

Survey of Cement Business, No. 16, December 1922 (Department of Commerce).

Court Decisions on Workmen's Compensation Law, July 1920—October 1922, Special Bulletin, No. 114 (Department of Labour, State of New York).

GENEVA (INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE)

Official Bulletin, Vol. VI, Nos. 19—26.

Industrial and Labour Information, Vol. IV, Nos. 24 and 25, and Vol. V, Nos. 1 and 2.

Industrial and Labour Information—Russian Supplement, Vol. IV, No. 6.

Monthly Bulletin of Statistics, Vol. III, No. 12, for December 1922 (League of Nations).

Unofficial Publications

Industrial India, Vol. II, No. 6, for January 1923 (Tata Publishing Corporation, Ltd., Bombay).

The Indian Clerk, Vol. I, No. 3, for January 1923 (Published by the Clerks' Union, Bombay).

The G. I. P. Union Monthly, Vol. I, No. 6, February 1923.

UNITED KINGDOM

The Economist, Vol. XCV, Nos. 4140—4143.

The Statist, Vol. C, Nos. 2340—2343.

The Labour Woman, Vol. XI, No. 1, for January 1923.

The Labour Magazine, Vol. I, No. 9 (Trades Union Congress and the Labour Party).

Economica, Nos. 1—6, January to October 1922 (Issued terminally by the London School of Economics and Political Science).

International Cotton Bulletin, No. 2, for December 1922 (Issued by the International Federation of Master Cotton Spinners and Manufacturers' Association, Manchester).

Monthly Review of the London Joint City and Midland Bank, Ltd., 31st December 1922.

Monthly Review of Barclay's Bank, for January 1923.

Annual Bulletin Letter for 1922 (Messrs. Samuel Montague & Co., London).

Books

The Employees' Compensation Commission—its history, activities and organisation by Gustavus A. Weber—Service Monographs of the United States Government, No. 12. Institute for Government Research. (D. Appleton & Co., New York.)

Workmen's Compensation—An outline of the Acts by W. H. Thompson (The Labour Publishing Co., Ltd., London).

Industry and Human Welfare by William L. Cheney (The Macmillan Co., New York).

The Labour Movement—Its Conservative Functions and Social Consequences by Frank Tannenbaum (G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York.)

Government and Industry by C. Delisle Burns (George Allen and Unwin, Ltd., London).

The Population Problem—A study in Human Evolution by A. M. Carr-Saunders. (Clarendon Press, Oxford).

Sharing Profits with Employees by James A. Bowie (Pitman's Industrial Administration Series. Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Ltd., London).

Industrial Unrest: A way out, by Seehohn Rowntree (Longman's Green Co., London).

The Division of the Product of Industry—An Analysis of National Income before the war by Arthur L. Bowley, Sc.D. (Clarendon Press, Oxford).

Health Service in Industry by W. Irwing Clark, Jr., M.D. (The Macmillan Co., New York).

The Human Factor in Industry by Robert H. Hyde (Published by the Industrial Welfare Society, London).

Principles of Labor Legislation by John R. Commons & J. B. Andrews (Harper and Brothers, New York).

The Whitley System in the Civil Service by J. H. Macrae Gibson (The Fabian Society, London).

NETHERLANDS TRADING SOCIETY.

BANKERS.

NEDERLANDSCHE HANDEL-MAATSCHAPPIJ.

Incorporated in Holland.

Established by Royal Charter, 1824.

Fully paid-up Capital .. F. 80,000,000 £6,666,666

Reserve Funds .. F. 42,105,211 £3,508,767

HEAD OFFICE AT AMSTERDAM (Holland)

Agencies at ROTTERDAM and THE HAGUE.

Head Agency at BATAVIA.

BRANCHES

DUTCH EAST INDIES:

Banjermain, Kota Radin, Palembang, Solo,
Bandong, Langas, Pekalongan, Tebing Tinggi (Deli),
Charbon, Macassar, Pontianak, Tapal,
Djerdor, Medan, Samarang, Teluk Betong,
Djoer, Peclang, Soerabaja, Tjilatjap,
Waitevriebe.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS—Singapore, Penang.

BRITISH INDIA—Calcutta, Bombay, Rangoon.

JAPAN—Kobe.

CHINA—Shanghai, Hongkong.

LONDON BANKERS.—The National Provincial and Union Bank of England, Ltd.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened and interest allowed at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on daily balances up to Rs. 1,000.00. If the account interest for six months does not amount to Rs. 10 no interest will be allowed.

FIXED DEPOSITS received and interest allowed on terms to be ascertained on application.

LETTERS OF CREDIT DRAFTS issued on the above Agencies, the principal Continental places, South Africa, America and Australia. Every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Bombay Office— L. J. S. VAN LEEUWEN,
Hornby House, Hornby Road. Acting Agent.

Labour Gazette

Published monthly by the Labour Office, Secretariat, Bombay

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

VOL. II]

BOMBAY, MARCH, 1923.

[No. 7

CONTENTS

	PAGE		PAGE
THE MONTH IN BRIEF	3	CURRENT NOTES FROM ABROAD—	
International Labour Conference, 1923	8	United Kingdom, Canada	60
COST OF LIVING—		South Africa, United States of America	60
The Cost of Living Index for February 1923	9	Japan, Geneva	61
PRICES—		BOOKS RECEIVED (Official and Unofficial Publications)	61
Wholesale Prices in February	12	STATISTICAL TABLES—	
Comparative Retail Prices (Bombay, Karachi, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Poona)	13	Bombay Cost of Living Index	10-11
Statistics of Retail Prices in Principal Countries	14	Principal Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency	28-29
WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR—		Income and Expenditure of Principal Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency	30
Wages to Peons in Bombay	14	Accidents in Factories in the Bombay Presidency	41
Agricultural Wages	16	Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay	45-47
Hours of Labour	17	Wholesale Market Prices in Karachi	48-50
Wage Reductions in Ahmedabad	17	Wholesale Prices Index Numbers in Bombay by groups from January 1920	51
Labour Office Budget	18	Retail Prices of Articles of food in Bombay in July 1914, January and February 1923.	51
WORKING CLASS BUDGETS IN BOMBAY	19	Retail Prices of Articles of food in January and February 1923 (Bombay, Karachi, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Poona)	52
INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES—		Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices in India and Foreign Countries	53
Industrial Disputes in the Presidency during February	22	Cost of Living Index Numbers for India and Foreign Countries	54
Labour Legislation	24	Retail Food Index for India and Foreign Countries	54
Bombay Millowners' Association	24	Principal Trade Disputes in Progress in February 1923	55-56
Double Shifts in Bombay Mills	24	Cotton Spinning Returns (yarn and woven goods)	57-59
TRADE UNIONS—		CHARTS—	
Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency during the first quarter of 1923	25	1 Cost of Living in Bombay.	
HOUSING—		2 Progress of the Monsoon, 1922.	
Housing of the Industrial Classes	31	3 Wholesale Prices in India and Foreign Countries.	
FACTORIES—		4 Retail Prices of Rice, Pulses, Cereals and other Articles of Food in Bombay.	
Humidification in Textile Mills	32	5 Cost of Living in Foreign Countries.	
Accidents in Factories	40	6 Imports and Exports of Merchandise—India.	
INDUSTRIAL WELFARE—		7 Rate of Exchange in Bombay.	
Maternity and Child Welfare	34	8 Foods and Non-foods, Wholesale Prices, Bombay.	
Infant Mortality in Bombay	39	9 & 10 Strikes in the Bombay Presidency.	
Welfare Work in Mills	39	11 Rainfall in India—June to November 1922.	
WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION—			
Workmen's Compensation in the United Kingdom	39		
Questions in the Legislature	42		

THE SOUTH BRITISH INSURANCE Company, Limited.

Authorized Capital
£2,000,000.



Subscribed Capital
£1,000,000.

Fire.—Bungalows, Godowns, Merchandise, Furniture and effects and all descriptions of property insured.

Marine.—Hulls, Freight, Merchandise and Specie covered. Special facilities for insuring Baggage.

Transit.—Risks accepted at lowest current Rates per Rail, Steamer and/or Conveyance.

Motor Car.—The "S. B." Policy affords unequalled protection to Motorists.

Claims.—Payable in Bombay, or if desired at any of the Company's numerous Branches and Agencies throughout the world.

Full particulars on application to

HARRY T. GORRIE,

Manager for Bombay Presidency, Malabar Coast and Sind.

Canada Building, Hornby Road, BOMBAY.



THE MONTH IN BRIEF

Employment

THE most remarkable feature of the month ended 15th March was the great increase in absenteeism, which was specially marked in the cotton mill industry. The mills report that this is due to a large number of workers having proceeded to their villages after the receipt of the bonus, which was paid on the 27th of January and owing to the *Holi* holidays. Some reports state that absenteeism increased owing to the marriage season among Hindus, which takes place at this time of the year. The average absenteeism in the cotton mills was 25·4 per cent. as compared with 10·7 per cent. in the previous month and 8·18 per cent. two months ago. This is the largest figure recorded since monthly data have been collected by the Labour Office. It has recently been decided in consultation with the Millowners' Associations to collect information from a larger number of representative mills. The Managing Agents of over 40 mills in Bombay have now been addressed and it is hoped to publish data based on a much larger number of mills in future issues. In Ahmedabad the Millowners' Association report that the employment situation has remained unchanged. The average absenteeism was the same as in the previous month, namely, 5 per cent. It is reported by the Association that high wages have attracted large numbers of unskilled operatives and the supply of this class of labour has continued to be in excess of the demand. During February, owing to the *Holi* holidays, absenteeism usually increases, but this year in Ahmedabad this has not been the case. In Sholapur, the supply of labour was, with one exception, in the mills for which returns have been received, equal to the demand. There was a slight increase in absenteeism which was 14·34 per cent. as compared

with 14 per cent. in the previous month. In Broach the supply of labour was adequate and the attendance was normal for this time of the year. The average absenteeism recorded was 14·4 per cent. during the month under review.

In the engineering industry in Bombay the supply of labour was adequate except for carpenters, boiler makers, blacksmiths, copper-smiths and moulders. In the engineering workshops absenteeism increased from 14·63 per cent. to 18·02 per cent. On the Marine Lines and Colaba Reclamation schemes of the Development Directorate, the average absenteeism was better than in the previous month. It fell to 4·5 per cent. as against 6·5 per cent. last month and 8·75 per cent. two months ago. On the construction of *chawls* (tenements) at Naigaum and DeLisle Road absenteeism remained at the level of the previous month, namely, 3 per cent. while at Worli an increase from 6 to 8 per cent. was recorded. The supply of ordinary unskilled labour employed by the Bombay Port Trust was equal to the demand. The average absenteeism among monthly paid workers rose slightly from 15·16 in the previous month to 15·31 in the month under review. This figure, however, was below that recorded in the corresponding month of last year, when absenteeism was 17·5 per cent. In the Chief Engineer's Department of the Bombay Port Trust the supply of skilled and unskilled labour was equal to the demand. The percentage absenteeism remained at the level of the previous month, *viz.*, 10 per cent. In Karachi the supply of skilled labour continued to be plentiful and unskilled labour was again in excess. The average absenteeism based on the attendance of monthly paid workers was the same as in the previous month, *viz.*, 5 per cent.



The Cost of Living

In February 1923 the cost of living, as described elsewhere in the *Labour Gazette*, was approximately one point 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 155 for all articles and 150 for food articles only. There is a fall of 6 per cent. as compared with this time last year and a fall of 20 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 9.

The Wholesale Index Number

The index number of wholesale prices for February 1923 showed a fall of nearly 3 per cent. or 5 points in the general level as compared with January 1923. Both food and non-food articles declined during the month, the fall in food articles being greater than that in non-food articles. The fluctuations in the price of foods, non-foods, and all articles will be seen in the following table:—

	Increase per cent. over July 1914.				
	October 1922.	November 1922.	December 1922.	January 1923.	February 1923.
Foods ..	78	76	70	73	67
Non-foods ..	72	77	74	79	75
All articles ..	74	76	73	77	72

Industrial Disputes

The number of industrial disputes increased from 6 in January to 22 during February 1923. The number of disputes involving stoppages of work as beginning in February was 20. There were 2 disputes, which began in January,

still in progress during the month. The number of disputes settled in February was 22. During February 11,789 workpeople were involved as compared with 3,288 in the previous month and 9,999 in February 1922. The estimated aggregate duration of all disputes during February was nearly 68,590 working days as compared with 14,908 working days in January 1923 and 32,087 days in February 1922. A general review of industrial disputes during February 1923 will be found on page 23 of this issue. During the month under review there has been an under-current of unrest in the Ahmedabad Mill industry owing to the decision of the Millowners' Association to reduce wages by 20 per cent. from the 1st of April next. The main grounds of the reduction are that the state of the cotton trade in Ahmedabad has deteriorated and that the cost of living has fallen. It is also urged by the Millowners' Association that wages in Ahmedabad are higher than those in Bombay. A further reference to this will be found on page 17.

Labour Legislation, etc.

Workmen's Compensation

The Workmen's Compensation Act received the approval of the Governor General on the 5th March 1923. The Act as approved by the Governor-General is that published last month in the *Labour Gazette* subject to the amendments by the Council of State noted in a subsequent paragraph. In regard to the scope of the Act, it should be made clear that compensation cannot be paid to a person on account of industrial disease, unless he is a railway servant or falls within Schedule II of the Act. A person engaged for example in sorting anthrax-infected hides in a place which is not a factory does not come within the scope of the Act. Section 3 and Schedule III do not of course bring any person within the scope of the Act. The persons who come within the Act are defined by section 2 (1) (n) and Schedule II. The Act covers factories coming under clause 3 (a) of the Factories Act, but not those coming under clause 3 (b). While the highest percentage for permanent partial disablement given in the schedule is 70 per cent., this does not represent the maximum range of such compensation. There is a possibility of combinations of scheduled injuries and there are



non-scheduled injuries to be considered. Compensation for permanent partial disablement could easily be 80 per cent. of the compensation for permanent total disablement or more. It will be seen from the amendments referred to below that unmarried daughters have been added in addition to married daughters who are minors. A daughter who is married is not included unless she is a minor. These points which are of considerable interest and importance have been drawn attention to by the Controller of the Labour Bureau, Delhi. The Honourable Member in charge of the Bill (Mr. Innes) in the Legislative Assembly on the 6th of February said:

"I wish, in the first place, to congratulate the House on passing a very difficult piece of legislation, and I wish to thank them also for the great consideration they have shown in dealing with a very intricate and controversial Bill. Government have made every effort to lay before the House a measure carefully thought out to meet Indian conditions. I am sure that I will have my Honourable colleague Mr. Chatterjee with me when I say that if Government have achieved any success in this direction, they owe it very largely to the labours of the gentleman on my right, Mr. Clow. But, Sir, whatever efforts we have made, I am quite free to admit that in almost every clause and in almost every line of this Bill, there is room for a fair difference of opinion and I think, if I may be permitted to say so, Sir, the House has shown the very greatest restraint in dealing with these controversial matters. I think that the House arrived at the conclusion that in dealing with a controversial matter of this kind, the wisest course was to go by the understanding, the implied understanding, which had been arrived at and which had been enshrined in the Joint Committee's Report and the fact that the House did arrive at this wise decision has enabled us, I think, to get through in a reasonable time this very difficult Bill. I think, Sir, in this Bill we have a very good augury for the future."

The amendments in the Council of State to the Bill published in the *Labour Gazette* for February at pages 23-33 are as follows:—

Page 23, clause 2 (d).—In part (d) of sub-clause (1) of clause 2 after the words "minor son" substitute the word "unmarried"

for the word "minor" and between the word "daughter" and the words "minor brother" insert the word "married daughter who is a minor".

Page 23, clause 2 (f).—In sub-clause (f) of clause 2 (1) omit the words "or body of persons whether incorporated or not".

Page 27, clause 11 (3).—In sub-clause (3) of clause 11 insert the words "without having been so examined" after the word "leaves".

Page 27, clause 11 (4).—Rename sub-clauses (4) and (5) of clause 11 as (5) and (6) respectively and after sub-clause (3) insert the following sub-clause:—

"(4) Where a workman whose right to compensation has been suspended under sub-section (2) or sub-section (3) dies without having submitted himself to medical examination as required by either of those sub-sections, the Commissioner may, if he thinks fit, direct the payment of compensation to the dependants of the deceased workman".

Page 29, clause 19 (2).—To sub-clause (2) of clause 19 after the word "Commissioner" add the words "or to enforce any liability incurred under this Act".

Page 30, clause 28.—Rename clause 28 of the Bill as clause 28, sub-clause (1), and to this clause add the following sub-clause:—

"(2) An agreement for the payment of compensation which has been registered under sub-section (1) shall be enforceable under this Act notwithstanding anything contained in the Indian Contract Act, 1872 (Act IX of 1872), or in any other law for the time being in force".

Page 31, clause 31.—In clause 31 of the Bill, after the words "under this Act" insert the words "whether under an agreement for the payment of compensation or otherwise".

Page 32, Schedule II (iii).—For clause (iii) of Schedule II substitute the following:—

"(iii) employed within the meaning of clause (d) of section 3 of the Indian Mines Act, 1923, in any mine which is subject to the operation of that Act; or"

Page 32, Schedule II (vi) (b).—In clause (vi) (b) of the same Schedule, after the words "and is" insert the words "has been".



Page 32, Schedule II (vi) (c).—For clause (vi) (c) of the same Schedule substitute the following:—

“(c) a bridge which is, has been, or is designed to be more than fifty feet in length.”

The Factories Act.

The Bill further to amend the Indian Factories Act, 1911, as passed by the Legislative Assembly, was published at pages 34-35 of the *Labour Gazette* for February 1923. It emerged from the Council of State on the 22nd February 1923 without any further amendments. The Governor-General gave his assent to the Act on the 5th March 1923.

Cotton Mill Production

The main features of the two following tables are an increase in yarn production and a considerable decrease in the production of woven goods in the cotton mills in this Presidency during the ten months ended January 1923 as compared with the corresponding period of the previous year. There was a large increase in the production of woven goods in January 1923 as compared with the corresponding month of the previous year.

	Millions of lbs. of yarn spun			Millions of lbs. of woven goods produced		
	January			January		
	1921	1922	1923	1921	1922	1923
Bombay Island	29	31	31	11	17	16
Ahmedabad	7	8	8	6	7	11
Other centres	5	5	5	2	3	4
Total, Presidency	41	44	44	19	27	31

	Millions of lbs. of yarn spun			Millions of lbs. of woven goods produced		
	Ten months ended January			Ten months ended January		
	1921	1922	1923	1921	1922	1923
Bombay Island	286	294	296	160	176	168
Ahmedabad	63	71	76	61	70	71
Other centres	43	50	50	25	29	28
Total, Presidency	392	415	422	246	275	267

The prices of local made piece-goods were almost steady in February 1923 while those of yarn showed a slight upward movement. The Bombay Millowners' Association quotations at the end of February 1922 and January and February 1923 are as follows:—

	Net rate per lb. in annas.		
	February 1922	January 1923	February 1923
	Longcloth	24	23½	22½
T. Cloths	22½	21½	21
Chudders	22½	20½	20½

The Outlook

Mr. F. Nelson, Chairman of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, in his speech at the Annual General Meeting on the 14th March pointed out that there was no cause for pessimism.

In the course of his speech he said “A brief retrospect of the last year, whilst not perhaps too bright on the surface, leaves in my view no cause for pessimism. The balance of trade from January to December, 1922, was Rs. 14 crores in favour of India. Heavy speculation marred the records of our cotton market and Stock Exchange, but considering everything the recovery of trade in general was remarkably rapid, which speaks volumes for the inherent soundness of the commercial foundations of Bombay. The outlook for the future is unfortunately wrapped in obscurity owing to the reaction of political events in France and Germany on trade and industry. The philosophical dictum that “Economic forces are stronger than political policies” is apparently our one hope that a way out of the *impasse* in regard to the Reparation question may soon be found. This *whole question is so intimately* bound up with Indian trade in so far as it relates to the inability or otherwise of Germany to purchase Indian produce, that the economic aspects relating to this vitally important problem cannot be passed over.”



His Excellency the Governor who addressed the Chamber dealt with the trade position, shipping, and the movement of prices and said there was reasonable ground for expecting a considerable revival in the current year. On the 19th of March Mr. J. A. Kay, Chairman of the Bombay Millowners' Association, was of opinion that the profits for the year just ended were 40 per cent. less than the previous year and 70 per cent. less than the high-water mark reached in 1920. He felt however that with the good monsoon of last year the mills had reasonably good times ahead of them. Margins of profit would be lower, but he saw no reason why the industry should not continue to have a period of steady trading though the next few months were going to be trying ones for the industry. He believed the industry as a whole was in a sound state and was benefitting from the conservative policy it adopted during prosperous times. The question of wages was one which, unless trade conditions improved, may call for serious consideration in the near future, but he did not think that Members of the Bombay Millowners' Association wished to make a cut in wages simply because the cost of living for the workers had fallen. It appeared to Mr. Kay to resolve itself into what the industry can afford to pay. The speech of the Chairman of the Bombay Millowners' Association will be published in the April issue. The Report of the Bombay Millowners' Association for the year 1922 just published shows that in the Indian mill industry as a whole, the City and Island of Bombay possesses 28 per cent. of the mills, 43 per cent. of the spindles, 49 per cent. of the number of looms, 43 per cent. of the total labour employed and consumed almost one half of the total quantity of cotton consumed in India.

The Balance of Trade

The trade figures for February 1923 unlike those of its immediate predecessor show an unfavourable balance of trade. During the 11 months of the present financial year there has been a favourable balance of trade to the extent of Rs. 18.23 crores as against an unfavourable balance of Rs. 33.96 crores in the corresponding period of last year and Rs. 45.60 crores two years ago.

India

	In lakhs of rupees					
	September 1922	October 1922	November 1922	December 1922	January 1923	February 1923
Exports (private merchandise)	21.60	21.63	28.83	27.80	29.45	31.60
Imports do.	18.23	22.91	20.64	19.20	21.38	19.37
Balance of Trade in merchandise	+ 3.37	- 1.28	+ 8.19	+ 8.60	+ 8.07	+ 12.23
Balance of transactions in treasure (private)	- 3.91	- 3.52	- 2.97	- 3.48	- 6.42	- 10.78
Visible balance of trade including securities	+ 10	- 3.86	+ 5.96	+ 5.12	+ 1.65	+ 1.45

Bombay

	In lakhs of rupees					
	September 1922	October 1922	November 1922	December 1922	January 1923	February 1923
Exports (private merchandise)	4.80	4.38	7.84	8.21	11.68	12.29
Imports do.	7.20	8.17	8.23	7.28	7.92	6.60
Balance of Trade in merchandise	- 2.40	- 3.79	- 39	+ 4.93	+ 3.76	+ 5.69
Imports of treasure	4.20	3.47	2.82	3.15	5.96	10.39
Exports of treasure	53	31	4	5	..	7
Balance of transactions in treasure	- 3.67	- 3.16	- 2.78	- 3.10	- 5.96	- 10.32

Karachi

	In lakhs of rupees					
	September 1922	October 1922	November 1922	December 1922	January 1923	February 1923
Exports (private merchandise)	1.31	56	2.44	2.66	3.31	3.63
Imports do.	1.40	2.25	1.65	2.08	1.70	2.77
Balance of Trade in merchandise	- 9	- 1.69	+ 79	58	+ 1.61	+ 86
Imports of treasure	2	..	4	2	3	6
Export of treasure	5	1	..	..	6	..
Balance of transactions in treasure	+ 3	+ 1	- 4	- 2	+ 3	- 6

NOTE.—Plus (+) signifies net export and minus (-) signifies net import.

Business Conditions

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

	s.	d.		s.	d.
April 1922	1	3 $\frac{5}{32}$	October 1922	1	3 $\frac{17}{32}$
May	1	3 $\frac{5}{32}$	November ..	1	3 $\frac{8}{8}$
June	1	3 $\frac{11}{16}$	December ..	1	3 $\frac{15}{16}$
July	1	3 $\frac{5}{8}$	January 1923	1	4 $\frac{1}{16}$
August	1	3 $\frac{21}{32}$	February ..	1	4 $\frac{15}{32}$
September ..	1	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	March	1	4 $\frac{1}{8}$

These rates are supplied by the Deputy Controller of the Currency, Bombay.

Bank clearings during February 1923 in Karachi remained at approximately the same level as in January but in Bombay, Calcutta and Rangoon these were higher, Bombay and Calcutta showing an increase of about 8 crores. The figures for the last three months are as follows:—

In crores of rupees†

	December 1922.	January 1923.	February 1923.	Increase (+) or decrease (—) in February 1923 as compared with the previous month.
Bombay ..	59	59	67	+8
Karachi ..	3	3	3	....
Calcutta ..	71	69	77	+8
Rangoon ..	8	8	9	+1

† 1 Crore = 10 millions or 100 lakhs.

