

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Cereals and pulses	Other articles of food	All food	Fuel and lighting	Clothing	Housing	Cost of living
1923									
June	124	116	124	184	146	164	205	172	152
July	125	116	124	189	148	165	205	172	153
August	123	116	122	194	149	165	205	172	154
September	124	116	123	194	149	161	206	172	154
October	123	116	122	188	147	161	211	172	152
November	124	116	124	187	147	161	225	172	153
December	132	116	130	189	152	161	219	172	157
1924									
January	133	120	131	192	154	161	224	172	159
February	128	119	128	190	151	161	229	172	156
March	127	115	126	184	147	163	229	172	154
April	122	112	121	180	143	163	230	172	150
May	121	113	120	181	143	166	227	172	150
June	124	112	123	186	147	166	227	172	153
July	128	115	127	191	151	166	229	172	157
August	135	125	134	192	156	166	231	172	161
September	136	124	135	191	156	166	229	172	161
October	135	124	134	193	156	167	224	172	161
November	135	126	134	196	157	167	214	172	161
December	134	123	133	196	156	167	214	172	160
1925									
January	131	124	130	189	152	165	209	172	157
February	134	123	133	185	152	166	210	172	157
March	139	128	138	183	155	165	207	172	159
April	137	128	136	181	153	165	207	172	158
May	133	122	132	182	151	165	207	172	156
June	130	119	129	184	149	165	198	172	154
July	136	119	134	183	152	165	192	172	157
August	126	119	125	184	147	165	191	172	152
September	125	118	124	182	146	165	188	172	151
October	128	121	128	182	146	165	192	172	153
November	129	132	129	182	149	165	185	172	153
December	132	137	133	183	151	165	176	172	155
1926									
January	132	140	133	183	151	165	173	172	155
February	132	136	132	181	150	165	172	172	154
March	132	136	133	182	151	165	174	172	155
April	132	133	132	180	150	165	175	172	153
May	133	138	133	177	150	164	170	172	153
June	133	139	134	182	152	164	162	172	155

LABOUR GAZETTE

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The Month in Brief

FINES IN INDUSTRY

Attention is invited to the letter from the Government of India published on page 1052 dealing with the question of Fines. The Labour Office has been entrusted with the collection and classification of data on this subject and employers and others interested will shortly receive copies of a questionnaire by means of which it is hoped to prepare a comprehensive report on the question.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE TEXTILE AND ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES

In the textile industry the supply of labour was equal to the demand during the month of June 1926. The average absenteeism was 11.13 per cent. for Bombay City, 2.54 per cent. for Ahmedabad, 7.90 per cent. for Broach and 15.5 per cent. for Sholapur. As compared with the previous month absenteeism decreased in all the centres except Ahmedabad.

In the Engineering industry there was plenty of both skilled and unskilled labour in Bombay City. Absenteeism was 12.48 per cent. in Engineering Workshops, 5 per cent. in the Marine Lines Reclamation of the Development Directorate, 11.72 per cent. in the Bombay Port Trust Docks, and 8.9 per cent. in the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust. There was no absenteeism reported in the Bombay Development Workshop.

In the Engineering Workshops of the Karachi Port Trust the percentage absenteeism was 6.4.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX

In July 1926, the Working Class Cost of Living Index Number was 157 as against 155 in the preceding month. The index number for food articles only was 155.

INDEX NUMBER OF WHOLESALE PRICES

The Index Number of Wholesale Prices in Bombay was 150 for the month of June 1926.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

There were nine industrial disputes in progress during June 1926. The number of workpeople involved was 1,281 and the number of working days lost 1,752.

BALANCE OF TRADE

During June 1926, the visible balance of trade, including Securities, in favour of India amounted to Rs. 4.77 lakhs.

The Cost of Living Index for July 1926

A RISE OF TWO POINTS

All articles .. 57 per cent. Food only .. 55 per cent.

In July 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 was two points higher than in the previous month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914 the general index number was 157 in July and 155 in June 1926. This is 36 points below the high-water mark (193) reached in October 1920 and two points above the twelve-monthly average of 1925.

The index number for the food group recorded a rise of 3 points. Except in the case of rice, which was steady, all other articles included under food grains increased in price as compared with the previous month. Wheat, jowari and bajri advanced by 1, 5 and 7 points respectively. Gram registered a rise of 8 points and turdal of 2 points. The weighted index number for food grains was 135 as against 134 in June 1926. Among other articles of food, sugar (refined) and gul rose by 7 points each, ghee and salt recorded a rise of 4 points each and tea of 2 points. Potatoes were dearer by 27 points whilst onions showed no change. There was a fall of 16 points in mutton but beef went up by 11 points. The "other food" index increased from 182 to 187.

Under "clothing" a fall in the price of chudders and shirtings resulted in lowering the group index number by 2 points. Fuel and lighting remained stationary at 164.

All items : Average 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	
September ..	72	92	85	65	54	61	51	
October ..	74	93	83	62	52	61	53	
November ..	73	86	82	60	53	61	53	
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 June 16 and July 15.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX—JULY

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual consumption (Based on 1914) (in grams)	Price per Unit of Quantity			Price in 1914		
			July 1914	June 1926	July 1926	July 1914	June 1926	July 1926
Cereals—								
Rice ..	Maund	20	Rs. 5.394	Rs. 7.540	Rs. 7.547	Rs. 101.36	Rs. 120.29	Rs. 120.29
Wheat ..	"	21	5.394	7.255	7.254	117.47	117.47	117.47
Jowari ..	"	11	4.354	5.413	5.415	47.80	50.29	50.29
Bajri ..	"	6	4.313	5.172	5.172	25.88	37.63	37.63
Total—Cereals ..						182.82	177.27	180.43
Index Numbers—Cereals ..						100	135	134
Pulses—								
Gram ..	Maund	10	4.302	6.023	6.023	60.81	68.22	68.22
Turdal ..	"	3	5.844	7.693	7.693	23.98	23.98	23.98
Total—Pulses ..						84.79	92.20	92.20
Index Numbers—Pulses ..						100	108	108
Other food articles—								
Sugar (refined) ..	Maund	2	7.620	11.693	14.207	76.4	112.80	140.53
Raw Sugar (Gul) ..	"	7	8.557	13.793	16.230	69.96	101.55	120.75
Tea ..	"	3	40.000	38.783	39.031	400.00	387.83	390.31
Salt ..	"	5	2.136	3.725	3.725	21.36	37.25	37.25
Beef ..	Seer	26	0.323	3.30	3.300	3.30	33.00	33.00
Mutton ..	"	33	0.417	0.771	0.768	13.76	14.26	13.72
Milk ..	Maund	14	9.198	17.583	17.583	128.77	246.16	246.16
Ghee ..	"	14	50.792	94.641	96.422	357.94	642.87	642.87
Potatoes ..	"	11	4.479	8.927	10.120	44.79	89.27	101.20
Onions ..	"	3	1.552	4.167	4.167	15.52	41.67	41.67
Coconut Oil ..	"	4	25.396	28.573	28.573	12.76	14.23	14.23
Total—Other food articles ..						381.10	603.66	714.90
Index Numbers—Other food articles ..						100	162	187
Total—All food articles ..						1,024.55	1,594.94	1,585.27
Index Numbers—All food articles ..						100	152	135
Fuel and lighting—								
Kerosene oil ..	Case	5	4.375	7.375	7.375	21.88	36.88	36.88
Firewood ..	Maund	48	0.792	1.281	1.281	38.02	61.49	61.49
Coal ..	"	1	0.542	0.698	0.771	0.54	0.70	0.77
Total—Fuel and lighting ..						60.44	99.07	99.14
Index Numbers—Fuel and lighting ..						100	164	164
Clothing—								
Chudders ..	Lb.	27	0.594	1.000	0.984	16.04	27.00	26.57
Shirtings ..	"	25	0.641	1.099	1.081	16.03	27.48	27.08
T. Cloth ..	"	36	0.583	0.875	0.875	20.99	31.50	31.50
Total—Clothing ..						53.06	85.98	85.15
Index Numbers—Clothing ..						100	162	160
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	1,834.29	1,803.96
Cost of Living Index Numbers.						100	155	157

The following table shows the price levels of articles of food in June and July 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 seer :—

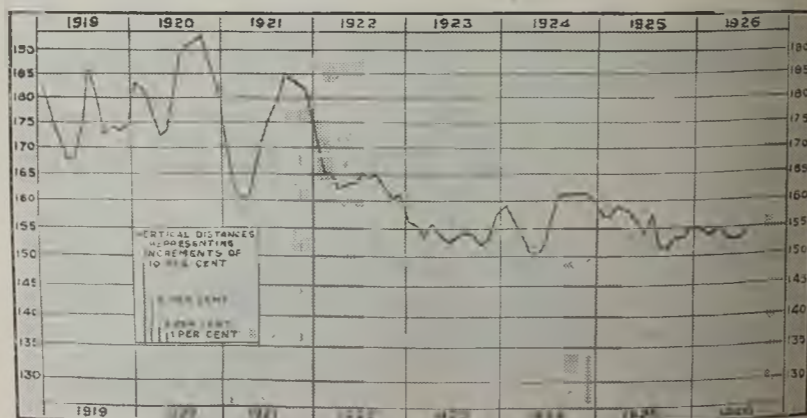
Articles	July 1914	June 1926	July 1926	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in July 1926 over or below June 1926	Articles	July 1914	June 1926	July 1926	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in July 1926 over or below June 1926
Rice	100	135	135	0	Salt	100	147	151	+ 4
Wheat	100	130	131	+ 1	Beef	100	158	169	+ 11
Jowari	100	124	129	+ 5	Mutton	100	185	169	- 16
Bajri	100	143	150	+ 7	Milk	100	191	191	0
Gram	100	141	149	+ 8	Ghee	100	186	190	+ 4
Turdal	100	132	134	+ 2	Potatoes	100	159	226	+ 27
Sugar (refined)	100	180	187	+ 7	Onions	100	268	268	0
Raw sugar (gul)	100	160	167	+ 7	Cocconut oil	100	113	113	0
Tea	100	196	198	+ 2	All food articles (weighted average)	100	152	155	+ 3

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

Rice 26, Wheat 24, Jowari 22, Bajri 33, Gram 33, Turdal 25, Sugar (refined) 47, Raw Sugar (gul) 40, Tea 49, Salt 34, Beef 41, Mutton 41, Milk 48, Ghee 47, Potatoes 56, Onions 63, Cocconut Oil 12.

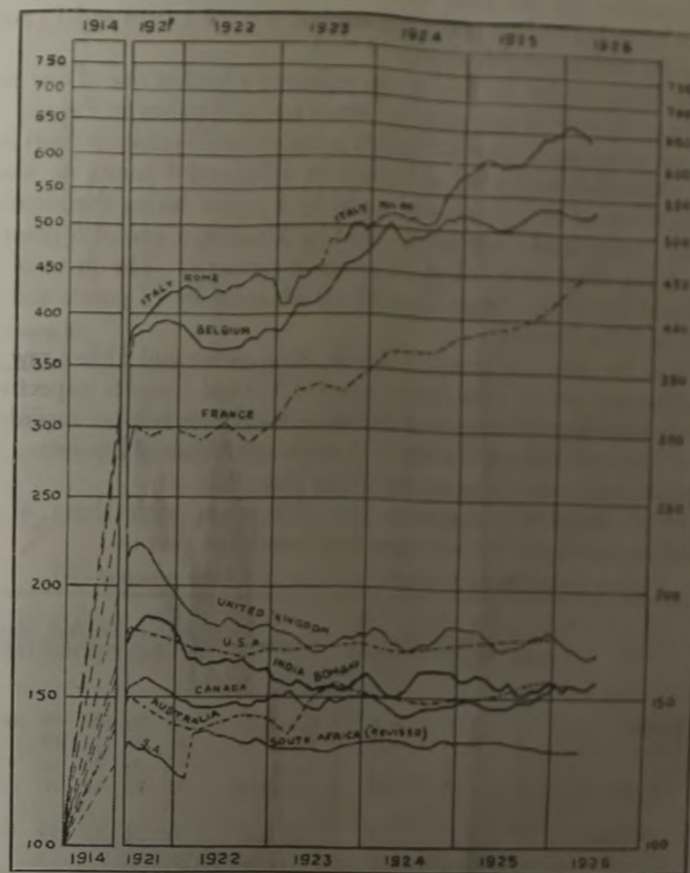
The purchasing power of the rupee being taken as 16 annas in July 1914 its purchasing power in the month under review was 10 annas 2 pies for all items and 10 annas 4 pies for food articles only.

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 Nos. in Bombay and certain other world centres from the middle of 1921. The diagram is on the logarithmic scale. In considering the position and movements of the Index Nos. it is necessary to take into account the depreciation of currency.



The following are the sources of the Index Nos : (1) United Kingdom—*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 one point

In June 1926, the index number of wholesale prices in Bombay was 150. As compared with the preceding month, there was a fall of two points in the food group and of one point in the non-food group. The general index number was one point below the level of the previous month, 113 points below the highest peak (263) reached in August 1918 and 13 points below the twelve-monthly average of 1925.

The index number for food grains registered a further rise of one point due to an increase of one point in Cereals and of 5 points in Pulses. An increase of two points in rice, 9 points in barley and 13 points in bajri more than counterbalanced a fall of 6 points in wheat and 4 points in jowari. Gram advanced by 5 points and turdal by 4 points during the month.

The "other food" average declined by 5 points, a rise of 6 points in ghee being offset by a fall of 22 points in turmeric. The price of salt remained the same. Sugar (Java white) advanced by 12 points and raw sugar (gul) by 7 points.

Under the non-food group, Oilseeds, Raw cotton and Other raw and manufactured articles recorded increases of 5, 3 and 1 points respectively. Cotton manufactures remained stationary but Other textiles recorded a fall of 12 points, Hides and skins of 11 points and Metals of 2 points. The non-food index was 151 as against 152 in May 1926.

The sub-joined table compares June 1926 prices with those of the preceding month and the corresponding month last year.

Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay* 100 = average of 1925

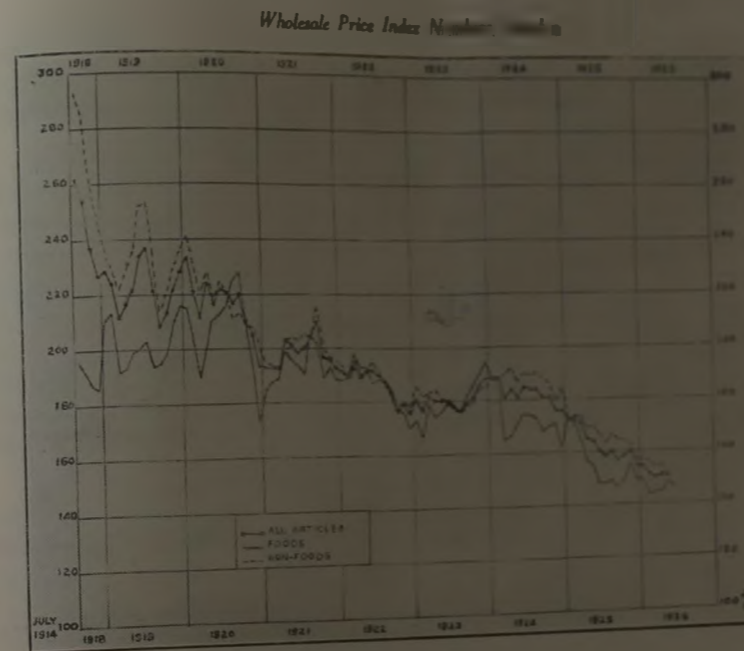
Groups	No. of items	+ or - % compared with May 1926	+ or - % compared with June 1925	Groups	June 1925	Sep. 1925	Dec. 1925	Mar. 1926	May 1926	June 1926
1. Cereals	7	+ 1	+ 6	1. Cereals	95	96	100	99	100	101
2. Pulses	2	+ 4	+25	2. Pulses	95	97	114	109	115	120
3. Sugar	3	- 3	- 5	3. Sugar	97	96	90	80	95	92
4. Other food	3	- 3	-18	4. Other food	93	91	87	78	79	76
All food	15	- 1	- 1	All food	95	94	96	93	95	94
5. Oilseeds	4	+ 4		5. Oilseeds	103	99	93	92	99	103
6. Raw cotton	5	+ 2	-26	6. Raw cotton	101	97	84	76	73	75
7. Cotton manufactures	6		-13	7. Cotton manufactures	101	99	92	90	88	88
8. Other textiles	2	- 8	- 9	8. Other textiles	94	101	96	94	93	85
9. Hides and skins	3	- 7	+ 1	9. Hides & skins	97	97	102	101	106	99
10. Metals	5	- 1	- 5	10. Metals	100	97	96	96	96	95
11. Other raw and manufactured articles	4	+ 1	- 6	11. Other raw and manufactured articles	99	101	98	97	92	93
All non-food	29	- 1	-10	All non-food	100	98	94	92	91	90
General Index No.	44	- 1	- 6	General Index No.	98	96	94	92	93	92

* Wholesale prices in Karachi will be found on page 1112

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

	Food	Non-food	All articles
Twelve-monthly average 1918	171	209	236
1919	202	233	222
1920	206	219	216
1921	193	201	199
1922	186	187	187
1923	179	182	181
1924	173	180	182
1925	155	167	163
Six-monthly 1926	146	154	151

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.

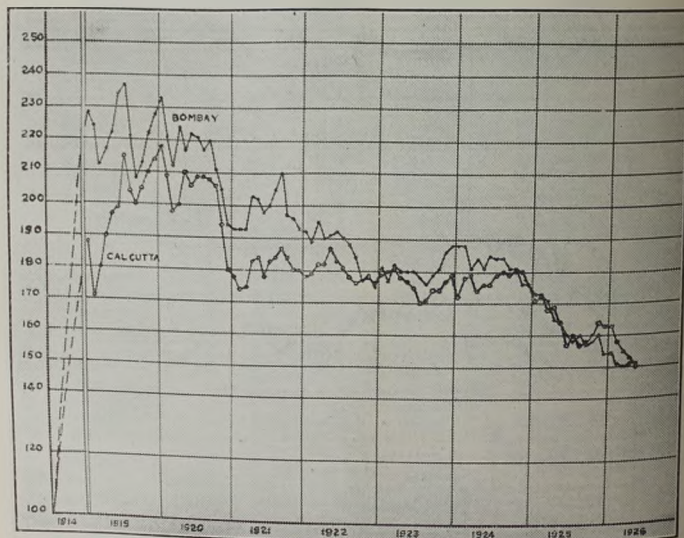


COMPARISON BETWEEN THE INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA

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.

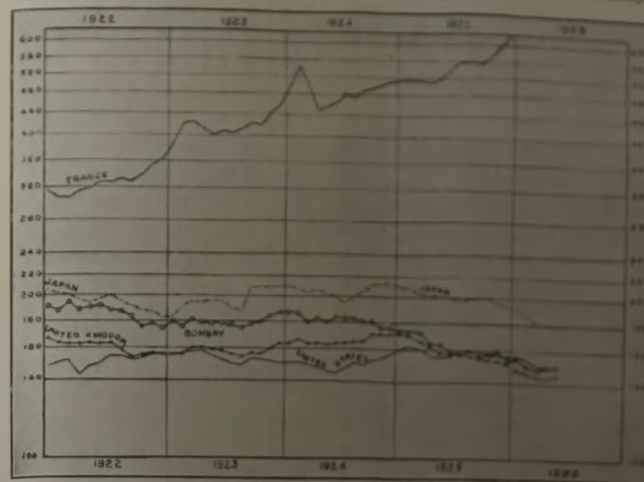
The items included in the indices are 44 for Bombay and 71 for Calcutta. The groups included in the Calcutta index but excluded from that for Bombay are tea (3 items), oil (2 items), jute-raw (3 items), jute manufactures (4 items) and building materials (1 item). There are no groups included in the Bombay 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. Since the middle of 1925 prices in Bombay have been lower than in Calcutta.

The diagram is on an arithmetic and not a logarithmic scale



COMPARISON WITH WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN OTHER COUNTRIES

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



The sources of these five Index Numbers are:—Bombay, the Labour Office; United Kingdom, the Board of Trade; United States of America, the Bureau of Labor Statistics; France and Japan, Monthly Bulletin of Statistics published by the League of Nations.

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

The Labour Office also keeps on record 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		May 1926		June 1926		Increase (+) or decrease (-) in 1926 over or below
				As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill	Paylee	212	5 10	7 11	8 0	+ 2 2	+ 0 1		
Wheat	Pisi Seoni	..	216	5 10	8 0	7 10	+ 2 0	- 0 2		
Jowari	Best Sholapuri	..	200	4 3	5 6	5 5	+ 1 2	- 0 1		
Bajri	Ghati	..	208	4 7	6 2	6 5	+ 1 10	+ 0 3		
Gram	Delhi	..	200	4 4	6 1	6 1	+ 1 9			
Turdal	Cawnpore	..	208	5 11	7 10	8 0	+ 2 1	+ 0 2		
Sugar (refined)	Java, white	..	28	1 1	1 11	1 11	+ 0 10			
Raw Sugar (Gul)	Sangli, middle quality	..	28	1 2	1 11	1 11	+ 0 9			
Tea	Loose Ceylon, powder	Lb.	39	7 10	15 4	15 3	+ 7 5	- 0 1		
Salt	Bombay, black	..	176	1 9	2 9	2 9	+ 1 0			
Beef	.....	Lb.	39	2 6	3 10	4 0	+ 1 6	+ 0 2	
Mutton	.....	..	39	3 0	6 2	6 0	+ 3 0	- 0 2	
Milk	Medium	..	56	2 9	4 11	4 11	+ 2 2			
Ghee	Belgaum, Superior	..	28	7 1	13 5	13 3	+ 6 2	- 0 2		
Potatoes	Ordinary	..	28	0 8	1 0	1 3	+ 0 7	+ 0 3		
Onions	Nasik	..	28	0 3	0 7	0 7	+ 0 4			
Cocconut oil	Middle quality	..	28	3 7	4 0	4 0	+ 0 5			

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

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

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

The variations in prices during June 1926 as compared with the previous month were within narrow limits. In the case of food grains, rice, bajri and turdal recorded an increase in price of 1, 3 and 2 pies per paylee respectively, while there was a fall of 2 pies in wheat and 1 pie in jowari per paylee. Gram was stationary. Among other articles of food, potatoes went up by 3 pies per seer and beef by 2 pies per lb. Tea was cheaper by 1 pie per lb. Ghee decreased by 2 pies per seer and mutton by 2 pies per lb. The prices of the remaining articles remained stationary during the month.

It will be seen that the prices of all articles are much above their level in July 1914. Onions have more than doubled themselves while mutton is twice its pre-war level. Tea and ghee have risen by about 90 per cent. each. Sugar, milk and potatoes are more than 70 per cent. higher while the rise in the prices of food grains is between 30 to 40 per cent. The price of cocconut oil is only 12 per cent. above its pre-war level.

