

ITALY

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Second Annual Report of the Bombay Presidency Postmen's Union (Poona Branch), 1921-22.

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Second Annual Report of the B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Union, Bombay, for 1921-22.

Third Annual Report of the G. I. P. Railway Workmen's Union, Bombay, 1921-22.

UNITED KINGDOM

The Economist, Vol. XCV, Nos. 4121-4125.

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The Statist, Vol. C, Nos. 2321-2325.

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The Round Table, Vol. MCMXXXII, No. 48, for September 1922.

International Cotton Bulletin, No. 1, for September 1922. This is the first number of the quarterly official organ of the International Federation of Master Cotton Spinners' and Manufacturers' Associations, Manchester. It is intended to serve as a link between the Executive Committee and the individual members. The present issue contains international cotton statistics of cotton mill consumption and stocks for the half year ended July 31, 1922.

Monthly Review of Barclay's Bank, Ltd., for September 1922.

Statistical Bulletin of the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, London, for July 1922.

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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THE MONTH IN BRIEF

THE contrast between general trade and labour conditions now prevailing and the conditions in the corresponding period of 1921 and of 1920 is noticeable. Business is more active and opinions as to its future trend are optimistic. In some respects expert opinion believes that trade in Bombay has not been more healthy since the outbreak of war. This is seen in the steady rise in exchange. There has been a steady day-to-day demand for cotton, oilseeds, food-grains and general merchandise. The demand has not been feverish or hectic. There has been a noticeable fall in wholesale prices which has not been confined to the food-group. A fairly large amount of business has been put through, especially with the Continent, the goods for Germany being paid for in London from accumulated balances there. The total rainfall of the year has been normal or above normal in practically the whole of India except Madras, parts of the Deccan, Sind and in the Punjab south-west. The average over the plains of India was 5 per cent. above normal. The cost of living index continues to fall. Industrial disputes, however, have increased as compared with the previous month.

Employment

In the cotton mill industry the attendance in the mills in Bombay was, in spite of a considerable amount of malaria, more regular than in the previous month. This was said to be due to an anticipated bonus. Average absenteeism from representative mills showed a considerable improvement, being 9.29 per cent. as compared with 15.9 per cent. for the previous month. In Ahmedabad absenteeism rose from 2 to 4 per cent. as malaria was still prevalent. The Diwali bonus was distributed towards the end of October in that centre. Had it not been for this, percentage absenteeism would

have been greater. In Sholapur absenteeism remained at the level of the previous month and the supply of both skilled and unskilled labour was plentiful. In the engineering trades in Bombay the attendance was not so good as compared with the figure of the previous month, the percentage of absenteeism rising from 15.5 to 17.1 per cent. The increase was said to be due to sickness and to the departure of workers to their villages. The supply of labour was plentiful except for boiler makers, assistant boiler makers and pattern workers. There is always a good demand for these classes of workers, especially in railway workshops. The average percentage absenteeism in the Reclamation Schemes at Colaba and Marine Lines was 5.75 per cent. as compared with 6.25 per cent. last month. On the construction of chawls at Naigaum and DeLisle Road, absenteeism was the same as in the previous month while at Worli it increased by about 2 per cent. The attendance of dock labour in Bombay, which showed considerable improvement last month again fell, the average absenteeism for the month under review being 22.08 per cent. as against 16.5 per cent. in the previous month. The increase in absenteeism was due to numbers of workers returning to their villages for agricultural reasons. In Karachi, the Port Trust reports that absenteeism improved by about 2 per cent. The supply of skilled labour continued to be plentiful and that of unskilled labour was greater than the demand.

The Cost of Living

In October 1922 the cost of living, as described elsewhere in the *Labour Gazette*, was about 3 points below the level of the preceding month. The average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the cost of living index for the City and Island of



Bombay (100 represents the level of July 1914) was 162 for all articles and 158 for food articles only. There is a fall of 11 per cent. as compared with this time last year and a fall of 16 per cent. below the high-water mark (October 1920).

The articles have been given the relative importance which each bears to the aggregate expenditure. No allowance is made for any change in the standard of living because an index number purporting to combine movements in prices with movements in consumption would present great difficulties in construction, interpretation, and application. Moreover, such an index would not be materially different from a simple index of the general movement of prices in the case of the working classes. A further reference to the cost of living index will be found on page 7.

The Wholesale Index Number

Wholesale prices in October fell by nearly 4 per cent. which is even more marked than the fall in September and are now 74 per cent. above the pre-war level (July 1914).

	Increase per cent. over July 1914.		
	August.	September.	October.
Foods	88	85	78
Non-foods	84	79	72
All articles	86	81	74

The wholesale index number is 11 per cent. below the level at this time last year and 25 per cent. below the high-water mark (January 1920). Wholesale prices have in fact been on a downward direction since September 1921 with the exception of March 1922. The price of wheat in Bombay on the 15th November was Rs. 5-4-8 per Indian maund as against Rs. 5-9-9 on the 31st October and Rs. 5-12-0 on the 30th September. The prices for Rangoon rice in the Bombay market on these dates were Rs. 6-1-2, Rs. 6-1-2 and Rs. 5-15-3, a rise of nearly two per cent. over that on the 30th September.

Industrial Disputes

Charts Nos. 9 and 10 on industrial disputes show at a glance the considerable increase in the number of workpeople affected by strikes

during October, as compared with the previous month. The number of disputes, involving stoppages of work, as beginning in October was 22. Two disputes which began before October were still in progress. The number of disputes settled during October was 16. Most of the disputes were on account of the payment of the annual bonus in Ahmedabad, Broach and Surat. During October there were 24 disputes involving 9,817 workpeople as compared with 2,578 in the previous month and 50,608 in October 1921. The estimated aggregate duration of all disputes during October was nearly 62,300 working days as compared with 20,500 days in September 1922 and 231,896 days in October 1921.

A general review of strikes in the Presidency will be found on page 22 of this issue, and on page 23 appears an article on the dispute in the Tramway Service.

Labour Legislation, etc.

The Bill to amend and consolidate the Indian Mines Act, 1901 (Act VIII of 1901), now before a Joint Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly and the Council of State, has been referred to the Government of Bombay for opinion. In this issue, for convenience of reference, the Bill has been published in *extenso* and will be found on pages 27 to 37. The speech of the Honourable Mr. Innes in introducing the Bill in the Assembly is on page 24.

In regard to the Workmen's Compensation Bill, the Bombay Chamber of Commerce has appointed a strong Sub-Committee to examine the clauses of the proposed Bill, and it is at present sitting.

The Select Committee of the Bombay Legislative Council on the Bill further to amend the Bombay Rent (War Restrictions) Act, 1918, and the Bombay Rent (War Restrictions, No. 2) Act, 1918, has published its Report. The recommendations of the Committee include:—

(1) That the Acts should be extended to December 31st, 1925, as regards dwelling houses and to August 31st, 1924, as regards business premises. The conditions in Karachi, however, being different, the extension of the Acts up to August 31st, 1924, is considered sufficient.

(2) That, in regard to the increase of rent, a sliding scale of increases, ranging from 15 per cent.



on the standard rent of 1916 for smaller premises to 33½ per cent. (the figure originally proposed by the Bill) for larger premises in place of the 10 per cent. increase given by the present Acts should be adopted.

The following table gives the sliding scale of the proposed increase on the rent of 1916 for Bombay and Karachi:—

Rental.	Per cent. increase.	
	Bombay.	Karachi.
Rental not exceeding Rs. 50	15	15
Rental exceeding Rs. 50 but not exceeding Rs. 100 .. .. .	..	25
Rental exceeding Rs. 50 but not exceeding Rs. 200	20	..
Rental exceeding Rs. 100 .. .. .	..	33½
Rental exceeding Rs. 200 but not exceeding Rs. 500	25	..
Rental exceeding Rs. 500	33½	..

(3) That Government should be empowered to exempt by Notification any premises or class of premises from all or any of the provisions of the Rent Acts. This amendment is introduced with a view to deal expeditiously with representations from charitable institutions and co-operative building societies.

International Labour Conference

Lord Burnham, who presided over the Third Session of the International Labour Conference last year, was again unanimously elected President this year. In his opening speech he drew particular attention to the growing tendency to treat the grave problems of trade and industry from an international standpoint.

"It is not the prophets and visionaries who are insisting upon it," he said, "it is the financiers and the captains of industry. In the real sense of the word practical men of business are all internationalists now. The balance of modern trade depends upon international agreement. The place, therefore, of the International Labour Organisation in the order of the universe has become assured and although that place may be somewhat indeterminate, it will never be declared vacant. The industries of Europe and even, I venture to think, the industries of America, can never again be isolated and exclusive."

Cotton Mill Production

The main features of the two following tables are the slight decrease in yarn production and a greater decrease in the production of woven goods in the cotton mills in this Presidency during the six months ended September

1922. The prices of local made piece-goods remained stationary in October, while those of yarn were fluctuating to a slight extent. Imported piece-goods and yarn similarly show the lowest level since the beginning of this year.

(1) Month of September

	Millions of lbs. of yarn spun			Millions of lbs. of woven goods produced		
	September			September		
	1920	1921	1922	1920	1921	1922
Bombay Island	28	30	29	18	19	17
Ahmedabad	6	8	7	6	8	5
Other centres	4	4	5	2	3	2
Total, Presidency	38	42	41	26	30	24

(2) Six months ended September

	Millions of lbs. of yarn spun			Millions of lbs. of woven goods produced		
	Six months ended September			Six months ended September		
	1920	1921	1922	1920	1921	1922
Bombay Island	169	178	172	95	109	100
Ahmedabad	35	43	46	37	43	40
Other centres	24	29	30	14	17	15
Total, Presidency	228	250	248	146	169	155

The Outlook

Reports from the United Kingdom and the United States show that general prospects are on the whole good. In the United Kingdom the number of furnaces in blast increased. Production of pig-iron rose considerably. Both the number of furnaces and production were the highest attained since the resumption after the coal stoppage, but production is still only 62 per cent. of the average rate in 1920. According to the United States Trade Commissioner in India, production in the United States is heavy, especially in steel, textiles and lumber. In Germany, inflation has led to an enormous exodus of capital and to a widespread policy of spending every mark of income. It is ruinous to save in Germany, because every mark saved to-day

will be of less value tomorrow. Constantly rising prices and a vain attempt on the part of all employees to keep their wages on a level with the increased cost of living, are the predominant features in the economic life of Germany to-day. Inflation has brought about a redistribution of wealth on a peculiarly unfair basis. It appears, however, to be a temporary prosperity, because there is a limit beyond which depreciation cannot go.

The Balance of Trade

The most interesting features of the balance of trade for October is the visible balance of 3,86 lakhs, which is against India.

India

	May 1922	June 1922	July 1922	August 1922	September 1922	October 1922
Exports (private merchandise) ..	27.31	19.25	24.40	25.21	31.51	21.65
Imports do. ..	13.26	16.40	12.15	21.20	14.25	22.51
Balance of Trade in merchandise ..	+ 14.05	+ 2.85	+ 12.25	+ 4.01	+ 17.26	- 1.86
Balance of transactions in treasure (private) ..	- 4.62	- 4.12	- 6.52	- 1.96	- 3.91	- 3.52
Visible balance of trade including merchandise ..	+ 9.43	- 1.27	+ 5.73	+ 2.05	+ 13.35	- 5.38

* Plus (+) indicates favourable and minus (-) adverse balance.

Bombay

	August 1922	September 1922	October 1922	Increase (+) or decrease (-) in October 1922 as compared with the previous month.	
Exports (private merchandise) ..	8.97	8.50	7.60	4.80	4.38
Imports do. ..	7.87	6.17	6.86	7.85	7.20
Balance of Trade in merchandise ..	+ 1.10	+ 2.33	+ 0.74	- 2.5	- 2.40
Balance of transactions in treasure ..	3.96	4.07	6.63	2.27	4.20
Exports of treasure ..	5	36	22	42	53
Imports of treasure ..	- 3.91	- 3.71	- 6.41	- 1.85	- 3.67
Visible balance of trade ..	- 3.16	- 3.16	- 3.16	- 3.16	- 3.16

Karachi

	August 1922	September 1922	October 1922	Increase (+) or decrease (-) in October 1922 as compared with the previous month.	
Exports (private merchandise) ..	1.94	1.12	1.26	1.33	1.31
Imports do. ..	1.02	1.42	1.40	1.23	1.40
Balance of Trade in merchandise ..	+ 92	- 30	+ 36	- 50	- 9
Balance of transactions in treasure ..	3	..	..	3	2
Exports of treasure ..	..	2	6	21	5
Imports of treasure ..	- 3	+ 2	+ 6	+ 18	+ 3
Visible balance of trade ..	- 3	+ 2	+ 6	+ 18	+ 3

Normal Plus (+) signifies net exports and minus (-) signifies net imports.

Business Conditions

The rates for telegraphic transfers in Bombay on London in the first week of the last twelve months are as follows :-

	Rate		Rate
December 1921 ..	1 3 ⁷ / ₈	June 1922 ..	1 3 ¹¹ / ₁₆
January 1922 ..	1 3 ¹⁵ / ₁₆	July ..	1 3 ⁵ / ₈
February ..	1 3 ⁵ / ₈	August ..	1 3 ²¹ / ₃₂
March ..	1 3 ⁷ / ₈	September ..	1 3 ¹ / ₂
April ..	1 3 ⁵ / ₃₂	October ..	1 3 ¹⁷ / ₃₂
May ..	1 3 ⁵ / ₃₂	November ..	1 3 ⁵ / ₈

These rates are supplied by the Deputy Controller of the Currency, Bombay. The rate on 20th November was 1s. 3 ²⁹/₃₂d.

Bank Clearings during October 1922 in Rangoon, Karachi and Calcutta were above the September level but in Bombay, on the other hand, these were lower. The figures for the last three months are as follows :-

In crores of rupees

	August 1922	September 1922	October 1922	Increase (+) or decrease (-) in October 1922 as compared with the previous month.
Bombay ..	58	70	63	- 7
Karachi ..	2	2	3	+ 1
Calcutta ..	7	6	7	+ 1
Rangoon ..	9	9	9	..

The latest report shows the rupee portion of the Reserve in Bombay at 24.38 crores. In addition there is in Bombay Rs. 14 crores in the form of gold and the percentage of gold and silver in the Paper Currency Reserve for the whole of India is 64.

The average market quotations of 65 cotton mill companies for which quotations are available are as follows :-

	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
January 1922 ..	1,650	June 1922 ..	1,659
February ..	1,593	July ..	1,668
March ..	1,604	August ..	1,578
April ..	1,613	September ..	1,517
May ..	1,609	October ..	1,433

The average amount paid up was Rs. 371 per share.

The aftermath of the speculative mania referred to in the *Labour Gazette* of last month is shown in these 65 cotton mill quotations.

THE COST OF LIVING INDEX FOR OCTOBER 1922

A fall of three points

All articles .. 62 per cent.

Food only .. 58 per cent.

In October 1922 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, was three points below the level of the previous month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914, the index was about 165 in September and 162 in October. The general index is 16 per cent. below the high-water mark reached in October 1920 and 6 per cent. below the twelve-monthly average of 1921.

A FALL IN FOOD PRICES

In comparison with the previous month, there was a general fall in the retail prices of food articles. With the exception of rice, which remained stationary, all food-grains declined, jowari falling by 13 points, turdal by 9 points, bajri and gram by 7 points, and wheat by 6 points. In 'other foods' there was a drop of 10 points in the price of ghee, 8 points in potatoes and 3 points in sugar. There was no change in the price of raw sugar (gul), salt, beef, mutton, milk, onions and coconut oil.

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 aggregate expenditure. No allowance is made for any change in the standard of living since July 1914.

	July 1914 = 100		
October 1919 (three years ago) ..	174	April 1922 ..	162
October 1920 (two years ago) ..	193	May ..	163
October 1921 (a year ago) ..	183	June ..	163
November ..	182	July ..	165
December ..	179	August ..	164
January 1922 ..	173	September ..	165
February ..	165	October ..	162
March ..	165		

The following table shows the price levels of articles of food in September and October 1922 as compared with that for July 1914, which is taken as 100. The levels are calculated from the prices of articles per standard (or railway) maund or seer on page 8.

Articles.	July 1914	September 1922	October 1922	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in October 1922 over or below September 1922
Rice ..	100	132	132	..
Wheat ..	100	154	148	- 6
Jowari ..	100	128	115	- 13
Bajri ..	100	175	168	- 7
Gram ..	100	179	172	- 7
Turdal ..	100	153	144	- 9
Sugar (raw) ..	100	205	205	..
Sugar (refined) ..	100	240	237	- 3
Tea ..	100	127	129	+ 2
Salt ..	100	152	152	..
Beef ..	100	198	198	..
Mutton ..	100	231	231	..
Milk ..	100	191	191	..
Ghee ..	100	185	175	- 10
Potatoes ..	100	204	196	- 8
Onions ..	100	230	230	..
Coconut oil ..	100	112	112	..
All food articles (weighted average) ..	100	161	158	- 3

NOTE.—A full explanation of the scope and method of compilation of the index number was published in the *Labour Gazette* for September 1921.

BOMBAY COST OF LIVING INDEX

A

Articles.	Unit of quantity.	Annual consumption (Mass Units). (In crores.)	Price.			Total Expenditure.		
			July 1914.	September 1922.	October 1922.	July 1914.	September 1922.	October 1922.
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cereals—								
Rice	Maund	70	5.59	7.406	7.406	391.30	518.42	518.42
Wheat	"	21	5.59	8.625	8.271	117.39	181.13	173.69
Jowari	"	11	4.35	5.594	5.021	47.85	61.53	55.23
Bajri	"	6	4.31	7.531	7.255	25.86	49.19	43.53
Total and Average—Cereals ..	—	—	100	138	136	582.40	806.27	790.87
Pulses—								
Gram	Maund	10	4.30	7.693	7.406	43.00	76.93	74.06
Turdal	"	3	5.84	8.964	8.443	17.52	26.89	25.33
Total and Average—Pulses ..	—	—	100	172	164	60.52	103.82	99.39
Other food articles—								
Sugar (raw)	Maund	7	8.56	17.583	17.583	59.92	123.08	123.08
Sugar (refined)	"	2	7.62	18.287	18.078	15.24	36.57	36.16
Tea	"	1	40.00	50.792	51.615	1.00	1.27	1.29
Salt	"	40	2.13	3.240	3.240	10.65	16.20	16.20
Beef	Seer	5	0.32	0.641	0.641	8.96	17.95	17.95
Mutton	"	28	0.964	0.964	0.964	13.86	31.81	31.81
Milk	Maund	33	0.42	17.583	17.583	128.80	246.16	246.16
Ghee	"	14	9.20	94.120	88.891	76.18	141.18	133.34
Potatoes	"	1 1/2	4.48	9.141	8.792	49.28	100.55	96.71
Onions	"	11	1.55	3.573	3.573	4.65	10.72	10.72
Cocoanut Oil	"	3	25.40	28.568	28.568	12.70	14.28	14.28
Total and Average—Other food articles ..	—	—	100	194	191	381.24	739.77	727.70
Total and Average—All food articles ..	—	—	100	161	158	1,024.16	1,649.86	1,617.96
Fuel and lighting—								
Kerosene oil	Case	5	4.37	7.656	7.656	21.85	38.28	38.28
Firewood	Maund	48	0.79	1.281	1.281	37.92	61.49	61.49
Coal	"	1	0.54	0.992	0.992	0.54	0.99	0.99
Total and Average—Fuel and lighting ..	—	—	100	167	167	60.31	100.76	100.76
Clothing—								
Chudders	Lb.	27	0.59	1.453	1.375	15.93	39.23	37.13
Shirtings	"	25	0.64	1.578	1.495	16.00	39.45	37.38
T. Cloth	"	36	0.58	1.406	1.359	20.88	50.62	48.92
Total and Average—Clothing ..	—	—	100	245	234	52.81	129.30	123.43
House rent	Per month	10	11.30	18.7	18.7	113.00	187.00	187.00
Grand Total and General Average ..	—	—	100	165	162	1,250.28	2,066.92	2,029.15

NOTE.—If the aggregate expenditure in July 1914 at the prices ruling in that month was Rs. 1,250.28 crores, the aggregate expenditure in October 1922 at October price levels was Rs. 2,029.15, i.e., an increase of 62 per cent. (Rs. 1,250.28 = 100.

BOMBAY COST OF LIVING INDEX

B

Alternative method of presentation.

Articles.	Approximate percentage weight assigned to each article based on proportion to aggregate expenditure in July 1914.	Index Number.		Weight × Index Number.	
		September 1922	October 1922.	September 1922	October 1922.
Cereals—					
Rice	31.4	132	132	4,144.8	4,144.8
Wheat	9.4	154	148	1,447.6	1,391.2
Jowari	3.8	128	115	486.4	437.0
Bajri	2.1	175	168	367.5	352.8
Total and Average Index No. ..	46.7	138	135	6,446.3	6,325.8
Pulses—					
Gram	3.1	179	172	554.9	533.2
Turdal	1.3	153	144	198.9	187.2
Total and Average Index No. ..	4.4	171	164	753.8	720.4
Other food articles—					
Sugar (raw)	4.8	205	205	984.0	984.0
Sugar (refined)	1.2	240	237	288.0	284.4
Tea	0.1	127	129	12.7	12.9
Salt	0.9	152	152	136.8	136.8
Beef	0.7	198	198	138.6	138.6
Mutton	1.1	231	231	254.1	254.1
Milk	10.3	191	191	1,967.3	1,967.3
Ghee	6.1	185	175	1,128.5	1,067.5
Potatoes	4.0	204	196	816.0	784.0
Onions	0.4	230	230	92.0	92.0
Cocoanut oil	1.0	112	112	112.0	112.0
Total and Average Index No. ..	30.6	194	191	5,930.0	5,833.6
Fuel and lighting—					
Kerosene oil	1.8	175	175	315.0	315.0
Firewood	3.0	162	162	486.0	486.0
Coal	0.1	183	183	18.3	18.3
Total and Average Index No. ..	4.9	167	167	819.3	819.3
Clothing—					
Dhoties	1.3	245	231	318.5	300.3
Shirtings	1.3	246	233	319.8	302.9
T. Cloth	1.7	241	233	409.7	396.1
Total and Average Index No. ..	4.3	244	232	1,048.0	999.3
House rent	9.1	165	165	1,501.5	1,501.5
Grand total of weights =	100				
General Average or Cost of Living Index (July 1914 = 100) ..	.....	165	162	16,488.9	16,199.9



COST OF LIVING

COLLECTION OF DATA IN IRELAND

The Report of the Committee appointed by the Irish Provisional Government, to determine the average increase in the cost of living in Ireland for March and June 1922 as compared with July 1914, has been published.

The Committee collected information as to the retail prices of the principal commodities consumed by the wage-earning classes, and also as to rents in a large number of towns throughout Ireland. The returns were collected by the Post Office officials, the Ministry of Labour, and the Local Government Board. They collected family budgets of wage-earning households in June 1922. The average retail prices were calculated for each of the commodities included in the returns at each of the three dates, and also the average rents. The price ratios based on these averages were then combined in accordance with the relative importance of the various items as shown by the budgets.

The following figures represent the average increase in the cost of the 1922 standard of living of wage-earning families between July 1914 and mid-March 1922 and between July 1914 and mid-June 1922. It was observed that the returns collected by the Post Office officials yielded a greater increase in every group of items.

Date.	Increase over July 1914, based on Prices Returns collected by officials of the	
	Post Office.	Ministry of Labour and Local Government Board.
Mid-March 1922	95.7	87.0
Mid-June	87.8	82.5

The Committee decided to take the average between the two sets of figures as representing the nearest approach to the truth. They accordingly recommend the adoption of 91.4 per cent. as representing the average increase between July 1914 and mid-March 1922, and 85.2 per cent. as representing the average increase between July 1914 and mid-June 1922.

THE COST OF LIVING AND WAGES

WAGE STANDARDS IN NEW ZEALAND

The Government of New Zealand has forwarded a report issued by the Department of Labour on *Pronouncements of the Court regarding Cost of Living and General Order Amending Awards, May 1922*. The Court adopts the official figures of the Government Statistician in respect of food, rent, fuel and lighting, and also collects prices of clothing and miscellaneous commodities and services, for which no official figures are available. These are combined, with their weights, with the official figures for the other groups, to give the movement in the cost of living.