The latest report shows the rupee portion of the reserve in Bombay at 18.49 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 as against 63 in January 1923 and 64 in December 1922.

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

January 1922	Rs. 1,650	August 1922	Rs. 1,578
February ..	1,593	September ..	1,517
March	1,604	October	1,433
April	1,613	November ..	1,266
May	1,609	December ..	1,222
June	1,659	January 1923	1,255
July	1,688	February ..	1,216

The average amount paid up was Rs. 371 per share throughout the period.

The Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce in this connexion said the other day:—"I can imagine no greater handicap to the progress of this great Presidency than to see for months together the natural channel connecting capital and industry clogged and useless sometimes with values of various scripts many times inflated, at other times, just the reverse—the market closed on occasion for days, sometimes virtually for weeks, for no ostensibly valid reason, and the backbone of all Stock Exchanges—the Investor—made the sport and plaything of the prevailing mania for speculation until a stage such as you are in at present is reached when the *bona fide* investor in industrial shares, having lost all confidence, has practically ceased to exist. There is something very wrong in this state of affairs." His Excellency the Governor in this connexion said that "Unless strong proofs that matters are mending are forthcoming in the immediate future, it may, in the best interests of finance and trade, be necessary to consider the situation very carefully".

International Labour Conference

1923 Session.

The fifth session of the International Labour Conference will open in Geneva on 18th October 1923. The Agenda will include the determination of general principles of factory inspection and the questions of the utilisation of worker's leisure. Under article 401 of the Treaty of Versailles, questions to be included on the agenda must be transmitted to the Governments four months before the meeting of the Conference.

Sir Louis J. Kershaw, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., Secretary of the Industries and Overseas Department of the India Office, has been nominated by the Government of India as its representative on the new Governing Body of the International Labour Office. Sir Louis Kershaw was one of the Indian Government Delegates at the First, Second and Fourth Sessions of the International Labour Conference.

THE COST OF LIVING INDEX FOR FEBRUARY 1923

A fall of one point

All articles .. 55 per cent.

Food only .. 50 per cent.

In February 1923 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 one point below the level of the previous month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914, the index was about 156 in January and 155 in February 1923.

The general index is 20 per cent. below the high-water mark reached in October 1920, 10 per cent. below the twelve-monthly average of 1921 and 5 per cent. below the twelve-monthly average of 1922. The cost of living index has fallen nearly to the level of August 1918.

In comparison with the previous month, there was a slight fall in the retail prices of food articles. The downward movement in food-grains was checked in February, the price of rice, wheat and turdal remaining stationary, while jowari rose by 9 points and bajri by 8 points. There was a fall of 8 points in the price of gram. The noticeable changes in "other foods" were a fall of 9 points in raw sugar (gul), 14 points in potatoes, and a rise of 21 points in onions.

All items : Average Percentage increase over July 1914

	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923
—	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
January ..	34	82	83	69	73	56
February ..	34	76	81	62	65	51
March	36	7	77	60	65	
April	44	67	72	60	62	
May	47	68	73	67	63	
June	48	74	81	73	63	
July	49	86	90	77	65	
August	53	79	91	80	64	
September ..	65	72	92	85	65	
October	75	74	93	83	62	
November ..	75	73	86	82	60	
December ..	83	74	81	79	61	
Yearly average	54	75	83	73	64	

H 1359—3

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.

The following table shows the price levels of articles of food in January and February 1923 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 10.

Articles	July 1914	January 1923	February 1923	Increase (+) or decrease (—) of points in February 1923 over or below January 1923
Rice ..	100	125	125	..
Wheat ..	100	135	135	..
Jowari ..	100	98	107	+9
Bajri ..	100	114	122	+8
Cram ..	100	168	160	—8
Turdal ..	100	134	134	..
Sugar (raw) ..	100	200	191	—9
Sugar (refined) ..	100	225	228	+3
Tea ..	100	140	140	..
Salt ..	100	139	123	—16
Beef ..	100	198	199	+1
Mutton ..	100	231	231	..
Milk ..	100	191	191	..
Ghee ..	100	170	170	..
Potatoes ..	100	200	186	—14
Onions ..	100	320	341	+21
Cocconut oil ..	100	112	112	..
All food articles (weighted average) ..	100	151	150	—1

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.	January 1923.	February 1923.	July 1914.	January 1923.	February 1923.
Cereals—	Masnd	70	Rs. 5'594	6'974	6'974	Rs. 391'58	468'18	468'18
Rice	..	21	5'594	7'547	7'547	117'47	158'49	158'49
Wheat	..	11	4'354	4'245	4'667	47'89	46'70	51'54
Jowari	..	6	4'313	4'922	5'281	25'88	29'53	31'90
Total and Average—Cereals	..	100	100	124	125	582'82	722'90	729'70
Pulses—	Masnd	10	4'302	7'240	6'880	43'02	72'40	68'90
Gram	..	3	5'844	7'844	7'844	17'53	23'53	23'53
Total	..	100	100	158	153	60'55	95'93	92'43
Total and Average—Pulses	..	100	100	158	153	60'55	95'93	92'43
Other food articles	Masnd	7	8'557	17'115	16'328	59'90	119'81	114'50
Sugar (raw)	..	2	7'620	17'115	17'391	15'24	34'23	34'70
Sugar (refined)	..	4	40'000	56'141	56'141	1'00	1'40	1'40
Tea	..	5	2'130	2'958	2'639	10'65	14'79	13'40
Salt	..	26	0'323	0'541	0'641	9'04	17'95	13'10
But	..	33	0'417	0'964	0'964	13'76	31'81	31'81
Mutton	..	14	9'198	17'583	17'583	26'19	246'16	246'16
Milk	..	15	50'752	86'464	86'464	76'19	129'73	129'73
Cheese	..	11	4'479	8'964	8'313	49'27	96'60	91'44
Potatoes	..	3	1'552	4'969	5'287	4'66	14'91	15'96
Onions	..	2	25'396	28'568	28'568	12'70	14'28	14'28
Cocunut Oil
Total and Average—Other food articles	..	100	100	190	187	381'18	723'67	710'18
Total and Average—All food articles	..	100	100	151	150	1,024'55	1,542'50	1,532'14
Fuel and lighting—	Case	5	4'575	7'656	7'656	21'88	38'28	38'28
Kerosene oil	..	46	0'792	1'281	1'281	38'02	61'49	61'49
Firewood	..	1	0'342	0'367	0'349	0'54	0'57	0'55
Coal
Total and Average—Fuel and lighting	..	100	100	166	166	60'44	100'14	100'12
Clothing—	Lb.	27	0'594	1'297	1'297	16'04	35'02	35'02
Coatdresses	..	25	0'641	1'464	1'463	16'09	36'60	36'08
Shirtings	..	36	0'583	1'328	1'313	20'99	47'..	47'..
T. Cloth
Total and Average—Clothing	..	100	100	225	223	53'06	119'43	118'57
House rent	Per month	10	11'302	18'70	18'70	113'02	187'00	187'00
Grand Total and General Average	..	100	100	156	155	1,251'07	1,940'07	1,938'20

NOTE.—If the aggregate expenditure in July 1914 at the prices ruling in that month was Rs. 1,251'07 crores, the aggregate expenditure in February 1923 at February price levels was Rs. 1,938'20, i.e., an increase of 55 per cent. (Rs. 1,251'07 = 100; Rs. 1,938'20 = 155).



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.	
		January 1923.	February 1923.	January 1923.	February 1923.
Cereals—	31.4	125	125	3,915.6	3,915.6
Rice	9.4	135	135	1,268.1	1,268.1
Wheat	3.8	98	107	370.5	407.4
Jowari	2.1	114	122	239.6	257.0
Total and Average Index No.	46.7	124	125	5,792.7	5,848.0
Pulses—	3.1	168	150	521.7	495.7
Gram	1.3	134	134	174.5	174.5
Total and Average Index No.	4.4	158	152	696.2	670.2
Other food articles—	4.8	200	191	960.0	915.8
Sugar (raw)	1.2	225	228	269.4	279.8
Sugar (refined)	0.7	140	140	14.0	14.0
Tea	0.7	139	123	125.0	110.7
Salt	0.7	199	199	139.0	139.0
But	1.1	231	231	254.3	254.3
Mutton	10.3	191	170	1,959.4	1,859.4
Milk	6.1	170	186	800.4	742.4
Cheese	4.0	280	341	1,120.1	1,163.3
Potatoes	0.4	113	113	112.5	112.5
Onions	1.0	..	..	..	..
Cocunut oil	..	..	..	..	..
Total and Average Index No.	30.6	190	187	5,810.3	5,707.1
Fuel and lighting—	1.8	175	175	315.0	315.0
Kerosene oil	3.0	162	64	485.1	405.1
Firewood	0.1	68	64	6.8	6.4
Coal	..	..	..	..	..
Total and Average Index No.	4.9	165	165	806.9	806.5
Clothing—	1.3	218	218	283.9	283.9
Coatdresses	1.3	228	225	296.9	292.6
Shirtings	1.7	228	225	387.3	382.8
T. Cloth	..	..	..	..	..
Total and Average Index No.	4.3	225	223	968.1	959.4
House rent	9.1	166	166	1,506.1	1,506.1
Grand total of weights	100	..	..	..	..
General Average of Cost of Living Index (July 1914 = 100)	..	156	155	15,801.2	15,487.2



WAGES TO PEONS IN BOMBAY

WAGES IN JANUARY 1923

The Labour Office has recently completed an enquiry into the wages paid to Havildars, Naiks, Sepoys, Boys and Hamals in Bombay City and Island in January 1923. The information was obtained by means of answers to questions in a form specially drawn up for the purpose. Forms were sent to quasi-Government concerns (including Railways), 14 representative commercial firms and 9 banks. Of the 28 concerns addressed one hundred per cent. have furnished the requisite information. The results are summarised in two statements on pages 14-16 and show (1) the average, lower quartile, median and upper quartile rates of wages paid to each class, and (2) the wages of each class of employees classified by the amount of wages paid.

Statement (1) shows that the rates of pay in banks and firms for Havildars, Sepoys and Hamals are higher than those in quasi-Government offices. Naiks and boys in banks and firms receive less pay than those in quasi-Government offices.

Statement (2) shows that of Havildars 30.9 per cent. draw between Rs. 26 and Rs. 30 per month, 43.7 per cent. between Rs. 31 and Rs. 40 per month, nearly 20 per cent. between Rs. 42 and Rs. 50 per month and 5.6 per cent. over Rs. 55 per month. Of Naiks, 45.4 per cent. draw between Rs. 23 and Rs. 27 per month, 36.1 per cent. between Rs. 28 and Rs. 32 per month, 7.7 per cent. between Rs. 33 and Rs. 47 per month and 10.8 per cent. over Rs. 50 per month. Of Sepoys, 61.9 per cent. draw between Rs. 22 and Rs. 26 per month and 19.7 per cent. between Rs. 27 and Rs. 31 per month. Of Boys, 49.8 per cent. draw between Rs. 16 and Rs. 20 per month and 34.2 per cent. between Rs. 11 and Rs. 15 per month. Of Hamals, 47.5 per cent. draw between Rs. 27 and Rs. 31 per month and 31.4 per cent. between Rs. 22 and Rs. 26 per month.

The rates paid to menials in the Bombay Secretariat per mensem are Havildars Rs. 35 Naiks Rs. 31, Sepoys or Peons from Rs. 27 to Rs. 29, and Hamals Rs. 27 to Rs. 29.

STATEMENT No. 1

Monthly wages paid to Peons in Bombay (City and Island) in January 1923. Statement showing average, lower quartile, median and upper quartile rates

	Havildars.				
	Number of employees.	Monthly average.*	Lower Quartile.*	Median.*	Upper Quartile.*
Quasi Government concerns	48	31 9 6	30 0 0	32 0 0	32 1 1
Firms	12	45 9 3	42 12 0	46 0 0	46 0 0
Banks	10	48 9 6	42 12 0	49 0 0	53 4 1
Total	70	36 5 9	30 0 0	32 0 1	42 0 0
	Naiks.				
	Number of employees.	Monthly average.*	Lower Quartile.*	Median.*	Upper Quartile.*
Quasi Government concerns	106	28 2 9	27 0 0	27 0 0	28 4 0
Firms	6	47 13 3	—	—	—
Banks	18	46 14 3	42 12 1	46 8 0	50 8 0
Total	130	31 10 9	27 0 0	28 1 1	32 1 1
	Sepoys.				
	Number of employees.	Monthly average.*	Lower Quartile.*	Median.*	Upper Quartile.*
Quasi Government concerns	1,215	24 6 0	23 8 0	24 8 0	25 0 0
Firms	429	28 14 0	25 0 0	28 0 0	32 1 0
Banks	336	34 8 3	25 0 0	28 0 0	34 0 0
Total	1,980	26 6 3	23 0 0	25 0 0	28 0 0
	Boys.				
	Number of employees.	Monthly average.*	Lower Quartile.*	Median.*	Upper Quartile.*
Quasi Government concerns	176	17 1 9	15 0 0	17 0 0	20 0 0
Firms	62	39 14 6	36 0 0	39 0 0	39 0 0
Banks	61	17 9 0	15 0 0	17 0 0	18 3 1
Total	303	17 12 6	15 0 0	18 0 0	20 1 1
	Hamals.				
	Number of employees.	Monthly average.*	Lower Quartile.*	Median.*	Upper Quartile.*
Quasi Government concerns	121	25 4 1	25 0 0	24 0 0	30 0 0
Firms	125	27 15 3	26 0 0	27 0 0	30 0 0
Banks	79	31 9 9	30 0 0	30 0 0	36 1 0
Total	436	28 13 0	25 0 0	30 0 0	30 0 0

*The average wages per head were obtained by dividing the total cash wages paid to each class by the total number employed. The lower quartile is the rate at or below which one quarter of the wage-earners (counting from the lower end of the scale) are paid; the median is the middle rate (counting each rate as often as it is paid) in the scale; the upper quartile is the rate at or above which one quarter of the wage-earners (counting from the higher end of the scale) are paid.



STATEMENT No. 2

Monthly wages in January 1923—Classified by amount of earnings

Monthly wages in Rupees	Havildars.			Naiks.			Sepoys.				
	No. of Employees.	Grouped Totals.	Percentages.	Monthly wages in Rupees.	No. of Employees.	Grouped Totals.	Percentages.	Monthly wages in Rupees.	No. of Employees.	Grouped Totals.	Percentages.
23 to 27	1	1	1.4	23 to 27	3	3	2.3	12 to 16	1	1	0.7
28 to 32	1	1	1.4	28 to 32	5	5	3.7	17 to 21	5	5	3.5
33 to 37	1	1	1.4	33 to 37	1	1	0.7	22 to 26	1	1	0.7
38 to 42	1	1	1.4	38 to 42	1	1	0.7	27 to 31	1	1	0.7
43 to 47	1	1	1.4	43 to 47	1	1	0.7	32 to 36	1	1	0.7
48 to 52	1	1	1.4	48 to 52	1	1	0.7	37 to 41	1	1	0.7
53 and above	1	1	1.4	53 and above	1	1	0.7	42 to 46	1	1	0.7
Total	71	71	100.0	Total	130	130	100.0	Total	1,980	1,980	100.0



STATEMENT No. 2—*contd.*
Monthly wages in January 1923—Classified by
amount of earnings

Monthly wages in Rupees.	Boys.			Himals.			
	No. of Employ-ees.	Grouped Totals.	Percent-ages.	Monthly wages in Rupees.	No. of Employ-ees.	Grouped Totals.	Percent-ages.
11 to 15 ..				17 to 21			
11 ..	1	103	34.2	17	5	21	4.8
12 ..	2			18	8		
13 ..	30			19	4		
14 ..	24			20	3		
15 ..	46			21	1		
16 to 20 ..				22 to 26			
16 ..	17	150	49.8	22	2	137	31.4
17 ..	29			23	44		
18 ..	29			24	33		
19 ..	15			25	27		
20 ..	60			26	31		
21 to 24 ..				27 to 31			
21 ..	14	32	10.6	27	20	207	47.5
22 ..	9			28	21		
23 ..	3			29	18		
24 ..	6			30	137		
25 to 29 ..				31 to 36			
25 ..	9	15	5.0	31	11	23	5.3
27 ..	2			32	4		
28 ..	4			33	2		
33 and above	1			34	5		
				35	5		
				36	7		
				37 to 41			
				38	7	36	8.3
				39	3		
				40	21		
				41	5		
				42 and above	12	12	2.7
Total ..	301	301	100.0	Total..	436	436	100.0

AGRICULTURAL WAGES

THE PROPOSED ENQUIRY

During the present session of the Bombay Legislative Council certain Members brought to the notice of the Labour Office the desirability of not confining the work of the Labour Office entirely to industries, but extending it as early as possible to agriculture. It was also suggested that family budget should be collected for the agricultural population

as well as for industrial workers and that a cost of living index for the Presidency to cover workers in agriculture should also be considered.

The interest evinced by the Legislative Council in the work of the Labour Office is well known and these constructive criticisms will be considered, but, owing to relentless retrenchment, it has not been possible to do as much as was at first anticipated. True economy had also to be practised and that is not merely saving money; it means avoiding waste, spending wisely, getting good value out of all resources, whether men, money, or materials. The officials of the Labour Office approach their work in this respect in a spirit of modesty and fairness, and with a decent confession of their own limitations. They will put on their thinking cap and set to work on this seemingly belated task.

It has been decided to publish in the next few months a report on the fluctuations in agricultural wages in each district in the Presidency from the pre-war year in order to see how far the cost of living has affected the purchasing power of the agricultural labourer. Attention will also be paid to the effect of the rise of prices on the purchasing power of the cultivator (a) in a large way, (b) in a medium way and (c) on a small scale. In this connexion the following views of a leading firm with agencies throughout India confirm the view that the average earnings of the villager and its purchasing power have increased but that at the present moment his earnings have reached their climax. The firm points out that although the villager is wealthier than he used to be and could afford to buy as much foreign cloth as before the war notwithstanding its rise in price, the non-co-operation movement has rendered at any rate until recently the locally made cloth more popular than before the war. In some parts the unexpected and unprecedented wealth of the ryot has given him a tendency to hoard either in the shape of bullion or of ornaments. In this connexion it may be noted that foreign cloth is now 130 per cent. above the pre-war level and Indian cloth 127 per cent. Of the exports of £45 millions of gold from the United Kingdom in 1922 India, as already



noted in the *Labour Gazette* for January 1923, was the second largest importer of gold, having imported nearly £14 millions as against the United States which imported on account of payments which had to be made as a result of war no less than £26 millions. The imports of gold into India, it cannot too often be emphasised, are much in the nature of piecemeals as they are required for social and similar purposes and are hoarded in the shape of bullion or ornaments for a rainy day. These and other matters will be dealt with in the report on agricultural wages referred to above.

WAGE REDUCTIONS IN AHMEDABAD

REDUCTIONS IN THE TEXTILE TRADE

The Ahmedabad Millowners' Association has passed a Resolution to the following effect:—

1. That the wages of employees in all the departments in local cotton mills should be reduced by one-fifth from the first Hapta (a period of 14 to 16 days) beginning from or after the 1st of April 1923, subject to the condition that members of the office staff, supervising staff and such skilled employees who have not been granted increases at uniform rates in the past by any resolution of the Association should be excluded from the above scale of reduction;
2. That members should put up notices on their Notice Boards on the 15th of March 1923 informing their employees of the scale of reduction specified in clause (1).

The Resolution was passed by the General Board on the 8th of March and confirmed on the 10th of March.

HOURS OF LABOUR

THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY IN GREAT BRITAIN

In Great Britain,* except in the mining industry and certain dangerous and unhealthy trades, it is to be remembered that there is no industry where the hours of work of adult males are legally restricted. The hours of work of women and young persons in factories and workshops is regulated by the Factory and Workshop Acts, 1901 and 1907, and the Employment of Women, Young persons and Children Act, 1920. Since the end of the war, collective agreements have contributed, in no small measure, to modify the hours of

* *Hours of Labour in Industry, Great Britain; Studies Reports, Series D (Wages and Hours) No. 7 (International Labour Office, Geneva. Price—1 shilling 20 cents).*

work as regulated by the Factory and Workshop Acts. This movement was further accelerated by the establishment of the Joint Industrial Councils, covering a large proportion of the most important industries in Great Britain, with the result that the 48-hour week is now almost universal.

Industrial agreements though not having the force of law, have been effective in reducing the hours of labour in all industries. Under the collective agreements the week generally consists of 5½ days and the hours fixed are those constituting a normal week's work, exclusive of overtime; but in the majority of agreements provision is made for overtime, to be paid at special rates, ranging generally from 25 to 50 per cent. above the ordinary rates on week days and higher rates for week-end work. Some agreements impose limitations on the amount of overtime to be worked. The rules of one of the principal trade unions provide for overtime work up to a limit of 16 hours in any two consecutive weeks, provided that such overtime is not systematic.

The following table shows (1) the estimated number of workers (excluding those employed otherwise than by manual labour at a rate above £250 a year, juveniles under 16 years and certain other classes) in the textile trade and (2) the hours of work in a full week (exclusive of mealtime and overtime).

Workers and Hours of Work in the Textile Trade in the United Kingdom.

Industry	Estimated Number of Workers.	Hours of work (week of)
Cotton trade	573,080	48
Woolen and worsted	264,440	48
Silk	33,780	48
Flax, linen and hemp	88,990	48
Jute	47,970	48
Lace	27,950	48*
Rope, twine, cord and net	21,650	48
Textile bleaching, dyeing, etc.	100,320	48
Hosiery	82,360	48
Carpet and rug	22,550	48
Other textiles	45,400	48†
Textile making up and packing (Manchester)	..	46‡
Total ..	1,309,490	

* Juniors (males in levers section) and lace designers and draftsmen (apprentices and improvers), 44 hours; juniors (females) in lace embroidery manufacture, Nottingham, 49½ hours.

† Including coir mat and matting makers, tape makers (Derby) and jute manufacture (Dundee).



LABOUR OFFICE BUDGET

1923-24

The Labour Office Budget for the year 1923-24 is as follows:—

It has not been possible, however desirable, to have wholtime Investigators for Karachi and Sholapur, appointments administratively sanctioned last year. It is possible only to have the following new items this year:—(1) one wholtime Investigator for Ahmedabad with its sixty-four mills and (2) in order to increase the output of the statistical work and the up-to-dateness of the statistics, sorting and tabulating machines. An article on Labour Investigators was published on page 16 of the *Labour Gazette* for October 1922. The total Budget amounts to Rs. 1,13,465. The pay of officers and establishment amounts to Rs. 87,315. There are two male investigators in the office in Bombay, and in addition one in Ahmedabad. There are 4 lady investigators. The fees for the collection of family budgets are Rs. 5,000. The details are as follows:—

	Revised Estimate 1922-23	Budget Estimate 1923-24
	Rs.	Rs.
Pay of Director	31,000	32,300
.. Male Investigators		20,930
.. 4 Lady ..		5,325
.. 18 clerks	50,000	24,880
Servants		1,284
Leave allowance and rounding		2,596
Fees for collecting family budgets and travelling allowance	10,000	15,720
Contingencies (including postage and telegrams, hire of sorting and tabulating machines and purchase of books)	9,000	10,430
Total, Rs.	1,00,000	1,13,465

The Budget as proposed was passed. The funds for the Office (created in April 1921) were voted at the recent session of the Bombay Legislative Council which is interested in labour and industrial questions, as is not surprising in view of the fact that Bombay is the leading industrial province in India.

