

LABOUR GAZETTE

The Labour Gazette is a Journal for the purpose of disseminating information on matters specially relating to labour, obtaining prompt and accurate information on matters specially relating to labour.

VOL. VII

BOMBAY, SEPTEMBER, 1926

(No. 1)

The Month in Brief

THE PROMPT PAYMENT OF WAGES

In the year 1924 the Government of India requested the local Governments to furnish particulars regarding the period for which wages were paid in organized industries and the delays which were associated with their payment. The information received revealed, in the opinion of the Government of India, a state of affairs which could not be regarded as satisfactory. The Government of India therefore now propose to set statutory limits within which wages must be paid. A copy of the letter which has been issued to all Local Governments and circulated by the Labour Office will be found on page 25.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE TEXTILE AND ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES

In the textile industry as a whole the supply of labour was equal to the demand during the month of August 1926. The average absenteeism was 11·06 per cent. for Bombay City, 2·87 per cent. for Ahmedabad, 1·09 per cent. for Viramgaum, 11·89 per cent. for Sholapur and 9·22 per cent. for Broach.

In the Engineering industry in Bombay City the supply of both skilled and unskilled labour was adequate. Absenteeism was 11·91 per cent. in the Engineering workshops, 5 per cent. in the Marine Lines Reclamation of the Development Directorate, 13·13 per cent. in the Bombay Port Trust Docks and 8·9 per cent. in the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust.

In the Engineering Workshops of the Karachi Port Trust the percentage absenteeism was 7·3.

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX

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

INDEX NUMBER OF WHOLESALE PRICES

The Index Number of Wholesale Prices in Bombay was 148 for the month of August 1926.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

There were seven industrial disputes in progress during August 1926. The number of workpeople involved was 6900 and the number of working days lost 22,457.

BALANCE OF TRADE

During August 1926, the visible balance of trade, including securities, in favour of India amounted to Rs. 428 lakhs.

The Cost of Living Index for September 1926

INDEX REMAINS STATIONARY

Increase per cent. over July 1914 { All articles .. 55 per cent.
 { Food only .. 52 per cent.

In September 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 the same as in the previous month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914, the general index number was 155 both in August and September 1926. The general index was 38 points below the high-water mark (193) reached in October 1920 and on a par with the twelve-monthly average of 1925.

The index number for the food group recorded a fall of one point during the month. Wheat fell by 3 points, bajri registered a rise of 9 points, whilst rice and jowari remained the same. The price of gram and tur dal advanced by 6 and 2 points respectively. Under other food articles sugar (refined) rose by 7 points but the price of gul showed no change. There was a fall of one point in tea, of 7 points in ghee and of 14 points in potatoes, but onions went up by 38 points. The "other food" index was 179 as against 181 in August 1926.

There was a slight increase in the price of kerosene oil but the "fuel and lighting" index was steady at 164. The clothing group remained stationary, thus maintaining the lowest level (160) in 1926.

All items: Average percentage increase over July 1914

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

WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX—SEPTEMBER

Articles	Unit of quantity	Annual consumption (Mean Unit) (in ounces)	Price per Unit of Quantity			Price x Mean Unit		
			July 1914	Aug 1926	Sept 1926	July 1914	Aug 1926	Sept 1926
Cereals—								
Rice ..	Mauud	70	Rs. 5.594	7.547	7.547	391.58	528.29	528.29
Wheat ..	"	21	5.594	7.399	7.438	117.47	159.38	154.20
Jowari ..	"	11	4.354	5.698	5.698	47.89	62.68	62.68
Bajri ..	"	6	4.313	6.172	6.568	25.88	37.93	39.41
Total—Cereals						582.82	787.58	786.58
Index Numbers—Cereals ..						100	133	133
Pulses—								
Gram ..	Mauud	10	4.302	6.162	6.417	43.02	61.62	64.17
Turdal ..	"	3	5.844	7.844	7.922	17.53	23.53	23.77
Total—Pulses						60.55	85.15	87.94
Index Numbers—Pulses ..						100	141	145
Other food articles—								
Sugar (refined) ..	Mauud	2	7.620	13.693	14.287	15.24	27.39	28.57
Kan Sugar (Gul) ..	"	7	8.557	14.797	14.287	59.90	100.01	100.01
Tea ..	"	4	40.000	77.776	77.375	160.00	311.10	309.50
Salt ..	"	5	2.130	3.313	3.313	10.65	16.57	16.57
Mustard ..	Seer	28	0.323	0.547	0.547	9.12	15.32	15.32
Milk ..	Mauud	33	0.417	0.662	0.662	13.76	22.51	22.51
Ghee ..	"	14	9.198	17.583	17.583	128.77	246.16	246.16
Potatoes ..	"	11	8.780	97.620	94.057	96.58	146.45	141.88
Onions ..	"	11	4.45	7.240	7.141	48.95	83.14	78.55
Coconut Oil ..	"	3	3.703	4.760	5.359	11.11	14.28	16.08
Total—Other food articles						381.18	690.64	681.08
Index Numbers—Other food articles ..						100	181	179
Total—All food articles						1,024.55	1,562.77	1,555.60
Index Numbers—All food articles ..						100	153	152
Fuel and lighting—								
Kerosene ..	Case	5	4.375	7.375	7.488	21.88	36.88	37.03
Gas ..	Mauud	48	0.792	1.281	1.281	38.02	61.49	61.49
Gul ..	"	1	0.542	0.771	0.771	0.54	0.77	0.77
Total—Fuel and lighting						60.44	99.14	99.29
Index Numbers—Fuel and lighting ..						100	164	164
Clothing—								
Chaddars ..	Lb	27	0.594	0.989	0.969	16.04	26.78	26.16
Shirts ..	"	25	0.641	1.152	1.052	16.03	28.25	26.30
T. Cloth ..	"	36	0.563	0.989	0.908	20.99	32.43	32.62
Total—Clothing						53.06	85.46	85.08
Index Numbers—Clothing ..						100	160	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	1,941.39	1,834.37
Cost of Living Index Numbers ..						100	155	155

The following table shows the price levels of articles of food in August and September 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.—

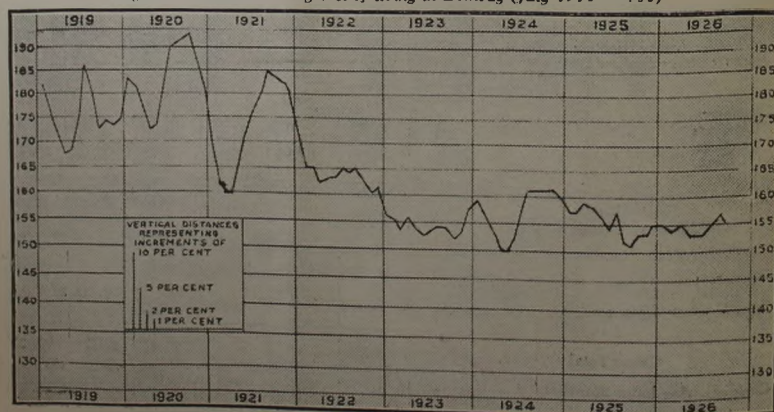
Articles	July 1914	Aug 1926	Sept 1926	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in Sept 1926 over or below Aug 1926	Articles	July 1914	Aug 1926	Sept 1926	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in Sept 1926 over or below Aug 1926
Rice ..	100	135	135	..	Salt ..	100	156	156	..
Wheat ..	100	136	133	- 3	Beef ..	100	169	169	..
Jowari ..	100	131	131	..	Mutton ..	100	164	164	..
Bajri ..	100	143	152	+ 9	Milk ..	100	191	191	..
Gram ..	100	143	149	+ 6	Ghee ..	100	192	185	- 7
Turdal ..	100	134	136	+ 2	Potatoes ..	100	173	159	-14
Sugar (refined).	100	180	187	+ 7	Onions ..	100	307	345	+38
Raw sugar (gul).	100	167	167	..	Cocoanut oil ..	100	113	113	..
Tea ..	100	194	193	- 1	All food articles (weighted average) ..	100	153	152	- 1

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

Rice 26, Wheat 25, Jowari 24, Bajri 34, Gram 33, Turdal 26, Sugar (refined) 47, Raw Sugar (gul) 40, Tea 48, Salt 36, Beef 41, Mutton 39, Milk 48, Ghee 46, Potatoes 37, Onions 71, Cocoanut Oil 12.

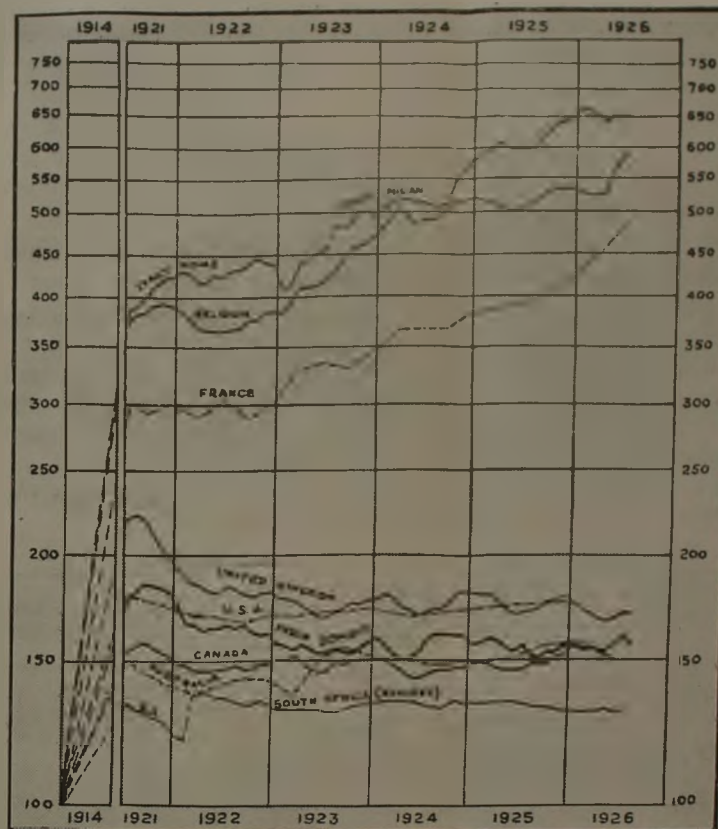
The purchasing power of the rupee being taken as 16 annas in July 1914 its purchasing power in the month under review was 10 annas 4 pies for all items and 10 annas 6 pies for food articles only.

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



Comparison with the Cost of Living in other Countries

The diagram on this page shows the comparative levels of the cost of living Index 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 curves allowance has to be made for depreciation of currency.



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

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

Wholesale and Retail Prices

1. WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY

A fall of one point

In August 1926, the index number of wholesale prices in Bombay was 148 as against 149 in the previous month. There was a rise of 2 points in the food group but the non-food group declined by 3 points as compared with July 1926. The general index number was 115 points below the highest peak (263) reached in August 1918 and 15 points below the twelve-monthly average of 1925.

The index number for food-grains advanced by 4 points due to a rise of 2 points in cereals and of 5 points in pulses. Rice, wheat and jowari rose by 1, 4 and 10 points respectively, barley recorded a fall of 6 points whilst bajri remained stationary. Gram was dearer by 10 points.

There was a rise of 2 points in "Sugar" owing to a rise of 5 points in refined sugar (Java White). The price of gul showed no change.

A fall of 7 points in turmeric resulted in lowering the "Other-food" index by 2 points. Ghee and salt were steady during the month.

Under the non-food group, Oilseeds, Cotton Manufactures, Hides and skins and Metals registered decreases of 6, 2, 19, and 3 points respectively. Raw cotton went up by 5 points whilst Other textiles and Other raw and manufactured articles remained practically unchanged.

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

Groups	No. of items	+ or - % compared with July 1926	+ or - % compared with Aug 1925	Groups	Aug 1925	Nov 1925	Feb 1926	May 1926	July 1926	Aug 1926
1. Cereals ..	7	+ 1	+ 1	1. Cereals ..	98	103	96	100	98	99
2. Pulses ..	2	+ 4	+33	2. Pulses ..	93	120	109	115	120	124
3. Sugar ..	3	+ 1	- 8	3. Sugar ..	96	98	90	95	87	88
4. Other food ..	3	- 1	-20	4. Other food ..	94	90	81	79	76	75
All food ..	15	+ 1	- 3	All food ..	96	100	92	95	92	94
5. Oilseeds ..	4	- 4	- 4	5. Oilseeds ..	101	96	93	99	101	97
6. Raw cotton ..	5	+ 3	-19	6. Raw cotton ..	97	89	79	73	76	79
7. Cotton manufactures ..	6	- 1	-14	7. Cotton manufactures ..	100	94	90	88	87	86
8. Other textiles ..	2	..	-16	8. Other textiles ..	101	99	95	93	84	84
9. Hides and skins ..	3	-13	-20	9. Hides & skins ..	110	106	105	106	101	88
10. Metals ..	5	- 2	- 4	10. Metals ..	97	97	97	96	96	94
11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	4	..	- 7	11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	101	101	97	92	94	94
All non-food ..	29	- 2	-11	All non-food ..	100	97	93	91	91	89
General Index No...	44	- 1	- 8	General Index No.	98	98	93	93	91	91

* Wholesale prices in Karachi will be found on page 104.

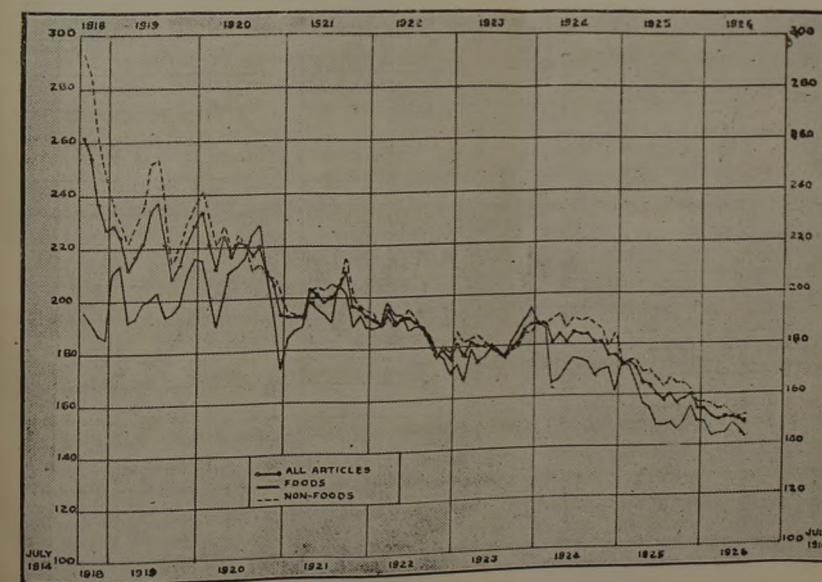
The following table is intended to show the annual movements in food, non-food and general wholesale prices:—

July 1914 = 100

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

Wholesale Price Index Numbers, Bombay

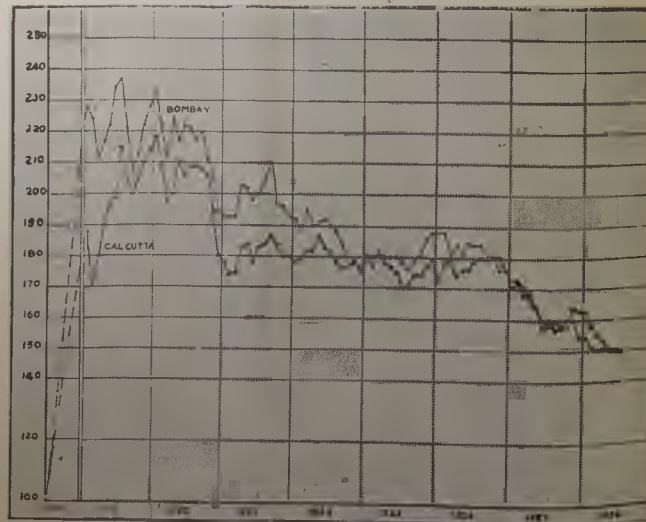


COMPARISON BETWEEN THE INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE
PRICES IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA

The diagram on this page shows the comparative movements of the index numbers of wholesale prices in Bombay and Calcutta. The index numbers for Calcutta are prepared by the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence under the Government of India.

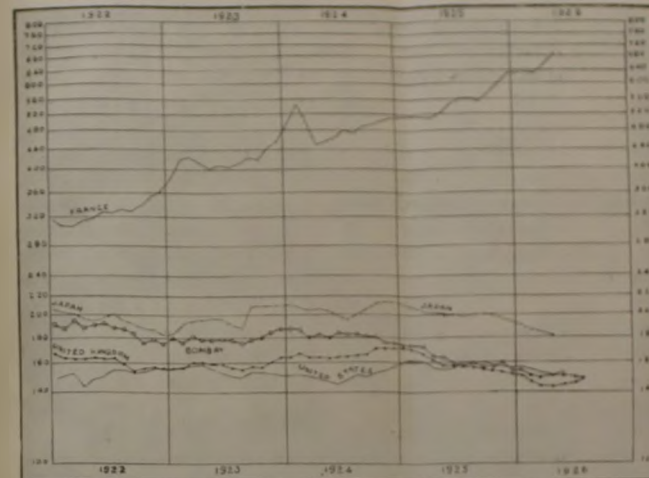
The items included in the indices are 44 for Bombay and 71 for Calcutta. The groups included in the Calcutta index but excluded from that for Bombay are tea (3 items), oil (2 items), jute-raw (3 items), jute manufactures (4 items) and building materials (1 item). There are no groups included in the Bombay 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	Increase % of Increase 1914 to Aug. 1926 over the level				
				July 1914	July 1926	Aug. 1926	July 1914	July 1926
				As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill	Paylee	212	5 10	8 0	8 0	+ 2 2	....
Wheat	.. Pisai Seoni	.. ..	204	5 10	7 6	7 9	+ 1 11	+ 0 3
Jowari	.. Best Sholapuri	.. ..	196	4 3	5 6	5 7	+ 1 4	+ 0 1
Bajri	.. Chati	.. ..	208	4 7	6 9	6 5	+ 1 10	- 0 4
Gram	.. Dalhi	.. ..	192	4 4	6 2	5 11	+ 1 7	- 0 3
Turdal	.. Cawnpore	.. ..	204	5 11	8 0	8 0	+ 2 1	....
Sugar (refined)	.. Java, white	.. Seer	28	1 1	2 0	1 11	+ 0 10	- 0 1
Raw Sugar (Gul)	.. Sangli, middle quality	.. ..	28	1 2	2 0	2 0	+ 0 10	....
Tea	.. Loose Ceylon, powder	Lb.	39	7 10	15 5	15 2	+ 7 4	- 0 3
Salt	.. Bombay, black	.. Paylee	176	1 9	2 10	2 11	+ 1 2	+ 0 1
Beef	.. ..	Lb.	39	2 6	4 3	4 3	+ 1 9	....
Mutton	.. ..	..	39	3 0	5 6	5 4	+ 2 4	- 0 2
Milk	.. Medium	.. Seer	56	2 9	4 11	4 11	+ 2 2	....
Ghee	.. Belgaum, Superior	.. ..	28	7 1	13 6	13 8	+ 6 7	+ 0 2
Potatoes	.. Ordinary	.. ..	28	0 8	1 5	1 1	+ 0 5	- 0 4
Onions	.. Nasai	.. ..	28	0 3	0 7	0 8	+ 0 5	+ 0 1
Cocoanut 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. Saitan Chowki—Kumbharwada Road (South End). | 9. Superibag—Superibag Road. |
| 4. Elphinstone Road. | 10. Chinchpokli—Parel Road. |
| 5. Naigam—Naigam Cross Road and Development Chawls. | 11. Grant Road. |
| 6. Parel—Poibawdi. | 12. Nal Bazaar—Sandhurst Road. |

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

The variations in prices during August 1926 as compared with the previous month were within narrow limits. From amongst the six articles included under "Food-grains" the price of jowari and wheat rose by one and 3 pies respectively but that of bajri recorded a fall of 4 pies per paylee. Gram declined by 3 pies per paylee whilst rice and turdal showed no change. In the case of other food articles there was a decrease of 3 pies in tea and of 2 pies in mutton per lb. Sugar (refined) declined by one pie per seer but salt advanced by one pie per paylee. Onions and ghee were dearer by one and 2 pies respectively but potatoes fell by 4 pies per seer.

As compared with July 1914, all articles showed considerable increases. Onions are more than double their prewar level. Sugar (refined), milk, tea, ghee and mutton have risen by more than 75 per cent. and gul, salt, beef, and potatoes by more than 60 per cent. while the rise in the prices of foodgrains is between 30 and 40 per cent. The price of cocoanut oil is only 12 per cent. above its prewar level.

COMPARATIVE RETAIL PRICES

The following table compares the retail food prices in Karachi, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Poona with those in Bombay in July and August 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 July and August 1926.—

Bombay prices in July 1926 = 100 Bombay prices in August 1926 = 100

Articles	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona	Articles				
						July 1926	Aug. 1926	July 1926	Aug. 1926	July 1926
Cereals—						Cereals—				
Rice	100	118	118	109	102	Rice	100	118	118	106
Wheat	100	84	99	93	109	Wheat	100	81	96	89
Jowari	100	84	95	63	90	Jowari	100	81	94	60
Bajri	100	105	103	77	90	Bajri	100	108	108	78
Average—						Average—				
Cereals	100	98	104	86	98	Cereals	100	98	104	83
Pulses—						Pulses—				
Gram	100	88	89	83	85	Gram	100	89	93	87
Turdal	100	102	127	94	110	Turdal	100	102	127	97
Average—						Average—				
Pulses	100	95	108	89	93	Pulses	100	96	110	92
Other articles						Other articles				
of food—						of food—				
Sugar (re-	100	88	102	102	107	Sugar (re-	100	85	97	102
fined)	100	83	93	70	71	fined)	100	81	93	70
Jagri (Gul)	100	101	101	116	123	Jagri (Gul)	100	103	103	118
Tea	100	62	71	111	88	Tea	100	60	69	108
Salt	100	103	63	57	69	Salt	100	109	62	57
Beef	100	89	89	89	98	Beef	100	99	92	92
Mutton	100	43	70	76	76	Mutton	100	43	63	76
Milk	100	80	74	74	81	Milk	100	79	73	73
Ghee	100	79	99	99	69	Ghee	100	129	115	207
Potatoes	100	60	60	87	73	Potatoes	100	57	65	70
Onions	100	93	112	112	98	Onions	100	93	112	112
Cocoanut oil.	100	80	85	90	87	Cocoanut oil.	100	85	86	99
Average—						Average—				
Other articles	100	80	85	90	87	Other articles	100	85	86	99
of food	100	86	92	89	91	Average—				
Average—						All food				
All food	100	86	92	89	91	articles	100	89	93	94
articles	100	86	92	89	91	articles	100	89	93	94

Actual retail prices at these centres will be found among the miscellaneous tables at the end of the Gazette. The differences of the relative prices at the different centres are considerable. As compared with the previous month, the relative average for all food articles recorded increases at all the four mofussil centres, there being a rise of 3 points at Karachi, of one point at Ahmedabad and of 5 points each at Poona and Sholapur. Referring back to August 1925, it is found that in relation to Bombay, the average for all food articles fell by 2 points each at Karachi and Ahmedabad but advanced by one point at Sholapur and 4 points at Poona.

Of individual articles the relative price of rice and turdal was steady at Karachi and Ahmedabad but increased at Poona. The relative prices of wheat and salt were lower and of tea, mutton, potatoes, bajri and gram higher at all the four mofussil centres. Jowari and ghee registered a slight decrease except at Poona. Jagri (gul) fell at Karachi and milk at Ahmedabad while both were stationary at the remaining centres. Sugar (refined) declined except at Sholapur and Poona. Onions showed a rise at Ahmedabad. The relative prices of cocoanut oil remained the same.

PROGRESS OF THE MONSOON, 1926

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

RAINFALL DIVISION	JUNE			JULY			AUGUST			SEPTEMBER			OCTOBER		
	1st	8th	15th	1st	8th	15th	1st	8th	15th	1st	8th	15th	1st	8th	15th
I. BOMBAY PRESIDENCY															
1 Sind (Kutch)	F	S	S	F	S	F	F	F	N	N	E	E	E	E	E
1 Sind (Rainfall)	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
2 Gujarat	S	S	S	F	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
3 Deccan	S	F	S	F	E	E	S	N	N	E	E	S	E	E	E
4 Konkan	S	S	N	N	N	E	F	S	N	E	F	F	E	S	N
II. MADRAS PRESIDENCY															
1 Malabar	S	F	E	F	E	E	N	S	E	E	F	F	F	F	E
2 Deccan	S	N	S	S	E	E	F	F	E	F	F	N	F	N	E
3 Coast North	S	S	S	F	F	F	F	F	E	F	F	N	F	N	E
4 South East	F	S	S	E	F	F	F	F	F	S	S	N	N	E	N
III. MYSORE	F	F	S	F	E	N	S	E	E	E	S	S	S	E	E
IV. HYDERABAD															
1 North	S	S	F	S	E	E	E	N	N	E	E	E	S	E	S
2 South	S	S	S	F	F	N	E	F	F	E	E	F	S	F	E
V. CENTRAL PROVINCES															
1 Berar	S	S	S	S	N	E	N	F	E	E	E	F	N	S	F
2 West	S	S	S	S	S	E	E	S	N	S	E	E	E	N	F
3 East	S	N	S	S	F	N	E	F	S	F	E	E	E	N	E
VI. CENTRAL INDIA															
1 West	S	S	S	S	S	E	E	S	N	S	E	S	E	E	F
2 East	S	N	S	S	S	F	N	S	E	S	N	N	N	E	N
VII. BENGAL PRESIDENCY	N	F	F	F	F	N	F	E	N	E	F	F	E	E	S
VIII. ASSAM	F	F	E	N	E	E	E	N	E	N	F	F	N	F	S
IX. BIHAR & ORISSA															
1 Bihar	F	S	S	F	S	N	F	E	N	E	S	N	F	E	E
2 Orissa	F	F	S	F	S	E	E	N	E	N	E	N	E	E	F
3 Chota Nagpur	S	S	S	F	S	E	N	F	E	E	N	E	N	E	N
X. UNITED PROVINCES															
1 East	S	S	S	F	S	F	F	E	E	E	N	F	F	N	F
2 West	S	S	S	N	S	S	E	N	E	E	F	F	N	N	N
XI. PUNJAB															
1 East & North	S	S	S	F	S	S	E	N	F	E	E	E	E	E	E
2 South West	N	N	S	E	F	S	E	E	S	S	F	E	S	E	S
XII. NORTHWEST FRONTIER	S	S	E	S	S	E	S	S	S	N	N	E	S	E	E
XIII. RAJPUTANA															
1 West	S	N	S	S	S	F	E	E	S	E	N	F	E	E	E
2 East	F	S	S	S	S	F	E	F	F	F	E	E	E	E	F
XIV. BURMA															
1 Lower	N	N	E	E	N	E	N	N	N	N	E	N	N	F	F
2 Upper	N	F	N	N	N	F	S	E	E	F	N	F	F	E	F

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 Hill Stations.

The readings of levels of the Indus in Sind are communicated by the Indus River Commission, and the normal and deviations from the normal are calculated according to values for any given week ascertained from the P. W. D.

Labour Intelligence—Indian and Foreign Industrial Disputes in the Presidency

Disputes in August ... 7 Workpeople involved ... 6900

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

I.—Industrial Disputes Classified by Trades

Trade	Number of disputes in progress in August 1926			Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in August 1926	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in August 1926*
	Started before 1st August	Started in August	Total		
Textile	6	6	1,400	2,807
Transport
Engineering
Metal
Miscellaneous	1	1	5,500	19,650
Total	7	7	6,900	22,457

During the month under review the number of disputes was seven, five of which occurred in cotton mills. The number of workpeople involved in all these seven disputes was 6900 and the number of working days lost (i.e., the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days, less workers replaced) was 22,457.

* 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 April to August 1926

	April 1926	May 1926	June 1926	July 1926	August 1926
Number of strikes and lock-outs	3	4	9	4	7
Disputes in progress at beginning	...	...	2*	2	...
Fresh disputes begun	3	4	7	2	7
Disputes ended	3	4	7	4	7
Disputes in progress at end	...	...	2	...	...
Number of workpeople involved	5,075	3,149	1,281	384	6,900
Aggregate duration in working days	13,088	7,733	1,752	661	22,457
Demands—					
Pay	2	2	3	2	4
Bonus	...	...	...	...	...
Personal	...	1	4	1	2
Leave and hours	...	...	...	...	...
Others	1	1	2	1	1
Results—					
In favour of employees	...	...	...	...	1
Compromised	1	...	...	...	...
In favour of employers	2	4	7	4	6

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

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

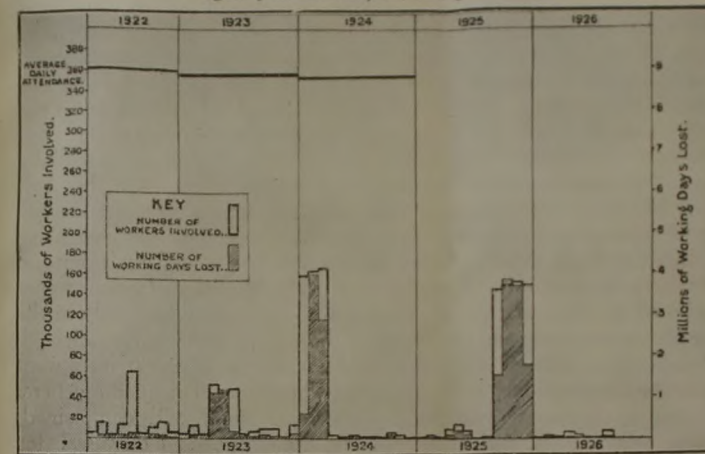
Month	Number of strikes and lock-outs in progress	Aggregate duration of working days lost	Disputes settled		
			In favour of employers (Per cent.)	In favour of employees (Per cent.)	Compromised (Per cent.)
September 1925	7	1,551,927	83	17	..
October "	5	3,904,182	100	..	..
November "	6	3,699,628	100	..	..
December "	6	1,799,343	60	20	20
January 1926	4	460	75	25	..
February "	5	5,817	75	25	..
March "	9	3,161	67	22	11
April "	3	13,088	67	33	..
May "	4	7,733	100	..	..
June "	9	1,752	100	..	..
July "	4	661	100	..	..
August "	7	22,457	86	..	14
Summary for the above twelve months.	59	11,010,209	84	12	4

* Revised figures.

