of employers	7	4	6	3	6

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 †

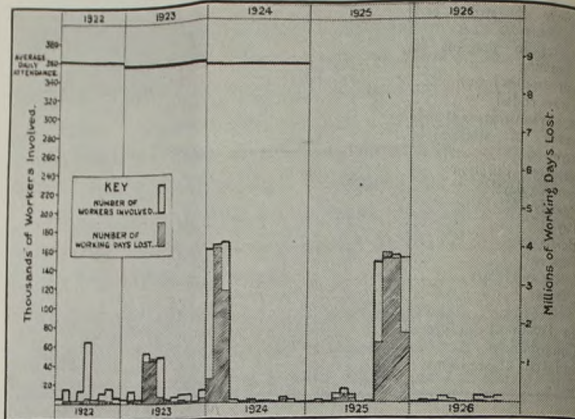
Month	Number of strikes and lock-outs in progress	Aggregate duration of working days lost	Disputes settled		
			In favour of employers (Per cent.)	In favour of employees (Per cent.)	Compromised (Per cent.)
November 1925 ..	6	3,699,628	100	..	..
December ..	6	1,799,343	60	20	20
January 1926 ..	4	460	75	25	..
February ..	5	5,817	75	25	..
March ..	9	3,161	67	22	11
April ..	3	13,088	67	33	..
May ..	4	7,733	100	..	..
June ..	9	1,752	100	..	..
July ..	4	661	100	..	..
August ..	7	22,457	86	..	14
September ..	3	3,558	100	..	..
October ..	7	14,358	86	14	..
Summary for the above twelve months.	58	5,572,016	83	12	5

* Revised figures.

† This table differs from the tables published till April 1926 in three respects. Firstly, the statistics compiled here are for 12 months instead of 13 months; secondly, the last three columns give the percentages of disputes settled only; and thirdly, the last column in the old table is omitted.

It may be of interest to state that the highest peak (4,062,870) in respect of the number of working days lost through strikes in this Presidency since April 1921 was reached in February 1924 whereas the lowest level (390) was reached in May 1924.

Effect of Industrial Disputes, Bombay Presidency



GENERAL REVIEW OF DISPUTES

There were altogether seven industrial disputes in progress in the Bombay Presidency during the month of October 1926. All of them occurred in Cotton Mills, one in Ahmedabad and the rest in Bombay City. The total number of workers affected was 6120 and the time loss amounted 14,358 working days. All the disputes commenced and terminated during the month under review. Analysed by causes, it will be seen that four disputes arose over questions of "pay and allowances" while the remainder were due to "personal grievances." One strike ended in favour of the employees and the rest in favour of the employers.

Progress of Individual Disputes

BOMBAY CITY

In the Kilachand Mills the rates of wages were stated to be higher than some of the other mills in the vicinity and were therefore reduced in September without protest from the workers. There was no trouble as a result of this until a certain baler returned from long leave and provoked the workers in his department to protest against the reduction. As a result of his instigation, 19 workers in the bundling and baling department struck work on the 11th October. On the 13th all the strikers resumed work unconditionally and the dispute ended in favour of the employers.

On the 17th October, 1558 weavers in the Spring Mills struck work as a protest against alleged ill-treatment by the weaving master. The agents

promised to look into the matter but the strikers demanded that they should put up a notice stating that their grievances would be considered and redressed. The management complied with their request but the strikers had already left the mill before the notice was put up. The spinning department was closed after the recess on the 18th on account of the strike. On the 19th all the strikers resumed work and the dispute ended in favour of the employees.

Four hundred and eighty-five weavers working in the Dinshaw Petit Mills struck work on the 18th October as their request for an increase in the rates of wages was refused by the management. On the 19th, 250 strikers returned to work unconditionally but 200 again went out on the 20th. The manager engaged 50 new hands and put up a notice informing the strikers that they would be dismissed if they did not resume work by the 22nd. By the 23rd 200 strikers resumed work unconditionally and the rest were dismissed. The manager engaged 150 new hands. The result of this strike was unfavourable to the employees.

On the 18th October, 200 weavers of the Ruby Mills, struck work demanding an increase in their rates of wages. This was refused and the weaving shed was closed till the 21st on account of the strike. The manager informed the strikers that they would be allowed to resume work only at the existing rates of wages. The dues of the strikers were paid on the 20th and 55 new hands were employed on the 21st. By the 25th 42 strikers returned to work unconditionally and 130 new hands were engaged while the services of the other strikers were dispensed with. The result of this strike was favourable to the employers.

Some of the weavers in the Kohinoor Mill complained to the assistant-manager that they did not get full wages for the month of September. They demanded more pay and alleged that there was a reduction in their wages. The manager tried to convince them that no reduction had been made but this did not satisfy the men and 800 weavers struck work on the 18th October. Two hundred resumed work on the next day but the mill was closed on the 20th and 21st on account of the strike. When the mill re-opened on the 22nd 475 more strikers resumed work unconditionally and the rest followed suit the next day. This strike also ended in favour of the employers.

On the 30th October, 513 weavers in the New Kaiser-I-Hind Mill struck work in sympathy with a jobber who was dismissed on the ground of inefficient work. In the afternoon the manager warned the strikers that they would be dismissed if they did not resume work on Monday the 1st November. All the strikers resumed work unconditionally on the 1st November.

AHMEDABAD

In the Asarwa Mills, 125 weavers struck work on the 11th October in sympathy with a dismissed jobber and demanded his re-instatement. The manager refused to comply with their request and engaged new hands. This dispute terminated on the 14th October and the result was unfavourable to the employees.

Agricultural Outlook in the Presidency

The following summary of conditions in the Presidency during the period ending 20th November 1926 has been supplied by the Director of Agriculture.

"The situation regarding crops and rainfall as it appears at present in the different divisions of the Bombay Presidency may be briefly summarised as follows—

"*Gujarat*—Since the submission of the last report there has been no rain anywhere in the division. The standing crops, however, are proceeding quite satisfactorily on the strength of the previous moisture and the situation is generally favourable in most of the division. The harvesting of *khari* crops is proceeding briskly while the sowing of the late crops is progressing. A large area under *rabi* crops seems assured.

"*Konkan*—Like Gujarat, the period under review has been practically rainless even in this division. The standing crops, however, are doing well as they have sufficient moisture left by the previous rains to fall back upon. The garden crops are in excellent condition generally. The early crops are being reaped and in some cases their harvesting is nearly finished.

"*Deccan*—Some fairly good rain was received in parts of the Sholapur district, in the east of the Poona district and a few other places in the second week of November. This rain has proved very beneficial both for the withering crops and also to push on *rabi* sowings. The rain has not, however, been general and more rain is badly needed in places especially in the east to improve the conditions. The position in the west of the division is quite satisfactory.

"*Karnatak*—The situation over a large part of this division is getting anxious and unless good and general rain is received soon, the position is likely to be aggravated. The standing crops are withering and *rabi* sowings checked over most of the Bijapur district and the eastern portions of Belgaum and Dharwar and more rain is urgently needed in these areas to save the situation. The position in the west of the division is generally satisfactory while the condition of the irrigated crops is good."

Accidents and Prosecutions

STATISTICS FOR OCTOBER 1926

(Supplied by the Chief Inspector of Factories)

1. ACCIDENTS

The monthly statistics of accidents in factories and workshops in the Bombay Presidency, published at the end of this issue, contain details of accidents reported during the month of October 1926, in Bombay City, Ahmedabad, Karachi and other centres of the Presidency. There occurred altogether 268 factory accidents in Bombay City during the month of October. Of these 2 proved fatal, 24 caused serious injuries and the rest were of a minor nature; 65 or 24 per cent. of the accidents were due to machinery in motion and the remaining 203 to other causes. The

largest number of accidents occurred in workshops, the percentages in different classes of factories being 72 in workshops, 26·5 in textile mills and 1·5 in miscellaneous concerns.

Of 31 accidents which occurred in Ahmedabad during the month under review, 28 were in textile mills and 3 in match factories. Of the total, 21 or 68 per cent. were due to machinery in motion and the remaining 10 or 32 per cent. to "other causes." Two of the accidents were fatal and the rest minor.

In Karachi, the total number of accidents was 8 of which 7 occurred in workshops and one in miscellaneous concerns. All the accidents were due to "other causes" and caused minor injuries.

In the "other centres" of the Presidency, the number of accidents was 56 out of which 18 occurred in textile mills, 30 in workshops and 8 in miscellaneous industries. Eighteen accidents were due to machinery in motion and the rest to "other causes." Three of the accidents were fatal, 10 serious and 43 minor.

II. PROSECUTIONS

SURAT

The manager of a cotton ginning factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (h) of the Factories Act, for not maintaining the register required by Section 35. The manager was convicted and fined Rs. 25.

The manager was also prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for employing women before the fixed hours *vide* Section 26. He was convicted and fined Rs. 15 in each of three cases and Rs. 10 in each of six cases. (Total fine being Rs. 105 for nine cases).

The occupier of the same factory was also prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 26 for that same offence. He was convicted and fined Rs. 15 in each of three cases and Rs. 10 in each of six cases. (Total fine being Rs. 105 for nine cases).

Employment Situation in October 1926

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 117 or 79·05 per cent. of the mills reported as working in the Presidency during the month of October 1926. The average absenteeism in the textile industry as a whole based on 117 returns amounted to 11·24 per cent. in October as against 10·99 in the preceding month.

In Bombay City out of 80 mills which were working in October 1926 78 or 97·50 per cent. furnished returns. The supply of labour was reported as adequate by a large majority of the mills and the average absenteeism amounted to 12·25 per cent. in October as compared with 12·66 per cent. during the previous month.

In Ahmedabad 57 mills were working during the month. Information was supplied by 29 or 50.88 per cent. of the mills. Absenteeism amounted to 2.74 per cent. in October as against 3.14 per cent. in September. The supply of labour was equal to the demand.

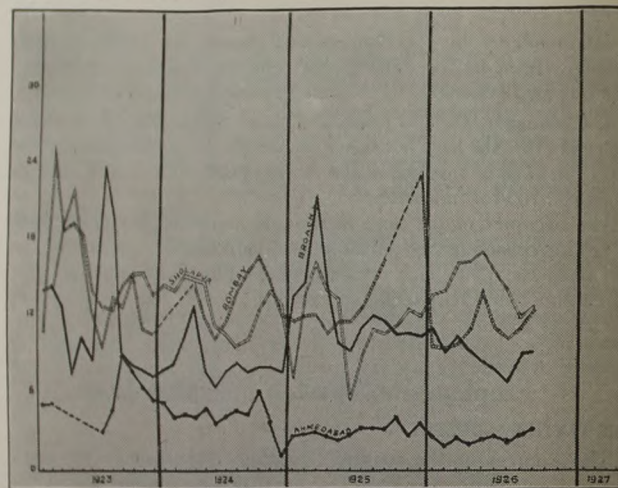
Both the mills in Viramgaum reported that the supply of labour was equal to the demand and the average absenteeism amounted to 2.51 per cent.

Returns were submitted by all the 6 mills in Sholapur. None of these mills reported any shortage in the supply of labour and the average percentage absenteeism amounted to 14.48.

Two out of the 3 mills in Broach supplied information. The supply of labour was equal to the demand and the average absenteeism amounted to 9.83 per cent. during the month under review as against 9.27 per cent. in the previous month.

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

Chart showing the average 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 13.10 per cent. during October as against 13.70 per cent. in the previous month. In the Bombay Reclamation Scheme of the Development Directorate absenteeism was 5 per cent. and in the Port Trust Docks it amounted to 12.79 per cent.

In the Karachi Port Trust both skilled and ordinary labour was available in plenty and on an average 9.70 per cent. of the labourers absented themselves from work during the month under review.

Administration of the Workmen's Compensation Act

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1925*

The following is the text of the report submitted to Government by the Commissioner for Workmen's Compensation, Bombay, covering the year 1925.

"2. In addition to the 2 applications for distribution that were pending from the previous year, 232 applications were filed and 3 received from other Commissioners during this year as against 65 filed in the previous year. Of these, 45 applications related to fatal accidents, 66 to permanent disablement, 9 to temporary disablement and 108 were for distribution of compensation deposited with the Commissioner under section 8, sub-clause 1. Besides this, 5 applications were for the recovery of compensation awarded and the remaining 4 were miscellaneous applications.

3. Of these 237 applications 3 were transferred under section 21 to the other Commissioners for disposal, 3 were received under the same Section from other Commissioners, 5 were withdrawn and 2 were summarily dismissed. In 141 applications the liability was admitted by the opposite party, 7 were allowed *ex-parte* and the remaining 60 were contested. Of these 60 applications, in 13, claims were allowed in full, in 33 they were allowed in part and 14 applications were dismissed. This left a balance of 19 applications still pending at the end of the year. The Court fee recovered on all these applications amounted to Rs. 495-4-0 as against Rs. 118 in the previous year. At the beginning of the year 1925, there was a balance of Rs. 6022-8-0 in respect of deposits made with the Commissioner. During the year under report, Rs. 109,427-7-2 were deposited of which Rs. 93,074 represented the amount of compensation to be paid to the dependants of workmen whose injuries resulted fatally and Rs. 16,353-7-2 represented the amount of compensation deposited under section 8, sub-clause 2, in respect of non-fatal accidents. During the year under report, Rs. 94,909-9-2 were paid out to various claimants—thus leaving a balance, in the hands of the Commissioner of Rs. 20,540-6-0 at the end of the year.

"4. In 3 of the 14 applications that were dismissed, the employers made *ex-gratia* payments to the injured workmen. Of the 33 applications that were allowed in part, 15 were left to the sole arbitration of the Commissioner as provided by Rule 35 of the Rules framed by the Government of India. During the year under report 4 deposits amounting to Rs. 2392-8-0 were returned to the employers under section 8 (sub-clause 4) as no dependants of the deceased workmen on whose account the deposits were made were forthcoming in spite of the notices put up and other enquiries made.

"5. Memoranda of 3 agreements were pending for registration at the end of the previous year. During the year under report, 121 memoranda were received for registration. Of these 119 were for compensation in respect of permanent disablement, the remaining 5 being for commutation of half-monthly payments for temporary disablement. Of these agreements 112 were registered without any change, 2 were registered after

* Copies of the Report can be obtained from the Superintendent of Government Printing and Stationery, Bombay.

certain modifications and one was not registered at all, as the amount proposed to be given was very inadequate, and the matter was argued before the Commissioner by both the parties and payment was made according to the order made by the Commissioner. At the end of the year 9 memoranda of agreements were pending for registration.

"6. During the year under report 289 persons were awarded compensation of whom 284 were adults and 5 minors. Out of the adults 118 were awarded compensation in respect of fatal accidents and the remaining for disablement either permanent or temporary. Of the 5 cases relating to minors, 1 was for fatal accident and the remaining 4 for permanent disablement.

"7. During the year under report, returns under section 16 were received from 155 employers. From these returns it will appear that 195,631 adults and 3347 minors were employed in Factories, 2458 adults were employed in Mines, 4877 adults and 3 minors were employed in Tramways, 8319 adults in the Port Trust and 21,098 adults and 19 minors in all other concerns. The total number of accidents in all these concerns was 2300, of which 30 were fatal, 82 resulted in permanent disablement and 2188 in temporary disablement.

"8. With regard to returns under section 16, the Commissioner wishes to reiterate what he said in paragraph 12 of his report for the last year. No doubt, in their letter No. L.—1288, dated the 7th July 1925, the Government of India pointed out that under section 176 of the Indian Penal Code, employers who did not send returns as required by section 16 of the Workmen's Compensation Act, rendered themselves liable to be prosecuted, provided the omission to furnish these returns was intentional. It is, however, very difficult, if not impossible, to establish that the omission was intentional, as beyond the notification No. L.—1189 dated the 26th June 1924, under section 16 which was published first in the Gazette of the Government of India and which was republished in the Local Government Gazette of the 31st July 1924, nothing further seems to have been done to bring home to the employers the necessity of sending these returns.

"9. During the year under report, the Commissioner had invited on 3 occasions experts to assist him in holding enquiries as assessors.

"10. During the year under report, the Commissioner had occasions to go out for local inspection in about 60 cases and from experience he has discovered that facts which otherwise probably would never have come to light, not because of any deliberate attempt on the part of the employers to keep them back, but because they attached no importance to them, were noticed and were of great use in arriving at a correct conclusion. In one case however where the accident resulted in causing personal injury to a minor in a factory in West Khandesh, local inspection alone in the company of the Chief Inspector of Factories helped the Commissioner to unearth the facts about the employment of that minor. The minor was below the age of 12 years. As such he could never have been certified for employment by a certifying surgeon. His name, therefore, did not find a place on the Muster Roll of that factory. The visit to the factory, however, disclosed that employment of such minors was not uncommon in places which were far away from the district towns.

"11. During the year under report, in 2 cases the Commissioner found that his order for payment of compensation was of no use whatever to the unfortunate applicants for the simple reason that soon after notice of hearing of the application was served on the employers they took steps to file their schedule in Insolvency and that nothing could be recovered, so far as the Commissioner knows, from that source. The Commissioner therefore proposes that there should be some provision in the Act by which, in fit cases, the Commissioner could call upon the employer when notice of hearing is served on him to deposit a certain sum with him, or in the alternative, if that order is not obeyed, to empower the Commissioner to attach the property of the employer through the Collector of the District where he carries on his business as provided for under section 31 of the Act for the recovery of compensation awarded.