Below are the remarks of the Director in the Legislative Council on the work of the Labour Office:—

LABOUR

"I am grateful for the remarks made by several members on the Labour Office and these are all the more appreciated as coming from those whom we admire and whose opinion we look up to. One Honourable Member desired that the Labour Office should do more. We have, however, been, owing to retrenchment, cut down to the bone and more has not been possible. The Labour Office is, be it remembered, in no sense a luxury of administration. All other industrial countries have labour departments which prepare, impartially, material dealing with the cost of living, wages and other labour statistics (so necessary in industrial disputes and at all other times). These departments concern themselves also with labour legislation and the sphere of industrial disputes. His Excellency the Governor, in a speech to a deputation of the Trade Union Congress, summed up the position thus: 'Next to the maintenance of the fundamental conditions of all orderly and progressive society, I believe there is no more important social or administrative problem than the position of labour in the community.' With this the Honourable Member for Thana who is interested in one of the Bombay trade unions will, I feel very confident, entirely agree. In these days of workmen's compensation, and a hundred and one other things relating to the welfare of labour, not to speak of India's proud position on the Governing Body of the International Labour Office, Geneva, as one of the eight chief industrial countries, a Labour Office or Department is a necessity especially for an industrial province like Bombay. I should like in this connexion to thank the representative of the Bombay Millowners' Association for the assistance which the Bombay Millowners' Association has rendered and for its appreciation of the Labour Office's work. So necessary do the Associations in Bombay and Ahmedabad regard the office that it has been requested to keep up to date every year the detailed information on wages in the many occupations in the cotton mill industry. The Chairman of the Karachi Chamber of Commerce has already drawn the attention of Government to the absence of an Investigator for Karachi in connexion with the *Labour Gazette* and this has been carefully noted. The *Labour Gazette* is perused with interest by a large circle of readers in India and abroad as is evidenced by the receipts in subscriptions and advertisements of nearly Rs. 14,000 in a twelve month. I may, in conclusion, point to the fact that the expenditure on labour in this year's budget is the very small fraction of 2/25 of one per cent. of the total expenditure."



WORKING CLASS BUDGETS IN BOMBAY

Summary of the Report

The report on an enquiry into 2,473 family and 603 single men's budgets conducted by the Labour Office will be published early in April. A feature of the report is, in addition to detailed statistical tables, a set of coloured charts showing the actual and the percentage expenditure on food, fuel and lighting, clothing, house-rent and miscellaneous items by income groups and the course of the cost of living indexes based on the aggregate expenditure and the family budget methods.

SCOPE OF THE ENQUIRY

The subjects of primary investigation were the size and earnings of the family, the cost and consumption of food, clothing, etc., and the relative importance of each article in the working class budget in order to test the accuracy of the cost of living index based on the aggregate expenditure method. The budgets were collected by experienced investigators of the Labour Office acquainted with, and accustomed to moving about in, the industrial areas of the City and Island of Bombay. As in most other countries, the extensive method of enquiry was followed, i.e., numerous observations were made and the results were reduced to statistical form as far as possible. The budgets were collected from different castes and occupations. Of the budgets 90.3 per cent. relate to Hindus, 6.2 per cent. to Mahomedans and 1.8 per cent. to Christians. 49.5 per cent. of the budgets relate to Mill workers, 14.8 per cent. to Municipal workers, 12.2 per cent. to Dock labourers, 8.9 per cent. to Railway workers and 7.9 per cent. to Engineering workers.

SIZE AND EARNINGS OF THE FAMILY

The average working class family in Bombay consists of 1.1 men, 1.1 women and 2.0 children, exclusive of .6 dependants living away from Bombay. The monthly income of the family based on 2,473 family budgets is Rs. 52-4-6 or 17s. 5d. per week. The income of 75 per cent. of the families for which budgets have been tabulated ranges from Rs. 40 to

Rs. 70 per mensem. In every 100 families there are 154 wage-earners of whom 104 are men, 42 women and 8 children.

EXPENDITURE ON GROUPS

The percentage expenditure, based on 2,473 budgets, on the main groups when the budgets were collected was as follows:—

Group percentage expenditure

Food	..	56.8	per cent.
Fuel and lighting	..	7.4	"
Clothing	..	9.6	"
House rent	..	7.7	"
Miscellaneous expenditure	..	18.5	"

Total .. 100.0

The percentage expenditure on food, when the budgets are grouped according to income classes, bears out Engel's law, viz., the greater the earnings the smaller the percentage of those earnings spent on food. This will be seen from the following table which is based on 597 budgets of families consisting of four persons, viz., husband, wife and two children.

Group percentage expenditure for families consisting of husband, wife and two children

Limits of monthly family income.	Percentage expenditure on					Total.
	Total food.	Fuel and lighting.	Clothing.	House-rent.	Miscellaneous.	
Below Rs. 30	60.5	8.9	7.8	12.0	10.8	100.0
Rs. 30 and below Rs. 40	60.0	7.9	9.3	9.9	12.9	100.0
Rs. 40 and below Rs. 50	58.4	7.8	9.3	9.0	15.5	100.0
Rs. 50 and below Rs. 60	56.1	7.5	8.9	8.5	19.0	100.0
Rs. 60 and below Rs. 70	56.1	7.3	8.7	8.4	19.5	100.0
Rs. 70 and below Rs. 80	54.4	7.1	8.6	7.8	22.1	100.0
Rs. 80 and below Rs. 90	52.6	6.5	8.8	10.0	22.1	100.0
All incomes	57.0	7.5	9.0	8.9	17.6	100.0

The percentage expenditure on cereals tends to decrease and that on other food to increase with the income. When compared



with the results of similar investigations in other countries (which are summarized in tables XX—XXII of the Report) the proportionate percentage expenditure on food in Bombay is nearly the same as in Italy and Argentina, but less than that in the United States of America and the United Kingdom. It is, however, below that of the East Indies (for East Indians in Trinidad), Egypt and China.

CONSUMPTION OF FOOD

The quantity of cereals consumed by the industrial workers in Bombay compares favourably with the maximum prescribed by the Bombay Famine Code. It falls, however, below the scale prescribed for jails. The family budgets, however, include other articles of food of comparatively high nutritive value such as sugar, sweetmeats, refreshments and other articles of food which do not enter into either the Famine or Jail diets. Rice is the staple food of the working classes and enters into the diet of 99 per cent. of the family budgets. Bajri is consumed by 55·6 per cent. of the families, mutton by 65·8 per cent. and beef by only 5·5 per cent. Milk is consumed only by 47·7 per cent. of the families and ghee by 48·9 per cent. The percentage expenditure on meat food is 5·96 in Bombay as against 19·26 in Ireland, and on non-meat food 50·79 in Bombay as against 37·79 in Ireland. The diet of the Bombay workers is largely vegetarian.

HOUSING

About 97 per cent. of the working class families live in single rooms. The number of rooms per family is one as against two rooms in France and Belgium, three in Germany and even four or five in England and Wales and the United States. There is a considerable amount of subletting in Bombay. According to the 1921 Census there are 3,125 one-roomed tenements in Bombay containing two families and more. Of these 1,955 contain two families, 658 three, 242 four, 136 five, 42 six, 34 seven and 58 eight families and over. Infant mortality in Bombay is greatest in one-roomed tenements. The question of housing leaves much to be desired, but is receiving the closest attention by Government and local authorities.

The predominant range of monthly rent for working class tenements is from Rs. 3-8-0 to

Rs. 5-8-0 for single rooms and for double rooms Rs. 7 to Rs. 10. This will be clear from the following table:—

Predominant working class rents in Bombay

Number of rooms per tenement.	Family Budgets.		Statistics collected from Municipal records.	
	Single room.	Double rooms.	Single room.	Double rooms.
Number of tenements to which the figures relate.	2,408	65	9,761	462
Year	1921-1922	1921-1922	1920-1921	1920-1921
Predominant range of monthly rents	Rs. a. Rs. a. 3-8 to 5-8	Rs. a. Rs. a. 7-0 to 10-0	Rs. a. Rs. a. 3-8 to 5-8	Rs. a. Rs. a. 7-0 to 10-0
Percentage of tenements in which the rent is				
Within the limits of the predominant range	51·5	43·0	57·8	55·2
Below the limits of the predominant range	36·0	38·5	21·6	17·5
Above the limits of the predominant range	12·5	18·5	20·6	27·3

MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURE

The average expenditure on education is only Re. 0-2-11 per mensem. Only 21 per cent. of the families spend on this account, and the average expenditure of those who spend on education is Re. 0-13-10. The percentage of illiteracy is high—76 in Bombay as compared with 68 in Surat, 74 in Poona, 76 in Ahmedabad, 80 in Karachi and 87 in Sholapur. The percentage of illiteracy in different countries is as follows according to the Educational Commissioner with the Government of India:—United States of America 8, Belgium 13, France including Algeria 14, Ireland and Canada 17 each, Austria 26, Italy 37, Hungary 43, Philippines 55, Malta and Greece 57, Spain 59, Roumania 60, Bulgaria 65, Russia 70 and Servia 79. According to the 1921 Census the percentage of illiteracy in certain large cities in India is as follows:—Calcutta 64, Madras 68, Allahabad 80, Lahore 81, and Lucknow 87. The figures for provinces and States are: Burma 72, Baroda 87, Bengal, Madras and Bombay 91 each, Mysore 93, Assam 94, Bihar and Orissa and Central Provinces and Berar 95 each, the Punjab, the North-West Frontier Provinces and the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh 96 each, and Hyderabad 97.

It has been extremely difficult to collect accurate data of expenditure on liquor.



Investigators estimate that from 8 to 10 per cent. of the income of those families whose members drink is spent on this account. Women workers with certain exceptions do not drink. As against the rise in wages in the cotton mill industry of 87 per cent. above the pre-war rates (1914), the increased consumption per head of country spirit is 32 per cent.

Approximately 47 per cent. of the families are shown to be in debt to money-lenders. The average indebtedness of the families in debt extends to an equivalent of two and a half months' earnings and the usual rate of interest is one anna in the rupee per month or 75 per cent. per annum—a rate which is not infrequently exceeded. The debts are usually incurred on account of such unproductive items as marriages, funerals, festivals, etc. The average expenditure on each marriage is Rs. 214, on each funeral Rs. 35, and on festivals and anniversaries together Rs. 18. In 73 per cent. of the families the expenditure on marriages amounted to less than half the annual family income, in 23 per cent. to more than half but less than the annual income, and in 4 per cent. to more than the annual family income.

SINGLE MEN'S BUDGETS

The most usual boarding charges for single men are from Rs. 12 to Rs. 15 per month. In some cases it is as low as Rs. 9 and in others as high as Rs. 18 and even more. Single men spend more on refreshments, liquor, tobacco and betelnut than do family men. They also remit a larger sum of money to their villages each month than family men. The average remittance forms 26·2 per cent. of the income of single men as against 3·2 per cent. of the average family. The increase in the decennium 1911-1920 in the number of money orders at thirteen post offices located in mill areas, where the greater part of the business is from the industrial worker, is 67 per cent. and the increase in value during the same period is 138 per cent.

PRICES AND THE COST OF LIVING

The prices collected in the budgets on the whole agree with those published monthly in the cost of living index by the Labour Office. Of the total families 37·2 per cent.

H 1359—6

purchase on credit, 33·8 per cent. on a cash basis and 29 per cent. on both a cash and a credit basis. Families in the higher income classes buy more on cash than on credit. Single men purchase more frequently on a cash basis as they appear to command less credit than family men.

The cost of living index based on the family budget weights has been worked out month by month for a period of about four years and compared with the published index. The cost of living index based on the aggregate expenditure method does not differ appreciably from the index calculated on the weights arrived at from the family budgets. This is in accordance with statistical theory. Errors in prices have a much greater influence on a weighted average of price ratios than errors in weights.

REPRESENTATIVE AND SAMPLE BUDGETS

A separate portion of the report contains representative budgets showing the normal expenditure of a typical workman's family for the more important occupations. These budgets do not indicate what workers would like to or ought to spend but what they in the long run do spend. About ten per cent. of the budgets tabulated are also published in order to show detailed information. The report also contains a bibliography of the important publications on family budget enquiries conducted from time to time in various countries.

GENERAL

The extensive and detailed information which has now been collected will be further scrutinized from time to time by the collection of additional budgets, not merely in Bombay but in other industrial centres of the Presidency. The present enquiry was set on foot at the instance of His Excellency the Governor, in consequence mainly of the difficulty of ascertaining the true facts of the cost of living of industrial workers, as they are the people concerning whom information is most required.

Copies of the report may be obtained from the Superintendent, Government Printing, Bombay (Poona).



INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES IN THE PRESIDENCY

Disputes in February .. 22

Workpeople involved .. 11,789

On pages 55 and 56 will be found a statement of each dispute in progress during February 1923, 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 February 1923.

I.—Industrial Disputes classified by Trades

Trade.	Number of disputes in progress in February 1923.			Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in February 1923.	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in February 1923.*
	Started before 1st February.	Started in February.	Total.		
Textile ..	2	17	19	11,480	67,251
Transport ..	..	1	1	50	50
Miscellaneous ..	..	2	2	259	1,289
Total, February 1923 ..	2	20	22	11,789	68,590
Total, January 1923 ..	1	5	6	3,288	14,908

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

There were 22 industrial disputes in February 1923, 19 of which were in cotton mills. The number of workpeople affected was about 12,000, and the working days lost (i.e., the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days less workers replaced)

68,590, a considerable increase on the January 1923 statistics.

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes. The number of disputes due to the question of pay and bonus and of those settled in favour of the employers is noticeable.

II.—Industrial Disputes—Results

October 1922 to February 1923

	October 1922	November 1922	December 1922	January 1923	February 1923
Number of strikes and lock-outs ..	24	21	10	6	22
Disputes in progress at beginning ..	2	8	2	1	2
Fresh disputes begun ..	22	13	8	5	20
Disputes ended ..	16	19	9	4	22
Disputes in progress at end ..	8	2	1	2	..
Number of workpeople involved ..	9,817	15,206	5,016	3,288	11,789
Aggregate duration in working days ..	62,372	60,287	22,806	14,908	68,590
Demands—					
Pay ..	5	7	6	3	13
Bonus ..	14	8	3	1	2
Personal ..	4	3	1	..	5
Leave and hours ..	..	2	..	..	..
Others ..	1	1	..	2	2
Results—					
In favour of Employ-ees ..	6	3	..	1	7
Compromised ..	3	2	1	..	1
In favour of Employ-ers ..	7	14	8	3	14

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 favour of employ-ers. (Per cent.)	In favour of employ-ees. (Per cent.)	Com-pro-mised. (Per cent.)	In pro-gress. (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
November 1922.	21	60,287	67	14	10	9
December 1922.	10	22,806	80	..	10	10
January 1923..	6	14,908	50	17	..	33
February 1923..	22	68,590	64	32	4	..
Total or (cols. 4 to 7) Average	321	2,112,607	59	14	10	17

A General Review of Disputes

During February 1923 there were 22 industrial disputes in the Bombay Presidency of which 19 were in the Cotton Mill Industry. Thirteen of these disputes were on account of the question of pay. 64 per cent. of the disputes

during the month were settled in favour of the employers. The number of strikes increased from 6 in January to 22 during February.

BOMBAY

In the Raja Bahadur Motilal Pitty Mills, Tardeo, the men went on strike against the proposal to reduce the war allowance to 20 per cent. and 30 per cent. for fixed wage workers and piece workers respectively. The strikers were paid off and the mill closed. There were three small strikes in the Textile, the Presidency and the Planet Mills, but these were of short duration. In the Crown Mill, there was a strike of 400 weavers over the question of increase of pay and the removal of two unpopular head jobbers. The mill was closed for six days but ultimately 300 strikers resumed work and 50 new men were engaged. About a 1,000 operatives of the Hindustan Spinning and Weaving Mill Co., and 1,500 of the Bradbury Mills went on strike against the refusal of the management to pay their wages before the *Maha Shivratri* holiday. They, however, resumed work unconditionally after the holiday. For a similar cause there were two strikes of a day's duration each, in the Alexandra and E. D. Sassoon Mills. There was a small strike in the Kasturchand Mills, Dadar, and two others in the Fazulbhoj and Currimbhoj Mills. In the Wallace Flour Mills, Mazgaon, the men struck work over the question of bonus. The strikers ultimately resumed work unconditionally. There were two other strikes of little importance in the Western India Boot and Equipment Factory, Ltd., Dharavi, and the Phoenix Taxi and Transport Service, Ltd., Lamington Road.

AHMEDABAD

There were 4 strikes in Ahmedabad during the last month. The strike in the Asarwa Mills, which broke out in January on account of the supply of bad yarn, ended on the 3rd February 1923, when the strikers were paid off and new hands engaged. About 144 hands of the Frame Department of the Ahmedabad Cotton and Manufacturing Co. went on strike as a protest against the punishment of a jobber for careless work but subsequently returned to work. There was a similar strike in the



Ahmedabad Cotton and Waste Manufacturing Co. The last strike was in the Motilal Hirabhai Spinning and Weaving and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., on account of the alleged ill-treatment of the men by the Jamadar and Spinning Master. The strikers, however, returned to work on the 1st March 1923.

POONA

The strike in the Raja Bahadur Motilal Mills, Poona, which began in January on account of the notice to reduce the high prices allowance and refusal to pay the annual bonus lasted up to the 18th February. The men were paid the bonus and the mill, except the Silk Department, was closed as it was not paying.

VIRAMGAM

The Alfred and Whittle Mills in Viramgam proposed to reduce the grain compensation allowance by 20 per cent. and 80 per cent. in the Weaving and Spinning Department respectively. The men consequently went on strike in both the mills. They returned to work at the end of the month. It was decided to reduce the grain compensation allowance by 15 per cent. in the Weaving Department and the case of the Spinning Department has been left over for consideration.

Threatened Strike in Ahmedabad

A general strike of the cotton mill operatives in Ahmedabad is anticipated in consequence of the decision of the Ahmedabad Millowners' Association to reduce the wages of operatives by one-fifth. The Millowners have decided to declare a lock-out in the event of a strike.

LABOUR LEGISLATION

DISCUSSION IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

The Bombay Legislative Council discussed a resolution moved by Mr. Kanji Dwarkadas on the 14th March that "This Council recommends to the Governor in Council the introduction of legislation at the next session of this Council on the lines of the unanimous report of the Industrial Disputes Committee". Mr. Kanji Dwarkadas said that the Industrial Disputes Committee's report was unanimous and had been published nearly a year ago. He did not understand why there should be any delay on the part of Government to introduce legislation. He expressed the hope that

by the time the present Council came to an end and the term of office of His Excellency the Governor, who took so much interest in the welfare of the labouring classes, expired, legislation would be undertaken by Government on the lines suggested by the Committee.

Mr. A. N. Surve (Bombay City, North) urged the necessity of undertaking this legislation at the present time. Mr. J. Addyman (Bombay, European) considered that there had been unnecessary delay on the part of Government. In the city of Bombay for some years past they had been sitting on the top of a volcano not knowing when the eruption would take place.

The Honourable Mr. Hayward said the suggestions made by the Committee had been considered by Government, particularly in regard to courts of inquiry and courts of conciliation. Details were being worked out and as soon as Government was satisfied on these points legislation would be introduced as early as possible after the sanction of the Government of India had been obtained.

Bombay Millowners' Association

On the 19th March, Mr. J. A. Kay, President of the Millowners' Association, at the Annual General Meeting, reviewed the work of Bombay's premier industry—the cotton mill industry—during the year. Mr. Kay in the course of his address dealt with the present and future position of the industry, the work of the Labour Office, the standardisation of wages and the proposed legislation on industrial disputes. His address will be published in the next issue of the *Labour Gazette*.

Double Shifts in Bombay Mills

Owing to the slacker demand for Indian made cloth and to the scarcity of hands, certain mills in Bombay are discontinuing the double shift system of 8 hours referred to on page 24 of the *Labour Gazette* for August 1922. Of the six mills on double shifts in August 1922 the following have discontinued this system:—

- The Planet Mill.
- The Hong Kong Mill.
- The Gold Mohur Mill.
- The Bradbury Mill.

The Agents of the Textile Mill have also recently decided to discontinue the double shift system with effect from 1st April 1923



TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

The Returns for Quarter ended March 1923

The previous reviews of Trade Unions in the Presidency were published in the June, September and December 1922 issues of the *Labour Gazette*. The latest available information on Trade Unions for the first quarter of the present year is summarised on pages 28-30 of this issue and shows that there has been a further slight decrease in the membership of the unions. Returns have been received from District Magistrates in each district and from the Secretaries of the Unions in the last few weeks and the data are therefore up to date. The number of unions has remained the same. Table I on pages 28-29 shows that at the moment there are nominally 9 unions with 24,500 members in Bombay City and Island, 9 unions with 19,785 members in Ahmedabad, and 4 unions with a membership of 4,384 in the rest of the Presidency. This gives a total for the Presidency of 22 unions and 48,669 members as compared with 22 unions and a membership of 51,472 in the last quarter of 1922. These numbers as in previous reviews include only trade unions known to be actually in existence.

THE DECREASE IN MEMBERSHIP

While the number of unions has remained the same as in the previous quarter, the number of members shows a decrease of 2,803. The changes in membership of the unions are as follows: In Bombay an increase of 500 members is recorded in the membership of the G. I. P. Railway Staff Union. Three unions in Ahmedabad show decreases in membership—the Sizing Union and the Folders' Union showing decreases of 100 and 50 members respectively and the Throstle Union a decrease of 1,500 members. This is the largest decrease recorded in the period under review. The Sukkur Branch of the N.-W. R. Union shows a decrease of 713 members while the Press Workers' Union at Poona shows an increase of 60 members. Apart from a change in the office-bearers of the Press Workers' Union and the changes in membership no other changes have taken place in the unions of the Presidency during the period under review. The Throstle Union in Ahmedabad, the suspension and subsequent reunion of which was referred to

on page 30 of the January 1923 issue of the *Labour Gazette*, now has, as office-bearers, the same officials as before its suspension. The following table shows the decrease in membership for the last four quarters:—

Summary table showing the decrease in membership

Quarter ended	Membership at end of quarter.	Percentage decrease (—) on previous quarter.
June 1922	57,914	....
September 1922	52,776	—8·87
December 1922	51,472	—2·47
March 1923	48,669	—5·45

THE BOMBAY UNIONS

The important Bombay Unions have remained unchanged during the period under review. These are:—

- (1) The Indian Seamen's Union.
- (2) The B. B. & C. I. Railwaymen's Union.
- (3) The G. I. P. Railwaymen's Union.
- (4) The Port Trust Workshop Union.

The first of these—the Indian Seamen's Union—still continues the work of an employment bureau for Indian seamen. This was referred to in detail in the last review. The Union, at the moment, does not appear so prosperous as hitherto. The average monthly income has fallen from Rs. 2,233 during the 12 months ended December 1922 to Rs. 1,422 the average for the months of January and February of this year, though the Union has a considerable cash balance as a reserve deposited in a bank. The monthly expenditure of the Union now closely approximates the monthly income owing to the cost of a permanent paid staff which conducts the employment bureau. The decrease in income is stated to be due to the considerable unemployment among the members of the union as subscriptions are not regularly collected from members out of employment. The other three important Bombay Unions which are under the Central Labour Board report no changes. The Secretary of these unions, Mr. S. H. Jhabwalla, states that the most important subject at present engaging the attention of the two Railway



Unions is the question of retrenchment and its effect upon the members of the unions. Members who happen to come within reach of the axe of retrenchment do not sever their connexions with these Unions, but are allowed to continue as members in the hope that they will be reinstated in their appointments in the near future. Subscriptions are not collected from such members during the time they are out of employment. The Clerks' Union, which has 800 members does not appear to be a very active union though the Secretary states the membership will be considerably increased in the near future. The Bombay Presidency Postmen's (including Packers') Union has a fairly large membership—1,000—but as its members at present have few grievances, except perhaps those concerning retrenchment, the Union is not very well supported. The G. I. P. Railway Staff Union, the only Bombay Union which records an increase in membership, is at the moment more active than it has ever been since its formation. This Union is chiefly concerned with the recent reductions in the staff at various stations on this Railway, and although it is not officially recognised by the Agent of the Railway, it has submitted several memorials and suggestions on this subject. Recently, it has also decided to admit European and Anglo-Indian employees as members instead of limiting its membership to only Indian members of the staff. Drivers, guards and ticket collectors are now on the books of the union in addition to members of the Clerical establishment of the Audit office and other Departments. The Union continues to publish the G. I. P. Union monthly which is circulated to its members in outstations. The membership of the Union is stated to be as follows:—

Station.	Number of members.
Wadi Bunder (Bombay) ..	434
Matunga (Bombay) ..	94
Bhusawal ..	672
Sholapur ..	594
Audit Department, Bombay.	542
Kurduwadi ..	50
Manmad ..	438
Bhopal ..	322
Dhond ..	129
Ahmednagar ..	126
Nagpur ..	91

Bina ..	250	approximate.
Itarsi ..	150	"
Humpyard (Nagpur) ..	50	"
Jhansi ..	50	"

The Bombay Telegraph Workmen's Union does not appear to be a strong union. Its members and finances are at the moment small, but the Secretary states that proposals are under consideration to put the union on a sounder footing. There are still no unions of cotton mill workers in Bombay City and Island.

QUASI-LABOUR UNIONS

These unions are not included in the list of Trade Unions as they are more in the nature of associations for the welfare of their members than Trade Unions in a strict sense of the word. The main associations in Bombay City and Island are given below:—

- (1) The Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants of India and Burma.
- (2) The Bombay Presidency Postal Association.
- (3) The Postal Clerks' Club.
- (4) The Kamgar Hitwardhak Sabha.
- (5) The Girmi Kamgar Sangh.