COMPARATIVE RETAIL PRICES

The following table compares the retail prices in Karachi, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Poona with those in Bombay in May and June 1926 (Bombay prices = 100). It will be seen that the average retail price levels in all the centres were below the level of Bombay in May and June 1926—

Bombay prices in May 1926 = 100

Bombay prices in June 1926 = 100

Articles	Bombay prices in May 1926 = 100					Bombay prices in June 1926 = 100				
	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
Cereals—										
Rice	100	107	119	98	106	100	109	118	101	102
Wheat	100	87	108	86	108	100	87	105	85	110
Jowari	100	86	97	63	88	100	87	98	64	84
Bajri	100	105	112	73	91	100	101	108	74	84
Average—										
Cereals	100	96	109	80	98	100	96	107	81	95
Pulses—										
Gram	100	88	101	81	86	100	88	97	80	86
Turdal	100	106	133	83	105	100	104	130	83	103
Average—										
Pulses	100	97	117	82	96	100	96	114	82	95
Other articles										
of food—										
Sugar (re-	100	86	93	93	95	100	91	95	97	95
fined)										
Jagri (Gul)	100	83	97	81	70	100	85	97	73	72
Tea	100	102	102	116	123	100	102	102	117	124
Salt	100	64	73	115	91	100	64	73	115	91
Beef	100	115	70	64	77	100	110	80	61	74
Mutton	100	79	79	79	79	100	81	81	81	89
Milk	100	43	63	76	76	100	43	70	76	76
Ghee	100	81	74	74	78	100	82	75	75	79
Potatoes	100	68	107	70	84	100	74	112	94	79
Onions	100	82	87	80	67	100	72	60	80	67
Cocconut oil.	100	93	124	112	98	100	93	118	112	98
Average—										
Other articles	100	81	88	87	85	100	82	88	89	86
of food										
Average—										
All food	100	87	96	85	90	100	87	95	86	89
articles										

Actual retail prices at these centres will be found among the miscellaneous tables at the end of the Gazette. As compared with the previous month, the relative average for all food articles declined by 1 point each at Ahmedabad and Poona while it advanced by 1 point in Sholapur and was steady at Karachi. As compared with June 1925 the relative averages recorded a fall at all centres except Ahmedabad. The Sholapur average fell by 7 points and the Poona average by 6 points.

Of individual articles, the relative price of rice increased at Karachi and Sholapur and decreased at Ahmedabad and Poona as compared with the preceding month. Jowari increased except at Poona and bajri declined except at Sholapur. Gram was lower at 2 centres and turdal at 3 centres while both were steady at the remaining centres. Salt showed no change but mutton and ghee advanced in price at all the mofussil centres. Refined sugar went up except at Poona. Gul recorded a rise at Karachi and Poona but was steady at Ahmedabad and declined in Sholapur. Tea remained unchanged except at Sholapur and Poona where it registered a rise in price. Potatoes showed an appreciable rise at all centres except Poona. Onions decreased at Ahmedabad and Karachi.

PROGRESS OF THE MONSOON, 1926

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

RAINFALL DIVISION	JUNE			JULY			AUGUST			SEPTEMBER			OCTOBER										
	2nd	9th	16th	23rd	30th	7th	14th	21st	28th	4th	11th	18th	25th	1st	8th	15th	22nd	29th	6th	13th	20th	27th	
I. BOMBAY PRESIDENCY																							
1 Sind (River Rainfall)	N	F	S	S	S	F	S	F															
2 Gujarat	S	F	S	S	S	F	E	E															
3 Deccan	S	F	S	S	S	F	E	E															
4 Konkan	S	S	N	N	N	E	F	S															
II. MADRAS PRESIDENCY																							
1 Malabar	S	F	F	F	F	E	E	N	S														
2 Deccan	S	S	S	S	F	F	E	N	F														
3 Coast North	F	S	S	E	F	F	F	F															
4 South East	F	S	S	E	F	F	F	F															
III. MYSORE	F	F	S	F	E	E	N	S															
IV. HYDERABAD																							
1 North	S	S	F	S	E	E	E	N															
2 South	S	S	S	F	F	N	E	F															
V. CENTRAL PROVINCES																							
1 Berar	S	S	S	S	N	F	N	F															
2 West	S	S	S	S	S	F	N	E	S														
3 East	S	N	S	S	F	N	E	F															
VI. CENTRAL INDIA																							
1 West	S	S	S	S	S	F	E	E	S														
2 East	S	N	S	S	S	F	N	S															
VII. BENGAL PRESIDENCY	N	F	F	F	F	N	F	E															
VIII. ASSAM	F	F	E	N	E	E	E	E															
IX. BIHAR & ORISSA																							
1 Bihar	F	S	S	F	S	N	F	E															
2 Orissa	F	F	S	F	S	E	E	N															
3 Chota Nagpur	S	S	S	F	S	E	N	F															
X. UNITED PROVINCES																							
1 East	S	S	S	F	S	F	F	E															
2 West	S	S	S	N	S	S	E	N															
XI. PUNJAB																							
1 East & North	S	S	S	F	S	S	E	N															
2 South West	N	N	S	E	F	S	E	E															
XII. NORTHWEST FRONTIER	S	S	S	E	S	S	E	S															
XIII. RAJPUTANA																							
1 West	S	N	S	S	S	F	E	E															
2 East	F	S	S	S	S	F	E	F															
XIV. BURMA																							
1 Lower	N	N	E	E	N	E	N	N															
2 Upper	N	F	N	N	N	F	S	E															

NOTES—
 "Normal" in the chart is a variation from 80 to 120% of the true normal; "Excess" means more than 120% of the normal; "Fair" from 40 to 80%; and "Scanty" below 40%. The values are communicated by the Director General of Observatories, Simla. Calculation is made in his office on the sum of the rainfall readings for recording stations in the Rainfall Divisions, excluding H.U. Stations.
 The readings of levels of the Indus in Sind are communicated by the Indus River Commission, and the normal and deviations from the normal are calculated according to values for any given week ascertained from the P. W. D.

Labour Intelligence—Indian and Foreign
 Industrial Disputes in the Presidency

Disputes in June — 9 Workpeople involved — 1,281

At the end of this issue will be found a statement of each dispute in progress during June 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 June 1926.

I.—Industrial Disputes Classified by Trades

Trade	Number of disputes in progress in June 1926			Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in June 1926	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in June 1926*
	Started before 1st June	Started in June	Total		
Textile	1	6	7	1,101	1,258
Transport .. .. .	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Engineering .. .. .	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Metal .. .. .	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Miscellaneous	1	1	2	180	494
Total	2	7	9	1,281	1,752

During the month under review the number of disputes was nine, seven of which occurred in cotton mills. The number of workpeople involved in all these nine disputes was 1,281 and the number of working days lost (i.e., the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days, less workers replaced) was 1,752.

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

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes.

II—Industrial Disputes—Causes and Results February to June 1926

	February 1926	March 1926	April 1926	May 1926	June 1926
Number of strikes and lock-outs ..	5	9	3	4	9
Disputes in progress at beginning ..	....	1	....	....	2*
Fresh disputes begun ..	5	8	3	4	7
Disputes ended ..	4	9	3	4	7
Disputes in progress at end ..	1	....	....	....	2
Number of workpeople involved ..	2,146	1,320	5,075	3,149	1,281
Aggregate duration in working days ..	5,817	3,161	13,088	7,733	1,752
Demands—					
Pay ..	2	2	2	2	3
Bonus ..	....	....	....	....	....
Personal ..	2	3	....	1	4
Leave and hours ..	....	....	....	....	....
Others ..	1	4	1	1	2
Results—					
In favour of employees ..	1	2	....	....	....
Compromised ..	....	1	1	....	....
In favour of employers ..	3	6	2	4	7

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.)
July 1925 ..	4	1,543	100	..	..
August ..	9	4,884	83	..	17
September ..	7	1,551,927	83	17	..
October ..	5	3,904,182	100	..	..
November ..	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 ..	0	3,161	67	22	11
April ..	3	13,088	67	33	..
May ..	4	7,733	100	..	..
June ..	9	1,752	100	..	..
Summary for the above twelve months.	60	10,993,518	83	12	5

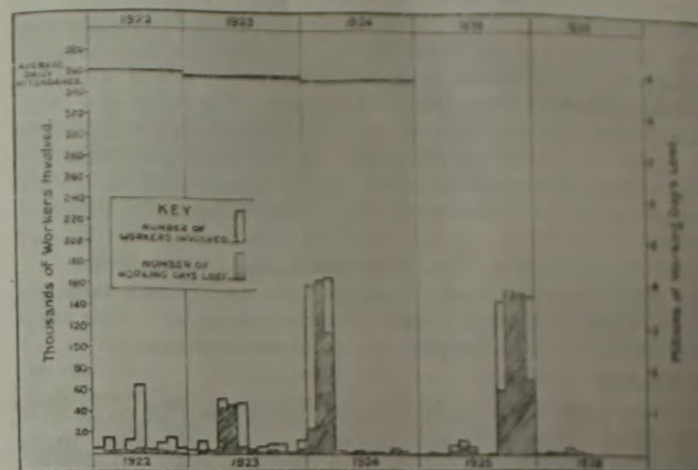
It may be of interest to state that the highest peak (4,062,870) in respect of the number of working days lost through strikes in this Presidency

* 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.

since April 1921 was reached in February 1924 when the lowest level (390) was reached in May 1924.

Effect of Industrial Disputes, Bombay Presidency



GENERAL REVIEW OF DISPUTES

The number of industrial disputes which commenced in the month of June 1926 in the Bombay Presidency was seven, and two other disputes which began in May 1926 were also in progress during the month under review. The total number of workpeople involved in all the disputes was 1,281 and the time loss amounted to 1,752 working days. Three of these disputes arose over the question of pay and the rest were due to personal and other miscellaneous causes. All the disputes ended in favour of the employers.

BOMBAY

There were two industrial disputes in Bombay City during June 1926. The first took place on the 17th June in the Vasant Litho Press Company, Byculla. Thirty operatives demanded immediate payment of their wages for May 1926, and as the management proposed to pay them only on the 19th they struck work on the 17th June. The strikers were paid Rs. 5 to Rs. 15 each as a part of their wages on the 19th and the management promised to pay the balance on the 22nd. As the necessary amount of money for disbursement had not been received by the management, the date of payment was postponed from the 22nd to the 24th and then again to the 28th. The men did not get their wages even on the 28th and they therefore represented the matter to the proprietor, who promised to pay them off after two days. Accordingly the management paid out the outstanding wages of the strikers on the 30th and also dispensed with their services.

The second dispute occurred in the Emperor Edward Mills, Mazagon. A fire was caused in the Roving Department on the 20th June on account

of insufficient oiling of the machinery. An oiler and a line jobber were fined Rs. 10 each for neglect of duty and inefficiency. The head jobber (a relation of the line jobber) asked the Manager to reduce the fines and when this was refused he left the mill at 1 p.m. Three-hundred and thirty-two operatives in the Roving Department refused to resume work after the recess in sympathy and when the Manager asked them to return to work they threw bobbins at him. This led to other acts of rowdiness and damage to the extent of Rs. 200 was caused. The Police were called in and order was restored at 1-45 p.m. The strikers left the mill premises at 3 p.m. On the next day 266 strikers resumed work unconditionally. Eighty-nine persons out of the number which resumed work on the 21st June, did not turn up to work on the 23rd. The management, therefore, engaged 50 new hands. On the 24th all the strikers except 56 returned to work unconditionally. Four more strikers resumed work on the 25th. The remaining strikers were dismissed and the management employed 52 additional new hands and appointed a new head jobber. This strike was unsuccessful from the point of view of the employees.

AHMEDABAD

Five out of the nine disputes in progress during June 1926 occurred in Ahmedabad. The first dispute took place on the 29th May in the Ahmedabad New Edward Manufacturing Company where 100 throstlemen struck work as a protest against the dismissal of a labourer. Before the beginning of June, 10 strikers had resumed work unconditionally, and 70 new hands had been employed by the management. On the 1st June, 10 additional hands were employed. The strikers promised to resume work unconditionally and requested the management to dismiss all the new men; but their request was not granted. On the 2nd June the strikers expressed regret at their conduct, and the management, therefore, reconsidered their request and dispensed with the services of the new men. Thereupon the strikers resumed work. This dispute ended in favour of the employers.

The second dispute which commenced on the 7th June in the Ahmedabad New Cotton Manufacturing Company was due to the alleged ill-treatment of the weavers by a new weaving master. One-hundred and fifty weavers struck work on the 7th and demanded their wages. The management employed 150 new hands on the next day. On the 8th 48 female winders struck work in sympathy with their husbands who were on strike. The management employed 25 new winders on the 9th and informed the strikers that their wages would be paid on the 12th. There was no change in the situation till the 12th on which date 23 winders on strike resumed work unconditionally. The remaining strikers were paid off on the same day and their services were dispensed with. The dispute ended in favour of the employers.

The third dispute arose over the question of re-instatement of a dismissed jobber. One-hundred and eighty throstlemen in the mills of the Manecklal Harilal Spinning and Manufacturing Company struck work on the 9th June demanding the re-employment of a jobber who was dismissed. The management promised to take the men back on the

next day if they would resume work unconditionally. Fifty-four strikers accordingly resumed work unconditionally on the 10th, and 20 on the 11th. Forty new hands were employed. Twenty-six strikers returned to work on the 14th, and the management informed the remaining strikers that their wages would be paid off on the pay day. This strike also ended in favour of the employers.

The fourth dispute took place in the Bechardas Spinning and Weaving Mills Company, where 21 weavers struck work on the 15th June in sympathy with a dismissed jobber. The strike lasted for two days and 17 more men joined the strike. On the third day 10 strikers returned to work unconditionally and 28 new men were engaged in place of the remaining men. The result of this strike was also unfavourable to the employees.

The fifth strike occurred in the Ahmedabad Cotton and Waste Manufacturing Company and involved 125 throstlemen. The men struck work in the morning of the 29th June demanding the re-instatement of 2 jobbers and 5 labourers who were dismissed on the previous day. The management informed the strikers that if they did not resume work before noon their wages would be forfeited. 67 strikers returned to work unconditionally on the next morning and 40 new hands were employed. Outside intervention to bring about a compromise was of no avail. The strike continued.

BOMBAY SUBURBAN

A dispute which arose over the question of pay in the Japanese Match Factory at Kalina on the 27th May continued into the month of June. Out of the 150 men who were on strike 68 strikers had resumed work unconditionally before the beginning of June. The remaining men gradually returned to work during the first two days of June, and the strike came to an end on the 3rd. This strike also ended in favour of the employers.

NADIAD

Owing to a delay in the payment of wages for the month of May, 145 operatives of the Manor Mill struck work on the 23rd June. The management of the mill changed hands from the 16th June, and the old Manager gave notice to the men that their wages would be paid on the 25th instead of on the 20th as usual. This made the operatives impatient, and resulted in a strike. The mill worked with 51 old and 83 new hands on the 24th. The new Manager started bringing in new hands. The majority of the strikers were paid their outstanding wages on the 26th by the old Manager, and on the next day the remaining strikers were paid off. On the 29th June 97 strikers were taken up for work and the remaining men were refused employment on account of the fact that the mill had resumed its normal strength as the result of the engagement of new hands. This strike, like the others, ended in favour of the employers.

Accidents and Prosecutions

STATISTICS FOR JUNE 1926

(Supplied by the Chief Inspector of Factories)

I. ACCIDENTS

The monthly statistics of accidents in factories and workshops in the Bombay Presidency, published at the end of this issue contain details of accidents reported during the month of June in Bombay City, Ahmedabad, Karachi, and other centres of the Bombay Presidency. During June there were in all 277 factory accidents in Bombay City of which one was fatal, 39 serious and the remaining 237 minor accidents. Of the total, 74 or 27 per cent. were due to machinery in motion and the remaining 203 or 73 per cent. to other causes. The largest number of accidents occurred in workshops, the percentages in different classes of factories being 71 per cent. in workshops, 28 per cent. in textile mills and 1 per cent. in miscellaneous concerns.

In Ahmedabad there were 37 accidents all of which occurred in cotton mills. Of these 37 accidents 26 were due to machinery in motion and the rest to other causes. One of these accidents was fatal, another was serious and the rest were minor.

In Karachi there were in all 6 accidents 4 of which occurred in Railway and Port Trust and Engineering Workshops and 2 in miscellaneous concerns. Four of these 6 accidents were minor, and 2 serious.

In the other centres of the Presidency, the total number of accidents was 58 out of which 21 occurred in textile mills, 33 in workshops and 4 in miscellaneous concerns. Eleven of these accidents were due to machinery in motion and the rest to other causes. Two of these accidents were fatal, 5 serious and the rest minor.

II. PROSECUTIONS

AHMEDABAD

The Occupier and the Manager of a cotton ginning and pressing factory were prosecuted under Section 41 (a) of the Act for breach of Section 24 (a) read with rule 75. They were convicted and fined Rs. 15 each in each of the six cases.

The Manager of another cotton ginning and pressing factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 26. He was convicted and fined Rs. 25 in each of six cases. The Manager was also convicted and fined Rs. 50 in each of two cases for breach of Section 23 (a).

The Occupier and the Manager of a third cotton ginning factory were prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 26. They were convicted and fined Rs. 10 each in each of the nine cases.

The Occupier of an oil mill was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 22 (a). He was convicted and fined Rs. 5 in each of the six cases.

The Manager of a cotton weaving mill was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 23 (a). He was convicted and fined Rs. 25 in each of the two cases.

The Manager of a cotton ginning factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 23 (a). He was convicted and fined Rs. 10 in each of the four cases.

The Manager of another cotton spinning and weaving mill was prosecuted under Section 41 (f) for breach of Section 18 (1) (c) read with Rule 33 (2). He was convicted and fined Rs. 40.

SURAT

The Manager of a cotton weaving mill was prosecuted under Section 41 (f) for breach of Section 18 (1) (a). He was convicted and fined Rs. 150.

NASIK

The Manager of a ginning factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (a) for breach of Section 24 read with Rule 75. He was convicted and fined Rs. 10 in each of the ten cases.

DHARWAR (HUBLI)

The Manager of a cotton ginning factory was prosecuted under Section 41 (g) of the Indian Factories Act, for breach of Section 19-A resulting in the death of a child. He was convicted and fined Rs. 200.

Workmen's Compensation

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

This article contains the summary of compensation statistics for the month of June 1926. All the commissioners furnished information, and out of a total of 44 cases disposed of during the month 42 were reported by the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner in Bombay. It should be remembered that these are the numbers of cases actually disposed of, and not of the cases which came under the purview of the courts of the Commissioners. Cases which have been transferred by one Commissioner to another have not been counted as having been disposed of during the month. A gross amount of Rs. 13,422-1-0 was awarded as compensation during the month under review as against Rs. 13,776-6-0 awarded during the previous month, and Rs. 19,625-6-6 two months ago. Out of the 44 accidents 11 were fatal, 31 of permanent partial disablement, and there was one each of temporary disablement and permanent total disablement.

The number of compensation cases was 19 in textile mills and 25 in other industries. The corresponding figures for the month of May 1926 are 15 and 20. No occupational disease case has come up since January 1925.

In all but one case, the claimants for compensation were males over 15 and in only one case was the compensation claimed on behalf of a female over 15 years of age. Out of the 44 cases disposed of during June 1926, 18 were original claims, 24 were for registration of agreements and the remaining two were miscellaneous applications. In 15 cases compensation was awarded and in 24 agreements were registered. Four of the cases were dismissed and one was not proceeded with, as the amount of compensation had been subsequently deposited.

System of Fines in Industry

GOVERNMENT ENQUIRY AS TO ITS EXTENT

The Government of India in the Department of Industries and Labour have taken up the question of abuses that might be prevalent as a result of deduction from wages or payments in respect of fines. The Department has addressed all local Governments and administrations asking for their views by the 1st of March, 1927, in order to enable 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.

That the system is liable to abuse is obvious if fines are not subject to regulation. An employer who imposes a fine acts as both 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 English law are embodied in the Truck Act of 1896. 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 the maximum percentage of wages is imposed. Generally deductions can only be made in accordance with the code of regulations posted in factories or other establishments and frequently the law contains salutary provision that sums paid as fines must be credited to funds devoted in some manner or other to the benefit of workers.

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. 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 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 exists 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 Truck Committee appointed in England in 1906 was repeal of the provisions of 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 an 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. Deductions would cease to be a method by which the employer recoups loss he has sustained through the workers' act of default, and would become rather of the nature of fines.

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 fines are not really deterrent, that they have a bad moral effect, and that, being often unfairly imposed, they create a sense of injustice and lead to irritation. 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 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 case of young persons of sixteen years of age and under.

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.

If as a result of these inquiries 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 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.

In asking for information on this subject the Government of India would welcome any suggestions which Governments and administrations may have to make on the form which any measures which it may be found desirable to adopt to remedy the abuses should take. (From "Times of India," Bombay, July 19, 1926.)

Agricultural Outlook in the Presidency

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

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

Gujarat.—The situation in this division was precarious till about the end of June, as there was no good rain till then anywhere to allow of sowing. From the beginning of July, however, the position has considerably improved. During the first and second weeks of this month (July) fairly good rain was received in many places while the rain during the last week has been particularly good—being both copious in amount and general in distribution—with the result that sowings have been undertaken almost everywhere in the division and are proceeding briskly.

Konkan.—Fairly good rain has been received almost everywhere in the division during the period under review. The rain in the last week has been particularly beneficial in the two districts of Thana and Kolaba in the North where in consequence, the sowing operations are proceeding briskly and transplantation has been commenced in places. In the South the rainfall though fairly good has not been quite sufficient and more rain is required in places more especially for transplanting rice and *nagli*.

Deccan and Karnatak.—Fairly good rain has been received in many places in both the divisions during the period under report, but it has not been generally sufficient to meet the needs of the moment; for instance, more rain is required in the West for the transplantation of rice though it has been generally sufficient for sowing purposes both here (West) as well as in the centre. In the eastern portions of both these divisions comprising a few eastern talukas of Nasik, Poona, Satara, Belgaum and Dharwar, a large portion of East Ahmednagar, and almost the whole of the districts of Sholapur and Bijapur, more rain is urgently required for the continuation of the sowings and for the development of the seedlings which have germinated in places."

Labour News from Ahmedabad

THE LABOUR UNION

The Union has recently established a Social Reform Association the aims and objects of which are published in the *Majur Sandesh* dated the 28th June 1926. The chief object of the Association is the social uplift of the labourers by the removal of their bad habits. The religious beliefs of the members are naturally outside the sphere of its activities which will be directed towards the proper utilization of the workers' leisure and the economic use of their earnings. With these objects in view reading-rooms, rest-houses and music classes will be opened under the auspices of the Association and public lectures arranged, propaganda work in regard to necessary reforms will be conducted with the help of magic lantern slides and cinema films. The holding of detailed enquiries in regard to the social condition of labourers will be an important part of the work. The Association also intends to publish suitable literature on the subject of social reform and to distribute it among the workers. The extent of the work is dependent on the income of the Association. Any person above the age of twelve can become a member on payment of a fee of four annas and one essential condition is that the prospective members must have been a total abstainer for at least three months before the date of application. Non-labourers also may become members of the Association.