"12. The Commissioner thinks that the waiting period of ten days for which no compensation in cases of temporary disablement could be awarded is too large. From comparison of similar provisions in Workmen's Compensation Acts in other countries, the Commissioner thinks that the period might in the interest of the workmen be usefully curtailed to seven days. If that could be done, illiterate workmen who form the bulk of the labouring population in this Presidency might not resort to the really clumsy—although from their point of view clever—tactics to extend the period of the disablement to a fortnight, as they are found to do at present. The knowledge that compensation will be paid to them if the disablement lasts for a week might induce the workmen to pay greater attention to the injuries and they might be induced to follow the instructions of the employers with regard to the medical attention much more carefully.

"13. With regard to the number of accidents, although it appears to extend over a period of twelve months, it has to be noticed that during the last quarter of the year under report there was a general strike in the Town and Island of Bombay but for which the number of cases before the Commissioner would have increased by at least 50 if not more.

"14. Under section 24 of the Act the parties are allowed to be represented before the Commissioner either by a legal practitioner or other person authorised in writing by the parties. In this connection the Commissioner wishes to point out that so far as the employers are concerned there are two bodies that represent the bulk of the work in Bombay, *viz.*, (1) The Millowners' Mutual Insurance Association, Limited, and (2) The Bombay Claims' Bureau. The Commissioner wishes to record his appreciation of the help he receives from these two agencies. Their attitude towards the unfortunate workmen is always very sympathetic and they are always willing to afford to the workmen every facility in the manner of investigation of the facts of accidents. Very often, their attitude helps to avoid a regular hearing in Court which of necessity means a costly affair. So far as the workmen are concerned in the Town and Island of Bombay the bulk of the work on their behalf is done by two agencies. They are the Bombay Claims and General Agency and the

Social Service League. These agencies devote a great deal of their time in ascertaining the circumstances under which the accident occurred; thereby considerably facilitating the Commissioner's task of apportioning the ultimate liability. The only other agency that represents workmen exists in Ahmedabad, viz., the Labour Union represented by a secretary and an assistant secretary. The Union represents the cases of nearly three-fourths of the unfortunate workmen who are the victims of accidents. Very often the suffering workman is not even a member of the Union.

"15. Before concluding I wish to record my appreciation of the hard and satisfactory work done by my staff which consists of two clerks only."

In a resolution dealing with the report, the Government of Bombay says, "In the opinion of the Governor in Council the course proposed by the Commissioner in paragraph 11 of the report for the deposit of a certain sum with him by an employer when a notice of hearing is served on him or in the alternative to empower the Commissioner to attach the property of an employer is not feasible as such a method amounts to giving a workman creditor of a firm an advantage over all creditors.

"With regard to paragraph 12 of the report the Governor in Council does not consider that any useful purpose would be served by curtailing the waiting period from 10 to 7 days.

Workmen's Compensation

Details of Compensation and Proceedings during October 1926 under the Workmen's Compensation Act (Act VIII of 1923)

The present article contains the summary of Compensation Statistics for the month of October 1926. Information was received from all Commissioners in the Presidency except one. Out of a total number of 46 cases disposed of during the month as many as 40 were reported by the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner in Bombay. It may be noted here that these are not the numbers of cases which came within the purview of the Courts of the Commissioners but only of cases actually disposed of. No information was available regarding one case of original claim which was withdrawn. A gross amount of Rs. 15,955-15-0 was awarded as compensation during the month under review as against Rs. 10,768-5-0 awarded during the previous month and Rs. 19,347 in October 1925. Out of the 45 accidents for which compensation was paid, 14 were fatal, 30 of permanent partial disablement and one of permanent total disablement. The number of compensation cases was 26 in textile mills and 19 in other industries. The corresponding figures for October 1925 were 11 and 22. No case of occupational disease has come up since January 1925.

The claimants for compensation were males over 15 years of age in 43 cases, a female in one case and a male under 15 years in another. Out of a total number of 46 cases disposed of during the month under review, 25 were original claims, 20 registration of agreements and one for "reviews

and other miscellaneous applications." Compensation was awarded in 21 cases, one case was withdrawn, one was dismissed and 20 agreements were registered. Simple distribution was effected in two cases and recovery of compensation was awarded in one case.

Welfare Work for Mill Operatives in Bombay

THE SHARE OF THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

In the north end of Bombay City, right in the neighbourhood of the cotton mills, the industrial workers are gathered in the largest numbers, living in one-room tenements, huddled and crowded, restless and careless. Many of them render their quarters smoky and almost unlivable, dirty and dark, however hygienic they might have been at first. It is here that they spend their leisure time, when they should be recuperating for their daily toil.

The Young Men's Christian Association of Bombay in its desire to help men and boys of this metropolis, see in this unhappy situation an opportunity for real service for the betterment of these needy and ignorant people.

Social welfare work was begun by the Association in March 1925 at Naigaon where the cement chawls erected by the Bombay Development Department have accommodation for 16,000 people. Mills are also near-by with their chawls for workers. A small piece of land was leased from the Improvement Trust and in June 1926 a hut was built and equipped as a centre for the various forms of social welfare work. Secretaries have been employed to direct the activities, one of whom is secured and supported by funds from America and the other, a Marathi-speaking Indian graduate, is paid by the local Association.

It should be noticed that the Association has been carrying on welfare work during the past five years at Nagpur among the employees of the Empress Mills and also in other parts of India, while in England and America it has had extensive experience in similar social service. With its programme of community uplift through education, recreation and other activities, the Young Men's Christian Association has enjoyed considerable success.

The Association's purpose is to render service, without distinction of caste, creed or class, to the whole community during the "off hours" and it has in view the correlating of the great philanthropic resources of Bombay city for service to the mill workers' community.

The following programme will give an idea of the scope of the work done at present in Bombay by the Association.

Programme

Play for men and boys—5-30 p.m. till dark each evening, except Sunday.

School—7-30 till 9 each evening, except Saturday and Sunday.

Reading Room—Open each evening.

Indoor Games—Each evening.

Boy Scouts—Wednesdays, 7 to 7-30, and Saturdays, 7-30 to 8-30.

Boys' Clubs—Led by volunteers, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 6 to 7. Excursions, lantern lectures, entertainments on occasions.

Sewing classes and play for girls—Each evening, 5-15 to 6-30, except Saturdays and Sundays.

Meetings for various groups—Sundays, especially for Christians.

The Night School has been a steady success from its beginning in April 1925. The attendance has ranged from 55 at the first to over 70 recently. Most of the students have been working boys and men. Six classes have been formed, meeting five times a week: two for studying Marathi, two for English and Marathi, one for Gujarathi and English and one for Urdu and English. Only elementary subjects are taught. The teachers are paid a small stipend. The rooms of the Municipal Primary Day School have been very generously loaned to the Association during the hours when the Day School is not in session.

The social service began by bringing all sorts of people together to play. Football and cricket games have been organized. Playing with the volley ball, vage ball, "Atyapata," cricle games or a rope pull engage a number of boys and young men each evening, except Sunday. During fair weather three or four groups, each of twenty or thirty, take part. Volunteers from the Wilson College and other places and ladies from cultured homes—Hindu, Parsee, Mahomedan, Christian—are aiding the play director in this activity among the children.

A troop of Boy Scouts has been started with the help of a volunteer leader. Lantern lectures have been given occasionally with an attendance from 100 to 200 each evening. Entertainments by gramophone and by *bhajans* (sacred songs) have been held. Training for dramatic performance has been carried on, and a reading-room has been started, while indoor games are enjoyed each evening.

In the future, as resources may permit, it is hoped to develop the activity already started and to undertake a more comprehensive programme of work. The Young Men's Christian Association propose to start a library in connection with the reading-room, to promote cinema, musical and other entertainments and an *Akhada* (Indian gymnasium). It hopes to establish co-operative societies, temperance, health and thrift propoganda, a carpentry class and some sort of combination of economic advantage and recreation during leisure hours, such as gardening, goat-keeping and poultry raising. The Association will endeavour, if support can be found, to provide technical and general education through weekly or monthly publications in the vernaculars conveying concrete and simple ideas. The health and insanitary ways of the people in the chawls needs much attention and it may be the privilege of the Association to take a part in this by education, stimulation and personal influence.

Any opportunity of service to these needy people that brings them moral, mental or physical or social benefits will be welcomed and undertaken as far as means permit. But above all, the crying need is for co-operation from Bombay citizens who will give themselves to helping in real friendship the hundreds of the working classes who are less fortunate socially than they are. (From "Indian Textile Journal" Bombay, October 1926.)

Labour News from Ahmedabad

The Millowners Association.—The annual general meeting of the Millowners' Association was held on the 21st of October 1926 when the President, Sheth Chamanlal G. Parekh, presided. In the course of his speech the President remarked that the system in Ahmedabad of starting mills with a small capital had created the anomaly of showing high dividends in some old mills and so the picture was not presented in its true colours. A statement prepared by him shows that the average percentage of net profit in about fifty mills in Ahmedabad was 30 in 1921, 16 in 1922, 3 in 1923, 4 in 1924 and 5 in 1925. The low percentage for 1923 is said to be due to the strike that lasted for more than two months in that year. Referring to labour he said, "Our connections with labour throughout the year were harmonious and satisfactory and we trust mutual co-operation and good-will will preserve the peace so necessary for the smooth working of our industry."

The Labour Union.—The annual general meeting of the Council of Representatives of the Labour Union was held on the 24th October 1926 at Satyagraha Ashram when Mr. M. K. Gandhi presided. The Secretary read the annual report for the year 1925. In the report it was stated that no new activities were taken on hand during 1925 but the activities commenced in 1924 were placed on a stronger footing. At the beginning of the year the membership was 14,000, but after a decrease in the middle it increased to 16,000 at the end of the year. Commenting on the fluctuating membership the Secretary regretted that some of the mills far from sympathizing with the activities of the Union as recommended by the Panch, placed difficulties in its way at every step. He was, however, glad to say that the relations between the Union and the mills were on the whole good. He further gave detailed information about the different activities of the Union. During the year there were 50 meetings of the Council of Representatives and on an average rather more than 70 per cent. of the Committee members attended them. There were 138 meetings held in the mills for different purposes. Of the complaints dealt with during the year, 58 were cancelled as false, improper or insignificant, 573 were settled satisfactorily, 34 were compromised, 16 were unsuccessful and 48 were omitted for other reasons. The appointment of joint committees of mills and the Labour Union was recommended for the early settlement of disputes. As regards strikes it was stated that many were due to the appointment and dismissal of jobbers and mukadams and that most of the strikes could be averted by introducing a better system of recruitment of labour. The Secretary condemned the unauthorized strikes of Union members. As regards the benefits resulting from the Union it was stated that during the year the beds available in the Union hospital were increased from 20 to 30 and that the Union dispensaries were becoming more and more popular. There were 9 day schools and 15 night schools run by the Union. The number of pupils was 1286. The Industrial situation during 1925 was said to be slightly better than during 1924. The Union had collected about 1000 family budgets. The Secretary then dealt with welfare work conducted

by mills and the general conditions of life of the labourers. He concluded with an exhortation to labour to organize themselves strongly and to remove their evil habits.

After the report had been read one member enquired whether there was no room for economy in the expenditure of the Union and whether all the expenditure incurred had been in accordance with the directions of the Council of Representatives. After these points were explained by the Secretary the President delivered his message. He emphasized the necessity of spending money on things that would improve their moral calibre and physical well-being, and asked them to depend on their soul-force for getting their demands granted and to look upon their Union as their Swaraj. He said that they would get all they desired if they did not shirk their duty and took as much interest in their work as if the mills were their own.

The Sanitary Association.—The annual general meeting of the Sanitary Association was held on the 24th October 1926. The important activities of the Association were as follows:—The Baby Week and the Health Exhibition accompanied by the Health Workers' Conference were held in February 1925. About 60 magic lantern lectures were arranged in various parts of the city. The lantern slides on maternity and child welfare, tuberculosis, water-borne diseases, malaria and temperance were highly appreciated by the public. On receipt of complaints from various quarters about the sale of inferior kinds of aerated waters an investigation was made of the aerated water factories in the city. An enquiry was conducted into the condition of tea-shops in mill areas and the Collector was moved by the Association to take action to improve the deplorable state of affairs. The Collector interfered and some improvements were carried out. The usual monthly sanitary rounds were conducted and several prominent citizens took part in them. The investigation of the housing condition of manual labourers was continued. The health visitor of the Association went round the city daily and drew the attention of the Municipality to matters requiring immediate attention at the hands of the sanitary staff. At the request of the Secretary of the Labour Union the Municipality was addressed and suggestions made for stopping the dust nuisance in the mill areas.

Middle Class Unemployment in the Bombay Presidency

The Labour Office is sending out the following circular letter to various bodies and persons in the Bombay Presidency:—

LABOUR OFFICE,
SECRETARIAT, BOMBAY.

DEAR SIR,

You are no doubt aware that there has recently been in the public press and the central and the local legislatures a great deal of discussion on the question of middle-class unemployment. The extent to which this unfortunate condition of affairs prevails is however not known and

Government have instructed the Labour Office to conduct an enquiry into the problem of middle-class unemployment with a view to obtaining reliable data on which any future action that may be found necessary may be based.

2. The method to be adopted for the collection of information on this subject has required careful consideration owing to the difficulty of getting into touch with those who are unemployed. An attempt was made by the Labour Office last year by means of advertisements, etc., to obtain information but the results were disappointing and Government have come to the conclusion that the only way in which satisfactory data can be obtained is for the general public to co-operate with the Labour Office in the collection of information.

3. The following procedure has therefore been decided upon. The Labour Office has drawn up a schedule, copies of which will be circulated to the heads of Government and semi-government departments, private firms and educational institutions, etc., with a request that these schedules may be distributed among the members of their staff, who should be asked to get them filled up by unemployed persons known to them. The schedules when completed should be returned to the head of the office or college or school as the case may be, who will enclose them in an envelope specially supplied for this purpose and return them to the Labour Office.

4. The schedule has been drafted in such a manner as to procure all the information that is required and at the same time to cause the minimum of inconvenience to those who will fill it up. Every return made for the purposes of this enquiry will be treated as strictly confidential, and no data will be published that could enable the identity of any person to be guessed.

5. I am instructed to approach you in this connexion and to ask for your co-operation. I enclose herewith copies of the schedule for distribution among the members of your staff with a request that you will instruct them to get into touch with as many unemployed persons as possible and return the schedules to you on or before the 29th of November 1926. I would ask you to return them at once to the Labour Office.

6. The Labour Office will much appreciate your kind co-operation in this enquiry. If the method of the enquiry is not properly understood or if there is any difficulty in getting the schedules completed, will you let me know and I will send one of the officers of the Labour Office to call on you.

Thanking you in anticipation,

Yours very faithfully,

J. F. GENNINGS.

Director of Information and Labour Intelligence,
Officer in charge, Labour Office.

Specimen of the Schedule

"MIDDLE CLASS" UNEMPLOYMENT

Form of Enquiry (to be filled in by the unemployed person).

NOTE—The information supplied in this form will be regarded as strictly confidential. The Labour Office is only interested in tabulating the information. No names will be published.

1. Name in full _____
2. Address _____
3. Sex _____
4. Age _____
5. Religion and caste _____
6. Native place _____
7. Married, unmarried, widow or widower _____
8. Duration of unemployment (a) _____
9. Last position held, if any _____
10. Monthly salary earned when last employed _____
11. Cause of leaving last employment _____
12. Qualifications _____
13. Experience of work, if any _____
14. Number of dependents (b) _____
15. Means of livelihood during unemployment _____
16. Means adopted to secure employment (c) _____

* The term 'Middle Class' denotes persons engaged in, or qualified to engage in work other than manual labour.

(a) In the case of those who have never been employed the period of unemployment should be counted from the fifth month after the person has qualified himself or herself for a post, i.e., when 4 months have elapsed since leaving school or college or any other institution imparting instruction.

(b) State relationships.

(c) E.g., Personal calls, written applications, reply to or insertion of advertisements and the like.

Workmen's Compensation in Ireland

REPORT OF COMMITTEE : CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Departmental Committee on Workmen's Compensation appointed on the 28th May 1925, has now presented its report, which will be published by the Stationery Office at an early date.

In an introduction the report surveys the work of the Committee, and sets out its conclusions and recommendations. The remaining chapters reproduce the arguments extracted from evidence submitted, and show in detail the grounds on which conclusions are based.

Present System

The existing law comprises the British legislation in force at the time of the Treaty. Many witnesses criticised the system on the ground that it was moulded to meet the requirements of a highly organised industrial community, while the Saorstát is mainly an agricultural country.

The present Workmen's Compensation law imposes on employers liability for compensation in respect of industrial accident, without regard to the question of breach of duty or of contract on the part of the person causing the accident. This liability becomes in effect an overhead charge on the undertaking and creates a risk against which a prudent employer is almost compelled to insure.

Consideration is given in the report to the question of a State guarantee for the payment of compensation awarded. Various proposals for wider schemes of State or State-supervised insurance to include provision for these guarantees were put forward, but the Committee was unable to consider them owing to lack of statistics, indicating how far such intervention is necessary. It is recommended that this question should be examined when the necessary data are available, and that, meanwhile, for the greater security of the workman, priority be extended to the full amount of workmen's claims in the distribution of the assets of an uninsured bankrupt employer.