Of these the first which has a membership of about 3,000 in India and Burma, is by far the largest. It is understood that the Secretary of this society has for some time past been considering the feasibility of the amalgamation with his Society of the other Railway Unions in Bombay, viz., the two Railway Unions under the Central Labour Board and the G. I. P. Railway Staff Union, but owing to certain difficulties this has not been conveniently arranged. This Society consists mostly of the Traffic staffs of the Railways.

THE AHMEDABAD UNIONS

The only change worthy of note in the Ahmedabad unions is the decrease in membership of the Sizing, the Folders' and the Throstle Unions. The figures shown in Table I on pages 28-29 refer to the membership at the end of February. The Secretary of the Labour Union states that the membership at present is in excess of what is shown in this table as several accessions to the strength of the Unions have recently been made. The decrease in the



membership of the Throstle Union is due to the fact that all the original members have not yet paid the self-imposed fine to the Union (referred to on page 30 of the January issue of the *Labour Gazette*) and therefore these workers have not been included in the membership. The Secretary also states that as the accounts of all the unions under the Labour Union are kept as a whole, and adjusted at the end of every year, it is not possible to state accurately the individual accounts of the Unions.

The Ahmedabad Unions under the "Labour Union" are, owing to their formation by occupations and not by mills, factories or establishments, the best organised Trade Unions in the Presidency. Matters concerning the general interest of the Unions are dealt with by the President and Secretary in consultation with the Millowners' Association in Ahmedabad.

THE REST OF THE PRESIDENCY

The two branches of the N. W. R. Union at Sukkur and Karachi are the most important unions in the rest of the Presidency, and even one of these branches, i.e., the Sukkur branch records a large decrease in membership. The Secretary of the Union states that as the Railway authorities do not afford facilities to the Union for the collection of subscriptions through the pay bills the amount of monthly income also shows a decrease. The Press Workers' Union at Poona is not an important union though the membership has been doubled since the last review was published. The Barsi Light Railway Union has still not received recognition by the Agent of this Railway. The Union does not appear to be strongly supported by the employees of the Railway as the membership shows no increase during the period under review. Recently at Karachi, an attempt was made to form a Karigar Mazur Hitwardhakh Sabha (Association to promote the welfare of artisans) by Mr. Mistry Gagji Jawahir who addressed about 50 labourers on the advantages of such a Sabha. Reports show that this has achieved little success and this formation has not been considered of sufficient importance for inclusion in these tables.

ACCOUNTS OF THE UNIONS

Table II on page 30 shows the monthly income and expenditure of the unions. It

will be seen that the Indian Seamen's Union has the largest monthly income and expenditure of any Union in Bombay City and Island. The Port Trust Railway Staff and Employees' Union which has no monthly income and no expenditure is the weakest Union in Bombay. This Union was in a similar position at the time of the last review. No attempts appear to have been made to collect subscriptions regularly from the members. In Ahmedabad the Weavers' Union and the Throstle Union are financially stronger than the other Unions in this centre. The expenditure of these two Unions is also comparatively small and this enables a larger reserve to accumulate. Detailed accounts of the B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Union, the G. I. P. Railway Workmen's Union, the Bombay Presidency Postmen's Union and the Clerks' Union were published on page 29 of the January 1923 issue of the *Labour Gazette*. Accounts of other unions in existence have not been received in the Labour Office.

ORGANIZATION OF THE BOMBAY UNIONS

The All-India Trade Union Congress, to which reference has been made in previous reviews, is still not active in Bombay. The third meeting of this Congress under the Presidentship of Mr. C. R. Das, is to be held in Lahore on the 24th of this month. The Secretary of the Trade Union Congress, Mr. D. Chaman Lal, is still in Lahore, but the headquarters of the organisation are nominally in Bombay. The Central Labour Federation, which was an offspring of the Trade Union Congress, is still in a state of inaction. The Central Labour Board, which was once affiliated to the Trade Union Congress but subsequently became disaffiliated, is, it is understood, now to be reaffiliated to the Trade Union Congress for the purposes of the coming session mentioned above. Apart from this organisation there is no other active federation of labour unions in Bombay.

CONCLUSION

The outstanding features of the Trade Union situation during the quarter have been (1) a further decrease of 5.45 per cent. in membership in the unions and (2) the continued complete absence of Trade Unions, among cotton mill workers in Bombay city and island.



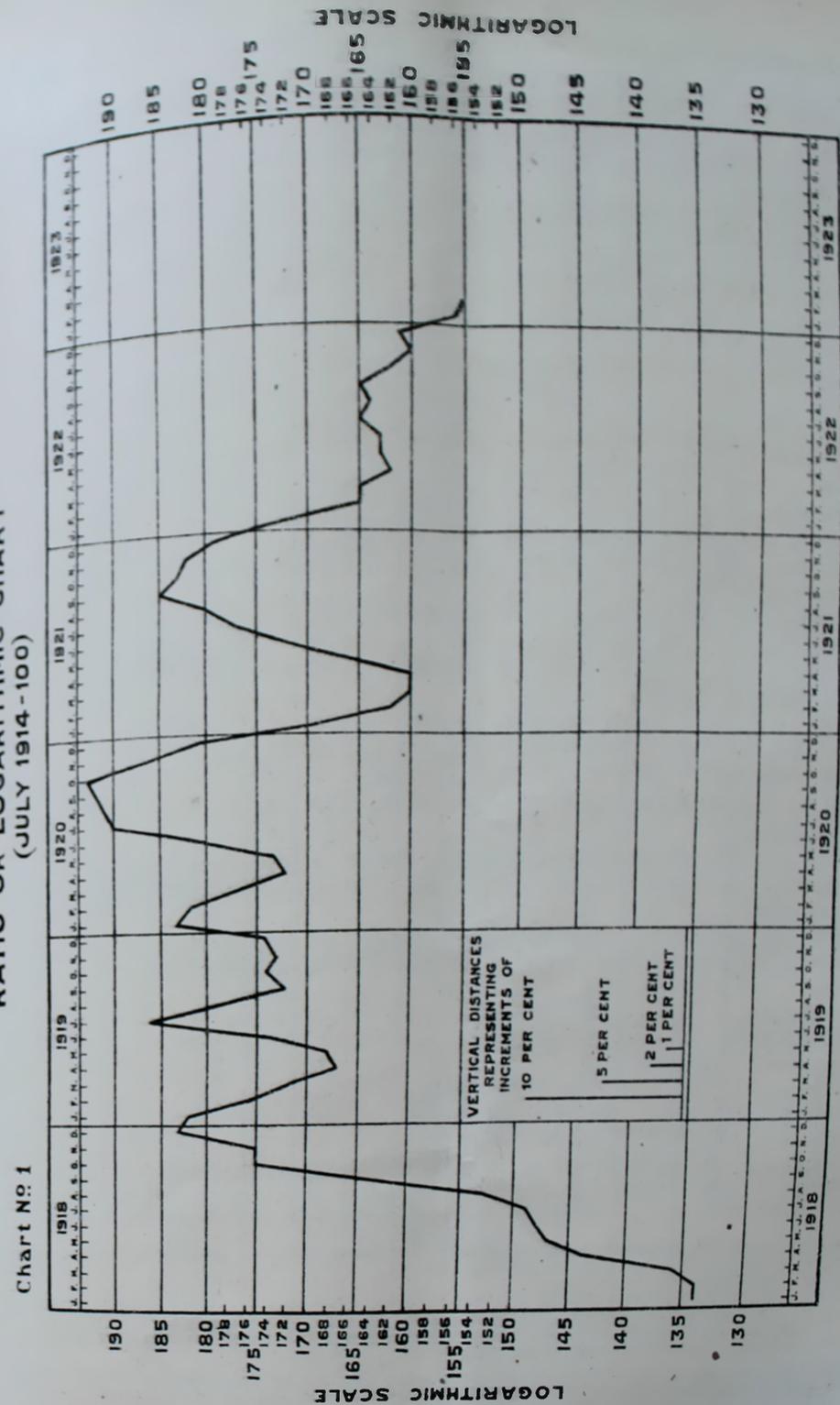
MAR., 1923

Table I—Principal Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency

Name of District.	Name of Union or Federation.	Date of formation.	Number of members.	Name and address of	
				President or Chairman.	Secretary.
1. Bombay City	1. The Indian Seamen's Union.	April 1921	10,000	Joseph Baptista, Matharpacady, Mazagaon Bombay.	J. E. Fernandez, No. 7, Lane Lane, Mazagaon, Bombay.
	2. The B. B. & C. I. Railwaymen's Union.	July 1920	2,000	Rai Saheb Chandrika Prasad of Ajmer.	S. H. Jhabwalla, 123, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay.
				<i>Vice-President</i> —F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.	
	3. The G. I. P. Railwaymen's Union (Carriage and Wagon Departments).	May 1919	2,500	Rai Saheb Chandrika Prasad of Ajmer.	S. H. Jhabwalla, 123, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay.
				<i>Vice-President</i> —F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.	
	4. The Port Trust Workshop Union.	March 1920	3,500	F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.	S. H. Jhabwalla, 123, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay.
	5. The Port Trust Railway Staff and Employes Union.	June 1920	350	Joseph Baptista, Matharpacady, Mazagaon, Bombay.	1. S. S. Pradhan, Clerk, Port Trust Office, Bombay. 2. M. D. Dalvi, Bombay Workingmen's Institute, Elphinstone Road, Fort, Bombay.
				<i>Vice-President</i> —Chaman Lall, 16, Mozang Road, Lahore.	
	6. The Clerks' Union	April 1918	800	B. M. Anandrao, B.A., Malabar Lumbering Company, Bank Street, Fort, Bombay.	1. Anant Padmenabh, Patel and Mukerjee, 53, Meadows Street, Fort, Bombay. 2. S. Bhawani Rao, Chelabhai Building, Chaupati, Bombay.
7. The Bombay Presidency Postmen's (including Packers) Union.	April 1918	1,000	F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.	S. H. Jhabwalla, 123, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay.	
8. The G. I. P. Railway Staff Union.	May 1921	4,000	Motilal J. Mehta, Audit Office, G. I. P. Railway, Bombay.	1. Anand Mukund Gore, Coaching Branch, Audit Office, G. I. P. Ry., Bombay. 2. Narayan G. Kale, Operative Branch, C. T. S.'s Office, Bombay.	
9. The Bombay Telegraph Workmen's Union	July 1922	350	Not elected	S. H. Jhabwalla, 123, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay.	
2. Ahmedabad	1. The Weavers' Union.	February 1920	4,000	Anusuya Sarabhai, Sewa Ashram, Ahmedabad.	Gulzari Lal Nanda, Labour Union Office, Ahmedabad.
	2. The Sizing Union	Do.	400	Do.	<i>Assistant Secretary</i> .—Khandubhai Kasanbhai Desai, Labour Union Office, Ahmedabad.
	3. The Folders' Union	Do.	400	Do.	Do.
	Total Members, Bombay City		24,500		

(Continued on page 29.)

COST OF LIVING IN BOMBAY RATIO OR LOGARITHMIC CHART (JULY 1914-100)



Note:—This chart is intended to show the proportional increase in the cost of living. It will be seen 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 5 points over 100. Equal vertical distances in this chart represent equal ratios, from any part of the diagram to any other, instead of equal increments, as on a natural scale chart. Note the steadiness of the curve in 1922.

PROGRESS OF THE MONSOON 1922.

CHART No. 2.

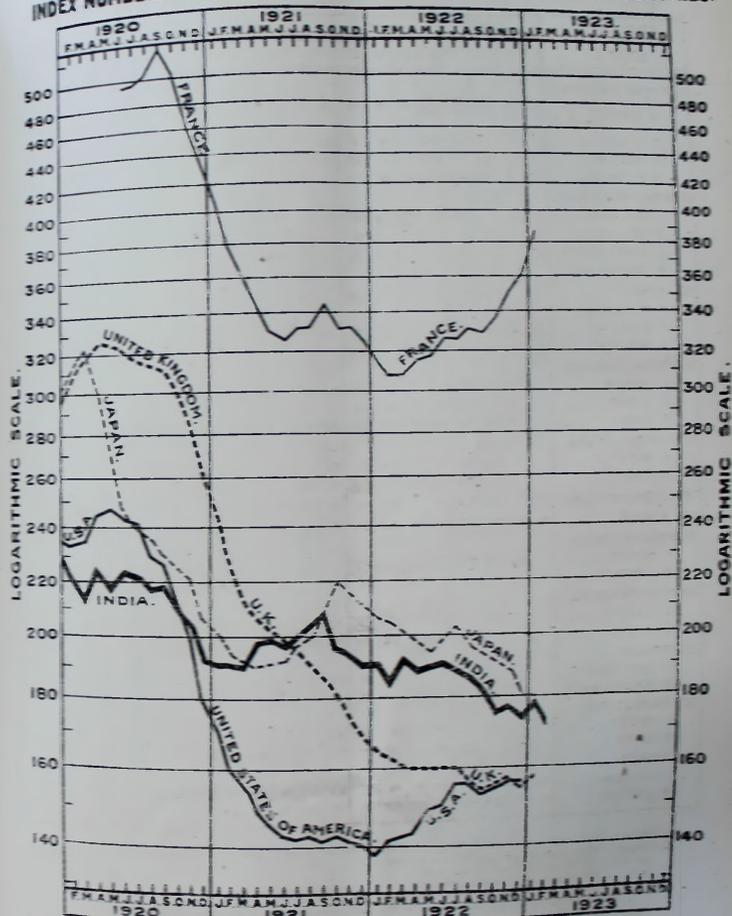
Abbreviations:- S...Scanty F...Fair. N...Normal. EX...Excess.

PROVINCE OR STATE.	JUNE			JULY			AUGUST			SEPTEMBER			OCTOBER		
	1st	15th	27th	1st	15th	27th	1st	15th	27th	1st	15th	27th	1st	15th	27th
I. BOMBAY PRESIDENCY.															
1. SIND (RIVER RAINFALL)	EX	EX	EX	EX	N	N	N	N	N	F	F	N	EX	EX	EX
2. GUJARAT	S	S	EX	EX	S	F	F	EX	S	S	S	F	F	EX	EX
3. DECCAN	S	S	EX	EX	F	S	EX	N	S	F	S	F	S	S	S
4. KONKAN	N	F	N	EX	F	N	EX	S	S	S	S	EX	F	S	S
II. MADRAS PRESIDENCY.															
1. MALABAR	F	F	EX	EX	EX	N	F	F	F	EX	F	N	F	F	F
2. DECCAN	F	S	F	S	S	F	N	S	S	F	F	EX	F	F	F
3. COAST NORTH.	EX	S	F	F	S	S	EX	S	F	EX	F	N	F	F	F
4. SOUTH EAST.															
III. MYSORE															
1. NORTH	F	S	EX	F	N	F	N	EX	S	N	F	F	N	F	F
2. SOUTH	N	F	N	EX	EX	F	F	S	S	S	S	S	F	N	EX
IV. HYDERABAD															
1. NORTH	N	F	N	EX	EX	F	F	S	S	S	S	S	F	N	EX
2. SOUTH	F	S	N	F	F	S	EX	S	S	S	S	S	EX	N	F
V. CENTRAL PROVINCES															
1. BERAR	S	N	EX	N	F	F	EX	EX	F	S	S	S	EX	EX	S
2. WEST	S	S	EX	N	N	F	EX	N	F	S	N	N	EX	EX	S
3. EAST	S	EX	N	N	F	F	EX	EX	F	S	N	N	EX	EX	S
VI. CENTRAL INDIA															
1. WEST	S	EX	N	N	EX	N	EX	S	F	S	EX	EX	EX	S	S
2. EAST	S	S	EX	N	N	EX	N	EX	S	F	S	EX	EX	EX	S
VII. BENGAL PRESIDENCY															
1. WEST	EX	F	EX	EX	N	EX	EX	N	N	S	EX	EX	S	N	N
2. EAST	N	F	N	EX	N	F	EX	N	N	F	F	EX	F	F	EX
VIII. BIHAR & ORISSA															
1. BIHAR	EX	EX	EX	EX	EX	EX	EX	S	EX	F	F	N	F	S	S
2. ORISSA	N	F	N	EX	EX	F	N	EX	N	EX	N	EX	EX	EX	EX
IX. UNITED PROVINCES															
1. EAST	N	F	N	EX	EX	F	N	EX	N	EX	N	EX	EX	EX	EX
2. WEST	N	S	EX	EX	EX	N	EX	S	F	EX	EX	N	EX	EX	EX
X. PUNJAB															
1. EAST & NORTH	N	F	F	EX	EX	N	N	F	EX	EX	EX	EX	F		
2. SOUTH & WEST				S	S	EX	N	EX	F	S	N	F	N		
XI. RAJPUTANA															
1. WEST															
2. EAST															
XII. BURMA															
1. LOWER	N	EX	F	F	N	N	N	EX	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
2. UPPER	F	F	EX	N	F	EX	F	EX	N	F	EX	N	F	EX	N

NOTES.
 1. Within the year season, the whiter the chart, the better the season. Red areas indicate deficient, and black areas, excess.
 2. Excess... More than 120 per cent of the normal.
 Normal... 90-120 per cent of the normal.
 Fair... 60-75 per cent of the normal.
 Scanty... Less than 60 per cent of the normal.
 Normals for Divisions are means of Normals of reporting stations excluding hill stations.
 The Daily Weather Report gives the complete list of stations.
 3. The zigzag 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. Lettering outside the green lines is anti that as rainfall in these places is less important.
 4. Within the green lines (i.e. the Monsoon) the third successive and following "EX" squares and the second "N" and the rainfall are shown. The date of the normal rise in the Indus above the fair irrigating normal fall the last week of September.

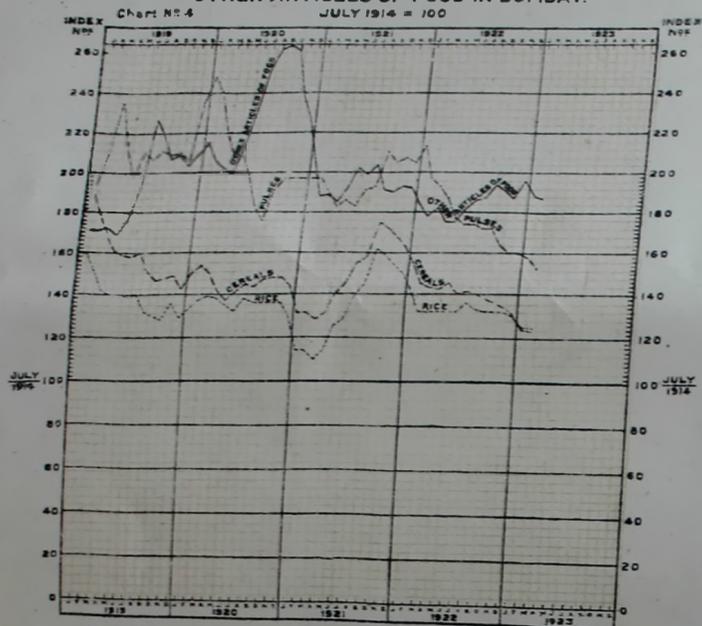
CHART No. 3.

INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES.



Note:- Average of the year 1913=100 except in the case of India where July 1914=100.

RETAIL PRICES OF RICE, PULSES, CEREALS AND OTHER ARTICLES OF FOOD IN BOMBAY.



Note:— Pulses' Average Price of Gram and Turdal.
Cereals' Average price of Rice, Wheat, On and Bajri.
Other articles of food' Average price of Sugar, Tea, Salt, Beef, Mutton, Milk, Ghee, Potatoes, Onions, Coconut Oil, &c.

COST OF LIVING INDEXES IN INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

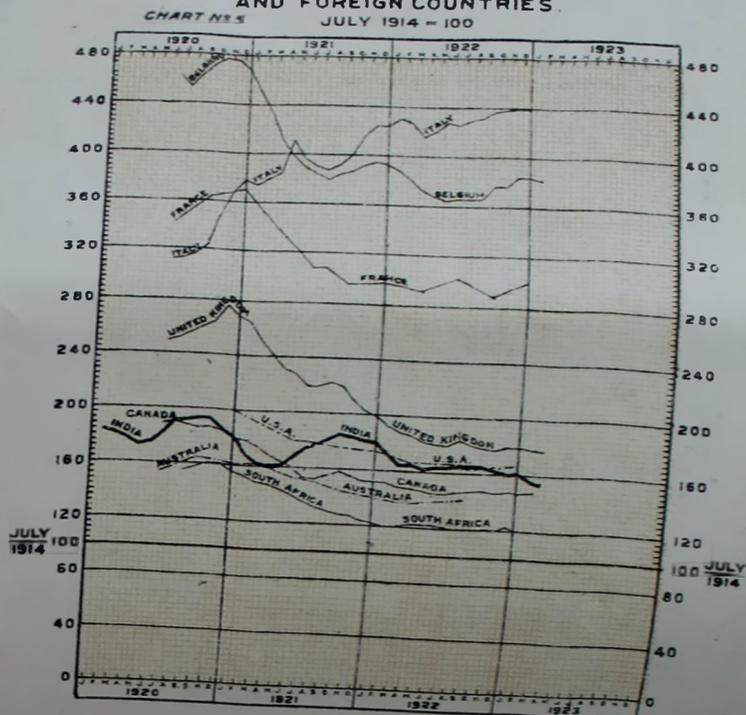
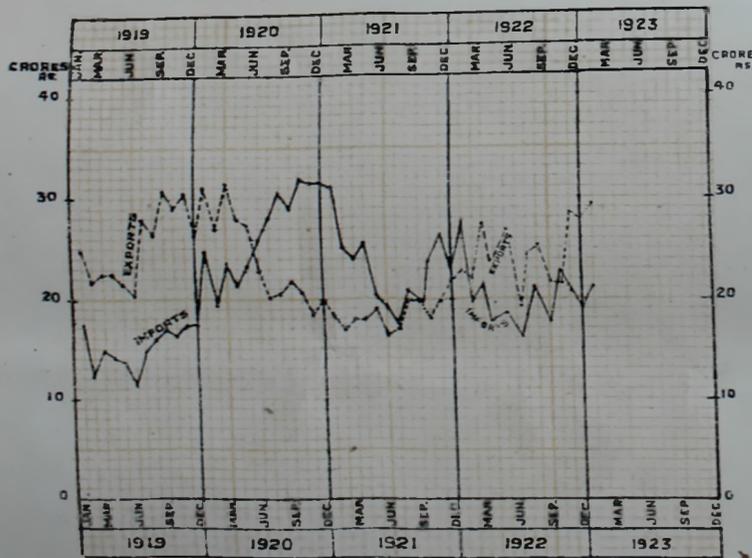


CHART No. 6.

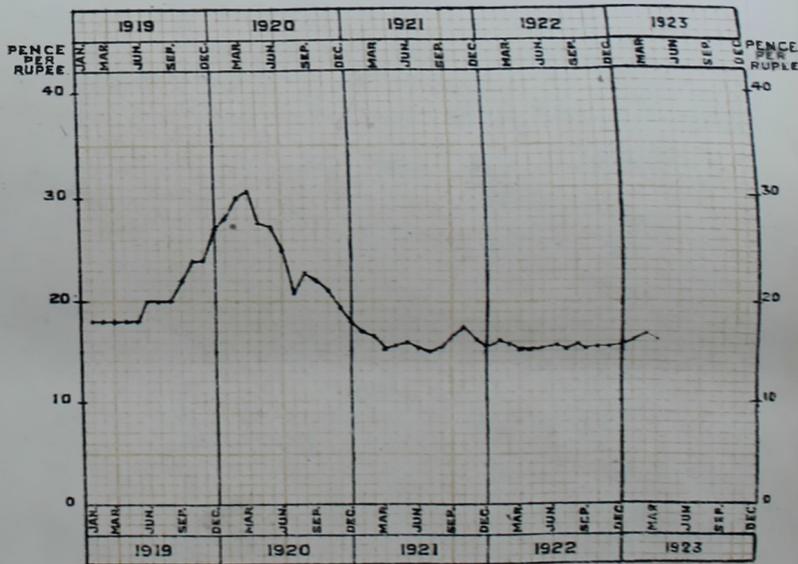
IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—INDIA.



Note:— Each Square = 1 crore (10 millions) of Rupees.