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

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

Effect of Industrial Disputes, Bombay Presidency



GENERAL REVIEW OF DISPUTES

In all there were seven industrial disputes in progress in the Bombay Presidency during the month of August 1926. All of these disputes arose and terminated during the month under review. Four occurred in Bombay city, two in Ahmedabad and one at Hubli in the Dharwar District. Excepting the one big strike in the Conservancy Branch of the Bombay Municipality, all the others occurred in the Textile Industry. The total number of workpeople involved in all the disputes in the Textile industry was 1400 and resulted in an aggregate time loss of 2807 working days. The number of persons affected by the strike in the Conservancy Branch of the Health Department of the Bombay Municipality was over 5000 and the number of working days lost by that strike alone amounted to 19,650. Questions of pay and allowances accounted for five disputes while the rest were due to personal causes. All the disputes in Bombay City and Ahmedabad ended in favour of the employers while the one in Hubli ended in a compromise—the employers promising to consider and remedy the grievances of the employees.

BOMBAY CITY

Out of the four disputes which arose in Bombay City during the month under review, the two most important were those in the Conservancy Branch of the Health Department of the Bombay Municipality and in the Emperor Edward Mills, Reay Road. The former was the most serious strike that has occurred in Bombay since the general mill strike of last year. It arose quite suddenly and it is noteworthy that the proposals

of the Municipality over which the dispute arose and which precipitated the strike, would not have adversely affected the large majority of the strikers. The sub-committee of the Standing Committee of the Bombay Municipal Corporation decided on the 5th August to discontinue the payment of the extra grain compensation allowance of Rs. 5 to new employees in the Conservancy branch of the Health Department as they considered that recent declines in food prices did not justify a continuation of the grant of this allowance to new hands. Under the misapprehension that the similar allowances of the existing staff were also likely to be cut down by the decision, 2500 scavengers and halalkhors employed in the D, E, F and G Wards of the city struck work in the morning of the 24th August. The Health Officer immediately issued notices explaining the real position regarding the allowance but to no effect. On the 25th some 850 more employees from other wards including 500 cart drivers joined the strike and the situation became serious. The strikers assembled at the Esplanade Maidan in the afternoon and reiterated their demand for the continuance of the extra allowance. The Municipal Commissioner explained to them that the allowance was to be discontinued only in the case of new employees and that the pay of the existing staff was not affected. This, however, did not satisfy them and a deputation of ten strikers went up to the Commissioner at his residence where they demanded a general increase in pay ranging from Rs. 5 to Rs. 7 per month and complained, among other things, against heavy work, heavy fines and dismissal for petty faults. The Commissioner promised to consider their grievances and advised them to resume work. Mr. Nikalje and Mr. Kanji Dwarkadas also gave them the same advice and about 1550 strikers resumed work on the morning of the 26th. In the afternoon however a meeting of about 400 strikers again collected on the Esplanade Maidan, insisted on an immediate redress of their grievances and resolved not to resume work till this was done. As a result of this and the intimidation offered by some of the strikers, none of the scavengers, halalkhors and cart drivers of the whole city resumed work on the 27th. They further demanded an immediate general increase in pay. One scavenger striker was found intimidating other municipal servants and was fined Rs. 10 by a bench of Honorary Magistrates. Notices signed by the Health Officer were then posted intimating to the strikers that if they did not resume work within two days they would all be dismissed and expelled from the Municipal chawls. Another notice explaining the whole situation and advising the workers to resume work in their own interests was also circulated by the Commissioner. Dr. Nerurkar, the Health Officer of the Municipality, lodged complaints against 40 employees for leaving work without previous notice. Two of the men were convicted and sentenced to three months' rigorous imprisonment by the Chief Presidency Magistrate under section 3 of the Bombay Municipal Servants Act (Act V of 1890) and the cases against the rest were postponed. This produced the desired effect and the strike terminated on the 30th August in favour of the employers.

On the 17th August, 330 operatives in the roving department of the Emperor Edward Mills, at Reay Road, Bombay, struck work as their

demand for more pay for the month of July was refused by the manager. As the roving department had to be closed on account of the strike, the manager took advantage of the strike to put right some defects in the engine-room and closed the whole mill at 10-30 a.m. and put up a notice saying that the mill would remain closed for a few days. When the mill restarted work on the 21st the manager seeing that the strikers had collected at the mill put up a notice to the effect that the outstanding wages of the strikers would be forfeited and that they would be treated as new hands. One hundred and forty new hands were employed by the management on the 21st and another 90 on the 24th. Sixty-five strikers resumed work unconditionally. On the 28th August a few strikers assaulted some of the newly engaged hands at Reay Road and one of the assailants was arrested by the police. The manager did not want to take up any more hands and a notice was issued to all the workers informing them that their services would not be required from the 1st October 1926 as the mill is to be closed from that date on account of trade depression. The strike ended in favour of the employers.

Of the remaining strikes in Bombay City, one occurred in the Bombay Woollen Mills where 120 workers in the worsted spinning department struck work on the 14th August demanding the restoration of the former "fixed wages system" in place of the new "Piece Work System" which had adversely affected their wages for the previous month. This was refused and the strike continued till the 24th August. The manager allowed 42 strikers to resume work unconditionally, dismissed the rest and employed 78 new hands instead. The result of this strike was also favourable to the employers.

On the 15th August, 35 operatives of the ring department in the Century Mills struck work in sympathy with an oiler who was dismissed by the management for inefficiency. The management refused to reinstate him. Twenty-five strikers resumed work unconditionally the next morning and the rest were replaced by 10 new hands on the 19th. The strikers did not succeed in their object.

AHMEDABAD

In the Ahmedabad Ginning and Manufacturing Mills, seven weavers were given cloth they were said to have spoiled instead of cash wages. As a protest, 500 weavers struck work on the 9th August and demanded better yarn so that the production of cloth might improve in quality and result in better wages. The manager promised to consider their grievances and asked them to return to work immediately failing which they would be fined Rs. 2 per day. Thereupon about 10 strikers approached the agent who advised them to join work immediately and promised to look into their complaints. Work was resumed on the 10th unconditionally.

The second dispute in Ahmedabad arose in the Ahmedabad Laxmi Cotton Mills where 40 workers of the frame department struck work on the 20th August in sympathy with a jobber who had some grudge against another jobber in the mill. The strikers wanted the latter to be dismissed. The management refused to do so and employed 40 new

operatives on the 22nd and informed the strikers in the afternoon that they would receive their outstanding wages on pay-day and that they would not be re-engaged. This dispute thus ended in favour of the employers.

HUBLI (DHARWAR)

The manager of the Bharat Spinning and Weaving Mills, Hubli, proposed to change the quality of "drill" which forms the main production of the mill, from 44 picks to the inch to 36 to the inch and accordingly to reduce the rate of wages from 5 pies per lb. to 4½ pies per lb. The manager believed that this would not affect the total daily earnings of the weavers as it was possible for the weavers to turn out within the same amount of time, a greater amount of cloth of the inferior variety. As this change in the rate was not appreciated by the workers, about 375 weavers struck work on the 1st August. The workers wanted the old rates to be retained in spite of the change in the texture of the cloth as they believed that the change in texture would not affect the total daily production. The manager agreed to retain the old rate for a fortnight and issued a notice to the effect that from the 15th August the rates of wages would vary with the texture of the cloth and that the grain compensation allowance would continue as before. This satisfied the strikers to a great extent because they had heard some rumours to the effect that the grain allowance was also to be stopped. The second important complaint of the strikers was the alleged infliction of heavy and sometimes unjust fines for spoiled cloth. The workers stated, that in many cases the power of inflicting fines was exercised even by the departmental heads and this was resented by them. The third complaint of the strikers related to the loss sustained by the weavers on account of the time lost in the setting up of beams. The weavers estimated the loss on this account to amount to about one day's wages in a month. The manager stated that he would consider giving them a compensatory allowance of 8 annas per head per month on this account. He also promised to look into and remedy several other minor grievances of the workers in his mill. The strikers then resumed work on the 3rd August and the strike terminated partly in favour of the employees.

A CORRECTION

With reference to the strike in the Ahmedabad New Cotton Mill reported on page 1048 of the *Labour Gazette* for July 1926, we are informed that the strikers complained not of their treatment by the weaving-master but by the head-jobber. The men had no grievance against the weaving-master. The manager and weaving-master of the Mill state that there was no ill-treatment even on the part of the jobber, that the strike was organized by two jobbers who were dismissed for insubordination, and that there was no interruption of work for more than two hours either in the weaving or in the winding department.

Industrial Disputes in India

STATISTICS FOR APRIL TO JUNE 1926

The total number of industrial disputes in India during the quarter ended 30th June 1926, was 40, of which 39 were new disputes and one was already in progress before April.

General Effects of Disputes by Provinces

	Bombay	Bengal	United Provinces	Bihar and Orissa	Central Provinces	Assam	Total
Number of disputes in progress	16	19	1	1	2	1	40
Number of workers involved	5,836	56,670	800	200	668	500	64,674
Aggregate number of working days lost	22,573	344,859	6,400	1,600	11,522	1,000	387,954

Nineteen disputes occurred in Bengal, 16 in the Bombay Presidency, 2 in the Central Provinces, and one each in the United Provinces, Bihar and Orissa and Assam.

The following table gives the classification of disputes by industries :

Industry	Number of disputes	Number of work-people involved	Aggregate number of working days lost on account of disputes
Cotton mills ..	17	6,701	34,993
Jute mills ..	12	55,567	341,704
Printing works ..	1	30	330
Tea estate ..	1	500	1,000
Coal fields ..	1	200	1,600
Conservancy ..	3	461	1,047
Miscellaneous ..	5	1,215	7,280
Total ..	40	64,674	387,954

Though the number of disputes in the Cotton Industry was greater than that in the Jute Industry, the latter suffered most, the number of work-people involved being 55,567 or 86 per cent. of the total number affected in India and the time loss amounting to 341,704 days or 88 per cent.

The question of "pay" was at the root of 17 or 43 per cent. of the disputes, while no fewer than 27 per cent. were caused by "personal grievances." "Bonus" accounted for one dispute and "leave and hours of work" for

six disputes. The rest were due to other causes. Out of the 37 disputes settled during the quarter, only in one case were the strikers able wholly to achieve their object, while the result of another dispute was partly favourable to the employees, the remaining 35 or 95 per cent. being failures from the workers' point of view.

Accidents and Prosecutions

STATISTICS FOR AUGUST 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 August in Bombay City, Ahmedabad, Karachi and other centres of the Bombay Presidency. During the month of August there were in all 238 factory accidents in Bombay City, of which 2 were fatal, 31 serious and the rest minor. Of the total, 69 or 29 per cent. were due to machinery in motion and the remaining 169 or 71 per cent. to "other causes." The largest number of accidents occurred in workshops, the percentages in different classes of factories being 68 per cent. in workshops, 28 per cent. in textile mills and 4 per cent. in miscellaneous concerns. One of the accidents which was due to "other causes" affected three persons, two of whom were seriously injured.

In Ahmedabad there were 28 accidents, all of which occurred in cotton mills. Of these, 21 or 75 per cent. were due to machinery in motion and the remaining 7 or 25 per cent. to "other causes." Two of these accidents were serious and the rest minor.

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

In the other centres of the Presidency, the total number of accidents was 39 out of which 16 occurred in Textile mills, 18 in workshops and 5 in miscellaneous concerns. Of the total number of accidents 17 were due to machinery in motion and the remaining 22 to other causes. Two of these accidents were fatal, 6 serious and the rest minor.

II. PROSECUTIONS

AHMEDABAD

The manager of an oil mill was prosecuted under section 41 (a) for breach of section 26 of the Indian Factories Act. He was convicted and fined Rs. 15 in each of five cases.

The manager of a cotton mill was prosecuted under section 41 (b) for breach of section 18 (1) (c) read with Rule 33 (iii). He was convicted and fined Rs. 150.

Workmen's Compensation Act

JURISDICTION OF COMMISSIONERS

The following press note has been issued by the Director of Information, Bombay.

Under the Workmen's Compensation Act the liability to pay compensation is determined by a Commissioner appointed for the purpose. The Local Government have appointed a whole-time Commissioner and a number of *ex-officio* Commissioners and prescribed the area of their jurisdiction. The jurisdiction of each Commissioner in respect of proceedings under the Act is determined by the place where the accident has occurred and deposits in respect of fatal accidents must be submitted to the Commissioner concerned. These deposits are, however, often sent to the Commissioner at Bombay in respect of accidents occurring in the jurisdiction of other Commissioners and it is therefore brought to the notice of the public and employers that the following are the different Commissioners appointed under the Workmen's Compensation Act for the various areas:—

Commissioner for Workmen's Compensation, Bombay ..	For Bombay, Bombay Suburban District, the Districts of Ahmedabad, Broach, Surat, Sholapur, and Khandesh; and all cases connected with the B. B. & C. I. Railway Line, the Hydro-Electric Companies under the management of Messrs. Tata Sons, Ltd., and the G. I. P. Railway, arising in the Bombay Presidency, irrespective of the district in which they occur.
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Ex-officio Commissioners

Judges of the Small Causes Courts at District Headquarters ..	for Karachi and Poona Districts.
First Class Subordinate Judge at Nadiad ..	for Kaira District.
Second Class Subordinate Judges of the local courts ..	for Hubli and Gadag
Second Class Subordinate Judges at District Headquarters ..	for districts of Panch Mahals, Kolaba, Larkana, Thar and Parkar, and Upper Sind Frontier.
Second Class Subordinate Judge at Naushahro ..	for Nawabshah District.
First Class Subordinate Judges at District Headquarters ..	for other districts.
Chief Judge of the Court of the Resident, Aden ..	for the Settlement of Aden.

A short while ago the Government of Bombay announced that the Workmen's Compensation Act and the Rules thereunder had been translated into all the principal Vernaculars in the Presidency (Marathi, Gujarati, Kanarese and Urdu) and that copies had been put on sale at the Government Book Depot, Town Hall, Bombay, at annas eleven. This publication does not, however, include the Government of India Notification, No. L-1189 of 26th June 1924 as amended by the notification, No. L-1272 of 15th April 1925, directing employers of workmen to submit a return in the prescribed form, specifying the number of injuries in respect of which compensation has been paid by them during the previous year. The attention of employers is drawn to this notification which will be embodied in a future reprint of the publication.

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

The present article contains the summary of Compensation Statistics for the month of August 1926. All Commissioners except four furnished information and out of a total of 35 cases disposed of during the month 33 were reported by the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner in Bombay. It should be remembered that these are not the numbers of cases which came within the purview of the Courts of the Commissioners but only of cases actually disposed of. A gross amount of Rs. 14,218-5-0 was awarded as compensation during the month under review as against Rs. 20,294-8-9 awarded during the previous month and Rs. 13,422-1-0 two months ago. Out of the 35 accidents for which compensation was given, 15 were fatal and 20 were of permanent partial disablement.

The number of compensation cases was 18 in textile mills and 15 in other industries. The corresponding figures for the month of July 1926 are 19 and 36. No case of occupational disease has come up since January 1925.

The claimants for compensation in all the cases were males over 15 years of age. Of the 35 cases disposed of during the month under review, 20 were original claims and the rest registration of agreements. Compensation was awarded in fifteen cases and agreements registered in an equal number. Simple distribution was effected in two cases; two more cases were withdrawn while one was dismissed.

Agricultural Outlook in the Presidency

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

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

Gujarat.—The position in this division is one of considerable anxiety just at present. During the period under review, the rains have been generally continuous and excessive almost throughout the division. There was some break in rains for a few days in the last week and it was thought that conditions would improve, but owing to the continuous and excessive rains received in this week the prospects have again become gloomy and great apprehension is felt for the future. Owing to the recent rains the crops in low-lying lands are being washed away, while even those on high lands are being over-watered. The agricultural operations such as interculturing, re-sowing, etc., are interrupted. It is not, of course, possible at this stage to say anything finally about the prospects of the division as conditions may still improve if a break in rains accompanied by good sunshine occurs immediately.

Konkan.—The conditions in this division are generally satisfactory. The rainfall has been abundant and well-distributed and the crops are developing satisfactorily in consequence.

Deccan and Karnatak.—The position in the East of these two divisions was one of suspense till the first week of September owing to deficiency of rain, with the result that the standing crops were showing signs of withering and anxiety was felt for the sowing of *rabi* crops. Owing to the excellent rains received during the last few days, however, the position has considerably improved and *rabi* sowings on a fairly extensive scale will soon be undertaken. In Khandesh the rains in the second fortnight of August were rather excessive, but the break in the last few days has been very useful and prospects of cotton and other crops are now reported to be satisfactory. The condition in the West of both the divisions continues satisfactory."

Employment Situation in August 1926

THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY

The sources of the statistics regarding absenteeism in the Textile Industry in the Bombay Presidency are the returns prepared and sent in by the various mills in the different centres of the Presidency every month. Returns were received from 125 or 84·46 per cent. of the mills reported as working in the Presidency during the month of August 1926. The average absenteeism in the textile industry as a whole based on 125 returns amounted to 9·75 per cent. in August as against 9·79 per cent. in the preceding month.

In Bombay City out of 80 mills which were working in August 1926 78 or 97·50 per cent. furnished returns. Supply of labour was reported as adequate by a large majority of the mills and the average absenteeism amounted to 11·06 per cent. in August as compared with 10·38 per cent. during the previous month.

In Ahmedabad, 57 mills were working during the month of August. Information was supplied by 38 or 66·67 per cent. of the mills. Absenteeism decreased considerably from 10·38 per cent. in July to 2·87 per cent. in the month under review. The supply of labour was equal to the demand.

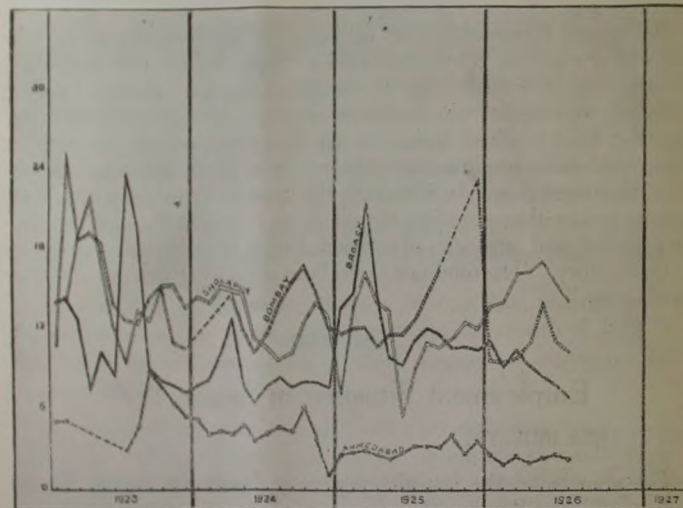
One of the two mills in Viramgaum reported that the supply of labour was short of the demand and that absenteeism increased in August owing to the prevalence of fever.

Returns were submitted by 5 out of 6 mills in Sholapur. None of these mills reported any shortage in the supply of labour and the average percentage absenteeism amounted to 11·89.

All the three mills in Broach supplied information. One of the mills reported that the supply of labour was not equal to the demand and that absenteeism had increased in August owing to holidays. The average absenteeism was 9·22 per cent. in August and 6·92 per cent. in July.

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

Chart showing the average percentage absenteeism in the cotton mill industry in the Presidency



THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY

In the Engineering Industry in Bombay City the supply of labour was adequate. The average absenteeism in representative Engineering workshops declined from 18·41 per cent. in July to 11·91 per cent. in the month under review. In the Bombay Reclamation Scheme of the Development Directorate absenteeism was 5 per cent. and in the Port Trust Docks it amounted to 13·13 per cent.

In the Karachi Port Trust both skilled and ordinary labour was available in plenty and on an average 7·3 per cent. of the labourers absented themselves from work during August. As compared with the previous month there was a decline in absenteeism during the month under review.

The Prompt Payment of Wages

The following letter No. L. 1391, dated 26th July 1926, has been issued by the Government of India, Department of Industries and Labour:—

I am directed to address you regarding the advisability of legislation for the purpose of preventing undue delay in the payment of wages to industrial workers.

2. In this Department's letter No. L. 1192 of 20th September 1924 local Governments were requested to furnish particulars regarding the periods by which wages are paid in organized industries and the delays which are associated with their payment. The information so collected, which has since been published in tabular form,* reveals a state of affairs which cannot be regarded as other than unsatisfactory. For it is clear that, generally speaking, the time which elapses between the end of the period for which wages have been earned and the date on which they are paid is longer than is usual in industries in other countries; and the delay is, in a number of cases, so great as to add appreciably to the economic difficulties of workmen. Systematic delays in payment are particularly associated with payment on a monthly basis, and the month is the period most commonly employed for the calculation of wages. It is no uncommon thing—in fact, it appears to be the rule in certain industries—for monthly wages to be systematically withheld until a fortnight after the close of the month to which they relate. And cases have come to the notice of Government in which wages had been withheld for considerably longer periods.

3. It is unnecessary to emphasize the fact that a practice of this kind results in considerable hardship to the workers concerned. With monthly payments, a delay of a fortnight in disbursement means that the employee has to work for over six weeks before he gets his first month's wages. Even if he is not financially embarrassed when he starts work, he has, as a rule, no monetary reserve and he may be, in consequence, compelled to contract, at the commencement of his service, a fresh debt of a month and a half's wages, generally taken on a high rate of interest. A number of employers endeavour to minimize the hardship involved by the grant of advances, but this practice is by no means general, and even where the advance represents wages that have actually been earned, interest is occasionally charged on it. Cases have come to the notice of the Government of India where workers were compelled to strike in order to secure wages which had been held back for unreasonable periods; in one such case, where over three weeks had elapsed from the close of the month, the strikers were dismissed; in another case, the workers went on strike over five weeks after the end of the month for which they wanted their wages.

4. It has been suggested that, as the evil is particularly associated with monthly payments, employers should be compelled to adopt shorter periods of payment. This was, in fact, one of the arguments put forward in support of Mr. Chaman Lall's Weekly Payments Bill, which was

* Bulletins of Indian Industries and Labour, No. 34. Periods of Wage Payment.

referred to local Governments for consideration. But the Bill met with general opposition. The Government of India, after reviewing the opinions received on it, were compelled to oppose its consideration in the Legislative Assembly and the motion for consideration of the Bill was finally withdrawn by its sponsor.

5. The Government of India do not think that any Bill of this kind is likely to receive the support of public opinion or to prove effective in its operation. While they should not be regarded as accepting the views that the general system of monthly payments is a satisfactory one, they believe that an attempt to impose by legislation a radically different system would have little chance of success and might do considerable harm. They recognize—and they believe that local Governments will agree with this view—that if the abuses to which they have referred above can be checked or eliminated by legislation, it is the duty of Government to introduce such legislation. But they are inclined to think that legislation if it is regarded as desirable will have to be attempted on somewhat different lines if it is to have a reasonable prospect of successful working. The details of a fresh scheme are set out provisionally in the paragraphs that follow and I am to ask for the views of the local Government both on the advisability of adopting some scheme of this kind, and on the detailed provisions contemplated.

6. The Government of India propose to set statutory limits to the time within which wages must be paid. To begin with, at any rate, they consider that it would be unwise to attempt to do more than prevent the more obvious abuses, and in the case of wages paid on a monthly system (or any longer basis), it might be sufficient to prescribe that they must ordinarily be paid within a week of the close of the month. It may be desirable to allow some relaxation in the case of bonuses earned by a long period, *e.g.*, a year, of work, but it will be difficult, and possibly dangerous, to discriminate between bonuses and wages. It could, if desired, be left to the employer, subject to the approval of the local Government, to fix the date on which the month should commence, which need not necessarily be the first day of the calendar month. As regards payments on shorter periods than a month, the evidence available indicates that there is less need for legislation, but I am to ask for the views of the local Government on the suggestion that corresponding limitations might be imposed, *e.g.*, in the case of fortnightly wages, four days delay might be allowed, in the case of weekly wages, two days and in the case of daily wages, a day. Wages might be limited to cash payments; but it seems undesirable to do anything that might encourage payment in kind, and a distinction is possibly unnecessary. It would probably be advisable to give local Governments, in all cases, the power to grant exemptions where special (and defined) circumstances, *e.g.*, the distance of the worker from the headquarters, rendered this necessary. The difficulties arising out of the fact that in some cases, for instance when wages are paid at piece rates, intricate evaluations may be required to calculate wages might be met by prescribing that, in such cases, the payment, within the statutory period, of 75 per cent. (or some higher percentage) of the wages earned should constitute compliance with the law.

7. The main difficulty in regard to legislation of this kind arises in connection with its enforcement. It would be possible, and seems to be desirable, to provide for the prompt recovery of wages by some form of summary procedure, *e.g.*, in a manner similar to that prescribed in the Employers' and Workmen's Disputes Act, IX of 1860. It would also be necessary to provide for some fine, part of which might be payable to the workmen injured, for the offence. The maximum fine on a first conviction might be small, with larger penalties for subsequent offences. But provisions of this kind will not be sufficient to secure the end in view, for the workman would seldom be in a position to use the power so conferred on him. The employer who is prosecuted could pay the wages and dismiss the workman, and it would be impossible to prevent by law dismissals of this kind. Other reasons could always be put forward as the ostensible grounds of any dismissal and the result would be constant disputes. And even when the workman did not apprehend reprisals, it would seldom be worth his while to institute proceedings with the object of obtaining a single month's wages a short period before the date when he would receive them without invoking external assistance. The grant to any number of workmen in the same establishment of the power to join in one proceeding might meet some of the difficulties in part, but it would not be sufficient. Quite apart from the difficulties inherent in the joint conduct of proceedings by numerous complainants, the fear of victimisation and the large amount of inconvenience necessary to secure a very small advantage to each workman would be sufficient to prevent action in most cases. The Government of India consider that, if the enforcement of the law is to depend on the initiative of the workmen themselves, the Act will fail to achieve its object. If this conclusion is accepted, it seems essential that the power to prosecute should be granted to some external authority, such as an inspecting staff. The difficulties in the way of the workmen would be removed by such a provision, and the conduct of prosecutions instituted by inspecting officials would be free from serious administrative difficulty.

8. This has a close bearing on the important question of the scope of the measure. In the case of factories and mines, there are already in existence inspecting officers who have experience of the institution of prosecutions, and who could safely be entrusted with the enforcement of the Act. If the measure was to be extended to establishments which are not subject either to the Factories Act or the Mines Act, it might be impossible to render it effective without the employment of a special staff, and even with such a staff, its enforcement would be attended by serious difficulty. Further, the evidence before the Government of India indicates that the evil is particularly associated with the larger industrial establishments, where the work involved in the calculation of wages is heaviest and where the presence of intermediaries between the workmen and the management and other circumstances tend to aggravate delays. In the small establishments lying outside the scope of the Factories and Mines Acts, there are no serious abuses such as would justify not merely the introduction of legislation but the establishment of new and special machinery for its enforcement. On all grounds, therefore,

the Government of India are inclined to the view that the measure should be confined, in its operation, to those establishments which are subject to the operation of the Factories Act or the Mines Act; but this is a point on which they would be glad to have the opinion of the local Government.

9. I am to request that, after consulting the interests concerned, a reply may be sent to this letter not later than 1st January 1927. The Government of India contemplate the publication of the replies."

Family Allowances in France

The Sixth Congress of the Union of Industrial Societies of France was held at Nancy from 1st to 3rd June last, under the chairmanship of Mr. Antoine Daum, glass manufacturer.

Following on a report by Mr. P. Fauvet on family allowances and equalisation funds, the following resolution was adopted:

The Congress of Industrial Societies of France pays a tribute to the work accomplished since 1918 by French employers in connection with family allowances;

Whereas the results hitherto attained have been achieved because nothing has interfered with private initiative;

Whereas also the system of family allowances and equalisation funds cannot exist or develop unless it is based on principles which are sufficiently elastic to allow it to conform with the exigencies of local conditions and occupations;

And whereas, finally, it is desirable that these important social institutions should as far as possible become general;

The Congress recommends:

(1) That no legislative measure should hinder the development of equalisation funds for family allowances, in view of the fact that results hitherto obtained by French employers under a voluntary system are the best guarantee for the future of an institution for the success of which every good Frenchman should hope;

(2) That, in any case, legislation should respect the position of equalisation funds which were in operation before the promulgation of such legislation. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, July 19, 1926.*)

Questions in the Legislature

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Mr. N. M. Joshi: (a) Is it a fact that the Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra had undertaken in his closing speech during the discussion on the Maternity Benefits Bill, to enquire into the question of the prohibition

of employment of women in factories, mines and other organised industries, some time before and some time after confinement and of the provision of the Maternity Benefits?

(b) Will the Government be pleased to state what steps they have taken or propose to take to institute such an enquiry?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra: (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Mr. N. M. Joshi: Will the Government of India be pleased to state when the Trade Union Act will come into force?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra: The Act will come into force after the necessary regulations have been framed and published by local Governments. It is hoped that it will be possible to bring it into force on 1st April 1927.

Mr. N. M. Joshi: (a) Will the Government of India be pleased to state whether they have so far issued any report on the working of the Workmen's Compensation Act?

(b) If they have not, are they prepared to issue an annual report on the working of this Act?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra: The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative and to the second in the affirmative.

Mr. N. M. Joshi: Is it a fact that the labour conditions in Japan adversely affect the position of certain industries in India, and if so, do the Government propose to take steps to secure and publish authentic information regarding the labour conditions in that country?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra: The Government of India are not in possession of precise information relating to the first part of the question. The answer to the second part is in the negative.

Mr. S. C. Ghose: (a) Will the Government state why time has been granted to the local administration till the 1st March 1927 to send information as regards the question of deductions from the wages of workmen in respect of fines?

(b) Will the Government state if three months' time was not sufficient for sending information?

(c) After the receipt of information on the 1st March 1927, will the Government state how many months will it take for the Government to take steps, if any, for stopping this practice on the part of employers?

The Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra: (a) The Government of India considered it desirable to allow local Governments ample time to consult the interests concerned.

(b) No.

(c) I am quite unable to say. The question of the steps to be taken must obviously depend upon the nature of the information received by the Government of India in reply to their letter.

Questions in Parliament

The following questions were asked and answers given in the British House of Commons on 14th July 1926:—

Mr. Johnston (Labour), on behalf of Mr. R. Young (Labour), asked the Under Secretary of State for India whether, in view of the statements made at the last Conference of the International Labour Organisation with regard to the superiority of labour conditions in India over those in Japan and China, the Secretary of State would suggest to the International Labour Organisation that a conference on this subject should be held between the representatives of India, Japan and China, similar to the conference recently held in London between certain European Powers, to consider the question of labour conditions and, in particular, of the hours of labour.