The law of compensation has developed entirely apart from that concerned with the prevention of industrial accidents, the latter being compromised in the various Factory and Workshop Acts. Except for these Acts and for voluntary effort, the only incentive to accident prevention in the Saorstát is an arrangement between insurance companies and the larger employers, which allows a reduction in premium to employers whose annual wage bill exceeds £10,000, if the experience of two or three years has been satisfactory. Organised voluntary effort is limited to the larger industrial concerns.

Notification

The obligation to notify accidents is at present limited to more serious accidents, i.e., those causing loss of life, those caused by machinery, explosion, etc., or those which disable a workman for more than seven days. It is suggested that the law on this point should be amended on the lines of the British Workmen's Compensation Act of 1923, so that all fatal accidents, and all those which disable a workman for more than four days should be notifiable. Further, it is recommended that factory legislation should

be extended to cover all places where workpeople are employed; that first aid equipment should be installed in every factory; and that there should be State encouragement for a "safety first" campaign.

Legislation in the Saorstat does not deal specifically with the restoration of an injured workman to his former earning capacity. The medical benefits of the National Health Insurance Acts were not applied to Ireland, and, apart from the provision for the sick poor under the Medical Charities Act, 1851, an injured workman has no statutory right to medical or surgical assistance. It was generally agreed in evidence that the absence of definite provision of this kind is a disadvantage to employer and to worker alike. The Committee was of opinion that a contributory scheme of medical benefit should be established under the National Health Insurance Acts; that employers should provide for disabled workmen extra medical and surgical assistance, as required; and that they should provide for the supply and renewal of artificial limbs when necessary. The establishment of a State-aided fund to assist the hospitals in such cases is also recommended.

Industrial Diseases

Compensation is payable at present in the event of death or incapacity caused by any one of twenty-five industrial diseases. As many of these result from employments which do not exist in this country, it is recommended that, as soon as statistics are available, the present list should be reviewed in the light of actual Saorstat conditions.

Non-manual and casual workers

The increased cost of living has caused hardship to many of the class at present excluded from the benefits of the Acts. Hence, it is proposed that non-manual workers whose remuneration does not exceed £350 per annum (instead of the present limit of £250) be included within their scope. Casual workers are now excluded if employed otherwise than for the purposes of the employer's trade or business. It is proposed that this limitation be abolished, provided that the casual worker is employed in or about the residence of his employer, or is casually employed for the purposes of a game or recreation and is engaged or paid through a club. This would extend the Act to such persons as window-cleaners, gardeners and golf-caddies, while excluding casual workers of the handbag carrier type. The inclusion of certain employees on ships and of fishermen paid by shares in the earnings of a vessel—both of whom are at present excluded—should follow an enquiry as to whether such provision is desirable. Certain difficulties in the case of seamen it is proposed to settle by arrangement with the employers and the men's union.

Dependants

In its provision for the dependants of a deceased workman the existing law does not take into consideration the circumstances of the dependant family, whether from the point of view of their number, financial resources or future prospects. The amount payable is the equivalent of the deceased man's earnings with the same employer for the three years preceding the

accident, the maximum sum being £300 and the minimum £150. Weekly payments already made, or a lump sum paid in redemption thereof, are deducted from such compensation. Consequently, the widow of a deceased workman without children, whose earnings were greater than those of a fellow-worker leaving a widow and five or six young children, would be entitled to a larger amount of compensation than the latter. Further, the deduction from compensation of sums paid before decease has sometimes had the effect of leaving no funds at all for the children on the death of the breadwinner. This system was held by the Committee to be entirely wrong.

Witnesses also drew attention to the absence of uniformity in the awards of judges, and to the possibility of persons claiming successfully as "partial dependants" without justification.

Various proposals regarding the amount of compensation were suggested. Many employers advocated the adoption of scales similar to those in the new British Act of 1923. Labour representatives argued that a workman disabled for a lengthy period requires, if anything, an increased income to meet the extra expenses of his illness. This was appreciated by those who spoke for employers, but the latter urged that no change should be proposed which would increase the burden on industry. In the absence of statistics as to the existing cost to industry of workmen's compensation it is impossible to estimate the effect of proposed changes. Further, absence of statutory provision for medical benefit has a considerable bearing on the amount of compensation required. The report suggests that after an experimental period of, say, three years, the inter-relation of medical treatment in workmen's compensation and medical treatment generally should be considered.

Amount of Compensation

The recommendations finally arrived at, regarding the amount of compensation have been made conditional on review when statistics to indicate their effect are available and when the scope of any scheme of medical benefit to be brought into effect shall have been ascertained. Following are the recommendations in detail:—

Fatal Cases

Irrespective of the deceased workman's earnings the following payments to be made, payments to be controlled by the court and administered by the county registrar—

Total Dependants

- (a) Children. An annuity (weekly or monthly) in respect of each child up to the age of 15 years at the following rates:—
- | | | |
|----------------|----|--|
| One child | .. | £25 |
| Two children | .. | £20 (making £40 as long as both are under 15.) |
| Three children | .. | £15 (making £45 as long as all are under 15.) |
| Four children | .. | £12-10s. (making £50 as long as all are under 15.) |
| Five children | .. | £10 (making £50 as long as all are under 15.) |

No payment in respect of any child above the number of five.

(b) Widow or in the absence of widow, the father or mother of the deceased. The following amounts, graduated to smooth breaks—

	£
Under 30 years	75
Under 45 years	100
45 years and over	150

(c) Other adult dependants, *i.e.*, in addition to widow (or to father or mother in the absence of widow), a sum of £50 in all.

Partial Dependants

The provisions of the existing Act to be retained subject to the following definition of "partial dependency."

"For the purposes of the principal Act, a person shall not be deemed to be a partial dependant of another unless he was dependent partially on contributions from that other person for the provision of the ordinary necessities of life suitable for persons in his class or position."

No Dependants

Increase of existing maximum limit for medical and burial expenses from £10 to £15.

The proposed compensation in respect of fatal cases is estimated not to exceed in any one instance the sum of £600.

INCAPACITY

Total

(a) Repeal of "War Addition" Acts except in so far as they may apply to any cases where the workman is still totally incapacitated as a result of an accident happening before the date of their repeal.

(b) Weekly payment to be 80 per cent. of the average weekly earnings where such earnings are £1 or less and 75 per cent. of the average weekly earnings in all other cases, the weekly payment in no case to exceed 35s.

(c) Compensation payable to a workman under 21 years of age at date of accident to be on the same basis as that payable to other workmen.

Partial

The weekly payment to be such a percentage of the difference between the pre-accident and post accident earnings as would have been payable to the workman if his incapacity had been total, such weekly payment not to exceed the maximum limit prescribed in the case of total incapacity.

Power to be given to the judge to treat as total incapacity the incapacity of a workman who has so far recovered from his injury as to be fit for employment of a certain kind and who satisfies the judge that he has taken all reasonable steps to obtain such employment but was unsuccessful by reason of the injury.

ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION

An addition of 20 per cent. of the compensation already awarded to be paid in cases of permanent and total incapacity where the injury is such that the workman requires the constant help of another person (*i.e.*, cases

of total blindness or general paralysis or the loss of the use of two limbs), the total compensation paid not to exceed 42s. per week.

WAITING PERIOD

Payment of compensation to be made as from the fifth day of disablement from earning full wages, without any dating back. This recommendation to be reviewed when the scales of compensation are being reconsidered.

REDEMPTION

Redemption is effected by the payment of a lump sum on the basis of an annuity, equal in the case of permanent incapacity to 75 per cent. of the annual value of the weekly payment. The existing law provides for compulsory redemption only by the employer of a weekly payment which has been continued for at least six months. Claim was made that a workman should legally be entitled to commute, but it was felt that this was not practicable. Insurance companies are generally ready to commute weekly payments but, on the other hand, many employers might find it embarrassing to be called upon to meet heavy claims at short notice. Consequently, the report does not recommend any alteration in the law in this respect.

Cases were quoted in evidence where employers and insurance companies stopped weekly payments on the grounds that the workman's incapacity had lessened or ceased. In such cases the workman must commence proceedings if he has the means for doing so, and in the meantime be without compensation. A section of the British Act of 1923 was framed to meet cases of this kind. It provides that, failing agreement or arbitration an employer is not entitled to end or diminish a weekly payment unless— (a) a totally incapacitated man has returned to work; (b) a partially incapacitated man has increased his weekly earnings; or (c) a workman is certified by his employer's doctor to have wholly or partly recovered and is given ten days' notice of diminution or termination of the weekly payment. In the last-mentioned case, if the workman's doctor disagrees, the medical referee decides, and in the meantime payment continues. A similar provision for the Saorstát is recommended, as are also those in the British Act for regulating compensation according to the change in the level of wages, for more equitable treatment of minors and for the recording of all lump sum agreements by the county registrar, who is given adequate power to satisfy himself that they are fair and equitable. Approved societies are to be given the right to appear in such cases.

PROCEDURE

As regards procedure for recovery of compensation the evidence showed general agreement with the workers' contention that, once notice of the accident has been given there should be no necessity for a formal claim for compensation. The employers, however, insisted that there should be a time limit to prevent stale demands. The committee agreed on both these points and recommended provisions on the lines of those in the British Amending Act, except that, having proposed to dispense with a formal claim to compensation, it was thought desirable to insist that notice of accident should still be in writing.

In case of disputes the present law provides for decision on the medical questions by the medical referee or circuit judge, according to the stage which the claim has reached. If the case goes to court, the judge may summon the medical referee to sit with him as assessor, but is not bound to act on his advice, and is not even obliged to summon him. Many witnesses emphasised the advantage of more frequent use of the assessors' services. Accordingly, it is recommended that, on request of either employer or workman, and on payment of the prescribed fee by the requesting party, the judge shall summon the medical referee to sit with him as advisory medical expert. If the powers of the county registrar are extended as advocated, a provision is recommended that, on the application of either party, the county registrar should hear the matter and, subject to right of appeal to the judge, refer it to a medical referee.

ARBITRATION

The present law provides for arbitration by a committee of employers and workmen, by an agreed arbitrator, or by the circuit judge. It was hoped originally that arbitration by committees would be resorted to where possible, but it appears that in practice the circuit court is almost invariably used. The Committee does not recommend any alteration in the law on this point, but expects that grounds for complaint will be removed by the adoption of its recommendations as to basis of payment, and that unnecessary delay will be avoided by allowing appeals to be made direct to the Supreme Court, by extending the powers of the county registrar, and by improved circuit court machinery. The committee recommended that in every case the amount of costs be set out in the decree, apart from the amount awarded as compensation, and, further, that the scale of costs appropriate to workmen's compensation should be reasonable to such an extent that there would be no solicitor and client costs, or no necessity for them.

STATISTICS

Before 1922 statistics of workmen's compensation were collected by the Home Office for Great Britain and Ireland, but the published annual returns did not show separate figures for Ireland except in respect of proceedings and administration of the Acts. No returns of injuries or amounts paid in compensation, required by Section 12 of the Act of 1906, have yet been collected for the Saorstat. It was felt that, on the whole, the list of industries to which the Act applies is more suitable to Great Britain and Ireland as a whole than to the Saorstat. The committee, therefore, considered that, before enforcing its provisions the groups should be examined and recast, to enable the statistics to represent more fully Saorstat conditions. Further information is also needed in regard to the transactions of insurance companies and the incidence of trade diseases. This should be obtained under the Statistics Act, 1926.

The following matters requiring reciprocal arrangements with other countries have emerged—

- (a) Saorstat workmen employed in Great Britain or Northern Ireland.
- (b) Saorstat seamen, etc., employed on British ships.

(c) Application to the Saorstat of the Anglo-French Convention Act of 1909.

(d) Matters relative to procedure such as the transfer of funds from a British to a Saorstat Court or *vice versa*.

These call for an agreement or convention between the governments of the Saorstat and Great Britain. Moreover, the number of foreign workers engaged at present in the Saorstat by continental contractors, may necessitate reciprocal arrangements with the countries concerned. Such arrangements for equality of treatment for national and foreign workers are provided for by the International Labour draft conventions and recommendations relating to Workmen's Compensation.

The appendices to the report include the text of the British Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, a description of systems of industrial accident insurance in other countries, statistics of proceedings in the Saorstat under the Workmen's Compensation and Employers' Liability Acts, and the text of the seven labour conventions and recommendations of the International Labour Organisation relating to Workmen's Compensation. (From "Irish Trade Journal," Dublin, October 1926.)

The Swedish Family Budget Enquiry of 1923

In the October 1926 number of the *International Labour Review*, Dr. Nils Cederblad of the Social Board, Stockholm, gives a detailed account of the Swedish Family Budget Enquiry of 1923. It is pointed out that the first family budget enquiry in Sweden was conducted in 1907-1908 and related to Stockholm where household accounts for 150 families were collected. This enquiry was followed by a wider investigation in 1913-1914 when household accounts for twelve months were obtained from 1335 families. During 1916, 1917 and 1918 certain minor investigations were made. In 1920 the budget enquiries were extended to cover agricultural workers as well, accounts for a full year being collected from 372 such families. Finally, a further Swedish family budget enquiry was carried out in 1923 with the object of determining as to how far the 1913-1914 enquiry had lost its value owing to the considerable changes in prices and consumption, that had taken place during the ten years' interval. This enquiry covered 1400 household accounts which were kept for a whole year.

Family budget enquiries are regarded in Sweden as being of great practical importance. These budget enquiries have been used as a basis of calculating changes in the cost of living and the indices so compiled have been used extensively in fixing the wages of state and private employees. The enquiries have also been used to determine the differences in the cost of living in different parts of the country. The wage regulations for State employees, as also the wage clauses in many collective agreements for the more important industries lay down that wages are to be adjusted to the cost of living in the locality, so that real wages may be approximately the same everywhere. A similar principle has also been adopted for taxation. For both state and municipal taxation the part of the income considered to correspond to the minimum of subsistence is exempted from

taxation. But this minimum subsistence level depends among other things on the cost of living in the locality in which the taxpayer lives. And for the construction of a cost of living index it is as important to know the quantities of consumption as to have reliable price data. The conditions of consumption vary in different parts of Sweden and thus it has not been found possible to adopt a single budget for the whole country, but several budgets have had to be worked out, although they apply to the same standard of life so far as the nutritive value of food is concerned. In addition to these uses to which budget enquiries are put in Sweden, they have been widely used in the propaganda for raising general welfare by improving domestic housekeeping. The daily and the weekly press in Sweden devotes a great deal of attention to all questions relating to the standard of life.

Unlike the 1913-1914 enquiry, the 1923 enquiry covered households of industrial workers as well as those of higher-grade officials. It was necessary to consider the accounts of one year because in Sweden differences between the seasons have a far reaching effect on the family's consumption. In the account books the data were compiled in as much detail as possible. For instance, income was divided into 15 heads and expenditure under 153 heads, including 72 for foodstuffs. The account book also contained questions on the composition of the family, the length of time and the extent to which each member of the household participated in the consumption, the size of the dwelling, the area and height of the rooms, conveniences, additional food supply produced by the family itself, the value of supplies received in kind, etc.

In the case of the working classes, the selection of the families for the distribution of account books was made by means of an agreement between the Social Board and the Municipal authorities in the larger towns. Thus a committee was appointed in each of the towns taking part in the enquiry, which distributed and collected the account books and at the beginning of the period also assisted the book keepers with advice and information. In smaller districts, the local committees consisted only of one representative each of employers and workers. For the middle class household the account books were distributed by various employees' organisations. Altogether 3000 account books were distributed, of which 1740 or 58 per cent. were returned complete for a full year. Only 1400 account books were, however, used for tabulation of the results. Apart from the interest taken by the families in maintaining the accounts, a contributory cause of the success of the enquiry was that each family which kept its account for the whole year received an award of from 25 to 50 kronor. An added incentive was that in larger places extra awards were made for the best kept records.

The results of the enquiry showed that the average annual income of working and middle class families was 3811 kronor* and 8433 kronor respectively and the expenditure 3831 kronor and 8502 kronor respectively. Although the average income of middle class families was more than twice as high as that of working class households, the proportion of expenditure on various groups of commodities differed considerably as

*1 Kronor = 11 as. 9 p. approximately as on 21st October 1926.

between the two classes. The ratio of the expenditure on foodstuffs in the middle classes to that in the working class households was 126:100; that for rent, fuel and light, clothing, subscriptions and insurance contributions was 214:100 and the proportion for all other items among which taxes and cultural expenses were of special importance was 362:100. This shows that the middle classes did not use their surplus income to improve the food standard to any great extent, but spent it chiefly on paying higher taxes and improving the cultural standard of the family.