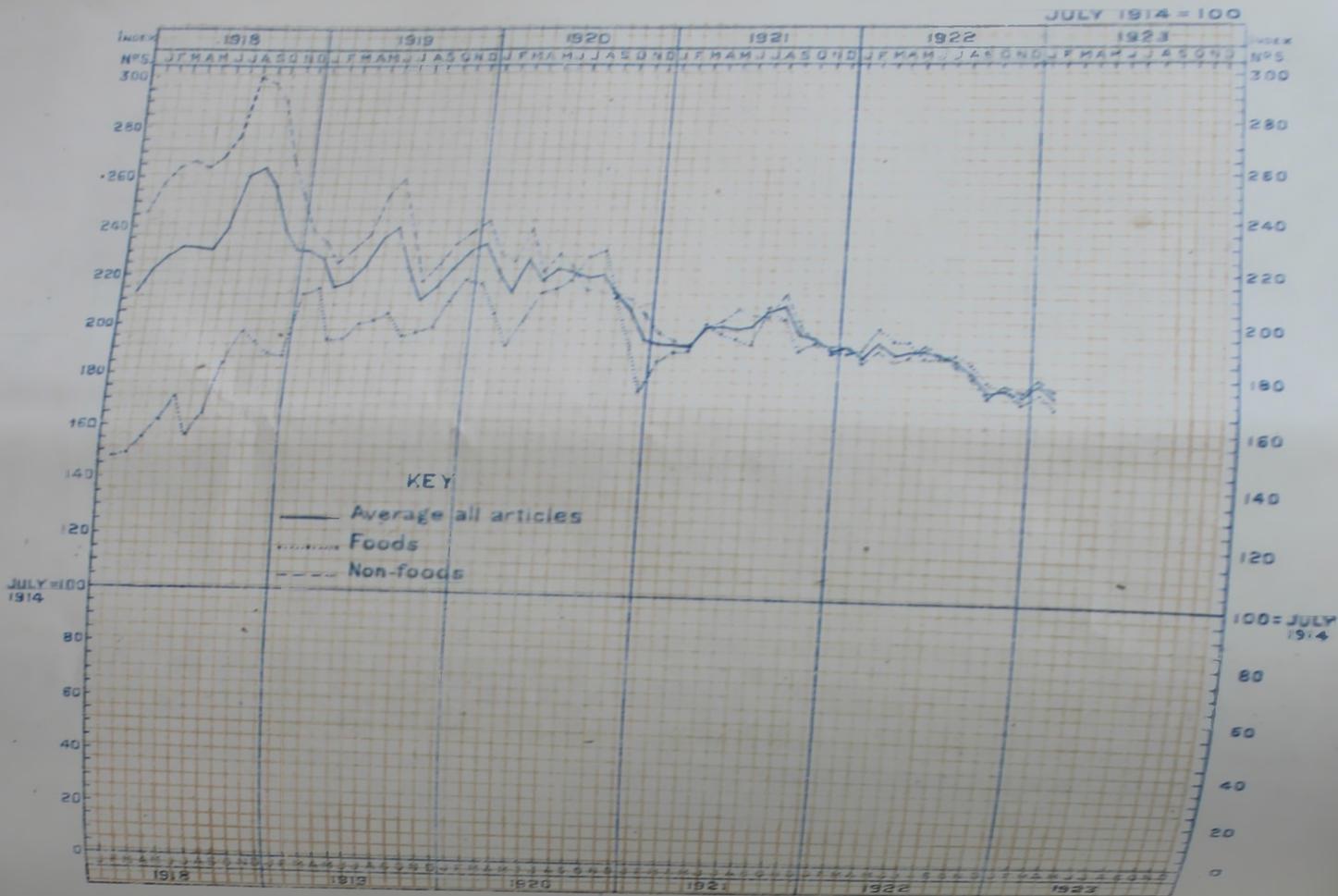
CHART No. 7.

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 penny.

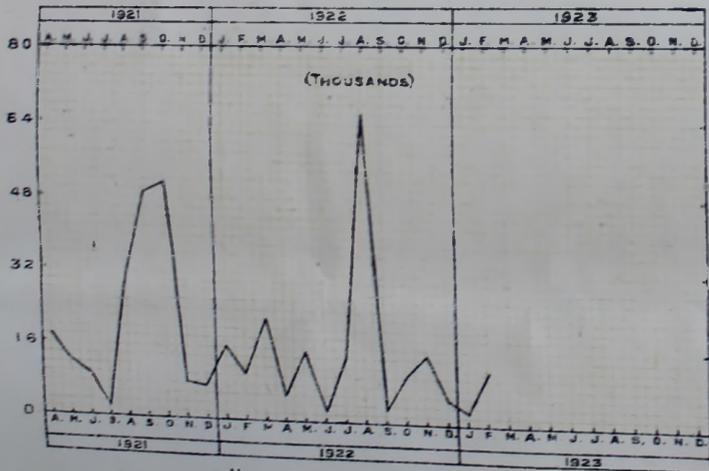
WHOLESALE PRICES IN BOMBAY FOODS & NONFOODS



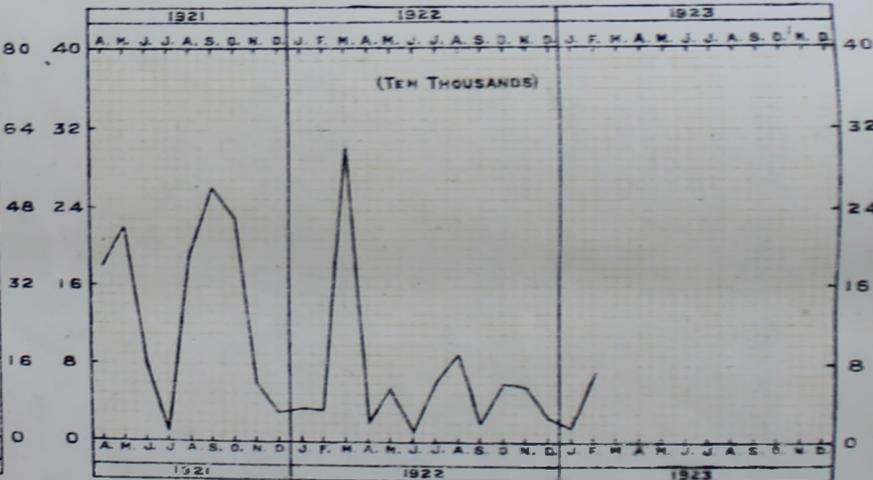
STRIKES IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY 1921-1923.

NUMBER OF WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED

NUMBER OF WORKING DAYS LOST

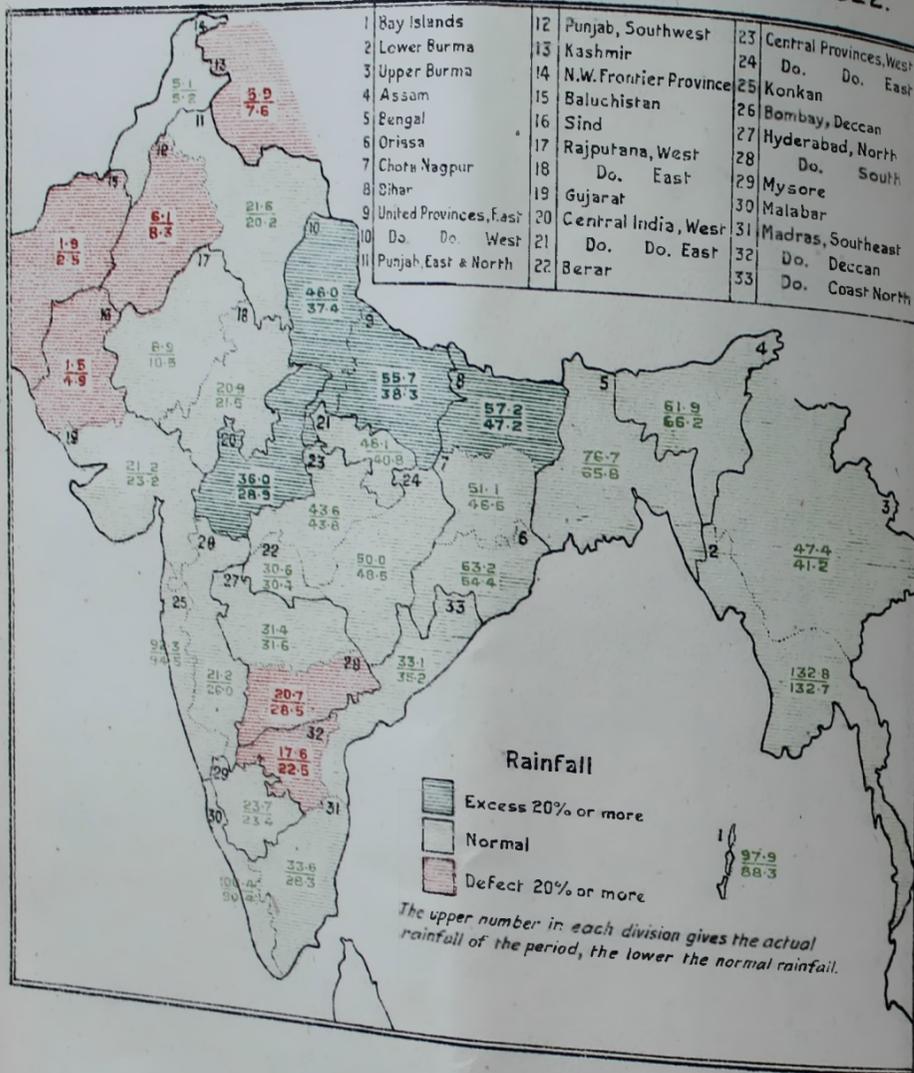


NOTE: - EACH SQUARE ABOVE - 2,000



NOTE: - (1) THE SMALL NUMBER OF WORKING DAYS LOST IN JULY 1921 & JUNE 1922 IS OWING TO THE SHORT DURATION OF STRIKES
(2) EACH SQUARE ABOVE - 10,000

RAINFALL FOR THE PERIOD, JUNE TO NOVEMBER, 1922.



MAR., 1923

Table I—Principal Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency—continued.

Name of District.	Name of Union or Federation.	Date of formation.	Number of members.	Name and address of		
				President or Chairman.	Secretary.	
2. Ahmedabad— contd.	4. The Winders' Union.	June 1920	1,050	Anusuya Sarabhai, Sewa Ashram, Ahmedabad.	Gulzari Lal Nanda, Labour Union Office, Ahmedabad.	
					Assistant Secretary—Khandubhai Kasanbhai Desai, Labour Union Office, Ahmedabad.	
	5. The Throstle Union.	February 1920	5,500	Do.	Do.	
	6. The Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union.	August 1920	4,000	Do.	Do.	
	7. The Drivers, Oilmen and Firemen's Union.	September 1920	750	Do.	Do.	
	8. The Post and Railway Mail Service Association.	February 1919	200	V. J. Patel, Khamasa, Ahmedabad.	M. V. Kothari, Raipur, Ahmedabad.	
	9. The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Association.	February 1920	3,485	Do.	M. V. Kothari, Raipur, Ahmedabad.	
				Total Members, Ahmedabad	19,785	
	3. Sukkur	N. W. Railway Union (Sukkur District).	September 1920	1,287	Not elected	Topandas Athoomal, Station Road (Gharibabad), Sukkur.
4. Karachi	N. W. Railway Union (Karachi District).	1920	2,500	Thawar Dass, Head Claims Clerk, Tholeproduce Yard, Karachi.	Kanti Parkash, Bunder Road, Vishandass Nihal Chand Building, Karachi.	
5. Sholapur	The Barsi Light Railway Employees' Union.	March 1921	487	G. G. Bhadbhade, Kurduwadi.	G. T. Malgi, Kurduwadi.	
6. Poona	The Press Workers' Union	February 1921	110	John Mathews, Foreman, Scottish Mission Press, Poona Cantonment.	1. G. T. Sakpal, 879, Shukrawar Peth, Poona City.	
					2. K. S. Barde, Dnyanprakash Office, Poona City.	
				Total, rest of Presidency	4,384	
			Total Members, Presidency	48,669		



Table II—Income and Expenditure of Principal Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency.

Name of District.	Name of Union or Federation.	Income per month.	Sum paid per member per month.	Expenditure per month.
		Rs.		Rs.
1. Bombay City	1. The Indian Seamen's Union ..	1,422	Rs. 6 (per year)	1,327
	2. The B. B. & C. I. Railwaymen's Union.	350	From 1 to 8 annas according to pay	75
	3. The G. I. P. Railwaymen's Union ..	350	From 1 to 8 annas according to pay	75
	4. The Port Trust Workshop Union ..	250	As. 4 for those earning Rs. 50 and under per month; As. 8 for those earning above Rs. 50.	60
	5. The Port Trust Railway Staff and Employees' Union.	Nil.	From As. 4 to Rs. 4 according to pay	Nil.
	6. The Clerks' Union	200	As. 4	75
	7. The Bombay Presidency Postmen's (including Packers') Union.	200	As. 8	80
	8. The G. I. P. Railway Staff Union ..	450	One day's pay per year	350
	9. The Bombay Telegraph Workmen's Union.	157	As. 8	15
2. Ahmedabad	1. The Weavers' Union	2,000	As. 8	175
	2. The Sizing Union	300	Re. 1 per front sizer; As. 8 per back sizer.	14
	3. The Folders' Union	262 8 0	Re. 1 per mukadam; As. 8 per folder	Not reported.
	4. The Winders' Union	131 4 0	As. 2	12
	5. The Throttle Union	2,100	As. 4 per labourer; As. 2 per doffer; Anna 1 per half day worker (doffer).	500
	6. The Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union.	1,000	As. 4	226
	7. The Drivers, Oilmen and Firemen's Union.	450	As. 12 per oilman; Re. 1 per driver or fireman.	14
	8. The Post and Railway Mail Service Association.	Not reported.	Re. 1 per year for workers earning Rs. 50 and under per month; Rs. 2 per year for those earning above Rs. 50.	Not reported.
	9. The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employee's Association.	682	Rs. 2 per year for workers earning Rs. 50 and under per month; Rs. 3 for those earning Rs. 50 to 100; Rs. 4 for those earning Rs. 100 and upwards.	300
3. Sukkur	The N. W. Railway Union (Sukkur District).	254	Subscription at the rate of 4 per cent. of monthly pay from all members.	217
4. Karachi	The N. W. Railway Union (Karachi District).	500	Do.	200
5. Sholapur	The Barai Light Railway Employees' Union.	About 17	An amount equal to one day's pay as drawn by a member on the 1st of January of each year.	From Rs. 4 to Rs. 15.
6. Poona	The Prest Workers' Union	4	As. 2 to As. 3	About 2.



HOUSING OF THE INDUSTRIAL CLASSES

RENTS FOR DEVELOPMENT CHAWLS

The Development Directorate under Government orders is to charge Rs. 9-8-0 per ground-floor, Rs. 10 per first-floor, and Rs. 10-8-0 per second and third floor tenement in the newly constructed Development *chawls*. Rs. 10 will be the average rate. Priority of occupation will be given to the industrial classes. The so-called 'economic' rent per single room tenement works out to the monthly rental of Rs. 14-8-0 and the difference between the economic and the concession rent will be made up by the cotton cess. If employers of labour want to take up blocks of rooms or *chawls* it is proposed to charge them the full economic rent of Rs. 14-8-0 per mensem.

THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH

In this connexion, His Excellency the Governor at the Municipal Corporation Banquet on 12th March spoke as follows:—

Development Department

"And now I am detaining you rather longer than I meant, but there are two other matters to which I feel I must refer: and one of them is the matter which is nearest my heart and will be so long after I have left Bombay. I mean the work of the Development Department. It is because I have taken so much interest in its schemes that I have always welcomed criticism of them and always endeavoured to meet it as fully as possible. And I hope and believe that now that our schemes are advancing so rapidly, the public of Bombay is feeling an increasing measure of confidence in regard to their results. But I have noticed lately that some criticism has been directed against the *chawls* which have been and are being constructed. There is, of course, the general criticism that we ought not to build *chawls* at all, and if unlimited land were available, I would attach greater weight to it. I quite agree that the ideal form of housing is not the *chawl*, but ideals are expensive things unfortunately, and if we had waited until land was selling in Bombay at a rate cheap enough to allow of some better form of housing, at a rate, say, of four to six annas a square yard, then I think you will agree that we should have waited for ever.

And then there is a variety of criticism directed against the particular form of *chawl*. Some of it is good, sane criticism, such as that contained in a recent resolution of this Corporation. Such criticism

is always welcome, and I am glad to say that we have been able to carry out one of your suggestions (regarding the provision of *nahans* (bath rooms)) and are carefully considering the other regarding the window arrangements. And some of the criticism is vague and general and thoroughly condemnatory, describing the *chawls* sometimes as 'monstrous and sunless prisons' and sometimes as future Bolshevick seminaries. Well, I can only say that if some of these critics had as close acquaintance at first hand, as I have had, with the filthy indescribable dwellings in which the Bombay industrial workers were living four years ago and still live, they would perhaps have been less severe upon our attempts to replace them.

The Development Directorate is not seeking to provide palaces, but only clean and airy dwellings of the simplest and cheapest type possible in which plenty of light and air will be admitted, protection from sun and rain provided and privacy secured. In this attempt they have had the benefit of experience of other local bodies and of the very valuable advice of the Advisory Committees, and I challenge any critic, given the space available in Bombay and the means at our disposal, to provide these necessities in a cheaper or more expedient manner. But if he can show us how to effect improvements in our model, his suggestions will be welcomed. The people who occupy the *chawls* have made complaints on very few points, but upon all of them their wishes have been met. Needless to say their principal complaint and the one which we first anticipated was in regard to the rents demanded. We have decided to reduce these for the present so that workmen can now get rooms at rates ranging from Rs. 10 upwards. The economic rent is on an average Rs. 14-8-0 so that a considerable loss upon the outlay is involved, and although this can be met from the cotton cess at present, the decision of Government must be subject to reconsideration from time to time as the programme proceeds."

The Honourable Member in charge of the General Department pointed out during the discussion in the Legislative Council on 12th March on the question of the Development Directorate *Chawls* (tenements) that these Improvement Trust and other working class rents would have been much higher but for the Rent Act now in force and would have been nearer the rates charged by the Development Directorate.

Work of the Improvement Trust for 1921-22

According to the Annual Report of the City of Bombay Improvement Trust for the year 1921-22, the Trust are now in the middle of their extensive operations.



MAR., 1923

Sixty-three *chawls* accommodating 23,303 adults have been provided at rents ranging within the limits of Rs. 3-9-0 to Rs. 13-8-0 per room per month. The weighted average is Rs. 4-8-6. 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 (see page 18 of the *Labour Gazette* for November 1922):—

Particulars of Trust Chawls

Serial No.	Chawl.	Number of rooms.	Rent per room.	Maximum permissible population in adults.		
				Total tenements. (b)	Population per tenement.	Total population.
			Rs. a.			
1	Agripada Chawls A ..	307	3 13	307	5	1,535
2	Agripada Chawls B ..	288	3 13	288	4½	3,216
3	Agripada Chawls C ..	432	3 13	432	5	2,160
4	Chandanwadi Chawls ..	673	5 8	673	3½	2,357
5	Imamwadi Chawls A ..	877	4 6	877	4	3,508
6	Imamwadi Chawls B ..	30	4 6	30	5	150
7	Mandvi Koli Wada Chawls.	222	5 8	222	5	1,110
8	Matunga Chawls ..	15	3 13	15	5	75
9	Nagpada Chawls A ..	444	4 6	444	4½	648
10	Nagpada Chawls B ..	144	4 6	144	4½	648
11	Princess Street Chawls..	64	5 8	64	4	256
12	Superibag Chawls ..	480	3 9	480	5	2,400
13	Chinch Bunder Chawls..	372	5 0	372	5	1,860
14	Mahar Chawls ..	320	7 0	320	5	1,600
	Total ..	5,008	Weighted Average. Rs. a. p. 4 8 6	(c) 5,008	..	21,523
	Peons Chawls, 1921 ..	120	7, 10 and 13-8	120	5	575
	Kalapani Chawls, 1921..	240	7	401	5	1,205
	Foras Road Chawls, (a) 1922.	..	..	..	..	..

(a) Two blocks containing 160 rooms have been leased to B. B. & C. I. Ry. Coy. on payment of Rs. 700 per annum and a premium of Rs. 2,96,000. Two other blocks were ready for occupation containing 150 rooms in the last month of the year.
(b) The figures include Chawl Superintendent's quarters but not godowns and shops at Mandvi and Chinch Bunder. They include shops at Agripada and Chandanwadi as these are allowed to be used for human habitation.
(c) Includes 65 shops used as living rooms—vide note (b). Total number of rooms, including shops, godowns, eight shops built in verandahs of chawls and 15 rooms in Chawl Superintendent's quarters, is 5,120. The rooms in the Peon's Chawls and Kalapani Chawls were let only in the middle of the year and are not included in the total.

A large area of land covering over 125 acres has been filled in at Worli and 60 acres have been sold to the Government Development Department which has erected *chawls* (containing 80 tenements in each *chawl*). The number of *chawls* completely constructed to date are 8 at Worli, 4 at DeLisle Road and 8 at Naigaum. The Trust employed 16,000 labourers throughout the year. The majority of the labourers are housed in temporary buildings. Grain shops are established to sell cereals at cost price, and resident doctors are employed to supervise the sanitation of these labour camps.

The chief works in regard to housing carried during the year under review were as follows:—

- (1) Kalapani *chawls*.
- (2) Mazagaon *chawls*.
- (3) Foras Road *chawls*.
- (4) Kohinoor Mills *chawls*.
- (5) Quarters for Trust employees.

The average population in the Board's *chawls* (excluding the Mahars, the Peon's and Kalapani *chawls*) and semi-permanent camps were 19,723. The average death rate in the Trust *chawls* during 1921 was very much lower than that of the whole city. The rate in *chawls* and camps was about one-fourth of that of the whole city.

HUMIDIFICATION IN TEXTILE MILLS

REPORT OF THE INDUSTRIAL FATIGUE RESEARCH BOARD

Report No. 21 of the Industrial Fatigue Research Board on "Atmospheric Conditions in Cotton Weaving" by S. Wyatt, M.Sc. (His Majesty's Stationery Office, London, 1923).

More than forty years ago, in 1882, the first protest against artificial humidification in textile mills in England was raised by the Parliamentary Committee of the Trade Union Congress, as a consequence of which, an official enquiry on the subject was held by Dr. J. H. Bridges and Mr. E. H. Osborn, who recommended the ensuring of a sufficient standard of ventilation. Protests followed from time to time from various Weavers' Associations against the introduction of an unnecessary amount of moisture into weaving sheds and a total abolition of the process of steaming was demanded. Departmental Committees were appointed under Sir Henry Roscoe and Sir



Hamilton Freer Smith in 1896 and 1906, and on the recommendations of the two Committees statutory orders were passed in 1896 by the Secretary of State making compulsory the whitewashing of roofs, the lagging of steam pipes, and in 1906 the adoption of a chemical standard of purity for the prevention of the accumulation of more than twelve volumes of Carbon Dioxide in 10,000 volumes of air. In 1914 Sir Hamilton Freer Smith was engaged in further discussions with employers and operatives but the subject was shelved on the outbreak of war.

The pathological aspect of the question was entirely lost sight of in the earlier discussions held. Dr. T. M. Legge's enquiries from a study of mouth temperatures, in the first decade of the nineteenth century, resulted in a conclusion being reached "that weavers in humid sheds are likely to be working under adverse physiological conditions". In 1918 the Industrial Fatigue Research Board was established under the chairmanship of Mr. William Graham, M. P., "to advise upon or carry out schemes of research referred to them from time to time by the Medical Research Council, undertaken to promote better knowledge of the relations of hours of labour and of other conditions of employment, including methods of work, to functions of the human body, having regard both to the preservation of health among the workers and to industrial efficiency; and to take steps to secure the co-operation of industries in the fullest practical application of the results of this research work to the needs of industry". This Board conducted their investigations into the conditions in the weaving sheds in the cotton industry under the supervision of Mr. S. Wyatt, M.Sc. The results of Mr. Wyatt's enquiry are embodied in the Board's Report No. 21 on "Atmospheric Conditions in Cotton Weaving".

Mr. Wyatt's investigations are principally based on a series of readings taken with a kata thermometer, an instrument invented by Dr. Leonard Hill for measuring directly the total cooling effect of air. The problem of ventilation where a humid atmosphere is required has not yet been adequately solved. Ventilation depends on three main factors—temperature, moisture and air movement. If

temperature must be high and moisture must be present, reasonable work conditions can only be secured by increasing air movement. Mr. Wyatt, therefore, concludes that the basic requirements for bettering present conditions are the introduction of devices for increasing air velocity in sheds where artificial humidification is resorted to. He recommends, principally, attaching strips of some stiff material to heald rollers, a device considered to be very effective not only for increasing the rate of air movement but also for cooling the air in the vicinity of the weaver.