Earl Winterton (Under Secretary of State for India) replied that the Secretary of State (Earl Birkenhead) would transmit the suggestion to the Government of India for an expression of their views.

Mr. Johnston: Is the noble lord aware that India is the only country in the world which honoured its signature at the Washington Convention (Conference?), and that India is subject to extraordinary competition from a country which has refused to honour its signature?

Earl Winterton: I am aware of that most important fact, though I cannot accept the statement entirely in the form in which the honourable Member made it.

Mr. Johnston: Why not?

Earl Winterton: For reasons which it would be impossible to explain in answer to a question. I sympathise entirely with the point of view the honourable Member put, but that is quite a different matter from doing what the question asks that the Government of India shall do, that is, to be responsible for suggesting that these friendly foreign Powers should take part in a conference. The matter is receiving the consideration of the Government of India and is also under the purview of the International Labour Bureau. (*From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, August 2, 1926.*)

Child Labour in England

Many of the provisions of the new Factory Bill will be welcomed, notably the abolition of the present distinction between factories and workshops and textile and non-textile factories and the limitation of the hours of work for women and young persons to 48 a week. On the other hand, the fact that a working day of ten hours is permissible, that 100 hours of overtime may be allowed in 12 months, or six hours in one week, that special provision is made empowering the Secretary of State to permit additional overtime up to 50 hours in 12 months and three hours a week to young persons over sixteen and to women, is open to grave criticism. The ordinary overtime will permit a day of 11 hours to be worked. Effort should be made to prohibit overtime for all young people between fourteen

and eighteen years. It is of little avail to urge the value of continued education unless the working day is of such reasonable length that it is possible for boys and girls to attend an evening institute. The Bill does nothing to help large classes of young people whose employment is not subjected at present to any form of restriction, such as young cinema attendants, page-boys in hotels and restaurants, messenger, van, and errand boys. The organizations interested in the welfare of young people will do well to strive for an extension of the scope of the Bill. The London County Council has been concerned for years about the long hours worked by young people in shops, hotels, and restaurants, and a few years ago pressed the Home Secretary to introduce legislation to deal with the matter.

The value of careful medical inspection of school children employed out of school hours may also be gathered from facts and figures submitted in the same report on the London school medical service. During 1925, 3845 applicants were seen, of whom only 61 were girls. In 106 cases certificates of health were refused, and of these, 30 were denied on grounds of general debility and 14 on account of heart defect. In 311 other cases conditional certificates were granted, 205 being subject to medical treatment being obtained and 106 upon other conditions, which included periodical re-examination, limitation in regard to weights carried, additional nourishment, and provision of proper boots. The certificate was withdrawn in two cases after issue, in one instance because the boy was found to be carrying coal to flats three storeys high, and in another because the child's school work suffered. The ratio of employment of boys is just over six per cent. and this is not high. The real trouble is with boys just over school age who are often burdened with work that necessarily involves heart strain and spinal curvature. Among the special inquiries made last year by the London County Council's medical department was the investigation carried out in association with the National Institute of Psychology into the vocational capacity as recorded by physique and general health of children about to leave school. Dr. Nairn Dobbie saw 237 boys and girls, all within a few months of fourteen years, between March and Christmas, 1925. In addition to a clinical division of the children into three categories of "robust," "average" and "delicate" as an assessment of nutrition, and deductions from weight, height, and girth, a medical form was filled in giving "occupational contra-indications negating work in individual cases which involved respectively either standing, sitting, good sight, climbing, dusty atmosphere, good hearing, damp, exposure, dry hands, cold, heat, nervous strain, muscular strain, and indoor work." If it were possible in all cases to give the same careful attention to the physical condition of children seeking employment, there seems little doubt that the loss of working days due to invalidity, which is at present so frequent a condition among adults, would greatly diminish in the future, and there would be in consequence a valuable increase in the industrial efficiency of the nation. The urgent question at the present time is the overworking of children between the ages of fourteen and sixteen by small employers. (*From "Times Educational Supplement," London, August 21, 1926.*)

Social Legislation in Japan

SUMMARY OF RECENT MEASURES

In the last few months a considerable number of labour laws and ordinances have been enacted in Japan. Some of them represent entirely new legislation, while others are amendments of existing laws. In some cases the legislation purports to enforce laws which give effect to International Labour Conventions. In one case the measure includes provision for the re-organisation of the administrative department concerned, in order to give a more concentrated attention to the affairs of the International Labour Organisation.

Reference has been made to most of these laws from time to time, in the course of their progress, in previous numbers of *Industrial and Labour Information*. Now that they are either definitely brought into operation or formally embodied in Acts of Parliament, it may be opportune to summarise them briefly. The following notes deal with the various Acts and Ordinances in the order of their promulgation:

Life Insurance Act

The so-called "Simple Life Insurance Act" of 1916 established a scheme to simplify life insurance for people of small means by State intervention, the Government acting as the insurance carrier, and the administrative work being carried out by the post offices. The amount insured was originally limited to 200 *yen*, but was raised to 250 *yen* in 1922, when the Act was amended. Now, by an Act of 24th March 1926, enforced as from 1st May, the amount has been further increased to 450 *yen*.

Health Insurance Acts

Japan enacted an elaborate scheme of national health insurance in 1922, but the law has not been in force owing to various difficulties. A new Act, promulgated on 27th March 1926, provided for the enforcement of the law as from 1st July 1926 and for the payment of benefits as from 1st January 1927. It has been estimated that over 1,500,000 workers in some 26,000 factories, and some 322,000 miners in over 800 mines, will be covered by this law.

Another Act, promulgated on 27th March 1926, contains detailed provisions for the establishment of a special account for national health insurance. This Act comes into effect on 1st January 1927, when the payment of benefits begins.

Post Office Pensions Acts

By two Acts, promulgated on 29th March 1926, the Government undertakes to pay annual pensions up to a maximum amount of 2,400 *yen*, in return for regular contributions, the scheme being conducted through the machinery of the post offices.

Co-operative Society Act

A Co-operative Society Act was passed as early as 1900. Since then the co-operative movement in Japan has developed rapidly, and the law has become obsolete in various respects. An amending Act, promulgated on 6th April 1926, provides, among other things, for an enlargement

of the sphere of operation of certain "utility societies," permitting them to place their equipment at the disposal of non-members. It also extends the privileges of co-operative societies by exempting them from the business-profit taxes and local taxes of certain kinds.

Labour Disputes Arbitration Act

The Act was promulgated on 8th April 1926, and was due to come into operation on 1st July of this year.

Re-organisation of Social Affairs Bureau

No separate Department of Labour exists as yet in Japan; but in 1922 there was created, in the Home Department, a Bureau of Social Affairs, which for all essential purposes has the same standing as a Ministry or Department of Labour. The bringing into force of the Health Insurance Act and the Labour Disputes Arbitration Act, and the increase of work in connection with the International Labour Organisation, have necessitated a re-organisation of the Social Affairs Bureau.

During May, Imperial Ordinances were issued providing for (1) the creation of an "Insurance Division" in the Bureau of the administration of the Health Insurance Acts; (2) an increase in the staff of the Bureau, by the appointment of a number of "arbitration officers" and "assistant arbitration officers" to administer the Arbitration Act; and (3) the division of the former "Labour Section" of the Bureau into two parts, one of which would deal with affairs connected with the International Labour Organisation.

Public Peace Police (Amendment) Act

Sections 17 and 30 of the Public Peace Police Act, which had been severely criticised by Japanese workers as obstacles to the freedom of trade unions, have been repealed by an Act dated 8th April 1926, which was promulgated in the *Official Gazette* on the following day and was due to come into force on 1st July.

Minimum Age Act

Factory Act (Amendment) Act

Amended Mines Regulations

The Minimum Age of Industrial Workers Act and the Factory Act (Amendment) Act were enacted in 1923, but owing to various circumstances their enforcement has been delayed. It is now reported that they were brought into operation on 1st July 1926.

These Acts represent a considerable advance in Japanese labour legislation. It is estimated, for example, that by the enforcement of the amended Factory Act, over 19,000 factories employing more than 142,000 workers in all (including 38,000 women and 2800 young workers) are brought for the first time under official supervision and control.

The Regulations relating to conditions of employment of miners, which deal with working hours, night work, rest periods, protection of mothers, accident compensation, etc., have been amended to conform with the amended Factory Act. The amended Regulations were also to be enforced as from 1st July 1926. (From "*Industrial and Labour Information*," Geneva, July 26, 1926.)

Japanese Textile Trades

EFFECTS OF NEW FACTORY LAW

The new Factory Law came into force on 1st July, and under it the working day in factories is limited to ten hours. Textile factories are chiefly affected, and these employ a very large proportion of women. Concerning male workers it might be said that, in spite of the advent of hard times they hardly need any law to protect them from overwork, as they are always ready to assert their independence. But they may not always be able to afford their present readiness to throw up a job or their habitual 10 per cent. of absences. Some of the cotton-spinning mills—all the best ones, it would be safe to say—already work ten hours, but have two shifts, so that there are four hours a day for the factory to be cleaned up and the machines put in order. The worst-managed mills have hitherto worked in two shifts of eleven hours. It is believed that these will all have to adopt the ten-hour day, and unless the management is incompetent they ought not to lose by it. For the present the prohibition of night-work (between 11 p.m. and 5 a.m.) is a question that has been put off for further consideration. That would reduce the working hours to eight, and the experience of one or two of the best-managed mills, whose managers want to combine the difficult task of doing their best both for workpeople and shareholders, is that the output is susceptible of very little speeding-up in an eight-hour day. Many people believe, and there seems to be some evidence for it, that the Asiatic worker prefers an easy pace and long hours to high tension and shorter hours.

According to the Japanese papers, the mills which feel the new Factory Law most are those which do weaving only. They have been in the habit of working twelve to fifteen hours, and a sharp reduction to ten hours might prove a hardship. The owners represent it as a hardship that will fall chiefly on the workpeople, as they are on piecework; but at least it would afford opportunity for an experimental speeding-up. Of late years the most remarkable development in the textile trade has been the increased export of cloth compared with that of yarn. The following are the exports of cotton yarn and cloth:—

	Yarn		Cloth	
	Yen		Yen	
1918	158,300,000	237,913,000		
1919	114,232,000	280,388,000		
1920	152,394,000	334,966,000		
1921	80,568,000	211,077,000		
1922	114,723,000	222,052,000		
1923	78,512,000	234,574,000		
1924	109,611,000	326,587,000		
1925	123,117,000	432,850,000		
1926 (6 months)	45,479,000	213,735,000		

Although the new law is nominally enforced, the press states that as the authorities fully appreciate the situation they will wait until the necessary

adjustments have been made before applying any rigour in the enforcement. It cannot be said that there is any indecent haste in factory reform. The old law was passed in 1911 and put into effect (with exceptions in favour of textile factories) in 1916; the new law was passed in 1923, and is only gradually going into effect now. That is Japan's own affair, of course, only it may be remarked that laws still await enforcement are often quoted officially or semi-officially as evidence of actual conditions.

The development that has caused most comment is the invasion of the Indian market by Japanese goods made of Indian cotton. There is a higher degree of skill in Japan and a higher standard of honesty in management, but the Indian complainants are within the limits of fact when they complain that cottons are carried in subsidised Japanese ships and that the Japanese mills work two shifts. The Japanese are somewhat alarmed at the agitation in India for protection, and are even apprehensive that an export duty might be put on Indian cotton; and, like the British spinners, they would like to be free from dependence on a particular market. Some years ago they went in for cotton cultivation in Korea, and this was hailed abroad as a swift and certain Japanese victory; but its success has not brought independence in sight. Now it is announced that the Mitsubishi Company, having acquired a large tract of land in Chihli and Honan provinces, raised 5000 piculs of cotton experimentally last year and will plant American cotton on a large scale. There is also an interesting project on the Upper Amazon in which the Kanegafuchi Company is participating. The object of this venture is not only to provide cotton but to create an outlet for Japanese emigration. Other signs of activity are the subsidising of lines to East Africa and Turkey, and perhaps to Persia also; the East African and Turkish lines hope to bring raw cotton home and carry it back manufactured. (*From "Manchester Guardian Commercial," August 26, 1926.*)

Poor Relief in Japan

PROPOSED LEGISLATION

The Bureau of Social Affairs of the Japanese Government has drafted a Bill for the relief of the poor, with a view to its presentation to the Diet.

The Bill, it is stated, is intended to supplement the social insurance system and to bring up to date the scheme of poor relief in Japan, which is described as obsolete.

The present administration of poor relief, it may be explained, is regulated by a Government Order of 1874 which covered:—

- (1) Destitute and invalid persons who are single or may be regarded as single;
- (2) Single persons (or persons who may be regarded as single) above 70 years of age, who are either seriously ill or enfeebled by age;
- (3) Single persons (or persons who may be regarded as single) who are unable to earn their living owing to illness; and
- (4) Helpless persons under thirteen years of age.

The main provisions of the proposed Poor Relief Bill are as follows :

Administration

The existing administrative organs and their jurisdiction are re-arranged. Relief Commissions are to be set up by (1) towns and villages, (2) prefectures, and (3) the State.

Indoor Relief

Old and bedridden people who have no relatives to look after them are to be placed in institutions.

Outdoor Relief

(1) Old people and widows with children are to be provided with relief at home by the grant of cash, or food, clothing, fuel, etc.

(2) Old persons may be placed, subject to prescribed conditions, under the care of selected families.

(3) An old age pension is to be paid, either in part or wholly from the State Treasury, to old and invalid persons, subject to specified conditions as to age, health, capacity, income, record of offences (if any), etc.

Medical Relief

Municipal bodies, or the State, will provide medical relief for destitute sick persons, in the form either of free treatment by doctors specially appointed for the purpose, or of a money grant to defray medical expenses.

Protection of Poor Children

(1) Orphans and deserted children who are in a helpless condition are to be placed either in institutions or in families.

(2) Children who are under the care of widows or deserted wives, and children who are destitute though they have parents, are to be given relief either at home or in institutions.

Temporary Relief

Work may be provided temporarily for poor persons who are able to work. Help may be given at time of childbirth.

Relief of the Insane

This may also be provided.

The following table shows the approximate number of people who received relief in 1924, under the existing system :—

	Number of persons	Yen
Invalidity	1,430	51,462,000
Old Age	4,132	113,386,000
Sickness	3,384	99,257,000
Feeble children	1,994	155,619,000
Others	625	8,321,000

It should be noted that the number of persons shown as receiving aid in 1924 includes some who had begun to receive aid in the preceding year or years. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, August 16, 1926.)

Trade Union Legislation in Italy

The Administrative Regulation in execution of the new Italian Trade Union Act of 3rd April 1926 on the legal organisation of collective labour relations is divided into eight parts.

Part I which deals with the primary trade union associations lays down that these associations may be composed not only of Italian citizens of either sex, who have attained their majority, who are of good moral and political conduct from the national point of view and who possess the other qualifications required by the Act, but also commercial associations legally constituted and other corporate bodies of Italian nationality. Foreigners resident in Italy for at least ten years may be admitted as associate members of legally authorised Trade Union Associations but cannot be appointed or elected to any directive or administrative functions. Intellectual workers and manual workers may not belong to the same association even if they are employed in the same class of undertaking. Technical or administrative managers, office or departmental chiefs and responsible staff of any kind must form separate associations affiliated to the employers' associations of the higher degree. Co-operative societies must form special associations distinct from the similar associations of employers or workers.

Sections 11 and 12 of the Regulation provided a solution for the problem of relations between the various professional orders, colleges and associations and the corresponding Trade Union Associations. Trade Union Associations may be legally authorised side by side with existing professional orders. The Act of 3rd April 1926 preserves these latter, but only the former are concerned with the defence of the moral and material interests of the classes of persons whom they represent.

As regards legal recognition it may be refused to any Trade Union Association not only when the conditions prescribed in the Act are not fulfilled but also when such recognition appears to be inopportune for political, economic or social reasons. Recognition may also be made conditional on certain modifications in the statutes being made. Government further reserves the right, if necessary *ex-officio*, to order the revision of the statutes of legally recognised associations.

Part II of the Regulation deals with trade union associations of the higher degree, *i.e.*, Federations and Confederations. Such bodies are governed as regards their legal recognition, organisation and administration by provisions similar to those laid down for associations of the first degree. Recognition of a Trade Union Association of the higher degree implies recognition of all its dependent associations.

According to Section 41, legal recognition may be granted to the following national confederations, of which each one must include more than one federation or national association, or more than one federation or local confederation of trade union associations :

(a) Employers

A national confederation	of manufacturers ;
" "	" agriculturists ;
" "	" commercial employers ;

- A national confederation of employers in maritime and aerial transport ;
 " " " " employers in land transport and internal navigation ;
 " " " " bankers.

(b) *Workers*

- A national confederation of salaried employees and wage-earners in industry ;
 " " " " salaried employees and wage-earners in agriculture ;
 " " " " salaried employees and wage-earners in commerce ;
 " " " " salaried employees and wage-earners in maritime and aerial transport ;
 " " " " salaried employees and wage-earners in land transport and internal navigation ;
 " " " " bank employees.

(c) *Independent Workers*

A national confederation of artists and of persons engaged in liberal professions.

Section 41 also provides for the possibility of the legal recognition of two "general confederations," one for employers and the other for salaried employees and wage-earners and independent workers.

Other national or general confederations may, if necessary, be recognised by Royal Decree, after consultation with the Council of Ministers and the National Council of Corporations.

Part III of the Regulation deals with the Central Corporate Liaison Organisations. The National Trade Union Organisations of the various agents of production may be constituted into a corporation by a decree of the Minister of Corporations. This form of corporation has no legal personality but is an administrative organ of the State. The expenditure involved in the working of the corporate organs falls upon the State which meets such expenditure out of that portion of trade union contributions, which falls to it. Some of the duties of the corporate organs are to settle disputes between the associations which they include, to establish general regulations for conditions of labour, to promote, encourage and subsidize the steps taken by the Trade Union Associations, to co-ordinate and improve the organisation of production and also to set up employment exchanges and draw up regulations concerning apprenticeship.

Part IV of the Regulation deals with collective labour agreements. These agreements must indicate the undertaking or undertakings or the class of undertakings or workers to which they relate and also the district for which they are valid. Collective labour agreements must, if they are to be valid, be signed by the legal representatives of the contracting associations or by persons especially authorised to that effect.

Part V of the Regulation deals with disputes concerning collective labour agreements. The right of bringing an action in the event of a dispute

concerning a collective labour agreement belongs to the associations of the first degree or of the higher degree which are legally recognised. The right may also be exercised by the public prosecutor when the public interest demands it. Similarly the Trade Union Association of the higher degree may at any time intervene if it is concerned in an action brought by one of the associations of the first degree attached to it or *vice versa*. The awards and orders of the Industrial Courts are not ordinarily subject to appeal. Nonetheless, the parties and the public prosecutor may ask the Industrial Court which pronounces the award to revise it but only if there has been a considerable change in the *de facto* situation. If the demand for revision is rejected, the party which has submitted it is liable to a fine.

Part VI of the Regulation deals with associations of persons employed by the State or by public institutions. Where the Act permits associations of this kind they may be authorised by decree of the Head of the Government in agreement with the Minister of the Interior and other Ministers concerned, or by decree of the Minister of the Interior or of the Prefect according to circumstances.

These associations may at any time be dissolved when their activity is incompatible with the good order and discipline of the services concerned. Infringement of the order for dissolution is regarded as a grave disciplinary offence and punished with dismissal. Associations of students for the defence of so-called scholastic or professional interests are forbidden. The formation of such associations and membership of them are considered as grave disciplinary offences and are punished by exclusion from all schools and all educational establishments in the kingdom.

Part VII of the Regulation deals with infringement of the Act or the Regulations and the penal sanctions.

Part VIII contains various transitory provisions.

When the above Regulation was approved by the Council of Ministers, Mr. Mussolini, the Prime Minister, issued the following proclamation:—

"Now that the Legislative Regulation for the enforcement of the Trade Union Act is approved, the corporate organisation of the State is a *fait accompli*. The democratic, liberal, agnostic and incompetent State has ceased to exist, and its place is taken by the Fascist State.

"For the first time in the history of the world there has been achieved by us a constructive revolution carried out peacefully in the sphere of production and labour, involving the grouping of all the economic and intellectual forces of the nation for their direction towards a common end.

"For the first time there has been set up a powerful system of fifteen large associations, all on a basis of equality, all recognised and all enjoying the guarantee that their interests will be protected in so far as they are legitimate or reconcilable with those of the Sovereign State. It is only today that the working population has become, under the aegis of the Fascist State, a group conscious of its destiny."

(Abstracted from "Industrial and Labour Information, Geneva, August 16, 1926.)

Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency

Returns for Third Quarter 1926

AN INCREASE OF 12 PER CENT. IN MEMBERSHIP

The previous review of Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency was published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for June 1926. The latest information for the third quarter of the present year is summarised in three tables on pages 80 to 95 of this issue. Table I gives the names of the Federations or Associations of Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency, the names of the principal office-bearers of each Federation, and the names of the affiliated Unions in each case. Table II gives, by localities or centres, the names of all known Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency, the number of members in each Union and the names and addresses of the principal office-bearers. Table III shows the rates of membership fees for different classes of members, the average monthly income for the latest quarter for which information is available and the average monthly expenditure in the same way for each of the Unions given in Table II.

The outstanding features during the quarter under review are:—

(1) The conversion of those District branches of the G.I.P. Railway Staff Union which were still operative into distinct separate Unions and the reorganisation of the main Union into a Federation of these District Unions;

(2) The formation of a big Union of Dock Workers in the Bombay Port Trust Docks, the revival of the moribund Union of the workers of the Port Trust Railway and the formation of a Central Union or Federation of these two Unions together with the old Bombay Port Trust Workshop Union;

(3) A decision arrived at by the Indian Seamen's Union, formerly confined more or less to Goanese Saloon Crews, to admit all classes of seamen as members, and the registration of nearly 6,000 Serangs, Tindals, Khalasis, etc., as its members;

(4) The closing down of the Colaba Gimi Kamgar Mahamandal; and

(5) A general increase of 12·14 per cent. in the membership of all known Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency. The total number of Unions now stands at 56 as compared with 53 reported in the June issue of the *Labour Gazette*, and 38 a year ago. Out of this number there are 22 Unions in Bombay City, 8 Unions in Ahmedabad and 26 in the rest of the Presidency. As compared with the second quarter of the current year, the total number of Trade Unionists in the Bombay Presidency has increased from 64,752 to 72,411. The number of members in the Unions having their offices in Bombay City rose from 36,528 to 43,746 or by 20 per cent. The membership of the Ahmedabad Unions increased from 19,177 to 19,284 and in the Unions in the rest

of the Presidency from 8867 to 9381. The following table summarises the position in regard to the membership of the Unions in the Presidency since June 1922.

Summary Table showing the membership of the Unions

Three months ended 1st	Number of Unions	Membership at end of quarter	Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) on previous quarter	Three months ended 1st	Number of Unions	Membership at end of quarter	Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) on previous quarter
June 1922..	22	57,914		Sept 1924..	21	47,242	— 5·0
Sept 1922..	23	52,776	— 8·87	Dec 1924..	36	51,777	+ 10·7
Dec 1922..	22	51,472	— 2·47	Mar 1925..	36	51,625	— 1·25
Mar 1923..	22	48,669	— 5·45	June 1925..	38	53,591	+ 3·8
June 1923..	21	51,276	+ 5·08	Sept 1925..	38	54,175	+ 1·09
Sept 1923..	19	41,646	— 18·77	Dec 1925..	38	49,318	— 8·97
Dec 1923..	19	46,037	+ 10·54	Mar 1926..	51	59,544	+ 20·73
Mar 1924..	21	48,502	+ 5·4	June 1926..	53	64,572	+ 8·44
June 1924..	21	49,729	+ 2·5	Sept 1926..	56	72,411	+ 12·14

The information in connexion with Trade Unions is collected through the Secretaries of the Unions as well as through District Officers in the Presidency, including Sind. The information for all the Unions affiliated to the Bombay Presidency Postal and R. M. S. Association and the Bombay Presidency Postmen's Union is procured from time to time from the Head Offices of these associations in Bombay. Every endeavour is made to include in the Quarterly Review all known Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency but it often happens that some Union or Unions do not notify their existence to the authorities concerned with the collection of the necessary information. It would be advisable both in the interests of the Unions themselves and of the Labour office, if the persons who are concerned with the creation of new Unions notify their formation either to the Director of Information and Labour Intelligence (Labour Office) at Bombay or to the Labour Investigator of the Government of Bombay at Ahmedabad.

Federations of Labour Unions

Table I on pages 80 and 81 of this issue shows that there are six Federations of Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency—; (1) The Central Labour Board in Bombay; (2) The Bombay Presidency Postal and R. M. S. Association with its head office in Bombay; (3) The Bombay Presidency Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union also with its head office in Bombay; (4) The Bombay Port Trust Employees' Central Union; (5) The G. I. P. Railway Staff Union with its head office in Bombay; and (6) The Labour Union in Ahmedabad. The last is not exactly a Federation in the accepted sense of the term but rather a Central Bureau which controls, under one management, all the various Unions of Cotton Mill operatives in Ahmedabad City. For all practical purposes, however, it may be considered as a Federation. All the necessary information in connexion with the constitution of the first four Federations and the terms

of affiliation of each of their members have been fully described in the issues of the *Labour Gazette* for December 1925 and March 1926. The constitutions of the two new Federations in Bombay—The G.I.P. Railway Staff Union and the Bombay Port Trust Employees' Central Union—have not yet been decided upon. In the present article it is only necessary, therefore, to deal with those Federations whose activities were of particular interest during the quarter under review.

The Central Labour Board.—The extensive propaganda carried on by the Central Labour Board in Bombay during the last six months with a view to bring into the fold of Trade Unionism in Bombay City as many of her wage earners as possible, has been very successful in so much as the Board succeeded in organising the workers in the Bombay Docks into a Union and in creating a Federation of the different Unions of the employees under the administration of the Bombay Port Trust.

The Bombay Presidency Postal and R.M.S. Association.—The most important feature in the activities of this Association during the quarter under review was the Sixth Session of the Bombay Presidency Postal and R.M.S. Conference which was held at Ahmedabad on the 25th and 26th July under the presidentship of Sirdar Mutalik, M.L.A. The Conference discussed various questions in connexion with the disabilities and grievances, pay and prospects, and conditions of service of all grades of Postal and Railway Mail Service employees in the Bombay Presidency, and in particular showed a keen sense of dissatisfaction at the recent revision granted to the clerical establishments in the Post offices at Bombay, town sub-offices and certain Postal offices in its vicinity. Among the more important resolutions which were passed at the Conference were the following:—

“That the omission to include in the revision any improvement in the pay of Overseas, Departmental Branch Post masters, Daftarees, Stamp Vendors, Postmen and men in the inferior service is causing acute discontent.

“This Conference requests that overtime work beyond duty hours due to shortage of staff for more than a week be compensated for by the grant of overtime allowance.

“This Conference requests the Government to issue immediate orders regarding enhanced house rent to postmen and to extend the grant of house rent allowance at such costly places where no house rent allowance is granted at present.

“This Conference protests against the amalgamation of the two Selection Grades in the R.M.S. into a single grade of Rs. 145—5—175—10—225 and requests that two separate grades be re-introduced.

“In view of the high cost of living including house rent at Poona, Ahmedabad and other costly places this Conference prays that an adequate local allowance be sanctioned for the R.M.S. Staff stationed at Poona and Ahmedabad.”

In presenting the annual report of the Association to the Conference the Secretary laid particular emphasis on the benefits to be obtained by Unionism and pointed out the more important matters which the Association had been successful in bringing to a satisfactory conclusion by

negotiation with Government. The removal of the Darbar Tax, the equalisation of the Dead Letter office with the General Post Office, the granting of house rents to all Departmental Post Masters in lieu of free quarters, the equalisations of the scales in the Suburbs of Bombay with the scales of the Bombay General Post Office, etc., are some of the questions in which the representations by the Association were fruitful of happy results.

The Balance Sheet of the Association for the year ending 31st March 1926 shows that the revenue realised during the year in contributions from affiliated Unions amounted to Rs. 8384-13-9 which together with a balance of Rs. 4180-14-11 carried forward from the previous year's account and other miscellaneous revenue brought the total receipts up to Rs. 12,954-2-8. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 7932-11-9, leaving a balance of Rs. 5021-6-11 to be carried forward as a surplus to the credit of the current year's account. The Budget for the year ending 31st March 1927 provides for a total revenue of Rs. 7782-0-0 and an expenditure of Rs. 7587-0-0.

The Bombay Presidency Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.—There is nothing of particular interest to report regarding the activities of this Association during the quarter under review. The dissatisfaction of the postmen at having been passed over at the time of the recent revision of pay of the clerical establishments in the Post Offices in Bombay City and its suburbs is still stated to continue and has lessened the interest of members in the doings of their Union.

The Ahmedabad Labour Union.—The Labour Investigator of the Government of Bombay at Ahmedabad states that the normal activities of the Federation as described in detail in previous reviews continued with unabated vigour during the quarter under report. Steps were taken to ascertain the opinions of the members of the Unions in regard to the Housing Programme described in the last review published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for June 1926. Workers who have so far recorded their opinion have unanimously accepted the scheme. The activities of the Samaj Sudhar Sangh are progressing steadily. Information is being collected daily about the effect of drink on the individual as well as on the family. Articles are published in the *Majur Sandesh* from time to time on such subjects as the evils of drink, the use of vegetable ghee, aerated waters, etc. The weekly publication of the Union deals with matters relating to labour such as the protection of the Cotton Mill Industry, the system of fines, the payment of wages long after they are due, the cutting of wages for two days when workmen are absent on a Saturday or Monday, etc. The Union is looking forward to a time when there will be no unauthorised strikes and when the present system of recruitment of labour through jobbers and mukadams and the resulting corruption in mills will be substituted by a well organised and well regulated employment bureau which it is hoped will eliminate the chief cause for bribery. It was recently found that the jobbers in one or two mills were obtaining money from the workers under pretence of collecting Union fees. Prompt steps were taken to warn workers of this danger and to put a stop to this practice.