The following table shows the percentage distribution of expenditure on various commodities among the working and the middle classes:—

Expenditure on Commodities per cent. of Total Income

Group of commodities	Working-class households				Middle-class households			
	Income per unit of consumption			All households	Income per unit of consumption			All households
	Under 1,100 kr.	1,100—1,650 kr.	1,650 kr. and over		1,100—2,200 kr.	2,200—3,300 kr.	3,300 kr. and over	
Number of households	533	470	189	1,192	60	94	54	208
Total income (kr.)	2,853	4,499	6,401	3,811	5,624	8,587	13,029	8,443
	kr.	kr.	kr.	kr.	kr.	kr.	kr.	kr.
Food, drink and tobacco	48.7	40.7	35.0	42.9	32.5	27.7	21.3	26.9
Rent	9.3	10.3	10.2	9.9	11.4	11.3	10.0	11.1
Fuel and light	4.5	4.3	4.1	4.3	4.0	3.8	3.2	3.7
Clothing..	9.6	10.4	10.5	10.1	11.2	9.9	8.7	9.8
Shoes	4.4	3.7	3.0	3.9	3.2	2.4	1.8	2.4
Taxes	6.5	8.3	9.5	7.8	9.1	12.6	14.1	12.2
Household effects	3.6	4.7	6.0	4.5	5.4	6.2	6.9	6.2
Subscriptions to societies and insurance contributions	4.6	5.0	5.2	4.9	4.5	5.5	5.0	5.1
Children's education	0.8	1.0	0.3	0.8	3.2	1.6	0.3	1.5
Newspapers	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.8
Books	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.3	0.9	1.4	1.8	1.4
Stationery, postage, telephone	0.5	0.6	0.8	0.6	1.1	1.5	1.3	1.3
Cleaning materials	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
Medical attendance and medicine	1.4	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.8	2.2	1.5	1.9
Domestic help	0.2	0.4	0.8	0.4	1.7	3.0	4.9	3.3
Gifts	1.2	1.8	2.4	1.7	2.3	2.6	3.5	2.8
Amusements and recreations	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.6	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.1
Travel	1.5	2.1	2.7	2.0	2.2	2.2	2.0	2.2
Other expenses	1.7	2.2	2.9	2.1	4.6	6.7	6.8	6.0
Total expenditure	101.4	100.5	98.5	100.5	102.1	103.7	96.2	100.8

For purposes of comparing the standard of life in 1913-1914 and in 1923, budgets furnished by 962 households in the latter year were selected.

In order to make a fair comparison, the income and expenditure figures for 1913-1914 were reduced to the 1923 price level by the use of index numbers. The comparison revealed a rise of 18·7 per cent. in the real income or in other words in the standard of life. If measured by expenditure the rise in the standard of life amounted to 20·3 per cent.

The following table shows the average annual expenditure among working class households in 1914 and in 1923.

Average Annual Expenditure per Normal Household Among Working-Class Families

Group of commodities	Expenditure in 1923 according to consumption in		Percentage increase (+) or decrease (-)
	1914	1923	
	kr.	kr.	
Food, drink and tobacco	1,437·7	1,693·9	+17·8
Rent	420·0	408·5	- 2·7
Fuel and light	161·9	173·3	+ 7·0
Clothing and shoes	457·2	548·7	+20·0
Taxes	191·5	321·1	+67·7
Household effects	144·0	160·4	+11·4
Subscriptions and insurance contributions	152·8	193·1	+26·4
Children's education	19·6	35·0	+78·6
Newspapers and books	48·7	55·1	+13·1
Stationery, postage, telephone	10·8	23·4	+116·7
Washing and cleaning materials	45·0	53·1	+18·0
Medical attendance and medicine	41·4	63·0	+52·2
Personal hygiene	14·9	14·9	0·0
Gifts	38·9	67·0	+72·2
Amusements, toys, sport	39·3	46·6	+18·6
Travel	67·5	81·9	+21·3
Interest on loans	7·0	8·6	+22·9
Other expenses	39·5	67·9	+71·9
Total expenditure.. .. .	3,337·7	4,015·5	+20·3

Lancashire Cotton Industry

During September, employment in the industry was worse than in August owing partly to bad trade and partly to the scarcity and high price of fuel. The percentage of insured workpeople was 24·2 on the 20th September as compared with 23·5 on the 23rd August. The number of workpeople employed in the industry during the week ended 25th September was 74,495 which was 3·1 per cent. less than a month ago and 8 per cent. less than a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 72,450 workpeople in the week ended 25th September showed that about 30 per cent. of these workpeople were on short time in that week, with a loss of about 18 hours on the average. (Abstracted from the "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, October 1926.)

Financial Condition of Japanese Mills

The Japan Cotton Spinners' Association included 51 companies last year, and their financial condition is shown by the following figures :—

Authorised Capital	505,512,500	Yens.
Paid-up Capital	349,104,817	..
Reserve Fund	218,827,179	..
Debentures and Bonds	67,615,990	..
Fixed Capital	425,050,550	..
Depreciation Fund for half-year (not included in the above)	7,549,353	..
Profit brought over from last year	47,616,352	..
Net Profit for the second half of 1925	25,814,587	..
Dividend amount (half year)	28,572,776	..
Reserve Fund (not included in above)	5,893,163	..
Profit carried forward to next year	38,965,000	..

Average dividend against paid-up Capital—16 per cent.

From this percentage of dividend, Indians would consider that all Japanese mills are prosperous. But Mr. T. Tamagachi, Agent of the Japan Cotton Spinners' Association at Bombay, told recently a representative of the *Bombay Chronicle* that this was not so. After the boom days, some mills paid no dividends and had to go into liquidation. These mills generally paid big dividends during boom time or were newly erected at high cost. In contrast to the condition described above very few mills in India have more than 1 crore in reserve, and still they put a very small balance of their profits to carry to the next term. If the Indian mills had desired to increase their reserves, they could have done so during the boom period. But instead of doing so, they paid large dividends without any preparation for the rainy days. (From "Indian Textile Journal," October 1926.)

All-India Trade Union Congress

TO BE HELD IN CALCUTTA

The Seventh Session of the All-India Trade Union Congress will be held in Calcutta some time in the winter season. The exact date will be announced later but it is probable that it will be in the third week of January next. A strong Reception Committee has been formed with Mr. Suresh Chandra Bhattacharjee as Chairman.

Rai Saheb Chandrika Prasada of Ajmer will preside over the Congress and a definite programme of work for the next year will be taken up.

Affiliated Unions are requested to send in their resolutions and the names and addresses of their delegates to the Secretary of the Reception Committee at its office—No. 12 Dalhousie Square, Calcutta. No delegation fees will be charged.

Deductions from Wages or Payments in Respect of Fines

Government Enquiry as to its Extent

In the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for July 1926 we published a note dealing with the enquiry instituted by the Government of India, in the Department of Industries and Labour, with regard to the question of the abuses that might be prevalent in India as a result of deductions from wages or payments in respect of fines. The Government of Bombay in the General Department have instructed the Labour Office to conduct the necessary enquiries in connexion with this subject in the Bombay Presidency. The usual procedure in connexion with all matters concerning Labour Legislation has been to circulate copies of the Government of India letters on various subjects to different Bodies, Associations and persons representing capital and labour interests. In the present case this was not possible because no information of any kind whatever was available with regard to the extent to and the basis on which fines are inflicted in this country. The Labour Office, accordingly, drew up a draft questionnaire and a schedule designed to collect the necessary information which was forwarded to 24 Bodies and Associations with a request that they should favour the Labour Office with their views on its suitability for the purpose, etc.

All the Bodies and Associations consulted, were with one exception, agreed on the necessity of having a comprehensive enquiry. Opinions differed as to the period to be covered but the majority considered that one year should be taken. Certain organizations, however, considered that if statistics were asked for for a period of one year the labour which would be involved in extracting the figures required would be so heavy that many factories would probably not be able to fill in the schedule. It was decided that the period to be covered for the Textile Industry should be the first ten months of the year 1926 and that statistics should be asked for for the whole of the year 1925 from all other factories, industrial organizations, etc., included in the enquiry. With reference to the question as to whether the enquiry should be confined to industrial establishments only or whether it should be extended so as to include all large Labour-employing organisations, such as the Docks, Municipalities, Building and Construction Works, Railways, Tramways, Shipping, Hotels, Restaurants, Shops, etc., and all large offices, all Labour interests unanimously held that the enquiry should be fully comprehensive. Employers' interests were divided in their views but the preponderance of Employers' views on the question was in agreement with the opinion of Labour. It has, therefore, been decided to make the whole enquiry as comprehensive as possible.

Almost all the Bodies and Associations consulted agreed that the questionnaire and schedule were fair and reasonable. The fullest consideration was given to the views of such of the Employers' and Labour Associations as expressed dissatisfaction with the questionnaire and

schedule either on the ground of over-elaboration or incompleteness. The questionnaire and schedule as remodelled in the light of the various criticisms received, embody all the suggestions made for their improvement where it was considered that the suggested additions, alterations or omissions would add to the value of the enquiry.

It has been decided to issue the questionnaire and schedule with a covering letter to all known factories in the Bombay Presidency and to all known large labour employing organisations of the type mentioned above and to all the larger commercial offices. The various establishments addressed have been requested to favour the Labour Office with their answers to the questionnaire and their returns in the schedule by the 10th December 1926. The Labour Office hopes that all the establishments addressed will give their fullest co-operation to the enquiry with a view to making it as comprehensive as possible.

We give below (1) a copy of the letter addressed by the Government of India to all Local Governments and Administrations on this subject together with a copy of the Truck Act of 1896 which embodies the main provisions of the English Law with regard to deductions from wages or payments in respect of fines; (2) a copy of the circular letter forwarded by the Labour Office to all the establishments which have been requested to furnish answers and returns; and (3) copies of one of the three types of questionnaire and schedule, that for the Textile Industry. The schedule and questionnaire have been slightly modified for (a) all other factories and industrial establishments, and (b) all other establishments not included in the above categories.

I

(a) Letter No. L—1418 dated Simla the 25th June 1926 from the Government of India in the Department of Industries and Labour to all Local Governments and Administrations:—

"I am directed to ask for the assistance of the Government of Bombay in enabling the Government of India to obtain information on the extent of the practice in India by which employers in industrial concerns are empowered to inflict fines upon their workmen. Suggestions have been made in the Central Legislature, in the press and elsewhere that the system of inflicting fines upon workmen is common in Indian industrial establishments, and that it constitutes an evil of such proportion that steps should be taken either to abolish the system altogether or to reduce it to such dimensions as to prevent abuse.

"2. That the system is liable to abuse is obvious. If fines are not subject to regulation the employer who imposes a fine acts as prosecutor and judge, and the employee has no effective remedy if he is fined unjustly or in excess. This is true even in countries where workmen are literate and where they have the support of trade unions in resisting unfair imposts. It is not unnatural to expect that in India the ignorance of the great mass of workmen and the absence of strong labour organizations would make the need for protection greater than elsewhere. The experience of Western countries has in many cases led to more or less elaborate legislation on this subject. The main provisions of the English law are embodied

in the Truck Act of 1896, a copy of which is appended for ready reference. In several other countries the power to impose fines and make deductions from wages is regulated by law. Sometimes a limit in the shape of a maximum percentage of wages is imposed; generally deductions can only be made in accordance with a code of regulations duly posted in the factory or other establishment; and frequently the law contains the salutary provision that sums paid as fines must be credited to funds devoted in some manner or other to the benefit of the workers.

" 3. It will be apparent that while the legitimacy of the system of imposing fines is recognized in most countries, restrictions are frequently imposed with the object of preventing abuse. The English law makes a distinction between three forms of deductions from wages—deductions in respect of fines (i.e., for breaches of discipline); deductions in respect of bad or negligent work, or injury to the materials or other property of the employer; and deductions in respect of materials provided by the employer. The Government of India are not in possession of full information on the extent to which the practice of making deductions of these various kinds exist in India, though they are inclined to the view that it is in respect of the first two forms of deductions from wages, mentioned above, that the practice is most prevalent and most liable to abuse. The distinction between these two forms of deductions is not always easy to define, and indeed one of the recommendations of the Truck Committee appointed in England in 1906 was the repeal of the provisions of the English law relating to deductions in respect of damaged goods (Section 2 of the Act of 1896), the effect of which recommendation would be that the employer could only deal with cases of careless or negligent work in the same way and under the same conditions as he would be allowed to deal with breaches of discipline. The deductions would cease to be a method by which the employer recoups the loss he has sustained through the worker's act or default, and would become rather of the nature of a fine.

" 4. There is, of course, a body of opinion which urges that fines ought to be abolished altogether, the grounds advanced being generally that experience shows that they are not a real deterrent, that they have a bad moral effect, and that, being often unfairly imposed, they create a sense of injustice and lead to irritation. The exponents of this view aver that discipline can best be maintained by adequate supervision and moral control, with the alternative of dismissal in the last resort. This was not, however, the view taken by the majority of the English Truck Committee of 1906-08. They pointed out the obvious dangers of the total abolition of the system of fining in the substitution of other and less desirable means of maintaining discipline. A considerable body of evidence was produced before the Committee to the effect that many workers prefer fines to the alternative of suspension or dismissal. Their final conclusions were not in favour of the total abolition of the system of imposing fines, but they proposed certain changes in the law designed to place such restrictions and conditions on the system as would prevent it from being either a source of profit to the employer, or a cause of improper or harsh treatment to the workers. They suggested, *inter alia*, that the

maximum fine or accumulation of fines in any one week permissible by law should not exceed 5 per cent. of the wages of the worker; that deductions by instalments should be prohibited, i.e., that not more than one deduction should be allowed to be made in respect of one and the same fine; and that fines should be abolished altogether in the case of young persons of 16 years of age and under.

" 5. In referring very briefly and summarily to some of the provisions of the law in other countries, the Government of India must not be understood as intending to suggest that circumstances in India are the same, or that legislation on similar lines is necessary or desirable. They have not at present sufficient information at their disposal regarding the degree to which the system of imposing fines is prevalent in India, the forms which it takes, or the extent, if any, to which it is in practice abused, to enable them to form any definite conclusions. The object of this letter is to ask Local Governments to furnish them with such information as they are able to collect on the subject, after consultation with the interests concerned, and to favour them with their views on the desirability of taking any action, legislative or otherwise, to counter any abuses which may be found to prevail.

" 6. If, as the result of these enquiries, any legislative measures on the subject should appear to be desirable, the inherent difficulty of rendering such legislation effective must be recognised. This indeed is a difficulty which has been felt in England. The original Truck Act of 1831 largely failed of its effect because no one was officially recognized as having a special duty to enforce it. This drawback was to some extent remedied by section 13 of the Truck Act of 1887, which placed upon Inspectors of Factories and Mines the duty of enforcing the provisions of the Truck Acts and gave them for this purpose the same powers and authorities as they possess for enforcing the provisions of the Acts relating to factories and mines. The Report of the Truck Committee already referred to shows, however, that even in England where the workmen are literate and in every way in a better position to resist illegal exactions than in India, it has been difficult to prevent or to detect violation of the law. It appears to the Government of India that, if any legislation is ultimately found to be desirable in this country, it would probably be impracticable, in the first instance at any rate, to extend its scope beyond industrial establishments, such as factories and mines, which are already regularly inspected by a special staff.

" 7. In asking for information on this subject the Government of India would welcome any suggestions which the Government of Bombay may have to make on the form which any measure, which it may be found desirable to adopt to remedy abuses, should take. They would be grateful if, after consultation with the interests concerned, the Local Government would favour them with their views not later than the 1st of March 1927."

(b) The Truck Act, 1896.

" Be it enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons,

in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows—

" 1. (1) An employer shall not make any contract with any workman for any deduction from the sum contracted to be paid by the employer to the workman, or for any payment to the employer by the workman, for or in respect of any fine, unless—

Deductions or payments in respect of fines.

(a) the terms of the contract are contained in a notice kept constantly affixed at such place or places open to the workmen and in such a position that it may be easily seen, read, and copied by any person whom it affects; or the contract is in writing, signed by the workman; and

(b) the contract specifies the acts or omissions in respect of which the fine may be imposed, and the amount of the fine or the particulars from which that amount may be ascertained; and

(c) the fine imposed under the contract is in respect of some act or omission which causes or is likely to cause damage or loss to the employer, or interruption or hindrance to his business; and

(d) the amount of the fine is fair and reasonable having regard to all the circumstances of the case.

" (2) An employer shall not make any such deduction or receive any such payment, unless—

(a) the deduction or payment is made in pursuance of, or in accordance with, such a contract as aforesaid; and

(b) particulars in writing showing the acts or omissions in respect of which the fine is imposed and the amount thereof are supplied to the workman on each occasion when a deduction or payment is made.

" (3) This section shall apply to the case of a shop assistant in like manner as it applies to the case of a workman.

" 2. (1) An employer shall not make any contract with any workman for any deduction from the sum contracted to be paid by the employer to the workman, or for any payment to the employer by the workman for or in respect of bad or negligent work or injury to the materials or other property of the employer, unless—

Deductions or payments in respect of damaged goods.

(a) the terms of the contract are contained in a notice kept constantly affixed at such place or places open to the workmen and in such a position that it may be easily seen, read and copied by any person whom it affects; or the contract is in writing, signed by the workman; and

(b) the deduction or payment to be made under the contract does not exceed the actual or estimated damage or loss occasioned to the employer by the act or omission of the workman or of some person over whom he has control, or for whom he has by the contract agreed to be responsible; and

(c) the amount of the deduction or payment is fair and reasonable, having regard to all the circumstances of the case.

" (2) An employer shall not make any such deduction or receive any such payment unless—

(a) the deduction or payment is made in pursuance of, or in accordance with, such a contract as aforesaid; and

(b) particulars in writing showing the acts or omissions in respect of which the deduction or payment is made and the amount thereof are supplied to the workman on each occasion when a deduction or payment is made.

" 3. (1) An employer shall not make any contract with any workman for any deduction from the sum contracted to be paid by the employer to the workman, or for any payment to the employer by the workman for, or in respect of, the use or supply of materials, tools or machines, standing room, light, heat or for or in respect of any other thing to be done or provided by the employer in relation to the work or labour of the workman unless—

Deductions or payments in respect of materials.