THE POSTAL UNION

The sixth session of the Bombay Presidency Postal and R.M.S. Conference is to be held at Ahmedabad on the 25th and 26th July 1926. The local Union is making the necessary preparations.

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

The Honorary Secretary of the Association has issued a circular demanding the appointment of a Committee to investigate the conditions of the service regarding pay, hours of duty, leave, quarters and punishments.

THE SANITARY ASSOCIATION

The Sanitary Round was conducted on 13th June 1926 when the Eastern Bank of the Sabarmati river was visited to investigate the problem of the pollution of the river water. The dyers (*chhipas*) were found soaking and washing coloured cloth in the river. It was decided that the Municipality should be requested to enforce its bye-laws rigidly to prevent this soaking and washing of coloured cloth within Municipal limits. In order to avoid the pollution of the river water by the washing of clothes by washermen (*dhobies*) it was thought desirable to construct separate washing ghats with drains to take the waste water away from the river. A complaint that sewage water was let into the river everyday for some hours after twilight was investigated and reported to be true. It was decided to bring the matter to the notice of the Sanitary Committee of the Municipality. Further on the party saw the channel through which the bleaching and coloured water of a mill was flowing into the river. It was recommended to the Municipality that they should satisfy themselves by chemical analysis that the water so polluted was not dangerous to public health.

THE AHMEDABAD MUNICIPALITY

Dr. Jacob E. Solomon moved the following resolution in the Municipality: "That this Board requests the Chief Officer to prepare a statement showing buildings unfit for human habitation within the limits of the Ahmedabad Municipality, with his practical recommendations for making them fit for human habitation by repair or otherwise, and to submit the same to the General Board within three months from this date." The resolution was withdrawn on the ground that the Municipality had no power to move in the matter.

Appeal of Indian Quartermasters

Some time ago *Industrial and Labour Information* called attention to an appeal addressed to "shipping authorities" by the Indian Quartermasters' Union, of Calcutta, relating to certain claims of Indian quartermasters and other seamen in the port of Calcutta.

The International Labour Office has just received copies of a further appeal by this Union with regard to "troubles and grievances of the Indian quartermasters at the port of Calcutta".

The claims set out in this appeal may be summarised as follows:—

Engagement.—The engagement of quartermasters should be effected, not through brokers or *serangs*, but by consultation with the official Seamen's Recruiting Bureau and the Quartermasters' Union.

Unemployment.—More quartermasters being available than required, those who have been serving in the same ship continuously for more than a year, and those who return to port after six months, should be discharged (unemployment allowance being granted under an insurance system) in order to give a chance to others who have been out of employment for a long time.

Hours of Work.—The hours of duty of quartermasters should be reduced from 12 hours a day, with intervals every four hours, to 8 hours a day; or, alternatively, four of the present 12 hours of duty should be paid for as overtime. Holidays should be given on religious festivals and on Sundays, and a half-holiday on Saturdays.

Number of Quartermasters per Ship.—That, in order to make the reduction of hours practicable, there should be 6 quartermasters in place of 4 in each ship.

Accommodation.—That wheelhouses should be provided in all ships, for the protection of quartermasters against rain, sun and wind; and that separate cabins, removed from the Lascars' quarters, should be provided for quartermasters, in order that they may enjoy proper rest.

Duties.—That, in order to avoid cases of quartermasters being required to do work properly allotted to Lascars, or to work during their hours of leisure, there should be precise definition of the duties of quartermasters.

Registration.—That the Government should lose no further time in establishing a Seamen's Employment Bureau, one of the main functions of which would be the maintenance of a general register of seamen of each rating, in accordance with the recommendations made by the Seamen's Recruiting Committee of 1922. (From "*Industrial and Labour Information*," Geneva, June 21, 1926.)

The Currimbhoy Ebrahim Workmen's Institute

REPORT FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1/1/1924 TO 31/12/1925

We have received the Sixth Report of the Currimbhoy Ebrahim Workmen's Institute which gives an account of the welfare work done by the institute during the year under report during which, in spite of the disturbances caused by the two successive strikes in 1924 and 1925 a great deal of progress was made.

The activities of the institute are divided into 8 groups:—(1) Educational Work; (2) Economic Work; (3) Recreational Work; (4) The Creche; (5) Works Committee; (6) Women Workers Association; (7) General Meetings and Gatherings; and (8) Miscellaneous.

EDUCATIONAL WORK

The institute maintains schools and classes for the workers. During the period under report there were two night schools and one half-timers school. The latter has however been closed since 1st December 1925 as the mills have decided not to engage half-timers. The institute conducts the following classes:—

(1) **Adult Education Classes.**—The primary object of these classes is to enable the students to read and write both English and Marathi.

(2) **Primary Education Classes for Women Workers.**—Three such classes are maintained with the object of creating in women a liking for reading and writing and enabling them to take an intelligent interest in the activities of the institute.

(3) **Kinder-garten Class at the Creche.**—This is intended for the older children in the creche.

(4) **Sewing and Knitting Classes.**—These are attached to the women's classes and clothes required for daily use are made here.

(5) **Drawing and Music Classes.**—Since December 1925 these classes have been attached to the night schools and are held only once a week.

(6) **Bhajan and Moral Classes.**—These are held at the various centres and are intended partly for the purpose of recreation and partly for the moral uplift of the workers.

(7) **Boys' Clubs.**—These clubs have been working with the object of encouraging boys to manage their own activities such as meetings, games, etc.

(8) **Debates and Dialogues.**—The boys arrange these themselves under the supervision of their teachers.

(9) **Libraries and Reading Rooms.**—Three reading rooms and four libraries have been maintained. There is a separate library for women workers. The total number of (a) books (in all the four libraries) is 1286, (b) members 406 and (c) readers 3044.

ECONOMIC WORK

The economic activities of the institute comprise of the following:—

- (1) Co-operative Credit Societies.
- (2) Co-operatives Stores.
- (3) School Boys' Savings Fund.
- (4) School Boys' Stores.

(5) Women Workers' (Co-operative) Buying Club.

(6) Workers' (Co-operative) Sewing Classes.

(1) *Co-operative Credit Society*.—There are 31 such societies working with the object of giving loans to workers at a reasonable rate of interest and of creating among them the habit of thrift. The co-operative societies passed through rather difficult times owing to the strikes. Four of the societies are for women workers only.

(2) *Co-operative Stores*.—The value of the share of the stores has now been reduced from Rs. 3 to Re. 1 and a system of cheques showing the amount of sales made by the members and the quarterly distribution of profits on the amounts of sales, etc., has been introduced. Owing to these changes membership has more than doubled and sales have quadrupled.

(3) *School Boys' Savings Fund*.—The object of this fund is to encourage in boys the habit of saving. The total number of members was 46 and the amount of their saving Rs. 33-12-10.

(4) *Women Workers' Co-operative Buying Club*.—This was started in August 1925 with the object of supplying to women workers necessaries such as saris, cholis, soap, tea, sugar, etc. The total number of members is 24.

(5) *School Boys' Stores*.—This store was started in November 1925 by the half-timers of the mill for purchasing such articles as books, stationery, etc.

(6) *Workers' Co-operative Sewing Class*.—This class is open both to members and non-members for receiving instruction but there is a slight difference in the fees charged to the latter.

RECREATIONAL WORK

The institute has a gymnasium and a social club where arrangements are made for selling tea and refreshments of good quality at reasonable rates to workers. The institute also arranges sports and excursions for workers in the mills, and occasionally stage performances and other shows are given.

CRECHE

The creche was started in 1919. At first the difficulty was to create confidence in the mothers of the babies. This has been successfully accomplished and there are more than 70 children in the creche.

WORKS COMMITTEES

In each mill a committee of about 50 representatives of the workmen and the management with the Manager of the Mill as president has been formed. The result of these Works Committees has been beneficial to the workers generally. But at present these committees confine their attention to questions pertaining to welfare activities or departmental difficulties. They do not consider questions as regards wages and hours.

WOMEN WORKERS' ASSOCIATION

This association was started in July 1921 with the idea of extending welfare activities to women workers also. A class was therefore started

for the education of women where they are given instructions during the recess hour. Three such classes are working at present. Co-operative societies and a library have also been started for them.

GENERAL MEETINGS AND GATHERINGS

Meetings and gatherings are held to bring the workers into closer touch with welfare activities.

MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES

Medical aid is given by part time doctors to the workers in the mills. A whole time doctor has also been appointed to attend to patients who are ill and are therefore absent from work.

Applications and letters are also written for the workers by officers of the institute.

Employment Bureau for Depressed Classes

Mr. Mohan Lal, Secretary Tilak School Achhut Uddhar Mandal, writes:—

Sympathisers and workers in the cause of Depressed Classes were for long feeling the need of an organisation which should exclusively devote itself to their economic amelioration. They will be glad to learn such an organisation has at last come into existence. It is called the Employment Bureau for Depressed Classes, or to give the organisation its vernacular name Rozagar Parbandhak Committee for Depressed Classes. The Bureau owes its origin to the inspiring guidance of that great servant of the people, Mahatma Hans Raj Ji, who is also the president of the Central Bureau Committee organised for the purpose. The Committee includes in its membership, tried leaders like Dr. Gopichand Bhargava and experienced workers like Pandit Ram Gopal Shastri, Shri Ajit Singh Satyarthi, Pandit Jamna Das, Vakil, Prof. Amarnath Bali, Lala Bal Raj, Pandit Hardatta Sharma and L. Achint Ram. L. Mohan Lal, Member, Tilak School of Politics, is the Secretary of the Committee.

The Employment Bureau aims at providing lucrative occupations to the members of the Depressed Classes. There is always a large potential and actual demand for labour in the Punjab, so much so that it requires to be imported from Eastern U. P. Rajputana and Kashmir. Why not tap sources nearer home, viz., the Depressed Classes? The so-called untouchables, once you shake off their conservatism which breeds their stay-at-home habits, are excellent agriculturists, factory workers, artisans and domestic servants. They have been practising agriculture from times immemorial as village dependents. They can become very good tenants on land in the developing canal colonies of the Province, once they get a comparative security of tenure. Along with agriculture they have been practising numerous arts and industries, i.e., shoe-making, weaving, bamboo-work and tanning, etc. Possessing hereditary skill as they do they can become excellent artisans and factory workers once they have adjusted themselves to the needs of changed environments. As domestic servants there is none to excel the members of the Depressed Classes in

loyal and disinterested service. They have been serving the Hindu Community as their integral part for generations together. Thus employed in agriculture, industries and domestic services of various Hindus the Depressed Classes can fulfil the genuine labour demand of the Province and also raise their economic status. It will be the function of the Employment Bureau to see that the labour force supplied by the Depressed Classes is utilised to the maximum extent, thereby benefiting the employers and employees both.

The Employment Bureau cannot immediately give a practical shape to the programme outlined above unless it possesses sufficient data regarding the demand and supply side of labour. The organisation is more or less a kind of labour exchange. It must have complete information about those who need labourers. For this purpose a Central Bureau office has been established at Lahore. We request the generous public to supply us with necessary information and actively assist us in the furtherance of our objects. All communications should be addressed to the Secretary, Employment Bureau for Depressed Classes, 12, Court Street, Lahore. (From "People," Lahore, June 20, 1926.)

Indian Textile Industry

AN INTERESTING COMPARISON

The causes of the decline of the Indian Textile Industry and the inability of its produce to hold its own in the "home" and foreign markets are many. Some of these are being hotly discussed in the press at the present day. The following few lines aim at dealing with only one of them, *viz.*, the absence of the use of up-to-date labour-saving machinery and its result on the output per textile operative in India in comparison with that in other countries.

Taking first the spinning department of the Textile Industry. In his excellent book, "The Fields, Factories and Workshops," Prince Kropotkin gives some instructive figures for the number of operatives engaged to work 1,000 spindles in the different countries. The figures pertain to the industrial conditions prevalent in the respective countries at the close of the last century, and are as follows: Bombay 25 operatives per 1,000 spindles, Russia 17, Italy 13, Alsace and France 9.5 and 9.2 respectively, Bavaria 6.8 and Switzerland 6.2. The position for England is still more instructive. Whereas in 1831 England employed only 7 operatives to work 1,000 spindles, in 1887 she had reduced that number to only 3, reducing it still further by another fraction of an operative by the close of the last century. As regards Germany, it is instructive to note that whereas in 1861 she engaged as many as 20 operatives to work 1,000 spindles, exactly a decade later in 1871 she had reduced that number to "8 to 9," and in 1895 or so, had further reduced it to 5.8 operatives only. If we turn to the U. S. A. we find that the progress made by that country is simply phenomenal. In a quotation borrowed by Prince Kropotkin from Mr. T. M. Young's "The

American Textile Industry" (publication of the *Director of Industries*, Economic series No. 11, 1905) we find the following: "The *frames* containing 112 spindles a side were tended by girls who ran 4, 5, 6 or 8 or 10 sides each according to the girl's dexterity. The *output* for the *best* spinners was about 8 sides or 896 spindles. In a New Bedford Fine Spinning Mill the Ring-spinners were minding 1,200 spindles each. What appallingly big figures these!

A CONTRAST

The foregoing figures would deceive nobody. They are as plain as anything and clearly show us that, about the close of the *last* century, whereas an operative in Bombay worked on an average only 40 spindles, his contemporary in Italy worked 80 spindles, in Alsace 100, in Switzerland and Bavaria 150 each, or approximately 4 times as many as an *operative* in Bombay. The German operative worked during the same period 170 spindles approximately, whereas an operative in *India* could manage on an average (in 1887) 333 spindles, or over 8 times as many as an operative in Bombay (in 1895). There can be no comparison *whatsoever* between the spindles managed by a single girl-operative in the U. S. A. and those managed by an operative in Bombay. Bombay's "40 spindles per operative" would appear as a drop in the ocean before America's "896 to 1,200 spindles per operative."

It is not, however, in respect of "spindles per operative" only that India is lagging behind. Turning to the question of looms worked by a single operative in India and in other countries we are equally faced with a similar set of facts. We learn, for example, from the "Report on the Inquiry into the Wages and Hours of Labour on the Cotton Mill Industry" in the Bombay Presidency (published in 1925 by the Bombay Labour Office), that "two loom weavers are almost universal in this Presidency, weavers working 3 or 4 looms being very rare." How poor these figures are is evident from the pertinent statement found in the same "Report," "No women or lads were returned as weavers for any centre in the Presidency." "In the United Kingdom two loom and three loom weavers are almost entirely women, the men weavers generally attending to four looms, (the looms being of the same type as are in use in Bombay). With automatic weft furnishing devices the number of looms managed by a single operative in the U. K. to-day varies from 8 to 12 or more looms, according to the dexterity of the operative.

AMERICAN EFFICIENCY

The number of looms managed by an operative in America is simply marvellous. Reverting once more to Mr. Young's book mentioned above, we learn that the secret behind the rapid progress of the U. S. A. in the textile industry is not far to seek. It is to be found in the "Extensive use of the automatic looms" by that country, which "substantially reduce the cost of production and at the same time increase the earnings of the weaver, because it permits him to work more looms." We are further told that in the Rhode Island 743 ordinary power looms were being managed by 100 operatives (or an average of 7.43 looms per operative.) While 2,000 Northrop automatic looms required only 134 weavers to manage them, which

means an average of 15 looms per weaver. "At Burlington Vermont from 16 to 20 Northrop automatic looms were conducted by each weaver." It is also interesting to read that as far back as the year 1903-1904, to which Mr. Young's inquiry belongs, there were "running in the U. S. A. 86,000 Northrop automatic looms."

INDIAN BACKWARDNESS

The foregoing paragraphs point to an important aspect of the backward condition of the Indian Textile Industry *viz.*, its poor "spindles and looms capacity" per operative. We have seen that whereas a spinner in India manages only 40 spindles on the average his co-worker in America can manage and manages as many as 896 to 1,200 spindles. Similarly a weaver in Bombay has been managing to this day only 2 ordinary power-loom. As against this, it is appalling to note that a weaver in the U. K. manages on an average 4 ordinary looms and 8 to 12 or more automatic looms, and a weaver in America manages from 15 to 20 automatic looms. What difference these figures for the looms managed by a single weaver make in the total out-turn per operative per day, will be best imagined by those who have any knowledge of the difference between the daily output of two ordinary looms as against that of the 8 to 12 or 15 to 20 automatic Northrop looms managed by a single operative in India, the U.K. and the U.S.A. respectively. The effect of the increased outturn on the wages of the operative managing 15 to 20 looms, resulting in the increased efficiency of the operative due to a higher standard of livelihood; as also on the cheapness of the cost of produce per unit, ought to need no delineation. Neither is it necessary to add that, in these days of cut-throat competition, only that industry can hold its own which can produce saleable commodities at comparatively cheap rates. This the Indian Textile Industry can easily do if it follows the example of England and America in making use of the best available machinery, which will increase the out-turn per operative, add to the wages of the operative, and at the same time help it to produce manufactured goods at vastly cheaper rates. It is worthwhile remembering Young's conclusions that the "phenomenal progress" realised by the American Textile Industry is really due to the "Extensive use of automatic machinery by that country." (From "Indian Daily Mail," Bombay, July 13, 1926.)

The Madras Labour Union

DEMAND FOR REPRESENTATION IN THE LEGISLATURES

At a mass meeting of the Madras Labour Union, held on 29th June, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

"This meeting of the Madras Labour Union demands special representation for Labour, both in the Legislative Council and in the Legislative Assembly, to the extent of 12 seats in the former and two seats in the latter from this Presidency, and further is of opinion that these representations should be not by means of nomination by the Government, but by election through properly constituted Trade Unions in the Presidency." (From "New India," Madras, June 30, 1926.)

Employment Situation in June 1926

THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY

The statistics regarding absenteeism in the Textile Industry in the Bombay Presidency are compiled from monthly returns sent in by mills in various centres of the Presidency. For the month of June 1926 out of 148 mills reported as working in the Presidency, 108 or 72·97 per cent. submitted returns regarding the state of employment. The average absenteeism in the whole industry amounted to 9·28 per cent.

In Bombay City, out of 80 Textile mills which were working in June 1926, 72 or 90 per cent. furnished returns. A large majority of the mills which supplied information reported that the supply of labour was equal to the demand. The statistics show that the average absenteeism in the Textile mills in Bombay City amounted to 11·13 per cent. as against 14·1 per cent. during the previous month.

In Ahmedabad, out of 57 mills that were working during the month of June, 28 or 49·12 per cent. sent in returns. The supply of labour was reported as adequate but absenteeism increased slightly from 2·3 per cent. during the previous month to 2·54 per cent. during the month under review.

Out of 6 cotton mills in Sholapur five mills furnished returns. The supply of labour did not fall short of the demand. Average absenteeism decreased from 17·1 per cent. during the previous month to 15·5 per cent.

In Broach, all the three mills that were working in June supplied information. The labour supply was reported equal to the demand. Absenteeism declined from 8·5 per cent. in May to 7·96 per cent. in June.

Taking the Industry as a whole, the supply of labour was adequate in all the centres studied, whilst absenteeism decreased in all centres except Ahmedabad.

THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY

In the Engineering Industry in Bombay City the supply of labour was adequate. The average absenteeism in representative Engineering workshops was 12·48 per cent. during the previous month. On the Marine Lines Reclamation of the Development Directorate there was no shortage of either skilled or ordinary labour. The percentage of average absenteeism during the month of June was 5—the same as in the previous month. It was reported that there was no absenteeism in the Mechanical and Materials Division of the Bombay Development Workshop during the month under review. In the Bombay Port Trust Docks the supply of labour was equal to the demand. Average absenteeism was 11·72 per cent. The Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust, however, showed an average absenteeism of 8·9 per cent.

In the Karachi Port Trust both skilled and ordinary labour was available in plenty, and on an average only 6·4 per cent. of the labourers absented themselves from work during June. As compared with the previous month, there was a decline in absenteeism during the month under review.

International Labour Conference

DECISIONS AT GENEVA MEETING

The 8th Conference—This Conference opened on the 26th May 1926 and closed on the 5th June 1926. The object of the Conference was "to lay down rules by which it might be possible to simplify the administrative formalities connected with the inspection of emigrants proceeding overseas, so as to avoid the duplication and the disputes regarding competence which have hitherto resulted from the fact that inspection has been carried out by officials belonging to various different States." For this purpose a questionnaire of 8 questions was issued to all Member-Governments of whom 28 sent in their replies. Fifteen of these were definitely in favour of adopting a Convention concerning the simplification of inspection of emigrants on board ship; 7 Governments including India, were in favour of a Recommendation on the subject. There was an unanimity of opinion among all the Governments that the decisions of the Conference should apply to only emigrant vessels; but with regard to the definition of the terms "emigrant vessels" and "emigrant" there was a wide divergence in the opinions of the members. The reply of the Government of India to this point of the questionnaire was that "only those should be regarded as emigrants who are proceeding on a voyage of not less than a week's duration with the intention of residing permanently in the country to which they emigrate. Ships should only be treated as emigrant ships if the number of non-emigrant passengers carried by them is small."

The third part of the questionnaire related to the method of simplification of inspection. The majority of Governments preferred that the Draft Convention should include a clause to the effect that an emigrant vessel should not carry more than one Government inspector.

The fourth part related to the duties of the Inspector. There was a general agreement that the Conference should attempt to define his duties.

The qualifications of the Inspector was the subject of the next question. The majority of Governments clearly opposed any attempt on the part of the Conference to lay down what exactly the qualifications of the Inspector should be.

The question of the encroachment on the authority of the Master of the ship by the Inspector was discussed next and it was unanimously decided that the Inspector should not encroach.

The resolution that the Conference should pronounce itself in favour of the presence of persons qualified to act as interpreters on all voyages where a certain number of emigrants speaking a language other than the official language of the ship are carried, was supported by as many as 20 Governments. Three Governments were definitely opposed to this principle while three others including Germany and Japan recommended that the subject should be dealt with in the form of a Recommendation and not of a Convention.

The last part of the questionnaire related to the appointment of women supervisors for assisting female and juvenile passengers. No Government

contested the principle, whereas the Czechoslovak, the Roumanian and the Japanese Governments expressed themselves positively in favour of a Draft Convention and not a Recommendation which was preferred by several other Governments. It was unanimously decided by the Conference that the women supervisors should not have the same rank and authority as the Inspectors.

Based on the opinions of the various Governments, the International Labour Office prepared a Draft Convention concerning the first seven questions and a Recommendation on the eighth, which were adopted by the Conference.

A Resolution in favour of the appointment of a Committee of experts to examine the annual reports from Governments on the application of the Conventions ratified by them, was also adopted by the Conference. Further, certain amendments were made in the Standing Orders and the Conference passed resolutions regarding Native labour, Scientific organisation of industry, Unemployment, Hours Convention and the establishment of a correspondence office in India.

During a general discussion of the report of the Director, there was an exchange of views regarding the progress of ratifications especially in relation to the Hours Convention.