The G.I.P. Railway Staff Union.—In June 1923, this Union had 13 branches at stations all along the G.I.P. Railway System and more than 4,500 workers as members. Considerable disorganisation in the membership of these branches was occasioned as the result of retrenchment of staff and transfers from one station to another. The Union found itself in a hopeless condition at the beginning of the current year owing to the fact that there was no adequate revenue to meet necessary expenditure. Owing to heavy pressure of official work, the officers of the Unions could find very little time to attend to the work of the organisation. Subscriptions fell into arrears, and at one time it appeared as if the Union would have to be wound up. Messrs. S. C. Joshi, M.A., LL.B., Advocate, and P. S. Bakhale, however, took an active interest in the work of this Union and together with the Managing Committee have launched a scheme of reorganisation and reconstruction. It has been decided to convert the original District Branches of this Union into separate Unions and to make the main Union into a Federation to which the District Unions will be affiliated. Three separate Unions of the workers on the Staff of the G. I. P. Railway administration have already been formed in Bombay City. These are (1) The Victoria Terminus Commercial Staff Union; (2) The Wadi Bunder Staff Union; and (3) The Audit Offices Staff Union. Messrs. Joshi and Bakhale are now taking up the work of reorganising the three branches at Poona, Manmad and Sholapur, which had not entirely ceased to function, into separate Unions.

The Bombay Port Trust Employees' Central Union.—This Union is an entirely new Federation which has been formed during the quarter under review. As already stated at the beginning of this article it includes (1) the old Union of the employees of the Bombay Port Trust Workshop, (2) the reconstructed Union of the employees of the Bombay Port Trust Railway; and (3) the new Union recently formed for the Docks' workers. The constitution of the Federation has not yet been decided upon. The Bombay Port Trust Workshop Union still continues to be an affiliated member of the Central Labour Board and it is also a member of the new Federation—an anomalous position which will have to be rectified.

PROGRESS OF THE INDIVIDUAL UNIONS

BOMBAY

The Bombay Textile Labour Union.—The membership of this Union rose from 8940 in the previous quarter to 9640 during the quarter under review. 7012 members are reported to have paid their subscriptions up to and for the month of August. The rules of the Union allow the retention of the names of those members who have not paid their fees for six consecutive months, on the membership rolls. The average monthly income for the third quarter of the current year amounted to Rs. 1573-10-3 and the expenditure during the same period was Rs. 1033-1-0 per month. Cash balances in hand as at 1st September 1926 amounted to Rs. 6953 which must be considered as very satisfactory in view of the fact that this Union has only been in existence for a little over eight months at the time of writing this Review.

Altogether five centres have now been opened: (1) Madanpura; (2) Kurla; (3) DeLisle Road; (4) Chinchpokli; and (5) Damodar Hall. Membership cards in Urdu and Marathi have been printed and distributed among the members. These cards show the names and addresses of the members, the centres at which they are registered, the official numbers which are assigned to them and records of subscriptions paid under the signature of the Secretary of the Branch. Active propaganda work is being undertaken by the display of big posters at prominent places throughout the mill areas. These posters advertise the formation of the Union, give brief summaries of its work and invite all cotton mill operatives to join the Union. The constitution of the Union has now been framed. The management is vested in a Central Managing Committee. The functions of Central Committees and Mill Committees, which have also been provided for, are purely advisory. The Managing Committee consists of the office-bearers of the Union and representatives of the workers elected by the members in the proportion of one for each 200 members from each mill. Each Central Committee consists of the President and the General Secretary of the Union and the representatives of members from the mills which are attached to the Centre in proportion of one member for each hundred members working in each mill. The Mill Committees consist of the President, the General Secretary, the Secretary of the Centre to which a particular mill is attached and the representatives of that mill in such proportion as may be fixed from time to time by the Managing Committee. The idea underlying this elaborate organisation is to give the workers themselves as great a voice as possible in the conduct of the Union. The objects of the Union are defined as follows:—

- “(1) To organise and unite the textile workers in the City, Island and Presidency of Bombay;
- “(2) To secure to its members fair conditions of life and service;
- “(3) To try to redress their grievances;
- “(4) To try to prevent any reduction of wages, and, if possible, to obtain an advance whenever circumstances allow;
- “(5) To endeavour to settle disputes between employers and employees amicably so that a cessation of work may be avoided;
- “(6) To endeavour to provide against sickness, unemployment, infirmity, old age and death;
- “(7) To endeavour to secure compensation for members in cases of accidents under the Workmen's Compensation Act;
- “(8) To provide legal assistance to members in respect of matters arising out of, or incidental to, their employment;
- “(9) To endeavour to render aid to the members during any strike or lockout brought about by the sanction of the Union;
- “(10) To obtain information in reference to the Textile Industry, in India and outside;
- “(11) To co-operate and federate with organisations of labour particularly textile labour, having similar objects, in India and outside;

"(12) To help, in accordance with the Indian Trade Unions Act the working classes in India and outside in the promotion of the objects mentioned in this rule; and

"(13) Generally, to take such other steps as may be necessary, to ameliorate the social, educational, economic, civic and political condition of the members."

The most important activity of the Union during the quarter under review was the compilation of the Labour Representation submitted to the Indian Tariff Board (Cotton Textile Industry Enquiry) and the submission of the Union's replies to the Board's Questionnaire. This representation has been summarised in pages 61 to 66 of this issue.

The Union has taken considerable interest in the adjustment, by conciliatory representation to the mill managements concerned, of grievances submitted to the Union in the form of complaints. Appendix A to the Labour Representation submitted by the Union to the Indian Tariff Board shows that the total number of complaints lodged with the Union office since its inception in January 1926 amounted to 166 of which 51 or a little over 30 per cent. were successfully negotiated with the employers. Twenty-five were unsuccessful, 26 were either dropped or cancelled and 64 are still pending settlement. More than 33 per cent. of the complaints concerned dismissals. There were 21 complaints in respect of fines, 25 in connexion with the withholding of wages, 12 for refusal to re-employment, 5 for gratuities, 9 for compensation, 9 for assaults, 7 for reductions in rates of wages and 24 for miscellaneous reasons. The Union was entirely unsuccessful in arriving at any satisfactory results regarding reductions in rates of wages. Its most successful endeavours were in connexion with the question of withholding of wages and satisfaction in respect of assaults.

The Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants of India and Burma, Ltd.—

The number of members standing on the rolls of the Society on the 1st September 1926 amounted to 2,231, and showed, in comparison with the previous quarter, an increase of two members. The following table shows the distribution of the members over the various railways in India:—

Railway Administration	Class of Members					Total number of members
	A	B	C	D	E	
G. I. P. Railway ..	826	65	42	34	46	1,013
B. B. & C. I. Railway ..	73	10	14	23	28	148
M. & S. M. Railway ..	46	37	29	120	59	291
S. I. Railway ..	53	4	11	5	10	83
N. W. Railway ..	96	5	8	13	1	123
N. G. S. Railway ..	26	27	28	73	13	167
E. I. Railway ..	191		4	26	1	222
O. & R. Railway ..	19	15				34
Other Railways ..	56	14	28	43	9	150
Total ..	1,386	177	164	337	167	2,231

The numbers of members of different classes shown against each Railway are members who definitely belong to one or the other of the fifty-two branches of the Society which are scattered over the whole of India. The number of members of the rolls of the Society's Voluntary Legal Defence and Protection Fund amounted to 1528 as on the 31st July 1926. The Voluntary Sick Benefit Fund had 100 members and the Family Benefit Fund 430 members on the same date. The average monthly income during the quarter under review amounted to Rs. 2500 and the average monthly expenditure to Rs. 2425.

The Indian Seamen's Union.—The number of members of this Union increased from 11,597 to 14,973. In the last Quarterly Review which was published in the issue of the *Labour Gazette* for June 1926, it was pointed out that the figure of 11,597 shown as the number of members of this Union for the second quarter of the current year was the same as the figure given for the first quarter because it was not known as to how many members of this Union had joined the new Seamen's Union and also as to how many members of the latter were new Trade Unionists. The Secretary of the Union now states that the actual number of members belonging to the class of Goanese Saloon Crew now stands at 8975 and that about 2600 members of the old Union must have registered themselves as members of the new Union. It would therefore be more correct to say that the number of members of the Indian Seamen's Union increased from about 9000 for the second quarter to about 15,000 or by more than 65 per cent. during the quarter under review. This large increase in membership is due to the admission of Indian Deck and Engine Crews as members of the Union. The Union has been carrying on extensive propaganda work during the last three months in order to make the Union thoroughly representative of all classes of seamen and has succeeded in registering 5968 Khalasis, Serangs, Tindals, etc., as members.

The most noteworthy feature in connexion with the Indian Seamen's Union during the whole course of its history was the judgment delivered by the Acting Chief Presidency Magistrate on the 18th August 1926 in the case where Mr. J. J. Athaide, a pleader of the High Court and the President of this Union, was charged with criminal breach of trust and forgery in respect of bonds worth about Rs. 18,000. Mr. Athaide was completely exonerated and it was held that the prosecution had failed utterly in making out even a *prima facie* case. The prosecution contended that Mr. Athaide had misappropriated an amount of Rs. 18,000 for his own use, whereas the management stated that the amount had been spent for financing the strike (a non-co-operation movement with the Government Shipping Brokers) of the year 1925. The Magistrate, in the course of his judgment, quoted a resolution passed at a meeting of the Indian Seamen's Union by virtue of which Mr. J. J. Athaide was authorised to act independently of the other Directors, and held that the money which was stated to have been misappropriated was spent *bona fide* for the purpose of the strike and picketing.

The Seamen's Union.—The membership of this Union increased from 2900 to 4000 or by 38 per cent. during the last three months. The

average monthly income amounted to Rs. 1138 and the expenditure Rs. 780. The management of the Union is vested in a committee of fifteen members elected by representative Goanese Village Clubs in Bombay City. Mr. L. Pereira of the P. & O. Office was elected as President and Mr. Marcelin Crus as Secretary. The officers of the Union state that they have been successful in securing services for 3800 members during the last six months and this is not surprising in view of the fact that all orders for Goanese Saloon Crew have been forwarded to the new Union by the Government Shipping Brokers since the formation of this Union. A movement to re-combine the two Seamen's Unions has been set on foot. Mr. J. P. Lobo, B.A., LL.B., who acted as Secretary of this Union since its inception has now resigned his appointment and he only acts in an advisory capacity.

The Girni Kamgar Mahamandals.—The Colaba Mahamandal ceased functioning during the quarter under review owing to several resignations from the members who work in the Colaba Land and Mill Company's Mills. The few members of this Mahamandal who did not resign were transferred to the Prabhadevi Mandal. Mr. Bhatavadekar's Chinchpokli Mandal has been in a state of inanition owing to the fact that Mr. Bhatavadekar himself has been out of employment for nearly six months and this conflicts with the principle of all the Mahamandals in Bombay which prescribes that all the office-bearers and the members of the Girni Kamgar Mahamandals should be active workers in Cotton Textile Mills. Mr. Bhatavadekar is now stated to be contemplating retirement from the field of active Trade Unionism and it is possible that he may agree to a fusion of his Mandal with the Mahamandals at Prabhadevi and Ghorupdev which are controlled, more or less, by Mr. Mayekar. In the event of this scheme materialising, the constitution of the three remaining Mahamandals will closely follow that of the Bombay Textile Labour Union—centres in different mill localities with the management and control vested in an apex Union—and not that of a Federation where each Centre or Branch is a distinct Union managing its own affairs and affiliated to a central organisation. Although the Prabhadevi and the Ghorupdev Mahamandals nominally continue as separate entities, the finance of these two Unions is centralised at the Prabhadevi Mahamandal.

The number of members of the Prabhadevi Mahamandal rose from 1321 to 1795 and in the Ghorupdev Mahamandal fell from 427 to 424. The Mahamandals are very strict in their returns of membership—the numbers returned representing members who have paid all subscriptions right up to the month for which the returns are made. The average monthly income of the Prabhadevi Mandal amounted to Rs. 343 and the expenditure to Rs. 186 and of the Ghorupdev Mandal to Rs. 102 and Rs. 77 respectively. The Ghorupdev Mandal has decided to give scholarships to the sons of all mill-hands who pass the Matriculation Examination and who intend to prosecute their studies in Arts Colleges for degree examinations. One such scholarship of Rs. 10 per month has been granted to a student in the Wilson College. This Union has also started a night school which is attended by about forty mill workers.

The number of complaints received during the quarter under review amounted to twelve out of which eight were successfully negotiated with the managements of the mills concerned in each case.

The Bombay Port Trust Dock Staff Union.—This Union was formed on the 1st July 1926. Mr. F. J. Ginwalla is the President, Mr. N. M. Joshi, M.L.A., is Vice-President and Mr. Kanji Dwarkadas is Honorary Treasurer. Mr. S. H. Jhabwalla is Honorary Secretary. The membership fees are 8 annas per month for clerks and superior staff with an entrance fee of one rupee and 4 annas per month for other adult males with an entrance fee of 8 annas. Boy menials have to pay 2 annas per month without any entrance fee. The number of members registered during the last two months amounted to 1223. The average monthly income amounted to Rs. 555 and the average monthly expenditure to Rs. 134. The Chairman of the Bombay Port Trust is stated to have promised to give the Union official recognition. He is also stated to have promised to give a sympathetic hearing and to look into all the grievances of the employees which are placed before him.

Government Peons' and Menials' Union.—The number of members of this Union increased from 547 to 579 during the quarter under review. The distribution over different Government offices is as follows:—

New Custom House	136
Income Tax Office	110
High Court	88
Old Custom House	74
Secretariat	59
Accountant General's Office	48
Small Causes Court	40
Public Works Department Secretariat	24
Total	579

The officials of the Union are very sanguine of obtaining official recognition. The Government of Bombay have refused to accord recognition to the Union in view of the fact that it is controlled by persons who are not in Government service. Government state that the office bearers should be elected from persons who are in active Government service or from the ranks of retired Government servants with the exception of a Paid Secretary who may be an outsider. The Union in their reply to Government have pointed out that the Government of India have recognised outsiders on the working and Advisory Committees of the Postmen's and Telegraphmen's Unions and that a similar concession should be accorded to the Union by the Local Government. It is the intention of the Union to start Unions of Government Peons and Menials throughout the whole of the Bombay Presidency and to convert the Bombay Union into a Federation of the several Mofussil Unions. It also intends to hold a Conference to discuss the grievances and disabilities of Government Peons and Menials particularly with reference to time scales of pay and adequate pensions. The average monthly income of

the Union during the quarter under review amounted to Rs. 121 and the expenditure to Rs. 70.

The Bombay Presidency Telegraph Peons' Union.—This Union improved its membership from 264 to 276. The management intend to organise District Unions of Peons in the Telegraph Department and to form a Central Association of these Unions in Bombay in the same manner as the Bombay Presidency Postal and R.M.S. Association. Two branches have already been opened at Belgaum and Poona with 10 and 11 members respectively but these are not functioning as yet as separate Unions. It is stated that as the result of a representation put up by the Union to the Post Master General, Bombay, on the 11th August 1926, the authorities have agreed to provide six additional posts in the superior subordinate Service to be filled by recruitment from the ranks of Telegraph Peons.

The Bombay Currency Association.—The number of members of this Union increased from 216 to 226. The third Annual General Meeting of the Association was held at the Sir Cowasji Jehangir Hall at Bombay on the 26th June 1926 under the Presidentship of Mr. Jamnadas M. Mehta M.A., LL.B., Bar.-at-Law, M.L.A. The Currency Officer, Mr. Murphy, was present together with the Assistant Currency Officers and the Treasurer of the Currency Office. The statements of accounts submitted to the meeting showed that collections of subscriptions and donations brought in Rs. 644-12-0 during the year ending 31st March 1926 which together with Rs. 653-9-5 brought forward from the previous year's account and Rs. 22-8-0 realised as interest on deposits made a total of Rs. 1320-13-11 on the revenue side. Expenditure accounted for Rs. 500 leaving a balance of Rs. 820-13-11 to be carried forward to the current year's account.

The Remaining Unions in Bombay City.—There is nothing of particular interest to report regarding the activities of the rest of the Bombay Unions. The C.I.P. Railway Workmen's Union has added 70 additional members to its rolls and the B.B. & C.I. Railway Employees Union 102 members. The Clerks' Union reports a membership of 903. The latest information in connexion with the membership, income and expenditure of those Unions not specially dealt with in this review is given in Tables II and III, printed on pages 82 to 95 of this issue.

AHMEDABAD

The activities of the six Unions of Cotton Mill Operatives in Ahmedabad which are under the control of the local Labour Union have been dealt with under the heading "Federations of Trade Unions."

The B.B. & C.I. Railway Employees' Association.—This Union shows a slightly increased membership during this quarter: 6000 as at 1st June, 6049 as at the 1st September. The Secretary of the Union reports that owing to his manifold activities in other directions, he has not been able to devote as much attention to the work of this Union during the last two years as he would otherwise have done. During the quarter under review, however, he visited several different centres with a view to extend the sphere of the Union's activities and to arrange for the collection of arrears of subscriptions. The balance sheets for the last three years have now been prepared and audited but have not yet been placed before a general meeting of its members.

The Poona Post & R.M.S. Union.—This Union is the oldest District Union in the Bombay Presidency and was founded in the year 1905. It incorporated all classes of Postal employees. The postmen and messengers in the Postal Department in the Poona Division were the first to create a separate Union of their own. At the beginning of the current year the Railway Mail Service employees in the Poona Division seceded from the parent Union and formed a separate association under the name of the Poona R.M.S.—B Division Union. The membership of the Union therefore fell from 356 to 243. Mr. N. V. Bhanda, B.A., LL.B., is the Secretary of the Postal Union and Mr. V. B. Bhada, B.A., LL.B., is the Secretary of the R.M.S. Union. Each Union publishes its own monthly *General Letter* periodicals devoted to the ventilation of the grievances of all classes and grades of Postal employees and to the improvement in the conditions of pay and service of all branches of the Postal Department.

The Union maintains a free reading room and a good library, containing books on Postal matters, for the benefit of its members. In addition to the monthly publication of the *General Letter*, it issues a bi-monthly vernacular pamphlet called the *Dust-Patrika* for postmen. The Death Relief Fund of the Union gives donations of Rs. 25 to the heirs of each deceased member who has paid his subscriptions regularly. The Union issues invitations from time to time to various distinguished public men to deliver lectures on questions connected with Labour and the advantages of Trade Unionism. Among the persons to be recently invited for this purpose were Mr. N. M. Joshi, M.L.A., and Mr. J. J. M.L.A. The main activity of the Union during the quarter under review was confined to propaganda work in an endeavour to bring into the Union all non-Unionist Postal employees in the Poona Division. The Reserve Fund of the Union amounts to Rs. 1500 and the balance on hand in the current account was Rs. 1706 as at the 1st September 1926.

The Poona R.M.S.—B Division Union.—There is nothing of particular interest to report regarding the activities of this Union because it has been in existence for barely six months. The main reason why the Railway Mail Service Employees left the Postal and R.M.S. Union to form a separate Union of their own was to have an independent existence in order to better represent their own grievances to the authorities. With this end in view, this Union also, as already stated, publishes its own monthly *General Letter*.

The Poona District Postmen's & Lower Grade Staff Union.—This Union reported 232 members on its rolls as at the 1st September. Its average monthly income and expenditure during the quarter under review amounted to Rs. 41 and Rs. 36 respectively. The Union has started morning and night tuition classes for the benefit of its members with a view to improve their efficiency and prospects and the subjects taught are English and Geography. The Union also prints a periodical pamphlet in vernacular for the benefit of its members.

The Press Workers' Union.—This Union is only carrying on a nominal existence and its activities are confined only to the holding of annual general meetings for discussions of matters of topical interest and the election of office-bearers and a committee.

Indian Cotton Industry

Enquiry by the Tariff Board

The following questionnaire was issued by the Tariff Board—

SECTION I

General

1. Do you consider that the present depression in the Cotton Textile Industry is confined to Bombay or that it also extends to Ahmedabad and to up-country centres generally? Does it affect all mills in the same centre alike?
2. To what extent do you consider the depression due to the operation of world factors, of factors special to India or of factors special to a particular locality in India?
3. Do you consider that the causes of the present depression in the industry are of a temporary or permanent character?
4. Do you consider that, unless the present margin between the price of raw cotton and the price of yarn and piece-goods increases any mills now working will be compelled to close down?
5. Do you consider that producers of yarn and piece-goods generally (a) in Bombay, (b) in Ahmedabad and (c) in up-country centres with which you are acquainted are at present realising no profit on their sales or selling at a loss?
6. What effect do you consider that a further fall in the price of raw cotton would have on the prosperity of the industry?
7. How far can the present depression in the industry be attributed to lack of confidence in the stability of the present level of prices of raw cotton, of yarn and of piece-goods?
8. How far do you consider that the depression in the industry can be attributed to the fact that the fall in the price of cloth has not corresponded with the fall in the price of cotton and that of other commodities?
9. Do you consider that there has been a fall in the purchasing power of the ryot since the war, and if so, to what extent has this fall in purchasing power contributed to the depression in the mill industry?
10. Do you agree with the view that, owing to the low prices of gold and silver, consumers prefer to invest their savings in the precious metals and to restrict their purchases of cloth to a minimum?
11. How far can the present depression in the industry be attributed to lack of organisation among the mill-owners generally or in any specified directions?
12. How far has the depression in the industry been reflected in the number of mills which have (a) changed hands, (b) closed down, (c) gone into liquidation since 1922 and in that of projected mills in which work has not been started or has been suspended since that date? If you are in a position to give information in regard to a particular mill falling under any of these heads please do so.

SECTION II

Nature and extent of competition between imported goods and those of Indian manufacture

13. How far do you consider that the present depression in the industry can be attributed to the loss of the Chinese market for yarn? How far do you consider that the heavy fall in the exports of yarn to China since 1917 can be attributed to foreign competition, to scarcity and dearness of freight, to the expansion of the weaving industry in India or to a combination of all these causes?
14. How far do you consider the present depression in the industry due to increasing competition both in regard to quantity and price of imported yarn and piece-goods (a) from Japan and (b) from other countries?
15. What counts of imported yarn and lines of imported piece-goods compete directly with the production of Indian mills?
16. Please give as complete a range of figures as you can covering as long a period as possible of prices *ex godown* Bombay or Calcutta of imported yarn and piece-goods which compete with yarn and piece-goods manufactured in India. The prices *ex mill* of the Indian manufactures with which the imported goods compete should also be given.
17. Do you consider that any yarns or piece-goods imported from Japan or other countries are placed on the Indian market at prices which would not cover their cost of production in India or at prices which are lower in India than those at which they are placed in other markets (excluding freight and duty)? If so, please furnish samples of such yarn or piece-goods, if possible, with particulars of prices. Can you furnish any evidence to show that such goods are placed on the Indian market at prices which after deducting freight and incidental expenses would not cover the cost of their production in the exporting country?

18. Do you consider that any yarns or piece-goods exported from Japan or other countries are placed on any foreign market at prices which are lower than the cost of production of similar Indian goods plus freight and import duty? To what extent, if any, has India lost foreign markets as a result of such competition?
19. The total imports of yarn of counts under 30s into India in 1924-25 were less than 1.3 per cent. of the production of Indian mills. In these circumstances do you regard the competition of imported yarn as a serious factor, and if so, why? Do you consider the percentage likely to increase?
20. It has been estimated that before the war not more than 3 per cent. of the imports of piece-goods from the United Kingdom competed directly with the production of Indian mills and that since the war the percentage has not been more than 1 per cent. Do you accept these figures? If not, please give your reasons.
21. It has been estimated that 70 per cent. of the imports of piece-goods from Japan compete directly with the production of Indian mills. Do you accept this figure? If not, please give your reasons.
22. It has been estimated that 10 per cent. of the imports of piece-goods from countries other than the United Kingdom and Japan compete directly with the production of Indian mills. Do you accept this figure? If not, please give your reasons.
23. Do you consider the imports of piece-goods into India from the United Kingdom, Japan, Italy or any other country likely to increase, and if so, why?
24. To what extent do you consider that imported piece-goods from Japan compete with those (a) from the United Kingdom and (b) from other countries? Do you consider this competition likely to increase in the future?
25. To what extent do you consider that the competition of imported piece-goods from Japan with the production of Indian mills has been accentuated by the fall in the Japanese exchange? Please give figures in support of your view. Have you any criticisms to offer of the table given in paragraph 57 of the representation of the Bombay Millowners' Association and of the assumptions on which it is based?
26. To what extent do you consider that the competition of imported goods from countries other than Japan with the production of Indian mills has been accentuated by fluctuations in the exchange of the exporting countries? Please give figures in support of your view. Do you consider that the competition from foreign countries other than Japan is likely to increase in the future owing to the exchange factor?
27. To what extent do you consider that the competition of imported goods with the production of Indian mills has been accentuated by fluctuations in the sterling rate of the rupee? If the rupee is stabilised at 1s. 6d., what effect will it have on the industry?
28. To what extent do you consider that the competition of imported piece-goods with the production of Indian mills is facilitated by the difference between the conditions of labour in the exporting country and in India?
29. To what extent do you consider that the competition of imported piece-goods with the production of Indian mills is promoted by direct or indirect State assistance to the industry in the exporting country? Are you in a position to give any specific information on this point?
30. Do you consider that the competition of imported piece-goods with the production of Indian mills is in any way assisted by special facilities in the matter of credit obtained by the exporting houses in their own country or offered by them to buyers in India?
31. How far do you consider that the competition of imported piece-goods with the production of Indian mills is facilitated by greater attention paid by exporters to the requirements and preferences of Indian middlemen and consumers in regard to such matters as quality, finish and packing?
32. Has there been any marked change in the quality of piece-goods imported into India of recent years from Japan or any other country?
33. Can you give any specific instances in which any line of Indian yarn or piece-goods has been ousted from or seriously handicapped in the home or foreign market or any part of it by imports from Japan or any other country?
34. Do you consider that there are any signs of a growing preference on the part of Indian consumers for finer qualities of cloth than those ordinarily produced in Indian mills and that this preference is working to the disadvantage of Indian mills as compared with their competitors?

SECTION III

Internal Competition

35. To what extent, if any, do you consider that the extension of mills and the establishment of new mills in up-country centres have affected the prosperity and future prospects of the industry (a) in Bombay and (b) in Ahmedabad?
36. What advantages, if any, do you consider that Bombay mills have over mills in Ahmedabad and up-country centres?
37. Can you give an estimate of the relative advantages that mills in (a) Ahmedabad and (b) any up-country centre with which you are acquainted have over mills in Bombay owing to (a) proximity to large up-country markets, (b) proximity to coal fields, (c) proximity to sources of supply of raw materials?

38. To what extent does the hand-loom industry compete with the mill industry? Has there been any change in this respect of recent years?

39. Can you furnish any information as to the extent of the production of hand-spun yarn and hand-loom piece-goods?

SECTION IV

Mill Management

40. The British Safeguarding of Industries Act lays down *inter alia* that no order shall be made under Part I unless it is established that the industry manufacturing similar goods in the United Kingdom is being carried on "with reasonable efficiency and economy." Do you consider that this criterion is satisfied by the industry (a) in Bombay and Ahmedabad and (b) in India generally?

41. Please state your views in detail on the managing agency system. If you consider the system defective, please state in what way you regard it as defective. Do you consider any efficient substitute for the managing agency system possible?

42. Is the system of remuneration to managing agents by commission on profits or that by commission on production the more common? Which do you consider preferable?

43. In addition to remuneration by commission on production or on profits do managing agents also receive an allowance for office expenses and commission (a) on purchases of cotton, (b) on purchases of machinery, mill stores and coal, (c) on sales of cotton, (d) on sales of yarn and cloth, (e) on insurance, advertisement or other activities? Where the commission is on production, does the agency agreement usually provide for a minimum commission irrespective of profits?

44. Is the association of managing agents with any other classes or kinds of business common, and, if so, do you consider it is in any way detrimental to the interests of the industry?

SECTION V

Mill Finance

45. To what extent can the present depression in the industry be attributed to the over-capitalisation or the under-capitalisation of the mills in Bombay, Ahmedabad and up-country centres?

46. To what extent can the present depression in the industry be attributed to extensions of mills and replacements of machinery undertaken when prices were at their highest?

47. Do you consider that there was an unduly liberal distribution of profits by mills between 1917 and 1923? If so, please give figures in support of your view and state whether you consider that the present depression in the industry can to any extent be attributed to this cause.

48. Have you any criticisms to offer of the way in which mills have obtained their capital, i.e., of the way in which it is divided between (a) ordinary shares, (b) preference shares, (c) debentures, (d) loans, (e) reserve fund and (f) depreciation and other funds?

49. Have you any criticism to offer on the way in which mills obtain their working capital? To what extent is the system of obtaining this capital by means of short term loans from the general public prevalent (a) in Bombay, (b) in Ahmedabad and (c) in up-country centres? Do you consider this system a sound one?

50. How far is it the practice of the mills to invest funds in allied concerns? Do you consider this practice a sound one?

51. Do mills now experience greater difficulties in obtaining finance than in pre-war years? If so, to what extent has this contributed to the general depression in the industry?

52. Can you give any information as to the rate at which money is borrowed by the industry in India and in Japan?

SECTION VI.—COSTS OF PRODUCTION

(a) General

53. What size do you consider a mill with both spindles and looms should be in order to ensure the most efficient and economical working? Can you give an approximate estimate of the capital required in pre-war conditions and at the present time to establish such a mill (a) in Bombay, (b) in Ahmedabad and (c) in up-country centres? Can you give an idea of the approximate cost per spindle of establishing such a mill in 1914 and 1926 respectively in India as compared with the United Kingdom and Japan?

54. Are mills generally (a) in Bombay, (b) Ahmedabad and (c) up-country centres of a size, type and lay-out conducive to economical working?

55. To what extent do you consider that the efficiency of Indian mills is hampered by the use of old machinery?

56. Please give for any mill in regard to which you are in a position to give such information a statement in the form attached as Appendix A of the costs of production in pias per pound for one

pound of grey yarn of 20s counts and for one pound of standard grey calendered long cloth. For purposes of comparison the figures should be given for 1913, 1914, 1920, 1924 and 1925 (if available).

N.B.—The exact period covered, where this differs from the Calendar year should be stated. The counts of warp and weft used for and the reed and pick of the standard long cloth should also be stated.

57. In which of the elements making up the cost of production do you consider Indian mills are at a special disadvantage as compared with their competitors?

58. In which of the elements making up the cost of production are mills in Bombay at an advantage or disadvantage as compared with mills in Ahmedabad and up-country centres?

59. To what extent, if any, are the costs of production in Bombay as compared with those in Ahmedabad and up-country centres affected by the greater humidity of its climate? To what extent does the provision of humidifiers add to or lower the cost of production?

(b) Raw Material

60. Please describe in detail the methods adopted by the mills in purchasing raw cotton (a) in Bombay and (b) in the cotton districts. Please state how these differ from those adopted in Lancashire and Japan.

61. How far do you consider that speculative purchases of (a) spot cotton and (b) cotton futures have contributed to the present depression in the industry? Can you suggest any method by which the element of speculation in such purchases could be reduced?