(a) the terms of the contract are contained in a notice kept constantly affixed at such place or places open to workmen, and in such a position that it may be easily seen, read, and copied by any person whom it affects; or the contract is in writing, signed by the workman; and

(b) the sum to be paid or deducted under the contract in respect of materials, tools or machines, standing room, light, heat, or any other thing does not exceed, in the case of materials or tools supplied to the workman, the actual or estimated cost thereof to the employer, or in the case of the use of machinery, light, heat, or any other thing in this section mentioned, a fair and reasonable rent or charge, having regard to all the circumstances of the case.

" (2) An employer shall not make any such deduction or receive any such payment unless—

(a) the deduction or payment is made in pursuance of, and in accordance with, such a contract as aforesaid; and

(b) particulars in writing showing the things in respect of which the deduction or payment is made and the amount thereof are supplied to the workman on each occasion when a deduction or payment is made.

" 4. If any employer enters into any contract contrary to this Act, Penalty ~~he~~ makes any deduction or receives any payment contrary to this Act, he shall be guilty of an offence against the Truck Act, 1831, and shall be liable to the penalties imposed by section nine of that Act as if the offence were an offence in that section mentioned.

1 and 2 Will. 4. c. 37.

" 5. Any workman or shop assistant may recover any sum deducted by or paid to his employer contrary to this Act, provided that proceedings for such recovery are commenced within six months from the date of the deduction or payment sought to be recovered, and that where he has consented to or acquiesced in any such deduction or payment, he shall only recover the excess which has been deducted or paid over the amount, if any, which the court may find to have been fair and reasonable, having regard to all the circumstances of the case.

Recovery of payments or deductions.

" 6. (1) Every employer who has made any contract purporting or intending to operate as a contract under this Act shall, on demand in writing by one of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Factories or of Mines, produce the contract or a true copy thereof at any convenient time and place to be named by the Inspector, and the Inspector shall be at liberty to take a copy of the same or of any part thereof, and the employer of any workman or shop assistant who is party to any such contract shall at the time of making the contract give the workman or shop assistant a copy of the contract or of the notice containing its terms.

" (2) A workman or shop assistant who is party to any such contract shall be entitled, on request, to obtain from his employer free of charge a copy of the contract or of the notice containing its terms.

" (3) Every employer who has made any contract purporting or intending to operate as a contract under section one of this Act shall keep a register of deductions or payments, and shall enter therein every deduction or payment for or in respect of any fine purporting to be made under any such contract, specifying the amount and the nature of the act or omission in respect of which the fine was imposed, and this register shall be at all times open to inspection by one of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Factories or of Mines.

" (4) If any person fails to comply with this section he shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding forty shillings.

" 7. A contract entered into under the provisions of this Act shall not be liable to stamp duty.

" 8. Nothing in this Act shall make lawful any contract or payment which is illegal under the Truck Acts, 1831 and 1887, or under the Hosiery Manufacture (Wages) Act, 1874, or affect the provisions of the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1887, or any amending Act, with respect to persons employed in mines and paid according to weight, or make lawful any deduction from payments made to those persons.

9. (1) The Secretary of State, if satisfied that the provisions of this Act are unnecessary for the protection of the workmen employed in any trade or business, or in any branch or department of any trade or business, either generally or within any specified area, may by order under his hand grant an exemption from those provisions in respect of the persons engaged in that trade, business, branch or department, either generally or within that area.

" (2) The Secretary of State may at any time amend or revoke any such order.

" (3) Every order made under this section shall be laid as soon as may be before both Houses of Parliament, and if either House within the next forty days after the order has been so laid before that House resolves that the order ought to be annulled, the order shall, after the date of that resolution, be of no effect without prejudice to the validity of anything

Production of contract.

Exemption of contract from stamp duty.

Saving as to contracts and payments illegal under existing Acts.

1 and 2 Will. 4 c. 37.
50 and 51 Vict. c. 46.
37 and 38 Vict. c. 48.
50 and 51 Vict. c. 58.

Power to exempt from provisions of Act.

done in the meantime under the order or to the making of a new order.

" 10. Sub-section two of section thirteen of the Truck Amendment Act, 1887 (which relates to the duty of inspectors) shall apply in the case of a laundry and in the case of any place where work is given out by the occupier of a factory or workshop, or by a contractor or sub-contractor, in like manner as it applies in the case of a factory.

" 11. This Act shall come into operation on the first day of January one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven.

" 12. This Act may be cited as the Truck Act, 1896: and the Truck Acts, 1831 and 1887, and this Act shall be construed together as one Act and may be cited collectively as the Truck Acts, 1831 to 1896."

II

Copy of the circular letter issued by the Labour Office.

" At the instance of the Government of India, the Labour Office on behalf of the Government of Bombay is undertaking an enquiry into the question of deductions from wages or payments in respect of fines. As will be seen from the letter of the Government of India, a copy of which is enclosed, suggestions have been made in the Central Legislature, in the Press and elsewhere that this system constitutes an evil of such proportion that steps should be taken either to abolish the system altogether or to reduce it to such dimensions as to prevent abuse. While the legitimacy of the system of imposing fines is recognised in most countries, restrictions are frequently imposed with the object of preventing abuse. The English law makes a distinction between three forms of deductions from wages—deductions in respect of fines, i.e., for breaches of discipline; deductions in respect of bad or negligent work, or injury to the materials or other property of the employer; and deductions in respect of materials provided by the employer. The Government of India incline to the view that it is in respect of the first two forms of deductions from wages mentioned above that the practice is most prevalent and most liable to abuse.

" 2. I am instructed to invite your co-operation in obtaining information on this subject. I enclose a copy of a questionnaire drawn up after consultation with a number of Associations, Labour Organisations, and public bodies. The Labour Office is indebted to them for their assistance and it is hoped that the questionnaire is one that will enable the fullest possible information to be collected. It is divided into two parts. Part I will not, I think, present any difficulty in filling up. The schedule attached to Part II, however, has been criticised as asking for information of too detailed a character. It is, however, sent to you in the earnest hope that you may be able to fill in the information asked for under the various heads. You will, I am sure, realise that in an enquiry of this kind, on the results of which may depend whether or not legislation is desirable, it is essential that the information obtained should be as complete as it can possibly be made. I realise, however, that in the case of some organisations it may be a matter of practical impossibility to give the particulars asked for. In that case

the information required in Part II may be summarised under the three main headings, i.e., the total of the fines given under Head No. 1, Head No. 2 and Head No. 3, but I would ask that every effort be made to give the information in the form it is asked for.

"I should be glad to receive your replies by December, 10th."

III

Form of Questionnaire and Schedule for the Textile Industry.

Questionnaire on deductions from wages or payments in respect of fines.

Form for the Textile Industry

Part I

Name and Address of Mill

1. Have you any system whereby fines are inflicted on your employees or deductions made from their wages?
2. Have you any rules regulating such infliction of fines or deduction from wages?
3. If yes, please attach copy of those rules to this schedule.
4. To whom is the power of fixing delegated in your mill?
5. Are the conditions under which fines may be inflicted included in the terms of contract, if any; or made known to the employees in any other manner?
6. Have you laid down any limits as to the extent to which fines may be inflicted, e.g., not beyond a certain percentage of the workers' earnings per week, per month or for any other period?
7. If you have no rules governing the infliction of fines in your mill please give a list of the offences for which fines are inflicted on your employees.
8. In what manner is the amount recovered from your employees disposed of in respect of (a) fines; and (b) deductions from wages for spoilt or damaged articles?
9. On each occasion when a fine is inflicted is the worker concerned given full particulars relating to it?

10. Is the worker informed of the fine at the time of the occurrence or only when he draws his pay?

11. Is there a practice in your mill of giving an article spoilt or damaged by a worker during manufacture to that worker and of making a deduction for its cost from that worker's wages?

12. If so, do you charge the worker (a) actual manufacturing cost of the spoilt or damaged article; or (b) its value after being spoilt or damaged; or (c) the price at which it would have been sold had it not been spoilt or damaged?

13. Have you any system whereby deductions are made from wages on account of materials or tools supplied to the worker? If so, what are the rules governing the same?

14. Are the conditions relating to such deductions included in the terms of contract or made known to the employees in any other manner?

15. In your experience has any employee refused to work and vacated his employment rather than submit to any or certain fines?

16. Where fines are not inflicted, is suspension without pay an alternative measure?

17. Have you any system of fines for lateness or non-attendance on the part of the employee who is paid by the week, fortnight or month?

18. Is any reward or bonus offered and paid in your mill for (a) turning out better work than a specified standard; or (b) more regular attendance?

19. Do you grant advances to workers on wages due to them?

20. In cases where advances are granted do you make any further deductions for interest, discount, etc., on the advances given? If so at what rate?

If advances are not granted in your mill, does there exist a Loan Society in the Co-operative or any other system?

Part II

Name and Address of Mill	Number of workpeople employed
	(a) Men
	(b) Women
	(c) Children
	(d) Total

Total Wages Bill* for the first ten months of the year 1926 Rs.

Summary of fines and deductions made from the wages of during the first ten months of the year 1926

Subject of Deduction	Number of employees from whose wages deductions have been made			Total amount of deductions		
	Men	Women	Children	Men	Women	Children
I. Fines for—				Rs. s. p.	Rs. s. p.	Rs. s. p.
a. Breach of Discipline at Factory						
b. Use of negligent work						
c. Loss of and injury or damage to material, tools, machinery or plant belonging to the employer						
d. Fines for any other purposes than those enumerated in (a), (b) or (c)						
Total						
II. Deductions for services rendered by employer—						
a. Supply of water						
b. Medicines and medical attendance						
c. Rent for lodging						
d. Provision of food						
e. Provision of fuel						
f. Accident Compensation						
g. Provision of canteen						
h. Reading room, Library						
i. Interest on advances						
k. Any other services						
Total						

*This figure should exclude the salaries of all officers and the clerical establishments attached to your mill.

Subject of Deduction	Number of employees from whose wages deductions have been made			Total amount of deductions		
	Men	Women	Children	Men	Women	Children
III. Deductions for services rendered by employer—				Rs. s. p.	Rs. s. p.	Rs. s. p.
a. Supply of water						
b. Medicines and medical attendance						
c. Rent for lodging						
d. Provision of food						
e. Provision of fuel						
f. Accident Compensation						
g. Provision of canteen						
h. Reading room, Library						
i. Interest on advances						
k. Any other services						
Total						
V. Miscellaneous Deductions for—						
a. Compulsory contributions for charitable purposes						
b. Interest on advances						
c. Any other services						
Total						

The definition of a child is that given in the Factories Act 1911 as amended by the Factories Act of 1922, i.e., a person under the age of fifteen years

The replies received to the above questionnaire and the returns in the above schedules will be summarised and tabulated. Summaries of the results of the whole enquiry will then be forwarded to various bodies, associations and persons with a request that they should favour the Labour Office with an expression of their views on the whole subject. The Government of Bombay will then address the Government of India on the question in the light of the opinions finally received.

Reviews of Books and Reports

Union Scale of Wages and Hours of Labor, May 15, 1925. Bulletin of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, No. 404, Washington, 1926

This report covers 775,112 members of organized trades as found in 66 important industrial cities. The hourly rates of wages of all the trades considered, exclusive of street railways, rose from \$1.046 in 1924 to \$1.091 in 1925 or by 4.3 per cent. There was a fall of 0.6 per cent. in the weekly hours of work. The average hours for the United States in all the trades considered, excluding street railways, were 45.5 per week.

Current Periodicals

Summary of titles and contents of special articles

THE LABOUR MAGAZINE—VOL. V, NO. 6. (The Trades Union Congress and the Labour Party, London.)

- Special Articles:* (1) *Bournemouth Trades Union Congress*, by Walter M. Citrine (General Secretary). pp. 243-245.
 (2) *Fractions and Frictions*, by W. W. Henderson. pp. 246-248.
 (3) *The First World Migration Congress*, by J. W. Brown (Secretary of the International Federation of Trade Unions). pp. 249-252.
 (4) *The Development of the Labour Movement in Japan*, by K. Matsuoaka (General Federation of Labour of Japan). pp. 253-255.
 (5) *Memories and Reflections*, by Propagandist. pp. 256 and 257.
 (6) *In the "Eight-fifteen"*, by T. S. Dickson. pp. 258 and 259.
 (7) *Looking Backwards: the Formation of the I. L. P.*, by Ben Turner. pp. 260 and 261.
 (8) *Workers and Joint Control of Industry*, by R. M. Fox. pp. 262 and 263.
Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INDUSTRIAL WELFARE—VOL. VIII, NO. 93. (The Industrial Welfare Society, London.)

- Special Articles:* (1) *Pension and Superannuation Funds*, by Bernard Robertson. pp. 293-295.
 (2) *San Baths in a Factory*, by William M. Turner Wilson, M.D., M.B. pp. 295-297.
Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR REVIEW—VOL. XIV, NO. 4. (The International Labour Office, Geneva.)

- Special Articles:* (1) *The Competence of the International Labour Organisation: A Further Decision of the Permanent Court of International Justice*, by Dr. Jean Morellet. pp. 459-475.
 (2) *The Scope of Labour Statistics*, by Dr. Karl Pribram (Chief of the Statistical Section, International Labour Office). pp. 476-488.
 (3) *The Swedish Family Budget Enquiry of 1923*, by Dr. Nils Cederblad of the Social Board (Socialstyrelsen), Stockholm.—Collection of information; compilation of results; results of the enquiry. pp. 489-507.
 (4) *The Ninth Session of the International Labour Conference.*—Composition of the conference; president; credentials of delegates; agenda of the conference; international codification of rules relating to seamen's articles of agreement—seamen's articles of agreement; repatriation, disciplinary and penal sanctions of articles of agreement; general principles for the inspection of the conditions of work of seamen; hours of work in the mercantile marine; the director's report; joint maritime commission; resolutions adopted by the conference—resolution submitted by Mr. de Michelis, Italian Government Delegate, resolution submitted by Mr. Lamprinos, adviser to the Greek Workers' Delegation, resolution submitted by Mr. Robb, Canadian Employers' Delegate, Mr. Salvesen, Norwegian Employers' Delegate and Mr. Rivelli, French Workers' Delegate; conclusion. pp. 508-542.
Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE—VOL. VIII, NO. 10. (Harvard School of Public Health, Baltimore.)

- Special Articles:* (1) *Disease and the Workmen's Compensation Act*, by Sir Kenneth Weldon Goadby, K.B.E., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (Cantab.) (Specialist Medical Referee, Industrial Poisoning (Home Office); Member of Health Advisory Committee, Ministry of Mines).—Introduction; procedure under Workmen's Compensation Act; statistics of compensation; personal records. pp. 417-427.
 (2) *Weavers' Cough*, by E. L. Middleton, M.D. (H. M. Medical Inspector of Factories).—Introduction; present investigation—sizing process, mycologic examinations, position of affected workers in shed, incidence of cases leaving off work, air tests, symptoms and course of the illness, prognosis, etiology. pp. 428-435.
 (3) *Dust in Cotton Card Rooms*, by E. L. Middleton, M.D. (H. M. Medical Inspector of Factories).—Carding process; stripping process; grinding process; data from dust determinations—jet dust counter, settlement dust counter; conclusions. pp. 436-448.
 (4) *The Presence of Mineral Oil in the Atmosphere of Cotton Spinning Rooms*, by E. L. Middleton, M.D. (H. M. Medical Inspector of Factories). pp. 449-451.
Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE, VOL. XXVI, NO. 8. (The Department of Labour, Canada.)

- Special Articles:* (1) *Work of Ontario Department of Labour in 1925.*—Factories, shops and office buildings; employment service; board of stationary and hoisting engineers; steam boiler branch. pp. 771-773.
 (2) *Technical Education in Nova Scotia.*—Technical schools; technical college; short term courses; correspondence study. pp. 774-776.
 (3) *Conference on Industrial Accident Prevention at Washington, D. C.*—Uniform accident statistics; corrected accident rates; importance of statistics; state and provincial statistics; national accident statistics; workers' interest in safety problems. pp. 780-782.
 (4) *Some Phases of "Handicap" placement.*—Placements; orders in council pertaining to handicapped men; co-operation; "problem cases." pp. 782-784.
 (5) *Arbitration and Conciliation in Labour Disputes on the United States Railways.*—Provisions of Railway Act, 1926; President states objects of Act; Analysis of Provisions; members of board of mediation. pp. 792-795.
Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE, VOL. XXVI, NO. 9. (The Department of Labour, Canada.)

- Special Articles:* (1) *Labour Legislation in Nova Scotia in 1926.*—Industrial disputes investigation act; industrial peace act repealed; collection of statistics; factories act; welfare of children; relief of unemployment; acts not passed. pp. 863 and 864.
 (2) *Labour in British Columbia in 1925: Report of the Provincial Department of Labour.*—Hours of work; male minimum wage act; industrial conditions in 1925; employment service; factory inspection. pp. 866-869.
 (3) *Workmen's Compensation in Alberta in 1925.*—Results of 8 years' operation; accidents in 1925; industries under the act; payrolls and numbers employed; amount of compensation; refunds for disabled veterans; medical aid. pp. 870-872.
 (4) *Minimum Wages for Female Employees in Saskatchewan.*—Increase of wage rates in (1) shops and stores; (2) laundries and factories; and (3) mail order houses. pp. 872 and 873.
 (5) *Minimum Wages for Female Employees in Manitoba.*—New order governing certain manufacturing industries. pp. 873 and 874.
 (6) *Minimum Wages for Female Employees in Ontario and British Columbia in 1925.*—Ontario, British Columbia. pp. 875-878.
Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

Current Notes From Abroad

INTERNATIONAL

The Director of the International Labour Office has been advised by the Secretary-General of the League of Nations of the registration within the past few days of additional formal ratifications of certain Labour Conventions.