The regulation of humidification by rules is no easy matter. The prohibition of artificial humidification would ruin the cotton industry, but there is good reason for believing that it is possible so to regulate artificial humidification as to effect a marked amelioration in working conditions without detriment to the industry.

The questions of humidification and ventilation have been under the consideration both of the Government of India and of the Mill-owners' Association for many years, but no satisfactory solution has yet been reached in this country. The question was examined by the Textile Factories Labour Committee in 1907 and was also considered by the Factory Labour Commission in 1908. Both Committees recommended that an attempt should be made to fix standards of ventilation but they did not consider it practicable to fix a single standard of humidity for the whole of India.

A Factory Ventilation Committee was appointed in 1911 by the Government of Bombay, but in the absence of satisfactory physiological data and owing to the lack of an officer with expert knowledge, the Committee could not arrive at any definite conclusions. The enquiries of this Committee were suspended on the outbreak of war. In 1921 the Secretary of State for India was asked to secure the services of an expert to conduct a preliminary enquiry and collect the necessary data with a view to the consideration of the whole subject, as affecting India, by a small Committee on conclusion of the prescribed series of observations. The Secretary of State secured the services of Mr. Maloney, who was appointed as an Adviser on Humidification to the Government of India. Mr. Maloney has expert training in this work and is also qualified as a Factory Inspector in England. He has been



conducting extensive observations and enquiries in all cities and towns in India where textile mills are situated. The work done covers an investigation into the systems of humidification and ventilation adopted, an examination of the climatic conditions that exist in different parts of the country at different seasons and a research into the health of the operatives. Mr. Maloney has now submitted his report to the Government of India and he has been appointed Assistant Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and Millowners' Association, Bombay.

The investigations in Great Britain showed that the influence of a very warm moist atmosphere is to diminish the difference between the internal temperature of the body as a whole, and to throw a tax on the power of accommodation, which is indicated by the low blood pressure. Notwithstanding the rapid rate of the pulse, this is exactly the condition which would explain the discomfort and low state of health of which many of the weavers complain. These investigations also indicated that in a weaving machine the machine sets the pace and the worker must neglect the dictates of his sensations, which are the natural guardians of his health and well-being. He must strive, as far as possible, to accommodate himself to the adverse conditions of heat and moisture. Some workers can respond to the demand better than others, but all must have their powers of accommodation taxed when the temperature rises. It is not surprising, therefore, that at the end of a day's work many of the weavers complain that they have no energy left, have no great desire for food, and need only drink and rest. Apart altogether from considerations of health, excessive temperatures and humidity do not pay inasmuch as they limit production and lead to the manufacture of an inferior product.

Interpretation of the Factories Act

In reply to a reference from the Government of Madras, the Government of India have endorsed the opinion of the Advocate-General, Madras, to the effect that the words "mechanical power" in section 3 (a) of the Factories Act (XII of 1911) cannot be considered to include machines worked by hand. This view is in accordance with English decisions on the same point (see *Willmott v. Paton* (1902) 1 K. B. 237). The attention of Inspectors of Factories is directed to this ruling.

MATERNITY AND CHILDWELFARE LEGISLATION IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES*

Object of Legislation

The advantages of a maternity benefit system to women workers are universally recognised. It is only a part of the whole movement due to the realisation of the fact that the health of the wage-earning population is one of the greatest responsibilities of the State. The care of the woman wage-earner assumes greater importance under modern industrial conditions. Maternity benefits are designed to protect the health of mothers and children by providing adequate medical and nursing care in childbirth and by providing pecuniary relief for the woman during her enforced absence from work. Towards this end the exclusion of the expectant mother from industrial work for some period before and after childbirth, is necessary. Most of the leading countries in the world have, therefore, made provision by legislative enactment. The object of all existing legislation is briefly (1) to protect the health of both mother and child by ensuring proper rest to the mother shortly before and after childbirth; and (2) to ensure the health of the child after the mother returns to work.

Thus, in addition to mere exclusion from employment, which is difficult in the case of low paid grades of women workers, and the provision of pecuniary relief during that period, some laws endeavour to ensure that the woman shall not be penalised under her contract of work for leaving without notice shortly before confinement and that she shall be reinstated after the period of exclusion.

* The following publications are available for reference in the Labour Office Library—

1. *Report on the Employment of Women and Children and the Bern Convention of 1906*—Report No. II, League of Nations.—Prepared by the Organising Committee for the International Labour Conference, Washington, 1919.
2. *Maternity Benefit Systems in Certain Foreign Countries* by Henry J. Harris. Legal Series No. 3. Bureau Publication No. 57. U. S. Dept. of Labor, Children's Bureau.
3. *Report on the Physical Welfare of Mothers and Children—England and Wales*—Vols. 1 and II by E. W. Hope (The Carnegie United Kingdom Trust).
4. *Child Welfare*—by Nora Milnes (J. M. Dent & Sons, Ltd., London).
5. *The Welfare of the Expectant Mother*—by Mary Scharlieb (Cassell & Co., Ltd., London).
6. *The Child Welfare Movement*—by J. E. Lane Claydon (G. Bell & Sons, Ltd., London).
7. *Maternity and Infant Welfare*—by Ruth Young (The Lady Chelmsford All-India League for Maternity and Child Welfare, Dalh).
8. *The Mother and the Infant*—by E. V. Eckhard (G. Bell & Sons, Ltd., London).



Lastly, in regard to the second object stated above, attempts are being made in a few countries by requiring the employer to provide opportunities for nursing mothers to feed their infants in a special room attached to their workplaces.

Restriction of Employment before and after Childbirth

The Spanish law on this subject applies to "any kind of work". The Belgian law covers commercial establishments, restaurants, factories and workshops, offices attached to industrial works, and transport undertakings. The health insurance systems of Germany and Great Britain cover the greater part of all industries and occupations. In New Zealand the regulation applies to all factories and workshops but not to commercial or any other undertakings. Italy restricts membership in the national maternity insurance fund to wage-earners in manufacturing industries and women employed in rice fields. In South Africa, Western Australia, Italy, Denmark, Norway and Sweden, smaller workshops have been excluded. The tendency is marked in recent legislation of including nearly all occupations and all industries.

The period of exclusion from work varies from four to eight weeks, of which six weeks must be after confinement, as in Germany. The South African Factories' Act of 1918 prescribes a period of four weeks before the confinement and eight weeks after childbirth. In some countries the production of a medical certificate that the woman is fit to return to work shortens the period of exclusion, as in Japan, where the five weeks' rest allowed may be reduced to three weeks, and the six weeks allowed in Spain may be reduced to four. The shortest period of exclusion is in Italy and Denmark, viz., four weeks. There is a tendency to increase the period of exclusion from employment. Thus, in Spain, in 1907, the three weeks' exclusion after childbirth was increased to six weeks. In this connexion, the Lady Doctor who enquired into the conditions of women workers in this Presidency, is of opinion that one month before and one month after childbirth is sufficient for the industrial women workers here.

The right to leave work before confinement and to demand reinstatement after the compul-

sory rest, is given to women workers in France, Norway, Spain and Sweden. In Switzerland, a pregnant woman may leave at any time and may not be dismissed on that account. The ideal period of such exclusion varies in different countries, depending on the nature of the industries and the conditions of life in each. In France, Italy, Norway, Spain and Sweden, nursing mothers are allowed time during the hours of work to feed their infants. In Denmark, Italy, France and Portugal, special rooms are to be provided for this purpose.

Maternity Benefits and Allowances

There are three ways of aiding the mother at childbirth in the chief industrial countries, viz. :—

- (1) Providing the mother both before and after confinement, with skilled nurses, medical attendance and helpful advice for which she pays if she is able, but providing no cash benefits—a method developed thoroughly in New Zealand by voluntary organisation and with excellent results.
- (2) Providing a sum of money on the birth of a child—the State supplying the funds and
- (3) Insurance—by collecting money in advance from the insured persons, their employers and in some cases from the State.

In most leading countries maternity systems have been combined with the sickness insurance systems for economy in administration. All the larger and most of the smaller countries provide for some form of cash benefits for women wage-earners. These countries are : Australia, Austria, Bosnia, Denmark, France, Germany, Great Britain, Herzegovina, Hungary, Italy, Luxemburg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Roumania, Russia, Serbia, Sweden and Switzerland. Germany took the lead in 1884, and by 1914 all the other countries had fallen into line. The appalling loss of life during the war has concentrated the attention of the world on the subject of infant mortality and the care of mothers during childbirth to a greater extent than ever before. The benefits provided in various countries consist of (1) a sum of money either in one payment or in weekly payments, (2) medical and surgical service and medicine, and (3) a small weekly sum paid while the mother herself nurses the child. The maternity benefit, which is practically a substitute for wages, varies from 50, to 75 per cent. of the wages, with a tendency in recent



legislation to increase the amount to full wages. The sick-wage is paid from 2 to 12 weeks, this period, usually, being divided—2 to 4 weeks before childbirth, and the remainder after childbirth. The British and Australian plans grant a specified sum to the mother, to be paid on the occasion of childbirth. In other words, the entire female wage-earning population of Germany, Great Britain, Austria, France and Russia are in receipt of some sort of aid, during the period of childbirth, while in Australia, every case of childbirth receives a money grant. In Czecho-Slovakia, Germany, Norway and Roumania, usually 50 or 60 per cent. of the wages are paid as maternity benefit. In Great Britain, according to the amending Act of 1913, a lump sum of £3 altogether, is paid from her own insurance as maternity benefit to the wife whose husband is not insured, on condition that she abstains from work during the four weeks after confinement. The Australian Maternity Allowances Act, 1912, gives a grant of £5 to every Australian woman who gives birth to a child. Lastly, in the majority of countries, except in a few of the larger ones, the mother is provided with free medical attendance and medicine. A notable exception is the United States of America where there is no national or State system of maternity benefits. The increasing rate of infant mortality in Japan showed the necessity for the protection of expectant mothers, especially among industrial workers. In 1920 a municipal maternity hospital was opened in Osaka for the benefit of those who are unable to pay. In addition there are consultation offices.

The Scope and Cost of the Benefits

Generally only wage-earners and not salaried workers are entitled to maternity benefits. Further restriction is made on the basis of income. Thus, in Great Britain the limit of earnings is placed at £160 annual earnings. The Federal Government of Australia paid out Rs. 1,01,24,504* in maternity allowances in 1913-14, i.e., about 3 per cent. of the consolidated revenue of the Government. In France, over Rs. 30,82,192* from the National Government and an equal sum from the local Governments are expended in this way.

* 84/62 = £1; £1 = Rs. 15.

A table is appended to this article, describing the scope of the legislation regarding maternity benefits and allowances in some of the principal countries.

The Position in India

In India the subject of maternity benefits to women workers has not passed beyond the stage of investigation. The period for which women abstain from work after confinement varies considerably in different parts of India. Religious and social customs prescribe periods varying from 10 to 40 days. No such prohibitions exist in regard to work before delivery. Again, factories do not keep records showing the causes of non-attendance. The results of enquiries made show that in the United Provinces the period of abstention among the lower classes seldom exceeds a fortnight. In Madras the interval is one of two or three months. In Bombay, women return to their villages a fortnight before delivery and resume work a fortnight after. In Bihar and Orissa the usual period of abstention is a month before and a month after delivery; and in the Central Provinces, six weeks' absence is the general rule. The payment of a maternity benefit will remove the incentive to a too early return to work. In India, under these existing circumstances compulsory abstinence from work is not practicable. Further, the system of birth registration at present in force in most parts of India is not sufficiently accurate. Maternity Benefit schemes are very rare in India. However, some enlightened employers have already started maternity benefit schemes for their workers. Special mention may be made of the Maternity Schemes prevailing in the group of Mills controlled by Messrs. Tata Sons, Ltd., and Currimbhoy Ebrahim & Sons, Ltd. They have found that by offering pecuniary aid at the time of confinement they not only attract a better class of labour, but that the labour itself becomes more stable. Periodical statistics showing the benefits paid in the Tata group of mills have been published in previous issues of the *Labour Gazette* (see pages 28, 36, 17 and 35 of the *Labour Gazette* for January, September and December 1922 and January 1923 respectively). The Report of the Lady Doctor appointed in connection with



maternity benefits to women workers in this Presidency was published in the *Labour Gazette* for September 1922.

International Regulation

The world has realised the increasing importance of regulating the employment of women before and after childbirth and the question formed the subject of a Draft Convention adopted by the first International Labour Conference held in Washington in 1919. The general idea of the Convention is that a woman in an industrial undertaking

- (a) shall not be permitted to work during the six weeks following her confinement;
- (b) shall have the right to leave her work if she produces a medical certificate stating that her confinement will probably take place within six weeks;
- (c) shall, while so absent, be paid benefits for the full and healthy maintenance of herself and her child, provided either out of public funds or by means of a system of insurance, and as an additional benefit shall be entitled to free attendance by a doctor or certified midwife; and
- (d) shall in any case, if she is nursing her child, be allowed half an hour twice a day during her working hours for this purpose.

The Government of India, while recognising the importance of the subject are of opinion that the time has not yet arrived for the adoption in India of a compulsory benefit scheme. Meanwhile, they recommend the extension of the existing organisations so as to include industrial workers, if possible in close co-operation with the All-India League for Maternity and Child Welfare. In short, the difficulties in the way of legislation in India are (1) the lack of public opinion in support of proposals; (2) the impossibility of supervising a scheme which extends to all industries; (3) the ease of evasion on both sides when the scheme is restricted to a few highly organised industries; and (4) the small supply of women doctors in India, and generally the difficulty of providing the medical aid required by the Draft Convention.

Conclusion

Maternity Benefits are no longer an experiment. No country which has adopted a scheme of Maternity Benefits has abandoned it. The tendency, on the other hand, has been towards including larger groups of

population, towards increasing the benefits and voluntary insurance is being replaced by State systems. The advantages of maternity benefits in England are summed up in the following words of the Annual Report of the British Insurance System, 1913-14*—

"Experience limited to some 18 months is inadequate to measure accurately the effect which maternity benefit may have in improving the national physique, in raising the general standard of health among working women, and in reducing the rate of infantile mortality. But already maternity benefit has thrown great light on the nature of the problem presented for solution, and has revealed many things on which there has hitherto been only the scantiest knowledge.

It has, for example, been made clear that the expectation of unavoidable expense in connexion with the actual confinement compelled working women to work up to the last possible moment before confinement occurred, in order that there might be money in hand to meet those inevitable expenses. Expectant mothers were thus in most cases under the necessity of running every kind of risk because they could not afford to cease work; and this consciousness of the necessity of continuing work seems to have led many women to ignore dangerous symptoms during the period of pregnancy, in an optimistic belief that it would not really hurt them to continue work which in any case they could not afford to drop. But the assurance of receiving the maternity benefit of 30s. at the time of confinement, by enabling women to dispense with the necessity of collecting a special reserve of money for the confinement expenses, encourages them to seek, and makes it possible for them to obey, medical advice during pregnancy; and thus it provides a remedy not only against poverty but partially also against the evils of ignorance. It must be remembered that, where a woman ceases work through the occurrence of dangerous symptoms and complications in the course of her pregnancy, sickness benefit may be available for her, if she is herself insured. This provision, of course, co-operates with the expectation of maternity benefit; maternity benefit dispensing with the necessity of collecting a reserve for confinement expenses, and sickness benefit compensating to some extent for the actual loss of wages, the current income required to meet normal expenses and insured persons themselves, particularly women, when expressing appreciation of maternity benefit, seldom fail to emphasize the relief which it affords from insecurity, with its attendant strain, before and at the time of confinement."

* Report on the Administration of the National Insurance Act, Part I (Health Insurance), 1913-14, Cl. 7496: His Majesty's Stationery Office, London.

Summary of Provisions Granting Benefits or Allowances to Women during their enforced Absence from Work Before and After Confinement

Country and Acts, etc., and References.	Scope.	Amount of Benefit.	Duration of Benefit.	Outline of System by which Benefits are Secured.
BRITISH EMPIRE.				
<i>Great Britain—</i> (1) National Insurance Acts, 1911—18. (2) Maternity and Child Welfare Act, 1918.	All employment with a few specified exceptions. Out-workers included.	Married women receive 30s. from their husband's insurance and 30s. from their own, or 2 benefits of 30s. each from their own insurance if the husband is not insured. Unmarried mothers receive 30s. from their own insurance.	If a woman is unfit for work before confinement or more than 4 weeks after she can claim sickness benefit at the rate of 7s. 6d. a week.	Compulsory sickness insurance, contribution paid partly by employer, partly by worker and partly by the State.
<i>Australia—</i> Act of 10th October, 1912.	All women regardless of employment.	£5.	.....	This grant is made from Commonwealth funds to every woman who gives birth to a child.
<i>Czechoslovakia—</i> Law of 30th March, 1888, amended 20th November, 1917, and Act of the Czechoslovakian Republic, 15th May, 1919.	Industrial and Commercial work, Agriculture, Home Work, Domestic Service.	Free medical attendance, medicine, midwife, etc. Amount varies: as a rule, about 60 per cent. of daily earnings; may rise to 5k. with benefit for nursing child to 7-50k a week.	From the third day of illness until 6 weeks after confinement, but may be extended to 4 weeks before and nursing benefit to 26 weeks after.	Compulsory sickness insurance; contributions paid $\frac{1}{2}$ by worker and $\frac{1}{2}$ by employer.
<i>France—</i> (1) Act of 17th June, 1913. (2) Finance Act of 30th July, 1913. (3) Circular of 18th August, 1913. (4) Decree of 17th December, 1913.	French women without means, habitually employed by others at a wage, either as workers, employees or domestic servants; women home-workers are included.	Fixed in each commune by the communal council, but must not be less than fr. 50 a day or more than fr. 1.50 unless the commune pays the extra itself exclusively. An extra fr. 50 a day is paid after the confinement, if the mother nurses the infant herself. Benefit paid only on condition that the woman refrains from working.	Before confinement on production of medical certificate of unfitness for work. After confinement for 4 weeks. Not more than 8 weeks altogether.	The funds are raised by charity, communal rates, and subventions from the Departments and the State. The relief is administered chiefly by the communal authorities.
<i>Germany—</i> Insurance Code, 1911.	All employments, including homework.	Half wages. Sick funds may also provide midwives services and medical attendance.	8 weeks, 6 of which must be after confinement.	Compulsory insurance; contributions paid, $\frac{1}{2}$ by worker and $\frac{1}{2}$ by employer.
<i>Italy—</i> Act of 17th July, 1910.	Industries, building works, quarries and mines.	40 lire for each confinement (including miscarriages).	.....	All women workers between 15 and 20 years of age pay 1 lire p.a., and between 20 and 50, 2 lire p.a. to the Maternity Fund. The fund is administered by a committee appointed by the National Provident Invalidity and Old Age Pension Fund for Workers, including one-third representatives of the workers. The State pays 10 lire of the benefit in each case.*
<i>Netherlands—</i> Act of 5th June, 1913.	Covers all employment with a few exceptions, such as persons receiving high salaries or with private incomes, etc.	Full amount of the average wage in classes, i.e., 50 fl., 80 fl., 1.20 fl., 1.60 fl., 2.20 fl., 3.00 fl.; or 4.00 fl. a day.	For whole time of incapacity for work.	Compulsory sickness insurance; contributions paid half by employer and half by worker.

* During the war the Fund was authorized to give extraordinary bonuses of 20 lire in addition to the 40 lire.

INFANT MORTALITY IN BOMBAY

The annual general meeting of the Bombay Presidency Infant Welfare Society was held in Bombay on 7th March 1923. Dr. J. E. Sandilands, speaking at the meeting, pointed out how infant welfare work in England had phenomenally reduced the rate of infant mortality—from 156 in the last years of the 19th century to 81 in the quinquennium 1916—1920. Bombay, on the other hand, presents the sad spectacle of 666 deaths per 1,000 births in 1921. But it must be remembered that five or six thousand mothers go annually to their homes in the mofussil for their confinement and the infants born there are not registered in Bombay. At the age of 3 or 4 weeks they are brought back to Bombay, and if they die their deaths are credited to the city, although their births are not. Had 5,000 births been added to the number registered in Bombay to make allowance for the children returning at the age of 3 or 4 weeks, the death rate for 1921 would have been 528 instead of 666. The high figure for 1921 was due to the continuance of influenza of a fatal type among children after the 1918 epidemic. The figure for 1922 is 402 and allowing for mofussil births the rate would be 308 deaths per 1,000 births. The reduction in 1922 is in no small measure due to the work of the Infant Welfare Society.

**WELFARE WORK IN MILLS
THE AHMEDABAD CALICO MILLS**

At the Ahmedabad Manufacturing and Calico Printing Co., Ltd., where about 6,000 operatives are employed, a hospital with a dispensary forms an integral part of the welfare scheme. It is understood that in the year 1922, 10,000 patients availed themselves of the free medical aid so provided. Full wages are paid to an employee while under treatment for injury resulting from an accident in the mill.

No pregnant woman operative is allowed to work after her seventh month of pregnancy, and during that period before delivery she is paid Rs. 15 as maternity allowance, and to prevent her working elsewhere she is made to attend the hospital for a couple of hours daily. The delivery is conducted at the mill hospital free of charge. Last year 18 such cases were conducted at the hospital. After 12 days

she is allowed to go home, but not to resume work till another month, for which period again an allowance of Rs. 15 is paid. The Maternity benefit is further extended to the families of other employees who get the free attendance of a trained nurse for conducting delivery cases at their ownplaces.

THE TATA GROUP OF MILLS

The following table shows the number of women operatives of the mills controlled by Messrs. Tata Sons, Ltd., who were treated by their Lady Doctor during January 1923 and the average for the ten months ended December 1922.

Disease.	January 1923	Average for 10 months ended December 1922
I Alimentary System (Dyspepsia, Diarrhœa, Dysentery, etc.)	74	50
II Respiratory System (Bronchitis, pneumonia, asthma, etc.)	25	17
III Nervous System	18	17
IV Malaria	33	27

**WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION IN
THE UNITED KINGDOM**

STATISTICS FOR 1921

The Labour Office has received a copy of the *Statistics of Compensation and of Proceedings under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, and the Employers' Liability Act, 1880*, during the year 1921 (Cmd. 1793; 1923). The following figures are of interest:—

In 1921, 7,315,866 persons in the United Kingdom employed in the seven industries—mines, quarries, railways, factories, docks, constructional work and shipping—came within the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, as compared with 8,348,150 in 1920. The total number of cases in which compensation was paid in 1921 was 285,746 and the total amount of compensation paid was £5,509,395. The average payment in fatal cases was £217 in 1921 as compared with £214 in 1920, and the average for all non-fatal cases being £17-12s in 1921 as against £13-13s in 1920. As compared with 1920, the decrease in 1921 in the total amount of



compensation paid was due to the increase of unemployment and the reduction in wages in many important industries. The following table shows the number of cases, fatal and non-fatal and the compensation paid, for the years 1919, 1920 and 1921 :—

Number of cases and compensation paid

Year.	Number of cases.			Payments of Compensation.		
	Fatal.	Non-fatal.	Total.	Fatal.	Non-fatal.	Total.
1919	3,293	365,176	368,469	£ 687,477	£ 3,929,246	£ 4,616,723
1920	5,531	381,986	387,517	£ 755,657	£ 5,222,352	£ 5,978,009
1921	2,385	283,361	285,746	£ 518,064	£ 4,991,331	£ 5,509,395

The 283,361 disablement cases in 1921 included 41,960 cases which continued from 1920. 240,446 cases terminated during the year under report and 42,915 cases were outstanding. Again, out of the 283,361 cases, 17,864 were settled by payment of a lump sum. The bulk of the cases of industrial disease occurred in the mining industry. Compensation was paid in the seven industries in 14 fatal cases to the amount of £3,101 and in 9,276 disablement cases to the amount of £417,079. The 14 fatal cases included 12 cases of lead poisoning, 1 of anthrax and 1 of beat knee. The number of persons employed in each industry and the amounts paid for compensation in 1921 were as follows :—

Industry.	Number of persons employed.	Total compensation paid.		Charge per person Employed.*	
		£.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Shipping	201,464	156,525	15 6	(16 6)	
Factories	5,218,311	2,463,782	9 5	(9 3)	
Docks	127,844	211,385	33 1	(29 5)	
Mines	1,109,023	2,257,511	40 9	(37 3)	
Quarries	62,722	65,171	20 9	(19 0)	
Constructional Work.	86,444	66,889	15 6	(13 5)	
Railways	510,058	288,132	11 4	(11 8)	
Total	7,315,866	5,509,395	15 1	(14 4)	

*The charge per person employed is arrived at by dividing the total amount of compensation paid by the number of persons employed. The figures in brackets show the charge per person employed in 1920.)