62. It has been frequently stated that the prices at which cotton is purchased by Indian mills are often higher than the prices paid for cotton for export. Do you consider this statement correct? If so, can you give any information as to the margin between the two prices? Can you suggest any reason why there should be such a margin or any means by which it can be avoided?

63. To what extent can the present depression in the industry be attributed to the purchase of cotton at prices higher than those now prevailing?

(c) Labour

64. The Bombay Millowners' Association hold that "the main factor which has contributed to the present increased cost of manufacture is the higher remuneration given to labour for a smaller unit of work as compared with pre-war years." Do you accept this view? How far does it also apply to Ahmedabad and up-country centres?

65. Do you consider that there was an unduly liberal distribution of bonuses to operatives between 1918 and 1923? If so, please give figures in support of your view and state whether you consider that the present depression in the industry can to any extent be attributed to this cause?

66. To what extent, if any, did (a) spinning and (b) weaving production suffer as a result of the reduction in the hours of labour in 1922? Please give comparative figures for 20s yarn and standard grey calendered long cloth before and after the reduction.

67. Please state for any mill with which you are acquainted:

- the number of spindles in the ring frames, the lift of spindle and number of ring spindles per competent spinner;
- the number of looms per competent weaver;
- the total operatives in the spinning department per 1,000 spindles up to and including reeling and the average counts spun;
- the total operatives in the weaving department per 100 looms for grey and coloured goods respectively.

Please explain in detail how you have arrived at your figures.

68. Please give the rates of wages paid in the spinning and weaving departments of any mill with which you are acquainted with particulars of any changes in these since 1914.

69. Please state the average spinner's wage per pound of 20s yarn and weaver's wage per pound of standard grey calendered long cloth produced for any mill with which you are acquainted.

70. To what extent do you consider the textile industry in India is hampered in comparison with its competitors by the inefficiency of Indian labour? How does the efficiency of labour in Bombay compare with that in Ahmedabad and in up-country centres?

71. What is the percentage of absenteeism (a) in Bombay, (b) in Ahmedabad and (c) in any up-country mill with which you are acquainted? How far does the percentage of absenteeism vary from day to day in the week and how far is the variation seasonal? Is the percentage larger amongst female than amongst male operatives? To what extent do you consider that absenteeism could be reduced by the grant of good attendance bonuses and other privileges? Are such bonuses commonly granted?

72. How far does the "budli" system affect the efficiency of labour?

73. Can you furnish an estimate of the rate of labour turnover in the cotton textile industry (a) in Bombay, (b) in Ahmedabad and (c) in up-country centres?

74. How far are mills in Ahmedabad and in up-country centres at an advantage or disadvantage over those in Bombay in regard to the continuity of labour supply? To what extent do you consider that continuity could be secured by the grant of long service bonuses and the institution of provident funds? Are such bonuses and provident funds common?

75. To what extent do mills in Bombay, Ahmedabad and up-country centres house their labour and what return do they get on the capital invested in such housing? Do you consider that improved housing conditions would result in any improvement in the efficiency of labour? How far is it possible to secure such conditions in Bombay and Ahmedabad?

76. What are the present facilities for technical education (a) for operatives, (b) for supervising staff? To what extent is use made of these? To what extent do you consider that the efficiency of labour could be improved by increasing them?

77. The Bombay Millowners' Association express the view that wages in the cotton textile industry are higher than those generally prevalent in any other industry in India. Do you accept this view? If so, please give facts in support of your opinion.

78. Has there been any marked change in the standard of living of operatives since the war.

79. Do you consider that there is any scope for a reduction in the labour costs in mills in India by the introduction of automatic looms or of other labour saving appliances? Would any such reduction be more than counterbalanced by additional expenditure in other directions?

80. Do you consider that there is any reasonable prospect of securing a reduction in labour costs in the near future by training operatives to tend more spindles or looms? Has there been any improvement in this respect in recent years?

81. Do you accept the figures given in paragraph 129 of the Bombay Millowners' representation in regard to the saving in the cost of cloth as a result of working double shifts? Can you furnish an estimate of the saving that would be secured by double shift working for any mill with which you are acquainted.

82. Would it be possible or advisable to introduce double shift working in mills (a) in Bombay, (b) in Ahmedabad and (c) in up-country centres?

83. To what extent, if any, has legislation in recent years affected the cost of production? Please give full details under each head as far as possible.

(d) Overhead Charges

84. The Bombay Millowners' Association in their representation have supplied full details of the local taxation imposed in Bombay. Please supply similar details for any up-country centre with which you are acquainted.

85. For what purposes is insurance effected by the Indian mills? Do you consider the present position in regard to the amount of insurance and the methods of effecting it satisfactory?

86. What do you consider the correct percentage which should be allowed for depreciation and how should the depreciation fund be utilised? Do you consider that depreciation should be reckoned as a charge on cost of production or as a charge on profits? How far does the ordinary mill practice coincide with your views on these points?

87. On what principle are the stocks of cotton, mill stores and manufactured goods held by Indian mills valued for purposes of balance sheets? Is there an independent valuation or are the auditors content with certificates from the managing agents?

88. Is the audit of mill accounts a running audit or an annual one?

(e) Sales

89. Please describe in detail the different systems adopted by the mills in selling their products. Which system you consider preferable and why? Can you give any figures in support of your views?

90. Is the system of sales on long credit prevalent? What are your views regarding it?

91. Please give full details of the additions which have to be made at the present time to the prices of Indian and imported yarns and piece-goods *ex mill* and *ex godown* respectively to make up their cost to the consumer. How do these compare with those ruling in 1913? Are they the same in all cases for Indian and imported goods?

92. Do dealers in piece-goods now experience greater difficulties in obtaining finance than in pre-war years? If so, to what extent has this contributed to the present depression in the industry?

(f) Transport

93. Please give as full particulars as you can of the freights on cotton from India to the United Kingdom, Japan and Italy and on cotton from America, Egypt and Uganda to the United Kingdom, Japan, Italy and India.

94. Please give as full particulars as you can of the freights on piece-goods from the United Kingdom, Italy and Japan to India.

95. Can you give any instances of discrimination between Bombay, Ahmedabad and up-country centres in the rates of railway freight charged for the carriage of raw cotton, yarn, piece-goods and mill stores inwards or outwards?

SECTION VII.—SUGGESTIONS AS TO REMEDIAL MEASURES

(a) Suggestions put forward by the Bombay Millowners' Association

96. Are you in favour of the proposal that the customs duty on machinery and mill stores should be abolished? What difference in pices per pound of yarn or cloth produced would this make to the cost of production of any mill with which you are acquainted?

97. What are your views on the proposal that the Customs import tax should be abolished?

98. What are your views on the proposal that the town duty of Rs. 1 per bale levied in Bombay should be abolished?

99. Can you suggest any improvements in the present railway facilities for the movement of cotton, yarn and piece-goods?

100. Do you consider that any case can be made out for a reduction in the present rates of railway freight charged on cotton consumed by Indian mills and on piece-goods and yarn manufactured in India?

101. What are your views on the suggestion that the Government of India should negotiate with the steamship companies with a view to reducing the shipping freights from Bombay to Madras, Calcutta, Singapore, Basra, Zanzibar, Mombasa, Port Said, the Levant and all other export markets? Can you give a comparative statement showing the present freights between Bombay and these ports and those which ruled before the war?

102. What are your views on the suggestion that the Government of India should appoint Trade Commissioners to assist the export trade?

103. Can you suggest any other measures by which (a) those overseas markets for Indian yarn which have been lost could be recovered, (b) the present overseas markets for Indian yarn and piece-goods could be extended and (c) new markets could be opened?

104. The Bombay Millowners' Association have suggested the imposition of an additional duty of at least 13 per cent. on yarn and piece-goods imported from foreign countries which compete unfairly with India. Are you in favour of the imposition of such a duty (a) on imports from Japan alone, (b) on all imports, (c) on yarn of certain counts and on cloth of certain qualities? If the last, please state the counts and qualities on which you consider the duty should be imposed.

105. If you are in favour of such a duty, do you consider that it should be imposed as a temporary or a permanent measure?

106. Do you consider that the imposition of the proposed protective duty would result in a temporary or permanent increase in the price of all yarn or cloth or only of the yarn and cloth on which the duty was imposed? In either case, to what extent would the increased price affect the cost of living of the middle and lower classes?

107. Do you consider, on the other hand, that the result of the imposition of the proposed additional duty would merely be such increase in sales as might result from the displacement of imported yarn and cloth?

108. Do you consider that the internal competition between Indian mills would operate to restrict the increase in the price of yarn and cloth throughout the whole of India or only in local areas?

109. Do you consider that an increased import duty should be levied even if it increases the prices of yarn and cloth to consumers?

110. Do you accept the view of the Bombay Millowners' Association that the raising of the import duties to 11 per cent. did not raise the price of cloth or check its consumption? If so, please give figures in support of your views.

111. Do you consider that an increase in the duty on imported yarn and cloth would act as a restriction on the consumption of yarn and cloth? If so, do you consider that this would be in the best interests of the mill industry in view of the fact that the figures in paragraph 121 of the representation of the Bombay Millowners' Association show that exclusive of the production of handlooms the cloth available for consumption in India in 1924-25 was still 638 million yards below the figures for 1913-14 in spite of the increase in population in the interim?

112. To what extent, if any, do you consider that the increase in the duty on imported yarn and cloth would, by diverting yarn and cloth from India, unfavourably affect the position of Indian yarn and cloth in overseas markets?

113. What do you consider would be the effect on the handloom industry of the increase in the duty on imported yarn from 5 to 18 per cent.? In this connection, your special attention is drawn to the views expressed in paragraph 116 of the Fiscal Commission's Report.

114. The Bombay Millowners' Association have asked for the adoption of a scientific tariff by which presumably is meant the adoption of specific duties on yarn and cloth in lieu of *ad valorem* duties. What are your views on this suggestion and how would you propose that such a tariff should be framed (a) to maintain the protection given at its present level, (b) to achieve the objects desired by the Bombay Millowners' Association?

115. The Bombay Millowners have asked for additional protection beyond 13 per cent. to enable mills to make the necessary allowances for depreciation to plant and machinery. Do you support this proposal? If so, what additional protection do you consider would be required?

(b) Other Suggestions

116. Are you in favour of an export duty on cotton? If so, at what figure would you place it? To what extent do you consider such a duty would affect (a) the income of cotton growers, (b) the area under cotton, (c) the price of cotton in India and (d) the price of Indian cotton in overseas markets?

117. To what extent, if any, do you consider that the imposition of a duty on cotton at the rate you suggest would result in the replacement of Indian cotton in overseas markets by American or other cotton?

118. Can you suggest any improvements in the banking facilities at present available to the industry?

119. Do you consider that the position of the industry could be improved by better organisation of the millowners, i.e., by greater co-operation between the mills in such matters as the purchase of cotton, machinery and mill stores, the state of the finished products, the standardisation of lines and prices or by any other combined action?

120. How far would progress in spinning finer counts, i.e., counts above 30s in India affect the condition of the industry?

121. Do you consider that it would benefit the mill industry if different mills were to specialise to a greater extent than at present on certain counts of yarn or on certain types of cloth? Are mills at present equipped for specialisation?

122. Do you consider that the mill industry as a whole would benefit by extending its range of production and that, e.g., the Bombay mill industry would benefit if it were to pay greater attention to the requirements of the Calcutta market?

123. Do you consider that greater attention should be paid by the Indian mills to bleached, dyed and printed goods, to the utilisation of waste and to subsidiary branches of production such as hosiery?

124. Do you consider that the full effect of the remission of the excise duty has yet been felt?

125. If there are any causes which, in your opinion, contribute to the depression in the industry other than those mentioned above, please state them with suggestions as to possible remedies.

126. Can you suggest any methods of assisting the industry other than those which have been referred to in the above questions?

SPECIAL QUESTIONS FOR THE BOMBAY MILLOWNERS' ASSOCIATION

1. In paragraph 130 of their representation, the Association have asked for the adoption of a scientific tariff so that the goods which Indian mills can manufacture and supply to India shall not be open to unfair competition from foreign competitors. Please explain exactly what is meant by a scientific tariff and how the Association consider it should be framed to achieve the object they have in view.

2. In paragraph 131 of their report, the Association ask for protection in addition to the 13 per cent. proposed in that paragraph to enable mills to make the necessary allowances for depreciation to plant and machinery. What additional duty do the Association consider should be imposed for this purpose?

3. Please give an account of the working of the Millowners' Association Mutual Insurance Fund for workmen's compensation and state whether the Millowners' Association has under contemplation any similar scheme for fire and other insurances.

REPLIES OF THE BOMBAY MILLOWNERS' ASSOCIATION

The following is a summary of the replies given by the Bombay Millowners' Association to the questionnaire issued by the Tariff Board, especially those replies relating to labour.

The Association pointed out that the depression in the industry was mainly due to factors peculiar to India and it was felt more severely in Bombay than in Ahmedabad and up-country centres, chiefly because Bombay is further from the cotton fields and the consuming markets of India. Except a few good mills with reserves, mills generally in Bombay were realizing no profits and unless there was a more substantial margin than at present between the price of raw cotton and the price of yarn and piece-goods, some mills in Bombay which were now working would have to close down. The present depression, in the opinion of the Association, could not be attributed to a lack of organization among the millowners.

As regards foreign competition, the Association pointed out that the industry was seriously affected by Japanese competition. In their opinion the establishment of mills in Native States and up-country centres had

also to a certain extent increased the internal competition which Bombay and Ahmedabad had to meet.

In reply to the question whether the industry was carried out "with reasonable efficiency and economy" the Association replied that with a few exceptions, the mills in Bombay, Ahmedabad and the other industrial centres were carried on efficiently and economically. The managing agency system which had lately been so much attacked, was, in the opinion of the Association, not defective. As far as Bombay mills were concerned, there was neither over-capitalisation nor under-capitalisation. There was no unduly liberal distribution of profits between 1917 and 1923.

In their original statement the Association pointed out that the main factor which had contributed to the present increased cost of manufacture was the higher remuneration given to labour for a smaller unit of work as compared with prewar years. Owing to the reduction of hours from 12 to 10 in 1922, the production of spinning mills had gone down by about 16 per cent. and of weaving mills by about 10 to 12 per cent. On the whole the reduction in hours had resulted in 13 per cent. less production in all departments. The decrease in hours increased the labour cost per lb. of cloth by approximately 13 per cent. Besides this, under the Workmen's Compensation Act, employers have to pay compensation to the operatives in cases of accidents. Mills have accordingly to insure themselves against this risk, the present rate charged being 3 annas per cent. on the total amount of wages paid, the rate last year being 4 annas per cent. About 60 mills had insured themselves against risk under the Workmen's Compensation Act and the total premia paid by these mills was about Rs. 1,25,000 per year.

It was pointed out by the Association that the number of operatives per 100 looms was 87, the number of looms per competent weaver being 2. The number of ring spindles per competent spinner was 160 to 180 and the number of operatives per thousand spindles 33. The average spinner got for his 160 spindles about Rs. 29 per month and an average weaver about Rs. 42 per month for his two looms.

As regards the efficiency of Indian labour, the Association pointed out that the Indian textile industry was hampered to a very considerable extent compared with the United Kingdom owing to the inefficiency of its labour. For example, while in India in counts up to 24s a man attended to 180 to 200 ring spindles, in Lancashire a girl would attend to 540 to 600 spindles. In India a man attended to two looms while in Lancashire a girl would attend to four and sometimes to six. In Ahmedabad labour was about as efficient as it was in Bombay but it was more efficient in up-country centres where it is very much less costly than in Bombay.

As regards absenteeism, the Association quoted the Labour Office figures which for June 1926 showed an absenteeism of 11.13 per cent. in Bombay City and Island, 2.54 per cent. in Ahmedabad and 15.5 per cent. in Sholapur. It pointed out further that the "badli" system materially affected efficiency in Bombay mills.

Asked whether the other mill centres had advantages or disadvantages over Bombay, the Association replied that in their opinion Ahmedabad

had an advantage over Bombay in regard to the continuity of the labour supply, having a much more permanent factory population, and a smaller amount of absenteeism. In up-country centres the position varied but in most centres there was difficulty in obtaining labour at certain seasons of the year. In the opinion of the Association, continuity of labour supply could not be secured by the grant of bonuses or the institution of provident funds. These methods had been tried in Bombay but had contributed nothing towards the solution of the labour problem owing to the migratory habits of the workmen.

As regards the housing of mill-labour, the Association pointed out that 18 mills in the Presidency had made some provision for the housing of their labour but at present the mills were not developing the practice of housing their workmen as the question of industrial housing had been taken up by Government. The mills paid 10 to 12 lakhs of rupees per annum towards the Government scheme for industrial housing. The Association was of opinion that the unpopularity of chawls built by Government had resulted in the overcrowding of mill chawls. As regards the question whether an improvement in the housing conditions would result in an improvement in efficiency, the Association was of opinion that better housing would improve efficiency only if the operatives could be taught to appreciate the improved accommodation now available in Bombay, but owing to illiteracy and the transitory nature of their work, any improvement in efficiency was bound to be slow. The return which the millowners got on the capital invested in mill chawls was in the neighbourhood of 1 to 1½ per cent., though in some cases it was even less than that.

The Association pointed out that some provision for the training of apprentices was made in the Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute, Bombay, and in the technical school started by the Bombay Social Service League. In the opinion of the Association, however, theoretically more extensive facilities for technical education would lead to greater efficiency of labour, but up to now these facilities had little effect on the workers owing to their illiteracy.

Asked whether there had been any marked change in the standard of living of operatives since the war, the Association replied that the operatives had not improved their standard of living though they spent more money. The Association did not think it possible to introduce double shift working in mills in Bombay.

In a memorandum which they submitted to the Tariff Board, the Association pointed out that one of the main causes of the present difficulties of the industry was the depreciated exchanges of countries like Japan. The second difficulty was that they had to face the unfair competition of Japanese mills which were allowed to work two shifts for 20 hours a day and to employ women and children at night. The third difficulty was that wages in the Bombay mills had increased to a greater extent than the cost of living and were in some instances two and a half times the prewar figure. And finally, the development of the industry was being retarded by excessive taxation. Income tax which used to be levied at 6 pies in the rupee had been raised to 1½ annas in the rupee.

Super-tax had been levied in 1919 at a flat rate of one anna in the rupee. In addition to these taxes there was a duty of 2½ per cent. on machinery and of 15 per cent. on stores since 1918. Since 1923 a cotton cess had also been levied.

These difficulties, the Association pointed out, being of a permanent character could be overcome only if Government protected the industry in some way. To neutralise the hardship caused by the exchange, the Association suggested that an increased duty should be levied on goods imported from the country with a depreciated currency equal to the depreciation of the exchange of that country. The Association expressed the opinion that the Imperial and Provincial Governments as well as the municipalities should make every effort to reduce taxation by cutting down their expenditure. As a first step the duties on machinery and mill stores should be abolished. Company Super-tax and the town duty of Re. 1 per bale of cotton should also go. The industry might further be assisted by (a) reducing freights on Indian mill-made goods to Calcutta, Delhi, Cawnpore, Lahore, Amritsar and other piece-goods and yarn markets, (b) negotiating with the steamship companies with a view to reducing the shipping freights to Madras, Calcutta, Singapore, Basra, Zanzibar, Mombasa, Port Said and the Levant and all other export markets, (c) appointing Trade Commissioners in various countries to assist the industry in export trade and (d) adopting a scientific tariff so that the goods which the Indian mills can manufacture and supply to India shall not be open to unfair competition from foreign countries.

Finally the Association pointed out that the industry required protection equivalent to 13 per cent. in order to be in an equal position with foreign countries and further additional protection to enable mills to make the necessary allowance for depreciation of plant and machinery.

LABOUR'S REPRESENTATION

The Bombay Textile Labour Union submitted to the Indian Tariff Board (Cotton Textile Industry Enquiry) a long and comprehensive representation expressing the views of the Union on the matters into which the Board was enquiring as well as a detailed reply to the questionnaire. We give the following extracts from it dealing particularly with the Union's evidence regarding labour and labour conditions in the mills in Bombay City.

At the outset, the Union desired to make it perfectly clear to the Board that the textile workers in Bombay were anxious to see the cotton mill industry restored to prosperity; and were therefore willing to support suitable measures calculated to remove the industry from its present deplorable position and place it on a sound and efficient footing. To the Millowners and the traders, bad times like the present might mean less profit and a little curtailment of some of their luxuries; but to the 150,000 operatives engaged in the mills in Bombay, they mean starvation and ruin. The Union however could not persuade itself to accept the measures

suggested by the Bombay Millowners' Association for the improvement of the industry. In the opinion of the Union, labour was one of the most essential factors for the successful working of any industry and in Bombay, this factor was so miserably weak that even under ideal conditions in respect of other elements that constitute the industry it would not be able to hold its own under the present circumstances. The first and foremost requirement for putting the industry on a sound footing with a view to restore it to prosperity, was radically to improve the present labour conditions and remove the hardships from which textile labour has been suffering for so many years. If that were done, the textile industry would be in a much better position than it is to-day to compete with countries like Japan and improve its future prospects.

The representation then goes on to deal in some detail with the conditions of labour.

Recruitment.—The system of recruitment of labour through head-jobbers and jobbers had led to many serious abuses and contributed considerably to the growing discontent among the operatives. In the early days of the industry there might have been some justification for employing jobbers to recruit people from their villages, but the times of scarcity of labour have long gone and there is plenty of labour available in Bombay which could be recruited directly by the mill authorities. It is notorious that several jobbers and women overseers called "Naikins" receive bribes or "Dasturi" varying from Re. 1 to Rs. 5 per month from the operatives at the time of employment and even during the continuance of their service. These practices naturally led to many dismissals of those who refused to give bribes which again was responsible for what is known as the "badli" system against which the millowners complained so bitterly.

The "Badli" System.—The Union maintains that the "badli" system is mostly the creation of the mill officials and that it is entirely in their hands to discard it. Frequent, summary and arbitrary dismissals and refusal to re-employment were the main causes of the constant change of the employees, and if suitable remedies were adopted to stop these practices the Union felt sure that the evils arising out of this system would be greatly minimised. In addition to these causes, illness in the family of the worker in addition to his own, other domestic troubles, family celebrations, social obligations, etc., force the worker to remain absent from his mill for a few days and in his absence he has to engage a substitute. This is inevitable. But the Union believes that some of the bad effects arising out of this system can be minimised if some leave, in addition to the weekly holidays that the worker gets under the Factories Act, was granted to him annually and if a few permanent extra workers were engaged by the mills. Moreover, the *badliwallas* were not necessarily inefficient. There was a considerable amount of unemployment and a large number of textile workers idle. It is from these unemployed that the *badliwallas* were generally recruited. They have experience of the work which they are asked to do and they therefore are not as inefficient as they were made out to be.

Wages.—The Union's representation dealt in some detail with the question of wages especially the statement of the Bombay Millowners' Association that 'as compared with 1910 the wages of mill operatives in Bombay have increased by well over 100 per cent.' The Union did not think that the figures given in the Millowners' Association statement were correct, but assuming they were, the idea sought to be conveyed, that the wages obtaining in 1910 or 1914 were adequate, was erroneous. The wages obtaining in prewar days were not only inadequate but they were not even subsistence wages. The Union was not prepared to accept the figures of prewar wages as given in the "Report on an Enquiry into the Wages and Hours of Labour in the Cotton Mill Industry" published by the Labour Office, Bombay, in 1921, and quoted from the second report of the Labour Office, particularly paragraphs 13, 14, 26 and 27, to show that the 1923 report "completely knocked the bottom out of the Millowners' argument" when they talked of over 100 per cent. increase in the textile workers' wages since 1910 or 1914. The Union therefore was unable to accept Rs. 30-10-1 as the average monthly earnings of the textile worker in Bombay. It was unable to work out its own average, but it believed that it must be something appreciably less than Rs. 30-10-1.

Deductions.—Fines inflict a very heavy burden on the poor resources of the operative and were inflicted for spoiling cloth, irregular attendance, negligent work, misbehaviour and absence without leave. No attempt was generally made to find out whether the faults alleged to have been committed by the workers were due to causes for which they alone were responsible. The fines were disproportionate and were levied with no consideration for justice. Pieces of cloth spoiled during the process of work, not necessarily through the fault of the operatives, were given to the workers and heavy deductions made from their wages. In July last in one of the Bombay mills spoiled cloth worth over Rs. 2000 was given to the workers and the amount of the price of the cloth deducted from their wages. Sometimes workers did not get the wages for the days worked by them before they left the mill to go to their native place for some reason or other. On their return, which might be from 3 to 6 months afterwards, they were told that their wages were forfeited, as they had infringed the company's rule as to the time limit within which they would pay wages. Wages were withheld also for absence without permission, failure to resume duty after the expiry of leave, etc. Some mill managers after some correspondence agreed to the payment of withheld wages, but the workers experienced considerable difficulties in getting them. The rates for piece-workers and fixed wage-earners are sometimes cut down without previous notice. Another grievance was the fact that as worker had to wait a month and a half to receive his first month's wages and the waiting period of a fortnight to get his subsequent payments added to his indebtedness, for the purchaser had to purchase his necessaries of life on credit and the shopkeeper naturally charged a little more than he would do if the purchases were made on cash payment.

"It is the firm conviction of the Union that the Bombay Millowners have brought the cotton mill industry to the present state mainly on account

of the condition in which they have allowed their labour to remain during the last seventy years and the starvation wages which they are giving them. If they still further reduce the workers' present poor standard of life by a cut in their wages, the Union shudders to think what will happen to the industry in the near future. The Union hopes that better counsels will prevail and the millowners will not take the suicidal step to cut down the workers' wages and add to their miseries," says the representation.

The Union then deals with the housing conditions of the industrial workers in Bombay quoting from Professor Burnett-Hurst's book on "Labour and Housing in Bombay" to show the terrible conditions under which the working classes live. The Union agreed that many of the chawls built by some of the millowners for their own employees were better than those described by Professor Burnett-Hurst, but such chawls were inadequate to meet the requirements of all the workers while the Development chawls were too expensive.

Inefficiency of workers.—The representation dealt in some detail with the inefficiency of the workers and adduced evidence in support of its contention that while the Indian labour may be less efficient than the Lancashire labour, it is not the fact that Indian labour is not worth the wages it receives as compared with Lancashire labour. The question had been incidentally considered by the Indian Factory Labour Commission of 1908 and from the calculations made by Mr. C. B. Simpson of Messrs. Binny & Co. of Madras, it was found that 2.62 Indian employees were equal to one English worker, but it was pointed out by the late Dr. T. M. Nair, one of the members of the Commission, that if the wages of the English mill operative were compared with those of the Indian mill operative, it was clear that for the same money, the Indian millowner got nearly double the work than an English millowner did. "When a charge of inefficiency was levelled against the Indian worker, factors other than the worker's skill, powers of endurance and capacity for continuous work which contribute towards efficiency, are generally ignored. Also it must be remembered that the worker's skill, powers of endurance and capacity for continuous work are subject to conditions over which he has no control whatsoever. Apart from climatic conditions, the conditions in the works are responsible to a great extent for the efficiency of the worker. The discomforts arising from excessive heat or humidification, want of ventilation, lack of facilities for taking the mid-day meal or rest during the recess hour, want of cleanliness, tend to deprive the worker of a lot of energy which would otherwise be used by him in attending to his work with the required concentration of mind. Also conditions outside the works such as good housing facilities, healthy recreation, etc., which keep a man in a fit condition and full of energy must be taken into consideration. It is a notorious fact that both the inside and outside conditions in this country are not half so favourable as in Lancashire. Again for want of skill, if there be really any, of the Indian workman he himself cannot be held responsible. Facilities for training must be provided by the millowners. It is absurd to expect the workmen to be skilled without receiving training. Sometimes it is said

that the workmen have made no progress in their skill, though the mill industry is in existence for over 70 years. Skill has to be acquired and for its acquisition facilities must be provided. Also, skill being an acquired quality, is not transmitted from generation to generation. The Union is surprised to hear the charges of inefficiency levelled by the millowners who have practically done nothing to increase the efficiency of their workmen. They are still indifferent. The Social Service League of Bombay has started a Textile Training School, but the millowners, excepting three or four of them, did nothing to help it, and no millowner is sending his employees to the School to receive training by providing scholarships for their maintenance till the course is completed.

Moreover, a good deal of the so-called efficiency of labour depended upon the provision of up-to-date labour-saving machinery, and Bombay is much more backward in this respect in comparison with western countries and also with Japan.

Dealing with absenteeism and the migratory character of Bombay labour the Union maintained that conditions of service, bad housing and the general climatic conditions in Bombay account for a good deal of the workers' absenteeism, but even under existing conditions absenteeism could be reduced provided the employers have the will to do so. The system of a production or efficiency bonus, if introduced, might help the employers in reducing absenteeism. The Union repudiates the charge that the workers absent themselves voluntarily because they have earned sufficient to keep body and soul together and lack the will to increase their wages to the maximum. The Union also refuted the statement that the Bombay labour is migratory.

Women workers.—The Union stated that the wages given to women were not even subsistence wages and must be increased considerably. In addition to the hardships and the disabilities of the women workers which they suffer in common with the mill operatives, there were a few more grievances which were peculiar to women. Some mills had not yet provided creches and in only a few mills were maternity benefits given. Most of the women workers in the mills had to work under forewomen who were mostly tyrants of the worst kind.

The absence of minimum human requirements was another point dealt with by the Union including the non-provision of accommodation for the workers to take their meals, no arrangement for cool drinking water, inadequate and unsatisfactory provision of latrines, etc. The Union also referred to the fact that very few mills in Bombay carry on any welfare work for their operatives. Again, the textile workers were not properly organised and the pace of organisation could be considerably hastened only if the millowners instructed the mill authorities, high and low, to treat the labour organisations with sympathy, give the organisers such facilities in their work as might be possible and, above all, give up altogether the policy of victimisation. If this were done, the Union was confident that the work of organisation would be much smoother and the industry would also gain much by an organised and well disciplined labour force.

In conclusion the representation says:—

"It is very difficult for the Union to recommend any concrete proposals.

But it may be stated that help should be given by way of subsidies or loans without interest (i) to improve the mill machinery and to put up automatic looms, if possible; (ii) to introduce specialisation and avoid over-production in particular grades and varieties and thus eliminate internal competition; (iii) to make experiments by which the mills may be able to improve their production; (iv) to make efforts by which the sales may be increased both in Indian and foreign markets; and (v) to train the workers to increase their efficiency and to better their conditions of life and service. The Union desires to make it perfectly clear that such help should be given only after the millowners satisfy the criterion referred to in the Board's questionnaire (question No. 40), viz., that of efficiency and economy, and if the millowners promise to radically improve the labour conditions. Further, this help should be given only for a temporary period during which the millowners should prepare themselves to face the world competition without any outside help. Money required to help the industry as suggested above, should be raised by a special direct tax which should be imposed upon those who are able to bear its burden."