Thus France has just ratified the Convention concerning the weekly rest in industrial establishments.

Sweden has ratified the Convention concerning equality of treatment for national and foreign workers as regards workmen's compensation for accidents.

The Netherlands have ratified the Convention concerning the rights of association and combination of agricultural workers. (From "International Labour Office Weekly News Service," Geneva, No. 100.)

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The Thirty-third Session of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office opened in Geneva on 14th October 1926. Mr. Arthur Fontaine (Government, France) presided.

At the opening of the first sitting, Count de Altea announced, on behalf of the Spanish Government, that the decision of Spain to withdraw from the League of Nations would not affect in any way her relations with the International Labour Organisation. "Spain," he said, "will remain with enthusiasm in this Organisation, in accordance with the legal principles which apply to it. Such an attitude is a consequence of the great interest which Spain takes in the problems of social legislation and of the protection of the working classes."

The Governing Body was called on to elect its officers, the period of office of those appointed last year having expired. The Governing Body re-elected unanimously for a further period of one year Mr. Arthur Fontaine as Chairman, and Messrs. Carlier (Employers' Group) and Oudegeest (Workers' Group) as Vice-Chairmen.

The Governing Body next considered the report of Mr. Albert Thomas, Director of the International Labour Office, on the work of the Office since the last Session of the Governing Body. The report stated, among other things, that the total number of ratifications of International Labour Conventions had now reached 214.

The Governing Body took note of the ratification, unconditionally and without reservation, by the Belgian Government of the Washington Convention limiting the hours of work to eight in the day and forty-eight in the week.

A general discussion arose on the development of the eight-hour question in the various countries. The workers' representatives protested particularly against the Decree issued on 30th June last by the Italian Government on the subject of the possible extension of hours of work in Italy to nine in the day. They expressed the fear that this decision might endanger the principles of the Washington Convention, and they insisted

on the necessity of energetic action in favour of a common and prompt ratification of the Convention by the great industrial countries.

The representative of the Italian Government described the origin of the Decree. He declared that it did not infringe the real principles of the eight-hour day, and that in fact it remained unapplied. He added that Italy would respect her signature, and would apply the Convention when the conditions she had attached to her ratification were fulfilled.

The representatives of other Governments also described the difficulties which delay the ratification of the Hours Convention by their respective countries. They were unanimous in affirming that these delays were due primarily to the economic situation, and that their Governments still desire to ratify the Convention as soon as possible.

The discussion was adjourned to a later sitting, when the Governing Body would decide on a proposal by Mr. Sokal, Polish Government representative, for the appointment of a special Committee of the Governing Body to examine the position with regard to the eight-hour day and the means of hastening the ratification of the Washington Convention.

The Governing Body fixed 25th May 1927 as the opening date for the Tenth Session of the International Labour Conference. (From "International Labour Office Weekly News Service," Geneva.)

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UNITED KINGDOM

The Unemployment Grants Committee in Great Britain, in its Fifth Annual Report for the year 1925-1926 recently issued, states that both the number of applications from local authorities for grants in aid of public works to relieve unemployment, and the number of such applications approved, show a substantial diminution as compared with previous years.

This was partly due to the increasing difficulty of finding, in the sixth consecutive winter of unemployment, additional public works for the relief of unemployment, and to the financial burden on local authorities. The decrease was much greater in the second half of the year, mainly owing to the circular issued on 15th December 1925, under which assistance from the Unemployment Grants Committee was limited to works which would not otherwise be undertaken for a considerable period (ordinarily more than five years) and which were intended to relieve unemployment proved to be exceptional.

During the twelve months from July 1925 to June 1926, the value of the works submitted for approval was £26,831,000, a decrease of 33 per cent. from the previous year. But while the decrease in the first six months was only 16 per cent., in the second half of the year it was 66 per cent. The schemes approved numbered 650 and their total value was £10,619,000.

The Committee consider that the scheme of grants in aid of works to relieve unemployment, which has been in operation for six consecutive winters, has now—largely for that season—passed the period of its greatest utility. If continued on the same scale as heretofore, it might simply subsidise work which local authorities would in any case have had to undertake, and would thus not increase the total volume of employment

It might also " have the tendency to divert capital from the normal trade developments, which are now to be looked for, and would thus hinder rather than assist the relief of unemployment through the proper channel of trade recovery."

The scheme has, nevertheless, served a valuable purpose not only in providing work for the unemployed but also in the psychological effect of joint action by the Government and local authorities in undertaking so much work of marked public utility.

Since the Committee was set up in December 1920, it has approved for State assistance to the extent of about £40,000,000 more than 11,900 schemes, amounting to more than £104,000,000 in value and providing directly nearly 4,000,000 man months of employment. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, October 25, 1926.)

* * * * *

At 1st October 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, light and miscellaneous items) was approximately 74 per cent. above that of July 1914, as compared with 72 per cent. a month ago and 76 per cent. a year ago. The corresponding figures for food alone were 63, 62 and 72 respectively.

The rise in the index number at 1st October, as compared with a month earlier, was due to increases in the prices of eggs, milk, coal and gas. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, October 1926.)

* * * * *

The general stoppage of work in the coal-mining industry, which began on 1st May, involved nearly a million workpeople in that industry in a loss of about 21 million working days in September. The aggregate number of working days lost by workpeople taking part in this dispute was about 108 million up to the end of September.

Apart from the coal-mining dispute, the number of trade disputes, involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in September was 16; in addition, 17 disputes which began before September were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The total number of workpeople involved in these 33 disputes (including those thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 2000, and the estimated aggregate duration of such disputes in September was about 15,000 working days. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, October 1926.)

* * * * *

UNITED STATES

A significant event recently in the labour world in the United States has been the opening of a broadcasting station by the Chicago Federation of Labor. The station is intended not only for the purpose of entertainment, but also for instruction and education, *i.e.*, for interpreting the labour movement to its rank and file.

The Chicago Federation of Labor, it may be recalled, was the centre of a progressive labour movement some years ago. It is still led by some of the most advanced thinkers in the American Federation of Labor. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, October 11, 1926.)

* * * * *

OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

A Decree of the Polish Minister of Labour and Social Assistance, dated 5th July 1926, provides that the obligation hitherto imposed on employers, in virtue of a Decree of 15th May 1925, to inform the public employment exchanges of vacancies in their undertakings for manual workers, shall henceforth be extended to cover intellectual workers.

As a result, persons who employ more than five workers whether manual or non-manual, will in future be required to notify the local public employment exchanges, within three days, of all vacancies occurring in their establishments, indicating the number of posts vacant, the kind of occupation in question and qualifications required, the conditions of work and wages, and the probable duration of the engagement. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, October 25, 1926.)

* * * * *

An interesting judgment has recently been given in Poland on the question whether a strike may entail a loss or reduction of annual holidays.

In July and August 1924 a strike occurred in the mines and foundries of Upper Silesia.

At the end of the strike, the workers' organisations demanded that there should be no reduction in the quantity of coal received by the workers as payment in kind, and that the number of days' holiday should not be reduced as a result of the strike.

As no agreement was reached between workers and employers, the case was brought before the Arbitration Committee of Katowice, which ruled that payments in kind could be reduced, but that the number of days' holiday should not be reduced, in spite of the strike.

The Minister of Labour made the decision compulsory.

As a result, the employers appealed to the Supreme Administrative Court, and the case was tried recently at Warsaw.

The Court declared that legislation in force in Upper Silesia authorised the Minister of Labour to make compulsory a decision of the Arbitration Committee, if, in his opinion, the dispute in question endangered the public interest; and that the Minister alone is empowered to decide in such cases. The Court therefore disallowed the appeal of the employers. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, October 11, 1926.)

* * * * *

A Survey has been published by the Dutch National Statistical Office of the number of strikes and lock-outs in Holland during the year 1925.

The number of strikes was greater than in the previous year, comparative statistics being as follows:

Year	No. of strikes and lock-outs	No. of concerns involved	No. of workers involved
1924	239	1,159	27,100
1925	262	1,628	31,700

The number of working days lost by labour conflicts was in 1925, 786,000 and in 1924 only 427,100. In comparison with the years 1919-1922 the numbers have declined. Then the number of concerns involved ranged from 2000 to 3500, the number of workers involved from 44,000 to 66,000, and the number of working days lost between 1—2½ million. (1925, 786,600).

In 1925, 29 per cent. of the conflicts ended in victory, 32 per cent. in failure, and 36 per cent. in a compromise; of 3 per cent. the results are unknown. As for the number of strikers, for 13 per cent. of them the conflicts were successful, for 33 per cent. a failure, and for 54 per cent. the result was a compromise. The chief causes of dispute were questions of wages and working conditions. The above information does not mean that working conditions for workers in concerns where there have been no strikes have remained unchanged. In most of these cases improvements have been secured without strikes. (From "Press Reports of the International Federation of Trade Unions," Amsterdam, October 21, 1926.)

* * * * *

The Railway Medical Officers for the different districts of the Swedish State Railways have recently sent in their reports for 1925 to the Railway Board. It appears from these reports that railwaymen suffer seriously from sciatica and other rheumatic diseases, the reason given being the unsatisfactory guard's vans on the one hand, and unhealthy and damp dwellings on the other, as well as the hard work often performed in bad weather.

On several occasions the medical officers found that the accommodation for the staff on the trains was highly dangerous to health, owing to draughtiness, especially in winter.

The medical reports also point out the necessity for giving the staff facilities for warming their meals, as it cannot be good for their health to live only on cold food.

As regards the locomotive staff in particular, the reports state that arthritis and sometimes fairly marked psychical symptoms, such as dullness, sleeplessness, and loss of memory, appear to be a regular phenomenon among engine-drivers after the age of fifty-seven or fifty-eight. The medical officers suggest that it might be worth while to consider whether engine-drivers should not be pensioned before the age of 60 years. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, October 11, 1926.)

OTHER COUNTRIES

A Social Research Department was set up some time ago under the China Foundation for the Advancement of Education and Culture, financed partly by the trustees of this institution from money returned by America from the Boxer Indemnity, and partly from the Institute of Social and Religious Research of New York. The money, which will be available for three years, will be expended partly in rural study, in view of the essential nature of the agricultural occupation of China; a smaller proportion has been set aside for the study of problems related to industrial occupations.

A beginning has already been made on a study of "domestic industry"—industry for livelihood carried on at home. On the application of the Shanghai Industrial Committee, a group interested in questions of industrial significance in Shanghai, endorsed by a formal resolution from the Joint Committee of Women's Clubs in Shanghai, the Research Department of the Foundation, which has its headquarters in Peking, has consented to undertake, as its second study, an enquiry into the cost of living of factory workers in Shanghai.

It is proposed to conduct a "diagnostic survey" during the remainder of this year, which it is expected will reveal the nature of the problem. It will be necessary to discover the numbers employed in the various industries, so that records from the families of a fixed proportion of the workers in each occupation may be obtained, and a scientific "sample" had. It will be necessary to examine ruling wage rates, so that the "upper and lower income limits", within which the enquiry will be undertaken, may be determined.

It is further proposed to obtain at once the services of a Field Worker, who shall keep accounts of some twenty families, recording their daily expenditure, and their social happenings. With this material, the main study can then be evolved, to be pursued through the whole of 1927, so that an index figure may be obtained for this year, and remain valuable for comparative purposes for the future. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, October 11, 1926.)

LABOUR GAZETTE
PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN OCTOBER 1926

Name of concern and locality	Approximate number of work-people involved		Date when dispute		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
Textile Trades			1926	1926		
1. The Anarva Mills Co., Ltd., Anarva Road, Ahmedabad.	125		11 Oct.	14 Oct.	In sympathy with a dismissed jobber.	New hands were engaged in place of the strikers.
2. The Kila-chand Mills, Ltd., Lower Parel, Bombay.	19		11 Oct.	13 Oct.	Demand for the continuance of old rates of wages.	Work was resumed unconditionally.
3. The Spring Mills, Ltd., Naigaum, Bombay.	1,358		17 Oct.	19 Oct.	Alleged ill-treatment by the weaving master.	The strike ended in favour of the employees.
4. The Dinshaw Petit Mills, Ltd., Kala Chowki Road, Bombay.	485		18 Oct.	23 Oct.	Demand for better wages.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.
5. The Ruby Mills, Ltd., Dadar, Bombay.	200		18 Oct.	25 Oct.	Demand for better wages.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.
6. The Kohinoor Mills Co., Ltd., Dadar, Bombay.	800	2,420	18 Oct.	23 Oct.	Alleged reduction in wages.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.
7. The New Kaiser-I-Hind Mill, Ltd., Byculla, Bombay.	513		30 Oct.	1 Nov.	In sympathy with a dismissed jobber.	The strike ended in favour of the employers.

LABOUR GAZETTE
ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING OCTOBER 1926
1. Bombay City

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to				Nature of injury						Total No. of persons injured	
	Machinery in motion		Other causes		Fatal		Serious		Minor		Jan to Sept 1926	Oct 1926
	Jan to Sept 1926	Oct 1926	Jan to Sept 1926	Oct 1926	Jan to Sept 1926	Oct 1926	Jan to Sept 1926	Oct 1926	Jan to Sept 1926	Oct 1926		
I Textile Mills— Cotton Mills Woolen Mills Others	406 4 6	4 2 1	230(b) 3 2	25	5	2	102 .. 2	13	531 7 6	53 2 1	638 7 8	68 2 1
Total ..	416	46	235	25	5	2	104	13	544	56	653	71
II Workshops— Engineering Railway Mint Others	25 120 1 15	.. 16 .. 1	274 1,343 c 1 40	26 140 1 9	.. 3 .. 1	.. .. .. ..	13 42 2 3	.. 9 .. 1	286 1,419 1 51	26 147 1 9	299 1,464 1 55	26 156 1 10
Total ..	161	17	1,659	176	4	..	60	10	1,757	183	1,821	193
III Miscellaneous— Chemical Works Flour Mills Printing Presses Others	1 2 6 9	.. .. .. 2	3 2 7 38	1 1 1 1	.. .. .. 1	.. .. .. ..	1 1 6 ..	.. 1	3 3 13 40	.. .. 3 3	4 4 13 47	.. 1 3 3
Total ..	18	2	50	2	2	..	7	1	59	3	68	4
Total, All Factories ..	595	65	1,944	203	11	2	171	24	2,360	242	2,542	268

2. Ahmedabad

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to				Nature of injury						Total No. of persons injured	
	Machinery in motion		Other causes		Fatal		Serious		Minor		Jan to Sept 1926	Oct 1926
	Jan to Sept 1926	Oct 1926	Jan to Sept 1926	Oct 1926	Jan to Sept 1926	Oct 1926	Jan to Sept 1926	Oct 1926	Jan to Sept 1926	Oct 1926		
I Textile Mills— Cotton	209	21	101	7	3	..	32	..	275	28	310	28
Total ..	209	21	101	7	3	..	32	..	275	28	310	28
II Miscellaneous— Match Factory Flour Mills Oil Mills Engineering Others	1 1 ..	.. .. .. .. ..	2 1 ..	3	1	2 .. .. .. ..	.. .. .. .. ..	.. .. .. .. ..	2 1 ..	1 1 ..	3 1 ..	3 1 ..
Total	2	..	3	3	1	2	..	..	4	1	5	3
Total, All Factories ..	211	21	104	10	4	2	32	..	279	29	315	31

Explanations:—"Fatal" means causing the death of the injured persons without specification of period.
"Serious" means causing absence from work for more than 20 days.
"Minor" means causing absence from work for more than 48 hours and up to 20 days.
(b) 3 persons affected by one accident.
(c) 2 persons affected by one accident.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING OCTOBER 1926—contd.
3. Karachi

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to				Nature of injury						Total No. of persons injured	
	Machinery in motion		Other causes		Fatal		Serious		Minor		Jan to Sept 1926	Oct 1926
	Jan to Sept 1926	Oct 1926	Jan to Sept 1926	Oct 1926	Jan to Sept 1926	Oct 1926	Jan to Sept 1926	Oct 1926	Jan to Sept 1926	Oct 1926		
I Workshops— Trust and Engineering	3	..	22	5	1	..	1	..	23	5	25	5
Total ..	6	..	36	7	1	..	2	..	39	7	42	7
II Miscellaneous—	3	..	9	1	..	..	1	..	11	1	12	1
Total ..	3	..	9	1	..	..	1	..	11	1	12	1
Total, All Factories ..	9	..	45	8	1	..	3	..	50	8	54	8

4. Other Centres

Class of Factory	No. of accidents due to				Nature of injury						Total No. of persons injured	
	Machinery in motion		Other causes		Fatal		Serious		Minor		Jan to Sept 1926	Oct 1926
	Jan to Sept 1926	Oct 1926	Jan to Sept 1926	Oct 1926	Jan to Sept 1926	Oct 1926	Jan to Sept 1926	Oct 1926	Jan to Sept 1926	Oct 1926		
I Textile Mills— Cotton Mills Others	83	6	72	8	4	..	22	4	129	10	155	14
Total ..	87	8	76	10	4	..	25	4	134	14	163	18
II Workshops— Railway Arms and Ammu- nition Works Others	33	6	168	17	..	..	14	2	187	21	201	23
Total ..	48	8	193	22	1	..	20	4	220	26	241	30
III Miscellaneous— Ginning and Pres- sing Factories Paint Works Others	5	1	13(a)	2	2	2	8	..	11	1	21	3
Total ..	13	1	13(b)	4	4	1	2	..	18	2	28	5
Total, All Factories ..	153	18	295	38	11	3	59	10	383	43	453	56

Note.—For Explanations see previous page.
(a) 4 persons affected by one accident.
(b) 3 persons affected by one accident.