The 9th Conference.—This Conference opened on the 7th June and proposed to examine maritime questions. The Agenda consisted of two items, one relating to the codification of rules relating to the Seamen's Articles of Agreement, and the other to the General principles for the inspection of the conditions of work of Seamen. In addition to these two items, the Conference was also to consider the composition and method of election of the Joint Maritime Commission and various questions connected with its work; and to deal with a resolution on the hours of work of seamen. It debated the drafting of the international code of rules relating to the Seamen's Agreement, and decided in favour of forming three separate commissions each to study a draft convention. These draft conventions were based on the nature of the replies received from various Governments in response to the questionnaire issued on the subject. The first proposed Draft Convention was devoted to the articles of agreement properly so-called; the second to the repatriation of seamen; and the third to the rules for the observance of discipline on board.

A Draft Recommendation was prepared by the International Labour Office regarding the general principles for the Inspection of the Conditions of Work of Seamen on the basis of the replies received from several Governments to the questionnaire issued on the subject. It was decided to refer this to a separate Committee for examination.

The Workers' Group then proposed that the Governing Body should be requested to place the question of the regulation of hours of work on board ship on the agenda of a special maritime session in 1928, and to submit this question to the Joint Maritime Commission at its next regular session. There was opposition to this from the Employers' Group on the ground that it was premature and moreover that the shipping industry was in critical circumstances. The resolution was put to the vote and was carried by 67 votes to 26.

The Director's report in so far as it related to maritime affairs was then considered by the Conference.

The tenth sitting on the 19th June was devoted to the discussion on the report of the Committee on the award item of the Agenda, General Principles for the Inspection of the Conditions of Work of Seamen. The report submitted a Draft Recommendation for adoption by the Conference.

(To be continued)

Strikes and Lockouts in Ireland from 1922 to 1925

In the May 1926 issue of the *Irish Trade Journal* there appears an article on the above subject. The number of disputes and the estimated number of workpeople involved during 1922, 1923, 1924 and 1925 were 93, 131, 109 and 89 and 31,780, 20,635, 16,403 and 6,200 respectively. The number of working days lost in each of the four years from 1922 were 704,642, 1,208,734, 301,705 and 231,577 respectively.

The following two tables show the causes and the nature of settlement of disputes:—

Causes or objects of disputes	1922	1923	1924	1925
Proposed reduction in wages	40	67	43	34
Other wage questions	18	6	11	7
Hours of labour	5	4	1	7
Employment of particular classes of persons	22	24	31	3
Details of working arrangements	6	16	5	16
Trade Union principle	2	4	10	7
Sympathetic .. .. .	..	7	6	20
Miscellaneous .. .. .	..	3	2	..
Total	93	131	109	89

Settlements of disputes	1922	1923	1924	1925
In favour of workpeople	30 <i>32.26</i>	25 <i>19.08</i>	23 <i>21.10</i>	16 <i>17.98</i>
In favour of employers	26 <i>27.96</i>	24 <i>18.32</i>	47 <i>43.12</i>	54 <i>60.67</i>
Compromised	36 <i>38.71</i>	77 <i>58.78</i>	34 <i>31.19</i>	17 <i>19.10</i>
Indefinite	1 <i>1.07</i>	5 <i>3.82</i>	5 <i>4.59</i>	2 <i>2.25</i>
Total	93 <i>100.00</i>	131 <i>100.00</i>	109 <i>100.00</i>	89 <i>100.00</i>

Note:—The figures in italics are percentages.

Earnings and Hours of Labour in British Textile Industries

In March, 1925, a general enquiry into the average weekly earnings and the weekly hours of labour of workpeople in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was conducted by the Ministry of Labour.

The Report of the Enquiry is published under the Census of Production industry, in 1924. It was evident that the utility of the information so obtained would be considerably increased if up-to-date statistics could also be made available as to the wages paid and hours worked in each industry, in regard to which no comprehensive information had been collected since 1906, when a general enquiry was made by the Labour Department of the Board of Trade.

It was accordingly arranged, with the co-operation of the National Confederation of Employers' Organisations, that schedules should be sent to employers in all manufacturing industries and in a number of the principal non-manufacturing industries, asking for the following particulars in regard to each of four weeks in 1924, viz., the weeks ended 19th January, 12th April, 12th July and 18th October:—

(a) the total number of workpeople at work, and, if possible, the numbers of males and females respectively;

(b) the total wages paid to these workpeople, showing separately, if possible, the total wages paid to males and to females, respectively;

(c) the hours of labour in a full ordinary week, exclusive of overtime;

(d) the number of workpeople on short time, and the average number of hours lost per head by such workpeople;

(e) the aggregate number of man-hours worked.

Particulars as to the total wages paid to all workpeople during the whole of the year 1924 were also asked for. Employers were asked to include, in their returns, the whole of the operatives (including foremen, carters, warehousemen, etc.) at work on their premises during the weeks referred to, but to exclude managers, clerks, typists, commercial travellers and salaried persons generally, as well as workpeople doing work at home on material supplied by the employer. In cases where one of the specified weeks was affected by holidays, breakdown, fire strikes, lock-out or other exceptional circumstances, employers were asked to substitute particulars for the nearest week of an ordinary character. In cases, however, where, during the weeks, in question, employment was wholly or partially suspended owing to bad trade no such substitution was to be made.

The total number of employers to whom enquiry forms were despatched was nearly 300,000. Up to the present time over 200,000 replies have been received, and although a proportion of these do not contain any information suitable for tabulation it is anticipated that the number of effective returns received will ultimately be found to be not far short of 150,000. In view of the voluntary character of the enquiry this response may be regarded as highly satisfactory, and the number of returns obtained should be sufficient, in most industries, to provide a thoroughly trustworthy basis for representative statistics.

The examination of the returns received, correspondence with the firms concerned in cases where this appeared necessary, and the tabulation of the figures, have been proceeding for some months, and it is hoped that the final results of the enquiry may be completed about the end of the year. Meanwhile, preliminary figures, subject possibly to slight revision when later returns are included, are now becoming available for some industries, and it is proposed to publish these preliminary figures, as they become ready for issue, in the monthly issue of this *Gazette*. The first instalment of these results, relating to the textile industries, is given below.

I.—Number of Returns Received and Number of Workpeople covered

The number of returns received giving information regarding earnings and the average number of workpeople covered in the textile industries are as shown below. The numbers of workpeople quoted are the averages of the totals returned for each of the four weeks of 1924 for which particulars were given.

Industry	Number of		Industry	Number of	
	Returns received	Work-people covered*		Returns received	Work-people covered*
Cotton ..	2,057	435,448	Hosiery ..	851	71,203
Woollen and Worsted	1,857	216,392	Carpet ..	95	15,650
Lace ..	378	12,215	Bleaching, printing, dyeing and finishing	786	87,831
Silk ..	167	31,325	Making-up and packing	222	8,661
Linen ..	351	68,209	Other textiles†	850	37,749
Jute ..	79	32,698			
			Total of above ..	7,693	1,017,381

The following Table shows the total number of workpeople employed, by firms which have made returns as to earnings, in each of the four specified weeks of 1924, together with the proportions of males and females employed as shown by the average of the numbers in the four weeks :—

Industry	Number of Workpeople employed in the week ended				Proportion of	
	19th Jan.	12th Apl.	12th July	18th Oct.	Males	Females
					Per cent.	Per cent.
Cotton ..	430,336	434,193	433,498	443,765	36·4	63·6
Woollen and Worsted	213,275	217,132	217,652	217,510	41·3	58·7
Lace ..	12,394	12,444	12,030	11,990	34·7	65·3
Silk ..	28,743	30,208	32,512	33,838	37·3	62·7

* Averages of the numbers employed in the four weeks.

† Including hemp, rope, twine and net, elastic webbing, coir mat, hair, fibre, etc.

Industry	Number of Workpeople employed in the week ended				Proportion of	
	19th Jan.	12th Apl.	12th July	18th Oct.	Males	Females
					Per cent.	Per cent.
Linen ..	65,319	68,762	68,792	69,962	24·6	75·4
Jute ..	32,228	32,460	33,163	32,940	33·5	66·5
Hosiery ..	68,357	71,308	72,634	72,513	16·3	83·7
Carpet ..	15,681	15,552	15,649	15,719	42·0	57·4
Bleaching, printing, dyeing and finishing	86,912	87,590	88,162	88,659	80·0	20·0
Making-up and packing	8,720	8,339	8,602	8,964	63·4	36·6
Other textiles*	37,220	37,553	38,132	38,069	32·0	68·0
Total ..	999,185	1,015,541	1,020,826	1,033,969	40·2	59·8

Some of the firms who supplied information as to the total number employed did not supply particulars of the number of males and females, respectively. The figures given in the last two columns of the above Table are based on the proportions shown by those returns which gave such particulars. The numbers of males and females shown by these returns are given in the next Table below.

II.—Average Weekly Earnings

The following Table shows the average weekly earnings, in each of the four specified weeks, of the workpeople employed by the firms making returns, together with the average earnings of males and females, as shown by those returns which gave separate particulars. Owing to the fact that certain firms were unable to separate the wages paid to males and females respectively, the numbers of males and females shown are smaller than the total numbers given in the first part of the Table.

Industry	Number of Work-people covered†	Average Earnings in the week ended				Average of the Earnings in the Four Weeks
		19th Jan.	12th April	12th July	18th Oct.	
		(A) ALL WORKPEOPLE				
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Cotton ..	435,448	36 6	36 5	36 8	37 7	36 10
Woollen and Worsted	216,392	39 1	41 4	40 8	40 8	40 5
Lace ..	12,215	34 5	34 4	33 9	34 1	34 2
Silk ..	31,325	37 7	39 1	39 11	39 6	39 1
Linen ..	68,209	26 9	28 3	27 7	27 7	27 7
Jute ..	32,698	32 8	32 8	33 4	33 3	33 0

* Including hemp, rope, twine and net, elastic webbing, coir mat, hair, fibre, etc.

† Averages of the numbers employed in the four weeks.

Industry	Number of Workpeople covered*	Average Earnings in the week ended				Average of the Earnings in the Four Weeks
		19th Jan.	12th April	12th July	18th Oct.	
(A) ALL WORKPEOPLE						
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Hosiery ..	71,203	33 8	35 9	34 6	35 1	34 9
Carpet ..	15,650	35 4	35 11	36 0	36 2	35 10
Bleaching, printing, dyeing and finishing ..	87,831	50 2	50 0	50 2	50 3	50 2
Making-up and packing ..	8,661	44 1	44 8	46 2	45 0	45 0
Other textiles† ..	37,749	30 7	31 4	32 0	31 10	31 5
All the above ..	1,017,381	37 2	37 10	37 9	38 2	37 9
(B) MALES						
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Cotton ..	80,698	47 6	46 5	46 6	47 7	47 0
Woollen and Worsted ..	60,496	52 9	54 5	54 5	53 10	53 10
Lace ..	3,780	51 10	51 11	52 3	52 5	52 1
Silk ..	10,075	58 4	59 1	60 9	61 0	59 10
Linen ..	11,816	39 7	42 2	41 2	41 3	41 0
Jute ..	6,769	41 5	41 2	41 10	41 9	41 0
Hosiery ..	7,876	52 11	56 2	54 7	54 7	54 8
Carpet ..	3,535	49 7	49 5	50 1	50 7	49 11
Bleaching, printing, dyeing and finishing ..	58,793	57 1	56 6	56 8	56 10	56 9
Making-up and packing ..	4,389	55 5	56 1	57 10	56 6	56 6
Other textiles† ..	9,607	46 8	47 8	48 5	48 8	47 11
All the above ..	257,834	50 5	51 5	51 2	51 9	51 6
(C) FEMALES						
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Cotton ..	140,912	27 10	28 2	27 11	29 2	28 3
Woollen and Worsted ..	86,001	30 0	30 8	30 7	31 1	30 7
Lace ..	7,123	24 9	24 10	23 7	24 6	24 5
Silk ..	16,924	26 11	28 4	28 10	28 0	28 0
Linen ..	36,210	21 9	23 5	22 11	22 10	22 9
Jute ..	13,423	28 2	28 4	29 0	28 10	28 7
Hosiery ..	40,425	27 2	29 9	28 9	28 10	28 8
Carpet ..	4,761	24 8	26 5	26 7	27 0	26 0
Bleaching, printing, dyeing and finishing ..	14,725	27 6	27 3	27 0	27 5	27 3
Making-up and packing ..	2,534	26 9	28 3	29 3	28 7	28 3
Other textiles† ..	20,421	23 4	23 11	24 6	24 4	24 0
All the above ..	383,459	27 4	28 1	27 11	28 5	27 11

* Averages of the numbers employed in the four weeks.

† Including hemp, rope, twine and net, elastic webbing, coir mat, hair, fibre, etc.

III.—Normal Weekly Hours of Labour
The following Table shows the ~~percentage~~ of the workpeople employed by firms making returns on ~~the basis of~~ ^{the basis of} ~~their~~ ^{their} normal weekly hours, exclusive of mealtimes, in the week ended 18th October, 1924, were as stated, together with the average normal hours of the workpeople concerned.

Industry	Number of Workpeople covered*	Percentage of workpeople whose hours were						Average weekly normal hours
		44 or less		44½ to 46½		47 to 48		
		Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Cotton ..	441,898	2.3	0.5	0.3	96.1	0.8	47.9	
Woollen and Worsted ..	217,664	0.9	1.3	0.1	97.8	1.5	48.0	
Lace ..	51,984	8.3	7.1	6.3	0.7	57.8	48.0	
Silk ..	13,641	7.3	6.4	2.6	2.1	63.9	48.0	
Linen ..	89,882	12.9	3.7	7.6	0.3	70.9	46.6	
Jute ..	41,801	..	..	0.7	0.4	98.8	0.1
Hosiery ..	111,014	5.7	4.5	7.6	2.9	74.4	47.9	
Carpet ..	11,777	1.3	0.7	1.0	..	95.7	1.3	
Bleaching, printing, dyeing and finishing ..	88,524	3.5	1.5	0.3	0.7	87.4	6.6	
Making-up and packing ..	8,984	20.1	9.4	5.9	1.6	62.1	0.9	
Other textiles† ..	37,981	8.7	6.3	20.8	1.6	57.5	5.1	
All the above ..	1,031,821	3.6	1.8	2.2	0.5	89.0	2.9	

IV.—Hours Actually Worked

The following Table shows the average number of hours actually worked in the four specified weeks by the workpeople employed by firms who were able to supply these particulars:—

Industry	Number of Workpeople covered*	Average hours worked in the week ended				Average Hours worked in the four weeks
		19th Jan.	12th April	12th July	18th Oct.	
Cotton ..	243,371	44.8	44.1	44.2	45.1	44.6
Woollen and Worsted ..	122,961	44.7	46.2	..	45.5	45.4
Lace ..	4,574	42.8	42.2	41.2	41.8	42.0
Silk ..	13,901	45.1	46.5	46.9	46.6	46.3
Linen ..	35,815	45.3	46.0	46.1	45.9	45.8
Jute ..	20,724	47.6	47.0	47.8	47.5	47.5
Hosiery ..	22,336	43.5	44.6	44.5	44.2	44.2
Carpet ..	7,385	46.9	46.6	46.8	47.5	46.9
Bleaching, printing, dyeing and finishing ..	59,498	44.2	43.7	44.0	44.3	44.1
Making-up and packing ..	6,142	45.3	45.9	45.9	46.3	45.9
Other textiles† ..	22,861	45.4	45.6	45.8	45.3	45.0
All the above ..	559,568	44.9	44.9	44.9	45.3	45.0

* Averages of the numbers employed in the four weeks.

† Including hemp, rope, twine and net, elastic webbing, coir mat, hair, fibre, etc.

V.—Average Hourly Earnings

The following Table shows the average earnings per hour of those workpeople covered by returns which showed the number of hours actually worked. As some firms were unable to give particulars of the total number of hours worked, the product of the average hourly earnings shown below and the average hours shown in Section IV does not correspond precisely with the average weekly earnings shown in the previous tables. Comparisons of the average earnings shown for different industries are, of course, affected by the different proportions of males and females employed as between one industry and another:—

Industry	Number of work-people covered*	Average Hourly Earnings in the week ended				Average Hourly Earnings in the four weeks
		19th Jan.	12th Apl.	12th July	18th Oct.	
		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Cotton	243,371	9.7	9.8	9.8	9.9	9.8
Woollen and Worsted	122,961	10.6	10.8	10.8	10.7	10.7
Lace	4,574	9.2	9.3	9.5	9.5	9.4
Silk	13,901	10.7	10.7	10.9	10.9	10.8
Linen	35,815	7.3	7.6	7.4	7.4	7.4
Jute	20,724	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4
Hosiery	22,336	9.1	9.4	9.0	9.1	9.2
Carpet	7,385	9.0	9.3	9.4	9.3	9.3
Bleaching, printing, dyeing and finishing	59,498	13.9	13.9	13.9	14.0	13.9
Making-up and packing	6,142	12.0	11.8	12.4	12.0	12.1
Other textiles†	22,861	8.1	8.1	8.2	8.3	8.2
All the above ..	559,568	10.1	10.2	10.2	10.2	10.2

VI.—Extent of Short Time

The following Table shows the proportion of workpeople, employed by the firms making returns, who were reported to be working less than full time, together with the average number of hours lost per week by such workpeople and the average time lost by all the workpeople covered by the returns. Workpeople "stood off" for the whole of any of the weeks specified have been regarded as unemployed and have not been taken into account in compiling the statistics, except in cases where they are known to have been working under a system of employment in alternate weeks, or to have been "standing off" in rotation. Persons working under a system of alternate weeks have been included as working 24 hours short time. Those who were "standing off" in rotation have been shown as losing the average number of hours lost per week over the period covered by the rota.

* Averages of the numbers employed in the four weeks.

† Including hemp, rope, twine and net, elastic webbing, coir mat, hair, fibre, etc.

Industry	Number of Workpeople covered*	Proportion of Workpeople on Short Time in the week ended			
		19th Jan.	12th Apl.	12th July	18th Oct.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Cotton	405,046	19.0	21.7	22.0	17.2
Woollen and Worsted	207,603	23.7	15.0	18.5	18.2
Lace	9,323	29.4	15.0	18.5	18.2
Silk	25,350	17.3	33.5	37.0	37.3
Linen	63,839	12.1	10.5	9.7	9.6
Jute	31,111	1.6	6.5	11.5	10.2
Hosiery	50,901	12.5	8.8	0.3	0.7
Carpet	14,088	7.5	6.8	8.3	11.0
Bleaching, printing, dyeing and finishing	84,239	40.3	40.7	39.8	39.7
Making-up and packing	8,509	15.4	12.0	11.1	9.2
Other textiles†	34,882	16.2	14.7	13.3	12.2
All the above ..	934,891	20.4	18.9	19.8	17.6

Average Number of Hours lost (a) by those who worked less than full time and (b) by all Workpeople covered, in the week ended

Industry	19th Jan.		12th Apl.		12th July		18th Oct.	
	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)
Cotton	14.4	2.7	15.2	3.3	15.6	3.4	14.0	2.4
Woollen and Worsted	12.1	2.9	8.9	1.4	11.6	2.2	10.6	1.9
Lace	17.4	5.1	16.6	5.6	13.0	4.8	14.4	5.4
Silk	12.6	2.2	12.8	1.3	12.7	1.2	14.1	1.4
Linen	8.8	1.1	8.8	0.6	7.5	0.9	6.9	0.7
Jute	5.6	0.1	8.4	0.7	12.4	0.0	16.6	0.1
Hosiery	12.8	1.6	11.6	0.8	11.2	0.9	12.4	1.4
Carpet	9.8	0.7	10.4	1.0	8.1	0.9	9.4	0.6
Bleaching, printing, dyeing and finishing	9.6	3.9	10.5	4.3	10.1	4.0	10.0	4.0
Making-up and packing	10.1	1.6	12.2	1.5	9.1	1.0	8.3	0.8
Other textiles†	11.1	1.8	9.8	1.4	10.5	1.4	9.5	1.4
*All the above ..	12.5	2.6	12.7	2.4	13.0	2.6	11.9	2.1

* Averages of the numbers employed in the four weeks.

† Including hemp, rope, twine and net, elastic webbing, coir mat, hair, fibre, etc.

(From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, June 1926.)

Protection of Women and Children in France

Among a number of Bills recently presented to the French Chamber by a group of deputies, including Messrs. Clamamus, Adam, Auffray and others, are three which would grant long periods of leave and other benefits to expectant mothers.

Refugees and Labour Conditions in Bulgaria

The International Labour Office recently made an enquiry into the refugee problem in Bulgaria and has published the results of this enquiry in the form of a separate report.

The refugees at present living in Bulgaria consist mainly of Russians, Armenians and Bulgarians. They number nearly 300,000 and their influence on Bulgarian national life has been very far-reaching, especially as regards labour conditions and the application of social legislation. Bulgaria though she became an independent state only 50 years ago has succeeded in providing her workers with an almost complete system of social legislation. She has found it possible to ratify all the draft conventions adopted by the International Labour Conference, and thus place her laws in conformity with international labour legislation.

The influx of refugees has in the first place swelled the ranks of Bulgarian workers, increasing the wage earning population in agriculture, industry and handicrafts by nearly 40 per cent. The country is not in a position to absorb this surplus population and the result has been the disorganization of the labour market, serious unemployment, a general lowering of the level of wages and an increase in the financial burdens of the social insurance system.

An enquiry conducted in December 1925 by the Bulgarian Labour Department into unemployment shows that 43,622 refugees have actually found employment, whereas 62,501 Bulgarian workers are at present unemployed. And it is believed that if the refugee problem were non-existent unemployment in Bulgaria or at least permanent unemployment would be non-existent.

The glutting of the labour market owing to the excessive supply of labour has also resulted in the lowering of wages. This is particularly noticeable in the tobacco industry, where wages have recently been reduced on two occasions, by 15-20 per cent. in August, and by 5 per cent. in December 1925.

In all the Bulgarian factories an eight-hour day is worked in accordance with the decree of 24th June 1919. But it is found that in the smaller undertakings, owing to the willingness on the part of the refugees to work longer hours, the eight-hour day is not adhered to.

Above everything else, the presence of refugees makes the application of the Employment Exchange Act and social insurance schemes very complicated. And it is feared that the present crisis may even wreck the unemployment insurance system at the very outset.

The International Labour Office has made several suggestions for the solution of the refugee problem.

Wage Changes in Germany

The average hourly rates of wages for skilled and unskilled workers in Germany are shown in the following table:—

Industries	Skilled Workers		Unskilled Workers	
	Jan. 1926	Feb. 1926	Jan. 1926	Feb. 1926
Mining	pl.	pl.	pl.	pl.
Metal		102.1	57.7	57.8
Chemical		92.7	62.5	62.5
Building		85.2	61.1	61.1
Wood working		115.8	64.1	64.1
Paper working		84.0	65.4	65.4
Textiles—				
Males		62.6	41.1	41.1
Females		50.2	38.8	38.8
Brewing		100.1	67.2	67.2
Bakery and Confectionery		86.1	74.3	74.3
Printing		94.4	63.7	63.7
Cardboard making—				
Males		80.1	68.0	68.0
Females		53.1	43.7	43.7
Railways		81.4	64.7	64.7
Weighted average	94.1	94.2	65.8	65.9

The wages are weighted averages based on the rates fixed by collective agreements in the principal centres of the industries concerned. In the case of miners, metal workers, workers in chemical industries, paper mill workers, textile workers (male) and railway workers the rates include family allowances.