'Food, rent, fuel, and light,' says the Report, 'together account for nearly 60 per cent. of the total expenditure of an average family. Clothing, which includes personal clothing, household linen and drapery, and boots and shoes, accounts for 13.89 per cent. This group covers 13 items of men's and boys' overwear, 6 items of men's and boys' underwear, 7 items of women's and girls' overwear, 5 items of women's and girls' underwear, 15 items of household drapery, and 9 items of footwear and repairs. Miscellaneous household requisites, medical and other fees, train and tram fares, newspapers and periodicals, and other items of a general nature make up the remaining 26.45 per cent.' The Court felt for some time past that 26.45 per cent. of the total expenditure of a family was too large an item to be covered by an estimate. Accurate data have been obtained for 13 per cent. of this, i.e., for the prices of household furnishing, household ironmongery, brushware and sundries (32 items), crockery, train and tram fares, newspapers and periodicals. This leaves 13.45 of the domestic expenditure uncovered, i.e., for which no definite information is available. The items in this represent expenditure on insurance, medical, dental, and legal fees, subscriptions to clubs, religious bodies, charity, etc., sport and recreation and casual expenditure that cannot be classified. It is assumed that the movement in respect of this sub-group is the average of the groups covered.



THE SIZE OF THE FAMILY

The Report points out that 'the average family in New Zealand comprises only 1.57 children under 14 years of age, and that the average number of children to each adult male worker is less than one (0.94). We in New Zealand have reckoned only two children to the average family, but that is over the mark. The claim of the unions for full wages for all adult males, irrespective of their obligations, is irreconcilable with the claim for an adequate wage for the married man with a family of three or more children. The fixing of the same basic wage for all adult males means that one section of workers gets more than a fair living-wage, another section gets a fair living-wage, while the remaining section gets less than a fair living-wage.'

Miss Rathbone, it will be remembered, in the *Times* last year examined the same question from the point of view of the United Kingdom. She found that "the living-wage" was normally assumed to mean a wage which makes it possible to support "an average family of man, wife, and three children," at least on the level of "healthy physical existence," and points out that the percentage of workers who have this number of children to support is small. On an average test (the basis of which is a scrutiny of one-tenth of the working class households of five typical industrial towns, supplemented by a scrutiny of one-fiftieth of the Census sheets (1911) of seven other industrial towns and metropolitan boroughs) Miss Rathbone finds that 81.3 per cent. of the workers are unmarried or have no children or less than three children. Those who have three children and no more amount to 8.8 per cent.; while 9.9 per cent. have more than three children. The assumption in the United Kingdom that the average family consists of man, wife, and three children is far from the truth. The truth is that a "living-wage" calculated on this basis represents the payment of a surplus above subsistence level to 81.3 per cent. of the workers and of a deficiency below the minimum to 9.9 per cent.

THE LIVING WAGE

The Report quotes a number of definitions on the living-wage among which are: "The wages paid to a man of average industry and

capacity should at least enable him to marry, to live in a decent house, and to provide the necessities of physical efficiency for a normal family, while allowing a reasonable margin for contingencies and recreation." "The workman has a right to receive in return for a fair day's work wages which will enable him to preserve his health, assure for his children the natural development of their physical forces, their intellectual faculties, and their normal sense, and procure comfort and save recreation that will put a little joy into their lives and make a man who is wise and reasonable appreciate existence, and not consider it a burden." "The remuneration must be enough to support the wage-earner (and his family) in reasonable and frugal comfort."

The Report emphasises that the employers' and workers' interests are bound up with one another's. The remuneration of capital, labour, and enterprise all come from one source and one source alone, the product of their joint activities. If inefficiency of management, restriction of output, want of enterprise, extravagance, and mutual hostility diminish it, increase its cost, or retard its growth, there is so much less to go round, and either one party or all will suffer.

Prices and Cost of Living in Germany

In the following table, the figures for which are taken from the *Wirtschaft und Statistik*, the movements of prices in Germany, since the beginning of this year, are shown.

Period.	Index number of wholesale prices.	Index number of the cost of living.	Index number of retail prices of food articles.
1921.	1913=100.	1913-14=100.	1913-14=100.
December	3,487	1,746	2,357
1922.			
January	3,665	1,828	2,463
February	4,103	2,209	3,020
March	5,433	2,639	3,602
April	6,355	3,175	4,356
May	6,458	3,462	4,680
June	7,030	3,779	5,119
July	10,059	4,990	6,836
August	17,985	7,029	9,746
September	27,419	11,376	15,417

It will be seen from this table that there has been a progressive increase in prices since December 1921, the levels reached in September 1922 by wholesale and retail prices being about 8 times and more than 6 times, respectively, the levels of December 1921.



WHOLESALE PRICES IN OCTOBER

BOMBAY*

The index number of wholesale prices for October 1922 is four per cent. below that for September and more than six per cent. lower than the level of prices in August. The fall in the general average was made up of equal decreases in food and non-food articles. In comparison with the corresponding month of last year prices have fallen by 11 per cent., the fall from the twelve-monthly average of 1921 being about the same.

The present index number is based on carefully collected market prices and is indirectly weighted. Food articles number 15 and non-food 28. The base is the pre-war month, July 1914. The index is published at the request of business firms in Bombay, in such a way as to show the relative level of average wholesale prices, and the groups have been selected primarily with a view to suit the conditions of Bombay's trade.

The net result of movements in the groups are set out below. Comparisons are made with (1) the immediately preceding month, and (2) the corresponding month of last year.

Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay

Groups.	No. of items.	Increase (+) or decrease (-) per cent. in October 1922 as compared with	
		the preceding month (September 1922).	the corresponding month of last year (October 1921).
1. Cereals ..	7	- 11	- 24
2. Pulses ..	2	- 6	- 27
3. Sugar ..	3	- 1	+ 1
4. Other food ..	3	+ 3	+ 38
Total food ..	15	- 4	- 6
5. Oilseeds ..	4	+ 2	+ 6
6. Raw cotton ..	5	- 14	- 2
7. Cotton manufactures ..	6	- 1	- 17
8. Other textiles ..	2	....	+ 1
9. Hides and skins ..	3	- 21	- 38
10. Metals ..	5	....	- 13
11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	3	+ 1	- 10
Total non-food ..	28	- 4	- 14
General average ..	43	- 4	- 11

* Karachi wholesale prices will be found on pages 42-44.

The general average for articles of food in October was four per cent. lower than that for September, the fall in food-grains being more marked in October than in the preceding month. The price of cereals went down by 11 per cent. and that of pulses by 6 per cent. Changes in the other groups of food articles were a decrease of one per cent. in sugar and an increase of 3 per cent. in other foods.

The index number of non-food articles was 172 in October as against 179 in September, thus showing a fall of four per cent. Among the exported articles there was a marked fall in hides and skins, and raw cotton, the former going down by 21 per cent. and the latter by 14 per cent. There was no change in the price of metals while oil-seeds advanced by two per cent. Fluctuations in the other groups could be comprised within a range of one per cent.

The subjoined table compares October prices with those of the preceding months and of the corresponding month of last year. The table expresses the price levels as percentages of the twelve-monthly average of 1921:—

100 = average of 1921

Groups.	Oct. 1921.	Jan. 1922.	April 1922.	July 1922.	Sept. 1922.	Oct. 1922.
I. Cereals ..	105	99	98	93	89	79
II. Pulses ..	103	110	101	84	80	75
III. Sugar ..	78	79	86	83	80	79
IV. Other food ..	106	112	125	134	142	147
Total food ..	98	97	100	97	96	92
V. Oilseeds ..	90	92	100	105	94	96
VI. Raw cotton ..	118	116	125	137	134	115
VII. Cotton manufactures ..	102	97	94	96	86	85
VIII. Other textiles ..	96	97	97	97	97	97
IX. Hides and Skins..	114	104	86	89	89	70
X. Metals ..	90	86	81	76	78	78
XI. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	95	92	90	89	85	86
Total non-food ..	101	96	93	95	90	87
General average—all articles ..	99	97	96	96	92	89



The main fact which emerges from this table is that the general level of wholesale prices in Bombay is now below the average of 1921. The levels of "Other food" and "Raw cotton" are, however, above the twelve-monthly average of 1921. The following table is intended to show the annual movements in food and non-food wholesale prices:—

Annual wholesale prices

July 1914 = 100

	Food.	Non-food.	All articles.
Twelve-monthly average 1918 ..	170	270	237
" " 1919 ..	202	233	222
" " 1920 ..	206	221	215
" " 1921 ..	193	198	196
Nine-monthly average 1922 ..	189	185	186

The construction of the wholesale index is shown in the following table:—

The Construction of the Index

No.	Articles.	July 1914.	October 1922.			
			Total Numbers.	Average.		
1	Cereals (Rice, wheat, jowari, barley, and bajri).	6	Index Nos.	600	870	145
2	Pulses (Gram and turdal).	2	" "	200	238	119
3	Sugar (Refined and raw).	3	" "	300	631	210
4	Other articles of food (Ghee, salt, etc.)	3	" "	300	748	249
5	Total all food ..	14	" "	1,400	2,487	178
6	Oil seeds (Linseed, rapeseed, poppyseed, and gingelly)	4	" "	400	553	138
7	Raw cotton ..	3	" "	300	496	165
8	Cotton manufactures (Long cloth, shirtings, chudders, etc.)	6	" "	600	1,356	226
9	Other textiles (Silk) ..	2	" "	200	277	139
10	Hides and skins ..	3	" "	300	336	112
11	Metals (Copper braziers, steel bars, tinplates, etc.)	5	" "	500	908	182
12	Other raw and manufactured articles (Kerosene and coal) ..	3	" "	300	547	182
13	Total non-food ..	28	" "	2,800	4,473	172
14	General Average ..	40	" "	4,000	6,960	174

COMPARATIVE PRICES

BOMBAY, KARACHI, AHMEDABAD AND SHOLAPUR

The following table compares the retail food prices in Karachi, Ahmedabad and Sholapur with those in Bombay, in September and October 1922 (Bombay prices = 100). It will be seen that the retail price levels in all the three centres are below the level in Bombay.

Bombay prices in September 1922 = 100

Articles	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur
Cereals—				
Rice ..	100	114	108	103
Wheat ..	100	78	84	88
Jowari ..	100	81	89	61
Bajri ..	100	78	97	66
Average—Cereals..	100	88	95	80
Pulses—				
Gram ..	100	73	87	84
Turdal ..	100	86	99	95
Average—Pulses..	100	80	93	90
Other articles of food—				
Sugar (refined) ..	100	95	109	100
Jagri (Gul) ..	100	88	91	96
Tea ..	100	107	126	105
Salt ..	100	59	77	119
Beef ..	100	98	59	59
Mutton ..	100	78	78	65
Milk ..	100	43	70	76
Ghee ..	100	81	97	113
Potatoes ..	100	136	97	113
Onions ..	100	85	70	93
Cocoanut oil ..	100	89	112	93
Average—Other articles of food ..	100	87	90	94
Average—All food articles ..	100	86	91	90

Bombay prices in October 1922 = 100

Articles	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur
Cereals—				
Rice ..	100	96	111	103
Wheat ..	100	70	85	91
Jowari ..	100	75	94	69
Bajri ..	100	53	85	68
Average—Cereals..	100	74	94	83
Pulses—				
Gram ..	100	66	96	88
Turdal ..	100	91	108	105
Average—Pulses..	100	79	102	97
Other articles of food—				
Sugar (refined) ..	100	103	104	105
Jagri (Gul) ..	100	82	96	93
Tea ..	100	124	124	103
Salt ..	100	59	77	124
Beef ..	100	90	58	58
Mutton ..	100	68	78	65
Milk ..	100	44	70	76
Ghee ..	100	80	95	120
Potatoes ..	100	117	114	87
Onions ..	100	86	64	93
Cocoanut oil ..	100	90	112	94
Average—Other articles of food ..	100	86	90	93
Average—All food articles ..	100	82	92	91



RETAIL PRICE STATISTICS

On page 46 will be found statistics of food prices in September and October 1922 for Bombay, Karachi, Ahmedabad and Sholapur. These are official prices supplied through the Director of Agriculture to the Labour Office, and are averages of prices taken eight times a month from retail shopkeepers patronised by the labouring classes.

The articles selected are those commonly consumed by the working classes. The index number is based on the prices of seventeen commodities, and is the simple arithmetic average of the percentages of prices of the several articles as compared with the prices for July 1914, which being the pre-war month is taken as the base. The unweighted index numbers of retail prices for October 1922 show that in comparison with the previous month, there was a fall in all the four centres, the fall being marked in Karachi. The price of cereals decreased in Bombay, Karachi and Ahmedabad while it rose slightly in Sholapur. Pulses declined in Bombay and Karachi but advanced in Ahmedabad and Sholapur. The price of "Other foods" decreased in all centres.

Proposed Reduction of Wages in Ahmedabad

It is understood that the Ahmedabad Mill-owners' Association has addressed the local Labour Union Office on the subject of reducing the present scale of wages of the cotton mill operatives in view of the fall in the prices of bajri, wheat, etc., and the decline in the profits of the mills. The reduction refers merely to the abolition of the scarcity allowance known as *Moghvari* which was granted to spinners provisionally, on account of the sudden rise in the prices of foodstuffs. The rates of the allowance, which were fixed, in the middle of last year vary in the different departments of the mills. They are as under:—

Throstle operatives—Rs. 1-10-0 per *hapta*⁽¹⁾ (period) exceeding 10 days but not exceeding 16 days, or annas two per day in the event of the operative working for less than 10 days in a *hapta*.

(1) A "hapta" in Ahmedabad, consists of 16 days in the spinning departments of mills, while in the weaving departments a "hapta" is a period of 14 days only.

Doffer boys, Card and Blow-Room operatives—Re. 1. per *hapta* or Re. 0-1-6 per day when the presence is of less than 10 days.

WAGES IN THE TEA INDUSTRY

REPORT OF THE ASSAM LABOUR ENQUIRY COMMITTEE *

The Committee appointed by the Government of Assam to enquire into the conditions of labour on the tea-gardens have submitted their report. The terms of reference of the Committee included the following:—

(1) To enquire whether the remuneration in money payments together with the concessions received by the coolies in the way of free housing, medical attendance, cheap rice and clothing, garden-land and the like is sufficient to maintain the coolies in health and reasonable comfort;

(2) to enquire whether it is possible and desirable that the indirect remuneration represented by the above-mentioned concessions should be converted into an increase of money wages; or, if not, whether it is possible for the value of such indirect remuneration to be so expressed in terms of money wages that the actual total remuneration received by the coolies can be readily exhibited; and

(3) to make any recommendation which seems desirable for improving the conditions of labour on the tea-gardens."

The Committee, which consisted of nine members, was presided over by the Hon'ble Mr. J. C. Arbuthnot, C.I.E. Seven of the nine members have signed the Report, while the remaining two have written a Minority Report. The appendices to the Report contain (1) A table of the percentage of the average daily working strength to the total number on the books, of men and women in the various tea districts for 1906, 1908, 1914 and 1918-22; (2) family budgets collected during the census, March 1921; (3) family budgets framed at the time of the Labour Enquiry; and (4) the number of tea-gardens and garden population.

In Chapter II of the Report, the Committee deals with the principal disturbances and riots which occurred during the eighteen months previous to the appointment of the Committee and discusses the causes. An analysis of the causes indicates that the economic factor cannot be ignored. The Government of Assam in their Resolution No. 6405-F. of 9th October

(*Report of the Assam Labour Enquiry Committee 1921-22, Shillong—Government Press, Assam, Price Rs. 2-10 annas or 3s. 6d.)



1922, have reviewed the report. They unreservedly accept the conclusions of the Committee that "the unrest was due to a combination of economic and political conditions". The Committee are satisfied that even though, owing to financial stringency, economies in working had to be effected, Managers did their best to see that the labourer did not suffer.

WAGES

The fundamental question that engaged the attention of the Committee was "whether the remuneration in money payments together with the concessions received by the coolies in the way of free housing, medical attendance, cheap rice and clothing, garden-land and the like is sufficient to maintain the coolies in health and reasonable comfort."

The Government of Assam consider that the question of the extent to which these benefits represent an actual addition to the wages paid has been handled in a thoroughly judicial manner and accept the conclusions of the Committee as regards housing, medical attendance and land for cultivation, *viz.*, that "though there is a theoretical possibility of converting these concessions into a money equivalent this is impracticable and undesirable both from the point of view of the labourer and of the garden. As regards rice and clothing concessions, the Committee think that the labourer should have the opportunity of earning a sufficient wage without working overtime to enable him to buy rice and clothing in the open market, unless they are abnormally dear when he might reasonably expect the garden to come to his assistance". The findings of the Committee on this question are to be found in paragraphs 128 and 129 of the Report. They read:—

"128. Managers have expressed the opinion that the remuneration in money payments together with the various concessions is sufficient to maintain the labourers in health and reasonable comfort. The Committee find it difficult to give a definite answer to the question. In a matter of this kind the evidence of the eye is often more valuable than verbal testimony, but as it has been a physical impossibility to visit more than a small proportion of the numerous gardens in the Province, it has not been easy to come to any definite conclusion. The attractiveness to the coolie of a particular garden often depends on the net advantages and not on money earnings alone. Other

important factors are the possibility of obtaining land for cultivation, the opportunities of other subsidiary means of livelihood, proximity to a bazaar, ample leisure, the healthiness of the locality, and last but by no means least, the personality of the Manager. It would be a mistake to adopt, in the case of any individual garden, the general conclusion arrived at as regards the adequacy or inadequacy of wages in any particular tea district without taking into consideration the conditions prevailing on the estate. The Committee believe that the analysis which has been made of the wages earned, district by district, is of more practical utility than any attempt to sum up the position as regards the whole Province. They are satisfied, however, that, speaking generally, the remuneration is adequate on gardens in the Assam Valley. In the case of the Surma Valley, they can only endorse that finding subject to the reservations made in the detailed analysis.

It seems reasonable to infer that the coolie's standard of living must have been lowered of late years. If earnings have not kept pace with the rise in the cost of living, this is inevitable. There is no reason, however, to believe that, speaking generally, the labourer has not had sufficient food to maintain him in health which is the primary consideration, but obviously he must have had less money to spend on clothing and petty luxuries, while the possibilities of saving must have been very limited in most cases. At the same time, it is difficult to believe that a lower standard of living has been voluntarily adopted by the labourer. Only force of circumstances has compelled him to accept the lower standard of living. The Committee would express the hope that the Tea Industry will, before long, be in a position to enable him to regain, if not to raise, the standard which he had attained when the cost of living was less.

129. The Committee suggest that the present district Sub-Committees should recommend what they consider to be a decent monthly or daily rate of wage, not a mere subsistence allowance, but a wage that would suffice to keep the labourer in health and reasonable comfort with the possibility of saving a little. This should be a wage which the average coolie can earn in a reasonable time. It may be supplemented by *ticca* earnings. It has been suggested that the task for this wage should not occupy more than six hours and that an *anna* for an hour's work is a fair rate. The Committee refrain from passing any definite opinion on this point as they believe that Managers are a reasonable and fair-minded body of men and that the district Sub-Committees are in the best position to say what is a fair task for a decent living wage. It is possible that certain tasks might have to be altered; for example a task of deep hoeing takes longer than one of light hoeing. Managers



in the Assam Valley, in reply to question 24—as to what constitutes a decent living monthly wage—have, with few exceptions, given a figure which corresponds to the monthly or daily rate of wage for the ordinary daily task which is at present in force on the gardens. In the Surma Valley, however, the daily rate of wage paid for the fixed task is, in many cases, considerably below the figure given by Managers in estimating a decent living wage. The rate of wages should be fixed on the assumption that a coolie has no cultivation or other subsidiary means of livelihood. It does not seem fair to pay a low rate of wages on the ground that a garden is well off for land for rice cultivation. It may be that all the land available has already been distributed. The new coolie is not likely, as a rule, to be in a position to take to cultivation till he has been some years on the garden.”

THE COST OF LIVING

Commenting on the above paragraphs the Government Resolution says:—

“The writers of the minority Report in answering the first question* put to the Committee are of opinion that at the present time the remuneration in money payments together with the various concessions received is sufficient to maintain the coolies in health and reasonable comfort. The majority, while agreeing that this is generally the case, do so with reservations and their views are stated in paragraph 128 in terms which bear witness to the scrupulous care with which they considered the problem. The Government of Assam agree that the question admits of no short and easy answer. The various factors mentioned by the Committee must be given due weight. But they welcome the valuable detailed analysis of the wages paid in each sub-division of the planting districts which precedes the general findings. They agree that the method adopted by the Committee was the only possible way of arriving at an accurate appreciation of the situation, and they accept without hesitation the findings as to the adequacy or inadequacy of the wages given in each sub-division.....

The Government cannot differ from the broad conclusions to which the majority of the Committee have come, that the rise in prices has exceeded the rise in wages, or their inference in paragraph 128 that the coolie's standard of living must in consequence have been lowered of recent years. That the upward movement of prices usually outpaces wages is well known. But in this instance the Government of Assam feel that the employer would have done wisely to take advantage of the fat years, and to have

* *i.e.*, whether the remuneration in money payments together with the concessions received by the coolies in the way of free housing, medical attendance, cheap rice and clothing, garden land and the like is sufficient to maintain the coolies in health and reasonable comfort.

raised wages before the coolie began to feel the pinch of the lean years. They have not overlooked what has been urged in paragraph 8 of the minority Report about the pressure of taxation on the Industry. But they believe that to some extent the troubles of last year would have been averted had a more enlightened policy been adopted while conditions still permitted. The Governor in Council shares the hope expressed that the Tea Industry will before long be in a position to enable the coolie to regain if not to raise the standard which he had attained when the cost of living was less. He is glad to learn from paragraph 98 of the Report that many estates have already found it possible to raise wages, and agrees that justice to the employers required the inclusion in the wage statistics of the figures for March last.

Paragraph 129 formulates the practical suggestions of the Committee. They advise that the district Sub-Committees should recommend what they consider to be a decent monthly or daily rate of wage, which is not to be a mere subsistence allowance, but a wage that will suffice to keep the labourer in health and reasonable comfort with the possibility of saving a little. Few would quarrel with the interpretation placed on these terms in paragraph 96 of the Report. They consider moreover that this should be a wage which the average coolie can earn in a reasonable time, and that in fixing it no regard should be paid to *ticca* earnings by which it may be supplemented. The Government accept these recommendations.”

Some interesting budgets of personal expenditure have been prepared by the Committee, and they, with diffidence, arrive at the conclusion that the cost of living for the adult coolie has risen by about 40 per cent. since 1914. The Government of Assam incline to the opinion that this probably understates the rise in the cost of living of recent years.

ACT XIII OF 1859

Chapter V of the Report is concerned with the working of the Workman's Breach of Contract Act, XIII of 1859, as modified by Act XII of 1920 and the question of its repeal. The main provision of the original Act is that when a workman joins service and receives an advance, and after receiving an advance does not fulfil his contract, the Magistrate has power, on the complaint made by the employer, to order the man, as the employer requires, either to pay back the money, or to fulfil the contract of service, and in default the Magistrate has power to impose



WELFARE

Chapter VI of the Report contains valuable suggestions for promoting the general welfare and contentment of the labourer. These the Government of Assam confidently commend to the attention of the tea industry. The Committee have recorded the evidence of 15 European medical officers and also of Managers of tea-gardens as regards the treatment of anæmia and hookworm disease, the practicability of introducing a system of conservancy, the alleged aversion of coolies to undergo in-door treatment in hospitals, and the assistance given to pregnant women. The Committee have observed that appreciable progress has been made in the treatment of anæmia and hookworm in tea-gardens. The installation of a conservancy system in the gardens has not advanced beyond the experimental stage and the Committee recommend that medical officers should confer and discuss the improvements to be effected. The practice differs considerably in regard to the assistance given to pregnant women. The Committee endorse the opinion expressed by their predecessors that “if children are to be born and to live, six months' leave on half pay after childbirth would seem to be advisable”. With few exceptions, gardens are equipped with a qualified medical staff. Some gardens give small pensions in cash to deserving coolies who have put in long and faithful service.

“The majority of the Committee,” says the Report, “are inclined to believe that the effect of Act XIII is to make the coolie accept a lower wage than he would if labour was entirely free. It is not unreasonable to suppose that the abolition of the Act will have an effect on wages, in that it will be more difficult under a free labour system to retain discontented labourers on estates where the attractions offered are insufficient or conditions otherwise unfavourable..... Most planters are opposed to the withdrawal of the Act. In the first place it is urged that the tea industry which imports labour at considerable cost should have some guarantee against labourers deserting or being enticed away by other gardens, and next that the coolie is more content with an agreement because it affords the opportunity of an annual bonus for any special item of expenditure.”

The majority of the Committee favour the abolition of Act XIII. They “consider it an anachronism that there should be any penal contract at all. They believe that the freedom of the coolie is considerably restricted under the present system and that the repeal of the Act, so far from being detrimental to the tea industry, would result in stimulating recruitment and the attraction of a better class of labour”. The Government of Assam accepts the recommendation of the majority of the Committee and believes “that the time has come when in the interests of the Industry and of the labourers alike the Act should cease to apply to tea gardens in Assam.”