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

Count or Number	Month of September			Six months ended September		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
Nos. 1 to 10	5,602	4,341	6,761	32,048	38,113	41,824
Nos. 11 to 20	17,700	14,393	18,313	106,243	114,102	111,355
Nos. 21 to 30	12,365	9,895	12,890	80,124	81,074	88,453
Nos. 31 to 40	1,056	1,079	1,715	7,718	6,974	10,195
Above 40	473	360	903	2,428	2,559	5,026
Waste, etc.	9	53	93	67	280	658
Total ..	37,205	30,121	40,675	228,628	243,102	257,511

BOMBAY CITY

Count or Number	Month of September			Six months ended September		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
Nos. 1 to 10	4,924	3,604	6,036	28,421	33,976	37,284
Nos. 11 to 20	12,211	7,605	12,894	73,003	73,421	75,855
Nos. 21 to 30	7,609	4,534	7,829	49,856	50,663	54,734
Nos. 31 to 40	610	394	821	4,200	3,640	4,744
Above 40	307	162	404	1,355	1,497	1,958
Waste, etc.	3	44	84	18	227	598
Total ..	25,664	16,344	28,068	156,853	163,424	175,173

AHMEDABAD

Count or Number	Month of September			Six months ended September		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
Nos. 1 to 10	204	237	184	1,162	1,325	1,237
Nos. 11 to 20	3,290	3,842	3,323	18,384	22,903	20,005
Nos. 21 to 30	3,555	4,160	3,776	22,835	23,525	24,738
Nos. 31 to 40	306	552	708	2,586	2,314	4,301
Above 40	120	130	405	819	716	2,389
Waste, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	7,475	8,921	8,396	45,786	50,783	52,670

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

Description	Month of September			Six months ended September		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000) 1,748	(000) 2,019	(000) 2,265	(000) 6,746	(000) 7,305	(000) 8,186
Khadi	1,501	2,524	1,655	7,087	9,212	9,626
Chudders	5,837	6,751	7,589	35,032	39,411	46,349
Dhotis	759	625	968	5,928	5,486	5,629
Drills and jeans	85	7	37	412	305	153
Cambrics and lawns	262	262	142	1,819	1,348	994
Printers	7,487	8,680	8,557	48,549	48,505	60,863
Shirtings and long cloth						
I. cloth, domestics, and	1,178	1,152	1,547	6,037	6,230	7,399
sheetings	189	197	143	1,060	823	429
tent cloth	503	494	376	3,053	3,067	2,604
Other sorts						
Total	19,549	22,711	23,289	115,723	121,692	142,232
Coloured piece-goods	10,141	11,299	10,009	49,921	50,062	50,421
Grey and coloured goods,	146	224	161	956	1,484	1,544
other than piece-goods	14	24	17	75	117	131
Hosiery	115	195	214	793	996	1,376
Miscellaneous						
Cotton goods mixed with	16	36	141	41	301	854
silk or wool						
Grand Total	29,981	34,469	33,631	167,509	174,592	202,665

BOMBAY CITY

Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000) 1,334	(000) 1,625	(000) 2,013	(000) 4,778	(000) 5,883	(000) 7,282
Khadi	896	1,738	1,102	4,270	6,420	6,883
Chudders	1,915	1,952	2,345	10,951	13,032	14,410
Dhotis	645	501	906	5,331	4,758	5,160
Drills and jeans	83	2	3	353	197	26
Cambrics and lawns		6		24	19	
Printers	5,479	6,132	6,559	34,841	35,970	47,147
Shirtings and long cloth						
I. cloth, domestics, and	988	873	1,157	4,886	4,670	5,213
sheetings	65	118	107	466	579	359
tent cloth	222	190	196	1,350	1,326	1,464
Other sorts						
Total	11,627	13,137	14,388	67,250	72,854	87,944
Coloured piece-goods	8,409	8,800	7,348	39,329	37,070	40,080
Grey and coloured goods,	141	220	154	924	1,428	1,496
other than piece-goods	7	11	5	36	37	29
Hosiery	113	182	177	717	821	1,137
Miscellaneous						
Cotton goods mixed with	9	30	102	27	279	605
silk or wool						
Grand Total	20,306	22,380	22,174	108,283	112,489	131,291

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

AHMEDABAD

Description	Month of September			Six months ended September		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000) 306	(000) 106	(000) 64	(000) 1,423	(000) 378	(000) 195
Khadi	463	625	392	2,235	2,189	2,072
Chudders	3,033	4,019	4,291	18,815	20,217	26,123
Dhotis	22	18	25	160	311	165
Drills and jeans	1	5	34	52	94	124
Cambrics and lawns	202	213	75	1,209	806	528
Printers	1,576	2,081	1,452	11,168	9,897	10,305
Shirtings and long cloth						
I. cloth, domestics and	168	242	302	1,049	1,422	1,682
sheetings	110	77	1	548	208	10
tent cloth	164	204	87	1,115	1,205	624
Other sorts						
Total	6,045	7,590	6,723	37,774	36,727	41,828
Coloured piece-goods	783	1,525	1,578	5,902	8,095	10,456
Grey and coloured goods,	1		2	4	5	8
other than piece-goods	7	14	12	39	79	107
Hosiery	2	3	30	77	141	241
Miscellaneous						
Cotton goods mixed with		6	37	2	20	340
silk or wool						
Grand Total	6,838	9,138	8,382	43,798	45,067	52,980

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Unit	Prices in the month of				Index numbers					
			July 1914	Oct 1925	Sept 1926	Oct 1926	July 1914	Oct 1925	Sept 1926	Oct 1926		
Cereals—												
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill	Md.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.						
Wheat	Delhi No. 1	Cwt.	4 11 3	6 6 10	6 12 7	6 10 8	100	137	144	142		
Do.	Khandwa Seoni	Candy	5 9 6	8 10 0	8 1 6	8 1 6	100	154	145	145		
Do.	Jubbulpore	"	45 0 0	80 0 0	77 8 0	76 8 0	100	178	172	170		
Jowari	Cawnpore	Maund	40 0 0	55 8 0	50 8 0	52 0 0	100	139	126	130		
Barley	Ghati	"	3 2 6	4 2 0	4 10 6(1)	3 14 8(1)	100	131	148	124		
Bajri	"	"	3 4 6	4 7 1	4 5 5	4 3 9	100	135	132	129		
	"	"	3 4 6	5 1 3	6 0 6	5 13 1	100	155	184	177		
Pulses—												
Gram	Punjab yellow (2nd sort)	Maund	4 3 9	4 10 6	5 4 8	5 3 0	100	147	150	145		
Turdal	Cawnpore	"	5 10 5	6 5 7	7 9 11	7 9 11	100	110	125	123		
	"	"	"	"	"	"	100	112	135	135		
Sugar—												
Sugar	Mauritius	Cwt.	9 3 0	"	"	"	100	139	146	141		
Do.	Java, white	"	10 3 0	14 0 0	16 2 0	16 14 0	100	137	163	146		
Raw (Gul)	Sangli or Poona	Maund	7 14 3	12 14 10	10 3 3	9 8 5	100	164	129	121		
	"	"	"	"	"	"	100	137	163	146		
Other Food—												
Turmeric	Rajapuri	Maund	5 9 3	10 12 0	7 12 1	7 7 9	100	151	156	144		
Ghee	Deshi	"	45 11 5	85 11 5	77 2 3	77 2 3	100	193	139	134		
Salt	Bombay (black)	"	1 7 6	2 4 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	100	188	169	169		
	"	"	"	"	"	"	100	153	136	136		
Oilseeds—												
Linseed	Bold	Cwt.	8 14 6	12 0 0	10 12 0	10 10 0	100	149	148	143		
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown)	"	8 0 0	10 14 0	11 5 0	10 14 0	100	135	121	119		
Poppy seed	"	"	10 14 0	13 8 0	14 14 0	14 10 0	100	136	141	136		
Gingelly seed	White	"	11 4 0	14 0 0	18 0 0	15 8 0	100	124	137	134		
	"	"	"	"	"	"	100	124	160	138		

Textile Cotton												
(a) Cotton, raw—												
Broach	Fully good	Candy	251 0 0	"	350 0 0	350 0 0	100	"	139	139		
Do.	Do.	"	222 0 0	"	341 0 0	341 0 0	100	"	154	154		
Oomra	Saw-ginned	"	230 0 0	"	360 0 0	360 0 0	100	"	157	157		
Dharwar	Machine-ginned	"	205 0 0	"	308 0 0	308 0 0	100	"	150	150		
Khandesh	Do.	"	198 0 0	378 0 0	291 0 0	291 0 0	100	191	147	147		
Bengal	"	"	"	"	"	"	100	"	147	147		
Index No.—Cotton, raw							100	191	149	149		
(b) Cotton manufactures—												
Twist	40S	Lb.	0 12 9	1 8 0	1 1 6	0 15 6	100	188	137	122		
Grey shirtings	Farl 2,000	Piece	5 15 0	11 6 0	9 4 0	9 0 0	100	192	156	152		
White mulls	6,000	"	4 3 0	9 12 0	9 12 0	9 10 0	100	233	233	230		
Shirtings	Liepmann's 1,500	"	10 6 0	22 10 0	19 0 0	17 0 0	100	218	183	164		
Long Cloth	Local made 36" x 37½ yds.	Lb.	0 9 6	1 3 0	1 0 0	0 15 3	100	200	168	160		
Chudders	54" x 6 yds.	"	0 9 6	1 2 0	0 15 6	0 15 3	100	189	163	163		
Index No.—Cotton manufactures							100	203	173	165		
Index No.—Textile—Cotton							100	202	162	158		
Other Textiles—												
Silk	Manchow	Lb.	5 2 6	7 8 5	6 2 5	6 2 11	100	146	119	120		
Do.	Mathow Lari	"	2 15 1	4 11 3	4 5 4	4 5 4	100	160	147	147		
Index No.—Other Textiles							100	153	133	134		
Hides and Skins—												
Hides, Cow	Tanned	Lb.	1 2 6	1 15 6	1 6 7	1 11 3	100	170	122	147		
Do. Buffalo	Do.	"	1 1 3	0 14 1	0 15 3	0 15 7	100	82	88	90		
Skins, Goat	Do.	"	1 4 0	2 7 11	2 6 3	2 8 9	100	200	191	204		
Index No.—Hides and Skins							100	151	134	147		
Metals—												
Copper braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	62 8 0	57 0 0	58 0 0	100	103	94	96		
Iron bars		"	4 0 0	7 0 0	6 8 0	6 8 0	100	175	163	163		
Steel hoops		"	7 12 0	11 0 0	9 14 0	10 0 0	100	142	127	129		
Galvanised sheets		"	9 0 0	14 6 0	13 14 0	14 6 0	100	160	154	160		
Tin plates		Box	8 12 0	16 8 0	17 0 0	17 0 0	100	189	194	194		
Index No.—Metals							100	154	146	148		
Other raw and manufactured articles—												
Coal	Bengal, 1st Class Jheria	Ton	14 12 0	22 14 0	21 0 0	22 0 0	100	155	142	149		
Do.	Imported	"	19 11 6	24 15 8	21 5 4	20 4 10	100	127	108	103		
Kerosene	Elephant Brand	2 Tins	4 6 0	7 7 0	7 6 0	7 6 6	100	170	169	169		
Do.	Chester Brand	Case	5 2 0	9 8 0	9 8 6	9 8 6	100	185	186	186		
Index No.—Other raw and manfd. articles							100	159	151	152		
Index No.—Food							100	149	148	143		
Index No.—Non-food							100	164	150	149		
General Index No.							100	158	149	147		

(1) Quotation for Sholapur quality.

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN KARACHI

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index Numbers			
			July 1914	Oct 1925	Sept 1926	Oct 1926	July 1914	Oct 1925	Sept 1926	Oct 1926
<i>Cereals—</i>			Ks. s. p.	Rs. s. p.	Rs. s. p.	Rs. s. p.				
Rice	Larkana No. 3	Candy	39 0 0	60 4 0	65 12 0	65 12 0	100	154	169	169
Wheat, white	5% barley, 3% dirt, 30% soil	"	31 8 0	45 0 0	41 8 0	43 12 0	100	143	132	139
" "	5% barley, 3% dirt, 92% red.	"	31 4 0	44 0 0	40 8 0	43 0 0	100	141	130	138
" white	2% barley, 1% dirt	"	32 8 0	46 6 0	42 12 0	45 1 0	100	143	132	139
" red	2% barley, 1% dirt	"	32 4 0	45 6 0	41 12 0	44 5 0	100	141	129	137
Jowari	Export quality	"	25 8 0	30 0 0	29 15 0	37 8 0	100	137	157	147
Barley	3% dirt	"	26 8 0	32 8 0	36 0 0	36 0 0	100	123	136	136
Index No.—Cereals			....	....	....	....	100	140	141	144
<i>Pulses—</i>										
Gram	1% dirt	Candy	29 8 0	37 8 0	40 8 0(2)	40 1 0(2)	100	127	137	136
<i>Sugar—</i>										
Sugar	Java white	Cwt.	9 2 0	13 1 0	15 10 0	15 12 0	100	143	171	173
"	" brown	"	8 1 6	12 0 0	15 2 0	....	100	148	187	....
Index No.—Sugar			....	....	....	....	100	146	179	173
<i>Other food—</i>										
Salt		Bengal Maund	2 2 0	1 11 0	2 0 0	1 10 6	100	79	94	78
<i>Oilseeds—</i>										
Cotton seed	3% admixture	Maund	2 11 3	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 15 0	100	129	129	146
Rapeseed, bold	Black 9% admixture	Candy	51 0 0	70 4 0	....	....	100	135	....	....
Gingelly		"	62 0 0	83 0 0	....	....	100	134	....	....
Index No.—Oilseeds			....	....	....	....	100	134	129	146
<i>Textiles—</i>										
Jute bags	B. Twills	100 bags	38 4 0	73 0 0	55 0 0	57 0 0	100	191	144	140

<i>Textiles—Cotton</i>										
(a) Cotton, raw	Sind	Maund	20 4 0	42 12 0	34 0 0	24 4 0	100	211	168	120
(b) Cotton manufactures										
Shirtings	Pepperill	Piece.	10 3 6	20 8 0	18 12 0	16 12 0	100	201	183	164
"	Liepmann's	"	10 2 0	22 8 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	100	222	198	198
Index No.—Cotton manufactures			....	....	....	....	100	212	191	181
Index No.—Textiles—Cotton			....	....	....	....	100	211	183	161
<i>Other Textiles—Wool</i>										
	Kandahar	Maund.	28 0 0	49 0 0	37 0 0	39 8 0	100	175	132	141
<i>Hides—</i>										
Hides, dry	Sind	Maund.	21 4 0	13 8 0	12 0 0	12 0 0	100	64	56	56
" "	Punjab	"	21 4 0	13 8 0	12 0 0	12 0 0	100	64	56	56
Index No.—Hides			....	....	....	....	100	64	56	56
<i>Metals—</i>										
Copper Braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	62 8 0	58 0 0	57 0 0	100	103	96	94
Steel Bars		"	3 14 0	6 8 0	6 0 0	6 4 0	100	168	155	161
" Plates		"	4 6 0	7 2 0	5 12 0	6 4 0	100	163	131	143
Index No.—Metals			....	....	....	....	100	145	127	133
<i>Other raw and manufactured articles—</i>										
Coal	1st class Bengal	Ton.	16 0 0	23 0 0	21 4 0	21 4 0	100	144	133	133
Kerosene	Chester Brand	Case.	5 2 0	9 6 0	9 6 0	9 6 0	100	183	183	183
"	Elephant "	2 Tins.	4 7 0	7 5 0	7 4 0	7 4 0	100	165	163	163
Index No.—Other raw and manufactured articles			....	....	....	....	100	164	160	160
Index No.—Food			....	....	....	....	100	134	143	139
Index No.—Non-food			....	....	....	....	100	153	138	135
General Index No.			....	....	....	....	100	146	140	137

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

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

(Fixed in July 1914 = 100)

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No. food	Oil seeds	Raw cotton	Cotton manufactures	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw and manufactured articles	Index No. non-food	General Index No.
1923														
October ..	122	85	214	368	185	133	211	217	192	153	178	169	179	181
1924														
October ..	141	95	196	263	170	154	260	223	178	156	167	161	186	181
November ..	138	95	187	263	171	147	234	221	160	157	167	160	179	176
December ..	139	95	167	256	162	143	209	219	168	210	165	168	184	176
1925														
January ..	153	102	174	267	173	143	210	216	168	118	165	159	172	173
February ..	165	106	174	231	172	142	209	213	166	148	163	159	174	173
March ..	154	99	175	219	164	136	209	212	160	145	162	166	174	171
April ..	149	104	177	193	157	137	199	211	158	146	160	159	169	165
May ..	149	104	179	176	155	144	187	215	145	153	163	155	170	164
June ..	141	102	169	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	176	146	136	184	205	155	141	153	159	164	157
October ..	147	111	151	178	149	130	(a)191	203	153	151	154	159	(a)164	(a)158
November ..	153	128	161	175	145	133	169	195	152	153	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	185	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	150	151
May ..	149	123	156	153	148	137	138	182	143	155	151	146	152	151
June ..	150	128	152	148	145	142	141	182	131	144	149	147	151	150
July ..	146	128	144	148	143	140	147	181	130	147	150	148	152	149
August ..	148	133	146	146	145	134	149	178	130	128	147	148	149	148
September ..	150	130	156	148	148	140	149	173	133	134	146	151	150	149
October ..	145	129	144	146	143	132	149	165	134	147	148	152	149	147