Industrial Training

Much attention is paid to vocational training in connection with the general education schemes in Porto Rico.

In all rural schools agriculture is taught theoretically and practically. The boys are taught gardening, crop raising, stock raising, tree culture, fertilisation, marketing and soil conservation. The girls are taught gardening and marketing, home furnishing and housekeeping, health and sanitary measures, food selection and preparation, cooking, sewing and dress-making, lace-making. Altogether agriculture is being taught in 2476 rural schools. Nearly 2000 school gardens have been established and 505 lawns and flower-gardens are maintained by the pupils.

In the towns industrial training is a part of school work. For graduation from elementary schools, two years, and for graduation from high schools four years of manual training are required from boys and of domestic training from girls. Over 3000 pupils during the fiscal year received instruction in the manual arts courses and 7000 in the domestic science courses.

Special teachers are employed, rooms are set aside in school buildings and in some cases the municipalities have built small cottages for demonstration work. The work of the boys is sold and part of the proceeds given to the producers, and the girls also may sell part of what they produce and are allowed to work on Saturdays in the shops and stores, for which they receive \$1 a day. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, August 2, 1926.)

Ahmedabad Mill Chawls

PROVISION FOR HOUSING LABOUR

The Labour Office is at present engaged in conducting a house-rent enquiry in Ahmedabad. As the purpose of this enquiry is to ascertain the rise in rents over the prewar year, it was deemed necessary to exclude from its scope buildings let out free or at concession rents. And in order to determine the extent to which provision had been made by the mill owners in Ahmedabad for housing their labour a separate enquiry into mill chawls was conducted.

The method adopted for this enquiry was to send a circular letter to all the mills in Ahmedabad requesting them to furnish the necessary data in a form specially drawn up for the purpose. The information received was in some cases verified by the Labour Investigator, Ahmedabad.

GENERAL

The heading of this article is somewhat misleading. All the houses included in this enquiry are not owned by the mills nor do they conform to that type of tenement ordinarily met with in Bombay and known as a chawl. Some houses are taken on long lease by the mills and then rented out to their employees at a concession rent. Most of the working class houses in Ahmedabad have no more than a ground floor and chawls of the Bombay type are very rare. The term chawl has however been used because in common parlance it is associated with working class houses.

All the mills in Ahmedabad do not provide housing accommodation for their employees. Thirty mills or about 50 per cent. of the total provide accommodation to some of their workers. No mill provides accommodation for all its workers. The reason adduced for this in some quarters is that a certain portion of the working class population of Ahmedabad, particularly Mahomedans, do not like to live in mill quarters as they prefer staying in localities inhabited by their co-religionists.

The total number of tenements available to mill workers is 3530 out of which 3316 are occupied and 214 vacant. Of the total number, 92.4 per cent. are one-roomed tenements, 7.3 two-roomed and 0.3 three-roomed. It will thus be seen that the predominant type of tenement is the one-roomed tenement.

It would have been interesting to find out the average number of persons in each tenement and provision for collecting this information had been made in the schedule. Unfortunately, however, information on this point was furnished by only a few mills. The returns furnishing information showed that the number of persons per tenement was four. Cases of overcrowding are however not rare and in one case three families were found living in a single room.

The materials of which these chawls are built are in some cases entirely corrugated iron sheets and in others brick, clay, chunam and concrete roofed in a few cases with tiles but mostly with corrugated iron. Where

they are entirely of iron sheets, they are hot during summer, cold during winter and wet during the rains.

A complaint is frequently made by the Labour Union and the Sanitary Association that these chawls have no plinth at all. This makes the tenements very dark and ill-ventilated. But it may here be pointed out that not only are the mill chawls in Ahmedabad without any plinth but other similar tenements in Ahmedabad have also no plinth.

DIMENSIONS

The dimensions of the occupied tenements excluding verandahs are given below :—

Limits of dimensions in cubic feet	Tenements*		
	One-roomed	Two-roomed	Three-roomed
Below 1,000 cubic feet	162	....	....
1,000 c. feet and below 1,200	165	....	....
1,200 " " " 1,400	359	....	....
1,400 " " " 1,600	1,361	....	....
1,600 " " " 1,800	494	....	....
1,800 " " " 2,000	288	32	....
2,000 c. feet and over	223	210	10
Total	3,652	242	10

The average area of one-roomed tenements is approximately 1550 cubic feet.

RENT

The mills were asked to supply information regarding the rents charged in 1913-14 and in 1926. The nature of the information received was unsatisfactory. Several mills gave the range of rents and not the rents of individual tenements. In the absence of the data for individual tenements it was therefore not possible to ascertain the frequency of rents. All that is possible to do therefore is to give the average rental for the various kinds of tenements. The following table shows the average monthly rent in 1926 :—

Tenement	Monthly rent in 1926
	Rs. a. p.
One-roomed	3 0 5
Two-roomed	4 5 5
Three-roomed	9 0 0

It is not possible to calculate the percentage rise of rents in the case of all the tenements covered by the enquiry over the prewar year 1913-14. Some of the chawls were not in existence in 1913-14. In some cases the mills had changed hands and the data for the prewar year were therefore not available. Only for 794 one-roomed tenements was information for

* Excluding 12 two-roomed tenements for which dimensions are not available.

both 1913-14 and 1926 available. The average monthly rent based on these figures comes to Rs. 0-15-0 in 1913-14 and Rs. 1-12-1 in 1926, thus, representing an increase of 87 per cent.* This is substantially lower than the rise indicated by the Labour Office enquiry into working class rents in Ahmedabad conducted in 1924. This enquiry showed a percentage rise of 191·83 for one-roomed tenement over 1913-14.†

The methods of charging rents vary. In some cases tenements are let out free, in others the mill employees are charged less than outsiders, while some mills make no difference between their own employees and outsiders. The enquiry shows that only 59 one-roomed tenements out of the total are given free of charge by two mills. The occupants of these quarters are sepoy, firemen and coal-coolies living within the compounds of the mills. Fourteen mills out of thirty keep the chawls exclusively for the use of their employees. Out of the remaining sixteen, twelve make no distinction in regard to rent payable by outsiders and their own employees. The difference in the rents charged by the four mills is indicated below :—

Rent payable by employees	Rent payable by outsiders
Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
3 10 0	4 2 0
4 0 0	6 0 0
1 12 0	5 0 0
2 4 0	3 4 0

FACILITIES TO TENANTS

It is not possible to make any generalization regarding the facilities given to tenants. These vary from chawl to chawl. For instance, as regards the supply of water, some tenants can use the mill taps while others have to go a long distance to fetch well-water. In some chawls there is scarcity of water owing to the inadequate number of taps provided.

The supply of latrines and privies is generally inadequate and in at least three cases no privies have been built.

A New Factories Act in Alberta

One of the most important labour measures of the session of the Alberta Legislature which ended on 8th April 1926 was the new Factories Act.

As originally introduced, the Bill proposed to establish a working week of forty-eight hours in the establishments coming under the Factories Act; but, as a concession to employers throughout the province who expressed their disapproval of the legal eight-hour day, it was decided to establish a commission of two persons to investigate the subject of a forty-eight hour working week with regard to any or all of the industries carried on in a factory, shop or office, this commission to be appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council and to report at the next session of the Legislature. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, July 26, 1926.)

* Based on returns received from five mills only.

† See Labour Gazette for July 1925, pp. 1178-1180.

Reviews of Books and Reports

Fourth Year Book of the International Federation of Trade Unions, Amsterdam, 1926

This valuable year book is published in three languages, namely, German, French and English. The special feature of the fourth year book is that in addition to the usual tables, reports of various kinds, etc., it contains a table concerning the assets of the National Trade Union centres and their affiliated organizations at the end of 1924, a lengthy description of the various orientations in the International Trade Union Movement, the rules of the International Federation of Trade Unions, the chief provisions of the Rules of the affiliated trade union centres, etc.

The statistical information though a little out of date is clearly presented. On the whole, this is a very valuable book of reference.

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Report of the Immigration Department of the Government of Jamaica for the year ended 31st December 1925. (Immigration Office, Kingston)

We have received from the Government of Jamaica a Report on the working of the Immigration Department for 1925. There were no immigrants introduced during the year and none were repatriated or re-indentured. There are now approximately 17,822 Indians in the colony, the majority of whom are employed in various manual occupations including agricultural labourers, planters, mechanics, shopkeepers, market gardeners, traders, goldsmiths, cartmen, domestic servants and nurses. There are also a number of East Indian men and women who are employed as chauffeurs, clerks and typists. An approximate statement which it is stated does not fully represent the true value of the property shows that land owned by East Indians consists of over 11,576 acres of the value of £76,503. The live stock owned by East Indians is valued at £18,913. There were 82 destitute orphans being cared for by Government in orphanages, etc., and there were 1265 children attending Government elementary schools, an increase of 31 over the previous year. Two hundred and eight East Indians were in receipt of Government relief in alms houses, lunatic asylums, etc. The Indian population who have been born in Jamaica or who have completed ten years' residence in the island possess the same political rights as the native population and the number of East Indians registered as voters in the year 1925 was 456. The Protector of Immigrants remarks that constant use is made of his office for identification, interpretation and other purposes and daily application is made by immigrants requiring medical treatment, poor relief, help or advice in connexion with domestic disputes, legal affairs, employment and other matters "that necessarily arise in the life of people who still look to the Department for protection and assistance in all their difficulties and enterprises."

Current Periodicals

Summary of titles and contents of special articles

THE LABOUR MAGAZINE—VOL. V, NO. 4 (Official Monthly Journal of the Labour Movement, London.)

- Special Articles:* (1) *Labour and the Land*, by the Rt. Hon. Noel Buxton, M.P.—Public ownership; acquisition of the land; meaning of amenity value; the state landlord. pp. 147-149.
 (2) *The Tory Attack on Constitutional Local Government*, by the Rt. Hon. John Wheatley, M.P. (Minister of Health in the Late Labour Government). pp. 150-152.
 (3) *Memories and Reflections*, by Propagandist. pp. 153-155.
 (4) *The "Open Shop" and the "Shop Union"*, by Herbert Tracey. pp. 156-158.
 (5) *National Health Insurance from the Labour Point of View*, by Gertrude M. Tuckwell. pp. 159-161.
 (6) *"The Scottish Worker" (May 10th to May 15th, 1926)*, by William Elger, J.P. (Secretary, Scottish Trades Union Congress General Council). pp. 162 and 163.
 (7) *Why the Great Strike was Worth While*, by W. E. Bowen. (President of the Isle of Wight Divisional Labour Party). pp. 164-167.
 (8) *The General Strike in Sweden in 1909*, by Sven Backlund. (Foreign Editor of "Ny Tid") pp. 172-174.
 (9) *In the "Eight-fifteen"*, by T. S. Dickson. pp. 175-177.
 (10) *Nicolas Tcheidze*, by D. Sharashidze. (Member of the Georgian Social Democratic Party), pp. 178 and 179.

Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INDUSTRIAL WELFARE—VOL. VIII, NO. 90. (Industrial Welfare Society, London.)

- Special Articles:* (1) *Further Notes on Superannuation Funds*, by Bernard Robertson. pp. 183-185.
 (2) *Psychotechnical Examination of Employees*. By Dr. Glasel. Fitness for duties; psychotechnical examination; grades examined; testing the individual; sorting test; judgment by results; engine drivers; types of tests; work and sight tests. pp. 185-189.
 (3) *Hostels for Industrial Workers*, by Constance Ursula Kerr. pp. 189-195.
 (4) *The Duke of York's Camp*, by J. C. Paterson, (Camp Chief, 1926). pp. 196 and 197.
Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INDUSTRIAL WELFARE, VOL. VIII, NO. 91. (The Industrial Welfare Society, London.)

- Special Articles:* (1) *Further Notes on Superannuation Funds*, by Bernard Robertson. pp. 218-220.
 (2) *Bryant & May's Welfare Work*.—Meals; medical arrangements; dental clinics; laundry and cloak rooms; social club for girls; men's clubs; sports; long service medals; works committees; provident schemes—non-contributory life insurance; staff pension fund; savings bank; tontine societies; insurance on marriage; housing; unemployment relief. pp. 222-227
 (3) *Welfare Work in the Dyeing and Cleaning Industry*.—II Dental scheme. pp. 228-232.
Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INDUSTRIAL WELFARE, VOL. VIII, NO. 92. (The Industrial Welfare Society, London.)

- Special Articles:* (1) *Welfare Work during an Industrial Dispute*, by Gilbert Hall, B.A. (Chief Organising Lecturer, Notts. and Derbyshire Miners' Welfare Adult Education Joint Committee). pp. 255-259.
 (2) *Pension and Superannuation Funds*, by Bernard Robertson. pp. 259-262.
 (3) *The Duke of York's Camp*, by A Section Leader. pp. 262-266.
 (4) *A Staff Savings Association*, by G. C. Busby. pp. 269-272.
Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR REVIEW, VOL. XIV, NO. 1. (International Labour Office, Geneva.)

- Special Articles:* (1) *The Sources and Interpretation of Labour Law in France*, by Edouard Lambert, Paul Pic and P. Garraud. (Professors of the Faculty of Law, Lyons University).—The relations between industrial and general law in France, the labour code and its relation to other codes, the relations between industrial law and civil law, the scope of industrial law; the sources of industrial law—judicial practice, legislation: acts and regulations; the effect of judicial practice in legislation—decisions as to the legal validity of regulations, judicial interpretation of acts; tribunals administering industrial law—civil administrative tribunals: civil tribunals, individual disputes, collective disputes; administrative tribunals; criminal courts; the authority of judicial decisions: conclusion. pp. 1-36.

(2) *Over production and Under consumption : a Remedy*, by P. W. Martin.—The shortage of buying power; how buying power can be reinforced; the provision of adequate markets and stabilisation conclusion. pp. 37-54.

(3) *Some Experiments in Vocational Psychophysiology*, by Dr. Leon Walther.—(Director of Department of Technopsychology, Jean Jacques Rousseau Institute, Geneva.). Vocational selection; vocational training; application of motion study to industrial work; industrial fatigue; pp. 55-71
Routine Matter.—As in previous issues.

THE JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE—VOL. VIII, NO. 8. (Harvard Medical School, Baltimore.)

Special Articles: (1) *Reducing the Cost of Syphilis in Industry*, by William Alfred Sawyer, M.D. and Benjamin J. Slater, M.D., pp. 317-321.

(2) *A Clinical and Laboratory Investigation of the Effect of Metallic Zinc, of Zinc Oxide and of Zinc Sulphide upon the Health of Workmen*, by Roger P. Batchelor, M.D., J. William Fehnel, M.D., Robert M. Thomson, and Katherine R. Drinker, M.D.—Introduction; review of the literature—selection of subjects and industrial processes represented—zinc oxide bag rooms, zinc oxide packing houses, French process zinc oxide plant, blue powder or zinc dust plant, lithophone packing house; zinc concentration in air in parts of plant from which subjects were selected—settling test in bag houses, bag houses: oxide plants A and B, packing houses: oxide plants A and B, French process zinc oxide plant, blue powder or zinc dust plant, lithophone packing house; possible routes of zinc absorption; general working conditions; outline of clinical and laboratory procedures; results of clinical and laboratory examinations—clinical findings, illustrative case reports, summary of histories and physical examinations, laboratory findings, X-ray examinations, urine, feces, blood, zinc excretion; summary and conclusions. pp. 322-362.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE—VOL. XXVI, NO. 7. (The Department of Labour, Canada.)

Special Articles: (1) *Labour Subjects at Recent Session of Dominion Parliament*.—Old age pension bill; proposed immigration act amendment; proposed criminal code amendment; resolution on minimum wage; Government policy on unemployment relief; productive labour for prisoners; workers' right of contract for wages; utilization of workers' spare time; revaluation of soldiers' lands. pp. 651-655.

(2) *Labour Conditions in Alberta in 1925*.—Statistics of trade and industries; minimum wage during 1925; steam boilers; Alberta Government employment offices. pp. 657-660.

(3) *The Creation of Employment during the Winter Months*. pp. 660-662.

(4) *Canadian Manufacturers' Association. (Proceedings at Annual Meeting, June 1926)*.—Industrial conditions in 1925; relations with employees; resolutions adopted; Canadian conference committee; industrial relations; the 8-hour day; accident prevention; industrial disputes investigation act; minimum wage for boys in Ontario. pp. 662-664.

(5) *Employees' Representation Plan of Dominion Iron and Steel Company, Limited*.—Representations; voters; representatives—qualifications and terms; nominations and elections; management's representatives; arrangement of plan and committees; committee meetings; procedure; discrimination; amendments. pp. 665-666.

(6) *League of Nations International Labour Organization. (Eighth and Ninth Sessions of the International Labour Conference)*.—Proceedings of the eighth session—countries represented, Canadian delegation, appointment of committees, officers of the conference, the president's address, inspection of emigrants on board ship, double discussion procedure; proceedings of the ninth session—countries represented, Canadian delegation, president's address, appointment of committees, credentials, proceedings of the conference, results of the conference, director's report, proposed reference to permanent court of international justice; proposed draft convention concerning discipline of seamen; proposed resolution concerning seamen's welfare; president's closing address; annual report of the director. pp. 674-692.

(7) *The Indian Trade Union Act*.—Objects on which general funds may be spent; constitution of a separate fund for political purpose; criminal conspiracy in trade disputes; immunity from civil suit in certain cases; enforceability of agreements; right to inspect books of Trade Union; rights of minors to membership of trade unions; proportion of officers to be connected with the industry. pp. 695-696.

Routine matter.—As in previous issues.

Current Notes From Abroad

INTERNATIONAL

The International Landworkers Federation is holding its ordinary Congress in Geneva, from the 28th to 30th September. The following matters are included on the agenda: The regulation of wages and working conditions of agricultural labourers by means of collective agreements and of legislation, the right of agricultural labourers to combine, and the protection of labour in agriculture. (From "Press Reports of the International Federation of Trade Unions," Amsterdam, August 19, 1926.)

* * * * *

According to information received from the International Federation of Trade Unions, the membership of the Confederation of Swedish Trade Unions increased from 360,337 in December 1924 to 384,617 in December 1925, i.e., an increase of 24,280. The membership of the principal trade unions is as follows:—

Metal workers	..	71,000
Unskilled and factory workers	..	43,250
Railwaymen	..	34,872
Sawmill workers	..	33,350
Paper and pulp workers	..	26,135

(From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, July 26, 1926.)

* * * * *

UNITED KINGDOM

The general stoppage of work in the coal-mining industry, which began on 1st May, continued throughout July and involved over one million workpeople in that industry in a loss of about 23 million working days in July. The aggregate number of working days lost by workpeople taking part in this dispute was about 66 million up to the end of July.

Apart from the coal-mining dispute, the number of trade disputes, involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in July was ten; in addition, fourteen disputes which began before July were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The total number of workpeople involved in these twenty-four disputes (including those thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 2000, and the estimated aggregate duration of such disputes during July was about 18,000 working days. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, August 1926.)

* * * * *

At 31st July 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 70 per cent. above that of July 1914, as compared with 72 per cent. a month ago and 73 per cent. a year ago. The corresponding figures for food alone were 61, 61 and 68 respectively.

The only important movements in retail prices during July were increases in the prices of coal and eggs and decreases in those of potatoes. (From "Ministry of Labour Gazette," London, August 1926.)

OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

Since January 1924, the Federal Statistical Office in Germany has published regularly the rates of wages in twelve important groups of industry, as fixed by collective agreement.

The figures relate to the wages of "adult" workers; that is to the wages which, as a rule, become payable to a worker between his 21st and his 24th year of age.

In ten groups of industry, wages of male workers only are included in the statistics, while in the case of the textile and cardboard industries the wages of male and of female workers are shown.

As a rule, time rates only are considered; this applies invariably to the wages of unskilled workers.

In industries where payment by the piece predominates (mining, metal-working and textiles), the guaranteed earnings or average earnings of piece-workers have been taken as a basis for the calculation of the wages of skilled workers.

Since January 1924 the changes in wages of skilled and unskilled workers in all the industries included in the statistics have been as follows:—

	Skilled		Unskilled	
	Per hour	Per week	Per hour	Per week
	Pf	M	Pf	M
Jan. 1924	59.1	28.45	44.8	23.18
April	64.9	31.66	45.4	23.55
July	72.8	35.71	50.8	26.41
Sept.	73.3	35.95	51.2	26.57
Jan. 1925	79.2	38.78	55.7	28.93
April	84.4	41.26	59.1	30.54
July	89.8	43.90	62.8	32.37
Sept.	91.9	44.90	64.4	33.17
Jan. 1926	94.1	45.98	65.8	33.92
April	94.1	46.00	65.7	33.89

Figures for 1913 are available, but are not strictly comparable with the post-war statistics.

In 1913, the average hourly rates were 67.3 pfennings for skilled workers and 40.2 pfennings for unskilled. If these prewar averages are taken as a basis and expressed by 100, the index figures for April 1926 would be 139.8 in the case of skilled workers and 163.4 in the case of unskilled.

If the comparison is limited to the industries in which in 1913 the practice of concluding collective wage agreements was developed to a large extent, the result is as follows:—

	Index figures of			
	Hourly rates		Weekly wages	
	(1913=100)			
	Skilled	Unskilled	Skilled	Unskilled
Building trades ..	161.0	166.0	145.8	150.2
Woodworking ..	155.7	167.4	142.9	171.2
Printing ..	157.2	172.6	145.5	159.4
Brewing ..	148.1	160.7	128.8	139.7

The upward movement of wages which proceeded during 1924 and 1925 ceased at the beginning of the current year. In May and April 1926, the average hourly rates of skilled workers in all industries covered by the statistics were 94.2 pfennings. The corresponding rate for unskilled workers was 65.9 pfennings for both months. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, August 2, 1926.)

The economic situation in Germany has led to many dismissals, not only of manual but also of non-manual workers, and the older salaried employees have specially suffered.

In view of this, the Reichstag passed on 2nd July 1926 an "Act relating to the prolongation of the period of notice for the dismissal of older employees," under which all salaried employees with more than five years' service in undertakings employing at least two such employees are given special protection.

The Act defines "employees" as all persons liable to compulsory insurance under section 1 of the Employees' Insurance Act. Whereas, however, section 3 of that Act applies only to persons below a certain salary limit, there is no such limit in the new Act. The number of employees benefiting by it is therefore considerably larger.

The Act provides that such employees may be dismissed only on three months' notice, expiring at the end of a calendar quarter of a year.

The period is raised after eight years' service to four months, after ten years' service to five months, and after twelve years' service to six months. For this purpose only years of service completed after the attainment of twenty-five years of age are counted.

Subject to this, the provisions of existing contracts as to periods of notice, and provisions relating to dismissal without notice, are unaffected. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, August 16, 1926.)

At the time of the postwar reconstruction of the French trade unions, a large number of the elementary teachers placed themselves on the side of the organised workers. In the year 1921 the National Union of Teachers affiliated with the Federation of Employees in the Public Services. The Teachers Congress of 1925 resolved that so far as possible every member of the Union of Teachers should, before the date of the 1926 Congress, be in possession of a card of membership of the French National Trade Union Centre (C. G. T.). Thanks to the tremendous propaganda efforts of the National Committee, which, without disturbing existing relations, did everything possible towards arousing the sense of class-consciousness and appreciation of working-class organisation among teachers, complete success can be recorded. Out of the 90 departmental sections (including 7 colonial sections), there is only one which does not report a total number of membership cards of the C. G. T. equivalent to its membership strength. In addition, 436 cards were bought by the sections in Morocco, 300 by the branches in Martinique and 20 in Indo-China. The total number of cards placed was 64,050. Although representation at this year's Congress was made strictly dependent on membership of the C. G. T., only 19 sections recorded a decrease in membership, and that slight. Thirty-six sections had kept their membership intact and 31 recorded increases. The teachers union thus includes the majority of the elementary teachers in France, and is in a position to represent them in negotiations with the education authorities. In a large number of departments the teachers unions co-operate with the Trade Councils. (From "Press Reports of the International Federation of Trade Unions," Amsterdam, August 19, 1926.)

On the 31st July and 1st August a national conference of textile workers was held in Barcelona, at which all the important sections of textile workers in Spain were represented, some of the delegates being women.

The proceedings of the conference were characterised by strict attention to business. After a member of the Provisional Committee had reported on the calling of the Conference and its purpose, making reference in his speech to the difficulties of trade union organisation in the textile industry caused by the very large proportion (about 85 per cent.) of women and juveniles employed, report was made by delegates present as to the observance of the eight-hour day in the separate provinces and districts. It was evident from these reports that in all less well-organised localities the eight-hour day was greatly exceeded. In the machine-made lace factories, in particular, up to 14 hours per day were worked. The underhand attempts on the part of employers to destroy the trade union organisation also came in for some sharp criticism.

The Congress, by an almost unanimous vote, decided to form a Spanish Union of Textile Workers, to be affiliated to the National Trade Union Centre of Spain. This concluded the first business on the agenda.

The second item on the agenda was the attempt by the Textile Manufacturers' Union of Catalonia to abolish the eight-hour day in the textile industry. The afore-mentioned Union had laid proposals before

the Minister of Labour, in connection with which a public inquiry had been instituted by him. The Conference addressed to the Minister a detailed memorandum, in which all the arguments brought forward by the employers were answered. One point on which particular emphasis was laid was the antiquated equipment of the factories, to which must be attributed the high cost of production. (From "Press Reports of the International Federation of Trade Unions," Amsterdam, August 19, 1926.)

The following table shows the number, extent and results of strikes which broke out in Poland in 1925, as compared with the corresponding data for the preceding year:—

Year	No. of strikes	No. of strikers	Results			
			Complete or partial success		Failure	
			No. of strikes	No. of strikers	No. of strikes	No. of strikers
1924	911	361,184	586	209,796	295	338,067
1925	502	146,327	352	84,382	166	51,036

In fourteen cases affecting 13,109 workers, the result is not known; the corresponding figures for 1924 are 34 and 16,271.

An analysis of the origin of the strikes shows that 445, involving 96,742 workers, arose out of demands for higher wages or other improvements in conditions of work. Of these, 325, involving 65,529 workers, resulted in complete or partial success, and 114, involving 30,656 workers, failed; the result of the remaining cases is unknown. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, August 2, 1926.)

The Council of the Hungarian Federation of Trade Unions recently published statistics of the membership of the affiliated unions.

At the end of 1925, the affiliated unions had 125,024 paying members and 26,711 members in arrears with their contributions. A total of 2538 members emigrated during the year.

For the years 1920 to 1925 the numbers of paid-up members at 31st December were as follows:—

1920	..	..	..	..	152,441
1921	..	..	..	..	152,771
1922	..	..	..	..	202,956
1923	..	..	..	..	176,401
1924	..	..	..	..	127,526
1925	..	..	..	..	125,024

The total number of local branches fell from 698 in 1924 to 644 in 1925, the reduction being attributed chiefly to repressive action by the public authorities. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, July 26, 1926.)

In accordance with an Act passed on 6th March 1926, a National Labour Department has been set up in Bolivia. The duties of the department are:

- (1) To enquire into and report on all industrial accidents, including mining accidents;
- (2) To intervene in disputes between employers and workers concerning wages and agreements, with the exception of disputes involving commercial employees, for whom special legislation has been sanctioned;
- (3) To draw up statistics of industrial accidents, cost of living, and conditions of labour, especially in the mining districts;
- (4) To inspect mines, workshops, factories and other industrial establishments, with a view to the better observance of the laws on safety and hygiene;
- (5) To make a collection of all regulations concerning conditions of labour, and to make proposals for reform in all branches of social legislation. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, August 16, 1926.)

OTHER COUNTRIES

In compliance with a request of the Chinese Cotton Mills' Association at Shanghai, the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs has ordered the Provincial Commissioners of Foreign Affairs to see to it that all foreign-owned factories observe the Chinese Provisional Factory Regulations. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, July 26, 1926.)

In preparation for the coming into force of the Labour Disputes Arbitration Act, the Social Affairs Bureau organised a training course for arbitration officers and others who would be concerned in its administration.

The course, which occupied six days, began on 24th June. It was attended by officers from all the prefectures.

Mr. Nagaoka, Director-General of the Social Affairs Bureau, gave an inaugural address, in which he laid stress on the importance of securing and preserving a reputation for impartiality in dealing with industrial disputes.

A similar conference of chief factory inspectors from all parts of the country was held in Tokyo on 11th June, for a general discussion on questions concerning the administration of the Factory Act (Amendment) Act.

Mr. Nagaoka, in an opening address to the conference, pointed out that, as a result of this measure, about 20,000 factories employing 150,000

workers would come for the first time within the scope of the Factory Act. This represented an increase of 80 per cent. in the number of factories covered. As a rule, these factories were organised on a small scale, and their owners were not accustomed to the application of legal provisions. The inspectors were therefore urged to make special efforts to spread a knowledge of the law. In view of the apprehensions expressed by some people lest the reduction of working hours should be a blow to industry, every effort should be made to encourage the improvement of industrial efficiency. (From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, August 9, 1926.)

The Social Affairs Bureau published recently the results of an investigation into the number of workers in Japan at the end of last year.

The returns show a total working population (men and women) of 4,467,922.

As compared with the figures for the end of June 1925, there has been an increase of about 90,000 factory workers and 30,000 other workers.

The following table shows how this working population is distributed:

		FACTORY WORKERS	
		June 1925	December 1925
<i>State-owned factories</i>			
Men	..	107,639	118,593
Women	..	41,659	40,876
<i>Private factories to which the Factory Act applies</i>			
Men	..	641,889	671,608
Women	..	821,368	824,826
<i>Factories to which the Factory Act does not apply</i>			
Men	..	266,950	297,398
Women	..	127,307	141,791
Total ..		2,006,812	2,095,092
MINING WORKERS			
Men	..	235,345	230,364
Women	..	75,436	71,930
Total ..		310,781	302,294
OTHER WORKERS			
Men	..	1,640,586	1,690,153
Women	..	390,533	380,383
Total ..		2,031,119	2,070,536
Grand total ..		4,348,712	4,467,922

(From "Industrial and Labour Information," Geneva, August 9, 1926.)