The average full time earnings of skilled workers in the industries included in the statistics were, in February 1926, 46.02 marks per week. The corresponding figure for unskilled workers was 33.95 marks. The tendency of wages to rise which existed during 1924 and the first nine months of 1925 has come to a standstill. (From "International Labour Office Weekly News Service," Geneva, No. 140.)

Wages and Cost of Living in the United States

In a recent number of "Industrial and Labour Information," the weekly published by the International Labour Office, comparative figures are given as to the changes in wages and the cost of living in the United States during the last twenty years.

The following table shows by means of index numbers the average changes in trade union hourly rates of wages and in working-class cost of living during the period 1906-1925, the figures for each year being expressed as percentages of the average for 1913 (taken as 100). In the

final column these figures are combined so as to show the relative level of purchasing power of the rates of wages current in each year:—

Year	Index numbers (1913 = 100)		
	Trade Union rates of wages per hour	Cost of living	Relative purchasing power of wages
1906	85.0	78.7	106.0
1907	89.7	82.0	109.4
1908	91.0	84.3	107.9
1909	91.9	88.7	103.6
1910	94.4	93.0	101.5
1911	96.0	92.0	104.3
1912	97.6	97.6	100.0
1913	100.0	100.0	100.0
1914	101.9	103.0	98.9
1915	102.8	105.1	97.8
1916	107.2	118.3	90.6
1917	114.1	142.4	80.1
1918	132.7	174.4	76.1
1919	154.5	188.3	82.0
1920	199.0	208.5	95.4
1921	205.3	177.3	115.8
1922	193.1	167.3	115.4
1923	210.6	171.0	123.2
1924	228.1	170.7	133.6
1925	237.9	173.5	137.1

(From *International Labour Office Weekly News Service*, Geneva, No. 140.)

German Women and Trade Unions

The Secretary of the German Federation of Trade Unions has contributed a series of articles on the above subject to the *American Federationist*. It is pointed out that in Germany half of all the agricultural labour is done by women. In industry, in general, about 30 per cent. of the labour force is female. The number of women exceeds that of men in the clothing trades and the textile industry. In commerce and transportation approximately 35 per cent. of the labour force is female. And in the liberal professions about 20 per cent. of all persons employed are women.

At present, on an average, 40 per cent. of all female workers in industry are organized into trade unions. The number of organized women workers in agriculture is comparatively small. Commerce offers women a favourable field for organizing themselves and at present approximately 230,000 women employed in commerce are organized.

In the trade unions women have the same obligations as men and in return they enjoy the same privileges. In most trade unions, however, dues for women are lower than those for men, the reason for this being the difference in their wages. Speaking generally, in Germany, on an average women's wages are lower by about 30 per cent. than men's wages.

Since, however, the contributions differ the total dues for men and women also differ. And the unions with large female membership have, almost without exception, created special funds which concern women only.

After the war, owing to the economic crisis in Germany, the position of the trade unions had become very precarious. But with the stabilization of German money standards towards the end of December 1923, the membership in the trade unions has increased.

Strikes and Lockouts in the United Kingdom in 1925

The *Ministry of Labour Gazette* for June 1, 1925, contains a summary of strikes and lockouts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland during the year 1925. It is pointed out that during the year the number of stoppages of work was 604 as compared with 710 in 1924. In these disputes about 401,500 workpeople were directly involved and 4,100 indirectly involved. In addition, 3,500 workpeople were involved directly or indirectly, in 25 disputes which began in 1925 and were still in progress in the beginning of 1925. The aggregate time lost was approximately 7,966,000 working days as compared with 8,444,000 in the previous year.

If the disputes are classified according to industries it is found that those in the coal mining and textile industries accounted for more than two-thirds of all the workpeople involved and over 80 per cent. of all the time lost in disputes in 1925. The principal dispute of the year occurred in the wool textile industry in the West Riding of Yorkshire and part of Lancashire involving no fewer than 165,000 workpeople. The approximate aggregate number of working days lost was 3,105,000. The following two tables show the causes and the results of the disputes:—

Group of Industries	Workpeople directly involved in disputes beginning in 1925		Percentage of time lost in disputes arising on questions of:—			
	No.	Per cent.	Employment Limitations or Percentages	Working Arrangements	Trade Unions	Other Causes
Mining and Quarrying ..	116,500	42.4	30.9	6.5	12.7	7.5
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding ..	18,400	20.4	66.8	5.0	6.5	1.3
Textile ..	169,400	98.3	0.2	0.5	0.9	0.1
Clothing ..	2,900	8.3	33.0	14.3	40.3	4.1
Building, Decorating, Contracting, etc. ..	4,400	41.4	13.7	1.5	26.1	17.3
Transport ..	27,400	61.8	8.8	9.4	19.3	0.1
Other Industries ..	62,500	58.8	5.8	16.1	9.0	0.3
All Industries, 1925	401,500	68.6	14.2	5.6	7.7	3.9
All Industries, 1924	558,000	75.6	6.2	4.7	3.3	10.2

Group of Industries	Workpeople directly involved in disputes beginning in 1925	Proportions directly involved in disputes beginning 1925, the results of which were —			
		In favour of workpeople	In favour of employers	Compromised	Unsettled
		Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Mining and Quarrying..	116,500	21·4	31·0	29·5	18·1
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding	18,400	32·6	15·0	31·2	21·2
Textile	169,400	98·7	0·4	0·9	—
Clothing	2,900	41·6	13·2	45·2	—
Building, Decorating, Contracting, etc.	4,400	15·7	16·4	67·9	—
Transport	27,400	34·2	25·3	32·7	7·3
Other Industries	62,500	5·6	16·3	77·3	0·8
All Industries, 1925	401,500	53·0	14·4	25·7	6·9
All Industries, 1924	558,000	9·7	18·0	72·3	—

It will be seen that different causes operate in different industries but speaking generally the majority of disputes are due to questions of wages. As regards the result of the disputes, it will be observed that the majority of disputes were compromised. Only 9·7 per cent. of the disputes in all industries ended in favour of workpeople and 18 per cent. in favour of employers.

Out of 604 disputes, 589 had been settled by the end of the year. The following table shows the principal methods by which these disputes were settled :—

Methods of Settlement	No. of disputes	Percentage of all disputes	Number of workpeople directly involved	Percentage of workpeople directly involved in all disputes
		Per cent.		Per cent.
By direct negotiation between the parties or their representatives	423	72	164,800	44
By conciliation	44	7	26,200	7
By arbitration	10	2	165,900	44
By return to work on employers' terms without negotiation	68	12	9,700	3
Otherwise	44	7	7,500	2
Total	589*	100	374,100*	100

It will be seen that nearly three quarters (423) of all the final settlements were effected by direct arrangements or negotiations between the parties or their representatives without the intervention of third party.

* In 15 disputes, directly involving 27,400 workpeople, no final settlement has yet been reported (June, 1926).

Compensation for Workmen

CASES INCREASING IN BENGAL

A report on the working of the Workmen's Compensation Act (VIII of 1923) in Bengal from January 1 to December 31, 1925, by Mr. M. H. B. Lethbridge, Commissioner, states that Rs. 1,04,944-13-9 was deposited by employers as compensation during the year, Rs. 720 was received by transfer from Rangoon, and there was a balance of Rs. 9,901-8-0 in hand at the beginning of the year, making a total of Rs. 1,15,616-5-0. This was dealt with as follows :—Paid to dependants, Rs. 85,380-1-9; transferred, Rs. 7,417-8-0; refunded, Rs. 3,765-0-0; leaving as balance at the end of the year, Rs. 19,053-12-0.

Twenty-six applications for compensation were filed during the year, twelve by workmen and fourteen by dependants of deceased workmen, as against only one in the six months covered by the last report.

Two cases were instituted by a railway company against contractors, claiming to be indemnified under section 12 of the Act, for compensation paid to dependants of contractors' workmen who were killed in accidents.

One hundred and forty deposits were received during the year (as against 27 the year before), and one case was transferred by the Commissioner for Rangoon Town.

Twelve of these deposit cases were transferred to other Commissioners for disposal for the convenience of the dependants, for whom a journey to Calcutta would have been long and expensive.

One hundred and sixty-four memoranda of agreement were presented for registration during the year under report, as against 17 during the preceding six months.

While the figures quoted show that the Act is becoming more generally known, and that work is consequently increasing, nevertheless it has not increased to the extent that might have been expected. (From "Statesman," Calcutta, July 9, 1926.)

A Co-operative Cotton Mill

Some time ago, some young weavers in Khulna district, Bengal, formed themselves into a Co-operative Society and set up a hand-loom weaving factory. They succeeded in this and, emboldened by their success, have recently installed a power plant for the weaving process, which consists of a steam engine, a steam pump, one combined winder with sixty spindles and twelve power looms. It is proposed also to apply power to subsidiary processes like sizing and calendering. The Society is experiencing some difficulty in raising the requisite capital. The main idea, however, is that the operatives themselves should gradually subscribe the whole amount from wages received by them. In the meanwhile, capital has been raised in the form of shares from sympathisers and further capital will be secured from the co-operative movement. The articles turned out by the factory are finding a ready sale and advance orders from several Calcutta firms have been received. (Abstracted from the "Bombay Co-operative News," June, 1926.)

The Futility of Strikes

The events of the past six weeks have concentrated public discussion upon the use of the strike weapon by Labour. While the general strike, that is, the withdrawal of labour without notice in industries in which no dispute existed, has been universally condemned as illegal and mistaken, there has been no attempt from any quarter to deprive Labour of the right to strike, that is, of the right to cease work on due notice required by existing agreements, being given. The strike weapon is indeed in the last resort the only remedy of employees against employers where the former have, or think they have, a grievance; just as *mutatis mutandis*, the lockout may be the last resort of employers. Nevertheless, the present time, when the question of the strike weapon is so prominent in the public eye, is perhaps suitable for the investigation of another phase of the question. Is the strike weapon effective, or is it futile? Do strikes as a rule obtain any result which could not have been reached by negotiation and without cessation of work? With a view to indicating an answer to these questions we make some investigations in this article into the chief strikes that have recently harried industry.

A brief survey of the most outstanding facts gives some extremely instructive results. We may begin by comparing the *pre-* and *post-war* returns showing the extent to which resort has been had to the strike weapon in this country:—

Trade Disputes in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, 1893—1925.

Period	Number of Disputes Beginning Each Year	Number of Workpeople involved			Working Days Lost During Each Year
		Directly	Indirectly	Total	
Average, 1893-1897	797	272,800	54,400	327,200	11,908,000
.. 1898-1903	620	138,800	71,200	210,000	5,684,000
.. 1904-1907	424	94,800	37,000	131,800	2,264,000
.. 1908-1912	608	565,800	137,800	703,600	14,878,000
1913	1,459	497,000	167,000	664,000	9,800,000
1919	1,352	2,401,000	190,000	2,591,000	34,970,000
1920	1,607	1,779,000	153,000	1,932,000	26,570,000
1921	763	1,770,000	31,000	1,801,000	85,870,000
1922	576	512,000	40,000	552,000	19,850,000
1923	628	343,000	62,000	405,000	10,670,000
1924	710	558,000	55,000	613,000	8,420,000
1925	601	398,000	40,000	438,000	7,976,000

The term "workpeople indirectly involved" covers those persons thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, without their being parties thereto. The figures thus afford no indication of the loss of working time in other industries, as a result of failure to obtain normal supplies of material, or normal transport facilities owing to strike action. That this loss may be very considerable is shown—to take an outstanding example—by the fact that at the end of June 1921, after a

three months' stoppage in the coal-mining industry, engineering trade unions making returns to the Ministry of Labour had nearly 30 per cent of their members unemployed, against 14 per cent three months earlier and even in the cotton trade the unemployed percentage had increased from 8 to 16.

Accepting the figures as they stand, however, the *post-war* period clearly compares most unfavourably with the years before 1914 as regards the outward and visible signs of industrial unrest. The average loss of working time in the 21 years ended December 31, 1913—8,737,000 days per annum—compares with a figure of 27,761,000 days for the seven years ended December 31, 1925. The heaviest losses in the *pre-war* period were 30,440,000 working days in 1893 and 40,840,000 in 1912, both years including a coal-mining dispute, significantly enough. The 1921 was a "record" in British industrial history, but the figures have since progressively declined, and in 1924-25 were back at approximately the *pre-war* level. This result has been achieved, however, not by any marked decline in the number of disputes, but by a falling-off in their average magnitude.

A large number of disputes have ostensibly been settled by compromise rather than out-and-out victory on either side.—

Proportion of Workers Directly Involved in Disputes Settled by Accepted Terms Specified

Period	In Workers' Favour	In Employers' Favour	Compromised	Total
1910-11	9.7	10.4	79.9	100.0
1912*	74.6	14.3	11.1	100.0
1913	32.4	18.8	48.8	100.0
1919-1920	12.6	18.2	69.2	100.0
1921-24	5.9	10.7	83.4	100.0

The growth of the spirit of compromise is easily comprehensible. Modern organisation of employers and employed facilitates round-table methods, and as each set of negotiators has usually to secure ratification of the agreed terms by its constituents, the insertion of "face-saving" clauses is both natural and desirable. But in most bargains of this nature the balance of advantage inclines one way or the other. If the results of some of the major *post-war* disputes—*i.e.*, those which have involved the whole, or the greater part, of some particular industry, or have been of more than average duration—be examined a little more closely, we shall find that organised labour has not, on the whole, gained a great deal from the strike weapon in recent years. The following table gives particulars of typical disputes of this character in the period between the *Armistice* and the end of 1925:—

*Figures affected by coal dispute, the settlement terms of which were largely in workers' favour.

CHIEF POST-WAR DISPUTES

Occupation	Total Workers Involved*	Duration of Dispute	Cause or Object	Result
1918—Cotton workers.	120,000	December 9-19	40 per cent advance	Advance of 30 per cent. gained.
1919—Coal miners—Yorkshire	150,000	January 9-24	Stoppage of 20 minutes for surface-workers' meals, &c.	Granted during Government control.
S. Wales, Midlands, Yorkshire	100,000	March 24-30	Supporting demand for advanced wages, reduced hours, nationalisation, &c.	To be considered by Sankey Commission.
Engineering & shipyard workers	150,000	1 to 8 weeks	Dissatisfaction with arrangements for 47-hour week.	Favourable to employers.
Cotton workers	450,000	June 23-July 13	30 per cent. advance standard wages; reduction of hours 55½ to 46½.	Wages granted. Hours 48.
Coal Miners—Yorkshire, Notts, Derby, &c.	150,000 75,000	29 days 6 days	Chiefly method of fixing piece-rates under Sankey award.	National agreement terms accepted.
Railway workers	500,000	9 days	Dissatisfaction with proposed wage-rates, as regards worst-paid men.	Compromise, with improved terms for such men.
Ironmoulders, etc.	65,000	105 days	Advance of 15s. a week.	5s advance accepted.
1920—Coal miners	1,100,000	15 days	Wage advance unconditional on output.	Temporary advance, pending drawing up of permanent scheme.
1921—Coal miners	1,150,000	3 months	Maintenance of previous earnings, independently of proceeds of industry.†	Earnings to be dependent on proceeds, with national minimum 20 per cent. above "standard" rates.
Cotton spinning and manufacturing.	375,000	June 6-24	Against wage reduction.	Compromise mainly in employers' favour.
1922—Engineering workers, &c.‡	160,000	March 13-June 3	Questions of overtime and managerial functions.	Terms favourable to employers.
Members of A. E. U.	90,000	May 3-June 2		
Other unions				
Shipyards workers‡	90,000	March 29-May 6	Reduction in war-bonus.	Reductions accepted with slight modifications.

* Including employees thrown out of work in establishments concerned, but not those similarly affected in other industries.

† On relinquishment of Government's control of the industry.

‡ Lock-out.

CHIEF POST-WAR DISPUTES—contd.

Occupation	Total Workers Involved*	Duration of Dispute	Cause or Object	Result
1923—Boilermakers &c.†	40,000	April 20-May 14	Refusal of certain unions to accept whole of agreement negotiated by other Federation.	Agreement accepted, subject to recourse to Industrial Court on 20th June.
Dock-workers (partial)	40,000	July 2-Aug 20	Against extension of national agreement.	Business agreement.
1924—Railway engine-drivers, men, &c.	69,000	January 21-25	Dissatisfaction with award of Wages Board.	Board accepted; wage modification.
Dock-workers	110,000	February 18-25	Against extension of national agreement.	Terms acceptable to employers.
London tramway & omnibus employees	40,000	March 22-31	Against extension of national agreement.	Modified advance granted.
Building trades‡	100,000	July 7-Aug 22	Refusal of London workers to accept award of Wages Board.	Liverpool workers to retain local agreement till end of 1925.
1925—Wool textile operatives, engine-men, and firemen	165,000	July 23-Aug 14	Disputes by various unions over award of Wages Board.	Agreement accepted, subject to recourse to Industrial Court which was held on 20th June.

There is a marked difference between the results obtained in the 1919-20 period, when trade was active and prices rising, and the years from 1921 onwards, when industry was slack and prices—for the first part of the period at least—rapidly falling. In the earlier period the examples show the workers pressing home their tactical advantages, and obtaining some share of the increased proceeds of industrial enterprise. To this tendency there is a single exception; the ill-starred ironmoulders' dispute. But from 1921 onwards trade unionism has been on the defensive, the various disputes assuming the character of rear-guard actions. Where economic conditions have favoured certain sections, these have succeeded in holding their ground, or even slightly improving it, but where the workers have ventured on an engagement with economic forces—especially in the disastrous coal stoppage of 1921—a costly defeat has invariably ensued.

There is no need to go deeper into recent industrial history in order to suggest the answer to the questions which we posed at the beginning of this article. The hard facts tabulated above may be commended to Labour leaders, who, if they will face facts, will frankly tell their rank and file the lessons which they reveal, namely, that strikes do not pay, and that in the interests of the workers themselves they should be declared as a last resort, when the only alternative is something that is regarded as so intolerable that even a dangerous and costly demonstration is justifiable. (From "Economist," June 19, 1926.)

* Including employees thrown out of work in establishments concerned, but not those similarly affected in other industries.

† Lock-out.

‡ London: earlier in other ports.

Industrial Conditions and Labour Legislation in Japan

The International Labour Office has already undertaken an official enquiry into labour conditions in Japan and hopes to publish a report on the subject. In the meantime it has published a study of Industrial Conditions and Labour Legislation in Japan, based on the latest available material written by Mr. Iwao F. Ayusawa.*

It is proposed in this article to summarise this report in some detail and to compare wherever possible, labour conditions in Japan and in India.

Japan resembles India in several respects. The industrial development of both countries is recent. In both countries the main occupation of the people is agriculture, though in India a larger percentage of the population is maintained by agriculture than in Japan. And one of the main industries of both countries is cotton weaving and spinning.

The war gave a tremendous impetus to Japanese trade and industry. And the increase both in the number of factories and in the number of operatives since 1914 has been very considerable.

The following table shows the number of workers in Japanese factories before and after the war †

Year	Workers		Total	Index Numbers
	Men	Women		
1909	307,139 38·36	493,498 61·64	800,637	100
1914	383,957 40·49	564,308 59·51	948,265	118
1919	741,193 45·98	870,797 54·02	1,611,990	201
1920	730,419 46·98	824,308 53·02	1,554,727	194
1921	757,345 46·30	878,466 53·70	1,635,811	204
1922	834,314 49·34	856,705 50·66	1,691,019	211

It will be seen from the above table that since 1909 the number of operatives in Japanese factories has more than doubled itself. While in 1922 in Japan there were 1,691,019 factory workers out of a population of about 56 millions, in British India despite its greater area and population there were only 1,293,344 adults employed in factories out of a population of some 247 millions.

* International Labour Office Studies and Reports Series B (Economic Conditions) No. 16, Geneva, 1926.

† Factory Statistics of the Department of Agriculture & Commerce.

One interesting feature of the foregoing table is the proportion between males and females employed in factories. It appears that more women than men are still employed in Japanese industry. In the case of India the percentage of men and women employed in 1922 was 84 and 16 respectively.

In Japanese factories, the proportion of men is however rising rapidly as seen from the above table. The explanation of this is that the textile factories in which more than 80 per cent. of the employees are women are not making as rapid progress as the machine tool and chemical factories in which more men than women are employed.

Labour Legislation

The development of large scale industry in Japan is of recent origin and labour legislation in the modern sense is more recent still. The Merchant Marine Sections of the Commercial Code of 1899 which deals with seamen may be considered the first step in this direction. The next step was the Mining Act of 1905 which was followed by the Factory Act of 1911. In 1916 the Order for the Enforcement of the Factory Act was issued and, at the same time, the Regulation of Labour and the Relief of Miners and the Mining Police Regulations. The first effective labour legislation thus dates only from the year 1916. " In 1919, when the First Session of the International Labour Conference was convened at Washington, it became clear that the time had come for a further advance in labour legislation in Japan. Intelligent public opinion in Japan was demanding the immediate adoption of a new progressive labour legislation. In particular, Representatives of the Government realised fully that Japan must accept a certain standard of labour legislation somewhat similar, if not wholly equivalent, to that of the advanced occidental countries if Japan wished, as she does, to assert her equality with the great Powers of the world.

" Here, however, Japan was confronted with a dilemma. Was she, in common with the rest of the world, to accept the standards which the Washington Conference set up as regards hours of work, the minimum age in industry, maternity protection and the like, at the risk of the ruin of her growing industry? Or was she to beg exemption from more advanced legislation in order to secure her industrial position?

" It is not difficult to understand the anxiety of the more conservative elements in Japan when they had to face this hard choice in the full limelight of publicity. The growth of Japanese industry is of recent date. Her industrial expansion has been as sudden and phenomenal as the emergence of the nation itself as a factor in world politics. Factory workers, for example, who numbered only about 120,000 in 1900, had increased to over 3,000,000 in 1919, and during the same period the number of factories increased from 1,400 to 30,000. The disaster of war in Europe spelt industrial expansion and prosperity for Japan; but it was none the less obvious that Japanese industry was still on a very insecure basis.

" No one with a close knowledge of Japan could fail to see that her sudden wartime expansion was no more than a transient phenomenon. The pre-war exports of Japan, which amounted annually to a value of

586,800,000 yen, had at the end of the war risen to a value of more than 1,931,000,000 yen, or an increase of 400 per cent.; but this again was obviously an abnormal circumstance even if the unusual rise of prices, which was particularly notable in Japan, be taken into account. With the cessation of hostilities and the resumption of trade competition in Europe, Japan must now be prepared for a fierce fight to retain her markets. She was almost bound to lose them unless her goods improved appreciably in quality and greatly increased in quantity.

"In these circumstances, even in spite of the determination of her Government and her people to achieve speedy progress in labour legislation, Japan in 1919 was clearly unprepared to accept without qualification the terms of International Labour Conventions.

"The difficulty in accepting such sudden changes as Conventions might necessitate was still more keenly appreciated by the people who were acquainted with the shortness of Japan's experience in industrial legislation. The above brief historical account of the development of labour legislation will, it is hoped, have made this point clear. No national law regulating either hours of work or the age of workers was in operation until three years prior to the Washington Conference. The enforcement of the First Factory Act of Japan, which was promulgated in 1911, was not authorised by Imperial Ordinance until August 1916, and even this Act is to some extent at variance with the international standards which the Washington Conference was proposing to set up."