(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. of 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, best, 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 and miscellaneous	Food, rent, light and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating, lighting, rent and miscellaneous items
1914 July ..	100	100	100	(a)60 (f)	(b) 100	(c) 100	(d) 100	(e) 100	(f) 100	(g) 100	(h) 100	(i) 100
1915 ..	104	125	97	119	(f) 108	(g) 117	99	..	(h) 119	103	..	(i) 102(m)
1916 ..	108	148	102	115	117	116	..	..	146	140	106	..
1917 ..	118	180	130	116	128	146	..	..	190	180	114	..
1918 ..	149	203	146	118	144	197	..	..	253	229	118	..
1919 ..	186	208	155	132	157	205	..	..	275	261	126	238 (n)
1920 ..	190	252	190	154	182	313	..	..	302	253	155	341
1921 ..	177	219	156	152	178	387	..	..	379	302	209	319
1922 ..	165	184	147	140	159	429	..	..	379	302	158	(a) 302
1923 ..	153	169	146	151	158	467	..	..	429	310	166	(a) 314
1924 ..	152	170	144	(a)149	(f) 160	(d) 467	..	..	(d) 251	169	132	(a) 306
1925 ..	158	175	147	..	..	506	..	..	506	168	130	..
April ..	156	173	146	..	..	501	..	..	502	167	134	..
May ..	154	172	146	..	..	506	..	..	502	169	134	..
June ..	154	172	146	..	..	508	..	..	509	169	133	..
July ..	157	173	146	..	..	506	..	..	502	169	134	..
August ..	152	173	149	..	163	610	..	..	517	167	132	..
September ..	151	174	149	..	..	624	..	..	525	167	132	..
October ..	153	176	149	..	..	643	..	..	534	165	131	..
November ..	155	175	152	..	..	645	..	..	524	165	131	..
December ..	155	177	154	..	..	665	..	..	527	165	131	..
1926 January ..	153	176	152	..	..	654	..	..	521	165	131	..
February ..	154	173	154	..	..	661	..	..	526	165	131	..
March ..	155	172	154	..	..	654	..	..	521	165	131	..
April ..	153	168	153	..	..	662	..	..	529	161	130	..
May ..	153	167	152	..	..	652	..	..	521	162	130	..
June ..	155	168	150	..	..	650	..	..	579	162	131	..
July ..	157	170	150	..	..	649	..	..	571	162	130	..
August ..	155	170	150	..	..	652	..	..	581	161	130	..
September ..	155	172	149	..	..	651	..	..	579	162	130	..
October ..	155	174	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
November ..	154	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

(a) From 1914 to 1924 figures refer to second quarter. (b) First half of 1914. (c) April 1914. (d) From 1915 to 1924 figures are given. (e) June 1914 = 100. (f) Average for 1914 = 100. (g) Average 1913 is the base. (h) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan. (i) Revised series from March 1922. (j) Revised figures. (k) Figures from 1915 to 1924 refer to December. (l) First half of the year. (m) June figures. (n) Figures from 1915 to 1924 refer to December.

LABOUR GAZETTE

NOV. 1926

LABOUR GAZETTE

263

INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Country	India (Bombay)	Japan	China (Shanghai)	Java (Batavia)	Australia	Egypt (Cairo)	United Kingdom	France	Holland	Sweden	Canada (2)	United States of America (3)
No. of articles	44	56	147	†	92	26	150	45	48	100	236	404
1913 Average	100	100	(d) 100	100	100	(e) 100	100	100	100	(a) 100	100 (f)	100
1914	100	96	..	..	106	102	..	102	109	(a) 115	102	98
1915	..	97	..	..	147	102	..	140	146	155	102	101
1916	..	117	..	..	138	124	..	188	224	233	185	115
1917	..	149	..	..	153	169	..	262	276	341	244	177
1918	..	196	..	..	178	207	..	339	373	345	199	194
1919	..	226	..	..	189	226	..	356	304	322	209	206
1920	..	216	..	..	228	299	307	509	292	(c) 377	244	147
1921	..	199	152	..	175	180	197	345	182	298	172	149
1922	..	187	146	..	162	146	159	327	160	233	162	154
1923	..	181	156	..	176	179	131	520	151	233	157	150
.. October	181	213	153	..	173	171	159	419	156	269	155	152
.. November	176	214	155	..	171	156	170	497	161	276	162	153
.. December	176	214	157	..	173	156	170	504	161	277	162	157
1925	..	173	160	..	173	157	171	507	160	278	163	160
.. January	173	210	159	..	170	161	169	514	160	279	164	161
.. February	173	204	160	..	168	155	166	514	158	281	164	161
.. March	171	165	159	..	166	154	163	513	151	267	160	157
.. April	165	199	158	..	174	167	151	520	151	210	158	159
.. May	164	200	157	..	170	150	158	543	153	258	159	159
.. June	160	198	163	..	175	170	151	557	155	254	160	163
.. July	160	200	160	..	170	151	157	557	155	245	154	160
.. August	160	201	160	..	175	170	152	556	155	231	151	157
.. September	157	201	159	..	175	171	153	555	154	211	148	158
.. October	(b) 158	200	158	..	173	145	154	605	154	217	150	161
.. November	(b) 160	197	158	..	173	145	154	605	154	217	150	161
.. December	(b) 154	194	158	..	168	140	153	633	155	218	149	156
1926	..	192	164	..	169	134	151	634	153	214	150	155
.. January	(b) 154	188	164	..	168	134	149	636	149	211	148	152
.. February	(b) 151	184	163	..	167	134	144	632	145	204	145	151
.. March	(b) 150	181	163	..	171	134	144	650	143	198	145	152
.. April	151	177	160	..	165	128	145	688	143	156	145	157
.. May	150	177	156	..	159	129	146	738	144	155	143	156
.. June	149	179	157	..	159	129	149	838	141	196	143	149
.. July	148	177	161	..	158	129	149	769	139	196	143	151
.. August	149	177	161	..	158	129	149	769	139	196	143	151
.. September	149	174	164	..	158	129	149	769	139	196	143	151
.. October	147	174	164	..	158	129	149	769	139	196	143	151

* July 1914 = 100. (a) Average for half year ended June 1914. (b) Revised figures. (c) The figures from 1914-1920 are for December. (d) February 1914 = 100. (e) Average January 1913 to July 1914 = 100. (f) Board of Trade. (2) Dominion Bureau of Statistics. (3) Bureau of Labour Statistics. (4) Average for year ended June 1914 = 100. † The number of articles has increased from 67 in September 1924 to 74 since June 1925.

RETAIL FOOD INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India	United Kingdom	Canada	South Africa	Australia	New Zealand	United States of America	France (b)	Italy	Belgium	Finland	Holland	Norway	Sweden (b)	Denmark	Switzerland
No. of articles	17	20	29	18	46	59	43	13	9	..	37	27	..	51	..	
No. of stations	Bombay	630	60	9	30	25	51	Paris	Rome	59	21	Amsterdam	30	49	100	23
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100	(c) 100	(d) ..	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100
1915	105	132	105	107	131	112	98	122	95	..	..	..	100	124	128	119(a)
1916	..	105	161	114	116	131	127	143	137	..	..	..	160	142	146	141
1917	..	114	204	116	131	119	109	132	111	..	..	..	214	181	166	178
1918	..	142	210	128	121	127	143	183	137	..	..	..	176	279	268	187
1919	..	187	209	134	131	139	164	206	203	..	..	..	210	289	310	212
1920	..	188	258	148	144	144	186	261	206	..	..	..	211	319	297	253
1921	..	174	220	139	146	167	215	373	318	..	..	..	211	295	232	236
1922	..	160	180	138	116	146	145	306	402	..	..	..	211	284	179	157
1923	..	148	162	137	116	142	144	321	(f) 496	105	968	..	151	284	171	170
1924	..	151	162	134	117	149(e)	148	360	508	124	..	..	151	276	170	166
1925	..	155	176	145	121	151	150	415	624	136	..	..	151	284	171	168
.. March	153	170	142	124	152	150	148	409	620	130	..	..	150	276	170	166
.. April	151	167	141	123	154	150	149	418	599	125	1,059	..	150	265	169	165
.. May	149	166	141	122	155	149	152	422	598	131	1,062	..	149	261	169	167
.. June	152	167	141	120	156	151	152	421	602	133	1,107	..	152	260	169	167
.. July	147	168	146	119	156	152	159	423	621	137	1,182	..	151	254	170	165
.. August	146	170	146	118	156	153	156	431	643	141	1,149	..	148	241	168	165
.. September	148	172	147	118	157	155	158	433	646	144	1,129	..	148	228	166	163
.. October	149	172	151	117	156	154	162	463	660	147	1,108	..	145	221	164	163
.. November	151	174	161	116	156	154	161	480	681	142	1,062	..	145	216	162	167
1926	..	151	171	116	155	154	161	480	681	142	1,062	..	145	216	162	167
.. January	150	168	155	117	154	153	158	495	676	142	1,076	..	145	216	160	163
.. February	151	165	154	118	159	152	157	503	645	142	1,049	..	145	205	159	163
.. March	150	159	153	119	163	151	158	497	654	138	1,069	..	145	198	158	163
.. April	150	158	152	119	163	151	158	503	645	142	1,049	..	145	195	157	159
.. May	150	158	152	119	163	151	158	503	645	142	1,049	..	145	194	157	159
.. June	152	158	149	118	162	151	157	544	657	..	1,052	..	145	198	156	157
.. July	155	161	149	116	159	149	156	574	654	..	..	..	145	196	156	157
.. August	153	161	150	117	157	147	159	587	660	..	1,116	..	145	196	156	157
.. September	152	162	147	..	..	148	159	..	..	..	..	..	145	196	156	157
.. October	153	163	..	..	..	147	..	..	..	..	..	..	145	196	156	157
.. November	152	163	..	..	..	147	..	..	..	..	..	..	145	196	156	157

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

RETAIL PRICES OF ARTICLES OF FOOD IN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 1926

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	Pune	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Pune
		Sept. 1926	Sept. 1926	Sept. 1926	Sept. 1926	Sept. 1926	Oct. 1926	Oct. 1926	Oct. 1926	Oct. 1926	Oct. 1926
<i>Cereals—</i>											
Rice	Maund ..	7 8 9 <i>135</i>	8 14 3 <i>133</i>	8 14 3 <i>144</i>	8 6 9 <i>159</i>	8 12 8 <i>152</i>	7 8 9 <i>135</i>	8 8 6 <i>128</i>	8 14 3 <i>144</i>	8 6 9 <i>139</i>	8 12 8 <i>152</i>
Wheat	"	7 7 0 <i>133</i>	6 1 6 <i>145</i>	7 4 4 <i>154</i>	6 12 6 <i>131</i>	8 0 0 <i>149</i>	7 5 8 <i>131</i>	5 11 5 <i>136</i>	7 4 4 <i>154</i>	7 1 0 <i>137</i>	8 0 0 <i>149</i>
Jowari	"	5 11 2 <i>131</i>	4 12 5 <i>131</i>	5 5 4 <i>140</i>	3 8 2 <i>122</i>	5 7 1 <i>139</i>	5 12 6 <i>133</i>	4 14 2 <i>134</i>	5 5 4 <i>140</i>	3 0 3 <i>125</i>	5 10 9 <i>165</i>
Bajri	"	6 9 1 <i>152</i>	6 12 11 <i>162</i>	6 10 8 <i>142</i>	4 15 2 <i>141</i>	6 4 2 <i>153</i>	6 7 10 <i>150</i>	6 2 6 <i>146</i>	6 10 8 <i>142</i>	5 3 11 <i>149</i>	6 6 7 <i>156</i>
<i>Index No.—Cereals ..</i>	<i>.. ..</i>	<i>138</i>	<i>143</i>	<i>145</i>	<i>138</i>	<i>153</i>	<i>137</i>	<i>136</i>	<i>145</i>	<i>143</i>	<i>156</i>
<i>Pulses—</i>											
Gram	Maund ..	6 6 8 <i>149</i>	5 6 9 <i>142</i>	5 11 5 <i>143</i>	5 10 2 <i>131</i>	5 10 9 <i>111</i>	6 10 11 <i>155</i>	5 8 3 <i>145</i>	5 11 5 <i>143</i>	5 10 2 <i>131</i>	5 15 0 <i>122</i>
Turdal	"	7 14 9 <i>136</i>	8 1 7 <i>121</i>	10 0 0 <i>162</i>	7 5 8 <i>126</i>	8 14 3 <i>135</i>	8 1 5 <i>138</i>	8 6 9 <i>126</i>	10 0 0 <i>162</i>	7 15 4 <i>136</i>	8 14 3 <i>135</i>
<i>Index No.—Pulses ..</i>	<i>.. ..</i>	<i>143</i>	<i>132</i>	<i>153</i>	<i>129</i>	<i>126</i>	<i>147</i>	<i>136</i>	<i>153</i>	<i>134</i>	<i>129</i>

LABOUR GAZETTE
NOV. 1926

<i>Other articles of food—</i>											
Sugar (refined) ..	Maund ..	14 4 7 <i>187</i>	11 13 8 <i>143</i>	13 5 4 <i>167</i>	13 5 4 <i>133</i>	12 15 3 <i>130</i>	13 11 1 <i>180</i>	14 11 8 <i>163</i>	12 11 10 <i>160</i>	11 5 9 <i>133</i>	11 15 8 <i>138</i>
Jaggery (gul) ..	"	14 4 7 <i>167</i>	11 6 10 <i>164</i>	13 5 4 <i>150</i>	10 0 0 <i>129</i>	10 8 5 <i>156</i>	14 4 7 <i>151</i>	11 6 10 <i>164</i>	13 5 4 <i>150</i>	10 8 5 <i>129</i>	9 14 6 <i>141</i>
Tea	Lb. ..	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>	0 15 4 <i>197</i>	0 15 7 <i>200</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 7 8 <i>189</i>	2 4 7 <i>151</i>	3 7 6 <i>156</i>	2 13 5 <i>151</i>	3 5 0 <i>156</i>	3 5 7 <i>169</i>	2 4 7 <i>151</i>	3 9 5 <i>161</i>	2 13 5 <i>151</i>
Beef	Saer ..	0 8 9 <i>169</i>	0 9 0 <i>180</i>	0 6 0 <i>100</i>	0 5 0 <i>201</i>	0 6 0 <i>141</i>	0 8 9 <i>169</i>	0 9 0 <i>180</i>	0 5 8 <i>94</i>	0 5 0 <i>201</i>	0 6 0 <i>141</i>
Mutton	"	0 10 11 <i>164</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 11 0 <i>183</i>	0 11 5 <i>171</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 11 0 <i>183</i>
Milk	Maund ..	17 9 4 <i>191</i>	8 3 3 <i>185</i>	10 0 0 <i>200</i>	13 5 4 <i>183</i>	13 5 4 <i>153</i>	17 9 4 <i>191</i>	8 14 3 <i>200</i>	10 0 0 <i>200</i>	13 5 4 <i>183</i>	13 5 4 <i>153</i>
Khas	"	94 0 11 <i>185</i>	77 9 4 <i>182</i>	71 1 9 <i>160</i>	71 1 9 <i>127</i>	84 3 4 <i>163</i>	95 3 10 <i>180</i>	74 6 8 <i>174</i>	71 1 9 <i>160</i>	71 1 9 <i>127</i>	84 3 4 <i>163</i>
Potatoes	"	7 2 3 <i>159</i>	5 9 10 <i>104</i>	8 0 0 <i>210</i>	8 0 0 <i>200</i>	7 5 2 <i>217</i>	7 2 3 <i>159</i>	7 2 3 <i>159</i>	7 4 4 <i>104</i>	8 0 0 <i>210</i>	8 0 0 <i>200</i>
Onions	"	5 5 9 <i>145</i>	3 1 6 <i>170</i>	3 1 3 <i>154</i>	3 5 4 <i>131</i>	3 3 10 <i>162</i>	5 15 3 <i>200</i>	3 5 11 <i>183</i>	3 5 9 <i>167</i>	4 0 0 <i>160</i>	3 12 11 <i>141</i>
Cocconut oil ..	"	28 9 2 <i>113</i>	25 9 7 <i>104</i>	32 0 0 <i>100</i>	32 0 0 <i>120</i>	28 1 1 <i>100</i>	27 15 7 <i>110</i>	25 9 7 <i>104</i>	32 1 0 <i>100</i>	32 0 0 <i>120</i>	28 1 1 <i>100</i>
<i>Index No.—Other articles of food ..</i>	<i>.. ..</i>	<i>184</i>	<i>167</i>	<i>165</i>	<i>156</i>	<i>150</i>	<i>180</i>	<i>170</i>	<i>164</i>	<i>156</i>	<i>181</i>
<i>Index No.—All food articles (unweighted) ..</i>	<i>.. ..</i>	<i>169</i>	<i>157</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>149</i>	<i>153</i>	<i>171</i>	<i>150</i>	<i>150</i>	<i>150</i>	<i>169</i>

LABOUR GAZETTE
NOV. 1926