TABLE I—FEDERATIONS OF TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Centre	Name of Federation	Names of affiliated Unions	Names of Principal Office-bearers
Bombay	1. The Central Labour Board.	1. G. I. P. Railway Workmen's Union. 2. B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees Union. 3. Port Trust Workshop Union. 4. The Presidency Postmen's Union. 5. The Bombay Presidency Telegraph Peons' Union. (a)	<i>President</i> —Rai Sahab Chandrika Prasad. <i>Vice-President</i> —F. J. Ginwalla. <i>Honorary General Secretary</i> —S. H. Jhabwalla.
	2. The Bombay Presidency Postal and R. M. S. Association.	1. Bombay Postal Union. 2. Ahmedabad Postal and R. M. S. Union. 3. Poona Postal Union. 4. Poona R. M. S. Union. 5. Ahmednagar Postal and R. M. S. Union. 6. Belgaum Postal Union. 7. Dharwar Postal and R. M. S. Union. 8. Jalgaon Postal and R. M. S. Union. 9. Nasik Postal and R. M. S. Union. 10. Ratnagiri Postal Union. 11. Satara Postal and R. M. S. Union. 12. Surat Postal and R. M. S. Union. 13. Baroda Postal Union. 14. Baroda R. M. S. Union. 15. Bhavnagar Postal and R. M. S. Union. 16. Rajkot Postal and R. M. S. Union.	<i>President</i> —Professor V. G. Kale (Poona). <i>General Treasurer</i> —G. K. Rahalkar (P. O. clerk). <i>Honorary Secretary</i> —S. C. Joshi, M.A., LL.B. (advocate). <i>General Secretary</i> —D. S. Joshi (P. O. clerk). <i>Joint Secretary</i> —V. H. Karandikar (Town Inspector). <i>Assistant Secretary</i> —V. G. Kulkarni, B.A. (P. O. clerk).
	3. The Bombay Presidency Postmen's Union.	1. The Bombay Postmen's Union. 2. Poona District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union. 3. Broach District Postmen's and Menials' Union. 4. Belgaum District Postmen's and Menials' Union.	<i>President</i> —Jamnadas Madhwaraj Mehta, M.A., LL.B., Bar.-at-Law, M.L.A. <i>Vice-Presidents</i> —V. G. Dalvi, B.A., LL.B., Bar.-at-Law. H. D. Thakur, B.A., LL.B. <i>Treasurer</i> —E. M. Bahadurji, B.A., LL.B., Solicitor.

(a) The name of the Union has been changed since January 1926.

TABLE I—FEDERATIONS OF TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY—contd.

Centre	Name of Federation	Names of affiliated Unions	Names of Principal Office-bearers
Bombay—contd.	3. The Bombay Presidency Postmen's Union—contd.	5. Nasik Divisional Postmen's and Menials' Union. 6. Surat District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union. 7. Baroda Divisional Postmen's and Menials' Union. 8. Kanara District Postmen's and Menials' Union.	<i>Honorary General Secretary</i> —S. G. Warty, M.A. <i>Assistant Secretaries</i> —Dhondu Keshav Tendulkar. Narayan Keshav Indap.
	4. The Bombay Port Trust Employees' Central Union.	1. The Bombay Port Trust Workshop Employees' Union. 2. The Bombay Port Trust Railway Employees' Union. 3. The Bombay Port Trust Dock Staff Union.	(Provisional.) <i>President</i> —F. J. Ginwalla. <i>Vice-President</i> —N. M. Joshi, M.L.A. <i>Honorary Treasurer</i> —Kanji Dwarkadas. <i>Secretary</i> —S. H. Jhabwalla. <i>Assistant Secretary</i> —W. S. Shitut, Yusuf Building, Nawab Tank Road.
Ahmedabad	5. The G. I. P. Railway Staff Union.	1. The Wadi Bundar Staff Union. 2. The Victoria Terminus Commercial Staff Union. 3. The G. I. P. Railway Audit Staff Offices Union.	(Not yet appointed.)
	6. Ahmedabad Labour Union.	1. The Weavers' Union. 2. The Winders' Union. 3. The Throstle Union. 4. The Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union. 5. The Drivers', Oilmen's and Firemen's Union. 6. The Jobbers' and Mukadams' Union.	<i>President</i> —Miss Anusuya Sarabhai. <i>Secretary</i> —Gulzari Lal Nanda. <i>Assistant Secretary</i> —Khandubhai Kasanbhai Desai.

TABLE II—PRINCIPAL TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of Principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Bombay City—	1	The Bombay Textile Labour Union—January 1926.	9,640	President—N. M. Joshi, M.L.A. Vice Presidents— 1. R. S. Asavale. 2. F. J. Ginwalla. 3. S. K. Bole. 4. S. H. Jhabwalla. Treasurers— 1. Kanji Dwarkadas. 2. Syed Munawar.	General Secretary—R. Bakhale, Servants of India Society, Sandhurst Road, Bombay.
	2	The Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants of India and Burma, Ltd.—1897.	2,231	President—C. W. A. Gidney, Bhusawal. Vice President—R. Freeman, Igatpuri. Treasurer—C. R. Ray, Kalyan.	General Secretary—E. Woodfall, Maneck Building, Vincent Cross Lane, near G.I.P. Dadar, Bombay.
	3	The Indian Seamen's Union—April 1921.	14,973	President—J. J. Athaide, B.A., LL. B. Directors— 1. Dr. Theodore Fernandes. 2. Rudolf Norona. 3. J. Xavier Gomes. 4. Joasinho Lacardo.	Secretary—S. A. Rebello, 149, Carnac Bridge, Frere Road, Bombay.
	4	The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Union—July 1920.	797	President—Rai Saheb Chandrika Prasad of Ajmer. Vice President—F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.	Secretary—S. H. Jhabwalla, Alice Building, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. Joint Secretary—C. Bhukandas, Charge man, B. B. & C. I. Railway Workshop, Parel. Assistants— 1. M. Bhagwandas. 2. J. Jhaivalla, Shete Building, Elphinstone Road.

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

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of Principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Bombay City— contd.	5	The G. I. P. Railway Workmen's Union—May 1919.	1,961	President—F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.	Secretary—S. H. Jhabwalla, Alice Building, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. Assistant Secretary—V. P. Rele, Shete Building, Elphinstone Road.
	6	The Port Trust Workshop Union—March 1920.	710	President—F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.	Secretary—S. H. Jhabwalla, Yusuf Building, Nawab Tank Road, Mazagon. Assistant Secretary—S. S. Waman Gadker, 2nd Carpenter Street, Mazagon.
	7	The Clerks' Union—April 1918.	903	President—A. R. V. Ranjit, Peerbhoy Mansion, Sandhurst Road. Vice President—Samuel Judah, c/o Messrs. Graham and Co., Parsee Bazaar, Gate Street, Fort.	Joint Secretaries— 1. Anant Padmanabh, C/o Messrs. Ramsay and Arnold, 11, Tamarind Lane, Fort, Bombay, or Ravte Building, Banam Hall Lane, Girgaum. 2. S. H. Jhabwalla, Alice Building, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.
	8	Girni Kamgar Mahamandal (Chinchpokli Mandal)—December 1923.	182	President—D. A. Bhatawadekar, Hejib's Chawl, Junction of De'Lisle and Arthur Roads, Chinchpokli, Bombay. Treasurer—Shankar Dhaku Kusgaonkar.	Secretary—V. G. Sadvelkar.

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

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Bombay City—contd.	9	The Bombay Postmen's Union*—January 1926 (This Union has taken over the Bombay members of the Bombay Presidency Postmen's (including Packers') Union founded in April 1918).	1,237	President—F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. Vice President—V. G. Dalvi, B.A., LL.B., Barr-at-Law.	Secretary—K. S. Perulekar. Assistant Secretary—Dhondur K. Tendulkar.
	10	Girni Kamgar Mahamandal (Prabhadevi Mandal)—August 1925.	1,795	President—Arjun Atmaram Alve. Treasurer—Bhiva Tanu Alve.	Secretary—Dataram Ramchandra Mayekar, Nagoo Sayaji's Wadi, 30, Prabhadevi Road, Bombay.
	11	The Bombay Currency Association—17th March 1923.	226	President—R. M. Dongre.	Secretaries—1. S. C. Joshi, M.A., LL.B., Advocate. 2. B. B. Acharya. 3. R. M. Cooper, Currency Office, Esplanade Road. Secretary—D. S. Joshi, Soman Buildings, Girgaum Road, Bombay.
	12	Bombay Postal Union—1907. (Formerly known as the Bombay Postal Clerks' Club).	1,323		
	13	Girni Kamgar Mahamandal (Ghorupdeo Mandal)—December 1925.	424	President—Shankar Kasiram Murkar.	Secretary—S. J. Khamkar, near Ghorupdeo Temple, Bombay.
	14	The Bombay Presidency Telegraph Peons' Union†—July 1922.	276	President—F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.	Secretary—S. H. Jhabwalla, Alice Building, Hornby Road, Fort. Assistant Secretary—W. S. Shitur, 43, Tarwadi Sonapur Street, Chira Bazar.

*The Bombay Presidency Postmen's (including Packers') Union, by which name this Union was formerly known is now an Association of 8 District Postmen's Unions.

†The name of this Union has been changed from the Bombay Telegraph Workmen's Union since the 1st January 1926.

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

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Bombay City—contd.	15	Government Peons' and Menials' Union*—February 1926.	579	President—F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. Hon. Treasurer—E. M. Bahadurji.	Secretary—S. H. Jhabwalla, Alice Building, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay. Assistant Secretary—W. S. Shitur, 43, Tarwadi, Sonapur Street, Chira Bazar.
	16	The Seamen's Union—March 1926.	4,000	President—L. Pereira (temporary).	Mr. Marcelin Crus, 72, Trinity Street, Dhobi Talao (temporary).
	17	The Alcock Ashdown Employee's Union—April 1926.	41	President—N. M. Joshi. Vice-Presidents—F. J. Ginwalla and Kanji Dwarkadas. Treasurer—E. M. Bahadurji.	Hon. Secretary—S. H. Jhabwalla. Assistant Secretary—W. S. Shitur.
	18	The Bombay Port Trust Railway Employees' Union—1920.	170	President—A. B. Kolhatkar. Vice-President—O. E. Godfrey.	Secretary—A. Fagan, Goods Foreman, Oil Depot, Sewree. Assistant Secretary—B. K. Parab, B. P. T. Railway quarters, Jakaria Bunder.
	19	The Bombay Port Trust Dock Staff Union—1926.	1,223	President—F. J. Ginwalla. Vice-President—N. M. Joshi, M.L.A. Honorary Treasurer—Kanji Dwarkadas.	Honorary Secretary—S. H. Jhabwalla. Assistant Secretary—W. S. Shitur, Yusuf Building, Nawab Tank Road.
	20	The Wadi Bundar Staff Union—1926.	420	President—S. C. Joshi, M.A., LL.B., Advocate.	Secretary—P. S. Bakhale.
	21	The Victoria Terminus Commercial Staff Union—1926.	135	Do.	Do.
	22	The G. I. P. Railway Audit Staff Offices Union—1926. Total Members, Bombay City.	500† 43,746	Do.	Do.

*The name of this Union has been changed from the Bombay Government Peons and menials' Union as Government Peons' and menials' Union. † Expected.

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

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of Principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Ahmedabad	23	The Weavers Union—February 1921.	3,155	President—J. J. ... Vice-President—... Treasurer—...	Secretary—... Assistant Secretaries—...
	24	The Winders Union—June 1920.		Do.	Do.
	25	The Throats Union—February 1920.	6,370	Do.	Do.
	26	The Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union—August 1920.	2,930	Do.	Do.
	27	The Drivers', Oilmen's and Firemen's Union—September 1920.	45	Do.	Do.
	28	The Jobbers' and Mundams' Union. (March 1920)	18	Do.	Do.
	29	The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Association—February 1920.	6,049	President—V. J. Patel, Khambhat, Ahmedabad.	Secretary—M. J. Kothari, Amlins, Raipur, Ahmedabad. Secretary—B. N. Sandil, Bhow's Pole, Raipur, Ahmedabad.
	30	The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Association—February 1920.	19,284	President—N. M. Desai, LL.B., Raipur.	Secretary—D. C. Patel, Office of the Superintendent of Post Offices, Road, Ahmedabad.

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

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of Principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Sakar	31	N. W. Railway Union (Karachi District)—1920.	2,331	....	Labour Organising Secretary—Pundit Karwal, Sakar.
Surat	32	N. W. Railway Union (Karachi District)—1920.	3,000	[Particulars not available.]	
Poona	33	The Press Workers' Union—February 1921.	118	President—J. J. Mathura, Scotch Press, Cantonment.	Secretaries—1. G. T. Sahpal, Poona. 2. B. Parohit, Gourichonker, Poona. 3. Krishna Rao, Poona. 4. D. S. Raghakar, Govardhan Press, Poona City.
	34	Poona Postal Union—1918.	243	President—K. C. Kulkarni, Kankar.	Secretary—N. K. Bhonde, Poona.
	35	Poona R. M. S. Union—1926.	246		
	36	Poona District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union—1920.	232	President—G. K. Gadgil, Bar-at-Law, Poona. Vice-President—D. V. Ambekar. Hon. Treasurer—B. C. Mohite.	Hon. Secretary—L. V. Jalkar. Joint Secretary—H. V. Jadhav. Assistant Secretary—V. M. Nisal.
Branch	37	The Fine Counts Mill Labour Union—October 1923.	360	....	Secretary—Dinkarrao Narbheram, Pleader, Branch.

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

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of Principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Bombay—contd.	38	The Saraswati Mill Labour Union—1925.	360		Secretary—D. K. ...
	39	Bombay District Postmen's and Mensals Union	92	President—H. D. Thakore.	Secretary—K. J. Mimbha.
Ahmednagar	40	Ahmednagar Postal and R. M. S. Union—1923.	257		Secretary—C. B. ...
Belgaum	41	Belgaum Postal Union—1923.	51		Secretary—G. V. Lumaye, Belgaum.
	42	Belgaum District Postmen's and Mensals Union.	43	President—B. K. Dalvi, M.L.C.	Secretary—R. S. Kadum.
Dharwar	43	Dharwar Postal and R. M. S. Union.	152	President—V. N. Jog, B.A., LL.B., M.L.C., Dharwar.	Secretary—R. M. Betgir, Dharwar.
Jalgaon	44	Jalgaon Postal and R. M. S. Union—1920.	145	President—H. V. Kolhatkar.	Secretary—H. V. Modak.
Nasik	45	Nasik Postal and R. M. S. Union—1920.	237	President—Rao Sahab Gogate.	Secretary—R. T. Lele, Nasik.
	46	Nasik Divisional Postmen's and Mensals Union.	72	President—A. B. Kachavale.	Secretary—B. K. Panse.
Ratnagiri	47	Ratnagiri Postal Union—1922.	28		Secretary—K. K. Murtuza, Ratnagiri.
Satara	48	Satara Postal and R. M. S. Union—1919.	26	President—R. Deshpande.	Secretary—T. K. Dnye, Satara.

*Information not received.

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

Centre	Serial Number	Name of Union and date of formation	Number of members	Names and addresses of Principal Office-bearers	
				President or Chairman, Vice-President, Directors and Treasurer	Secretary and Assistant Secretaries
Surat	49	Surat Postal and R. M. S. Union—1923.	226		Secretary—B. N. Mistry, Surat.
	50	Surat District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	80	President—V. C. Jadhav.	Secretary—S. V. Vohra.
Baroda	51	Baroda Postal Union—1920.	171	President—C. M. Dactor.	Secretary—R. J. Shah, Baroda.
	52	Baroda R. M. S. Union—1924.	234	President—K. L. ...	
	53	Baroda Divisional Postmen's and Mensals Union.	42	President—D. N. Chitre.	Secretary—B. B. Palekar.
Bhavnagar	54	Bhavnagar Postal and R. M. S. Union—1923.	75		Secretary—H. K. Chhaya, Rajkot.
Rajkot	55	Rajkot Postal and R. M. S. Union—1923.	71		Secretary—H. K. Chhaya, Rajkot.
Karwar	56	Kanara District Postmen's and Mensals Union.	31	President—H. Kamat.	Secretary—L. V. ...
		Total Members, Rest of the Presidency ...	9,381		
		Total Members, Bombay Presidency ...	72,411		

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

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
			Rs.		Rs.
Bombay City	1	The Bombay Textile Labour Union.	1,538	Rs. 8 per month	1,033
	2	The Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants of India and Burma, Ltd.	2,500	Rs. 1-8-0 per month for those earning over Rs. 100 ("A" class members); Rs. 1 per month for those earning between Rs. 75 and Rs. 100 ("B" class members); As. 12 per month for those earning between Rs. 50 and Rs. 75 ("C" class members); As. 6 per month for those earning between Rs. 25 and Rs. 50 ("D" class members); and As. 3 for those earning less than Rs. 25 ("E" class members).	2,425
	3	The Indian Seaman's Union.	240	Rs. 3 per year	835
	4	The B. D. & C. L. Railway Employees' Union.	317	As. 1 for those earning Rs. 25 and under per month; As. 4 for those earning between Rs. 25 and Rs. 50 per month; As. 8 for those earning over Rs. 50.	185
	5	The G. I. P. Railway Workmen's Union.	652	Do.	162

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

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
			Rs.		Rs.
Bombay City	6	The Port Trust Workshop Union.	262	As. 4 for those earning Rs. 50 and under per month; As. 8 for those above Rs. 50.	
	7	The Clerks' Union.	24	As. 4 per month	7
	8	Girmi Kamgar Mahamandal (Chinchpokli Mandal).	Nil	Rs. 1 per year	12
	9	The Bombay Postmen's Union.*	327	As. 4 per month for postmen (overscers, readers, sorting postmen and postmen); As. 2 per month for packers (runners, local peons, boy messengers and runners).	353
	10	Girmi Kamgar Mahamandal (Prabhadevi Mandal).	343	As. 4 per month	186
	11	The Bombay Curry Association.	38	Rs. 3 for clerks and annas 8 for menials per year.	29
	12	Bombay Postal Union.	472	As. 8 per clerk; As. 4 per postman; As. 2 for inferior employee.	499
	13	Girmi Kamgar Mahamandal (Ghorupdeo Mandal).	102	As. 4 per month	77

* See note regarding change of name in Table II.

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

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Sum paid per member	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
Bombay cont.	14	The Bombay Presidency, Telegraph, Poona' Union.	Rs. 4 per month ..	41	41
	15	Government Poona and Menah' Union.	Do.	70	70
	16	The Seaman's Union	Rs. 3 per year	780	780
	17	The Akash Ash-down Employees' Union	As. 4 per month ..	Nil	Nil
	18	The Bombay Port Trust Railway Employees Union.	As. 2 to As. 8 per month according to pay.	50	50
	19	The Bombay Port Trust Dock Staff Union.	As. 8 per month for clerks and Superior Staff; As. 4 for adult menials and As. 2 for boy menials per month.	134	134
	20	The West Bunde Staff Union.	Six annas and four annas per month according to pay.	25	25
	21	The Victoria Terminus Comm. Staff Union.	As. 4 per month for clerical staff and As. 2 per month below clerical.	10	10
	22	The G. I. P. Railway Audit Staff Officers Union.	Not yet decided.	....	....
Ahmedabad ..	23	The Weavers' Union.	As. 4 per month	175	175
	24	The Union.	As. 2 per month	....	....

* See note regarding change of name in Table II.

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

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
Ahmedabad—contd.	25	The Union.	Rs. 1,250	As. 4 per labourer; As. 2 per duffer; Rs. 1 per bullock-woman per fortnight.	500
	26	The Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union.	650	As. 4 per month	225
	27	The Drivers', Oilmen's and Foremen's Union.	125	As. 4 per oilman; As. 2 per driver or foreman per month.	15
	28	The Jobbers' and Mukadams' Union.	—	As. 8 per jobber or mukadam per month.	....
	29	The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Association.	—	Rs. 2 per year for workers earning Rs. 50 and under per month; and Rs. 3 for those earning Rs. 50 to 100; Rs. 4 for those earning Rs. 100 and upwards.	350
	30	Ahmedabad Postal and R. M. S. Union.	5	As. 8 per clerk, As. 2 below clerk per month.	8
Sukkur ..	31	N. W. Railway Union (Sukkur District).	231	Subscription at the rate of 1/4 per cent. of monthly pay from all members.	50
Karachi ..	32	N. W. Railway Union (Karachi District).	(Particulars not available)	—	—
Poona ..	33	The Press Workers' Union.	—	Rs. 12 per year ..	About 2 ..

* Not reported.

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

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
			Rs.		Rs.
	34	Poona Postal Union.	76	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	87
	35	Poona R. M. S. Union.	118	Do.	162
	36	Poona District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	41	As. 4 per month ..	36
Broach	37	The Fine Counts Mill Labour Union.	90	Do.	Nil. *
	38	The Saraswati Mill Labour Union.	90	Do.	Nil. *
	39	Broach District Postmen's and Menials' Union.	23	Do.	10 †
Ahmednagar	40	Ahmednagar Postal and R. M. S. Union.	203	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	190
Belgaum	41	Belgaum Postal Union.	17	Do.	17
	42	Belgaum District Postmen's and Menials' Union.	14	As. 4 per month ..	10
Dharwar	43	Dharwar Postal and R. M. S. Union.	51	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	4
Jalgaon	44	Jalgaon Postal and R. M. S. Union.	49	Do.	21
Nasik	45	Nasik Postal and R. M. S. Union.	31	Do.	23

* Except some casual printing charges.

† Approximate.

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

Centre	Serial number	Name of Union	Average monthly income for latest quarter for which information available	Sum paid per member	Average monthly expenditure for latest quarter for which information available
			Rs.		Rs.
	46	Nasik Divisional Postmen's and Menials' Union.	18	As. 4 per month ..	10°
Ratnagiri	47	Ratnagiri Postal Union.	12	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	1
Satara	48	Satara Postal and R. M. S. Union.	113	Do.	101
Surat	49	Surat Postal and R. M. S. Union.	35	Do.	52
	50	Surat District Postmen's and Lower Grade Staff Union.	15	As. 4 per month ..	8
Baroda	51	Baroda Postal Union.	32	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month.	24
	52	Baroda R. M. S. Union.	80	Do.	46
	53	Baroda Divisional Postmen's and Menials' Union.	10	As. 4 per month ..	10°
Bhavnagar	54	Bhavnagar Postal and R. M. S. Union.	..†	As. 8 per clerk; As. 2 below clerk per month. †
Rajkot	55	Rajkot Postal and R. M. S. Union.	62	Do.	7
Karwar	56	Kanara District Postmen's and Menials' Union.	8	As. 4 per month ..	8°

* Approximate.

† Not reported.

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS IN AUGUST 1926

Name of concern and locality	Approximate number of work-people involved		Date when dispute		Cause	Result
	Directly	Indirectly	Began	Ended		
<i>Textile Trades</i>						
1. The Bharat Spinning and Weaving Mills, Hubli.	375		1 Aug.	3 Aug.	Alleged reduction in the wage rate and increase in fines.	Work was resumed after a compromise.
2. The Ahmedabad Ginning and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Sarangpur, Ahmedabad.	500		9 Aug.	10 Aug.	Damaged Cloth was given to seven weavers in lieu of cash wages.	Work was resumed unconditionally.
3. The Bombay Woollen Mill, Dadar, Bombay.	120		14 Aug.	24 Aug.	Demand for better wages.	Strike ended in favour of the employers.
4. The Century Mill, DeLisle Road, Bombay.	35		15 Aug.	19 Aug.	In sympathy with a dismissed oiler.	Work was resumed unconditionally.
5. The Emperor Edward Mills, Reay Road, Bombay.	330		17 Aug.	31 Aug.	Alleged reduction in wages.	Strike ended in favour of the employers.
6. The Ahmedabad Lakshmi Cotton Mills Co., Ltd., Kankaria Road, Ahmedabad.	40		20 Aug.	22 Aug.	In sympathy with a jobber who absented himself as a result of some quarrel with another jobber.	New hands were employed.
<i>Miscellaneous</i>						
7. Conservancy Branch of the Health Department, Municipality of Bombay, Bombay.	5,500		24 Aug.	30 Aug.	Alleged proposed discontinuance of Rs. 5 monthly grain compensation allowance.	Ended in favour of the employers.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING AUGUST 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 July 1926	Aug 1926
	Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926	Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926	Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926	Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926	Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926		
I Textile Mills—												
Cotton Mills	323		186	28(b)	2	1	69	16	438	53	509	70
Woolen Mills	3	40	2	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	5	..
Others	5	..	2	..	..	..	2	..	5	..	7	..
Total	331	40	190	28	2	1	71	16	448	53	521	70
II Workshops—												
Engineering	18	2	229	20	..	..	10	2	237	20	247	22
Railway	87	19	1,125	100	2	1	25	10	1,186	108	1,213	119
Mint	1	..	1(c)	1	..	..	1	1	1	1	2	1
Others	10	4	25	15	1	..	2	1	32	18	35	19
Total	116	25	1,380	136	3	1	38	14	1,456	146	1,497	161
III Miscellaneous—												
Chemical Works	1	..	2	1	1	..	..	..	2	1	3	1
Flour Mills	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	3	..	3	1
Printing Presses	5	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	12	..	12	..
Others	6	3	34	4	1	..	5	1	34	6	40	7
Total	13	4	45	5	2	..	5	2	51	7	58	9
Total, All Factories	460	69	1,615	169	7	2	114	32	1,955	206	2,076	240

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 July 1926	Aug 1926
	Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926	Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926	Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926	Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926	Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926		
I Textile Mills—												
Cotton	156	21	77	7	2	..	27	2	204	26	233	28
Total	156	21	77	7	2	..	27	2	204	26	233	28
II Miscellaneous—												
Match Factory	1	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	2	..	3	..
Flour Mills	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Oil Mills	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Engineering	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
Others	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..
Total	2	..	3	..	1	..	..	..	4	..	5	..
Total, All Factories	158	21	80	7	3	..	27	2	208	26	238	28

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

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES DURING AUGUST 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 July 1926	Aug 1926
	Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926	Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926	Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926	Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926	Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926		
											Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926
I Workshops— Railway and Port Trust Engineering ..	1 1	1 1	14 13	3 ..	1 ..	.. ..	1 ..	.. ..	13 13	4 1	15 14	4 1
Total ..	2	2	27	3	1	..	2	..	26	5	29	5
II Miscellaneous ..	2	..	8	1	..	..	1	..	9	1	10	1
Total ..	2	..	8	1	..	..	1	..	9	1	10	1
Total, All Factories ..	4	2	35	4	1	..	3	..	35	6	39	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 July 1926	Aug 1926
	Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926	Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926	Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926	Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926	Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926		
											Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926	Jan to July 1926	Aug 1926
I Textile Mills— Cotton Mills Others ..	67 4	8 ..	58 3	8 ..	2 ..	2 ..	16 3	4 ..	107 4	10 ..	125 7	16 ..
Total ..	71	8	61	8	2	2	19	4	111	10	132	16
II Workshops— Railway Arms and Ammu- nition Works .. Others ..	23 3 9	5	141 4 17	11 .. 2	.. .. 1	.. .. ..	10 1 4	2	154 6 21	14 .. 2	164 7 26	16 .. 2
Total ..	35	5	162	13	1	..	15	2	181	16	197	18
III Miscellaneous— Ginning and Pres- sing Factories .. Paint Works .. Others ..	5 7	.. 4	13(a) 9(b)	.. 1	2 4	.. ..	8 4	.. ..	11 10	.. 5	21 21	.. 5
Total ..	12	4	22	1	6	..	12	..	21	5	39	5
Total, All Factories ..	118	17	245	22	2	46	6	313	31	368	39	

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 July			Four months ended July		
		1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
Nos. 1 to 10 ..	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	
Nos. 11 to 20 ..	5,999	6,561	7,891	20,219	25,921	27,301	
Nos. 21 to 30 ..	19,483	19,989	19,459	69,155	79,725	73,274	
Nos. 31 to 40 ..	13,720	14,123	15,300	54,157	58,072	52,000	
Above 40 ..	1,287	1,220	1,783	5,461	4,796	6,813	
Waste, etc. ..	408	477	910	1,48	1,774	3,218	
Total ..	11	85	89	47	137	466	
Total ..	40,908	42,455	45,432	150,519	170,425	173,072	

BOMBAY CITY

Count or Number	Pounds	Month of July			Four months ended July		
		1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
Nos. 1 to 10 ..	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	
Nos. 11 to 20 ..	5,382	5,799	7,065	18,005	23,261	24,377	
Nos. 21 to 30 ..	13,456	12,955	13,302	46,950	52,744	49,318	
Nos. 31 to 40 ..	8,694	9,050	9,445	33,401	37,966	38,663	
Above 40 ..	729	640	899	2,893	2,606	3,075	
Waste, etc. ..	216	36	348	737	1,082	1,193	
Total ..	3	76	79	13	102	424	
Total ..	28,520	28,836	31,138	101,999	117,791	117,050	

AHMEDABAD

Count or Number	Pounds	Month of July			Four months ended July		
		1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
Nos. 1 to 10 ..	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	
Nos. 11 to 20 ..	218	280	247	774	867	845	
Nos. 21 to 30 ..	3,353	4,006	3,372	11,996	15,081	13,310	
Nos. 31 to 40 ..	3,764	3,900	4,292	15,919	15,551	17,182	
Above 40 ..	407	394	734	1,938	1,455	2,947	
Waste, etc. ..	147	105	441	581	477	1,557	
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	7,889	8,685	9,086	31,208	33,431	35,841	

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

Description	Month of July			Four months ended July		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi	1,141	1,252	1,511	1,369	3,751	4,024
Chudders	1,278	1,314	1,868	4,203	4,831	8,211
Dhotis	5,830	6,229	8,059	22,702	26,349	30,973
Drills and jeans	1,169	707	709	4,299	4,012	3,640
Cambrics and lawns	41	30	37	267	269	30
Printers	208	117	135	1,226	546	720
Shirts and long cloth	9,028	8,172	10,585	11,811	33,202	42,607
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	1,227	865	1,221	5,285	4,018	4,361
Tent cloth	210	140	72	319	484	150
Other sorts	488	399	405	2,107	2,190	1,904
Total	20,620	19,522	24,602	75,564	80,652	95,206
Coloured piece-goods	8,053	8,424	9,128	29,973	30,595	36,995
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	170	247	208	641	1,040	1,166
Hosiery	8	19	19	49	71	99
Miscellaneous	107	81	236	463	579	945
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	2	60	144	18	225	715
Grand Total	28,960	28,353	34,337	106,708	112,522	135,086