But the protests of the labouring classes in Japan and the influence of the Washington Conference did not fail to bear fruit. In 1921 the Employment Exchange Act was promulgated, followed during the same year by the Prohibition of White Phosphorus Matches Act. The Health Insurance Act was enacted in the spring of 1922, shortly after the promulgation of the Seamen's Employment Exchange Act, 1922. In March 1923, three important Acts were promulgated simultaneously, the Factory Act Amendment Act, the Minimum Age of Industrial Workers' Act, and the Seamen's Minimum Age and Health Certificates Act. In 1924, the Tenancy Disputes Arbitration Act was issued. Besides these Acts, a number of important Bills have been drafted, since 1924, such as the Trade Union Bill and the Labour Disputes Arbitration Bill. Besides this since April 1925 control of the recruitment of workers has been effected by means of an ordinance.

Although the industrial development of India has been less rapid than that of Japan, factory legislation has made much greater progress. The first Indian Factories Act was passed in 1881 and amended in 1891. The next Factory Act was passed in 1911 and amended in 1922. In addition to these Acts which regulate the hours of work and the employment of operatives in factories, Acts such as the Workmen's Compensation Act and the Trade Union Act have been placed on the statute book.

Rest Periods

In Japan, for women and children, thirty minutes' rest is compulsory in the case of all work exceeding six hours per day, and one hour's rest in the case of work exceeding ten hours per day. The period of rest for males

in factories varies considerably. According to an investigation made at the end of 1921 into rest periods of male workers over the age of 15, covering 67,070 factories, 40.25 per cent. of the factories granted a rest period of between thirty minutes and one hour and 31.23 per cent. had a rest period between one and two hours. In the dyeing and weaving, chemical and miscellaneous industries a rest period of less than one hour is very commonly found.

Speaking generally, the Indian Factories Act makes a much more generous allowance for rest intervals. For adults a period of rest of not less than one hour at intervals not exceeding six hours is prescribed; and for each child working for more than five and a half hours in any one day, a period of rest of not less than half an hour arranged in such a manner that no child shall be required to work continuously for more than four hours.

The Japanese factory law does not provide for holidays for male operatives but allows two to four rest days per month to women and children. But in actual practice it is found that in the majority of cases even male operatives get two rest days per month.

As in the case of rest intervals so also in the case of holidays, Indian Factory legislation makes a more generous provision. Section 22 of the Indian Factories Act lays down clearly the principle of a weekly holiday for all operatives.

Night Work

According to the Factory Act Amendment Act of 1923 which has just come into force "The occupier of a factory shall not employ a young person under 16 years of age, or a woman, between the hours of 10 p.m. and 5 a.m. provided that such persons may be employed until 11 p.m. with the sanction of the authorities". Until the coming into force of this Act, however, though women and children below 15 years of age could not be employed between 10 p.m. and 4 a.m., the exemptions granted were so numerous that night work was more or less permitted. On the other hand, in the case of India the Factory Act of 1881 as amended in 1891 definitely laid down as a rule that women could not be employed between 8 p.m. and 5 a.m. And according to section 24 of the Indian Factories Act of 1911 as amended in 1922, no woman can be employed in any factory before half past five o'clock in the morning or after seven o'clock in the evening.

Recent Japanese statistics show that the number of workers engaged in night work is on the increase, although the number of factories carrying on night work is decreasing. More than half the factories and three-fourths of the workers doing night work are in the dyeing and weaving factories, and especially in spinning and reeling departments.

Wages and the Cost of Living

In the absence of cost of living index numbers, it is not possible to work out the real wages of Japanese workers. But it is believed that both money wages and real wages have been increasing steadily. The following

table though not based on returns from a uniform number of trades gives a rough idea of the rise of wages in Japan :—

Index Numbers of Wages, 1885—1924

Year	Wages	Year	Wages
1885	53	1909	90
1886	52	1910	92
1887	53	1911	93
1892	59	1912	98
1894	42	1913	102
1895	39	1914	100
1896	44	1915	99
1897	51	1916	102
1898	56	1917	118
1899	59	1918	155
1900	63	1919	224
1901	66	() 1920*	287
1902	68	(b) 1920*	331
1903	69	(a) 1921*	345
1904	67	(b) 1921*	311
1905	71	(a) 1922*	305
1906	74	(b) 1922*	....
1907	84	1923	370
1908	89	1924 April	395

It will be seen from the above table that during the period 1885—1900 wages were very low. From 1900 onwards they began to rise but the real rise began during and after the war.

The following table compares the index numbers of wholesale prices in Tokyo with the index numbers of rates of wages.

Fluctuations of Wholesale Prices and Wage Rates, Tokyo

Date	Food	Clothing	Building materials	Fuel	Manure fodder	General prices	Wage rates	Difference
June 1914	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	
December 1914	92	86	109	100	83	95	103	+ 8
Do. 1915	96	105	186	103	84	113	103	- 10
Do. 1916	118	133	184	138	104	138	114	- 24
Do. 1917	149	180	245	206	136	175	148	- 27
Do. 1918	210	226	262	275	181	225	189	- 36
Do. 1919	286	368	305	312	302	303	297	- 6
June 1920	230	223	333	290	234	260	319	+ 59
December 1920	190	202	278	270	160	216	318	+ 102
June 1921	182	205	225	244	154	202	306	+ 104
December 1921	205	205	283	276	183	220	338	+ 118
June 1922	188	202	226	237	186	207	332	+ 125
December 1922	178	192	238	225	153	197	340	+ 143
June 1923	198	203	251	233	189	215	336	+ 121
December 1923	205	214	277	283	177	230	341	+ 111
January 1924	209	208	268	263	184	226	372	+ 146
February 1924	205	212	248	250	185	220	367	+ 147
March 1924	202	249	254	243	181	218	368	+ 150

* (a) January—June. (b) July—December.

Among all the factory industries in Japan the daily wages of both men and women are the lowest in the dyeing and weaving factories. The reason for the lower wages earned by men in these factories is perhaps that women predominate here and thus depress the level of wages. And the explanation of the lower wages earned by women is probably this that women in these factories for the most part board and lodge in the dormitories during their employment. The average daily wages (average of six months from July to December 1923) of operatives in dyeing and weaving mills were 136 sen for men and 87 sen for women. Taking 1 yen = Rs. 1.26, this comes to Rs. 1-11-5 for men and Rs. 1-1-6 for women. The average daily wages of cotton mill workers in Bombay City in 1923 were Rs. 1-7-2 for men and Rs. 0-12-5 for women.

It has already been stated that in the absence of a cost of living index number it is not possible to determine the actual economic position of the Japanese workers. The results of a few enquiries into the cost of living of Japanese workers may however be summarised here.

Between 1919 and 1922 four enquiries have been conducted into the cost of living of Japanese workers. The first one covered 40 households of skilled workers in Tokyo and it was found that the average monthly expenditure per household was 69.43 yen. This expenditure was made up as follows :—

Necessary Living expenses	77 per cent.
Social Life	15 do.
Cultural expenses	4 do.

It is not known on what items the remaining 4 per cent. of the expenditure was incurred. The expenditure on food and drink accounted for more than 50 per cent. of the total.

The second enquiry which was conducted in 1921 covered 30 households of tramway conductors and motormen, etc. Food in this enquiry accounted for 48 per cent. of the expenditure.

The Government enquiry of 1921 covered all types of workers in Tokyo, Osaka and Kyoto and five other prefectures and covered 1,377 households.

To get an idea of the economic conditions of the industrial workers in India and Japan, the results of this enquiry can be compared with those of an enquiry into working class budgets in Bombay City. This comparison may not be strictly accurate but would help to give a rough idea.

The average number of persons in each Japanese household was 5, including 3.2 adults. The average Bombay working class family consists of 4.2 persons, including 2.2 adults. It will thus be seen that a Japanese family is larger but contains proportionately fewer children.

The income of the families varied from 30 to 150 yen per month or at the rate of exchange in April 1926 from 37.8 Rs. to 189 Rs. The average monthly income of the Bombay working classes is Rs. 52-4-6.

The following is the percentage distribution of expenditure according to the Japanese and Bombay enquiries.

	In Japan	In Bombay
Food	45.84	56.8
Clothing	10.88	9.6
Housing	8.66	7.7
Light and heat	7.95 to 9.14	7.4
Miscellaneous .. .. .	..	18.5

It will be seen from the above table that while the Bombay working classes have to spend more on food the Japanese working classes have to spend more on clothing and house-rent.

HOURS OF WORK

Japanese factory legislation makes no provision for the restriction of the working hours of male workers in factories. The fundamental legislation governing the hours of work regulates the working hours of women and children only. The Factory Act of 1911 which applies to factories employing more than 15 persons fixes the normal hours of work at 12 per day. The Factory Act Amendment Act of 1923 which has come into force from the 1st of July 1926 lays down that the maximum working hours for women and young persons under 15 years of age which are 12 per day shall be reduced to 11 per day and shall apply to women and children under 16 years of age.

As compared with Japanese legislation on this point, Indian Factory legislation is very much in advance. It applies not only to women and children but also to male operatives and lays down clearly that "No person shall be employed in a factory for more than 60 hours in any one week" and "No child shall be employed in any factory for more than six hours in any one day" and "No woman shall be employed in any factory for more than eleven hours in any one day."

Although Japanese legislation does not regulate the hours of work of males, the actual working hours are not excessive.

The following table illustrates the position:—

Working Hours of Men in Factories

(In percentages by Industry)

Industries	Factories covered	8 hours and less	More than 8 to 9 hours	More than 9 to 10 hours	More than 10 to 12 hours	More than 12 hours
Dyeing and Weaving ..	100	10.82	12.79	28.65	40.98	6.45
Machine and tool ..	100	13.33	29.27	44.04	10.79	1.61
Chemical ..	100	23.86	27.95	33.02	13.39	1.15
Food and drink ..	100	33.75	18.77	24.94	14.89	6.61
Miscellaneous ..	100	25.38	26.89	34.15	11.22	1.58
Special ..	100	23.46	17.08	24.28	28.19	6.17
Total ..	100	21.29	20.21	30.73	22.45	4.65

From the foregoing table it is quite clear that in more than half the factories the hours of work for men vary from 9 to 12 per day. The table also shows that the longest hours are worked in the dyeing and weaving factories, for, 40.98 per cent. of the operatives work more than 10-12 hours and 6.45 per cent. more than 12 hours compared with 22.45 per cent. and 4.65 per cent. respectively for all workers in factories. Figures supplied by the Osaka Chamber of Commerce, however, for November 1924 to April 1925, show that the hours per day are not more than 10 except in the tailoring and paper trades.

TRADE UNIONS

Though the industrial development of Japan has made rapid progress in recent years the country is not yet completely industrialized. Half the population is still supported by agriculture and handicrafts and small scale family industries still predominate. These two causes together with the fact that in Japan's principal industry—the textile industry—the majority of persons employed are women, makes the organisation and development of trade unions extremely difficult. And it is not therefore surprising to find that to-day the movement as a whole is still in its infancy.

It was in 1883 that the first Trade Union was started in Japan. A few small unions sprang up after this. But largely owing to the trade depression of 1894-95 and partly owing to the Public Peace Police Act of 1900 which restricted the workers' freedom in the event of strikes, trade union activity declined until 1912 when it entered upon a new phase.

In 1912 the *Yuai Kai* (Friendly Love Society) was started. At first the society was nothing else but an institution for workers' education. Gradually, however, it began to engage in regular trade union work and in 1915 it had attained a membership of 10,000 and in 1917 of more than 20,000. This Society is at present the backbone of trade unionism in Japan.

The great industrial activity in Japan during the War gave an impetus to trade unionism. In 1918, 11 new unions were formed and in 1919, 71 new unions were formed embracing the workers of practically all industries and trades.

In spite of trade depression and internal quarrels between the various trade unions, the period 1921 to 1924 was one of intense consolidation in workers' organisations.

No precise information is available as regards the number of trade unions in Japan and their membership. But according to the returns of 31st December 1924, published by the Social Affairs Bureau, there were altogether 500 unions with a total membership of 222,296. The returns of 30th June 1925, reported by *Nichi Nichi* gave approximately similar figures, viz., 494 unions, with 234,698 members. The unions were classified as follows:—

Less than 10 members	8
Do. 50 Do.	123
Do. 100 Do.	101
Do. 500 Do.	168
Do. 1,000 Do.	35
Do. 10,000 Do.	51
More than 10,000 Do.	8
	494

Of these 494 unions, 150 were craft unions, 161 were industrial unions and 183 mixed unions.

In addition to "aiming at the maintenance and improvement of working conditions," the Japanese trade unions often help their members by giving pecuniary relief or by founding employment exchanges to secure employment. But at present the most successful activity of trade unions seems to be that of starting labour schools. In 1924 there were no fewer than 16 Labour schools in Japan.

With the rise of the labour movement in Japan, the necessity for legislation has also arisen. The Japanese Diet passed in March 1926 the Labour Disputes Arbitration Act and an Act repealing sections 17 and 30 of the Public Peace Police Act. The former Act adopts the principle of compulsory arbitration in the event of disputes arising in connection with either important public utility works or state enterprises and the principle of voluntary conciliation of disputes arising in ordinary industries. Sections 17 and 30 of the Public Peace Police Act which were considered by the workers as "a weapon to prevent the organization of trade unions," have now been repealed.

The Japanese Government have also under consideration the passing of a Trade Union Act. The Bill as drafted gives not only protection and increased freedom to trade unions but proposes to give them a definite legal status.

In the absence of information regarding trade unions for the whole of India, it is not possible to make very accurate comparisons between the position of the organization of workers in Japan and in this country. Judging however, from the state of the Bombay Presidency, it appears that the Japanese labour movement has made comparatively more progress. In 1924 in the Bombay Presidency there were 36 Trade Unions with a membership of only 52,277.

Social Insurance

Under the Factory Act of 1911 provision has been made for compensation for accidents in factories employing more than 15 persons. From the 1st July 1926 on which day the Factory Act Amendment Act (1923) came into operation, compensation will be payable in factories employing 10 persons. The Act applies also to factories where either "dangerous or unhealthy" processes are carried on. Under the Mining Act of 1905 compensation is payable in respect of accidents in private mines.

According to the Health Insurance Act of 1922 which is to come into force from 1st January 1927, all those employed in a factory or a workplace where either the Factory Act or the Mining Act is applicable must be insured. The Health Insurance Act widens the scope of compensation and includes childbirth among the cases for which compensation should be granted. Speaking generally, commerce, agriculture, shipping and domestic work are out of the scope of accident compensation in Japan.

The Indian Workmen's Compensation Act came into operation much later, that is, only on 1st July 1924. The scope of the Act is however wider. It includes workers in factories, mines, docks and on railways and those engaged in certain types of building work, notably the

construction of industrial and commercial buildings and any other buildings which run to more than one storey. The most important classes excluded altogether are agricultural workers and domestic servants.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Since the trade boom of 1920, unemployment has become a serious problem in Japan. In order to determine the extent of unemployment the Government of Japan carried out on 1st October 1925 an unemployment census. The census covered both manual and salaried workers. The detailed report on the census is not yet out, but a brief outline has been published. This shows that of the 2,355,096 salaried and wage-earning workers whose cases were investigated, the number of those actually unemployed was 105,595 or 4.5 per cent. of the total. Of the 2,355,096 workers covered by the census, 634,412 or 27 per cent. were salaried workers, 1,502,954 or 64 per cent. manual workers and 217,730 or 9 per cent. casual labourers.

Largely as a result of the Washington Conference of 1919, Japan has now passed legislation regarding unemployment. This consists mainly in the Employment Exchange Act of April 1921 and the Seamen's Employment Exchange Act of 1922. As a result of the former Act, free employment exchanges are being set up throughout Japan. The system of free public employment exchanges is similar to that of the public employment exchanges.

At present in all 177 public employment exchanges have been set up. But in order to expedite the creation of more employment offices it is provided that the Minister of Home Affairs may order cities and towns with more than 30,000 inhabitants to set up a free employment exchange. And in order to encourage the creation of such offices, the State Treasury grants subsidies, amounting to one-half of the initial expenditure incurred in building the office and starting its work, and to one-sixth of other expenses.

The following table shows the number of cases handled by the Employment Exchanges:—

Employment Exchange Work, 1921—1924

	1921	1922	1923	1924
<i>General Workers—</i>				
Wanted	338,054	450,729	817,427	1,095,567
Seeking work	312,783	453,267	720,428	979,346
Recommended	227,026	340,564	516,505	728,072
Placed	151,304	199,962	312,550	444,382
<i>Day Labourers—</i>				
Wanted	335,279			1,325,673
Seeking work	360,625			1,335,496
Recommended	316,360			1,263,712
Placed	316,360			1,263,712

In addition to finding employment the employment exchanges in Japan advance daily wages to day labourers engaged through them. This is done in accordance to an Imperial Ordinance of 27th June 1925. Such legislation was necessary because of the prevailing custom that the day

labourer gets his wages after an interval of a fortnight or a month. The labourer is therefore unable to maintain himself during the interval. Besides this, the labourer does not receive his wages directly from his employer but through his 'boss' (*Oyabun*) who generally subtracts from the wage a commission varying from one-fifth to one-half of the amount due.

In conclusion the author says "Whereas the foregoing pages have been confined to the sphere of industry and labour, the statement may be hazarded in conclusion that, in point of fact, progress in Japan is by no means confined to industry. As long ago as 1921, one of the Advisers to the Japanese Workers' Delegate at the International Labour Conference declared: 'a young Japan entirely different from what it has hitherto been.....is coming upon the tide. The labour movement is simply a manifestation of it. The workers have awakened and the power of their organisations is increasing year by year.....A new era is dawning.'

"Still more recently, Sherwood Eddy, an eminent critic of labour problems in the Far East said: 'The feudal mediæval Nippon of a generation ago laid aside its bows and arrows and learned of modern nations the lessons of industry and commerce, and suddenly took its place as a world Power.....However, if no nation in history so quickly learned the arts of war, of commerce and of material prosperity, none will more quickly learn the arts of peace.'

"It may be permitted in conclusion to expect that the hopes now entertained in respect of improved legislation and better working conditions in Japan will be speedily realised. Japan has achieved much in the short period since 1919, and the signs are that she will achieve yet more rapid social progress in years to come."

Children's Bureau of Brazil

The Children's Bureau of Brazil (*Departamento da Crianca*) is a private organisation created in 1919, on the model of the Children's Bureau of the United States of America. According to its last annual report, the Bureau studies maternity and child welfare measures, particularly those concerning the industrial population; encourages the establishment of child-welfare agencies; educates the public in matters relating to child hygiene by means of printed material, lectures and radio talks; and carries on an educational campaign against illiteracy, alcoholism, tuberculosis and social diseases. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, May 24, 1926.)

Reviews of Books and Reports

The Labour Year Book, 1926, Labour Publications Department, 33 Eccleston Square, London, S. W. 1, pp. 462, Price 3s. 6d. net.

We have received the fifth Labour Year Book issued by the General Council of the Trades Union Congress and the National Executive of the Labour Party.

It deals with all aspects of the national life connected with the labour question and is divided into the following 15 sections: (1) The British Labour Movement; (2) Labour in industry; (3) Capital, profits, banking and industry; (4) Trade and industry; (5) Labour in Parliament; (6) Central Government finance; (7) General social services; (8) Land and agriculture; (9) The Co-operative movement; (10) Education; (11) Municipal socialism; (12) International Affairs; (13) International Labour; (14) Statistical tables and (15) British and International directories.

The book contains a mass of systematic and well-arranged information. The statistical tables and directories make it an invaluable book of reference.

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Report of the Proceedings of the International Industrial Welfare (Personnel) Congress, 1925

We have received the report of the International Industrial (Personnel) Congress which was held at Flushing, Holland, in June 1925.

The Industrial Welfare Movement began to take shape in the decade immediately preceding the war. But the war gave the movement a very great impetus for the influx of women and children into industry, owing to increased industrial activity, drew attention to the necessity of welfare work, and in several countries "Welfare Superintendents" were appointed. This lasted throughout the war.

In countries where the movement is most advanced, the welfare (personnel) worker has been recognised as a part of the management, an indication that employers recognise the primary importance of the human element in the process of manufacture. The duties of the personnel worker include the following: General working conditions, sanitation, general hygiene, first-aid and health services.

As a result of the co-operation between the welfare worker and the management, works councils have been started in many places. These provide a practical means whereby the whole range of works problems can be studied and dealt with by the management and workers jointly from every point of view.

In the 'scientific management' of industry also, the welfare worker has been found very useful. It is essential for the scientific management of industry to have an intimate knowledge of the mental processes of the worker. This, the welfare worker is able to supply.

As a result of the congress an association called "the International Association for the Study and Improvement of Human Relations and Conditions" was formed.

Current Periodicals

Summary of titles and contents of special articles

INDUSTRIAL WELFARE—VOL. VIII, No. 89. (INDUSTRIAL WELFARE SOCIETY, LONDON.)

Special Articles.—(1) *Pension and Superannuation Funds.* By Bernard Robertson. pp. 148—150.
 (2) *First Aid Treatment of Major Accidents and Illnesses in Industry.* By Rose Bland (Health Lecturer to the British Red Cross Society).—Accidents; special fractures; fractures of the skull; hæmorrhage; illnesses; insensibility due to an electric shock; poisons. pp. 154—159.
 (3) *Accident Prevention.*—The principles of industrial accident prevention; permanent safety signs. pp. 168—170.

(4) *Legal and Statistical Notes.*—Workmen's Compensation—Industrial depression, a factor in assessment, worker injured on the premises of another firm; questions in Parliament—factory bill, miners' welfare fund (hospital grants), unemployment, occupational diseases, fatal accidents; miners' welfare fund. pp. 170—172.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE LABOUR MAGAZINE—VOL. V, No. 2. (OFFICIAL MONTHLY JOURNAL OF THE LABOUR MOVEMENT, LONDON.)

Special Articles.—(1) *Mr. Baldwin.* By Harold J. Laski. pp. 60—62.
 (2) *The Organisation Problems of Working-Class Unity.* By Dr. Friedrich Adler. pp. 63—66.
 (3) *Eternal Peace in Scandinavia.* By Carl Angel Andersen. (Foreign Editor of the "Social Democrat" Copenhagen). pp. 67—68.

(4) *"For King and Country."* By Kingsley Martin. pp. 69—72.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE—VOL. VIII, No. 6. (HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, BALTIMORE.)

Special Articles.—(1) *The Significance of Zinc in the Living Organism.* By Katherine R. Drinker, M.D., and Ellen S. Collier, A.B. (From the Department of Physiology, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, Mass.).—Universality and uniformity of zinc occurrence plants, animals; evidence of biologic activity—plants, animals; summary. pp. 257—267.