DURATION OF COMPENSATION

The following table shows that there has been a marked increase in the duration of accident disablement cases during the years

1919—1921. The increase is more marked in the case of industrial diseases :—

Duration of Compensation

Year.	Terminated cases which lasted			
	Less than 4 weeks.	4 weeks and less than 13.	13 weeks and less than 26.	26 weeks and over.
Cases of Accidents.				
1919	59·55	34·76	3·73	1·96
1920	58·21	35·62	4·00	2·17
1921	55·16	37·05	5·28	2·51
Cases of Industrial Disease.				
1919	36·56	33·22	8·04	22·1
1920	31·70	30·25	10·52	27·53
1921	31·26	29·96	10·28	28·50

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES

STATISTICS FOR FEBRUARY 1923

The first monthly summary of the accidents in factories and workshops in Bombay City and Island, during January 1923, was published on page 16 of the February issue of the *Labour Gazette*. The second summary which is published on the next page contains details of (1) the accidents reported during February in Bombay City and Island and (2) the accidents in other parts of the Presidency reported during January and February.

During February in Bombay City and Island there were in all 120 factory accidents of which 9 were serious and 111 minor. There were no fatal accidents. Of the total accidents 44 or 37 per cent. were due to machinery in motion and 76 or 63 per cent. were due to other causes. By far the largest number of accidents occurred in Workshops, the percentages classified according to the class of factory being 34 per cent. in textile mills, 62 per cent. in workshops and 4 per cent. in miscellaneous concerns.

In the mofussil the total number of accidents (reported to Bombay) during January and February 1923 were 22 and 17 respectively. As in Bombay, the largest number of accidents occurred in Workshops. In January there were 2 fatal, 2 serious and 18 minor accidents. In February there were no fatal accidents but there were 5 serious and 12 minor accidents.



Accidents in Factories during February 1923 Bombay City and Island

Class of Factory.	No. of accidents due to		Nature of accident.			Total No. of accidents.	Remarks.
	Machinery in motion.	*Other causes.	Fatal.	Serious.	Minor.		
I. Textile Mills— Cotton Mills	29	11	..	5	35	40	
Woolen Mills	1	..	..	..	1	1	
Total	30	11	..	5	36	41	
II. Workshops— Engineering	3	8	..	1	10	11	
Railway	8	51	..	2	57	59	
Mint	..	3	..	..	3	3	
Others	1	..	..	..	1	1	This accident was in a cabinet works.
Total	12	62	..	3	71	74	
III. Miscellaneous— Chemical works	..	2	..	1	1	2	
Flour Mills	1	..	..	..	1	1	
Others	1	1	..	..	2	2	One of these was in an aerated water factory and the other in a Bleaching and Dyeing works.
Total	2	3	..	1	4	5	
Total, all Factories	44	76	..	9	111	120	

* Mainly burns, scalds, falls, cuts, shocks, flying pieces of metal, falling of heavy weights, etc.

Accidents in Factories during January and February 1923

* Mofussil of Bombay (reported to Bombay)

Class of Factory.	No. of accidents due to				Nature of accident.						Total No. of accidents.	Remarks.	
	Machinery in Motion.		Other causes.		Fatal.		Serious.		Minor.				
	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.	Jan.	Feb.			
I. Textile— Cotton Mills	1	2	2	1	..	..	..	3	3	..	3	3	
Cotton Press	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	
Total	2	2	2	2	1	..	..	3	3	1	4	4	
II. Workshops— Railway	2	1	12	9	..	..	..	1	14	9	14	10	
Amunition works	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	2	
Total	2	1	12	11	..	..	..	2	14	10	14	12	
III. Miscellaneous— Cin Factory	2	1	1	..	..	..	2	..	1	1	3	1	
Paint works	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	
Total	3	1	1	..	1	..	2	..	1	1	4	1	
Total, all Factories	7	4	15	13	2	..	2	5	18	12	22	17	

* Mainly Sholapur, Bhusawal, Hubli, Barsi, Kirkee and Kurla.



QUESTIONS IN THE LEGISLATURE

Tenants' Strike

Rao Bahadur R. R. Kale asked: In how many villages in the Satara and Belgaum districts lands of the landlord class are left uncultivated by the tenants on account of the strike made for reducing the exorbitant demands of the landlords? Is it a fact that the landlords there do not get any help from the village balutas as before?

The Honourable Sir Ibrahim Rahimtoola replied: In the Satara district, there was a partial tenants' strike in 24 out of 1,356 villages and lands of certain Brahman landlords were left uncultivated owing to alleged exorbitant demands. The situation has since materially altered and such lands are being cultivated again in some talukas. There are no instances in the Belgaum district of the kind referred to by the M.L.C., but in five villages in the Chandgad Mahal, there were some isolated cases of some lands of a few money-lending landlords remaining uncultivated owing to personal grievances of the tenants against landlords on account of money dealings. In the villages in the Satara district, those landlords who refuse to pay baluta* do not generally get help from the balutedars. In the Belgaum district, no instances of the landlords not getting help from the village balutedars as before have come to notice.

Order regarding Striker Shanbhogs †

Mr. A. N. Surve asked: (a) Is it true that the Collector of Kanara and the Prant Officer, Rao Bahadur S. S. Krimattur, either orally or in writing had given the striker shanbhogs to understand through Mr. Nadig, Mamlatdar of Kumta, that the order entailing loss of service and grade will not be enforced?

(b) Were these shanbhogs given their pay until March 1922 under the revised scale without taking into account the loss of service and grade they had incurred at the time of resuming the service after the strike?

(c) Has there been a want of uniformity of treatment in the case of striker talatis of the Southern Division on the one hand and Northern Division and Central Division on the other hand?

The Honourable Sir Ibrahim Rahimtoola replied: Government have carefully examined the order passed by the local officers regarding the loss of previous service and grade in the case of striker shanbhogs in the Kanara district, and have decided to accord them, as far as possible, the same treatment as was accorded to strikers in other districts in the Presidency.

* Perquisites in kind or cash received by village servants from the taluka.

† Village Accountants.

Number of Children unfit for Employment under Indian Factories Act

Mr. A. N. Surve asked: Will Government be pleased to state the number of children declared unfit for employment by the Factory Inspectors under Section 8A of the Indian Factories Act (Amended) since 1st July 1922?

The Honourable Sir Ibrahim Rahimtoola replied: Information has been called for.

Mills in Bombay

Mr. A. N. Surve asked: Is it a fact that the windows of the mills in the city of Bombay are kept open only so long as the Factory Inspector is on the premises and are shut immediately after his departure?

The Honourable Sir Ibrahim Rahimtoola replied: Information has been called for.

Compulsory Education to Factory Children

Mr. A. N. Surve asked: Is it the intention of the Government to make education compulsory to factory children with a view to prevent double employment of half-timers in the mills?

The Honourable Dr. R. P. Paranjpye replied: No such proposal is under the consideration of Government at present.

Health of Mill-Hands

Mr. A. N. Surve asked: Will Government be pleased to state what arrangement exists to detect if the atmosphere in the mills of Bombay is not rendered so humid as to be injurious to the health of the persons employed therein?

The Honourable Sir Ibrahim Rahimtoola replied: The air inside the mills of Bombay City is not at present tested in a systematic way nor has any standard of humidification been fixed. The problem was under investigation before the War and systematic humidification records were taken in 15 mills in Bombay City in 1914. The enquiry was then dropped on account of shortage of staff. It was resumed in 1921 by a humidification expert appointed by the Government of India. The matter will receive further consideration after the receipt of this Officer's report.

Iron Pipes in Mills for Heating Purposes

Mr. A. N. Surve asked: Will Government state the result of the suggestions made to the mills (vide Annual Factory Report, 1920, page 4, paragraph 8) to substitute smaller wrought iron pipes for heating purposes in place of the large diameter cast iron pipes at present in use?

The Honourable Sir Ibrahim Rahimtoola replied: Only a small percentage of mills are equipped with large cast iron heating pipes. One mill has partially complied with the suggestion made in the Annual Factory Report, 1920 (page 4, paragraph 8).



Housing of Labourers

Mr. G. B. Trivedi asked: Will Government be pleased to state:—

(a) What steps they had taken to induce employers of labour in Bombay to provide housing accommodation for their labour before the Development Department started their scheme of industrial housing?

(b) Is it not a fact that some mill-owners were ready to undertake the work?

(c) What steps do they propose to take to enable mill-owners to pay high rents of the new chawls now ready at Worli and other places?

The Honourable Sir Chimanlal Setalvad replied: (a) and (b) In 1913 the City of Bombay Improvement Act, 1898, was amended by the insertion therein of sections 32 B to 32 I with a view to empower the Board of Trustees to co-operate with mill-owners for the provision of accommodation for the poorer classes of their employees and it was hoped that the facilities thus provided would be widely utilised by mill-owners and other employers of labour. This, however, did not prove to be the case, in spite of repeated efforts on the part of Government to induce mill-owners to improve the housing of their operatives in this or other ways. In 1920 section 32 G (1) of the Act was amended with a view to further encourage employers who wished to provide accommodation for their work-people by allowing them to repay the sums expended by the Improvement Trust within a period ranging from 28 to 50 years, instead of in 28 years. So far, owners of only three mills have applied to the Board of Trustees for the framing of poorer classes accommodation schemes for their mills. It is still open to employers of labour, who desire that the chawls constructed for their work-people should ultimately become their own property, to take advantage of the provisions of the Act referred to above, which are independent of the industrial housing scheme undertaken by Government. Before the industrial housing scheme was undertaken by Government, a scheme for industrial housing was drawn up which had received support from certain mill-owners in Bombay, and which, it was believed, would be adopted voluntarily by them. As the scheme involved a subsidy from State funds and local funds to a particular class of employers, and made them the owners after a comparatively short period of lands acquired and buildings erected with the aid of such funds, and as there were other important points in regard to which difficulties might arise or to which objection might be taken, Government did not consider it advisable to adopt the scheme.

(c) The Member is referred to the answer given to clause (a) of question 4 put by Mr. A. N. Surve, M.L.C., at this session of the Council. The steps

to be taken to enable mill-owners to pay the rents are for their employers to consider.

Rent of New Chawls built by Development Department

Mr. A. N. Surve asked: Will Government state:—

(a) The rents charged in the chawls built by the Development Department for the working classes?

(b) The amount spent on each chawl?

(c) The return the rent is expected to pay on the money spent?

(d) The rate of interest paid on the Development loan?

(e) The return which the Improvement Trust receives on the old Nagpada blocks built by them?

(f) The rate of interest paid by the Improvement Trust on the loan raised to build these blocks?

(g) The rent charged by the Improvement Trust in these chawls?

(h) The floor space available in each tenement in these chawls and the floor space available in the chawls of the Development Department?

The Honourable Sir Chimanlal Setalvad replied: (a) Government have now fixed, pending further orders, Rs. 10 as the minimum average rent per month per room in the Development Department chawls. The loss resulting from the rooms (the economic rent for which is Rs. 14-8-0 per month) being let at this rent will be met from the proceeds of the cotton cess.

(b) The average amount spent on each of the chawls so far constructed is approximately Rs. 1 lakh, exclusive of the cost of land, water supply mains, storm water drains, sewers, roads, etc. It is, however, anticipated that there will be some reduction in the cost of chawls constructed hereafter.

(c) The percentage return has not yet been calculated, but as already stated in the answer to the first part of this question, the difference between the rents charged for the present and the economic rent will be met from the proceeds of the cotton cess.

(d) Six and a half per cent. income tax free, equivalent approximately to seven per cent. in all.

(e) Two blocks built in 1903 give a return of 5.05 per cent. on the capital outlay, while one large block built in 1904 gives a return of 4.42 per cent. on the capital outlay.

(f) 4 per cent.

(g) Rs. 4-6-0 per month per room.

(h) The floor space available in each tenement in the Trust chawls, referred to by the Member, is 148 square feet, including the verandah. The floor space available in each tenement in the Development Department chawls is 165 square feet, except in the case of corner rooms in which the floor area is 182 square feet.



Mr. Kanji Dwarkadas asked: Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(i) If it has been decided to charge Rs. 13 or Rs. 14 a room for the new *chawls* built by the Development Department as compared with average rents for one-room *chawls* from Rs. 3-12-0 to Rs. 5-8-0 according to the *Labour Gazette*?

(ii) In view of the big difference between the normal rents for one-room *chawls* and those proposed to be charged by the Development Department, is it the intention of the Government to consider a reduction in the rents and, if so, how much?

The Honourable Sir Chimanlal Setalvad replied: (i) and (ii) The rents asked at present are provisional. The Member is referred to the answer given to clause (a) of the question No. 4 put by Mr. A. N. Surve, M.L.C., at this session of the Council.

Construction of Chawls by Development Department

Mr. Kanji Dwarkadas asked: Will the Government be pleased to put on the table statement showing—

(i) The number of *chawls* erected at (a) Worli, (b) Naigaum, (c) Parel by the Development Department for the working classes of Bombay which are ready for immediate use?

(ii) Will they be pleased to state the economic rent to be charged to the working classes?

(iii) Will they be pleased to state whether any of these *chawls* and, if so, how many, are already occupied and by what class of people, and at what rents and for what period?

(iv) Will they be pleased to state if these *chawls* were primarily built for the working classes?

The Honourable Sir Chimanlal Setalvad replied: (i) Eight *chawls* at Worli and Naigaum each, and four *chawls* at DeLisle Road.

(ii) The Member is referred to the answer given to clause (a) of question No. 4 put by Mr. A. N. Surve, M.L.C., at this session of the Council.

(iii) So far one *chawl* has been fully and eight *chawls* partially occupied mainly by lower middle class people on a monthly tenancy at rents varying from Rs. 13 to Rs. 16 per month, with an extra Re. 1 for each corner room.

(iv) The *chawls* are intended for the housing of the industrial classes.

Complaints about new Chawls built by Development Department

Mr. Kanji Dwarkadas asked: (a) Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the following complaints with regard to the new *chawls* constructed by the Development Department:—

- (1) There are no opening and shutting windows in the buildings;
- (2) There are no *nanis* (bathrooms) in the rooms?

(b) Will the Government be pleased to state if it is their intention to remedy these complaints, and, if so, in what direction?

The Honourable Sir Chimanlal Setalvad replied: (a) Yes.

(b) The question of the provision of *nanis* in the rooms is at present under consideration. Government do not intend to make at present any alteration in the design of the windows, until experience has been gained from actual occupation and use of the *chawls*, when they will be in a better position to consider this matter.

Leasing of new Chawls built by Development Department

Mr. Kanji Dwarkadas asked: (a) Will the Government be pleased to state if the Bombay Mill-owners' Association or any mill-owner in his individual capacity have approached the Government to take on lease the *chawls* built by the Development Department?

(b) If so, what are the terms offered by them and what reply Government have given them or intend to give?

The Honourable Sir Chimanlal Setalvad replied: (a) and (b) The Bombay Mill-owners' Association have not approached Government in the matter. So far four mills have desired to be informed of the terms on which the rooms will be allotted to them for the housing of their operatives. The question as to the terms on which the rooms should be allotted to mill-owners for their employees is at present under consideration. No reply has yet been given to the mills referred to.

Maternity Benefits

Mr. Kanji Dwarkadas asked: (a) Will the Government be pleased to state what action they have taken on the report of the Lady Doctor on the question of maternity benefits which appeared in the *Labour Gazette* for September 1922?

(b) And will they be pleased to state if they have asked for the permission of the Government of India to introduce legislation on the lines of the Washington Convention on maternity benefits of 1919?

The Honourable Sir Ibrahim Rahimtoola replied: (a) So far no action has been taken by Government on the report for want of funds, but the report was published in the *Labour Gazette* with the object that the employers of labour might of their own accord give effect to as many suggestions of Dr. Mrs. Barnes as possible.

(b) No such permission has been asked for because after a mature consideration of the question both the Government of India and this Government have come to the conclusion that legislation on the lines of the Washington Convention is unnecessary at present.



Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay (Foods)

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914.	February 1922.	January 1923.	February 1923.
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Cereals—						
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill	Md.	4 11 3	5 13 4	5 13 4	5 11 5
Do.	Delhi No. 1	Cwt.	5 9 6	10 8 0	7 8 0	7 5 6
Wheat	Khandwa Seoni	Candy	45 0 0	100 0 0	67 8 0	70 0 0
Do.	Jubbulpore	"	40 0 0	85 0 0	50 0 0	47 8 0
Do.	Rangoon	Md.	3 2 6	5 4 8	3 11 3	3 14 8
Jowari	—	"	3 4 6	4 12 2	3 11 3	3 4 6
Barley	Ghati	"	3 4 6	6 5 7	3 11 3	4 0 4
Bajri	—	"	—	—	—	—
Pulses—						
Gram	Punjab yellow (2nd sort)	"	4 3 9	6 15 9	4 10 6	4 0 4
Turdal	Cawnpore	"	5 10 5	9 9 10	5 4 8	5 4 8
Sugar—						
Sugar	Mauritius No. 1	Cwt.	9 3 0	20 6 0	21 6 0	23 2 0
Do.	Java white	"	10 3 0	20 10 0	21 5 0	23 8 0
Raw (Gul)	Sangli	Md.	7 14 3	14 11 1	12 14 10	11 9 0
Other food—						
Turmeric	Rajapuri	"	5 9 3	16 5 3	31 4 8	25 2 9
Ghee	Deshi	"	45 11 5	88 9 2	85 11 5	85 11 5
Salt	Bombay (black)	"	1 7 6	2 2 0	2 7 0	2 7 0

Expressed as percentages of July 1914

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Article.	Grade.	July 1914.	February 1922.	January 1923.	February 1923.
Cereals—					
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill	100	124	124	121
Do.	Delhi No. 1	100	188	134	131
Wheat	Khandwa Seoni	100	222	156	156
Do.	Jubbulpore	100	213	125	119
Do.	Rangoon	100	168	117	124
Jowari	—	100	145	113	100
Barley	Ghati	100	194	113	123
Bajri	—	100	—	—	—
Average—Cereals		100	179	125	125
Pulses—					
Gram	Punjab yellow (2nd sort)	100	165	110	95
Turdal	Cawnpore	100	170	94	94
Average—Pulses		100	168	102	95
Sugar—					
Sugar	Mauritius No. 1	100	222	233	252
Do.	Java white	100	202	209	231
Raw (Gul)	Sangli	100	186	164	147
Average—Sugar		100	203	202	210
Other food—					
Turmeric	Rajapuri	100	293	561	451
Ghee	Deshi	100	194	188	188
Salt	Bombay (black)	100	145	166	166
Average—Other food		100	211	305	268
Average—All food		100	189	173	167

Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay (Non-foods)

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914.	February 1922.	January 1923.	February 1923.
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Oils—						
Lined	Bold	Cwt.	8 14 6	14 0 0		
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown)	"	8 0 0	10 0 0	12 14 0	
Papayseed	Do.	"	10 14 0	14 8 0	13 4 0	12 9 0
Gingely	White	"	11 4 0	14 6 0	14 10 0	13 4 0
Textiles—Cotton—						
(a) Cotton—raw—						
Brosch	Good	Candy	251 0 0			15 10 0
Osutra	Fully good	"	222 0 0	350 0 0		
Dharwar	Saw-ginned	"	230 0 0		460 0 0	
Khandesh	Machine ginned	"	205 0 0			478 0 0
Bengal	Do.	"	198 0 0			
(b) Cotton manufactures—						
Twist	40S	Lb.		300 0 0	382 0 0	405 0 0
Grey shirtings	Fari 2,000	"	0 12 9	1 9 0		
White mulls	6,600	Piece	5 15 0	14 8 0	1 8 0	1 8 6
Shirtings	Loopman's 1,500	"	4 3 0	11 4 0	10 0 0	12 12 0
Long cloth	Local made 36" x 37 1/2 yds.	Lb.	10 6 0	27 8 0	25 12 0	10 0 0
Chudders	34" x 6 yds.	"	0 9 6	1 8 0	1 7 3	25 8 0
		"	0 9 6	1 6 6	1 4 9	1 6 6

Expressed as percentages of July 1914

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Article.	Grade.	July 1914.	February 1922.	January 1923.	February 1923.
Oils—					
Lined	Bold	100	157	145	141
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown)	100	125	125	127
Papayseed	Do.	100	133	122	122
Gingely	White	100	128	130	139
Average—Oils					
		100	136	130	132
Textiles—Cotton—					
(a) Cotton—raw—					
Brosch	Good	100			
Osutra	Fully good	100	159	207	215
Dharwar	Saw-ginned	100			
Khandesh	Machine ginned	100			
Bengal	Do.	100	152	193	205
Average—Cotton—raw					
		100	156	200	210
(b) Cotton manufactures—					
Twist	40S	100			
Grey shirtings	Fari 2,000	100	196	188	192
White mulls	6,600	100	244	221	215
Shirtings	Loopman's 1,500	100	269	239	239
Long cloth	Local made 36" x 37 1/2 yds.	100	265	248	246
Chudders	34" x 6 yds.	100	253	245	237
Average—Cotton manufactures					
		100	244	227	225
Average—Textiles—Cotton					
		100	222	220	221

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

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914.	February 1922.	January 1923.	February 1923.
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Other textiles—						
	Canton No. 5.	Pucca seer	5 4 0	5 8 0	5 8 0	5 8 0
	Nankin	"	17 12 0	30 8 0	30 8 0	30 8 0
Silk						
Do.		Lb.	1 2 6	1 15 4	1 14 6	1 15 9
Hides and Skins—						
	Tanned	"	1 1 3	1 1 5	1 0 7	0 12 3
Hides, Cow	Do.	"	1 4 0	2 2 8	2 14 10	1 14 8
Do. Buffalo	Do.	"				
Skins, Goat		"				
Metals—						
		Cwt.	60 8 0	83 0 0	75 8 0	77 0 0
Copper braziers		"	4 0 0	11 0 0	8 12 0	8 12 0
Iron bars		"	7 12 0	17 0 0	15 8 0	15 8 0
Steel hoops		"	9 0 0	16 0 0	19 0 0	19 0 0
Galvanized sheets		Box	8 12 0	13 0 0	19 0 0	19 0 0
Tin plates		"				
Other raw and manufactured articles—						
	Bengal	Ton	14 12 0	33 8 0	10 8 0	10 8 0
Coal	Elephant brand	2 Tins	4 6 0	8 3 0	7 10 6	7 8 0
Kerosene	Chester brand	Case	5 2 0	10 12 0	10 3 0	10 0 6
Do.						