BOMBAY CITY

Description	Month of July			Four months ended July		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi	758	1,008	1,371	2,384	2,940	3,593
Chudders	749	918	1,364	2,570	3,262	4,488
Dhotis	2,091	2,205	2,528	6,850	8,840	9,516
Drills and jeans	1,092	718	632	3,926	3,594	3,507
Cambrics and lawns	38	17	4	241	181	18
Printers	5	5	15	15	12	
Shirts and long cloth	6,973	6,079	8,074	28,455	24,877	33,323
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	952	607	791	2,821	2,957	3,169
Tent cloth	120	111	69	309	366	132
Other sorts	280	216	241	940	928	1,102
Total	13,053	11,884	15,074	43,511	47,957	58,848
Coloured piece-goods	6,578	6,429	6,394	22,920	21,920	25,814
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	158	239	200	618	999	1,128
Hosiery	5	7	4	24	21	19
Miscellaneous	87	71	184	410	488	773
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	1	49	121	12	211	413
Grand Total	19,882	18,679	21,977	67,495	71,596	86,995

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

AHMEDABAD

Description	Month of July			Four months ended July		
	1924	1925	1926	1924	1925	1926
Grey & bleached piece-goods—Pounds	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Khadi	262	66	30	735	214	95
Chudders	345	323	386	1,326	1,245	1,352
Dhotis	3,033	3,033	4,477	12,135	12,937	17,606
Drills and jeans	26	34	28	109	219	120
Cambrics and lawns	3	21	32	39	74	72
Printers	134	68	75	751	521	394
Shirts and long cloth	1,673	1,747	1,929	7,846	6,471	7,080
T. cloth, domestics and sheetings	264	241	341	706	977	1,063
Tent cloth	88	31	1	204	91	7
Other sorts	151	253	87	800	880	448
Total	5,982	5,817	7,386	24,691	23,629	28,237
Coloured piece-goods	750	1,190	1,634	4,171	5,532	7,375
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	..	..	1	2	4	5
Hosiery	3	12	15	25	49	80
Miscellaneous	21	9	50	54	44	170
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	1	11	20	2	11	294
Grand Total	6,757	7,039	9,106	28,945	29,269	36,161

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN BOMBAY

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index numbers						
			July 1914	Aug 1925	July 1926	Aug 1926	July 1914	Aug 1925	July 1926	Aug 1926			
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.							
Cereals—													
Rice	Hangson Small-mill	Md.	4 11 3	6 7 10	6 11 7	6 12 7	100	138	143	144			
Wheat	Delhi No. 1	Cwt.	5 9 6	8 7 3	8 7 3	8 5 6	100	151	158	149			
Do.	Khandwa Seoni	Candy	45 0 0	70 0 0	71 0 0	72 8 0	100	156	158	161			
Do.	Jubbulpore	Maund	40 0 0	60 0 0	51 8 0	53 8 0	100	150	129	134			
Jowari	Cawnpore	Maund	3 2 6	4 3 9	4 2 0 ⁽¹⁾	4 7 10 ⁽¹⁾	100	134	131	141			
Barley	Ghati	Maund	3 4 6	4 5 5	4 12 2	4 8 10	100	132	145	139			
Bajri	Ghati	Maund	3 4 6	5 3 0	5 8 1	5 8 1	100	158	168	168			
Pulses—													
Gram	Punjab yellow (2nd sort)	Maund	4 3 9	4 2 0	5 1 3	5 8 1	100	146	146	148			
Turdal	Cawnpore	Maund	5 10 5	5 13 1	7 9 11	7 9 11	100	97	120	130			
Sugar—													
Sugar	Mauritius	Cwt.	9 3 0	15 0 0	15 8 0	16 0 0	100	135	141	141			
Do.	Java, white	Maund	10 3 0	15 1 0	15 8 0	16 0 0	100	163	148	157			
Raw (Gul)	Sangli or Poona	Maund	7 14 3	12 14 10	10 9 10	10 9 10	100	164	135	135			
Other Food—													
Turmeric	Rejapuri	Maund	5 9 3	11 9 0	7 7 9	7 1 2	100	158	144	146			
Ghee	Deshi	Maund	45 11 5	85 11 5	80 0 0	80 0 0	100	207	134	127			
Salt	Bombay (black)	Maund	1 7 6	2 4 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	100	188	175	175			
Oilseeds—													
Linseed	Bold	Cwt.	8 14 6	13 2 0	11 4 0	10 14 0	100	149	143	145			
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown)	Maund	8 0 0	12 2 0	11 6 0	11 4 0	100	147	126	122			
Poppy seed	White	Maund	10 14 0	13 13 0	14 8 0	15 0 0	100	152	142	141			
Gingelly seed	White	Maund	11 4 0	15 0 0	17 12 0	17 12 0	100	127	133	138			

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Textile Cotton												
(a) Cotton, raw—												
Broach	Fully good	Candy	251 0 0	462 0 0	342 0 0	350 0 0	100	184	136	139		
Oomra	Do.	Maund	222 0 0	..	330 0 0	341 0 0	100	..	149	154		
Dharwar	Saw-ginned	Maund	230 0 0	..	352 0 0	360 0 0	100	..	153	157		
Khandesh	Machine-ginned	Maund	205 0 0	..	259 0 0	368 0 0	100	..	146	150		
Bengal	Do.	Maund	198 0 0	..	270 0 0	291 0 0	100	..	136	147		
Index No.—Cotton, raw							100	184	144	149		
(b) Cotton manufactures—												
Twist	40S	Lb.	0 12 9	1 8 0	1 3 6	1 3 6	100	188	153	153		
Grey shirtings	Fari 2,000	Piece	5 15 0	11 12 0	9 12 0	9 8 0	100	198	164	160		
White mulls	6,000	Piece	4 3 0	10 12 0	9 12 0	9 12 0	100	257	233	233		
Shirtings	Liepmann's 1,500	Piece	10 6 0	22 12 0	20 0 0	19 6 0	100	219	193	187		
Long Cloth	Local made 36" x 37½ yds.	Lb.	0 9 6	1 2 3	1 0 3	1 0 3	100	192	171	171		
Chudders	54" x 6 yds.	Lb.	0 9 6	1 1 3	0 15 6	0 15 6	100	181	163	163		
Index No.—Cotton manufactures							100	266	180	178		
Index No.—Textile—Cotton							100	203	163	165		
Other Textiles—												
Silk	Manchow	Lb.	5 2 6	7 10 7	5 13 7	5 13 7	100	149	113	113		
Do.	Mathow Lari	Lb.	2 15 1	4 11 3	4 4 10	4 4 10	100	160	146	146		
Index No.—Other Textiles							100	155	130	130		
Hides and Skins—												
Hides, Cow	Tanned	Lb.	1 2 6	2 2 9	1 9 2	1 5 9	100	188	136	118		
Do. Buffalo	Do.	Lb.	1 1 3	1 0 10	1 0 2	0 12 4	100	98	94	72		
Skins, Goat	Do.	Lb.	1 4 0	2 7 4	2 10 2	2 6 7	100	197	211	193		
Index No.—Hides and Skins							100	161	147	128		
Metals—												
Copper braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	63 8 0	58 0 0	57 0 0	100	105	96	94		
Iron bars		Cwt.	4 0 0	7 0 0	7 0 0	6 8 0	100	175	175	163		
Steel hoops		Cwt.	7 12 0	11 4 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	100	145	129	129		
Galvanised sheets		Cwt.	9 0 0	13 8 0	13 0 0	13 14 0	100	150	154	154		
Tin plates		Box	8 12 0	16 8 0	17 0 0	17 0 0	100	189	194	194		
Index No.—Metals							100	153	150	147		
Other raw and manufactured articles—												
Coal	Bengal, 1st Class Jheria	Ton	14 12 0	22 14 0	21 0 0	21 0 0	100	155	142	142		
Do.	Imported	Ton	19 11 6	24 11 1	19 2 0	18 14 7	100	125	97	96		
Kerosene	Elephant Brand	2 Tins	4 6 0	7 7 0	7 6 0	7 6 6	100	170	169	169		
Do.	Chester Brand	Case	5 2 0	9 8 0	9 8 0	9 8 6	100	185	185	186		
Index No.—Other raw and manfd. articles							100	159	148	148		
Index No.—Food							100	149	143	145		
Index No.—Non-food							100	167	152	149		
General Index No.							100	160	149	148		

(1) Quotation for Sholapur quality.

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WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES IN KARACHI*

Article	Grade	Rate per	Prices in the month of				Index Numbers				
			July 1914	Aug 1925	July 1926	Aug 1926	July 1914	Aug 1925	July 1926	Aug 1926	
Cereals											
Wheat white	1 1/2% dirt 84%	Cand.	39 0 0	59 12 0	60 8 0	62 12 0	100	152	150	156	
" red	1 1/2% dirt 92%	"	31 8 0	45 0 0	44 0 0	42 8 0	100	141	136	133	
" yellow	1 1/2% dirt	"	32 8 0	46 6 0	45 4 0	43 12 0	100	145	136	133	
Jowari	1 1/2% dirt	"	32 4 0	45 6 0	44 4 0	42 12 0	100	141	137	134	
Barley	1 1/2% dirt	"	25 8 0	39 12 0	43 8 0	39 4 0	100	154	171	154	
			26 8 0	35 12 0	36 8 0	37 0 0	100	155	156	140	
Index No.—Cereals							100	145	144	143	
Sugar											
Gram	1% dirt	Cand.	29 8 0	35 4 0	39 8 0	40 0 0(2)	100	113	114	116	
Sugar	Java white	Cwt.	9 2 0	14 9 0	14 13 0	15 1 0	100	160	162	165	
"	" brown	"	8 1 6			14 2 0	100			175	
Index No.—Sugar											
Other food—Salt											
		Bengal Maund	2 2 0	1 11 0	1 10 6	1 11 0	100	110	162	170	
Oilseeds											
Cotton seed		Maund	2 11 3	3 10 0	3 11 0	3 10 0	100	134	136	134	
Repseed, bold	3% admixture	Cand.	51 0 0	74 0 0			100	145			
Gingelly	Blak 9% admixture	"	62 0 0	86 0 0			100	139			
Index No.—Oilseeds											
Textiles											
Jute beige	B. Twills	100 bags	38 4 0	64 4 0	50 8 0	50 0 0	100	168	152	151	

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Textiles—Cotton										
(a) Cotton, raw	Sind	Maund.	20 4 0	42 12 0	52 8 0	55 8 0	100	211		164
(b) Cotton manufactures										
Drills	Pepperill	Pices.	10 3 6	19 12 0	19 2 0	18 12 0	100	180	187	183
Shirtings	Liepmann's	"	10 2 0	22 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	100	217	196	196
Index No.—Cotton manufactures										
Index No.—Textiles—Cotton										
Other Textiles—Wool	Kandahar	Maund.	28 0 0	46 0 0	32 0 0	34 0 0	100	164	114	121
Hides										
Hides, dry	Sind	Maund.	21 4 0	13 8 0	12 0 0	12 0 0	100	64	56	56
" "	Punjab	"	21 4 0	13 8 0	12 0 0	12 0 0	100	64	56	56
Index No.—Hides										
Metals										
Copper Braziers		Cwt.	60 8 0	62 0 0	58 0 0	58 0 0	100	102	96	96
Steel Bars		"	3 14 0	6 8 0	5 8 0	5 14 0	100	168	142	152
" Plates		"	4 6 0	7 4 0	5 12 0	5 8 0	100	166	131	126
Index No.—Metals										
Other raw and manufactured articles										
Coal	1st class Bengal	Ton.	16 0 0	23 0 0	21 2 0	21 4 0	100	144	152	153
Karams	Chester Brand	Cans.	5 2 0	9 6 0	9 6 0	9 6 0	100	183	183	183
"	Elephant	2 Tons.	4 7 0	7 5 0	7 4 0	7 4 0	100	165	163	163
Index No.—Other raw and manufactured articles										
Index No.—Food										
Index No.—Non-food										
General Index No										

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

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WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS IN BOMBAY BY GROUPS

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months	Cereals	Pulses	Sugar	Other food	Index No. food	Oil-seeds	Raw cotton	Cotton (specimens)	Other textiles	Hides and skins	Metals	Other raw and manufactured articles	Index No. non-food	General Index No.
1923 August ..	120	85	202	343	176	151	210	209	195	138	178	168	176	176
1924 August ..	146	97	198	262	173	146	260	235	203	150	170	161	190	184
September ..	142	95	197	250	168	154	260	232	181	145	169	167	188	181
October ..	141	95	196	263	170	158	260	223	178	156	167	161	186	181
November ..	138	95	187	283	171	147	234	221	160	157	167	160	179	176
December ..	139		167	256	162	143	209	219	168	210	165	168	184	176
1925 January ..	153	102	174	267	173	143	210	216	168	118	165	159	172	173
February ..	165	106	174	231	172	142	209	213	166	148	163	159	174	173
March ..	154	99	175	219	164	136	209	212	160	145	162	166	174	171
April ..	149	104	177	193	157	137	199	211	158	146	160	159	169	165
May ..	149	104	179	176	155	144	187	215	143	153	162	155	170	164
June ..	141	102	160	181	148	142	190	209	144	142	157	157	167	160
July ..	141	102	159	184	148	140	182	208	144	139	153	153	163	158
August ..	146	100	158	183	149	140	184	206	155	161	153	159	167	160
September ..	143	104	159	176	146	136	184	205	155	141	153	159	164	157
October ..	147	111	151	178	149	130	(a) 191	203	153	151	154	159	(a) 164	(a) 158
November ..	153	128	161	175	155	133	169	195	152	155	153	159	162	160
December ..	149	122	148	168	149	129	159	191	148	149	150	155	157	154
1926 January ..	147	119	148	172	149	127	154	186	149	155	151	158	157	154
February ..	143	117	148	158	143	129	150	186	147	153	152	153	156	151
March ..	148	117	146	152	144	127	(a) 144	186	145	147	151	153	(a) 154	(a) 150
April ..	144	119	150	156	144	131	138	183	143	171	151	150	155	151
May ..	149	123	156	153	148	137	138	182	143	155	151	146	152	151
June ..	150	128	152	148	146	142	141	182	131	144	149	147	151	150
July ..	146	128	144	148	143	140	143	180	130	147	150	148	152	149
August ..	148	133	146	146	145	134	149	178	130	128	147	148	149	148

(a) Revised figures from October 1925 to March 1926

COST OF LIVING INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India (Bombay)	United Kingdom	Canada	Australia	New Zealand	Italy (Rome)	Belgium	Norway	Switzerland	South Africa	France (Paris)	U. S. of America
Items included in the index	Food, fuel, light, clothing and rent	Food, rent, fuel, light, clothing, and miscellaneous	Food, fuel, light, and rent	Food and rent	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heat, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, light, fuel and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, light, rent, and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating, lighting and rent	Food, fuel, light, rent and miscellaneous	Food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous	Food, clothing, heating and light and miscellaneous items
1914 July ..	100	100	100	(a) 100(f)	(b) 100	(c) 100	(d) 100	(e) 100	(f) 100	(g) 100	(h) 100	(i) 100
1915 ..	104	125	97	119	(f) 108	99	117	146	119	103	105(m)	105(m)
1916 ..	108	148	102	115	117	116	116	146	140	106	118	118
1917 ..	118	180	130	116	128	146	146	190	180	114	142	142
1918 ..	149	203	146	118	144	197	197	253	229	118	174	174
1919 ..	186	208	155	132	157	205	205	275	261	126	238 (n)	199
1920 ..	190	252	190	154	182	313	453	302	253	155	341	209
1921 ..	148	219	152	144	176	387	379	302	209	133	307	174
1922 ..	177	184	147	140	159	429	366	255	158	(i) 135	(p) 302	170
1923 ..	165	169	146	151	158	(h) 487	429	239	166	130	(p) 334	173
1924 ..	157	170	144	(a) 149	(j) 160	512	493	(d) 251	169	132	(p) 366	173(m)
1925 January ..	157	180	149	150	161	580	521	170	133	133	..	..
February ..	157	179	150	150	150	592	517	170	133	133	..	..
March ..	159	179	148	150	150	602	511	271	170	133	386	..
April ..	158	175	147	150	150	600	506	271	170	133	..	..
May ..	156	173	146	150	150	591	502	261	167	134	..	..
June ..	154	172	146	150	150	596	505	261	169	134	390	174
July ..	157	173	146	150	150	598	509	261	169	133	..	..
August ..	152	173	149	150	150	610	517	261	167	132	..	..
September ..	151	174	149	155	150	624	525	248	167	132	401	..
October ..	153	176	149	150	150	643	533	248	165	132	..	..
November ..	153	176	152	150	150	643	534	234	165	131	..	..
December ..	155	177	154	156	150	649	534	234	165	131	421	178
1926 January ..	155	175	155	156	150	665	527	225	167	131	..	..
February ..	154	173	154	156	150	661	526	225	165	131	..	..
March ..	155	172	154	156	150	654	521	225	165	131	451	..
April ..	153	168	153	156	150	642	529	218	160	131	..	..
May ..	153	167	152	156	150	652	558	218	160	132	..	..
June ..	155	168	150	156	150	650	579	218	162	131	485	..
July ..	157	170	150	156	150	637	579	218	162	131	..	..
August ..	155	170	150	156	150	637	579	218	162	131	..	..
September ..	155	170	150	156	150	637	579	218	162	131	..	..

(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 = 100. Average 1913 is the base. (g) The figures for Italy from July 1923 are for Milan. (h) Revised series from March 1922. (i) Revised figures. (j) Figures from 1915 to 1924 refer to August. (k) Figures from 1915 to 1924 refer to December. (l) First half of the year. (m) June figures.

INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Country	India (Bombay)	Japan	China (Shanghai)	Java (Batavia)	Australia	Egypt (Cairo)	United Kingdom (1)	France	Holland	Norway	Sweden	Canada (2)	United States of America (3)
1913 Average	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1914	100	95	100	100	106	100	100	102	100	100	100	100	100
1915	100	97	100	100	147	100	100	140	146	100	100	100	100
1916	100	117	100	100	135	100	100	188	224	100	100	100	100
1917	100	149	100	100	153	100	100	262	276	100	100	100	100
1918	100	196	100	100	178	100	100	339	373	100	100	100	100
1919	100	222	100	100	189	100	100	356	304	100	100	100	100
1920	100	216	152	203	228	100	100	309	292	100	100	100	100
1921	100	199	150	100	175	100	100	345	182	100	100	100	100
1922	100	187	146	100	162	100	100	327	160	100	100	100	100
1923	100	181	156	100	179	100	100	419	151	100	100	100	100
1924	100	182	207	100	173	100	100	166	489	100	100	100	100
1925	100	184	200	149	169	100	100	477	151	100	100	100	100
.. September	181	207	149	100	170	100	100	466	158	100	100	100	100
.. October	181	213	153	100	171	100	100	497	161	100	100	100	100
.. November	176	214	155	100	171	100	100	504	161	100	100	100	100
.. December	176	214	157	100	173	100	100	507	160	100	100	100	100
1925 January	173	214	160	178	171	100	100	516	160	100	100	100	100
.. February	173	210	159	177	170	100	100	515	158	100	100	100	100
.. March	171	204	160	176	168	100	100	514	155	100	100	100	100
.. April	168	198	159	100	166	100	100	513	151	100	100	100	100
.. May	164	199	158	100	167	100	100	520	151	100	100	100	100
.. June	160	200	157	100	170	100	100	543	155	100	100	100	100
.. July	160	198	163	100	170	100	100	557	155	100	100	100	100
.. August	160	200	160	100	170	100	100	557	155	100	100	100	100
.. September	157	201	160	100	170	100	100	556	155	100	100	100	100
.. October	(a) 158	200	159	100	171	100	100	555	154	100	100	100	100
.. November	(b) 160	197	158	100	173	100	100	572	154	100	100	100	100
.. December	(c) 154	194	158	100	168	100	100	633	155	100	100	100	100
1926 January	(d) 154	192	164	100	169	100	100	634	153	100	100	100	100
.. February	(e) 151	188	163	100	168	100	100	636	149	100	100	100	100
.. March	(f) 150	184	164	100	171	100	100	632	145	100	100	100	100
.. April	151	181	163	100	176	100	100	650	143	100	100	100	100
.. May	151	177	160	100	175	100	100	688	143	100	100	100	100
.. June	150	177	156	100	171	100	100	738	144	100	100	100	100
.. July	149	177	157	100	175	100	100	738	144	100	100	100	100
.. August	148	177	157	100	175	100	100	738	144	100	100	100	100
.. September	148	177	157	100	175	100	100	738	144	100	100	100	100

* July 1914 = 100. (a) Average for 1914 = 100. (b) Revised figures. (c) The figures from 1914-1920 are for December. (d) February 1913 = 100. (e) Average January 1913 to July 1914 = 100. (1) Board of Trade. (2) Dominion Bureau of Statistics. (3) Bureau of Labour Statistics. (f) Average for year ended June 1914 = 100.

RETAIL FOOD INDEX NUMBERS FOR INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Name of country	India	United Kingdom	Canada	South Africa	Australia	New Zealand	United States of America	France	Italy	Belgium	Finland	Holland	Norway	Sweden	Denmark	Switzerland
No. of articles	17	20	20	18	18	59	43	13	13	13	37	27	30	49	100	23
No. of stations	Bombay	630	60	9	30	25	51	Paris	Rome	59	21	Amsterdam	30	49	100	23
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100	(c) 100	(d) ..	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100
1915	105	132	105	107	131	112	98	122	95	..	..	160	124	128	119	141
1916	105	161	114	116	130	119	109	132	111	..	..	160	142	146	141	141
1917	114	204	157	128	126	122	143	183	137	..	..	142	214	181	166	178
1918	142	210	175	134	131	139	164	206	203	..	..	176	279	268	187	222
1919	187	209	186	139	147	144	186	261	206	..	..	210	289	310	212	250
1920	188	258	227	197	194	167	215	373	318	..	..	982	211	319	297	245
1921	151	174	220	148	139	161	164	145	306	402	100	1,278	180	295	232	236
1922	160	180	138	116	148	144	139	297	459	87	1,105	140	233	179	(e) 184	157
1923	148	162	137	116	164	142	144	321	(f) 496	105	968	176	218	160	(e) 188	166
1924	151	162	134	117	149	148	140	360	508	124	1,016	138	248	159	(e) 200	170
1925 January	152	178	145	120	148	147	151	408	590	141	1,100	150	277	170	..	168
.. February	152	176	147	120	149	146	148	410	610	139	1,089	155	283	170	..	168
.. March	155	176	145	121	151	150	148	415	624	136	1,119	151	284	171	..	168
.. April	153	170	142	124	152	150	148	409	620	150	1,099	150	276	170	..	166
.. May	151	167	141	123	154	150	149	418	599	125	1,059	150	265	169	..	165
.. June	149	166	141	122	155	149	152	422	598	131	1,062	149	261	169	210	167
.. July	152	167	141	120	156	151	159	421	602	133	1,107	152	260	169	..	167
.. August	147	168	146	119	156	152	150	423	621	137	1,182	151	254	170	..	165
.. September	146	170	146	118	156	153	156	431	643	141	1,149	148	241	168	..	165
.. October	148	172	147	118	157	155	158	433	646	144	1,129	148	228	166	..	163
.. November	149	172	151	117	156	156	164	444	649	144	1,130	148	223	165	..	163
.. December	151	174	161	116	156	154	162	480	681	142	1,062	145	221	164	..	167
1926 January	151	171	157	116	155	154	162	463	660	147	1,108	145	216	162	..	163
.. February	150	168	155	117	154	153	158	495	676	142	1,076	145	212	160	..	163
.. March	151	165	154	118	159	152	157	497	654	138	1,069	145	205	159	..	163
.. April	150	159	153	119	163	151	159	503	645	142	1,049	145	198	158	..	159
.. May	150	158	152	119	163	151	158	522	664	141	1,041	145	195	157	..	159
.. June	152	158	149	118	162	151	157	544	657	141	1,052	145	195	159	..	159
.. July	155	161	..	..	159	149	..	574	..	..	..	..	158	156	..	..
.. August	153	161	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
.. September	152	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

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

RETAIL PRICES OF ARTICLES OF FOOD IN JULY AND AUGUST 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
		July 1926	July 1926	July 1926	July 1926	July 1926	August 1926	August 1926	August 1926	August 1926	August 1926
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
<i>Cereals—</i>											
Rice	Maund ..	7 8 9 <i>135</i>	8 14 3 <i>133</i>	8 14 3 <i>144</i>	8 3 7 <i>156</i>	7 11 1 <i>133</i>	7 8 9 <i>135</i>	8 14 3 <i>133</i>	8 14 3 <i>144</i>	8 0 4 <i>152</i>	8 12 8 <i>152</i>
Wheat	" ..	7 5 8 <i>131</i>	6 2 6 <i>146</i>	7 4 4 <i>154</i>	6 13 8 <i>133</i>	8 0 0 <i>149</i>	7 9 7 <i>136</i>	6 2 6 <i>146</i>	7 4 4 <i>154</i>	6 12 6 <i>131</i>	8 0 0 <i>149</i>
Jowari	" ..	5 9 10 <i>129</i>	4 11 4 <i>130</i>	5 5 4 <i>140</i>	3 9 0 <i>124</i>	5 0 8 <i>147</i>	5 11 2 <i>131</i>	4 11 4 <i>130</i>	5 5 4 <i>140</i>	3 7 1 <i>120</i>	5 3 10 <i>153</i>
Bajri	" ..	6 7 10 <i>150</i>	6 12 11 <i>162</i>	6 10 8 <i>142</i>	5 0 3 <i>143</i>	5 13 9 <i>143</i>	6 2 9 <i>143</i>	6 10 8 <i>158</i>	6 10 8 <i>142</i>	4 12 10 <i>137</i>	6 0 1 <i>146</i>
<i>Index No.—Cereals</i>		<i>136</i>	<i>143</i>	<i>145</i>	<i>139</i>	<i>143</i>	<i>136</i>	<i>142</i>	<i>145</i>	<i>135</i>	<i>150</i>
<i>Pulses -</i>											
Gram	Maund ..	6 6 9 <i>149</i>	5 10 7 <i>149</i>	5 11 5 <i>143</i>	5 4 11 <i>124</i>	5 7 1 <i>112</i>	6 2 7 <i>143</i>	5 7 6 <i>144</i>	5 11 5 <i>143</i>	5 6 1 <i>125</i>	5 7 1 <i>112</i>
Turdal	" ..	7 13 6 <i>134</i>	8 0 0 <i>120</i>	10 0 0 <i>162</i>	7 5 8 <i>126</i>	8 10 0 <i>131</i>	7 13 6 <i>134</i>	8 0 0 <i>120</i>	10 0 0 <i>162</i>	7 10 2 <i>131</i>	8 14 3 <i>135</i>
<i>Index No.—Pulses</i>		<i>142</i>	<i>135</i>	<i>153</i>	<i>125</i>	<i>122</i>	<i>134</i>	<i>132</i>	<i>153</i>	<i>128</i>	<i>124</i>

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<i>Other articles of food -</i>											
Sugar (refined)..	Maund ..	14 4 7 <i>187</i>	12 8 9 <i>173</i>	14 8 9 <i>182</i>	14 8 9 <i>145</i>	15 5 0 <i>164</i>	13 11 1 <i>180</i>	11 10 2 <i>160</i>	13 5 4 <i>167</i>	13 14 7 <i>139</i>	14 15 3 <i>160</i>
Jagri (gul) ..	" ..	14 4 7 <i>167</i>	11 13 8 <i>170</i>	13 5 4 <i>150</i>	10 0 0 <i>129</i>	10 3 1 <i>145</i>	14 4 7 <i>167</i>	11 10 2 <i>167</i>	13 5 4 <i>150</i>	10 0 0 <i>129</i>	10 3 1 <i>145</i>
Tea	Lb. ..	0 15 5 <i>198</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 2 <i>194</i>	0 15 7 <i>225</i>	0 15 7 <i>200</i>	1 1 10 <i>171</i>	1 2 11 <i>230</i>
Salt	Maund ..	3 3 6 <i>151</i>	2 0 0 <i>152</i>	2 4 7 <i>151</i>	3 9 5 <i>161</i>	2 13 5 <i>151</i>	3 5 0 <i>156</i>	2 0 0 <i>152</i>	2 4 7 <i>151</i>	3 9 5 <i>161</i>	2 13 5 <i>151</i>
Beef	Seer ..	0 8 9 <i>169</i>	0 9 0 <i>180</i>	0 5 6 <i>92</i>	0 5 0 <i>201</i>	0 6 0 <i>141</i>	0 8 9 <i>154</i>	0 9 6 <i>190</i>	0 5 5 <i>90</i>	0 5 0 <i>201</i>	0 6 0 <i>141</i>
Mutton	" ..	0 11 3 <i>169</i>	0 13 0 <i>167</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 10 0 <i>167</i>	0 11 0 <i>183</i>	0 10 11 <i>164</i>	0 10 9 <i>175</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>	12 4 11 <i>246</i>	13 5 4 <i>183</i>	13 5 4 <i>133</i>	17 9 4 <i>191</i>	7 9 11 <i>172</i>	11 0 7 <i>221</i>	13 5 4 <i>183</i>	13 5 4 <i>133</i>
Ghee	" ..	96 6 10 <i>190</i>	77 9 4 <i>182</i>	71 1 9 <i>160</i>	71 1 9 <i>127</i>	78 0 9 <i>151</i>	97 9 11 <i>192</i>	77 9 4 <i>182</i>	71 1 9 <i>160</i>	71 1 9 <i>127</i>	84 3 4 <i>163</i>
Potatoes	" ..	10 1 11 <i>226</i>	8 0 0 <i>148</i>	10 0 0 <i>263</i>	10 0 0 <i>250</i>	7 0 3 <i>200</i>	7 11 10 <i>173</i>	10 0 0 <i>184</i>	8 14 3 <i>234</i>	16 0 0 <i>400</i>	9 9 9 <i>285</i>
Onions	" ..	4 2 8 <i>268</i>	2 8 0 <i>138</i>	2 8 0 <i>125</i>	3 10 2 <i>145</i>	3 0 6 <i>151</i>	4 12 2 <i>307</i>	2 11 2 <i>148</i>	3 1 3 <i>154</i>	3 5 4 <i>133</i>	3 5 4 <i>166</i>
Cocconut oil ..	" ..	28 9 2 <i>113</i>	26 10 8 <i>108</i>	32 0 0 <i>160</i>	32 0 0 <i>120</i>	28 1 1 <i>100</i>	28 9 2 <i>113</i>	26 10 8 <i>108</i>	32 0 0 <i>160</i>	32 0 0 <i>120</i>	28 1 1 <i>100</i>
<i>Index No.—Other articles of food</i>		<i>184</i>	<i>165</i>	<i>172</i>	<i>164</i>	<i>160</i>	<i>182</i>	<i>170</i>	<i>169</i>	<i>176</i>	<i>169</i>
<i>Index No.—All food article: (unweighted)</i>		<i>168</i>	<i>156</i>	<i>164</i>	<i>153</i>	<i>151</i>	<i>166</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>161</i>	<i>160</i>	<i>159</i>

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