EDUCATION

In regard to the education of the coolies, as a result of the enquiry instituted by the Assam Government some years ago, a certain number of schools were opened on various estates. But they have not been a success, for the earnings of children being a welcome addition to the family, the parents are unwilling to send their children to school.



HOUSING

His Excellency the Hon'ble Sir George Lloyd will open, on the 6th December 1922, the first tenements (*chawl*) at Worli erected by the Development Directorate as the first part of their Housing Scheme. The statistics of progress of the Housing Scheme till 31st March 1922, as stated in the Report of the Development Directorate, were published on page 20 of the *Labour Gazette* for August 1922.

"The position with regard to land on 31st March 1922 is shown in the subjoined table.

Situation.	Number of chawls and tenements which land in possession of Directorate will accommodate.		Date Directorate obtained possession.
	Chawls.	Tenements.	
Naigaum	19	1,520	22nd March 1921.
DeLisle Road	33	2,640	12th November 1921.
Worli	43	3,440	20th October 1921.

Work on these 95 chawls (7,600 tenements) was in active progress at the end of the year and copies of the layout plans adopted are shown on plates 2, 3 and 4 (in the Report).

A second plot at Naigaum was handed over to the Directorate by the Improvement Trust shortly after the close of the period under review, as well as an additional large area at Worli; and these two together will provide for another 100 chawls or 8,000 tenements, so that at the date of issue of this report, land is in possession of the Directorate which will accommodate a total of 195 chawls or 15,600 tenements. This will suffice to carry the programme well into the year 1924-25, but negotiations are in progress with the Improvement Trust for the provision of further land at the dates it will be required, and investigations are also being carried out as to the possibility of reclamation in the north-east of the Island. At the end of the year, the equivalent of 720 tenements had been completed as against the programme figure of 1,200, due mainly to delays caused by protracted acquisition proceedings; but it is

confidently expected that the lost ground will be recovered during the current year, and that the work will be fully up to the programme by 31st March 1923."

On the 6th December, the opening day, it is expected that 20 *chawls* or 1,600 tenements will be fully completed, *i.e.*, 8 at Worli, 4 at DeLisle Road and 8 at Naigaum (plot A): on that date it is anticipated that in all, the equivalent of 35 *chawls* will be completed.

Further, in answer to a question in the Bombay Legislative Council, Government furnished the following details of the approximate number of tenements to be built within the next three years.

"The work done to date is equivalent to the construction of 19 complete *chawls*. According to the programme to which the Development Directorate is endeavouring to work, 60 *chawls* are to be completed by the 31st March 1923, another 75 by the 31st March 1924 and another 90 in the following year—making in all 225 *chawls* or 18,000 rooms by the 31st March 1925. The Improvement Trust have built to date 8,861 rooms in permanent *chawls* and they propose to build 3,900 rooms within the next three years. They have also provided 4,575 rooms in semi-permanent *chawls*."

WORKING CLASS RENTS

CONDITIONS IN BOMBAY AND KARACHI

The predominant rents paid in Bombay by the working classes are from Rs. 3-8-0 to Rs. 5-8-0 for a single room and Rs. 7 to Rs. 10 for double rooms. The following statement of rents paid in Karachi has been received from the Rent Controller, Karachi. In making comparisons between the Karachi *chawl* and the Bombay *chawl*, it should be remembered that the Karachi room or tenement is on the whole much larger. The *chawls* in the Kiamari village, for example, are of one storey and the cubic space is larger than that of a *chawl* of corresponding rent in Bombay. It will be noticed also that according to the Rent Controller, rents for the engineering employees in old houses fell in 1921 while for new houses the rents increased considerably in that year.



Rents paid by Dock labourers in Karachi

Dock-labourers have their dwelling houses in Kiamari village in the Lyari Quarter and in the Napier Quarter. Most of the houses occupied by these men in Kiamari belong to Port Trust: the monthly average rent from the year 1908 to date in Kiamari village is as under:—

1908 (14 years ago.)	1913 (pre-war year.)	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921
Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.
3 0	3 0	3 0	3 0	4 2	4 2	4 2	4 2	4 2	4 2
New houses built in and after the year 1916				6 8	6 8	6 8	6 8	6 8	6 8

In the Lyari Quarter the labourers live in mat huts which they build themselves on land rented from the Municipality at Re. 1 per plot per annum.

In the City the labourers crowd into one room tenements sleeping on the road-side during summer.

Rents paid by Engineering employees in Karachi

Engineering employees such as mistries, carpenters, blacksmiths, masons and other artisans generally live in Ranchore and Ramswami Quarters. The average monthly rent paid by this class is shown in the subjoined form. The average wage of these artisans is Rs. 3 to 4 per diem.

1908 (14 years ago.)	1913 (pre-war year.)	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921
Ranchore									
Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.
7 8	7 8	7 8	16 0	16 0	16 0	17 10	17 10	19 1	18 5
New houses built in and after the year 1916				15 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	20 0	25 0
Ramswami									
5 0	5 0	5 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	13 3	13 3	14 4	13 12
New houses built in and after the year 1916				15 0	15 0	15 0	20 0	12 0	30 0

Select Committee on House Rents

The Report of the Select Committee of the Bombay Legislative Council on House Rents has been published. A reference to their Recommendations will be found on page 4. A Bill will be now presented to the Legislative Council at its next meeting.

LABOUR IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

FACTORY REPORT FOR 1921

The Annual Factory Report of the Presidency of Bombay for 1921 has been issued.

The number of registered factories in the Presidency increased from 894 in 1920 to 926 in 1921. Of these 183 were cotton mills and 562 cotton ginning, cleaning and pressing factories. In 1920 the number of cotton mills was 180, and the number of cotton ginning cleaning and pressing factories was 557.

The following table shows the number of persons employed in cotton spinning and weaving mills and in all industries in the pre-war year 1913 and in 1921:—

	Year 1921.				Total in 1913.
	Males.	Females.	Children.	Total.	
Cotton	180,958	46,721	13,927	241,606	176,564
Other Factories	90,330	19,505	1,839	111,674	89,411
All Factories	271,288	66,226	15,766	353,280	265,975

The total number of persons employed in 1921 was 4·3 per cent. above that of last year and 32·8 per cent. above that of the pre-war year 1913. The cotton industry alone in 1921 gave employment to 68·4 per cent. of the total number of persons employed as against 66·4 per cent. in the pre-war year 1913. The increase, as compared with the previous year, in the number of women workers was almost entirely due to the increase in Bombay City. Nearly all the half-timers employed are to be found in the spinning and weaving mills of Bombay and Ahmedabad.

ACCIDENTS

The number of accidents was greater in 1921 than in the previous year, the total number being 1,084, as against 909 in 1920. There were 30 fatal accidents which caused the death of 34 persons. Of the fatal accidents 7 were due to machinery and the remaining 23 were due to other causes, such as drowning, scalding, fires in factories and falling objects. All minor and serious accidents unconnected with machinery have been omitted from the Factory Report, although fatal accidents from all causes

have been included. In addition to this, one man died of Syncope and Bronco Pneumonia on factory premises. It is not possible from the Report to classify the persons killed and injured according to men, women and children.

CONVICTIONS

The number of convictions for breaches of the Factories Act was much less than in the two previous years, namely 10 as against 17 in 1920 and 21 in 1919. By far the most numerous were "employment" convictions (i.e., convictions for the employment of women, young persons or children, at illegal hours, or without certificate of fitness or the like). The Report points out that in addition to seven prosecutions instituted by full-time Inspectors, six prosecutions were instituted by the additional Inspectors—1 in Surat, 1 in West Khandesh and 4 in Ahmedabad. These six prosecutions were in connexion with the employment of women and children in contravention of the provisions of the Act. Convictions were obtained in all the six cases and fines imposed.

SANITATION AND WELFARE

In regard to sanitation and welfare the Report states that special attention was devoted to the enforcement of sanitary conditions in factories and the results were generally found to be satisfactory. Factories which worked throughout the year were all provided with the requisite number of latrines; lime-washing was carried on periodically; and a sufficient supply of drinking water was available except in Sind where from May to August the water-supply was insufficient owing to the drought. Ventilation is reported to be far from satisfactory, and during the year arrangements were made for taking humidification tests in order to investigate the conditions and humidity in cotton mills in India. Welfare work is on the increase. A few Bombay mills have now provided crèches where mothers can leave their babies or young children while they are at work. In Ahmedabad six mills have provided crèches and two others have set apart a portion of the premises where children can be kept.

EDUCATION OF FACTORY CHILDREN

The education of factory children does not seem to receive the attention that it deserves and in consequence children take very little advantage of the schools provided for their benefit. The Government of Bombay have, in a separate Resolution, taken steps to popularise factory schools. The Educational Authorities have suggested that to make these schools more attractive the following should be attended to:—

- (1) Providing light refreshments in the form of *Chana-Mamra* (fried gram and rice) every day.
- (2) Providing every pupil with two suits of clothes if the guardian pays for one. Suit should be changed once a week. The washing of clothes should be arranged for by the schools.
- (3) Every child should take a bath daily or on alternate days under the supervision of the teacher; and
- (4) Nail-paring, teeth-cleansing, and hairdressing drill should be performed once a week.

GOVERNMENT'S DECISION

Government, however, consider that no rapid progress in the education of factory children can be looked for until compulsory education is introduced in the areas in which these children reside throughout the Presidency. In the meanwhile the Director of Industries has been requested to bring the suggestions of the Educational Authorities to the notice of the Millowners and to advise them to give effect to them as far as possible. He has also been requested to suggest to the Millowners the possibility of adopting the system of indirect compulsion which is understood to work well in the Social Service League classes. Under this system the pass for the child who is going to work on the following day is kept with the school master who hands it to the child if he attends school.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES IN THE PRESIDENCY

On pages 48 and 49 will be found a statement of each dispute in progress during October 1922, with the number of workpeople involved, the date when the dispute began and ended, the cause and the result. The word "dispute" in the official sense means an interruption of work and it is here used in that sense as virtually synonymous with "strike". A dispute, as counted by the Labour Office, is an interruption of work involving ten or more persons and of not less than twenty-four hours' duration. Detailed statistics have been collected since 1st April 1921, the date on which the Labour Office was instituted.

Summary tables have been constructed in order to show the position at a glance. Table I shows the number, magnitude and duration of strikes in October 1922.

I.—Industrial Disputes classified by Trades

Trade.	Number of disputes in progress in October 1922.			Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in October 1922.	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in October 1922.*
	Started before 1st October.	Started in October.	Total.		
Textile ..	1	21	22	8,302	43,876
Transport ..	1	..	1	915	18,376
Engineering ..	..	1	1	600	120
Total, October 1922 ..	2	22	24	9,817	62,372
Total, September 1922 ..	2	5	7	2,578	20,709

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

There were 24 industrial disputes in October 1922, 22 of which were in cotton mills. The number of workpeople affected was about 10,000 and the working days lost (i.e., the number of workpeople multiplied by the

number of working days less workers replaced) 62,372, a considerable increase on the September statistics.

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes. The number of disputes due to the question of bonus is noticeable.

II.—Industrial Disputes—Results June to October 1922

	June 1922.	July 1922.	August 1922.	September 1922.	October 1922.
Number of strikes and lock-outs ..	10	14	13	7	24
Disputes in progress at beginning ..	2	..	1	2	2
Fresh disputes begun ..	8	14	12	5	22
Disputes ended ..	10	13	11	5	16
Disputes in progress at end ..	..	1	2	2	8
Number of workpeople involved ..	2,130	13,336	65,397	2,578	9,817
Aggregate duration in working days ..	4,250	58,809	67,927	20,709	62,372
Demands—					
Pay ..	3	4	5	4	5
Bonus ..	..	1	..	..	14
Personal ..	4	4	2	1	4
Leave and hours ..	1	4	3	..	..
Others ..	2	1	3	2	1
Results—					
In favour of Employ-ees ..	2	..	2	..	6
Compromised ..	1	..	1	..	3
In favour of Employ-ers ..	7	13	8	5	7

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



III.—Industrial Disputes

Month.	Number of strikes and lock-outs.	Aggregate duration in working days.	Proportion settled.			In progress. (Per cent.)
			In favour of employ-ers. (Per cent.)	In favour of employ-ees. (Per cent.)	Com-promised. (Per cent.)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
April 1921 ..	6	184,450	33	17	17	33
May 1921 ..	11	227,115	27	9	18	46
June 1921 ..	10	79,804	70	10	..	20
July 1921 ..	10	12,268	60	10	10	20
August 1921 ..	14	192,001	36	36	7	21
September 1921 ..	21	256,498	80	10	..	10
October 1921 ..	15	231,896	27	13	27	33
November 1921 ..	31	62,009	29	42	19	10
December 1921 ..	9	26,321	78	11	11	..
January 1922 ..	17	33,389	65	18	..	17
February 1922 ..	12	32,087	67	8	17	8
March 1922 ..	8	300,829	75	..	25	..
April 1922 ..	15	18,352	54	13	20	13
May 1922 ..	15	54,930	80	..	7	13
June 1922 ..	10	4,250	70	20	10	..
July 1922 ..	14	58,809	93	..	..	7
August 1922 ..	13	87,927	62	15	8	15
September 1922 ..	7	20,709	71	..	..	29
October 1922 ..	24	62,372	29	25	13	33
Total or (cols. 4 to 7) Average	262	1,946,016	58	14	11	17

A General Review of Disputes

AHMEDABAD

During the latter part of October no less than fourteen strikes occurred in cotton mills in Ahmedabad mainly over the question of the annual bonus. A reference to the award of the arbitrators was made on page 19 of the *Labour Gazette* for October. The strikers, in some of the mills, alleged that the annual bonus was not granted in accordance with the award. The workpeople involved and the working days lost in these disputes were 2,867 and 9,933 respectively.

Workers, numbering 8,845, in the throstle departments of 29 mills in Ahmedabad struck work on the 10th November owing to alleged errors made in the calculation of the days of absence, for the purpose of reducing the amount of bonus to be paid. The men went on strike against the advice of the President, of the local Throstle Union, who subsequently resigned. They returned to work on 13th November. Further details of this strike will be given in the next issue of the *Labour Gazette*.

BOMBAY

There was comparatively little industrial unrest in Bombay City and Island during the month under review. The main dispute was in the tramway service, an account of which will be found on the next page. There were two small strikes in cotton mills, but these were of short duration.

SURAT

A general strike involving 2,500 workers occurred in four cotton mills at Surat over the question of bonus. After prolonged negotiations a settlement was reached in three of the mills. The bonus finally fixed for the majority of the mills was 42½ per cent. of a month's wages instead of 100 per cent. demanded by some of the strikers. Some of the workers who did not resume work hoped to obtain employment in a new cotton mill at Navsari (about 19 miles from Surat).

BROACH

Of the three strikes at Broach two were in the Whittle Mill No. 3. The first strike in this mill was for the payment of wages a few days in advance on account of the approaching *Diwali* festival. In the other, the strikers demanded immediate payment of the annual bonus falling due in January 1923. The third strike, in the Saraswati Mill, was for an increase in the daily rates of wages and for the payment of the fortnightly wages punctually on the 1st and 15th of every month.

WADHWAN

At Wadhwan, in Kathiawar, the workers in the Sir Waghji Mill went on strike on account of the closing of the mill for 5½ days. Workers, not paid by the month, did not get any wages for these days. Later, another strike took



place in the same mill, when the management proposed to pay rates of wages similar to those paid in the Bhavnagar Mill.

Further details of strikes in the Presidency during October will be found on pages 48 and 49 of this issue.

THE BOMBAY TRAMWAY STRIKE

The Bombay Tramway strike which started on the 18th September 1922 may be said to have terminated on the 23rd October, the date on which the Company had a full service of cars running. The Union declared the strike at an end on the 6th November. If the date on which the Company had the full service of cars running be taken as the end of the strike, the dispute lasted for a period of about 35 days. Since July conditions pointed to the probability of a strike in this public utility service. On the 7th July 1922 the Company posted up the following notice on the premises of the Company:—

"As the Board of Directors have decided not to recognise the Union as at present constituted the collection of subscriptions will not be allowed on the Company's premises."

THE STRIKERS' DEMANDS

On the 17th September 1922 a meeting of the Union took place and it was decided to go on strike with effect from the morning of the 18th September. The Union published the following statement:—

"No one will resume work until the Tramway Employees' Union is recognised. Changes in the working of the Union can only be made with our consent as well as the Company's. Recognition of the Union is not the only question. The Union thinks that the following demands are also necessary. In order to lessen the inconvenience to the public, the Company should refer the matter for arbitration and we are prepared to abide by the decision of the arbitrators. We are prepared to go to work if the Company agrees to this.

The demands to be placed before the arbitrators are as follows:—

1. To suggest means of recovering subscriptions of the Union.
2. The Company should utilize the fines recovered from the employees for their welfare.
3. The Company should appoint independent Panches to decide cases in the Company's Court.
4. The Company should give free passes to two employees of the Union.

5. The Company should provide waiting rooms, latrines, watertaps at Museum, Tardeo, Grant Road, Victoria Gardens, Parel and Dadar Depots.

6. Double wages for holidays—thus—*Diwali*, *Dasra*, *Ganesh Chaturthi*, *Holi*, *Narali Purnima*, *Gokulashtami*, *Moharrum*, *Shabrat*, *Bakri Id*, etc., holidays.

7. 'A Class Inspectors' should get Rs. 75 to start with; after 5 years they should get Rs. 100. The lowest pay of B class regulator starters should be Rs. 65. Conductors should get Rs. 30 to start with. After 5 years' service there should be a grade of Rs. 45 and after 10 years of Rs. 50. The Inspectors, Conductors and Drivers should be eligible for the usual monthly bonus of Rs. 5 after 20 days' work in a month (at present the bonus is given for 25 days' duty in the month). Ticket memo. clerks should get Rs. 40, 45 and 50. Pole boys and point boys should get an increase of Rs. 3. The allowance of 25 per cent. should be continued.

8. Inspectors should not be given double duty. They should get a day's leave a week.

9. Fifty per cent. of the Inspectors' posts should be given to conductors.

10. No one should be dismissed without his case being considered by a Punch.

11. The demands of the workshop men, clerks and meter department should be considered sympathetically."

THE COMPANY'S VERSION

The Company published a statement showing the case from their point of view and the increase in wages paid since the pre-war period.

"The Company is not and never has been opposed to the formation of a *bona fide* trade union amongst its employees. It notified its willingness to recognise a union as far back as 3rd February 1921 on the following conditions:—

- (1) That its members are restricted to this Company's own employees;
- (2) that more than one-half of all the Company's employees are members of the Union;
- (3) that the rules of the Union are submitted to and approved by the board;
- (4) that if the Union desires to submit any representation to the board it will send a deputation of three of its members—who must be in the employment of the Company—for the purpose of their discussion;
- (5) that subject to two days' previous notice being given to the Company's secretary, such deputation will be received by a service committee consisting of some of the principal officers of the Company who

will enquire into and consider any complaints made to it by the deputation, and who will report thereon for the orders of the board; (6) that the Company's board of directors will not discuss or deal with any alleged grievances of its employees presented by persons who are not in the Company's service.

These conditions have never been complied with. The Union as at present constituted has, as its principal officers, men who are not in the employ of the Company, and who, therefore, have no practical knowledge of the conditions of work or terms of service. Amongst the Company's employees are many men of standing and education who are fully competent to conduct the affairs of a Union and they have nothing to fear from 'victimisation.' For these reasons, and to prevent the Union from being used for non-economic purposes, the Company is bound to insist that it shall be officered entirely by its employees.

Most of the men on strike are conductors and drivers and a comparison of the wages and other benefits in pre-war times with those existing to-day will demonstrate how materially their pay and conditions of service have been improved and how generously the Company has sought to remove all legitimate grievances.

Year of service.	Gross monthly wages pre-war.		Gross monthly wages now.	
	Conductors.	Drivers.	Conductors.	Drivers.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1st year	20	17	40	38.75
2nd year	20	17	40	38.75
3rd year	25	20	43.75	41.25
4th year	25	20	56.25	56.25
5th year	25	20		
6th year	30	25		Maximum.

The additional benefits as compared with pre-war days are:—

(1) Provident Fund; (2) gratuity (on retirement) after 10 years' continuous and faithful service which, as a maximum, amounts to one year's full pay; (3) free clothing three times a year; (4) a total of 67 days' leave on pay per annum as compared with 24; (5) a yearly bonus of one month's pay subject to profits admitting of it and to sanction of shareholders."

PROGRESS OF THE STRIKE

The Company issued a notice that strikers with otherwise good records would be allowed to resume work up to the 22nd September 1922 and would be treated as absent without leave. Those accepted from that date up to the 28th October 1922 were taken back on reduced pay for certain periods. After the 28th October no more strikers were reinstated. With the aid of the staff which did not go on strike the Company was able to start the running of cars in small numbers from the first day of the strike and from the 23rd October the full service of cars was maintained.

The following table shows the progress of the strike in regard to the number of cars running and of employees working.

Table showing the number of cars running and of employees working

Date.	Number of cars running.	Strength of employees of the Traffic Department.	Date.	Number of cars running.	Strength of employees of the Traffic Department.
September 18	12	382	September 24	96	899
" 19	30	601	" 25	115	1,018
" 20	72	654	October 2	147	1,161
" 21	78	723	" 9	170	1,314
" 22	72	843	" 16	183	1,422
" 23	98	873	" 23	205	1,530

On 10th October the Union approached Government through the Director, Labour Office, asking for intervention. Government replied that "the Governor in Council can only consider a proposal for intervention in the event of both parties to the dispute requesting it."

From the table cited above it will be seen that on the 23rd October the normal service of cars was running. As a result of the strike, about 1,300 members of the Union were dismissed from the Company's service and consequently found themselves out of employment, their places being taken by new men and by former employees of the Company who had returned to work.

Industrial Disputes during the Second Quarter of 1922

The *Journal of Indian Industries and Labour* for August 1922 (Vol. 11, Part 3) publishes statistics of strikes in seven provinces of India, during April, May and June 1922. The following table shows the number of strikes, the workpeople involved and the working days lost during the period. Bengal, Bombay and Madras present a striking contrast to the other provinces in regard to the working days lost.

Industrial Disputes during the Second Quarter of 1922

Province.	Number of disputes.	Number of work-people involved.	Number of working days lost.
Assam	1	500	9,000
Bengal	23	42,614	302,065
Bihar and Orissa	1	75	150
Bombay	36	15,899	71,422
Madras	3	908	11,870
United Provinces	1	124	372
Burma	1	30	30
Total	66	60,150	394,909

a head by the introduction of the Reforms Scheme. Under the Devolution Rules the regulation of mines is a Central subject. The existing Act is defective in that it makes no clear distinction between the functions of the Central Government on the one hand and the functions of Local Governments on the other. That is an obscurity which we must clear up. We must make a division between those functions which we should properly exercise and those functions which Local Governments should properly exercise. Fortunately, the line of division is not hard to draw, and the line we are proposing to draw in the Bill has been unanimously approved by all Local Governments. The primary object of all legislation for the regulation of mines is to provide adequate safeguards for the safety of workers in the mines and to provide machinery for the enforcement of such safeguards as may be imposed. And, as I said, Sir, in dealing recently with the Boiler Laws Amendment Act, it is obvious that safeguards of this kind must be uniform from province to province, and that indicates the line of division we propose to draw. In this Bill we propose to confer upon the Government of India the power of framing such regulations as may directly or indirectly affect the safety of workers in mines. Having done that, in accordance with our usual practice, we propose to leave Local Governments to carry on the detailed administration of the Act. As I have said, all Local Governments have agreed to this proposal.