(2) *Incidence of Disease among Hospital Patients, with Reference to Occupation.* By E. H. Lewinski-Corwin Ph.D., and A. Eleanor Conover, M.D. (Director and Assistant Director, respectively, of the Hospital Information Bureau of the United Hospital Fund of New York).—The deficiencies of hospital statistics; an experiment in "pooling" hospital statistics; method of tabulation; sex and age distribution of patients; relative incidence of disease—general comparisons, detailed comparison of type of occupation, comparisons by age groups; conclusion. pp. 270—279.

(3) *Observations on Mild Cyanide Poisoning: Report of a Case.* By D. C. Parmenter, M.D., Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, Mass. (From the Industrial Clinic, Massachusetts General Hospital).—Case report; symptomatology; air test; conclusions. p. 280—282.

(4) *The Industrial Surgeon's Treatment of Fractures.* By Lever Stewart, M.D., F.A.C.S. (Director Surgeon, Stewart Clinic Hospital, and Consulting Surgeon, Pennsylvania Bituminous Casualty Company, Clearfield, Pa.).—Proper reduction of fractures. pp. 283—287.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW—VOL. XXII, No. 2. (U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, WASHINGTON.)

Special Articles.—(1) *Awards of Compensation for Temporary Total and Permanent Partial Disabilities.* By Stanley J. Tracy, of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics. Alabama; Alaska; Arizona; California; Colorado; Connecticut; Delaware; Georgia; Hawaii; Idaho; Illinois; Indiana; Iowa; Kansas; Kentucky; Louisiana; Maine; Maryland; Massachusetts; Michigan; Minnesota; Missouri; Montana; Nebraska; Nevada; New Hampshire; New Jersey; New Mexico; New York; North Dakota; Ohio; Oklahoma; Oregon; Pennsylvania; Porto Rico; Rhode Island; South Dakota; Tennessee; Texas; Utah; Vermont; Virginia; Washington; West Virginia; Wisconsin; Wyoming; United States. pp. 168—189.

(2) *Conciliation Work of the Department of Labor in December 1925.* By Hugh L. Kerwin, (Director of Conciliation). pp. 229—230.

(3) *Statistics of Immigration for November 1925.* By J. J. Kunna, Chief Statistician, United States Bureau of Immigration. pp. 232—237.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE NEW SOUTH WALES INDUSTRIAL GAZETTE—VOL. XXIX, No. 4 (DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR AND INDUSTRY, SYDNEY.)

Special Article.—(1) *Workmen's Compensation Act, 1926. (Act No. 15, 1926).*—Compensation; insurance; workmen's compensation commission; general provisions; medical provisions; proceedings respecting compensation; remedies at common law; miscellaneous; pp. 580—610.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

Current Notes From Abroad

UNITED KINGDOM

A general stoppage of work in the coal-mining industry directly involving about 1,075,000 workpeople began on 1st May and continued throughout the month. A general strike of members of various other Trade Unions, in support of the coal miners, began at midnight on 3rd-4th May; it was called off on 12th May, work being resumed during the period 13th to 17th May, with some exceptions. The industries most affected by the general strike were transport, printing, building and iron and steel. Statistics relating to this strike are not sufficiently complete to enable a precise calculation to be made of the number of workpeople who took part in it, but they probably numbered about 1½ to 1¾ million.

In addition to the coal-mining stoppage and the general strike, 17 other disputes, all of which were relatively small, were reported to the Department as having begun in May in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and 18 disputes which began before May were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The number of workpeople involved in these 35 smaller disputes in May (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 18,000 and the estimated aggregate duration of these disputes in May was about 114,000 working days. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, June 1926.)

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A Bill to amend the law relating to Workmen's Compensation has been introduced into the House of Commons by Mr. Lunn, supported by other members of the Labour Party.

Under the Acts now in force, if a workman is fatally injured in his employment the amount to which those wholly dependent on his earnings are entitled is a lump sum within the limits of £200—300 equivalent to his earnings for three years, plus a weekly allowance of 15 per cent. of his weekly wages (kept within limits of £1-2) for each child till it reaches 15. Instead of this, the Bill proposes to fix the employer's liability at £250 for the widow, and where there is a child, or children, under 15, a further sum of £500 (the latter to be invested in a central fund and to provide 10s. per week for the first, 7s. 6d. for the second and 6s. for each other child). If there are, in addition, others wholly dependent, the employer must give a further sum of £50, the total liability in such a case being thus £800. The Bill also modifies the waiting period and the amount of weekly payments during incapacity, the maximum to be 75 per cent. of the average weekly earnings, instead of 50 per cent., and 40s. instead of 30s. per week. (From "Industrial Welfare," London, May 1926.)

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At 1st June the average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous items) was approximately

68 per cent. above that of July, 1914, as compared with 67 per cent. a month ago and 72 per cent. a year ago. The corresponding figures for food alone were 58, 58 and 66 respectively. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, June 1926.)

On 30th April 1926, in the British House of Commons, Mr. Mackinder, member of the Labour Party, moved the second reading of the Hours of Industrial Employment Bill. This is a private member's Bill, for which the Government is not responsible. With the addition of a clause dealing with hours of work in railways, it is identical with the Bill introduced by the Labour Government in 1924 and with the Bill introduced by Mr. Buchanan, also as a private member's Bill, in 1925. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, May 31, 1926.)

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OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

The French Chamber has accepted a proposal made by the Minister of Labour, concerning increased pensions for miners and their widows, and the financial re-organisation of the independent mine-workers' pensions funds.

The result of this is that old-age pensions for miners of 55, after 30 years' service, are increased from 2,500 to 3,000 francs, and widows' pensions are raised proportionately. Miners with more than 30 years' service are to receive an additional 36 francs for each further year, instead of 30 francs as formerly. As both in the North and in the Pas de Calais there are very many workers in the mines who have given 40 years' service, many miners will now be entitled to a pension of 3,360 francs. (From "Press Reports of the International Federation of Trade Unions," Amsterdam, June 10, 1926.)

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The Police authorities of the City of Berlin were the first to take steps for the legal protection of children in cinematograph studios. In an Order of 30th June 1924 the hours of employment (including time of mere attendance) were fixed at six per day.

Subsequently, in view of the increasing importance of the cinematograph industry, the Federal Act of 1903 regulating the employment of children in industrial undertakings was amended by the inclusion of two new paragraphs regulating the employment of children in the cinematograph industry as a whole.

The Prussian authorities have now issued regulations in pursuance of the Federal Act, and have fixed the hours of work at four per day. These regulations supersede the Police Orders heretofore in force in various cities. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, June 21, 1926.)

A Bill for the provision of annual holidays with pay for all wage-workers who are not already entitled to them under existing legislation is at present before the Luxemburg legislature, and will shortly come up for discussion. The Bill provides for a holiday of ten days after three years' service with the same employer and 20 days after five years. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, June 21, 1926.)

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A new Tenant Protection Act has recently been passed in Poland, amending the Act of 11th April 1924.

The 1924 Act provided, among other things, that as from 5th January 1925 rents should be increased by 6 per cent. every quarter until such time as they returned to their pre-war gold value. It also provided that buildings and land used for industrial purposes should, as from 1st January 1926, be excluded from any protection under the Act.

The new Act suppresses the automatic rent increments between 1st April and 31st December 1926 in respect of all dwellings which are composed of one room and a kitchen, or of one room only.

It brings again under the protection of the law, until 1st January 1927, all workshops and industrial premises which have been used for at least six months in 1925.

Further, the new Act authorises the Courts to defer for six months the eviction of tenants who are unable to pay their rents, and even to postpone eviction for twelve months if the tenants' inability to pay is due to the general economic depression.

The Court may also authorise the postponement of the payment of rent, or its payment in instalments, in cases where the sole resources of the tenant are a wage not exceeding 80 zloty per month for single persons and 120 zloty per month for persons with families dependent on them. Such postponement may, however, only be granted as regards rents in arrear or rents due for the quarter following the submission of the claim to the Court. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, May 31, 1926.)

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The Federation of Intellectual Workers in Czechoslovakia has succeeded in grouping almost all the associations of intellectual workers in the country among which may be mentioned those of artists, musicians, authors, journalists, barristers, solicitors, architects and engineers, civil servants, professors and teachers, and students.

The programme of the Federation is as follows:—

- (1) A minimum salary corresponding to the cost of living, and to the cost of preliminary studies, as also to seniority in service and efficiency.
- (2) A compulsory contract of service.
- (3) An indemnity in the event of dismissal or sickness.
- (4) Compulsory pension and social insurance.
- (5) Protection of intellectual property, and the sharing of all profits resulting from intellectual work.

The Federation's programme involves hostility to no person, and in particular provides for cordial co-operation with manual workers, the League of Nations, and the International Labour Office. (*International Labour Office Weekly News Service, Geneva, No. 143.*)

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UNITED STATES

Working conditions for women and minors in the film-production industry are regulated by a recent order of the Industry Welfare Commission of California. The order, which is now in effect, prescribes an eight-hour day (exclusive of meal times), proportionate rates for overtime, and at least one day's wage for supernumerary actors if they are called upon to try on and fit costumes whether or not they are employed. Supernumerary actors are also to be paid on the completion of each day's work. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, June 21, 1926.*)

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The 5th Congress of the Pan-American Federation of Labour is shortly to be held in Washington. The 13 countries of North, Central and South America at present affiliated are:—U. S. A., Mexico, Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, San Domingo, Peru, Ecuador, Guatemala, Columbia, Venezuela Cuba and Porto-Rico. At the Congress this year no fewer than 21 countries will be represented; and among others the recently formed Argentine National Trade Union Centre will send delegates. Recently propaganda campaigns in favour of the programme and principles of the Pan-American Federation of Labour have been carried on in several countries. (*From "Press Reports of the International Federation of Trade Unions," Amsterdam, June 3, 1926.*)

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OTHER COUNTRIES

At a meeting held at the Japanese Bureau of Social Affairs on 30th March 1926, the Central Employment Commission discussed the proposals of the special committee appointed to investigate measures for the relief of unemployment among professional workers. With certain slight amendments, the proposals of the committee were accepted by the Commission and embodied in its report to the Minister of the Interior.

The main principle underlying the report is that the problem should be dealt with by an improvement of the present system of education. Instead of giving undue prominence, as does the present system, to subjects remote from every day life, provision should be made for vocational education and subjects of a practical value with a closer bearing on social life, and their study should be encouraged. The practice followed by Government and municipal authorities as well as by business concerns in general, of giving preference to applicants possessing a law degree should be discouraged, and the belief in the superiority of a law course abandoned as being unfounded. The whole policy of the Government with regard to higher education should be revised, and based in future on more practical lines.

With a view to relieving unemployment among professional workers, the Commission recommends an improvement of the present system of public employment offices. Special employment offices for professional workers should be established as soon as possible by the Government, and, in the meantime, such offices should be provisionally set up by the chief municipalities.

The special employment offices, in addition to co-ordinating their own activities and those of other employment offices, should also regulate the demand for and supply of professional workers on a national scale, and endeavour to find employment for such workers in foreign countries. They should secure particulars concerning personal status, character, ability and experience of each applicant, and circulate these particulars among prospective employers. They should also explore the fields of suitable occupation for professional workers and the possibilities of their employment.

To collaborate with the special employment offices, there should be established a Permanent Employment Commission for Professional Workers, and a Commission to be composed of representatives of the Chambers of Commerce, various commercial and industrial organisations, the Government and municipal authorities, professional workers and their employers generally.

Supplementary training courses should be instituted to facilitate change of profession by unemployed professional workers.

The Government and the municipal authorities should engage all their clerks through employment offices, and utilise the same channels even for the appointment of higher officials.

Adequate steps for the establishment of a State unemployment insurance scheme should be taken immediately. The Government should develop the present system of mutual relief associations, and extend its protection to and its control over such associations.

The report ends by inviting the Government to reorganise its system of higher education, to develop vocational education, and to adjust its educational policy generally in accordance with the recommendations of the Commission. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, May 24, 1926.*)

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By letter of 18th May 1926, the Japanese Delegation to the Governing Body of the International Labour Office informed the Office that it had received from the Japanese Government a telegram stating that the Imperial Ordinance for the enforcement of the Amended Factory Act was unofficially passed by the Examination Committee (*seisa inkai*) of the Privy Council on 11th May 1926, that it was expected that the Privy Council would pass the Bill by 25th May, and that the date of enforcement would be 1st July 1926, instead of, as originally proposed, 1st January 1927.

The telegram added that the Labour Disputes Arbitration Act and the Act repealing Section 17 of the Public Peace Police Act would also be

enforced on 1st July 1926. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, June 21, 1926.)

Since the proclamation of the Miner's Phthisis Act on the 7th September 1925, the examination of the men in the Kalgoorlie mines has been carried out at the Commonwealth Health Laboratory with despatch, and up to the 14th April approximately 2,680 men have been examined. The results of the examination of the Oroya Linka, Great Boulder, Golden Horseshoe, Associated, and South Kalgorlie Mines have been withdrawn from these reported to be suffering from tuberculosis have been withdrawn from these mines. Results of the examination of the Lake View and Boulder Perseverance Mines are not yet available, but are expected to be ready in about the third week in April, and the total results of all seven mines will be known about the 1st May.

It is a noteworthy fact that, of the 2,660 miners notified to attend for examination, not one failed to appear.

After the completion of the Kalgoorlie Mines, the examination of about 2,500 men in the outlying mining districts will follow, at such centres as Meekatharra, Day Dawn, Leonora, Northampton, Southern Cross, and Mt. Magnet, by using a portable X-ray plant, which has been purchased by the State Government.

The State Government bears the whole of the cost of the compensation payable under the Act, administration, transport of the men for examination and finding them suitable employment, etc., whilst the Commonwealth Government defrays the salaries of the three medical officers appointed for the examination of the men and the up-keep of the Health Laboratory. (From "Western Australian Industrial Gazette," Perth, May 31, 1926.)

According to the Chinese Press, the Government of China approved in February last the Recommendation concerning factory inspection adopted by the Fifth Session of the International Labour Conference (Geneva, 1923), and at the same time appointed six factory inspectors.

The inspectors, who are attached to the Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce, were due to start on tours of inspection on 8th March, operating in three groups as follows: (1) For the Peking-Tientsin region; (2) for the Wuchang-Hankow region; and (3) for the Shanghai-Hangchow region.

The period of inspection is limited to 45 days. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, May 24, 1926.)

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN JUNE 1926

Name of concern and locality	Approximate number of workmen involved		Date when begun		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
Textile Trades						
1. The Ahmedabad New Edward Manufacturing Co., Saraspur Road, Ahmedabad.	100	....	29 May	2 June	Protest against the dismissal of a labourer.	Strike terminated on terms of the employers.
2. The Ahmedabad New Cotton Manufacturing Co., Kankaria Road, Ahmedabad.	198	....	7 June	17 June	Alleged ill-treatment by a Weaving Master.	Strike called in favour of strikers.
3. The Manoharlal Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd., Saraspur Road, Ahmedabad.	180	....	9 June	14 June	Demand for reinstatement of a dismissed labourer.	Some new hands were engaged. Work resumed by some strikers unconditionally.
4. The Becharadas Spinning and Weaving Mills Co., Ltd., Raikhad, Ahmedabad.	21	....	15 June	17 June	In sympathy with a dismissed jobber.	Strike terminated in favour of employers.
5. The Emperor Edward Mills, Reay Road, Mazagon, Bombay.	332	....	20 June	23 June	Protest against alleged mistreatment and fining.	Major portion of the strikers resumed work unconditionally and some new men were employed.
6. The Ahmedabad Cotton and Waste Manufacturing Co., Dudheshwar Road, Ahmedabad.	125	....	29 June		Demand for reinstatement of dismissed jobbers and labourers.	Strike terminated on terms of the employers.
7. The Manor Mill, Nadiad.	145	....	23 June	28 June	Delay in payment of wages.	Outstanding wages were paid and some new hands were engaged.

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN JUNE 1926—contd.

Name of concern and locality	Approximate number of work-people involved		Date when dispute		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
Miscellaneous						
8. The Japanese Match Factory, Kalina (Bombay Suburban).	150	...	27 May	3 June	Reduction in wages.	Work was resumed unconditionally.
9. The Vasant Litho Press Co. (formerly Hare and Co.), San-klī Street, By-culla, Bombay.	30	...	17 June	...	Delay in payment of wages.	Wages paid and the services of the strikers dispensed with.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING JUNE 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 May 1926	June 1926
	Jan to May 1926	June 1926	Jan to May 1926	June 1926	Jan to May 1926	June 1926	Jan to May 1926	June 1926	Jan to May 1926	June 1926		
I Textile Mills—												
Cotton Mills ..	240	48	124	28	2		38	26	324	50	364	76
Woolen Mills ..	3	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	4	1	4	1
Others ..	3	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	3	..
Total ..	246	48	125	29	2	..	40	26	329	51	371	77
II Workshops—												
Engineering ..	15	1	159	47	..	..	5	4	169	44	174	48
Railway ..	53	23	865	123	1	1	16	7	901	138	918	146
Mint ..	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	2	..
Others ..	5	2	20	..	..	..	1	1	24	1	25	2
Total ..	74	26	1,045	170	1	1	23	12	1,095	183	1,119	196
III Miscellaneous—												
Chemical Works ..	1	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	2	..	3	..
Flour Mills ..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1
Printing Presses ..	4	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	10	10	10	..
Others ..	5	..	15	3	1	..	3	1	16	2	20	3
Total ..	11	..	23	4	2	..	3	1	29	3	34	4
Total, All Factories ..	331	74	1,193	203	5	2	66	39	1,453	237	1,524	277

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 May 1926	June 1926
	Jan to May 1926	June 1926	Jan to May 1926	June 1926	Jan to May 1926	June 1926	Jan to May 1926	June 1926	Jan to May 1926	June 1926		
I Textile Mills—												
Cotton ..	104	26	62	11	1	1	24	1	141	35	166	37
Total ..	104	26	62	11	1	1	24	1	141	35	166	37
II Miscellaneous—												
Match Factory ..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..
Flour Mills ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Oil Mills ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Engineering ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
Others ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
Total ..	1	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	4	..
Total, All Factories ..	105	26	65	11	1	1	24	1	145	35	170	..

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.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING JUNE 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 May 1926	June 1926	
	Jan to May 1926	June 1926	Jan to May 1926	June 1926	Jan to May 1926	June 1926	Jan to May 1926	June 1926	Jan to May 1926	June 1926			
I Workshops— Railway and Port Trust Engineering	1	1	10	3	1	..	..	1	10	2	11	12	3
Total ..	1	1	22	3	1	..	..	2	22	2	23	..	4
II Miscellaneous—	1	1	7	1	..	..	1	..	7	2	8	..	2
Total ..	1	1	7	1	..	..	1	..	7	2	8	..	2
Total, All Factories ..	2	2	29	4	1	..	1	..	29	4	31	..	6

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 May 1926	June 1926	
	Jan to May 1926	June 1926	Jan to May 1926	June 1926	Jan to May 1926	June 1926	Jan to May 1926	June 1926	Jan to May 1926	June 1926			
I Textile Mills— Cotton Mills Others	51	6	38	15	1	1	11	3	77	17	89	21	21
Total ..	55	6	41	15	1	1	14	3	81	17	96	..	21
II Workshops— Railway Arms and Ammu- nition Works Others	18	3	95	30	..	..	9	1	104	32	113	33	33
Total ..	27	3	109	30	1	..	14	1	121	32	136	..	33
III Miscellaneous— Ginning and Pres- sing Factories Paint Works Others	1	1	13(a)	..	2	..	7	..	8	1	17	1	1
Total ..	4	2	18	2	4	1	9	1	14	2	27	..	4
Total, All Factories ..	86	11	168	47	6	2	37	5	216	51	259	..	58

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	Pounds	Month of May			Two months ended May		
		1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
		(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 ..	4,992	6,555	6,070	8,903	12,791	12,967	
Nos. 11 to 20 ..	17,767	20,067	18,087	32,274	39,766	36,314	
Nos. 21 to 30 ..	14,307	14,908	15,589	26,352	28,544	30,896	
Nos. 31 to 40 ..	1,495	1,151	1,801	2,797	2,319	3,392	
Above 40 ..	392	407	810	733	811	1,544	
Waste, etc. ..	11	10	173	23	20	254	
Total ..	38,964	43,098	42,530	71,082	84,251	85,367	

BOMBAY CITY

Count or Number	Pounds	Month of May			Two months ended May		
		1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
		(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 ..	4,488	5,900	5,360	7,809	11,536	11,549	
Nos. 11 to 20 ..	12,296	13,436	11,984	21,478	26,868	24,346	
Nos. 21 to 30 ..	9,108	9,974	9,582	15,854	19,058	19,252	
Nos. 31 to 40 ..	757	652	752	1,376	1,264	1,465	
Above 40 ..	204	236	300	362	465	547	
Waste, etc. ..	4	2	162	7	4	235	
Total ..	26,867	30,200	28,140	46,886	59,195	57,394	

AHMEDABAD

Count or Number	Pounds	Month of May			Two months ended May		
		1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
		(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 ..	150	205	185	387	387	360	
Nos. 11 to 20 ..	2,814	3,541	3,462	5,745	7,027	6,749	
Nos. 21 to 30 ..	3,990	3,778	4,404	8,091	7,330	8,638	
Nos. 31 to 40 ..	563	322	812	1,052	693	1,460	
Above 40 ..	149	116	392	294	244	749	
Waste, etc. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	7,666	7,962	9,255	15,569	15,681	17,956	

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

Description	Month of May			Two months ended May		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000) 732	(000) 827	(000) 683	(000) 1,504	(000) 1,527	(000) 1,601
Khadi	1,001	1,155	1,207	1,994	2,302	2,401
Chudders	5,530	7,092	7,847	11,679	14,090	14,816
Dhotis	1,145	1,108	1,122	2,022	2,343	2,315
Drills and jeans	101	158	13	178	196	32
Cambrics and lawns	352	261	192	775	629	420
Printers	8,758	8,499	10,511	17,337	17,365	20,742
Shirtings and long cloth						
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	858	1,067	1,026	1,488	2,173	1,974
Tent cloth	79	73	26	190	231	64
Other sorts	460	585	487	1,003	1,150	992
Total	19,016	20,829	23,114	38,170	42,006	45,357
Coloured piece-goods	7,625	7,073	9,046	14,516	14,054	18,055
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	168	302	318	270	511	629
Hosiery	10	16	24	30	33	49
Miscellaneous	135	138	230	249	257	520
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	12	55	231	15	169	355
Grand Total	26,966	28,413	32,964	53,250	57,840	64,965

BOMBAY CITY

Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000) 565	(000) 624	(000) 582	(000) 1,105	(000) 1,171	(000) 1,398
Khadi	664	801	854	1,188	1,618	1,607
Chudders	1,533	2,433	2,329	3,084	4,535	4,430
Dhotis	1,042	997	945	1,799	2,095	2,103
Drills and jeans	88	128	3	147	149	3
Cambrics and lawns	6			8	7	
Printers	6,187	6,510	8,155	11,904	13,167	16,240
Shirtings and long cloth						
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	681	774	682	1,156	1,569	1,347
Tent cloth	53	46	19	132	171	46
Other sorts	212	233	271	418	481	537
Total	11,031	12,546	13,840	20,941	24,963	27,711
Coloured piece-goods	5,672	5,015	6,111	10,412	10,214	12,060
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	165	291	307	264	558	608
Hosiery	6	3	4	14	11	12
Miscellaneous	130	132	199	238	235	420
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	10	55	95	10	108	163
Grand Total	17,014	18,042	20,556	31,879	36,089	40,974