EMPLOYMENT IN MINES

But, Sir, we are also taking the opportunity of introducing provisions to regulate employment in mines. This is an innovation in India, as our existing Mines Act contains no provisions to regulate employment in mines, and it is here, I am afraid, that the Bill opens up difficult and contentious questions. As is usual in the case of legislation of this kind, we have to hold the balance as evenly as we can between what we should like to do and what is practicable. We have to consider the conditions of working in mines. We have to consider the classes of workers in mines. If this Bill is passed into law, it will affect mainly the coal mines in Bihar and Bengal fields. These coal mines are the most important classes of mines in India, and the workers in these mines are largely aborigines, Santals, Bauris, and the like. They are not accustomed to discipline. They are accustomed to work in a way that suits them best. They are not entirely dependent on coal mining. They combine coal mining with agriculture. They come when it suits them. They go when it suits them. What we have to be careful of is lest we should by drastic legislative changes introduce changes in their conditions of work which may not suit them. If we do that we may deprive them of a source of livelihood which they

THE INDIAN MINES BILL

MR. INNES' SPEECH IN THE ASSEMBLY

The text of the Indian Mines Bill, which was introduced in the Legislative Assembly on the 15th September 1922, will be found on pages 27—37. In explaining its provisions the Honourable Mr. C. A. Innes made the following speech:—

THE NECESSITY FOR LEGISLATION

"I am afraid it is again my fate, Sir, to introduce in this Legislature a rather difficult and contentious measure, but I have no hesitation in saying that the House will accept the proposition that legislation of some kind to amend the Indian Mines Act is necessary and after all at this stage that is the main point with which we are concerned. Our existing Act, Sir, dates from 1901. It has on the whole worked remarkably well, but it is only natural that 21 years' experience of the working of the Act should have disclosed defects which require remedy. Indeed, we have long had the amendment of the Act under consideration and the question has now been brought to

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have at present. Moreover, we may dislocate an industry upon which all other industries in India, or practically all other industries in India, are dependent. That is a danger we should always keep in mind. What we have done, Sir, in this matter is to follow as far as possible our International obligations. Take the question of limitation of hours of work. The House will remember that the Washington Conference adopted a Convention which applied to India the principle of a 60 hours week. I may remind the House that it has ratified that Convention. For workers above ground in mines we have proposed this 60 hour limit. For workers below ground we have gone rather beyond the terms of the Draft Convention and we have suggested a 54 hour week, but I may mention that a special committee of that Conference particularly recommended to the Government of India that we should consider whether the hours of work underground in mines could not be reduced. We have consulted Local Governments on our proposals. The Government of Burma is opposed to any restrictions of hours of work. At a later stage, if the House will allow me to introduce this Bill, I shall propose that the Bill be committed to a Joint Committee, and it will be for the Joint Committee to decide, at any rate, in the first instance, whether a case can be made out for special treatment for Burma. Other Local Governments generally agree in our proposals, particularly those two Local Governments which are principally concerned, the Government of Bihar and Orissa and the Government of Bengal. Then, Sir, last year the Conference of Geneva adopted a Draft Convention enforcing the principle of a weekly rest-day in industrial undertakings. I have not yet been able to place that Draft Convention before the House for ratification, but in this matter I have ventured to anticipate their verdict at any rate provisionally, and we have included a clause in this Bill which enforces in respect of miners the principle of a weekly rest-day. It is a principle which, I hope, will commend itself to every body in the House.

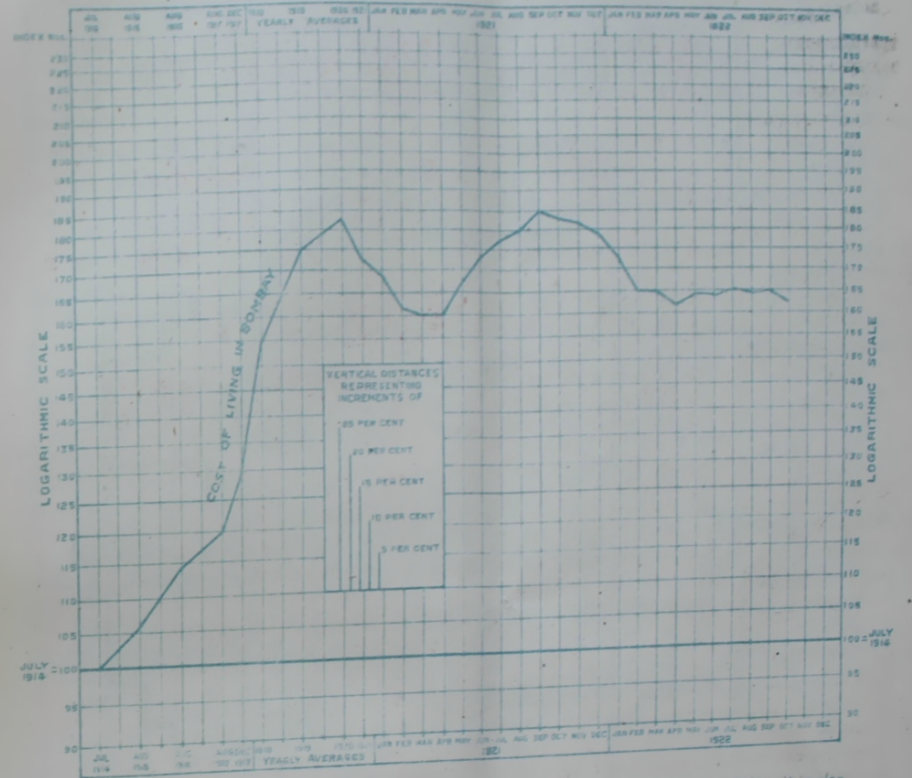
EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN IN MINES

Then, I come, Sir, to the most difficult question of all—the question of the employment of children in mines. Here again I must take the House back to the Washington Conference. That Conference adopted a Draft Convention which limited the age of children for admission to industrial employment to 12 years. That Convention has been ratified by this Assembly. Now, what we should have liked to have been able to do in respect of mines is this: We should be able to prohibit altogether the employment of children, under 12 years, in mines, and, as in factory legislation, we should like to have been able to introduce a half-time system for children between the ages of 12 and 15. But we

made careful inquiries into this matter in the coalfields and elsewhere, and we are satisfied that at present it is not possible for us to impose any daily limit of hours of work in mines. We are also satisfied, as a necessary corollary to what I have said, that it is quite impossible for us to work in the mines any half-time system, and therefore we have adopted a compromise, and compromises, it is probably not a very satisfactory one, but it is the best we can do. We have suggested that children up to the age of 13 should not be employed in mines at all; and we have gone further than that, Sir, and this proposal, though we have not put it into the Bill without the most careful consideration, must be taken for the present as merely tentative. We do not merely prohibit the employment of children in mines; we propose that children below the age of 13 should not be allowed to be present in a mine at all. That is an innovation. At present, miners are apt to go down with their wives, and womenkind and their small children. The effect of this proposal if it is carried out, may be to reduce the employment of women in mines; it may indeed be the first step towards the prohibition of employment of women in mines altogether. But after careful consideration we do not think it right that small children should be allowed to spend weeks of their lives in the atmosphere of underground galleries of mines. Our proposal will no doubt be canvassed by Mining Associations and Local Governments all over India, and will no doubt be further considered by the Joint Committee. But it is proposed provisionally at any rate and we attach importance to the proposal.

I do not think I need say anything more at present. It is possible that some people may think that we have gone too far; it is possible that others may think that we have not gone far enough; at any rate we have made the most careful inquiries in the coal mines ourselves and we are satisfied that our proposals are as far as we can safely go at present. The procedure I propose for this Bill is that if the House will allow me to introduce it, at a later stage it should be referred to a Joint Committee. It will be circulated to all concerned and that Joint Committee will have an opportunity of sifting the opinions received and making a further examination. In the meantime I hope that I have established my proposition that we must have some legislation of this kind. Legislation, as I have pointed out, is needed, because we must demarcate between our functions and the functions of Local Governments, and legislation is also needed because we must make at least a beginning in this very important matter of the regulation of the employment of miners. If we make a beginning now, as time goes on, conditions will adjust themselves, and we shall be able to make a further advance,—at least I hope so."

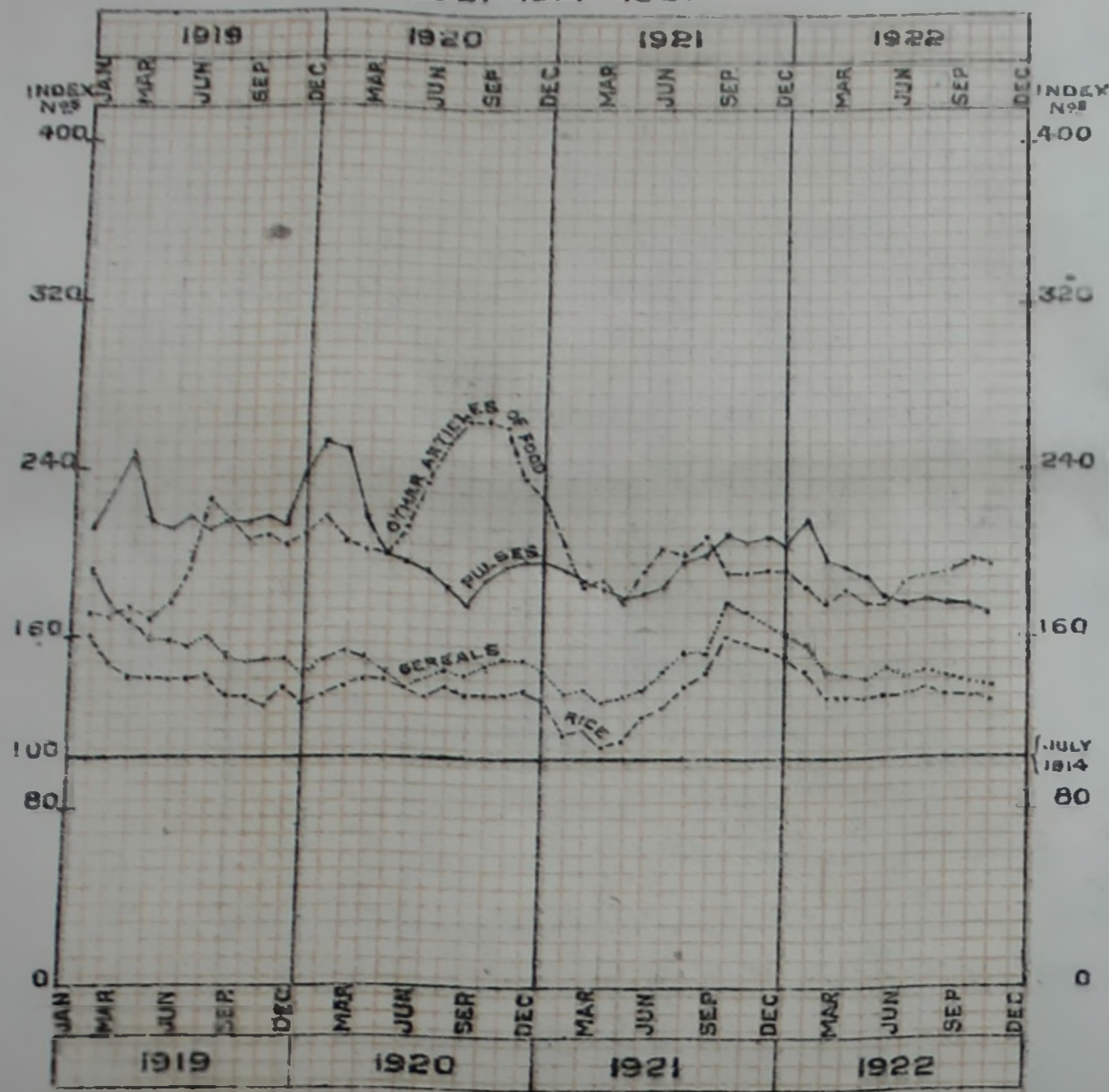
Chart 1
COST OF LIVING IN BOMBAY
RATIO OR LOGARITHMIC CHART.



Note— This chart is intended to show the proportional increase in the cost of living. It is also shown by this chart that the rate of increase is inversely proportional to the index number. Thus an increase of 5 points over 200 is half the increase of the same number. 5 points over 100. Equal vertical distances in this chart represent equal ratios, as from any part of the diagram to any other, instead of equal increments, as on a natural scale chart. The steepness of the curve before January 1921 is exaggerated on account of the considerably smaller intervals adopted for years, as compared with those for months.

CHART No 4.

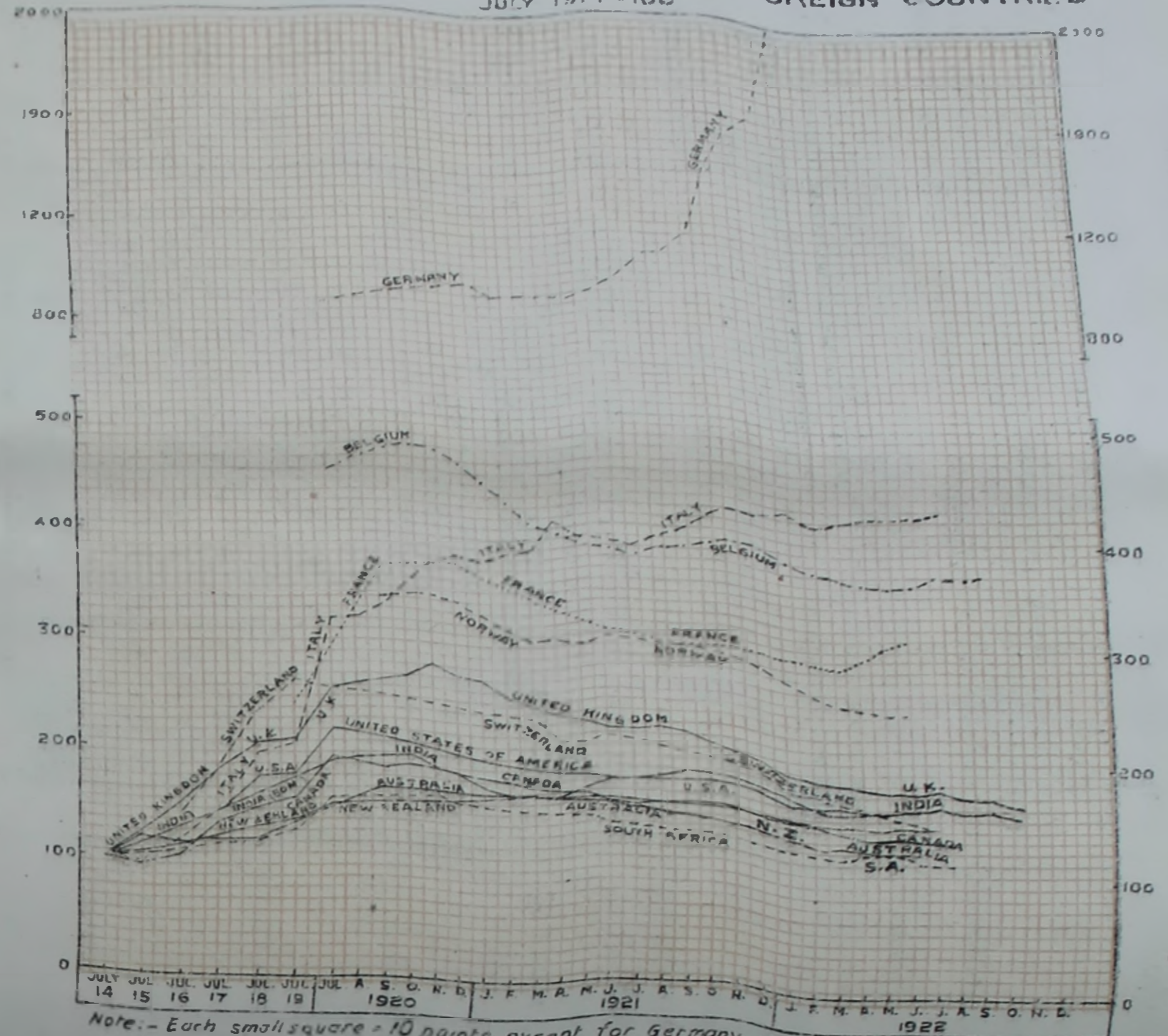
RETAIL PRICES OF RICE, PULSES, CEREALS AND OTHER ARTICLES OF FOOD IN BOMBAY. JULY 1914 = 100.



Note: - Pulses - Average price of Gram and Turdal.
 Rice - Clean.
 Cereals - Average price of rice, wheat Jawar and Bajri.
 Other articles of food - Average price of sugar, tea, salt, beef, mutton, milk, ghee, potatoes, onions, coconut oil &c.

CHART No 5

COST OF LIVING INDEXES IN INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES. JULY 1914 = 100



Note: - Each small square = 10 points except for Germany for which a small square = 40 points

CHART No 6.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE - INDIA.

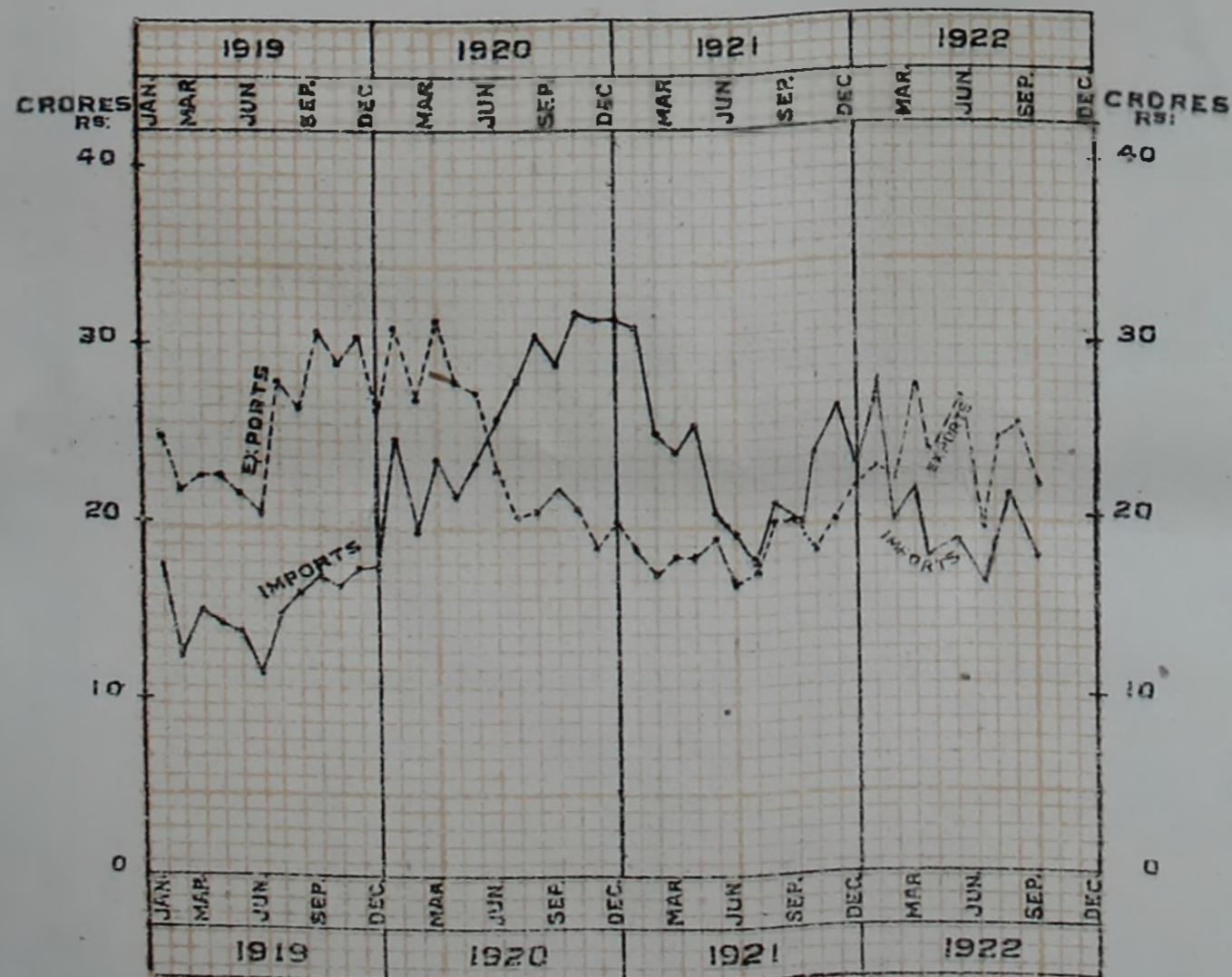
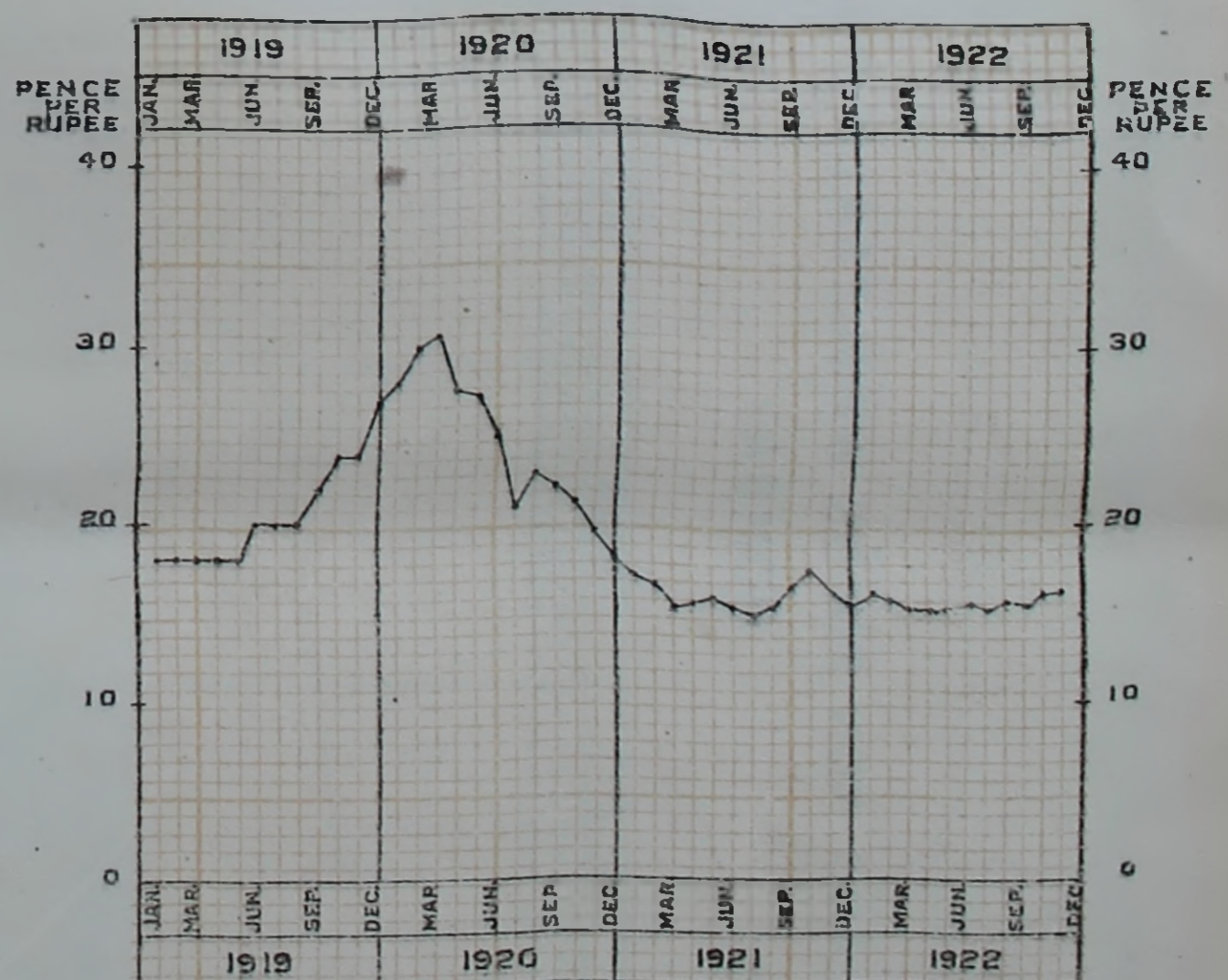


CHART No 7.

RATE OF EXCHANGE IN BOMBAY.



NOTE: (1) The reason for the fall of Exchange will be evident from the preceding chart. When the balance of trade is adverse (imports greater than exports) Exchange also tends to be adverse from India's point of view. This is the Telegraphic Transfer rate on London.
 (2) Each square equals 1 paise

FOODS AND NON FOODS WHOLESALE PRICES BOMBAY.

CHART No. 8

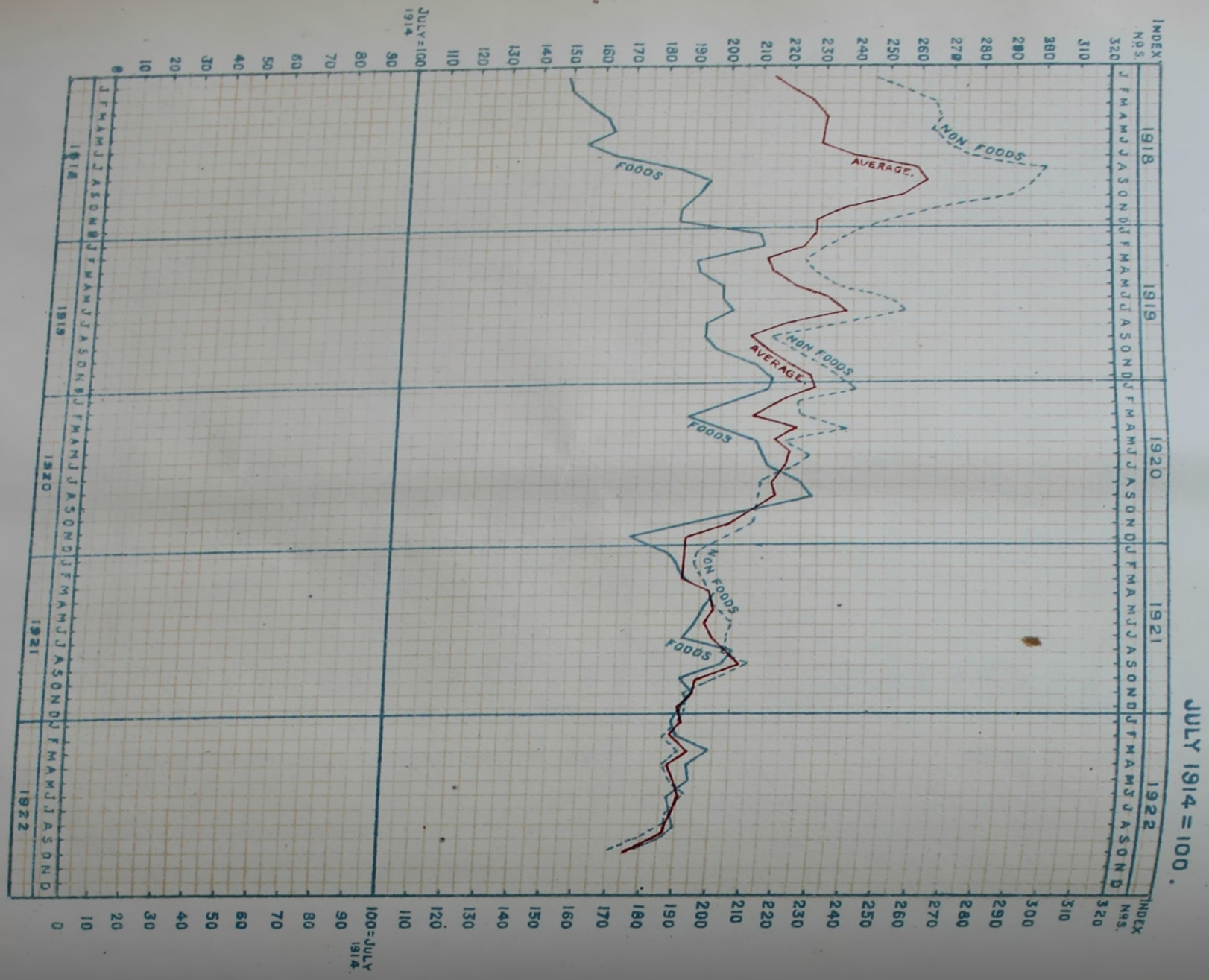


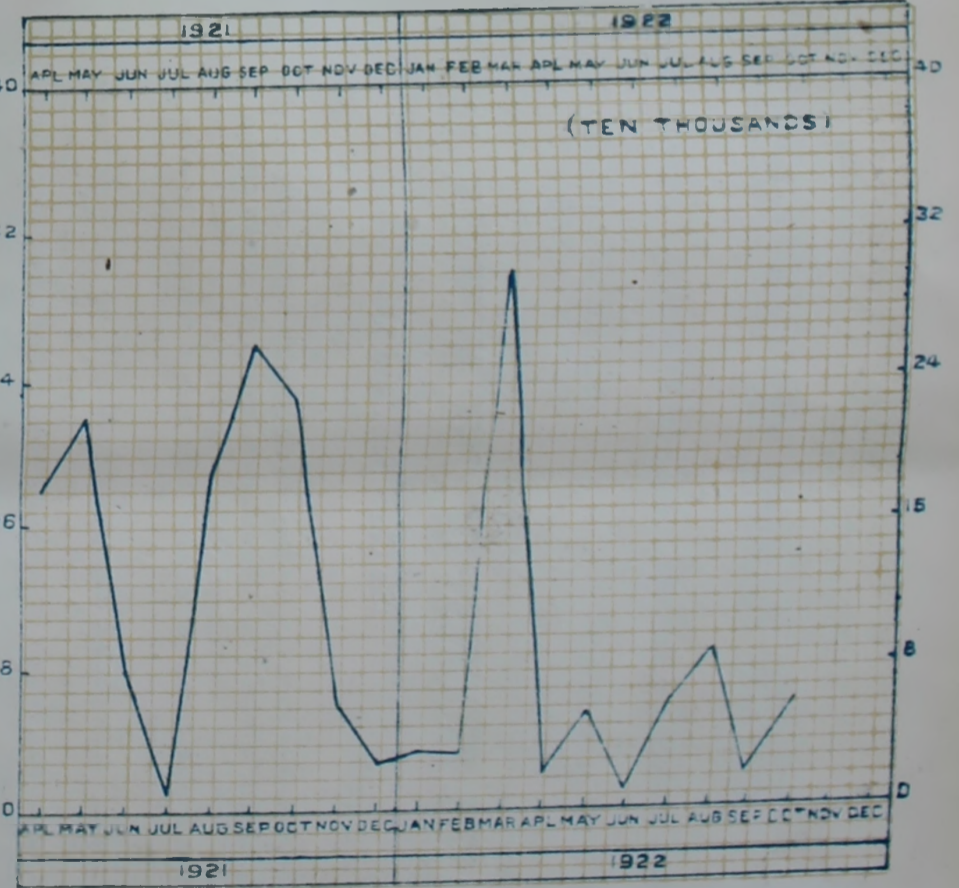
CHART No. 9

STRIKES IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY 1921 - 1922.

CHART No. 10

NUMBER OF WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED

NUMBER OF WORKING DAYS LOST



NOTE: - Each square above = 2,000.

NOTE: - (1) The small number of working days lost in July 1921 and June 1922 is owing to the short duration of strikes.
(2) Each square above = 10,000.

THE PROGRESS OF THE MONSOON, 1922

(See Charts Nos. 2 and 3.)

In the monsoon charts the green lines give the approximate dates of the normal annual setting in and withdrawal of the monsoon and are based on information supplied by the Director General of Observatories, Simla. Excess means more than 120 per cent. of the normal. The normal for divisions is the mean of normals of reporting stations excluding hill stations.

'Normal' in the charts is a variation from 80 to 120 per cent. of the true normal, 'fair' 40 to 79 per cent. of this normal, and 'scanty' is less than 40 per cent. The whiter the statement, the more the satisfactory nature of the monsoon; the redder it is, the worse the monsoon. The rainfall in other provinces also has been shown, as these (e.g., the United Provinces which exports to us bajri and jowari for our millworkers) have an influence in the long run on future price levels of food.

In Sind, the monsoon scarcely counts; it is the level of the Indus that does. The rise of the river up till the end of September is shown in the charts; after this date the rise is of little material importance. The table below shows the rainfall up to 31st October 1922, in Bombay, the Deccan (Ahmednagar, Sholapur, Bijapur and Poona), Guzerat (Surat and Ahmedabad) and in Kathiawar (Rajkot and Bhavnagar).

Station.	Rainfall in inches.	Departure from normal.	Station.	Rainfall in inches.	Departure from normal.
	(1st June to 31st Oct.)			(1st June to 31st Oct.)	
Bombay ..	70·82	+ 1·02	Surat ..	40·50	+ 0·06
Ahmednagar ..	9·93	- 9·74	Ahmedabad ..	37·69	+ 9·06
Sholapur ..	12·58	- 12·77	Rajkot ..	16·03	- 9·36
Bijapur ..	7·48	- 9·49	Bhavnagar ..	18·00	- 3·68
Poona ..	17·25	- 7·11			



LEGISLATION ON INDIAN MINES

Bill to Amend and Consolidate the Indian Mines Act, 1901

A Bill to amend and consolidate the law relating to the regulation and inspection of mines was introduced in the Legislative Assembly on the 15th September 1922. It has been referred to a Joint Select Committee of 18 members representing both Houses of the Central Legislature. In the following pages will be found a statement of objects and reasons, the text of the Bill and notes on clauses of the Bill. The notes which are in small type follow immediately the clauses to which they refer.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Several reasons exist which necessitate an amendment of the existing Indian Mines Act, 1901 (VIII of 1901). The 'regulation of mines' is a central subject, and it is now necessary clearly to define the functions of the Central and Provincial Governments, respectively, in respect of the mining law. At present no such division of functions is apparent, both the Central and the Local Governments having power to make rules in order to carry out the purposes and objects of the Act. It is proposed that the Central Government, upon whom under the Devolution Rules the duty of regulating mines and securing the safety of workers therein devolves, should alone have the power to deal with the technical administration of the Act, while Local Governments will deal with minor matters of administration.

Further, the acceptance by the Legislature in March 1921 of certain conventions passed at the first (Washington) meeting of the International Labour Conference necessitates the regulation of hours of employment and of the employment of children. Provisions in accordance with these recommendations have been incorporated in the Bill. In accordance, too, with the recommendation of the third (Geneva) meeting of the International Labour Conference, a weekly day of rest will be prescribed. On the analogy of the revised Factories Act, the Governor-General in Council is being given the power to exempt certain classes of labour from the provisions relating to the hours of employment and the weekly day of rest. Of the other amendments proposed the most important are a revision of the 'penalty' clauses, and the modification of the existing definitions of a 'child' and of a 'mine'. In the appended Notes an explanation is given of the more important changes which have been introduced in the amending Bill.

Provisions of the Bill

A Bill to amend and consolidate the law relating to the regulation and inspection of mines.

Whereas it is expedient to amend and consolidate the law relating to the regulation and inspection of mines; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

CHAPTER I

PRELIMINARY

1. *Short title, extent and commencement.*—(1) This Act may be called the Indian Mines Act, 1922.

(2) It extends to the whole of British India, including British Baluchistan and the Sonthal Parganas.

(3) It shall come into force on such date as the Governor-General in Council may, by notification in the *Gazette of India*, appoint.

2. *Saving of Reg. XII of 1887.*—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to affect the provisions of the Upper Burma Ruby Regulation, 1887 (XII of 1887).

3. *Definitions.*—In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,—

(a) "Agent", when used in relation to a mine, means any person appointed or acting as the representative of the owner in respect of the management of the mine or of any part thereof, and as such superior to a manager under this Act;

(b) "Chief Inspector" means the Chief Inspector of Mines appointed under this Act;

(c) "child" means a person under the age of thirteen years;

Clause 3 (c).—The present definition defines a child as a person under 12 years of age. For persons over 12 and under 15, it would be desirable, on the analogy of the Indian Factories Act, 1911, to institute a half-time system, but, owing to the conditions under which Indian mine labour works, it is impracticable to insist on such a system in Indian mines. It is, therefore, suggested that the difficulty may be met by increasing the age-limit of a child to 13 and treating all persons above that age as adults.

(d) a person is said to be "employed" in a mine who works under appointment by or with the knowledge of the manager whether for wages or not in any mining operation, or in cleaning or oiling any part of any machinery used in or about the mine, or in any other kind of work whatsoever incidental to, or connected with, mining operations;

Clause 3 (d).—The present definition of a mine is unsatisfactory being a mixture of the definition of a mine as defined by the English Coal Mines Regulation and of a quarry as defined in the English Quarries Act. The amended definition in the Bill will bring within the scope of the Act any excavation for the purpose of searching for or obtaining minerals, whatever the depth may be, and will also include the upper works as well as the



operations below the surface. Three provisos have been added which exclude from the definition and, therefore, from the operation of the Mines Act, the premises where manufacturing processes other than coke-making or the dressing of minerals are carried on, small excavations in which work has been abandoned after less than three months, and minor prospecting operations. The Governments of Bengal and Bihar and Orissa, the Association of Colliery Managers, the Indian Mining Association, the Indian Mining Federation and the Mining Board, Bengal, agree with the terms of the revised definition. While minor coke-making plants will come within the scope of the Mines Act, it is proposed to exempt major coke-making plants under the general exempting clause 46, as it is thought that they can more satisfactorily be dealt with under the Indian Factories Act, 1911.

(e) "Inspector" means an Inspector of Mines appointed under this Act and includes a District Magistrate when exercising any power or performing any duty of an Inspector which he is empowered by this Act to exercise or perform;

(f) "mine" means any excavation where any operation for the purpose of searching for or obtaining minerals has been or is being carried on, and includes all works, machinery, tramways and sidings, whether above or below ground, in or adjacent to or belonging to a mine:

provided that it shall not include—

(i) any part of such premises on which a manufacturing process is being carried on unless such process is a process for coke-making or the dressing of minerals: or.

(ii) any excavation in no part of which work has been in progress for any purpose aforesaid for an aggregate period of more than three months, or for such less period as the Local Government may specify by notification in the local official Gazette, from the first commencement of mining operations in such excavations; or

(iii) any excavation made for prospecting purposes only, and not for the purpose of obtaining minerals for sale, so long as not more than twenty persons, or such less number as the Local Government may specify by notification in the local official Gazette, are employed in or about such excavation;

(g) "owner" when used in relation to a mine, means any person who is the immediate proprietor or lessee or occupier of the mine or of any part thereof, but does not include a person who merely receives a royalty, rent or fine from the mine; or is merely the proprietor of the mine subject to any lease, grant or licence for the working thereof, or is merely the owner of the soil and not interested in the minerals of the mine; but any contractor for the working of a mine or any part thereof shall be subject to this Act in like manner as if he were an owner, but not so as to exempt the owner from any liability;

(h) "prescribed" means prescribed by regulations, rules, or bye-laws;

(i) "qualified medical practitioner" means any person registered under the Medical Act, 1858, (21 and 22 Vict. C. 90), or any Act amending the same or under any Act of any Legislature in British India providing for the maintenance of a register of medical practitioners, and includes, in any area where no such last mentioned Act is in force, any person declared by the Local Government, by notification in the local official Gazette, to be a qualified medical practitioner for the purposes of this Act;

(j) "regulations," "rules" and "bye-laws" mean respectively regulations, rules and bye-laws made under this Act;

Clause 3(j).—As a weekly day of rest is to be prescribed, it is necessary on the analogy of the Indian Factories Act, 1911, to define a "week".

(k) "serious bodily injury" means any injury which involves, or in all probability will involve, the permanent loss, of the use of, or permanent injury to, any limb, or the permanent loss of or injury to the sight or hearing, or the fracture of any limb or the enforced absence of the injured person from work for a period exceeding twenty days; and

(l) "week" means the period between midnight on Saturday night and midnight on the succeeding Saturday night.

CHAPTER II

INSPECTORS

4. *Chief Inspector and Inspectors.*—(1) The Governor-General in Council may by notification in the *Gazette of India*, appoint a duly qualified person to be Chief Inspector of Mines for the whole of British India, and duly qualified persons to be Inspectors of Mines, subordinate to the Chief Inspector.

(2) No person shall be appointed to be Chief Inspector or an Inspector, or, having been appointed shall continue to hold such office, who is or becomes directly or indirectly interested in any mine or mining rights in India.

(3) The District Magistrate may exercise the powers and perform the duties of an Inspector subject to the general or special orders of the Local Government;

Provided that nothing in this sub-section shall be deemed to empower a District Magistrate to exercise any of the powers conferred by section 19 or section 32.

(4) The Chief Inspector and every Inspector shall be deemed to be a public servant within the meaning of the Indian Penal Code (XLV of 1860).

Clause 4.—Under the existing Act, the Governor-General appoints the Chief Inspector of Mines, while Local Governments appoint the Inspectors of Mines. The Inspectors are subordinate to the Chief Inspector and not to the Local Government; the functions which they perform are concerned with the regulation and inspection of mines which is a central subject, and they are paid for by the Central



Government. It is, therefore, anomalous that they should be appointed by Provincial Governments. In actual fact, such appointments are only nominally made by the Local Governments, and it is proposed to remove the anomaly in the present Bill. Local Governments have been consulted and agree with this proposal.

5. *Functions of Inspectors.*—(1) The Chief Inspector may, by order in writing, subject to regulations, prohibit or restrict the exercise by any Inspector named, or any class of Inspectors specified, in the order of any power conferred on Inspectors by this Act, and shall, subject as aforesaid, declare the local area or areas, within which, or the group or class of mines with respect to which, Inspectors shall exercise their respective powers.

(2) The Inspector shall give information to owners, agents and managers of mines; situate within the local area or areas or belonging to the group or class of mines, in respect of which he exercises powers under sub-section (1) as to all regulations and rules which concern them respectively and as to the places where copies of such regulations and rules may be obtained.

6. *Powers of Inspectors of Mines.*—The Chief Inspector and any Inspector may—

(a) make such examination and inquiry as he thinks fit in order to ascertain whether the provisions of this Act and of the regulations, rules and bye-laws and of any orders made thereunder are observed in the case of any mine;

(b) with such assistants (if any) as he thinks fit, enter, inspect and examine any mine or any part thereof at any reasonable time by day or night, but not so as unreasonably to impede or obstruct the working of the mine;

(c) examine into, and make enquiry respecting the state and condition of any mine or any part thereof, the ventilation of the mine, the sufficiency of the bye-laws for the time being in force relating to the mine, and all matters and things connected with or relating to the safety of the persons employed in the mine.

Clause 6.—The provision in the existing Act empowering an Inspector to prohibit the employment of certain classes of persons in mines, e.g., lepers or persons suffering from other infectious diseases, has been omitted from the Bill. In their own interests mine managers prohibit the employment of such persons, and the existing clause is in practice a dead letter.

7. *Powers of special officer to enter, measure, etc.*—Any person in the service of the Government duly authorised by a special order in writing of the Chief Inspector or of an Inspector in this behalf may, for the purpose of surveying, levelling or measuring in any mine, after giving not less than three days' notice to the manager of such mine, enter the mine and may survey, level or measure the mine or any part thereof at any reasonable time by day or night, but not so as unreasonably to impede or obstruct the working of the mine.

H 668—8

Clause 7.—This is a new clause, the introduction of which has been found to be necessary. For instance, if the galleries are approaching the ground below a railway line, it is necessary for the Inspector to send in a surveyor in order to ensure that the galleries have not actually been extended beneath the line and do not thereby imperil its safety.

8. *Facilities to be afforded to Inspectors.*—Every owner, agent and manager of a mine shall afford the Chief Inspector and every Inspector and every person authorised under section 7 all reasonable facilities for making any entry, inspection, survey, measurement, examination or inquiry under this Act.

9. *Secrecy of information obtained.*—(1) All copies of, and extract from, registers or other records appertaining to any mine, and all other information acquired by the Chief Inspector or an Inspector or by any one assisting him, in the course of the inspection of any mine under this Act or acquired by any person authorised under section 7 in the exercise of his duties thereunder, shall be regarded as strictly confidential.

(2) If the Chief Inspector, or an Inspector or any other person referred to in sub-section (1), discloses to any one, other than a Magistrate or an officer to whom he is subordinate, any such information as aforesaid without the consent of the Governor-General in Council or of the Local Government, he shall be guilty of a breach of official trust, and shall be punishable in the manner provided by section 4 of the Indian Official Secrets Act, 1889 (XV of 1889).

(3) No Court shall proceed to the trial of any offence under this section except on complaint made by order of, or under authority from, the Governor-General in Council or the Local Government, or made by a person aggrieved by the offence.

CHAPTER III

MINING BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

10. *Mining Boards.*—(1) The Local Government may constitute for the province, or for any part of the province, or for any group or class of mines in the province, a Mining Board consisting of—

(a) a person in the service of the Government, not being the Chief Inspector or an Inspector, nominated by the Local Government to act as chairman;

(b) the Chief Inspector or an Inspector;

(c) two persons, neither of whom shall be the Chief Inspector or an Inspector, nominated by the Local Government, of whom one shall be a person qualified to represent the interests of persons employed in mines;

Clause 10 (c).—In accordance with a suggestion made in the Legislative Assembly, provision is made for the inclusion in the Mining Board and also in Committees (vide clause 11) of a person nominated by the Local Government to represent the interests of persons employed in the mines.

(d) two persons nominated by owners of mines or their representatives in such manner as may be prescribed.

(2) The chairman shall appoint a person to act as secretary to the Board.

(3) The Local Government may give directions as to the payment of travelling expenses incurred by the secretary or any member of any such Mining Board in the performance of his duty as such secretary or member.

11. Committees.—(1) Where under this Act any question relating to a mine is referred to a committee, the Committee shall consist of—

(a) a chairman nominated by the Local Government or by such officer or authority as the Local Government may authorise in this behalf;

(b) a person nominated by the chairman and qualified by experience to dispose of the question referred to the Committee; and

(c) two persons of whom one shall be nominated by the owner, agent or manager of the mine concerned, and the other shall be nominated by the Local Government to represent the interests of the persons employed in the mine.

(2) No Inspector or person employed in or in the management of any mine concerned shall serve as chairman or member of a Committee appointed under this section.

(3) Where an owner, agent or manager fails to exercise his power of nomination under clause (c) of sub-section (1), the Committee may, notwithstanding such failure, proceed to inquire into and dispose of the matter referred to it.

(4) The Committee shall hear and record such information as the Chief Inspector or the Inspector, or the owner, agent or manager of the mine concerned may place before it and shall intimate its decision to the Chief Inspector or the Inspector and to the owner, agent or manager of the mine, and shall report its decision to the Local Government or, where a Mining Board has been constituted, to the Local Government through the Mining Board.

(5) On receiving such report the Local Government shall pass orders in conformity therewith unless the Inspector or the owner, agent or manager of the mine has lodged an objection to the decision of the Committee in which case the Local Government may proceed to review such decision and to pass such orders in the matter as it may think fit. If an objection is lodged by the Inspector, notice of the same shall forthwith be given to the owner, agent or manager of the mine.

(6) The Local Government may give directions as to the remuneration, if any, to be paid to the members of the Committee or any of them, and as to the payment of the expenses of the inquiry including such remuneration.

12. Powers of Mining Boards.—(1) Any Mining Board constituted under section 10 and any Committee constituted under section 11 may exercise such of the powers of an Inspector under this Act as it thinks necessary or expedient to exercise for the purpose of deciding or reporting upon any matter referred to it.

(2) Every Mining Board constituted under section 10 and every Committee appointed under section 11 shall have the powers of a Civil Court under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 (V of 1908), for the purpose of enforcing the attendance of witnesses and compelling the production of documents and material objects; and every person required by any such Mining Board or Committee to furnish information before it shall be deemed to be legally bound to do so within the meaning of section 176 of the Indian Penal Code (XLV of 1860).

13. Recovery of expenses.—The Local Government may direct that the expenses of any inquiry conducted by a Mining Board constituted under section 10 or by a Committee appointed under section 11 shall be borne in whole or in part by the owner or agent of the mine concerned, and the amount so directed to be paid may, on application by the Chief Inspector or an Inspector to a Magistrate having jurisdiction at the place where the mine is situated or where such owner or agent is for the time being resident, be recovered by the distress and sale of any moveable property within the limits of the Magistrate's jurisdiction belonging to such owner, agent or manager.

CHAPTER IV

MINING OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT OF MINES

14. Notice to be given of Mining Operations.—The owner, agent or manager of a mine shall, in the case of an existing mine, within one month from the commencement of this Act, or in the case of a new mine, within three months after the commencement of mining operations, give to the District Magistrate of the district in which the mine is situated notice in writing in such form and containing such particulars relating to the mine as may be prescribed.

15. Managers.—(1) Save as may be otherwise prescribed, every mine shall be under one manager who shall have the prescribed qualifications and shall be responsible for the control, management and direction of the mine and the owner or agent of every mine shall appoint himself or some other person, having such qualifications, to be such manager.

(2) If any mine is worked without there being a manager for the mine as required by sub-section (1), the owner and agent shall each be deemed to have contravened the provisions of this section.

Clause 15.—The corresponding section (No. 30) in the existing Act has been amplified on the lines of the English Act of 1911. In the case of a

number of small mines situated close together, it may not be necessary to have a duly qualified manager for each: the expense would in fact be prohibitive. Power is therefore reserved to modify this clause by regulation under the regulation-making clause No. 29.

16. Duties and responsibilities of owners, agents and managers.—(1) The owner, agent and manager of every mine shall be responsible that all operations carried on in connection therewith are conducted in accordance with the provisions of this Act and of the regulations, rules and bye-laws, and of any orders made thereunder.

(2) In the event of any contravention of any such provisions by any person whomsoever, the owner, agent and manager of the mine shall each be deemed also to be guilty of such contravention unless he proves that he had taken all reasonable means, by publishing and to the best of his power enforcing those provisions, to prevent such contravention.