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

AHMEDABAD

Description	Month of May			Two months ended May		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000) 112	(000) 56	(000) 17	(000) 264	(000) 111	(000) 47
Khadi	280	289	241	609	557	620
Chudders	2,990	3,429	4,793	6,639	7,014	8,000
Dhotis	31	75	30	75	180	64
Drills and jeans	13	24	9	24	34	27
Cambrics and lawns	221	154	127	304	347	244
Printers	2,105	1,468	1,732	4,412	3,129	3,349
Shirtings and long cloth						
T. cloth, domestics and sheetings	161	271	210	301	555	451
Tent cloth	19	13	3	39	42	6
Other sorts	156	206	141	370	431	280
Total	6,081	6,005	7,103	13,159	12,344	13,681
Coloured piece-goods	1,277	1,297	2,028	2,585	3,182	4,215
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	1	1	2	1	2	3
Hosiery	4	12	20	15	22	37
Miscellaneous	6	3	32	12	20	101
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool			132	1		188
Grand Total	7,376	7,318	9,317	15,773	15,570	18,225

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN BOMBAY

1110

LABOUR GAZETTE

JULY, 1926

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index numbers			
			July 1914	June 1925	May 1926	June 1926	July 1914	June 1925	May 1926	June 1926
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.				
<i>Cereals—</i>										
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill	Md.	4 11 3	6 2 1	6 10 8	6 12 7	100	130	142	144
Wheat	Delhi No. 1	Cwt.	5 9 6	8 2 0	8 11 9	7 0 0	100	145	156	156
Do.	Khandwa Seoni	Candy	45 0 0	70 0 0	72 8 0	70 0 0	100	156	161	156
Do.	Jubbulpore		40 0 0	55 0 0	55 8 0	54 8 0	100	138	139	136
Jowari	Cawnpore	Maund	3 2 6	4 2 0	4 10 6 ⁽¹⁾	4 8 10 ⁽¹⁾	100	131	148	144
Barley			3 4 6	4 7 1	4 8 10	4 13 11	100	135	139	148
Bajri	Ghati		3 4 6	5 1 3	5 4 8	5 11 5	100	155	161	174
<i>Pulses—</i>										
	Index No.—Cereals						100	141	149	150
Gram	Punjab yellow (2nd sort)	Maund	4 3 9	4 3 9	4 13 11	5 1 3	100	100	115	120
Turdal	Cawnpore		5 10 5	5 13 1	7 6 6	7 9 11	100	103	131	135
	Index No.—Pulses						100	102	123	128
	Index No.—Food grains						100	133	144	145
<i>Sugar—</i>										
Sugar	Mauritius	Cwt.	9 3 0	15 4 0	16 14 0		100	166	184	179
Do.	Java, white		10 3 0	15 6 0	17 0 0	18 4 0	100	151	167	179
Raw (Gul)	Sangli or Poona	Maund	7 14 3	12 14 10	9 4 0	9 12 9	100	164	117	124
	Index No.—Sugar						100	160	156	152
<i>Other Food—</i>										
Turmeric	Rajapuri	Maund	5 9 3	11 4 8	8 9 2	7 5 7	100	202	154	132
Ghee	Desi		45 11 5	85 11 5	77 2 3	80 0 0	100	188	169	175
Salt	Bombay (black)		1 7 6	2 4 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	100	153	136	136
	Index No.—Other food						100	181	153	148
	Index No.—All Food						100	148	148	146
<i>Oilseeds—</i>										
Linseed	Bold	Cwt.	8 14 6	13 4 0	10 6 0	11 1 0	100	149	116	124
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown)		8 0 0	12 2 0	12 1 0	12 4 0	100	152	151	153
Poppy seed			10 14 0	14 12 0	14 2 0	14 4 0	100	136	130	131
Mustard seed	White		11 4 0	14 13 0	17 0 0	18 0 0	100	132	151	160
	Index No.—Oilseeds						100	142	137	142

<i>Textile Cotton</i>										
(a) Cotton, raw—										
Broach	Fully good	Candy	251 0 0	465 0 0	340 0 0	342 0 0	100	185	135	136
Do.	Do.		222 0 0	..	317 0 0	325 0 0	100	..	143	146
Oomra	Saw-ginned		230 0 0	..	281 0 0	291 0 0	100	195	151	152
Dharwar	Machine-ginned		205 0 0	..	250 0 0	257 0 0	100	195	126	140
Khandesh	Do.		198 0 0	387 0 0	..	..	100	190	138	141
Bengal			..	..	..	..	100	184	149	149
	Index No.—Cotton, raw						100	208	164	164
(b) Cotton manufactures—										
Twist	40S	Lb.	0 12 9	1 7 6	1 3 0	1 3 0	100	208	164	164
Grey shirtings	Fari 2,000	Piece	5 15 0	12 6 0	9 12 0	9 12 0	100	257	233	233
White mulls	6,000		4 3 0	10 12 0	9 12 0	20 8 0	100	222	193	198
Shirtings	Liepmann's 1,500		10 6 0	23 0 0	20 0 0	1 1 0	100	197	184	179
Long Cloth	Local made 36" x 37½ yds.	Lb.	0 9 6	1 2 9	1 1 6	1 0 0	100	187	166	169
Chudders	54" x 6 yds.		0 9 6	1 1 9	0 15 9	1 0 0	100	209	182	182
	Index No.—Cotton manufactures						100	204	162	163
	Index No.—Textile—Cotton						100	138	125	115
<i>Other Textile—</i>										
Silk	Manchow	Lb.	5 2 6	7 2 1	6 7 3	5 14 8	100	149	160	146
Do.	Mathow Lari		2 15 1	4 6 2	4 11 3	4 4 10	100	144	141	141
	Index No.—Other Textiles						100	151	155	129
<i>Hides and Skins—</i>										
Hides, Cow	Tanned	Lb.	1 2 6	1 11 0	1 12 7	1 2 11	100	94	210	81
Do. Buffalo	Do.		1 1 3	1 0 3	0 15 6	0 13 11	100	161	210	164
Do. Goat	Do.		1 4 0	2 4 2	2 11 10	2 12 3	100	142	155	164
	Index No.—Hides and Skins						100	103	98	95
<i>Metals—</i>										
Copper braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	62 8 0	59 8 0	57 8 0	100	175	175	179
Iron bars			4 0 0	7 0 0	7 0 0	7 0 0	100	155	129	129
Steel hoops			7 12 0	12 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	100	163	161	161
Galvanized sheets			9 0 0	14 10 0	14 8 0	14 8 0	100	189	154	183
Tin plates		Box	8 12 0	16 8 0	17 0 0	16 0 0	100	157	151	149
	Index No.—Metals						100	155	132	142
<i>Other raw and manufactured articles—</i>										
Coal	to Class Bheris	Ton	14 12 0	22 14 0	19 8 0	21 6 0	100	116	98	109
Do.			19 11 6	22 12 0	19 5 0	18 0 3	100	172	169	165
Kerosene		2 Tins	4 6 0	7 8 6	7 6 0	7 6 0	100	186	185	185
Do.		Case	5 2 0	9 8 6	9 8 0	9 8 0	100	157	146	147
	Index No.—Other raw and manufd. articles						100	148	148	146
	Index No.—Food						100	167	152	151
	Index No.—Non-food						100	160	151	150
	General Index No.						100	142	137	142

(1) Quotation for Shalapur quality.

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN KARACHI*

1112

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index Numbers			
			July 1914	June 1925	May 1926	June 1926	July 1914	June 1925	May 1926	June 1926
Cereals—			Rs. s. p.	Rs. s. p.	Rs. s. p.	Rs. s. p.				
Rice	Larkana No. 3	Candy	39 0 0	60 8 0	59 12 0	60 8 0	100	155	153	155
Wheat, white	5% barley, 3% dirt, 30% red.	"	31 8 0	47 0 0	45 0 0	43 4 0	100	149	143	137
" red	5% barley, 3% dirt, 92% red.	"	31 4 0	45 0 0	44 0 0	42 4 0	100	144	141	135
" white	2% barley, 1 1/2% dirt	"	32 8 0	48 6 0	46 6 0	44 8 0	100	149	143	137
" red	2% barley, 1 1/2% dirt	"	32 4 0	46 6 0	45 6 0	43 8 0	100	144	141	135
Jowari	Export quality	"	25 8 0	43 0 0	43 8 0	43 8 0	100	169	171	171
Barley	3% dirt	"	26 8 0	36 0 0	....	35 8 0	100	136	....	134
Index No.—Cereals							100	149	149	143
Pulses—										
Gram	1% dirt	Candy	29 8 0	32 8 0 (2)	....	37 4 0 (2)	100	110	....	126
Sugar—										
Sugar	Java white	Cwt.	9 2 0	15 14 0	16 8 0	17 4 0	100	174	181	169
Other food—										
Salt		Bengal Maund	2 2 0	1 10 6	1 10 6	1 10 6	100	78	78	78
Oilseeds—										
Cotton seed		Maund	2 11 3	3 10 0	3 10 0	3 12 0	100	134	134	139
Rape seed, bold	3% admixture	Candy	51 0 0	74 0 0	....	....	100	146	....	....
Gingelly	Black 9% admixture	"	62 0 0	86 8 0	....	....	100	140	....	....
Index No.—Oilseeds							100	140	134	139
Textiles—										
Jute bags	B. Twills	100 bags	38 4 0	60 4 0	56 0 0	53 0 0	100	258	146	139

LABOUR GAZETTE
JULY, 1926

Textiles—Cotton										
(a) Cotton, raw	Sind	Maund	20 4 0	40 0 0	27 9 0	28 0 0	100	198	136	138
(b) Cotton manufactures										
Drills	Pepperill	Piece.	10 3 6	20 8 0	19 12 0	19 8 0	100	201	193	191
Shirtings	Liepmann's	"	10 2 0	23 0 0	21 0 0	20 0 0	100	227	207	198
Index No.—Cotton manufactures							100	214	200	195
Index No.—Textiles—Cotton							100	209	179	176
Other Textiles—Wool										
	Kandahar	Maund.	28 0 0	39 0 0	33 0 0	31 0 0	100	139	118	111
Hides—										
Hides, dry	Sind	Maund.	21 4 0	12 4 0	13 4 0	12 0 0	100	58	62	56
"	Punjab	"	21 4 0	12 4 0	13 4 0	12 0 0	100	58	62	56
Index No.—Hides							100	58	62	56
Metals—										
Copper Braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	65 0 0	60 8 0	58 8 0	100	107	100	97
Steel Bars		"	3 14 0	6 8 0	6 6 0	5 8 0	100	168	151	142
" Plates		"	4 6 0	7 4 0	5 14 0	5 12 0	100	166	154	144
Index No.—Metals							100	147	133	131
Other raw and manufactured articles—										
Coal	1st class Bengal	Ton.	16 0 0	23 6 0	21 2 0	21 2 0	100	144	132	130
Kerosene	Chester Brand	Case.	5 2 0	9 6 6	9 6 0	9 6 0	100	184	185	183
"	Elephant	2 Tins.	4 7 0	7 6 6	7 4 0	7 4 0	100	167	163	161
Index No.—Other raw and manufactured articles							100	163	150	150
Index No.—Food							100	161	144	140
Index No.—Non-food							100	150	138	134
General Index No.							100	146	140	136

JULY, 1926
LABOUR GAZETTE
1113

* Sugar (brown) and Yarns (40 Grey, Plough) have been omitted from the index for want of available price quotations. (1) Quotations for Larkana, white...

WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No., food	Oil-seeds	Raw cotton	Cotton manufactures	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw and manufactured articles	Index No., non-food	General Index No.
1923														
June ..	128	91	234	302	179	114	211	212	195	144	186	166	180	180
1924														
June ..	131	92	213	293	175	137	259	236	201	149	170	158	190	185
July ..	143	98	211	260	174	150	265	232	187	150	166	166	189	184
August ..	146	97	198	262	173	146	260	235	203	150	170	161	190	184
September ..	142	95	197	250	168	148	260	232	181	145	169	167	188	181
October ..	141	95	196	263	170	154	260	223	178	156	167	160	186	181
November ..	138	95	187	283	171	147	234	221	160	157	167	160	179	176
December ..	139	95	167	256	162	143	209	219	168	210	165	168	184	176
1925														
January ..	153	102	174	267	173	143	210	216	168	118	165	159	172	173
February ..	165	106	174	231	172	142	209	213	166	148	165	159	174	173
March ..	154	99	175	219	164	136	209	212	160	145	162	166	174	171
April ..	149	104	177	176	155	144	187	215	158	145	160	166	169	165
May ..	149	104	179	193	157	137	199	211	158	145	162	166	174	171
June ..	141	102	160	181	148	140	182	209	144	142	157	157	167	160
July ..	141	102	159	184	149	142	190	208	144	139	153	155	163	158
August ..	146	100	158	183	149	140	184	206	155	141	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	155	133	169	195	152	155	155	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	144	129	150	186	147	153	151	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	185	143	143	151	153	151	151
May ..	149	123	156	153	148	137	138	182	143	155	151	155	152	151
June ..	150	128	152	148	145	142	141	182	131	144	149	147	151	150

(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	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, heat, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, fuel, light, and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent, and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent, and miscellaneous	Food, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating and lighting, rent and miscellaneous
1914 July ..	100	100	100	(a) 100 (f)	(b) 100	(c) 100	(d) 100	(e) 100	(f) 100	103	(g) 100	(h) 100
1915 ..	104	125	97	119	(i) 108	99	117	116	146	140	106	118
1916 ..	108	148	102	115	117	116	116	146	140	114	106	118
1917 ..	118	180	130	116	128	146	197	190	180	118	106	124
1918 ..	149	203	146	118	144	197	183	253	229	118	106	199
1919 ..	186	208	155	132	157	205	183	275	261	126	106	200
1920 ..	190	252	190	154	182	313	453	302	253	155	106	341
1921 ..	177	219	152	152	178	387	379	302	200	133	106	307
1922 ..	165	184	147	140	159	429	366	255	158	(j) 135	106	302
1923 ..	153	169	146	151	158	(k) 487	429	239	166	130	106	314
1924 ..	137	170	144	(a)149	(l) 160	512	493	(d) 251	169	132	106	366
.. November ..	161	180	147	147	156	562	520	170	134	134	106	377
.. December ..	160	181	147	148	156	573	521	170	133	133	106	377
1925												
January ..	157	180	149	149	155	580	521	170	133	133	106	377
February ..	157	179	150	149	155	592	517	170	133	133	106	377
March ..	159	179	148	150	155	602	511	170	133	133	106	377
April ..	158	175	147	150	155	600	506	168	134	134	106	377
May ..	156	173	146	150	155	591	502	167	134	134	106	377
June ..	154	172	146	153	155	596	505	169	134	134	106	377
July ..	157	173	146	153	155	598	509	169	133	133	106	377
August ..	152	173	149	155	155	610	517	167	132	132	106	377
September ..	151	174	149	155	155	624	515	167	132	132	106	377
October ..	153	176	149	155	155	643	533	165	132	132	106	377
November ..	153	176	152	155	155	643	534	165	131	131	106	377
December ..	155	177	154	156	155	644	534	234	165	131	106	377
1926												
January ..	155	175	155	155	155	665	517	167	131	131	106	377
February ..	154	173	154	155	155	661	516	165	131	131	106	377
March ..	155	172	154	155	155	654	521	225	165	131	106	377
April ..	153	168	153	155	155	642	529	165	131	131	106	377
May ..	153	167	153	155	155	642	529	165	131	131	106	377
June ..	155	168	153	155	155	642	529	165	131	131	106	377
July ..	157	168	153	155	155	642	529	165	131	131	106	377

(a) From 1914 to 1924 figures relate to second quarter. (b) First half of 1914. (c) April 1914. (d) From 1915 to 1924 June figures are given. (e) June 1914 = 100. (f) Average for 1914 - (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 relate to August (m) figures from 1915 to 1924 refer to December. (n) First half of the year. (o) June figures.

RETAIL PRICES OF ARTICLES OF FOOD IN MAY AND JUNE 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	Poona	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
		May 1926	May 1926	May 1926	May 1926	May 1926	June 1926	June 1926	June 1926	June 1926	June 1926
<i>Cereals—</i>											
Rice	Maund	7 7 6 <i>134</i>	8 0 0 <i>120</i>	8 14 3 <i>144</i>	7 5 2 <i>139</i>	7 15 1 <i>138</i>	7 8 9 <i>135</i>	8 3 3 <i>123</i>	8 14 3 <i>144</i>	7 10 6 <i>140</i>	7 11 1 <i>133</i>
Wheat	"	7 6 6 <i>132</i>	6 7 5 <i>154</i>	8 0 0 <i>170</i>	6 6 5 <i>124</i>	8 0 0 <i>149</i>	7 4 1 <i>130</i>	6 4 9 <i>150</i>	7 9 11 <i>162</i>	6 2 8 <i>119</i>	8 0 0 <i>149</i>
Jowari	"	5 8 0 <i>126</i>	4 11 4 <i>130</i>	5 5 4 <i>140</i>	3 7 1 <i>120</i>	4 13 10 <i>142</i>	5 6 8 <i>130</i>	4 11 4 <i>130</i>	5 5 4 <i>140</i>	3 7 1 <i>120</i>	4 8 7 <i>132</i>
Eajri	"	5 14 10 <i>137</i>	6 3 10 <i>148</i>	6 10 8 <i>142</i>	4 5 2 <i>123</i>	5 6 2 <i>131</i>	6 2 9 <i>143</i>	6 3 10 <i>148</i>	6 10 8 <i>142</i>	4 8 10 <i>129</i>	5 2 10 <i>126</i>
<i>Index No.—Cereals</i>		<i>132</i>	<i>138</i>	<i>149</i>	<i>127</i>	<i>140</i>	<i>133</i>	<i>138</i>	<i>147</i>	<i>128</i>	<i>135</i>
<i>Pulses—</i>											
Gram	Maund	6 1 4 <i>141</i>	5 5 4 <i>140</i>	6 2 6 <i>154</i>	4 15 0 <i>115</i>	5 3 6 <i>107</i>	6 1 4 <i>141</i>	5 6 1 <i>141</i>	5 14 10 <i>148</i>	4 13 5 <i>113</i>	5 3 6 <i>107</i>
Tur'ul	"	7 8 6 <i>129</i>	8 0 0 <i>120</i>	10 0 0 <i>162</i>	6 4 2 <i>107</i>	7 14 5 <i>120</i>	7 11 1 <i>132</i>	8 0 0 <i>120</i>	10 0 0 <i>162</i>	6 6 0 <i>109</i>	7 14 5 <i>120</i>
<i>Index No.—Pulses</i>		<i>135</i>	<i>130</i>	<i>158</i>	<i>111</i>	<i>114</i>	<i>137</i>	<i>131</i>	<i>155</i>	<i>111</i>	<i>114</i>

<i>Other articles of food—</i>											
Sugar (refined)	Maund	13 11 1 <i>180</i>	11 12 11 <i>162</i>	12 12 10 <i>160</i>	12 12 10 <i>128</i>	12 15 3 <i>138</i>	13 11 1 <i>180</i>	12 6 5 <i>171</i>	13 1 0 <i>163</i>	13 5 4 <i>133</i>	11 11 9 <i>138</i>
Jagri (gul)	"	13 11 1 <i>160</i>	11 6 10 <i>164</i>	13 5 4 <i>150</i>	11 0 7 <i>142</i>	9 9 9 <i>137</i>	13 11 1 <i>160</i>	11 9 6 <i>167</i>	13 5 4 <i>150</i>	10 0 0 <i>129</i>	9 14 6 <i>141</i>
Tea	Lb.	0 15 4 <i>197</i>	0 15 7 <i>225</i>	0 15 7 <i>200</i>	1 1 10 <i>171</i>	1 2 11 <i>230</i>	0 15 3 <i>196</i>	0 15 7 <i>200</i>	0 15 7 <i>200</i>	1 1 10 <i>171</i>	1 2 11 <i>230</i>
Salt	Maund	3 2 0 <i>147</i>	2 0 0 <i>152</i>	2 4 7 <i>151</i>	3 9 5 <i>161</i>	2 13 5 <i>181</i>	3 2 0 <i>147</i>	2 0 0 <i>152</i>	2 4 7 <i>151</i>	3 9 5 <i>161</i>	2 13 5 <i>181</i>
Beef	Seer	0 7 10 <i>152</i>	0 9 0 <i>180</i>	0 5 6 <i>92</i>	0 5 0 <i>201</i>	0 8 0 <i>141</i>	0 8 2 <i>158</i>	0 9 0 <i>180</i>	0 6 6 <i>108</i>	0 5 0 <i>201</i>	0 6 0 <i>141</i>
Mutton	"	0 12 8 <i>190</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 12 4 <i>185</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>	7 9 11 <i>172</i>	11 0 7 <i>221</i>	13 5 4 <i>183</i>	13 5 4 <i>133</i>	17 9 4 <i>181</i>	7 9 11 <i>172</i>	12 4 11 <i>246</i>	13 5 4 <i>183</i>	13 5 4 <i>133</i>
Ghee	"	95 13 3 <i>189</i>	77 9 4 <i>163</i>	71 1 9 <i>160</i>	71 1 9 <i>127</i>	74 6 8 <i>144</i>	94 10 3 <i>186</i>	77 9 4 <i>182</i>	71 1 9 <i>160</i>	71 1 9 <i>127</i>	74 6 8 <i>144</i>
Potatoes	"	7 2 3 <i>159</i>	4 13 7 <i>89</i>	7 9 11 <i>200</i>	5 0 0 <i>125</i>	6 0 3 <i>179</i>	8 14 10 <i>199</i>	6 0 7 <i>122</i>	10 0 0 <i>263</i>	8 6 9 <i>211</i>	7 2 3 <i>159</i>
Onions	"	4 2 9 <i>269</i>	3 6 6 <i>187</i>	5 10 2 <i>182</i>	5 5 4 <i>133</i>	2 12 11 <i>140</i>	4 7 8 <i>166</i>	3 0 4 <i>125</i>	3 5 4 <i>130</i>	3 5 4 <i>130</i>	2 12 11 <i>140</i>
Cocoonut oil	"	28 9 2 <i>113</i>	26 10 8 <i>108</i>	35 8 11 <i>178</i>	52 0 0 <i>120</i>	28 1 1 <i>100</i>	28 8 2 <i>113</i>	26 10 8 <i>108</i>	35 8 11 <i>168</i>	52 0 0 <i>120</i>	28 1 1 <i>100</i>
<i>Index No.—Other articles of food</i>		<i>177</i>	<i>163</i>	<i>169</i>	<i>151</i>	<i>151</i>	<i>180</i>	<i>165</i>	<i>173</i>	<i>158</i>	<i>155</i>
<i>Index No.—Articles (unspecified)</i>		<i>162</i>	<i>153</i>	<i>163</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>164</i>	<i>154</i>	<i>165</i>	<i>145</i>	<i>146</i>