CHAPTER V

HEALTH AND SAFETY OF WORKERS

17. Conservancy.—There shall be provided and maintained for every mine, latrine and urinal accommodation of such kind and on such scale and such supply of water fit for drinking as may be prescribed.

Clause 17.—This is new, but follows the Indian Factories Act, 1911, as recently amended.

18. Medical Appliances.—At every mine in respect of which the Local Government may, by notification in the local official Gazette, declare this section to apply, such supply of ambulances or stretchers, and of splints, bandages and other medical requirements as may be prescribed shall be kept ready at hand in a convenient place and in good and serviceable order.

Clause 18.—This reproduces an existing rule. It is thought desirable that it should be included in the body of the Act.

19. Powers of Inspectors when causes of danger not expressly provided against exits or when employment of persons is dangerous.—(1) If, in any respect which is not provided against by any express provision of this Act or of the regulations, rules or bye-laws or of any orders made thereunder, it appears to the Chief Inspector or the Inspector that any mine, or any part thereof or any matter, thing or practice in or connected with the mine, or with the control, management or direction thereof, is dangerous to human life or safety, or defective so as to threaten, or tend to, the bodily injury of any person, he may give notice in writing thereof to the owner, agent or manager of the mine, and shall state in the notice the particulars in which he considers the mine, or part thereof, or the matter, thing or practice, to be dangerous or defective and require the same to be remedied within such time as he may specify in the notice.

(2) If the Chief Inspector or an Inspector is of opinion that there is urgent and immediate danger to the life or safety of any person employed in any mine or part thereof, he may, by an order in writing containing a statement of the grounds of his opinion, prohibit, until the danger is removed, the employment in or about the mine or part thereof of any person whose employment is not in his opinion reasonably necessary for the purpose of removing the danger.

Clause 19 (2).—The existing section provides only for the removal of women and children in cases of urgent and immediate danger. The draft Bill empowers the Inspector to remove all persons in such circumstances with the exception of those whose continuous employment is necessary for the purpose of removing the threatened danger. It will be noted that in such cases an appeal lies from the order of the Inspector.

(3) The Chief Inspector or the Inspector making a requisition under sub-section (1) or an order under sub-section (2) shall forthwith report the same to the Mining Board or where there is no Mining Board, to such officer or authority as the Local Government may, by general or special order, appoint in this behalf or, if no such officer or authority has been appointed to the Local Government, and shall inform the owner, agent or manager of the mine that such report has been so made.

(4) If the owner, agent or manager of the mine objects to a requisition made under sub-section (1) or to an order made under sub-section (2) he may, within twenty days after the receipt of the notice containing the requisition or of the order, send his objection in writing, stating the grounds thereof, to the Mining Board or other authority to which the report has been made under sub-section (3).

(5) A Mining Board or other authority not being the Local Government shall on receiving an objection made under sub-section (4) forward it to the Local Government. Every objection so forwarded and every objection sent to the Local Government under sub-section (4) shall be referred to a Committee.

(6) Every requisition made under sub-section (1) or order made under sub-section (2) to which objection is made under sub-section (4) shall be complied with pending the receipt at the mine of the decision of the Committee.

Provided that the Committee may, on the application of the owner, agent or manager suspend the operation of a requisition under sub-section (1) pending its decision on the objection.

(7) Nothing in this section shall affect the power of a Magistrate under section 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898 (V of 1898).

20. Notice to be given of accidents.—When any accident occurs in or about a mine causing loss of life or serious bodily injury or when an accidental explosion or ignition occurs in or about a mine, the owner, agent or manager of the mine shall give such notice of the accident, explosion or ignition to such



authorities, and in such form, and within such time, as may be prescribed.

21. Power of Government to appoint court of inquiry in cases of accidents.—(1) When any accidental explosion or ignition or other accident has occurred in or about any mine, the Local Government, if it is of opinion that a formal inquiry into the causes of, and circumstances attending, the accident ought to be held, may appoint a competent person to hold such inquiry, and may also appoint any person or persons possessing legal or special knowledge to act as assessor or assessors in holding the inquiry.

(2) The person appointed to hold any such inquiry shall have all the powers of a Civil Court under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 (V of 1908), for the purpose of enforcing the attendance of witnesses and compelling the production of documents and material objects; and every person required by such person as aforesaid to furnish any information shall be deemed to be legally bound to do so within the meaning of section 176 of the Indian Penal Code (XLV of 1860).

(3) Any person holding an inquiry under this section may exercise such of the powers of an Inspector under this Act as he may think it necessary or expedient to exercise for the purposes of the inquiry.

(4) The person holding an inquiry under this section shall make a report to the Local Government stating the causes of the accident and its circumstances, and adding any observations which he or any of the assessors may think fit to make.

22. Publication of Reports.—The Local Government may cause any report submitted by a Committee under section 11 or by a court of inquiry under section 21 to be published at such time and in such manner as it may think fit.

CHAPTER VI

HOURS AND LIMITATION OF EMPLOYMENT

23. Hours of employment.—No person shall be employed in a mine—

- (a) on more than six days in any one week,
- (b) if he works above ground for more than sixty hours in any one week,
- (c) if he works below ground for more than fifty-four hours in any one week.

24. Supervising Staff.—Nothing in section 23 shall apply to persons who may by rules be defined to be persons holding positions of supervision or management or employed in a confidential capacity.

25. Exemption from provisions regarding employment.—In case of an emergency involving serious risk to the safety of the mine or of persons employed

therein, the manager may, subject to the provisions of section 19, permit persons to be employed in contravention of section 23 on such work as may be necessary to protect the safety of the mine or of the persons employed therein:

Provided that, where such occasion arises, a record of the fact shall immediately be made by the manager and shall be placed before the Chief Inspector or the Inspector at his next inspection of the mine.

Clauses 23, 24 and 25.—These new clauses restricting the hours of employment have been inserted in order to conform with the recommendations of the meetings of the International Labour Conference at Washington and Geneva. In one important class of mines, namely, coal mines in Bengal and Bihar and Orissa, miners rarely work more than three or four days a week, and the restriction in the hours of labour will not cause hardship either to them or to the mine owners. There are, however, certain classes of labour (such as that of pumpmen), which is of an intermittent kind, and it may be desirable, at any rate for the present, to exempt such from the ordinary rules regarding hours of employment. The Governor-General in Council can grant such exemptions under clause 46. Provision is also made in the Act to enable a mine manager or the Local Government to contravene clause 23 in case of an emergency.

26. Children.—No child shall be employed in a mine or be allowed to be present in any part of a mine which is below ground.

Clause 26.—In the existing Act there is no restriction regarding the employment of children (other than that rendered possible by sub-clause (2) of clause 15 of the Act). In accordance with the recommendation of the International Labour Conference which has been accepted by the Legislature and the Government of India, the employment of children below 12 years of age must now be prohibited. As explained above, it would be desirable to prescribe a half-time system for children above 12 years of age, but, in view of the practical difficulties in the way of adopting this system, it is proposed to meet the case by increasing the age of a child to 13 years and to treat all persons above that age as adults.

At present infant children are (to some extent) taken down the mines by their parents in cases where there is no one with whom they can be left on the surface. This practice obviously impairs the health of the children and it is, therefore, proposed to prohibit their presence in the mines at all. The effect of this measure may be to prevent a certain number of women, who would otherwise do mining work, from going down the mine, but, in the interests of the health of the community, it is thought that this risk should be faced.

27. Disputes as to age.—(1) If any question arises between the Chief Inspector or the Inspector and the manager of any mine as to whether any person is a child, the question shall, in the absence of a certificate as to the age of such person granted in the prescribed manner, be referred for decision to a qualified medical practitioner specially authorised by the Local Government in this behalf.

(2) Every certificate as to the age of a person which has been granted in the prescribed manner and any certificate granted by a qualified medical practitioner on a reference under sub-section (1) shall, for the purposes of this Act, be conclusive evidence as to the age of the person to whom it relates.

Clause 27.—As mine labour is fluid, it is at present impracticable to insist on each person employed in a mine having a certificate of age, as is required in the case of factories. Provision is, therefore, being made—

- (i) to meet the case of disputes between the inspecting staff and the mines staff as to the age of a child, and
- (ii) to render the adoption of the certification system possible when circumstances permit.



Local Governments are being given power under clause 30 to prescribe a certification system in cases where they think it to be practicable.

28. Register of employees.—For every mine there shall be kept in the prescribed form and place a register of all persons employed in the mine, of their hours of work, of their days of rest, and of the nature of their respective employments.

Clause 28.—If the restrictions on hours of employment are not to be a dead letter, the registers prescribed in this clause must be maintained.

CHAPTER VII

REGULATIONS, RULES AND BYE-LAWS

29. Power of Governor-General in Council to make regulations.—The Governor-General in Council may, by notification in the *Gazette of India*, make regulations, consistent with this Act for all or any of the following purposes, namely:—

(a) for prescribing the qualifications to be required by a person for appointment as Chief Inspector or Inspector;

(b) for prescribing and regulating the duties and powers of the Chief Inspector and of Inspectors in regard to the inspection of mines under this Act;

(c) for prescribing the duties of owners, agents and managers of mines and of persons acting under them;

(d) for prescribing the qualifications of managers of mines and of persons acting under them;

(e) for regulating the manner of ascertaining, by examination or otherwise, the qualifications of managers of mines and persons acting under them, and the granting and renewal of certificates of competency;

(f) for fixing the fees, if any, to be paid in respect of such examinations and of the grant and renewal of such certificates;

(g) for determining the circumstances in which and the conditions subject to which it shall be lawful for more mines than one to be under a single manager, or for any mine or mines to be under a manager not having the prescribed qualifications;

(h) for providing for the making of inquiries into charges of misconduct or incompetency on the part of managers of mines and persons acting under them and for the suspension and cancellation of certificates of competency;

(i) for regulating, subject to the provisions of the Indian Explosives Act, 1884 (IV of 1884), and of any rules made thereunder, the storage and use of explosives;

(j) for providing for the safety of the persons employed in a mine, their means of entrance there-

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into and exit therefrom, the number of shafts or outlets to be furnished, and the fencing of shafts, pits, outlets and passages;

(k) for providing for the safety of the roads and working places in mines, including the sitting and maintenance of pillars and the maintenance of sufficient barriers between mine and mine;

(l) for providing for the ventilation of mines and the action to be taken in respect of dust and noxious gases;

(m) for providing for the care, and the regulation of the use, of all machinery and plant and of all electrical apparatus used for signalling purposes;

(n) for requiring and regulating the use of safety lamps in mines;

(o) for providing against the accumulation of water in mines;

(p) for prescribing the notices of accidents and dangerous occurrences, and the notices, reports and returns of mineral output, persons employed and other matters provided for by regulations to be furnished by owners, agents and managers of mines, and for prescribing the forms of such notices, returns and reports, the persons and authorities to whom they are to be furnished, the particulars to be contained in them, and the time within which they are to be submitted;

(q) for prescribing the plans to be kept by owners, agents and managers of mines and the manner and places in which such plans are to be kept for purposes of record;

(r) for regulating the procedure on the occurrence of accidents or accidental explosions or ignitions in or about mines;

(s) for prescribing the form of, and the particulars to be contained in, the notice to be given by the owner, agent or manager of a mine under section 14; and

(t) for prescribing the notice to be given by the owner, agent or manager of a mine before mining operations are commenced at or extended to any point within fifty yards of any railway subject to the provisions of the Indian Railways Act, 1890 (IX of 1890), or of any public work or classes of public works which the Local Government may, by general or special order, specify in this behalf.

Clause 29.—This clause empowers the Central Government to make regulations (so called in order to distinguish them from the rules made by Local Governments under the following clause), which will deal with all technical matters under the Act. The Local Government under clause 30 is given power to make rules dealing with the general administration of the Act in so far as technical matters are not concerned. This division of functions follows on the Devolution Rules and has been accepted by Local Governments.



30. Power of Local Governments to make rules.—The Local Government may, subject to the control of the Governor-General in Council, by notification in the local official Gazette, make rules consistent with this Act for all or any of the following purposes, namely:—

(a) for providing for the appointment of chairmen and members of Mining Boards, and for regulating the procedure of such Boards;

(b) for providing for the appointment of courts of inquiry under section 21, for regulating the procedure and powers of such courts, for the payment of travelling allowance to the members, and for the recovery of the expenses of such courts from the manager, owner or agent of the mine concerned;

(c) for prescribing the scale of latrine and urinal accommodation to be provided at mines, the provision to be made for the supply of drinking water, the supply and maintenance of medical appliances and comforts, the formation and training of rescue brigades, and the training of men in ambulance work;

(d) for prohibiting, restricting or regulating the presence or employment in mines of women either above or below ground, or on particular kinds of labour;

(e) for defining the persons who shall, for the purposes of section 24, be deemed to be persons holding positions of supervision or management or employed in a confidential capacity;

(f) for prohibiting the employment in mines of persons or any class of persons who have not been certified by a qualified medical practitioner to be more than thirteen years of age, and for prescribing the manner and the circumstances in which such certificates may be granted and revoked;

(g) for prescribing the form of register required by section 28;

(h) for prescribing abstracts of this Act and the vernacular in which the abstracts and the regulations, rules and bye-laws shall be posted as required by sections 32 and 33;

(i) for requiring the fencing of any mine or part of a mine, whether the same is being worked or not, where such fencing is necessary for the protection of the public;

(j) for the protection from injury by reason of the discontinuance of work in any mine of property vested in His Majesty or any local authority or railway company as defined in the Indian Railways Act 1890 (IX of 1890);

(k) for requiring notices, returns and reports in connection with any matter dealt with by rules

to be furnished by owners, agents and managers of mines, and for prescribing the forms of such notices, returns and reports, the persons and authorities to whom they are to be furnished, the particulars to be contained in them, and the times within which they are to be submitted; and

(l) generally to provide for any matter not provided for by this Act or the regulations provision for which is required in order to give effect to this Act.

31. Prior publication of regulations and rules.—

(1) The power to make regulations and rules conferred by sections 29 and 30 is subject to the conditions of the regulations and rules being made after previous publication.

(2) The date to be specified in accordance with clause (3) of section 23 of the General Clauses Act, 1897 (X of 1897) as that after which a draft of regulations or rules proposed to be made will be taken under consideration, shall not be less than three months from the date on which the draft of the proposed regulations or rules is published for general information.

(3) The Local Government shall refer to every Mining Board constituted in the province any rule which it proposes to make before such rule is published for criticism under sub-section (1), and the rule shall not be so published until each such Board has reported as to the expediency of making the same and as to the suitability of its provisions.

(4) Regulations and rules shall be published in the *Gazette of India* and the local official Gazette respectively, and, on such publication, shall have effect as if enacted in this Act.

32. Bye-laws.—(1) The owner, agent or manager of a mine may, and shall if called upon to do so by the Chief Inspector, or Inspector, frame and submit to the Chief Inspector or Inspector a draft of such bye-laws, not being inconsistent with this Act or any regulations or rules for the time being in force, for the control and guidance of the persons acting in the management of, or employed in, the mine as such owner, agent or manager may deem necessary to prevent accidents and provide for the safety, convenience and discipline of the persons employed in the mine.

(2) If any such owner, agent or manager—

(a) fails to submit within a reasonable time a draft of bye-laws after being called upon to do so by the Chief Inspector or Inspector or—

(b) submits a draft of bye-laws which is not in the opinion of the Chief Inspector or Inspector sufficient,

the Chief Inspector or Inspector may—



(i) propose a draft of such bye-laws as appear to him to be sufficient or

(ii) propose such amendments in any draft submitted to him by the owner, agent or manager as will, in his opinion, render it sufficient,

and shall send such draft bye-laws or draft amendments to the owner, agent or manager, as the case may be, for consideration.

(3) If within a period of two months from the date on which any draft bye-laws or draft amendments are sent by the Chief Inspector or Inspector to the owner, agent or manager under the provisions of sub-section (2) the Chief Inspector or Inspector and the owner, agent or manager are unable to agree as to the terms of the bye-laws to be made under sub-section (1), the Chief Inspector or Inspector shall refer the draft bye-laws for settlement to the Mining Board or, where there is no Mining Board, to such officer or authority as the Local Government may, by general or special order, appoint in this behalf.

(4) (a) When such draft bye-laws have been agreed to by the owner, agent or manager and the Chief Inspector or Inspector, or when they are unable to agree, have been settled by the Mining Board or such officer or authority as aforesaid, a copy of the draft bye-laws shall be sent by the Chief Inspector or Inspector to the Local Government for approval.

(b) The Local Government may make such modifications of the draft bye-laws as it thinks fit.

(c) Before the Local Government approves the draft bye-laws whether with or without modifications, there shall be published, in such manner as the Local Government may think best adapted for informing the persons affected notice of the proposal to make the bye-laws and of the place where copies of the draft bye-laws may be obtained, and of the time (which shall not be less than thirty days) within which any objection with reference to the draft bye-laws made by or on behalf of persons affected, should be sent to the Local Government.

(d) Every objection shall be in writing and shall state—

(i) the specific grounds of objection, and

(ii) the omissions, additions or modifications asked for.

(e) The Local Government shall consider any objection made within the required time by or on behalf of persons appearing to it to be affected and may approve the bye-laws either in the form in which they were published or after making such amendments thereto as it thinks fit.

(5) The bye-laws, when so approved by the Local Government shall have effect as if enacted in this Act, and the owner, agent or manager of the mine shall cause a copy of the bye-laws, in English and in

such vernacular or vernaculars as may be prescribed, to be posted up in some conspicuous place at or near the mine, where the bye-laws may be conveniently read or seen by the persons employed; and, as often as the same become defaced, obliterated or destroyed, shall cause them to be renewed with all reasonable despatch.

Clause 32.—The term "bye-laws" is used instead of the existing phrase "special rules" in order to distinguish them from the "regulations" made by the Central Government and the "rules" made by Local Governments.

33. Posting up of extracts from Act, regulations, etc.—There shall be kept posted up at every mine in English and in such vernacular or vernaculars as may be prescribed, the prescribed abstracts of the Act and of the regulations and rules.

CHAPTER VIII

PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE

34. Obstruction.—Whoever obstructs the Chief Inspector, an Inspector or any person authorised under section 7, in the discharge of his duties under this Act, or refuses or wilfully neglects to afford the Chief Inspector, an Inspector or such person any reasonable facility for making any entry, inspection, examination or inquiry authorised by or under this Act in relation to any mine, or refuses to produce on the demand of the Chief Inspector or Inspector any registers or other documents kept in pursuance of this Act, or prevents or attempts to prevent, or does anything calculated to prevent, any person from appearing before or being examined by an inspecting officer acting in pursuance of his duties under this Act, shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three months, or with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees, or with both.

35. Falsification of records, etc.—Whoever—

(a) counterfeits, or knowingly makes a false statement in, any certificate, or any official copy of a certificate, granted under this Act, or

(b) knowingly uses as true any such counterfeit or false certificate, or

(c) makes or produces or uses any false declaration, statement or evidence knowing the same to be false, for the purpose of obtaining for himself or for any other person a certificate, or the renewal of a certificate, under this Act, or any employment in a mine, or

(d) falsifies any plan or register or record the maintenance of which is required by or under this Act, or

(e) makes, gives or delivers any plan, record or return containing a statement, entry or detail which is not to the best of his knowledge or belief true, shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term



which may extend to three months, or with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees, or with both.

36. Omission to furnish plans, etc.—Whoever omits to make or furnish in the prescribed form or manner or at or within the prescribed time any plan, return, notice, register, record or report required by or under this Act to be made or furnished shall be punishable with fine which may extend to two hundred rupees.

37. Contravention of provisions regarding employment of labour.—Whoever, save as permitted by section 25, contravenes any provision of this Act or of any regulation, rule or bye-law or of any order made thereunder restricting or regulating the employment or presence of persons in or about a mine shall be punishable with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees.

38. Notice of Accidents.—Whoever, in contravention of the provisions of section 20, fails to give notice of an accidental explosion or ignition or other accident shall, if the explosion, ignition or accident results in serious bodily injury, be punishable with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees, or, if the accident results in loss of life, be punishable with imprisonment which may extend to three months, or with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees, or with both.

39. Disobedience of orders.—Whoever contravenes any provision of this Act or of any regulation, rule or bye-law or of any order made thereunder for the contravention of which no penalty is hereinbefore provided shall be punishable with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees, and, in the case of a continuing breach, with a further fine which may extend to one hundred rupees for every day after the first day during which the breach is proved to have been persisted in.

40. Contravention of law with dangerous results.—(1) Notwithstanding anything hereinbefore contained, whoever contravenes any provision of this Act or of any regulation, rule or bye-law or of any order made thereunder, shall be punishable, if such contravention results in loss of life, with imprisonment which may extend to one year or with fine which may extend to two thousand rupees, or with both; or, if such contravention results in serious bodily injury, with imprisonment which may extend to six months, or with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees, or with both; or if such contravention otherwise causes injury or danger to workers or other persons in or about the mine, with imprisonment which may extend to one month, or with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees, or with both.

(2) Where a person having been convicted under this section is again convicted thereunder, he shall be punishable with double the punishment provided by sub-section (1).

(3) Any Court imposing, or confirming in appeal revision or otherwise, a sentence of fine passed under this section may, when passing judgment, order the whole or any part of the fine recovered to be paid as compensation to the person injured, or, in the case of his death, to his legal representative;

Provided that, if the fine is imposed in a case which is subject to appeal, no such payment shall be made before the period allowed for presenting the appeal has elapsed, or, if an appeal has been presented, before the decision of the appeal.

Clauses 34 to 40.—The existing penalty section (No. 22) has been found difficult of interpretation in actual practice, as the various offences and penalties therefor have been to some extent confused. The opportunity is now being taken to re-draft the section in a clearer form. The existing section also provides an inadequate penalty (a maximum term of imprisonment for three months for the contravention of an order which may result in death or serious bodily injury). Under proposed clause 40, the maximum penalty which can be inflicted for this offence has been increased.

41. Prosecution of owner, agent or manager.—No prosecution shall be instituted against any owner, agent or manager for any offence under this Act except at the instance of the Chief Inspector or of the District Magistrate or an Inspector.

42. Limitation of prosecution.—No Court shall take cognizance of any offence under this Act unless complaint thereof has been made within six months of the date on which the commission of the offence is detected.

43. Cognizance of offences.—No Court inferior to that of a Presidency Magistrate or Magistrate of the first class or Sub-divisional Magistrate shall try any offence under this Act which is alleged to have been committed by any owner, agent or manager of a mine or any offence which is by this Act made punishable with imprisonment.

44. Reference to Mining Board or Committee in lieu of prosecution in certain cases.—If the Court trying any case instituted at the instance of the Chief Inspector or of the District Magistrate or an Inspector under this Act is of opinion that the case is one which should, in lieu of a prosecution, be referred to a Mining Board or a Committee, it may stay the criminal proceedings, and report the matter to the Local Government with a view to such reference being made.

CHAPTER IX MISCELLANEOUS

45. Decision of question whether a mine is under this Act.—If any question arises as to whether any excavation or working is a mine within the meaning of this Act, the Local Government may decide the question and a certificate signed by a Secretary to the Local Government shall be conclusive on the point.

46. Power to exempt from operation of Act.—(1) The Governor-General in Council may, by notifica-



tion in the *Gazette of India*, exempt any local area or any mine or group or class of mines or any part of a mine or any class of persons from the operation of all or any specified provisions of this Act:

Provided that no local area or mine or group or class of mines shall be exempted from the provisions of section 26 unless it is also exempted from the operation of all the other provisions of this Act.

(2) On the occurrence of any public emergency the Local Government may, by an order in writing, confer any exemption which might be conferred by the Governor-General in Council under sub-section (1). When such an order is made, a copy thereof shall forthwith be sent to the Governor-General in Council.

Clause 46.—Under the existing Act, the power to exempt any mine or group or class of mines from the provisions of the Act rests with the Local Government. As, however, the Central Government is responsible for the administration of the Act, for the regulation of mines and for the safety of persons employed therein, the power to exempt any particular mine or class of mines in the Act must rest with the Central Government. The existing clause has been modified accordingly, with the agreement of Local Governments. This clause can also be used to exempt any classes of labour other than children from the provisions of the Act.

The Local Government is given the power to make a special order of exemption in case of a public emergency.

47. Power to alter or rescind orders.—The Governor-General in Council and every Local Government may reverse or modify any order passed under this Act by any authority subject to his or its control, as the case may be.

48. Application of Act to Crown mines.—This Act shall apply to mines belonging to the Crown.

49. Saving.—No suit, prosecution or other legal proceeding whatever shall lie against any person for anything which is in good faith done or intended to be done under this Act.

50. Repeals.—On and from the commencement of this Act, the enactments mentioned in the Schedule shall be repealed to the extent specified in the fourth column thereof.

THE SCHEDULE

(See Section 50)

Enactments Repealed

Year.	No.	Short title.	Extent of repeal.
1901	VIII	The Indian Mines Act, 1901.	The whole.
1914	IV	The Decentralisation Act, 1914.	So much of the schedule as relates to the Indian Mines Act, 1901.
1914	X	The Repealing and Amending Act, 1914.	So much of the second schedule as relates to the Indian Mines Act, 1901.

QUESTION IN THE LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Repeal of Workman's Breach of Contract Act and of Sections 490 and 492 of the Indian Penal Code.

Mr. N. M. Joshi asked: (a) Will Government be pleased to lay on the table the opinions of the Local Governments and other public bodies regarding the desirability or otherwise of the repeal of the Workman's Breach of Contract Act, No. 13 of 1859, and of Sections 490 and 492 of the Indian Penal Code, which the Government of India may have received in response to their request for such opinions after the Resolution asking the repeal of the said Act and the said Sections was discussed in the Legislative Assembly at the last Simla Session?

(b) Will they be further pleased to state whether they have decided to repeal the said Act and the said Sections of the Indian Penal Code? And if so, when?

The Honourable Sir William Vincent replied: The replies of Local Governments to the reference made to them in October last are not yet complete. Government are not prepared to place copies of replies received on the table and they have arrived at no decision in the matter.

RESOLUTION RE CONDITIONS OF LIFE AND COMPLAINT OF INDIAN LABOURERS

On page 21 of the *Labour Gazette* for September 1922 a reference was made to the Resolution in the Council of State moved by Sir A. Maricair, on the 6th September, for a Committee to enquire into the conditions of Indian labourers. The following is the Resolution, which was ultimately withdrawn:—

"This Council recommends to the Governor-General in Council that a Committee consisting of officials and non-officials with an official majority be appointed to inquire into the conditions of life and complaint of Indian labourers working in India, both industrial and agricultural, in the following respects and report to the Government with recommendations for their amelioration:—

1. Wages earned, and indebtedness.
2. Hours of work.
3. Housing accommodation and sanitation.
4. Medical treatment.
5. Educational facilities for children.
6. Age of working children."

THE LABOUR SITUATION IN JAPAN*

CONDITIONS IN MINES

An able and interesting review of the mining labour situation in Japan received from a valued correspondent indicates that at the present time the cost of labour is at least twice as high as it was in 1914 and that the general standard of Japanese efficiency is low. In common with other hired-workers miners appear to be unable to shake off the habit of working only 3 or 4 days a week when wages are high.

Since 1917 there have been periodical strikes which each time synchronised with a rise in the cost of living, as wages could not keep pace with the rapid rise in prices that followed immediately after. Men were paid Re. 1 to Rs. 1-8-0 a shift and women As. 6-8 to As. 8 a shift—the woman's wage was based on the price of rice—the shift generally lasting from 10 to 12 hours. Strikes now became more frequent, till, in the autumn of 1918, the crisis was reached when what were known as the "rice riots" broke out. The riots were mainly due to a misapprehension in the minds of the workers who believed that middlemen were profiteering in selling food-stuffs. They caused considerable damage especially to coal mines. The decision of some companies to sell rice to their employees below cost price immediately pacified the men. In the absence of any organisation such as a Chamber of Mines, the rates fixed by the companies differed according to circumstances, the average being in the neighbourhood of As. 5-4 per sho (2 24 lbs. or a little above 3 seers of 28 tolas). Labour was now fairly satisfied and its efficiency improved.

Again, the continued rise in the cost of living forced some of the concerns to increase their wages. Some of the larger concerns refusing to do so were confronted with further strikes. The "go-slow" strike was now generally adopted. It lasted long enough to reduce production and consequently the efficiency of mining labour suffered considerably. After the end of the "rice riots" one heard very little of strikes in the coal fields till the trade slump in 1920, which was largely due to the

* In this article Rs. 166-4-0 = 100 yen.

rise in the price of coal, and the demand was great. While wages in the coal mines rose during this boom, the labourers put in less time at their work, since they could earn enough to live by working only three or four days in the week. A labourer and his wife could at this time earn Rs. 9-15-7 or Rs. 11-10-2 for an eight-hour shift. The metal mines, particularly gold mines, however, were an exception, as they could not afford to pay as high a wage as the other mines.

From the spring of 1920 to the present day, labour in the mines has been peaceful. Although the cost of living is now slightly lower, wages have not been reduced, the average rates being: to hand-miners about Rs. 3 to Rs. 3-13-2 according to the district and capacity of the worker; to other underground men and surface labourers from Rs. 2-2-7 to Rs. 3-5-2; to skilled workers from Rs. 3-5-2 to Rs. 4-15-10; and to women from As. 13-4 to Rs. 1-2-7. These rates include the benefit of cheap rice.

LABOUR IN SIAM

The International Labour Office has received a communication from the Siamese Minister of Foreign Affairs pointing out the essential and radical differences in the economic conditions prevailing in the west and those prevailing in Siam, and how the Draft Conventions and Recommendations adopted by the International Labour Conference, Washington, are not suitable, at least for the present, to the requirements of Siam.

Siam is pre-eminently an agricultural country. Factories have not yet developed to any appreciable degree. In addition to agriculture, retail trade occupies most of the inhabitants. Since there is competition between employers for workmen, the latter can invariably secure good conditions of work adapted to their habits and customs which are very conservative. Many workmen in Siam are foreigners, Chinese, Malay or Indian, each with their own traditions and customs. There is hardly any specialisation among workmen, so that they can easily change from one type of occupation to another. The question of limitation of working hours is dependent upon natural conditions, the tropical climate creating special conditions. Thus, the working day is one of approximately eight hours.

Much of the business in Siam, including the little manufacture, is carried on generally by families and not by business organisations. This is a salient feature of all employment in Siam. There are no trade unions or other organisations of workpeople, neither are there strikes or lock-outs.

Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay (Foods)

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914.	October 1921.	September 1922.	October 1922.
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
<i>Cereals—</i>						
Rice	.. Rangoon Small-mill	.. Md.	4 11 3	7 4 2	5 15 3	6 1 2
Wheat	.. Delhi No. 1	.. Cwt.	5 9 6	12 8 0	.....	.....
Do.	.. Khandwa Seoni	.. Candy	45 0 0	100 0 0	102 8 0	80 0 0
Do.	.. Jubbulpore	.. ..	40 0 0	82 0 0	85 0 0	70 0 0
Jowari	.. Rangoon	.. Md.	3 2 6	4 13 11	3 11 3	3 11 3
Barley	.. —	.. ..	3 4 6	5 4 8	4 3 9	4 3 9
Bajri	.. Ghati	.. ..	3 4 6	7 6 6	5 4 8	4 10 6
<i>Pulses—</i>						
Gram	.. Punjab yellow (2nd sort)	.. ..	4 3 9	7 6 6	4 14 9	4 14 9
Turdal	.. Cawnpore	.. ..	5 10 5	8 10 6	7 13 0	6 14 1
<i>Sugar—</i>						
Sugar	.. Mauritius No. 1	.. Cwt.	9 3 0	20 6 0	21 2 0	21 8 0
Do.	.. Java white	.. ..	10 3 0	20 6 0	22 8 0	22 0 0
Raw (Gul)	.. Sangli	.. Md.	7 14 3	15 10 4	14 8 11	14 4 7
<i>Other food—</i>						
Turmeric	.. Rajapuri	.. ..	5 9 3	13 9 8	19 0 9	21 12 4
Ghee	.. Deshi	.. ..	45 11 5	70 0 0	88 9 2	85 11 5
Salt	.. Bombay (black)	.. ..	1 7 6	2 2 0	2 12 0	2 8 0

Expressed as percentages of July 1914

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914.	October 1921.	September 1922.	October 1922.
<i>Cereals—</i>						
Rice	.. Rangoon Small-mill	.. ..	100	154	127	129
Wheat	.. Delhi No. 1	.. ..	100	224	.....	178
Do.	.. Khandwa Seoni	.. ..	100	222	228	178
Do.	.. Jubbulpore	.. ..	100	205	213	175
Jowari	.. Rangoon	.. ..	100	154	117	117
Barley	.. —	.. ..	100	161	129	129
Bajri	.. Ghati	.. ..	100	226	161	142
Average—Cereals	.. ..	.. ..	100	192	163	145
<i>Pulses—</i>						
Gram	.. Punjab yellow (2nd sort)	.. ..	100	175	116	116
Turdal	.. Cawnpore	.. ..	100	153	138	122
Average—Pulses	.. ..	.. ..	100	164	127	119
<i>Sugar—</i>						
Sugar	.. Mauritius No. 1	.. ..	100	223	230	234
Do.	.. Java white	.. ..	100	200	221	216
Raw (Gul)	.. Sangli	.. ..	100	198	184	181
Average—Sugar	.. ..	.. ..	100	207	212	210
<i>Other food—</i>						
Turmeric	.. Rajapuri	.. ..	100	244	341	390
Ghee	.. Deshi	.. ..	100	153	194	188
Salt	.. Bombay (black)	.. ..	100	144	187	170
Average—Other food	.. ..	.. ..	100	180	241	249
Average—All food	.. ..	.. ..	100	189	185	178



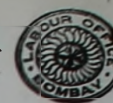
Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay (Non-foods)

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914.	October 1921.	September 1922.	October 1922.
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Oilseeds—						
Linseed	.. Bold	.. Cwt.	8 14 6	11 8 0	13 3 0	13 15 0
Rapeseed	.. Cawnpore (brown)	.. ..	8 0 0	10 8 0	10 0 0	10 8 0
Poppyseed	.. Do.	.. ..	10 14 0	14 8 0	14 2 0	15 0 0
Gingely	.. White	.. ..	11 4 0	14 6 0	15 4 0	14 4 0
Textiles—Cotton—						
(a) Cotton—raw—						
Broach	.. Good	.. Candy	251 0 0	375 0 0	480 0 0	415 0 0
Oomra	.. Fully good	.. ..	222 0 0	..	450 0 0	365 0 0
Dharwar	.. Saw-ginned	.. ..	230 0 0	..	..	..
Khandesh	.. Machine ginned	.. ..	205 0 0	..	..	..
Bengal	.. Do.	.. ..	198 0 0	335 0 0	352 0 0	330 0 0
(b) Cotton manufactures—						
Twist	.. 40S	.. Lb.	0 12 9	1 15 0	1 8 0	1 7 0
Grey shirtings	.. Fari 2,000	.. Piece	5 15 0	16 0 0	13 6 0	13 4 0
White mulls	.. 6,600	.. ..	4 3 0	11 4 0	9 6 0	9 6 0
Shirtings	.. Liepman's 1,500	.. ..	10 6 0	29 0 0	26 0 0	26 0 0
Long cloth	.. Local made 36" x 37½ yds.	.. Lb.	0 9 6	1 12 6	1 7 9	1 7 6
Chudders	.. 54" x 6 yds.	.. ..	0 9 6	1 10 0	1 6 6	1 6 0

Expressed as percentages of July 1914

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Article.	Grade.	July 1914.	October 1921.	September 1922.	October 1922.
Oilseeds—					
Linseed	.. Bold	100	129	148	157
Rapeseed	.. Cawnpore (brown)	100	131	125	131
Poppyseed	.. Do.	100	133	130	138
Gingely	.. White	100	128	136	127
Average—Oilseeds		100	130	135	138
Textiles—Cotton—					
(a) Cotton—raw					
Broach	.. Good	100	169	191	165
Oomra	.. Fully good	100	..	203	164
Dharwar	.. Saw-ginned	100	..	..	..
Khandesh	.. Machine ginned	100	..	..	..
Bengal	.. Do.	100	169	178	167
Average—Cotton—raw		100	169	191	165
(b) Cotton manufactures					
Twist	.. 40S	100	242	188	180
Grey shirtings	.. Fari 2,000	100	269	225	223
White mulls	.. 6,600	100	280	224	224
Shirtings	.. Liepman's 1,500	100	268	251	251
Long cloth	.. Local made 36" x 37½ yds.	100	280	250	247
Chudders	.. 54" x 6 yds.	100	302	237	231
Average—Cotton manufactures		100	273	229	226
Average—Textiles—Cotton		100	247	216	206



Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay (Non-foods)—continued

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914.	October 1921.	September 1922.	October 1922.
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Other textiles—						
Silk	.. Canton No. 5	.. Pucca seer	5 4 0	5 8 0	5 8 0	5 8 0
Do.	.. Nankin	.. ..	17 12 0	30 8 0	30 8 0	30 8 0
Hides and Skins—						
Hides, Cow	.. Tanned	.. Lb.	1 2 6	1 8 8	1 13 9	1 1 9
Do. Buffalo	.. Do.	.. ..	1 1 3	0 15 6	1 0 4	0 10 11
Skins, Goat	.. Do.	.. ..	1 4 0	4 0 3	2 2 2	2 3 4
Metals—						
Copper braziers	.. —	.. Cwt.	60 8 0	83 0 0	77 8 0	78 0 0
Iron bars	.. —	.. ..	4 0 0	11 0 0	8 0 0	8 0 0
Steel hoops	.. —	.. ..	7 12 0	22 0 0	14 12 0	14 4 0
Galvanized sheets	.. —	.. ..	9 0 0	18 0 0	15 12 0	16 0 0
Tin plates	.. —	.. Box	8 12 0	13 0 0	19 0 0	19 0 0
Other raw and manufactured articles—						
Coal	.. Bengal	.. Ton	14 12 0	31 0 0	25 0 0	25 8 0
Kerosene	.. Elephant brand	.. 2 Tins	4 6 0	8 3 0	7 10 6	7 10 6
Do.	.. Chester brand	.. Case	5 2 0	10 12 0	10 3 0	10 3 0

Expressed as percentages of July 1914

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Article.	Grade.	July 1914.	October 1921.	September 1922.	October 1922.
Other textiles—					
Silk	.. Canton No. 5	100	105	105	105
Do.	.. Nankin	100	172	172	172
Average—Other textiles		100	138	139	139
Hides and Skins—					
Hides, Cow	.. Tanned	100	133	161	96
Do. Buffalo	.. Do.	100	90	95	63
Skins, Goat	.. Do.	100	322	171	177
Average—Hides and Skins		100	182	142	112
Metals—					
Copper braziers	.. —	100	137	123	129
Iron bars	.. —	100	275	200	200
Steel hoops	.. —	100	284	190	184
Galvanized sheets	.. —	100	200	175	178
Tin plates	.. —	100	149	217	217
Average—Metals		100	209	182	182
Other raw and manufactured articles—					
Coal	.. Bengal	100	210	169	173
Kerosene	.. Elephant brand	100	187	175	175
Do.	.. Chester brand	100	210	199	199
Average—Other raw and manufactured articles		100	202	181	182
Total—Food		100	189	185	178
Total—Non-food		100	199	179	172
General Average		100	195	181	174

Wholesale Market Prices in Karachi (Foods)

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914	October 1921.	September 1922.	October 1922.
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Cereals—						
Rice	Larkana No. 3	Candy	39 0 0	67 0 0	52 0 0	50 0 0
Wheat, white	5% barley 3% dirt.	"	31 8 0	69 0 0	41 0 0	43 4 0
" red	30% red. 5% barley 3% dirt.	"	31 4 0	68 8 0	40 8 0	42 12 0
" white	92% red. 2% barley 1½% dirt.	"	32 8 0	71 0 0	42 4 0	44 8 0
" red	2% barley 1½% dirt.	"	32 4 0	70 8 0	41 12 0	44 0 0
Jowari	Export Quality	"	25 8 0	45 0 0	23 0 0	28 0 0
Barley	3% dirt	"	26 8 0	46 0 0	28 0 0	34 8 0
Pulses—						
Gram	1% dirt	"	29 8 0	68 0 0	37 0 0	38 0 0
Sugar—						
Sugar	Java, white	Cwt.	9 2 0	18 12 0	22 4 0	21 7 0
Do.	" brown	"	8 1 6	"	21 0 0	20 12 0
Other food—						
Salt		Bengal Maund.	2 2 0	1 10 3	1 10 3	1 10 6

Expressed as percentages of July 1914
Prices in July 1914 = 100

Cereals—					
Rice	Larkana No. 3		100	172	133
Wheat, white	5% barley, 3% dirt		100	219	130
" red	30% red.		100	219	137
" white	5% barley, 3% dirt		100	219	130
" red	92% red.		100	219	137
Jowari	2% barley, 1½% dirt		100	218	130
Barley	2% barley, 1½% dirt		100	219	137
	Export Quality		100	176	129
	3% dirt		100	174	90
Average—Cereals			100	174	106
Pulses—					
Gram	1% dirt		100	200	121
Sugar—					
Sugar	Java, white		100	231	125
"	" brown		100	231	129
Average—Sugar			100	206	244
			100	206	259
Other food—					
Salt			100	206	252
			100	206	246
			100	77	77
			100	77	78

Wholesale Market Prices in Karachi (Non-foods)

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914.	October 1921.	September 1922.	October 1922.
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Oilseeds—						
Cotton seed	.....	Maund	2 11 3	4 0 0	3 10 0	4 0 0
Rapeseed	3% admixture	Candy	51 0 0	66 12 0	61 8 0	65 0 0
Gingelly	Black, 9% admixture	"	62 0 0	87 0 0	80 0 0	80 0 0
Textiles—						
Jute bags—	B. Twills	100 bags	38 4 0	43 0 0	48 0 0	48 0 0
Textile—Cotton—						
(a) Cotton, raw	Sind	Maund	20 4 0	39 0 0	38 8 0	34 0 0
(b) Cotton manufactures—						
Drills	Pepperill	Piece	10 3 6	23 5 0	21 12 0	20 15 0
Shirtings	Liepmann's	"	10 2 0	27 0 0	26 0 0	25 8 0
Yarns	40s Grey (Plough)	Lb.	0 12 2	"	"	"
Other Textiles—						
Wool	Kandahar	Maund	28 0 0	21 0 0	21 8 0	21 0 0

Expressed as percentages of July 1914

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Oilseeds—					
Cotton seed	.....		100	148	134
Rapeseed	3% admixture		100	131	121
Gingelly	Black, 9% admixture		100	140	129
Average—Oilseeds			100	140	128
Textiles—					
Jute bags	Twills		100	112	126
Textiles—Cotton—					
(a) Cotton, raw	Sind		100	193	190
(b) Cotton manufactures—					
Drills	Pepperill		100	228	213
Shirtings	Liepmann's		100	267	257
Yarns	40s Grey (Plough)		100	"	"
Average—Cotton manufactures			100	247	235
Average—Textiles—Cotton			100	247	235
Other Textiles—Wool			100	229	220
			100	75	77
			100	75	75

Retail prices of Articles of food in September and October 1922

Table showing retail prices of various food items (Cereals, Pulses, and Other articles of food) in Bombay, Karachi, Ahmedabad, and Sholapur for September and October 1922. Prices are listed in Rs. a. p.

NOTE.—1 lb. = 39 tolas; 1 maund = 82 2/7 lbs.; 1 seer = 2 2/3 lbs.; 80 tolas = 1 seer; 40 seers = 1 Indian maund.

Expressed as percentages of July 1914 Prices (July 1914 = 100)

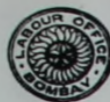
Table showing the retail prices of food articles expressed as percentages of July 1914 prices. It includes columns for various food categories and their corresponding percentage values.

Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices in India and Foreign Countries

Table showing index numbers of wholesale prices for various countries (India, United Kingdom, Canada, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, United States of America) from 1913 to 1922. The table includes columns for country, number of articles, and index values for each month.

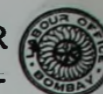
Table showing index numbers of wholesale prices for various countries (Switzerland, Belgium, Egypt, France, Italy, Japan, Germany, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Denmark) from 1913 to 1922. The table includes columns for country, number of articles, and index values for each month.

* July 1914=100. (a) New index numbers. (b) 1914=100. (c) 1920 = 100. (d) Revised figures. (e) Average Dec. 1913 to June 1914 = 100. (f) The figures from 1915-19 are for December. NOTE.—The absolute and secondary maxima are indicated in heavier type. (1) Statist. (2) Economist. (3) Board of Trade. (4) Times. (5) Bradstreet. (6) Bureau of Labour. (7) Federal Reserve Board.



Principal Trade Disputes in progress in October 1922

Name of concern and locality.	Approximate number of workpeople involved		Date when dispute		Cause.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.	Began.	Ended.		
<i>Textile Trades.</i>						
			1922.	1922.		
1. The David Mill, Caroll Road, Parel, Bombay.	75 (Women in the Winding Department).	..	26 September ..	3 October ..	Demand for the removal of a certain Head Woman, who, the strikers alleged, used to collect four annas per month from each woman worker.	Some strikers resumed work unconditionally and the rest were paid off.
2. General strike in four mills in Surat.	2,556	..	3 October ..	23 October ..	Demand for the usual yearly bonus.	Some resumed work and others were paid off.
3. The Premier Mill, Parel, Bombay.	250 (Weavers).	..	13 October ..	14 October ..	Alleged improper calculation of wages.	Work resumed.
4. The Whittle Mill No. 3, Broach.	727	..	13 October ..	15 October ..	Payment, in advance, of wages falling due on the 15th and other petty grievances.	Work resumed.
5. The Ahmedabad Waste Cotton Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Dudheshwar Road, Ahmedabad.	100 (Throstle Department).	..	15 October ..	23 October ..	Refusal by the Agent to grant a bonus to the Throstle Department as that department had been working only three months.	New hands engaged.
6. The Sir Waghji Mill, Wadhwan Camp, Kathiawar.	500	..	18 October ..	19 October ..	1. Payment of wages for 51 days during which the Mill was closed on account of the appointment of a new Receiver in place of the old one. 2. Punctual payment of bonus in January every year.	Work resumed after submitting a petition containing demands for the consideration of the Political Agent, Jhalawad.
7. The Ahmedabad Vaso Mills, Ltd., Dudheshwar Road, Ahmedabad.	150 (Throstle Department).	..	19 October ..	23 October ..	Refusal of payment of bonus as the mill was new.	Some resumed work unconditionally and the services of the others were dispensed with.
8. The Whittle Mill No. 3, Broach.	727	..	23 October ..	24 October ..	Immediate payment of bonus falling due in January 1923.	Work resumed.
9. The Sir Waghji Mill, Wadhwan Camp, Kathiawar.	500	..	23 October ..	....	Decision of the management to introduce a system of paying the weavers by the piece instead of by the weight of cloth produced. This, the weavers believed, would result in their receiving less wages.	....
10. The Aryodaya Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd., Naroda Road, Ahmedabad.	500 (Weavers).	..	23 October ..	25 October ..	Refusal to grant bonus according to the award of the arbitrators given on 1st October 1922.	Work resumed on a promise to rectify mistake in calculation of wages.
11. The Hathising Mills Co., Ltd., Saraspur Road, Ahmedabad.	407	..	23 October ..	26 October ..	Demand for payment of the annual bonus.	Bonus promised and work resumed.
12. The Aryodaya Ginning and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Idga Road, Ahmedabad.	200 (Weavers).	..	23 October ..	....	Refusal to grant bonus according to the award of the arbitrators given on 1st October 1922.	....
13. The Universal Cotton Mills Co., Ltd., Kachni Masjid, Ahmedabad.	150	..	23 October ..	....	Demand for payment of the annual bonus.	....



Principal Trade Disputes in progress in October 1922—continued.

Name of concern and locality.	Approximate number of workpeople involved		Date when dispute		Cause.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.	Began.	Ended.		
<i>Textile Trades—contd.</i>						
			1922.	1922.		
14. The New Manekchowk Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd., Dariapur, Ahmedabad.	141 (Frame Department).	..	24 October ..	25 October ..	Non-payment of the full amount of the annual bonus.	Work resumed on a promise to rectify the mistake in the calculation of wages.
15. The Ahmedabad Ramkrishna Mills Co., Ltd., Gomtipur Road, Ahmedabad.	310	..	24 October ..	....	Demand for payment of the annual bonus.	....
16. The Vishnu Cotton Mills Co., Ltd., Kanakaria Road, Ahmedabad.	100	..	25 October ..	28 October ..	Demand for payment of the annual bonus.	Bonus promised.
17. The Ahmedabad Fine Spinning and Weaving Mills Co., Ltd., Gomtipur, Ahmedabad.	75 (Weavers).	..	25 October ..	....	Offer to give less amount of bonus than that fixed by the arbitrators on 1st October 1922.	....
18. The Rajpur Mills Co., Ltd., Gomtipur, Ahmedabad.	93	..	25 October ..	....	Demand for payment of the annual bonus.	....
19. The Asarwa Mills Co., Ltd., Asarwa, Ahmedabad.	159 (Frame Department) + 203 (Weaving Department) = 362 Total.	..	26 October .. 27 October ..	28 October .. 28 October ..	(Frame Department). Reinstatement of two jobbers dismissed by the Manager. (Weaving Department). Against supply of lower counts of yarn.	(Frame Department). Manager requested not to be too severe on the workers. (Weaving Department). Supply of good yarn promised.
20. The Marsden Mills Co., Ltd., Gomtipur, Ahmedabad.	150	..	26 October ..	....	Refusal of the strikers to accept bonus on condition that they should not, in future, go on strike.	....
21. The Ahmedabad Jupiter Mills Co., Ltd., Dudheshwar Road, Ahmedabad.	200 (Weavers).	..	30 October ..	1 November ..	Reinstatement of a Head Jobber dismissed by the Weaving Master.	New hands engaged.
22. The Saraswati Mill, Broach.	101 (Spinning Department).	..	30 October ..	....	1. Payment of fortnightly wages to be made punctually on the 1st and 15th of every month. 2. Increase in wages from Rs. 0-12-6 to Rs. 0-15-0 and Rs. 0-13-0 to Rs. 1-0-0. 3. Payment of wages to workers absent on 2nd October (Gandhi Day). 4. The practice of deducting two days' wages for one day's absence to be discontinued.	....
<i>Transport Trade.</i>						
23. The Bombay Electric Supply and Tramway Co., Ltd., Colaba, Bombay.	915 (Traffic Department).	..	18 September ..	23 October ..	1. Recognition of the Bombay Tramway Union by the Company. 2. Facilities for the Union and its members. 3. Increased scales of pay for every class of workers. 4. Other minor demands.	Some resumed work and new hands were engaged in place of the others.
<i>Engineering Trade.</i>						
24. The G. I. P. Ry. Matunga Workshop Matunga, Bombay.	600 (Smith's Shop).	..	13 October ..	13 October ..	Reinstatement of an Assistant Foreman.	Work resumed.

Detailed statement of the quantity (in pounds) and description of woven goods produced—continued
Bombay Island—continued

Description.	Month of September			Six months ended September		
	1920	1921	1922	1920	1921	1922
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Coloured piece-goods Pounds ..	7,897	7,392	6,923	36,710	37,765	33,202
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods ..	250	184	189	1,307	969	1,156
Hosiery ..	10	9	7	49	53	49
Miscellaneous ..	75	141	149	386	554	578
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool ..	2	4	2	77	27	40
Grand Total ..	17,961	19,185	17,318	94,558	109,412	100,391

Ahmedabad

Description.	Month of September			Six months ended September		
	1920	1921	1922	1920	1921	1922
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Grey and bleached piece-goods—						
Chudders Pounds ..	517	447	513	2,729	2,432	2,793
Dhotis ..	2,689	4,261	2,218	16,115	22,747	20,158
Drills and jeans ..	20	16	6	219	171	117
Cambrics and lawns ..	4	9	2	82	68	117
Printers ..	148	248	200	975	1,386	150
Shirtings and long cloth ..	2,013	2,278	1,192	11,999	11,083	1,441
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings ..	232	257	144	1,215	1,308	10,094
Tent cloth ..	5	2	30	16	8	939
Other sorts ..	174	350	290	1,008	1,491	1,268
Total ..	5,797	7,871	4,567	34,372	40,702	36,968
Coloured piece-goods ..	510	455	329	2,543	2,643	2,457
Grey and coloured goods other than piece-goods ..	6	9	1	1	11	4
Hosiery ..	6	9	1	29	41	33
Miscellaneous ..	1	2	1	1	1	3
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool ..	1	2	1	1	1	5
Grand Total ..	6,314	8,339	4,908	36,946	43,398	39,470

Detailed statement of the quantity (in pounds) and description of woven goods produced
Bombay Presidency

Description.	Month of September			Six months ended September		
	1920	1921	1922	1920	1921	1922
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Grey and bleached piece-goods—						
Chudders Pounds ..	1,608	1,940	1,499	7,643	8,761	7,631
Dhotis ..	4,358	6,847	4,520	27,146	40,921	37,231
Drills and jeans ..	1,049	683	521	6,920	5,077	3,834
Cambrics and lawns ..	58	77	24	296	511	420
Printers ..	255	385	342	1,672	1,950	2,532
Shirtings and long cloth ..	7,781	8,678	6,630	45,741	51,416	47,478
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings ..	1,398	1,262	1,065	8,354	8,225	6,138
Tent cloth ..	85	131	63	593	710	463
Other sorts ..	501	1,317	1,548	3,542	5,981	8,291
Total ..	17,093	21,320	16,212	101,907	123,552	114,018
Coloured piece-goods ..	8,916	8,540	7,833	42,488	44,297	39,384
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods ..	251	191	192	1,318	1,008	1,195
Hosiery ..	16	18	16	78	94	82
Miscellaneous ..	75	141	150	386	555	582
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool ..	4	4	3	79	29	44
Grand Total ..	26,355	30,214	24,406	146,256	169,535	155,303

Bombay Island

Description.	Month of September			Six months ended September		
	1920	1921	1922	1920	1921	1922
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Grey and bleached piece-goods—						
Chudders Pounds ..	1,011	1,349	835	4,414	5,620	4,191
Dhotis ..	1,094	1,839	1,580	6,555	12,280	11,332
Drills and jeans ..	994	637	497	6,444	4,780	3,631
Cambrics and lawns ..	41	53	17	156	395	219
Printers ..	10	21	24	20	77	255
Shirtings and long cloth ..	5,154	5,738	5,059	29,307	36,236	34,481
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings ..	1,139	968	858	6,967	6,772	5,036
Tent cloth ..	81	108	49	528	598	401
Other sorts ..	203	742	1,129	1,638	3,286	5,820
Total ..	9,727	11,455	10,048	56,029	70,044	65,366



Detailed statement of the quantity (in pounds) and the counts (or numbers) of yarn spun
Bombay Presidency

Count or Number.	Month of September			Six months ended September		
	1920	1921	1922	1920	1921	1922
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 Pounds	4,702	6,830	6,694	29,750	39,542	38,887
Nos. 11 to 20	19,484	20,757	19,616	114,451	121,618	117,771
Nos. 21 to 30	12,776	13,242	13,183	77,013	80,999	82,986
Nos. 31 to 40	1,019	1,001	971	6,542	6,583	6,947
Above 40	92	182	163	659	1,018	1,041
Waste, etc.	10	52	6	56	208	57
Total	38,083	42,064	40,633	228,471	249,968	247,689

Bombay Island

Count or Number.	Month of September			Six months ended September		
	1920	1921	1922	1920	1921	1922
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 Pounds	4,295	6,189	6,183	27,500	36,002	35,723
Nos. 11 to 20	15,280	15,193	13,688	89,907	88,458	82,340
Nos. 21 to 30	7,817	7,905	7,711	48,190	49,218	50,019
Nos. 31 to 40	411	481	467	2,690	3,145	3,081
Above 40	78	85	83	499	516	575
Waste, etc.	6	47	2	28	164	12
Total	27,887	29,900	28,134	168,814	177,503	171,760

Ahmedabad

Count or Number.	Month of September			Six months ended September		
	1920	1921	1922	1920	1921	1922
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 Pounds	184	223	143	798	1,199	772
Nos. 11 to 20	1,754	2,814	2,895	10,053	15,763	17,401
Nos. 21 to 30	3,713	3,743	4,024	21,235	22,908	24,426
Nos. 31 to 40	474	384	394	3,038	2,775	3,184
Above 40	5	70	63	93	352	338
Waste, etc. .. ..	....	....	....	3	3	....
Total	6,130	7,234	7,519	35,220	43,000	46,121



CURRENT NOTES FROM ABROAD

(These notes are drawn from numerous official and in some cases non-official sources. Special indebtedness is acknowledged to the International Labour Office, Geneva. Care is taken to examine and check as far as possible all statements, especially those from newspaper cuttings.)

United Kingdom.—At the 54th annual meeting of the British Trades Union Congress held in Southport from the 4th to 9th September 1922, an important discussion took place in regard to the International Labour Organisation. Mr. E. L. Poulton moved a resolution reminding the British Government of its obligations to ratify the Maternity and Hours Conventions of the Washington Conference and calling upon Government to submit all such draft labour conventions to the House of Commons for opinion before Ministers advise the Crown upon their ratification. The Resolution regrets "that any Parliaments should be neglecting to give timely and adequate consideration to the decisions of the International Labour Conferences" and expresses "British Labour's appreciation of the indispensable and valuable research work already accomplished by the Director and staff of the International Labour Office." He regarded the proposal to make the meetings of the Conference biennial instead of annual, as an indication that certain interests felt that the workers had arrived at a position which was menacing to them. But the annual meetings had accomplished very beneficial work especially in the "backward countries." Mr. Ben Turner (Textile Workers), seconding the resolution, declared that the only good feature in the Peace Treaty was that part which set up the International Labour Office. Mr. J. R. Clynes, M.P. (General Workers), agreed that the provision in the Peace Treaty for the holding of International Conferences to lay down humane conditions and for raising the workers, was most important.

At the Annual Conference of the Industrial Welfare Society Dr. H. M. Vernon, Investigator for the Industrial Fatigue Research Board, lecturing on the importance of keeping records and statistics with the object of eliminating waste, said that on an average each individual worker changed his or her

place of work once a year, which caused a great loss to industry. The time loss due to sickness, which ought not to average more than 4 per cent. of the normal working hours, varied a great deal in different trades. His observations at three large factories showed that when men were on a 63½ hour week they lost 7 per cent. and when on a 50 hour week they lost only 4 per cent. of their time through sickness.

As a result of the recent General Election, among the measures that will fail to reach the statute book, is the Trade Union Act (1913) Amendment Bill. The objects of this private Bill, referred to on page 45 of the *Labour Gazette* for July, were that the application of trade union funds for political purposes must be approved by a 20 per cent. majority in a ballot in which 50 per cent. of the members entitled to vote have voted, and that members willing to submit to a political levy should renew their consent every year.

Australia.—Sir Henry Barwell, the Premier of South Australia, recently moved in the South Australian Legislature the second reading of the Industrial Disputes Bill, which proposes the abolition of the Arbitration Court in the state and the substitution of a system of voluntary conciliation in place of compulsory arbitration. In the course of his speech he said that the present system was the chief cause why the Commonwealth was drifting into industrial chaos. Strikes in Australia were more in proportion to population than in any other part of the world. The passage of the Bill would hasten the abolition of the Federal Arbitration Court. The existing machinery was cumbersome, slow, costly and uneconomic, and it bred the bitterest class hatred. Further, the penalties under the Arbitration Acts could not be enforced against the thousands of trade unionists.

It is now eighteen years since industrial arbitration courts in the Commonwealth of Australia were constituted. The object was to preserve equitable and harmonious relations between employer and employee. Disputes which extended beyond Inter-State boundaries were to be settled by a High Court Judge, the contesting parties being assisted with all the machinery of his Court. Mr. Justice Higgins.



retired last year after a distinguished career as President of the Court since 1907. Valuable work was done by the judges and hundreds of amicable agreements have been drawn up between employer and employee. But the Courts have been in some cases unable to enforce their decisions on the powerful trade unions.

South Africa.—According to the *Monthly Bulletin of Union Statistics* for September 1922 the statistics of migration in the Union during the period January to July 1922 were as follows :—

Statistics of Migration

Nationality.	August 1922.				January to August 1922.	
	New Arrivals.	Permanent Departures.	All Arrivals.	All Departures.	New Arrivals.	Permanent Departures.
Coloured Persons :—						
British	21	410	144	485	351	2,286
Other	3	1	4	27	21	33
Total	24	411	148	512	372	2,319

It will be seen that departures of Indians from South Africa far exceed arrivals.

The cost of living index shows that South African prices have returned to a pre-war normal earlier than prices in most other countries. The cost of living index, including food, fuel, light and rent for September 1922 (1910=1,000) was 1,310, an increase of 0.67 per cent. as compared with August 1922. The figure for September 1922 for sundries (clothing, boots, etc.) was 1,726, an increase of 58.1 per cent. over 1914. The index number of wholesale prices for July 1922 was 1,423 (1910=1,000).

Germany.—The *Wirtschaft und Statistik* for June 1922 publishes statistics of salaries of various groups of state officials from 1875 to 1st May 1922. It is observed that in Germany, as elsewhere, during the period of rising prices the money wages of skilled workers have not increased in the same proportion as those of unskilled, and therefore there is a much smaller difference, at present, between the remuneration of the former, as compared with the latter than before

the war. A comparison of the salaries of higher officials with those of the lower leads to a similar conclusion. Again, in 1913, while married and unmarried workers were paid at the same rate, in the post-war period married workers are paid higher wages in addition to allowances paid to them in respect of the number of children. The rapid rise in prices during recent months has necessitated frequent readjustment of wages. The index number of the wages paid to railway workers in medium-sized towns shows that the wage rates of unskilled married workers on 1st May 1922 were about forty-four times those in 1913 and those of skilled married workers were only about twenty-nine times the pre-war rates. The index numbers of the salaries of the low, intermediate and high grade state employees show that while in May 1922 the wages of lower grade officials were thirty times those of 1913, the intermediate and upper grades were paid about nineteen and twelve times their pre-war salaries respectively.

When it is remembered that the official cost of living index number for Germany for May 1922 was 3,751 (100 = 1913-1914) it will be noted that the wages of only the unskilled railway workers have risen to a greater extent than the cost of living and that all other groups receive a real wage or salary lower, especially the intermediate and higher grade officials receiving much lower, than the pre-war standard.

The remarkable difference in the extent of the price increase of home products and of imported merchandise, which is chiefly due to the exchange devaluation of the mark, is shown in the following figures compiled by the *Frankfurter Zeitung*.

Period.	Home Produced Commodities.	Imported Products.
Peace time	100	100
Jan. 1st 1920	1,258	3,111
" 1921	1,628	2,405
" 1922	3,173	4,730
Apr 1st	5,199	7,281
July 1st	7,653	10,302
Oct. 1st	30,383	56,711

China.—The first National Conference to Chinese workers was held at Canton from 1st



to 6th May 1922 at which 162 delegates from twelve cities representing over 3,00,000 workers, were present. The following resolutions were adopted :—

(a) That principles for organizing a National Federation of Labour should be formulated.

(b) That a national jinrickshaw coolies' union be formed.

(c) That for the time being the labour movement should be economic rather than political in character.

(d) That the unions should stand for an eight-hour day.

(e) That during strikes all unions should pledge financial support.

(f) That plans should be made for a second National Labour Conference.

There were two strikes in Shanghai which began on the 5th August 1922. The first was in the silk factories of the city where about 10,000 women workers struck work, demanding, among other things, a ten-hour working day and the introduction of a minimum wage. The present working hours, 13½ per day, it was alleged, have caused a great deal of hardship, such as women fainting at their work on account of the fatigue caused by the heat and the long hours. The newly started Association for the Culture of Industrial women in Shanghai, which supported the strikers, was dissolved by order of the authorities and its leaders arrested.

The other strike was of a thousand seamen employed by the China Navigation Company who came out as the Company refused to grant the 20 per cent. increase which was conceded as a result of the strike in the earlier part of the year.

International Labour Office.—At the Third Assembly of the League of Nations, the sub-committee appointed to discuss the question of providing a permanent home for the International Labour Office proposed to allocate a sum of 600,000 Swiss francs a year for five years for the purpose. This amount is to be included in the Budget of the League of Nations as from 1926. The Swiss Government has generously offered two pieces of land one of which is a very suitable site for the premises of the International Labour Office. The proposals were approved by the Assembly.

BOOKS RECEIVED

Official Publications

INDIA

Statements showing progress of the Co-operative Movement in India during the year 1920-21.—Third issue (Published by the Department of Statistics, India, and printed by the Superintendent, Government Printing, India, Calcutta).

Report of the Assam Labour Enquiry Committee, 1921-22.—(Shillong : Government Press, Assam.)

Evidence Recorded by the Assam Labour Enquiry Committee, 1921-22.

The Journal of Indian Industries and Labour.—Vol. II, Part III, for August 1922 (Published by the Department of Industries).

Census of India.—Vol. IX, Part II, Tables—Cities of the Bombay Presidency—by L. J. Sedgwick, Superintendent of Census Operations.

Administration Report of the Bombay Port Trust, 1921-1922.

Annual Report on the working of the Indian Companies Act, 1913, for the year 1921-22 (Printed by the Government Central Press, Bombay).

Report on the Administration of Civil and Criminal Justice in the Bombay Presidency for the year 1921 (Printed by the Government Central Press, Bombay).

Legislative Assembly Debates.—Vol. III, Parts 1 to 13.

Council of State Debates.—Vol. III, Parts 1 to 13.

UNITED KINGDOM

(His Majesty's Stationery Office, London :—)

The Ministry of Labour Gazette.—Vol XXX, No. 9, for October 1922.

The Board of Trade Journal.—Vol. CIX, Nos. 1347 to 1351.

Report on the Thirtieth Decennial Census in Scotland.—Vol. I, Parts 1—4, (His Majesty's Stationery Office, Edinburgh).

The Monthly Bulletin of Information.—Vol. VI, No. 4 (Department of Overseas Trade, London).

Report of the War Cabinet Committee on Women in Industry.—(Cmd. 135 : 1919). The Report contains a Memorandum by Dr. Janet Campbell on Health of Women in Industry.

CANADA

The Labour Gazette.—Vol. XXII, No. 9, for September 1922 (Published by the Department of Labour).



AUSTRALIA

The New South Wales Industrial Gazette—Vol. XXII, No. 3, for September 1922 (Published by the Department of Labour and Industry).

The Queensland Industrial Gazette—Vol. III, No. 9, for September 1922 (Published by the Department of Labour).

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

Monthly Bulletin of Union Statistics—Nos. 9 and 10, for September and October 1922 (Census and Statistics Office, Pretoria).

Social Statistics—No. 4 of 1922.

NEW ZEALAND

Monthly Abstract of Statistics—Vol. IX, No. 9, for September 1922 (Census and Statistics Office, Wellington).

GERMANY

Reichs-Arbeitsblatt—Nos. 17 and 18.

Wirtschaft und Statistik—Nos. 17, 18 and 19.

Jahrbuch für Nationalökonomie und Statistik—January—June 1922.

BELGIUM

Revue du Travail—Vol. XXIII, No. 9, for September 1922 (Ministère du Travail).

NETHERLANDS

Maandschrift for 30th September 1922 (Central Bureau voor de Statistik).

ITALY

Bolletino del Lavoro—Vol. XXXVIII, Nos. 1—3, June to September 1922 (Ministero per il Lavoro e La Previdenza Sociale).

SWITZERLAND

Der Schweizerische Arbeitsmarkt—No. 9 for October 1922.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Der Oesterreichische Volkswirt—Vol. XIV, Nos. 32 and 49/50 for 6th May and 19th September 1922 respectively.

Prumyslový Vestník—Vol. IX, No. 41.

Observer—Vol. IV, No. 41.

Die Bilanzen—Vol. XIV, No. 32.

EGYPT

Monthly Agricultural Statistics—Vol. X, No. 11 for August 1922. (Ministry of Finance, States Department, Cairo).

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Federal Reserve Bulletin—for September 1922 (Federal Reserve Board, Washington).

Commerce Reports—Nos. 22—26, May 29—June 26 (Department of Commerce).

Survey of Current Business—No. 13 for September 1922.

The Industrial Bulletin—Vol. I, No. 11 for August 1922 (Issued by the Industrial Commissioner, New York State).

Monthly Labor Review—Vol. XIV, No. 5 for May 1922. (Department of Labor).

Bulletins of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics:—

No. 285—*Minimum Wage Laws of the United States—Construction and Operation.*

No. 290—*Decisions of Courts and Opinions affecting Labor 1919-20.*

No. 293—*The Problem of Dust Phthisis in the Granite Stone Industry.*

No. 297—*Wages and Hours of Labor in the Petroleum Industry.*

No. 306—*Occupation Hazards and Diagnostic Signs.*

GENEVA (INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE)

The International Labour Review—Vol. VI, No. 4 for October 1922.

Official Bulletin—Vol. VI, Nos. 10—12.

Industrial and Labour Information—Vol. III, Nos. 12 and 13, Vol. IV, Nos. 1—3.

Industrial and Labour Information (Russian Supplement)—Vol. III, No. 7, Vol. IV, No. 1.

Organisation of Industry and Labour Conditions in Soviet Russia (Studies and Reports, Series B: Economic Conditions, No. 11.)

Monthly Bulletin of Statistics—Vol. III, No. 9 (League of Nations).

Workmen's Compensation

The following acts, official reports and books on Workmen's Compensation may be consulted in the Labour Office Library:—

ACTS

United Kingdom—

Workmen's Compensation Acts of 1897, 1900 and 1906.

Workmen's Compensation (War Addition) Act, 1917.

Workmen's Compensation (War Addition) Amendment Act, 1919.

Employers' Liability Act, 1880.

Employers and Workmen Act, 1875.

Railway Employment (Prevention of Accidents) Act, 1900.



Notice of Accidents Acts of 1894 and 1906.

Shipowner's Negligence (Remedies) Act, 1905.

New South Wales—

Workmen's Compensation Act, 1916.

Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Act, 1920.

Workmen's Compensation (Broken Hill) Act, 1920.

New Zealand—

Workmen's Compensation Act, 1908.

Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Acts of 1909, 1911 and 1920.

France—

Act of April 9, 1898, relating to the responsibility for accidents in which workmen are injured during their employment as amended by the Acts of March 22, 1902, March 31, 1905, and April 17, 1906.

United States of America—

Workmen's Compensation Laws of the States of New Jersey, Virginia, Kentucky, New York and Maryland—Revised with amendments up to April 1922.

Workmen's Compensation Law of New York State, with amendments, additions and annotations to August 1st, 1922.

Legislative series of the International Labour Office:—

Great Britain—

Workmen's Compensation (Silicosis) Act, 1918.

France—

(1) Act: Compensation for Industrial Diseases, 1919.

(2) Act: Industrial Accidents (Amendment), 1920—Act to amend Section 2, paragraph 2, of the Act of 1898 as amended by Act of 1902.

Germany—

(1) Order amending sections 537 and 624 of the Insurance Code, dated 25th May 1920.

(2) Act to amend the law relating to accident insurance, dated 11th April 1921.

Italy—

(1) Act respecting compulsory insurance against accidents in agricultural work, dated 23rd August 1917, as amended by the Act of 20th March 1921.

(2) Codified text of the Act of 31st January 1904 relating to occupational accidents as amended by the Acts of 17th Nov. 1918 and 20th March 1921.

Belgium—

Act of 7th August 1921 amending Acts of 24th December 1903 and of 27th August 1919 respecting compensation for injuries resulting from industrial accidents.

Switzerland—

Order No. 1 respecting accident insurance, dated 20th August 1920. Federal Act to amend certain provisions of the Federal Act of 13th June 1911, dated 9th October 1920.

Norway—

Act relating to the accident insurance of fishermen, dated 10th December 1920.

Denmark—

Notification of Act No. 205 of 6th July 1916, respecting insurance against the consequences of accidents as amended by the Act of 28th June 1920.

Greece—

Act No. 2193 to amend and supplement certain Acts for the protection of workers, dated 5th June 1920.

Sweden—

Royal Order respecting the Special Insurance of Fishermen against injuries resulting from accident, dated 11th June 1918.

Uruguay—

Act respecting occupational accidents, dated 15th November 1920.

Brazil—

Decree respecting liability for industrial accidents, dated 15th January 1919.

OFFICIAL REPORTS

Bulletins of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics:—

No. 240—*Comparison of Workmen's Compensation laws of the United States up to December 31st, 1919.*

No. 301—*Comparison of Workmen's Compensation Insurance and Administration.*

No. 148—*Labor Laws of the United States—in two parts.*

Twenty-fourth Annual report of the Commissioner of Labor, 1909. Workmen's Insurance and Compensation Systems in Europe. Vols. I and II.—(Published by the United States Department of Commerce and Labor).

Fourth Report of the Industrial Commission of Colorado. December 1919 to December 1920.

Court Decisions on Workmen's Compensation. Jan. 1920—June 1921—Special Bulletin, No. 106 of the Department of Labor, New York State.

Labor Legislation in Canada, Dec. 31st, 1920 and 1921 (Department of Labour, Ottawa).

H. M.'s Stationery Office, London:—

Report of the Departmental Committee appointed to enquire into the system of compensation for injuries to workmen, 1920. Cmd. 816.

Convention between the United Kingdom and France in regard to Workmen's Compensation for accidents, 1910.

Statistics of compensation and proceedings under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, and the Employers' Liability Act, 1880, Cmd. 1185, 1921.