Expressed as percentages of July 1914

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Article.	Grade.	July 1914.	February 1922.	January 1923.	February 1923.
Other textiles—					
	Canton No. 5	100	105	105	105
	Nankin	100	172	172	172
Do.					
Average—Other textiles					
		100	139	139	139
Hides and Skins—					
	Tanned	100	169	165	172
Hides, Cow	Do.	100	101	96	71
Do. Buffalo	Do.	100	173	234	153
Skins, Goat	Do.				
Average—Hides and Skins					
		100	148	165	132
Metals—					
		100	137	125	127
Copper braziers		100	275	219	219
Iron bars		100	219	200	200
Steel hoops		100	178	211	211
Galvanized sheets		100	149	217	217
Tin plates					
Average—Metals					
		100	192	194	195
Other raw and manufactured articles—					
	Bengal	100	227	71	71
Coal	Elephant brand	100	187	175	171
Kerosene	Chester brand	100	210	199	196
Do.					
Average—Other raw and manufactured articles					
		100	208	148	146
Total—Food					
		100	189	173	167
Total—Non-food					
		100	185	179	175
General Average					
		100	186	177	172

Wholesale Market Prices in Karachi (Foods)

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914.	February 1922.	January 1923.	February 1923.
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Cereals—						
Rice	Larkana No. 3	Candy	39 0 0	60 0 0	52 0 0	55 0 0
Wheat, white	5% barley 3% dirt.	"	31 8 0	77 0 0	41 0 0	38 4 0
" red	30% red. 5% barley 3% dirt.	"	31 4 0	76 8 0	40 8 0	37 12 0
" white	92% red. 2% barley 1% dirt.	"	32 8 0	79 5 0	42 4 0	39 6 0
" red	2% barley 1% dirt.	"	32 4 0	78 13 0	41 12 0	38 14 0
Jowari	Export Quality	"	25 8 0	43 0 0	26 0 0	24 0 0
Barley	3% dirt	"	26 8 0	48 0 0	27 8 0	25 8 0
Pulses—						
Gram	1% dirt	"	29 8 0	58 0 0	31 0 0	30 0 0
Sugar—						
Sugar	Java, white	Cwt.	9 2 0	21 2 0	19 11 0	23 12 0
Do.	" brown	"	8 1 6	18 0 0	....	....
Other food—						
Salt	Bengal	Maund.	2 2 0	1 10 3	1 10 6	1 11 0

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

Article.	Grade.	July 1914.	February 1922.	January 1923.	February 1923.
Cereals—					
Rice	Larkana No. 3	100	154	133	141
Wheat, white	5% barley, 3% dirt	100	244	130	121
" red	30% red.	100	245	130	121
" white	5% barley, 3% dirt.	100	244	130	121
" red	92% red.	100	244	130	121
Jowari	2% barley, 1% dirt.	100	169	102	94
Barley	2% barley, 1% dirt	100	181	104	96
Averages—Cereals		100	212	123	116
Pulses—					
Gram	1% dirt	100	197	105	102
Sugar—					
Sugar	Java white	100	232	216	263
"	" brown	100	222	....	....
Average—Sugar		100	227	216	263
Other food—Salt		100	77	78	79

Wholesale Market Prices in Karachi (Non-foods)

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914.	February 1922.	January 1923.	February 1923.
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Oilseeds—						
Cotton seed	3% admixture	Maund	2 11 3	4 4 0	3 12 0	3 13 6
Rapeseed	Black, 9% admixture	Candy	51 0 0	58 0 0	59 0 0	62 0 0
Gingelly	"	"	62 0 0	82 0 0	78 0 0	83 0 0
Textiles—						
Jute bags—	B. Twills	100 bags	38 4 0	42 0 0	52 12 0	51 4 0
Textile—Cotton—						
(a) Cotton, raw	Sind	Maund	20 4 0	35 8 0	42 12 0	45 0 0
(b) Cotton manufactures—						
Drills	Pepperill	Piece	10 3 6	21 12 0	22 12 0	22 13 0
Shirting	Liepmann's	"	10 2 0	26 0 0	24 8 0	24 8 0
Yarns	40s. Grey (Plough)	Lb.	0 12 2	....	....	....
Other Textiles—						
Wool	Kandahar	Maund	28 0 0	24 0 0	38 0 0	38 0 0

Expressed as percentage of July 1914
Price in July 1914 = 100

Article.	Grade.	July 1914.	February 1922.	January 1923.	February 1923.
Oilseeds—					
Cotton seed	3% admixture	100	157	139	142
Rapeseed	Black, 9% admixture	100	114	116	122
Gingelly	"	100	132	126	134
Average—Oilseeds		100	134	127	133
Textiles—					
Jute bags	Twills	100	110	138	134
Textiles—Cotton—					
(a) Cotton, raw	Sind	100	175	211	222
(b) Cotton manufactures—					
Drills	Pepperill	100	213	223	223
Shirtings	Liepmann's	100	257	242	242
Yarns	40s. Grey (Plough)	100	....	....	....
Average—Cotton manufactures		100	235	232	233
Average—Textiles—Cotton		100	215	225	229
Other Textiles—Wool		100	86	136	136

Wholesale Market Prices in Karachi (Non-Foods) — continued

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914.	February 1922.	January 1923.	February 1923.
			Rs. a p.	Rs. a p.	Rs. a p.	Rs. a p.
Hides—						
Hides dry	Sind	Mauud	21 4 0	15 8 0	15 0 0	14 4 0
" "	Punjab	"	21 4 0	15 8 0	15 0 0	14 4 0
Metal—						
Copper Brackets	"	Cwt.	60 8 0	85 0 0	76 0 0	76 8 0
Steel Bars	"	"	3 14 0	8 4 0	7 4 0	7 12 0
" Plates	"	"	4 6 0	11 4 0	8 8 0	8 0 0
Other raw and manufactured articles—						
Coal	1st Class Bengal	Ton	16 0 0	37 8 0	35 0 0	35 0 0
Kerosene	Chester brand	Case	5 2 0	10 10 0	10 1 0	9 14 6
"	Elephant	2 Tons	4 7 0	8 1 6	7 8 6	7 8 0

Expressed as percentages of July 1914

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914.	February 1922.	January 1923.	February 1923.
			100	64	71	67
Hides—						
Hides dry	Sind	"	100	64	71	67
" "	Punjab	"	100	64	71	67
Average—Hides			100	64	71	67
Metal—						
Copper Brackets	"	"	100	137	126	126
Steel Bars	"	"	100	213	157	200
" Plates	"	"	100	257	194	185
Average—Metal			100	202	169	170
Other raw and manufactured articles—						
Coal	1st Class Bengal	"	100	234	219	218
Kerosene	Chester Brand	"	100	239	196	195
"	Elephant	"	100	152	170	166
Average—Other raw and manufactured articles			100	208	195	186
Total—Food			100	201	126	126
Total—Non-food			100	163	162	161
General Average			100	178	147	148

Wholesale prices index numbers in Bombay by groups from January 1920
Prices in July 1914 = 100

Months.	Cereals.	Pulses.	Sugar.	Other food.	Total food.	Oil-seeds.	Raw cotton.	Cotton manufactures.	Other textiles.	Hides and skins.	Metals.	Other raw and manufactured articles.	Total non-food.	General average.
1920	184	178	325	202	215	210	202	312	153	196	297	200	241	231
January	154	160	255	141	173	148	122	284	181	175	239	200	203	192
December	158	160	306	146	185	138	120	274	163	148	233	216	195	191
1921	159	145	324	149	188	133	110	265	163	172	234	216	195	191
January	156	139	338	150	189	129	108	256	163	152	246	216	190	190
February	173	149	329	162	199	146	112	267	163	169	247	216	198	198
March	173	151	314	162	196	150	115	272	142	166	248	222	205	197
April	184	158	267	169	194	161	126	270	109	141	239	222	205	197
May	186	151	234	185	191	171	137	269	138	156	244	206	203	199
June	216	166	229	181	205	160	137	267	138	160	242	210	202	203
July	212	169	230	174	202	150	217	265	138	180	240	206	211	207
August	192	164	207	180	189	130	169	273	138	182	209	202	199	195
September	196	175	205	190	195	129	170	263	138	163	204	198	192	195
October	188	180	200	185	189	136	198	259	138	136	200	198	191	190
December	182	175	210	190	188	132	166	258	139	167	199	196	190	190
1922	179	168	205	211	189	136	156	244	139	148	192	208	187	186
January	177	166	224	241	198	140	174	251	139	168	192	196	189	182
February	179	160	228	212	195	144	179	254	139	137	187	190	185	188
March	180	160	218	220	193	149	190	250	139	139	186	192	187	189
April	169	129	220	231	187	152	202	256	139	136	191	192	191	190
May	170	134	220	228	188	151	196	255	139	142	177	188	188	188
June	166	132	227	238	188	138	197	248	139	139	183	186	184	186
July	163	127	212	241	185	135	191	229	139	142	182	181	179	181
August	145	119	210	249	178	133	173	224	139	146	185	188	177	176
September	137	111	213	260	176	133	173	220	139	122	186	182	174	174
October	129	105	216	266	170	135	185	220	139	122	186	182	174	173
December	125	102	202	305	173	130	200	227	139	165	194	148	179	177
1923	125	95	210	268	167	132	210	225	139	132	195	146	175	172

NOTE.—The figures of 1921 and 1922 in heavy type indicate the highest peak reached above the peak of 1920 which is also shown in heavy type.

Retail prices of articles of food in Bombay in July 1914, December 1922 and January 1923
The prices quoted are for local weights and measures

Articles.	Grade.	Rate per	Equivalent in tolas.	Increase (+) or decrease (-) in February 1923 over or below		
				July 1914.	January 1923.	February 1923.
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill	Paylee	216	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.
Wheat	Punjab Pissi	"	212	5 10	7 6	7 6
Barley	"	"	208	5 10	8 0	8 0
Gram	Ghat	"	200	4 3	4 5	4 10
Tur dal	Punjab red	"	208	4 7	4 11	5 2
Sugar (raw)	Cawnpore	"	204	4 4	7 6	8 0
Sugar (refined)	Singh, middle quality	Seer by weight	28	5 11	8 0	8 0
Tea	Java, white	"	28	1 2	2 5	3 3
Oil	Ceylon, middle quality	Lb.	39	1 1	10 11	10 11
Beans	Bombay, black	Paylee	188	7 10	7 6	7 6
Mutton	Crawford Market	Lb.	39	1 9	2 9	2 6
Milk	Average for sheep and goat	Seer by measure	56	2 6	5 0	5 0
Ghee	Medium	"	39	3 0	7 6	4 11
Potatoes	Belgaum, Deshi	" by weight	28	2 9	4 11	12 1
Onions	"	"	28	0 7	1 3	1 2
Cocoanut oil	"	"	28	0 3	0 8	0 9
	"	"	28	0 3	0 8	0 9
	"	"	28	3 7	4 0	4 0



Retail prices of Articles of food in January and February 1923

Articles	Price per	January 1923					February 1923				
		Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Cereals—											
Rice	Maund	6 15 7	6 10 8	8 0 0	7 0 3	8 15 5	6 15 7	6 9 7	8 0 0	7 0 3	8 3 7
Wheat	"	7 8 9	5 11 5	5 11 5	7 6 6	6 8 6	7 8 9	5 8 1	5 11 5	6 15 9	6 8 6
Jowari	"	4 3 11	3 9 2	3 2 2	3 5 7	3 15 10	4 10 8	3 7 8	3 10 10	3 8 3	4 9 8
Bajri	"	4 14 9	4 0 10	5 0 0	4 1 6	4 11 0	5 4 6	4 0 0	5 2 7	4 6 0	5 3 0
Pulses—											
Gram	"	7 3 10	4 13 3	6 2 6	5 10 9	5 4 11	6 14 1	4 9 2	6 6 5	5 3 0	5 1 9
Turdal	"	7 13 6	7 3 1	8 0 0	7 15 8	8 15 10	7 13 6	7 4 4	8 0 0	7 8 2	8 1 7
Other articles of food—											
Sugar (refined)	"	17 1 10	16 1 3	17 12 5	18 4 7	18 2 11	16 5 3	15 13 6	17 12 5	18 4 7	17 12 5
Jagri (gull)	"	17 1 10	12 14 10	13 5 4	13 5 4	12 0 6	17 6 3	12 4 11	13 5 4	13 5 4	12 15 3
Tea	Lb.	0 10 11	0 12 5	0 15 7	0 10 5	0 12 0	0 10 11	0 12 5	0 15 7	0 11 4	0 12 0
Salt	Maund	2 15 4	1 14 6	2 8 0	3 12 6	3 9 4	2 9 11	1 14 6	2 8 0	3 13 8	3 6 6
Beef	Seer	0 10 3	0 9 0	0 6 0	0 6 0	0 4 11	0 10 3	0 9 0	0 6 0	0 6 0	0 6 0
Mutton	"	0 15 5	0 10 0	0 12 0	0 10 0	0 11 0	0 15 5	0 10 0	0 12 0	0 10 0	0 11 0
Milk	Maund	17 9 4	8 6 9	10 0 0	13 5 4	13 5 4	17 9 4	7 9 11	10 0 0	13 5 4	13 5 4
Ghee	"	86 7 9	76 3 1	75 4 8	71 1 9	74 6 8	86 7 9	73 2 5	75 4 8	71 1 9	74 6 8
Potatoes	"	8 15 5	4 8 1	5 11 5	11 13 8	6 6 7	8 5 0	4 14 9	4 6 2	6 6 5	4 15 3
Onions	"	4 15 6	4 4 3	3 12 4	3 5 4	2 1 1	5 4 7	4 11 4	5 11 5	3 5 4	3 5 5
Coconut oil	"	28 9 1	25 9 7	35 8 11	26 10 8	28 1 1	28 9 1	25 9 7	32 0 0	26 10 8	28 1 1

NOTE.—1 lb. = 39 tolas; 1 maund = 82½ lbs.; 1 seer = 2⅔ lbs.; 80 tolas = 1 seer; 40 seers = 1 Indian maund.

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

Articles	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Poona
Cereals—										
Rice	125	100	130	133	155	125	99	130	133	143
Wheat	135	136	121	144	121	135	131	121	135	121
Jowari	98	98	82	117	116	107	96	97	123	134
Bajri	114	96	106	116	114	122	95	110	124	126
Average—cereals	118	108	110	127	127	122	105	115	129	131
Pulses—										
Gram	168	127	154	132	109	160	120	160	121	105
Turdal	134	108	130	137	136	134	109	130	129	123
Average—pulses	151	118	142	134	123	147	115	145	125	114
Other articles of food—										
Sugar (refined)	225	221	198	183	194	228	218	198	183	190
Jagri (gull)	200	186	150	172	172	191	177	150	172	185
Tea	140	180	200	100	146	140	180	200	109	146
Salt	199	180	166	170	191	123	145	166	173	181
Beef	199	167	100	240	115	199	180	100	240	141
Mutton	231	167	100	240	115	199	180	100	240	141
Milk	170	179	200	183	133	170	172	200	183	144
Ghee	200	83	150	296	190	170	172	169	127	144
Potatoes	200	235	169	103	341	186	91	115	160	147
Onions	320	235	150	133	103	341	186	91	115	160
Coconut oil	113	194	178	100	100	113	104	160	100	167
Average—other articles of food	193	170	173	170	152	192	170	177	159	156
Average—all food articles (unweighted)	171	149	154	156	143	170	148	158	148	145



Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices in India and Foreign Countries

Country.	ASIA AND OCEANIA				AFRICA		EUROPE					
	India (Bombay)	Japan.	Australia.	New Zealand.	Egypt (Cairo).	South Africa.	United Kingdom.				France.	Italy. (a)
No. of articles.	43	56	92	140	24	188	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	45	..
1913 Average	..	100	100	100	..	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1914	100	95	106	104	100	97	100	99	..	..	102	95
1915	..	97	147	123	102	107	127	123	..	..	140	133
1916	..	117	138	134	124	123	160	160	..	..	188	201
1917	..	148	153	151	169	141	206	204	..	..	262	299
1918	237	196	178	175	207	153	226	225	..	..	339	409
1919	222	239	189	178	226	165	242	235	..	..	356	366
1920	215	260	228	212	299	223	295	283	307	..	510	624
1921	195	219	164	195	186	138	163	170	181	171	331	599
October	193	214	159	190	181	..	161	166	173	168	332	595
November	190	210	155	189	170	..	157	162	168	162	326	595
December	190	206	154	186	169	131	156	159	164	159	314	577
1922	186	204	154	181	169	..	156	158	162	156	307	563
January	192	201	153	180	153	..	157	160	160	156	307	533
February	188	198	155	180	148	128	159	159	160	158	314	527
March	189	195	162	177	141	..	159	162	160	158	317	524
April	189	198	163	175	139	..	160	163	160	159	326	537
May	188	202	164	177	138	127	158	163	160	159	325	558
June	186	196	163	177	139	..	153	158	156	156	331	571
July	181	193	164	175	138	..	151	156	154	156	329	582
August	174	190	167	174	140	129	153	158	155	159	337	601
September	176	188	165	..	144	..	154	159	157	161	353	596
October	173	183	..	..	147	..	152	158	155	159	362	580
November	177	..	..	..	..	..	153	160	157	..	387	575
December	172	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

EUROPE—continued.

NORTH AMERICA.

Country.	Switzer-land.	Belgium.	Germany. (d)	Nether-lands (d)	Norway.	Sweden.	Denmark.	Canada.	United States of America.		
									(5)	(6)	(7)
No. of articles.	71	209	77	..	93	47	33	272	96	325	88
1913 Average	..	..	100	100	(e)	100	100	100	100	100	100
1914	100	100	105	105	100	116	..	100	..	98	..
1915	..	..	142	145	(f) 159	145	138	109	..	101	..
1916	..	..	153	222	(f) 233	185	164	134	..	127	..
1917	..	..	179	286	341	244	228	175	..	177	..
1918	..	..	217	392	345	339	293	205	..	194	..
1919	..	..	415	297	322	330	294	216	..	206	211
1920	..	..	1,486	281	377	347	..	246	216	226	239
1921	182	372	2,460	169	286	175	186	169	122	142	145
October	178	374	3,416	165	276	174	186	168	123	141	145
November	176	369	3,487	165	269	172	188	170	123	140	142
December	171	366	3,665	161	260	170	178	168	123	138	142
1922	171	356	4,103	162	253	166	177	169	124	141	146
January	163	350	5,433	161	240	164	182	166	126	142	147
February	161	344	6,355	162	236	165	178	166	125	143	149
March	160	348	6,458	165	231	164	177	167	127	148	158
April	161	356	7,030	167	230	164	179	165	129	150	162
May	163	360	10,059	162	232	165	180	166	131	155	165
June	163	360	17,985	155	227	163	180	164	131	155	165
July	163	364	27,419	153	225	158	178	163	131	153	164
August	169	385	56,600	156	221	155	176	162	136	154	165
September	170	408	115,100	158	221	154	180	164	145	156	164
October	..	407	147,480	158	220	155	182	165	149	156	164
November	..										

Cost of living index numbers for India and foreign countries

Name of country.	India (Bombay).	United Kingdom.	Canada.	Australia.	New Zealand.	Italy (Rome) (c).	Belgium.	Norway.	Switzerland.	South Africa.	France (Paris).	Germany.	U.S. (U.S.A.)
	Food, fuel, light, clothing and rent.	Food, rent, fuel, light, etc.	Food, fuel, light, household utensils and furnishing.	Food and Rent.	Food, fuel, light and rent.	Food, clothing, heat, light, rent and miscellaneous.	Food, clothing, light, fuel, and household utensils.	Food, clothing, light, rent, tax, etc.	Food, heating and lighting.	Food, fuel, light and rent.	(g)	Food, heating and lighting and rent.	Food, clothing, heating and lighting, rent, tax and miscellaneous items.
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100	100	(b) 100	(d) 100	100	(f) 100	100	100	100	(h) 100
1915 ..	125	125	125	119	107	99	116	117	119	103	100	100	105
1916 ..	148	148	148	115	113	116	116	146	140	106	100	100	118
1917 ..	180	180	180	116	119	146	197	190	180	114	100	100	142
1918 ..	203	203	203	146	118	197	253	253	229	118	100	100	174
1919 ..	208	208	208	155	132	205	275	275	261	126	238	100	177
1920 ..	189	189	189	155	132	205	275	275	261	126	238	100	177
1921 July	177	177	177	152	149	313	379	387	357	155	209	100	177
.. August	180	180	180	155	156	391	384	384	357	155	209	100	177
.. September	185	185	185	158	145	400	386	386	357	155	209	100	177
.. October	183	183	183	155	155	415	391	391	357	155	209	100	177
.. November	182	182	182	153	154	423	394	394	357	155	209	100	177
.. December	179	179	179	152	140	423	393	393	357	155	209	100	177
1922 January	173	173	173	152	151	430	387	387	357	155	209	100	177
.. February	165	165	165	149	148	426	380	380	357	155	209	100	177
.. March	165	165	165	148	137	415	371	371	357	155	209	100	177
.. April	162	162	162	146	146	420	367	367	357	155	209	100	177
.. May	163	163	163	145	145	427	365	365	357	155	209	100	177
.. June	163	163	163	145	140	425	366	366	357	155	209	100	177
.. July	165	165	165	146	144	429	366	366	357	155	209	100	177
.. August	164	164	164	147	144	431	366	366	357	155	209	100	177
.. September	165	165	165	148	143	437	376	376	357	155	209	100	177
.. October	162	162	162	147	144	444	374	374	357	155	209	100	177
.. November	160	160	160	147	143	439	384	384	357	155	209	100	177
.. December	161	161	161	148	148	439	384	384	357	155	209	100	177
1923 January	156	156	156	150	150	439	383	383	357	155	209	100	177
.. February	155	155	155	150	150	439	383	383	357	155	209	100	177

(a) From 1914 to 1919 figures relate to second quarter. (b) First half of 1914. (c) Unofficial. (d) April 1914. (e) From 1915 to 1919 June figures are given. (f) June 1914 = 100. (g) Expenditure of a family of four persons. (h) Average 1913 is the base.

NOTE—The maxima for the different countries are indicated in heavier type.

Retail food index for India and foreign countries

Name of country.	India (Bombay).	United Kingdom.	Canada.	South Africa.	Australia.	New Zealand.	United States of America.	France (Paris).	Italy (Rome) (c).	Belgium.	Finland.	Germany.	Holland (g).	Norway.	Sweden (h).	Denmark.	Switzerland.
	No. of articles.	17	20	29	18	46	59	43	13	9	22	37	..	27	..	51	..
No. of stations.	Bombay.	630	60	9	30	25	51	Paris.	Rome.	1,028 budgets.	20	47	Amsterdam.	30	44	100	23
1914 July	100	100	100	(a) 100	100	100	100	100	(d) 100	(e) 100	100	100	100	(a) 100	100	100	100
1915 ..	132	132	132	107	131	112	98	120	95	..	..	..	114	100	124	128	119
1916 ..	161	161	161	116	130	119	109	129	111	..	..	..	117	160	142	146	141
1917 ..	204	204	204	128	127	143	183	137	..	..	..	..	146	214	181	166	179
1918 ..	210	210	210	134	131	139	164	206	203	..	..	..	176	279	268	187	222
1919 ..	209	209	209	186	139	147	186	261	206	..	..	..	176	279	268	187	222
1920 ..	258	258	258	197	194	167	215	373	318	459	982	1,156	210	319	297	253	290
1921 July	174	174	174	148	139	161	164	145	306	402	410	1,278	1,491	180	295	232	236
.. August	177	177	177	154	134	154	163	152	317	417	427	1,324	..	179	297	234	204
.. September	183	183	183	159	133	154	161	150	329	430	423	1,359	..	179	290	228	198
.. October	180	180	180	155	131	150	156	149	331	461	434	1,357	1,757	168	288	218	196
.. November	179	179	179	149	129	147	152	147	323	458	442	1,286	2,189	154	281	211	189
.. December	176	176	176	148	125	143	150	149	326	459	442	1,286	2,189	154	281	211	189
1922 January	169	169	169	149	121	142	147	139	319	469	417	1,123	2,463	148	257	190	176
.. February	160	160	160	143	119	140	145	139	307	463	399	1,115	3,020	150	245	189	173
.. March	161	161	161	142	119	141	141	136	294	446	382	1,093	3,602	143	238	185	162
.. April	157	157	157	138	121	143	144	136	304	455	378	1,124	4,356	137	234	182	153
.. May	158	158	158	138	120	147	145	136	317	455	379	1,092	4,680	136	230	178	152
.. June	158	158	158	137	118	146	143	137	307	454	384	..	5,119	137	227	179	153
.. July	160	160	160	138	116	148	144	137	307	454	384	..	5,119	137	227	179	153
.. August	159	159	159	141	116	149	141	137	297	459	381	1,105	6,836	144	233	179	153
.. September	161	161	161	142	117	149	141	137	299	463	377	1,127	9,746	144	232	181	152
.. October	158	158	158	139	117	149	139	137	291	472	386	1,129	15,417	145	228	180	151
.. November	155	155	155	138	119	146	139	140	290	482	406	1,121	26,623	148	220	178	153
.. December	157	157	157	139	120	145	139	142	297	477	432	1,108	54,982	141	216	170	155
1923 January	151	151	151	142	118	146	144	305	476	429	..	80,700	..	215	168	155	
.. February	150	150	150	142	118	146	144	309	426	..	..	136,600	..	214	166	155	

(a) Average for the year 1914. (b) Includes fuel and lighting. (c) Unofficial. (d) January to June 1914. (e) 15th April 1914. (f) Figures from 1914 to 1916 are annual averages.

NOTE—The maxima for the different countries are indicated in heavier type.

Principal Trade Disputes in progress in February 1923

Name of concern and locality.	Approximate number of workpeople involved.		Date when dispute		Cause.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.	Began.	Ended.		
Textile Trades.						
1. The Raja Bahadur Motilal Mills, Pooa.	1,000	....	1923. 29 January ..	1923. 18 February ..	1. Notice to reduce the high prices' allowance from 70 per cent. and 80 per cent. to 20 per cent. and 30 per cent. respectively from 1st February 1923. 2. Refusal to pay the annual bonus on 27th January 1923 as paid in Bombay Mills.	Mill closed except the Silk Department.
2. The Asarwa Mills Co., Ltd., Asarwa, Ahmedabad.	203 (Weavers).	....	30 January ..	3 February ..	Supply of bad yarn	Strikers paid off and new hands engaged.
3. The Raja Bahadur Motilal Pritty Mills, Tardeo, Bombay.	500	....	1 February	12 February	Against the proposal to reduce the war allowance to 20 per cent. and 30 per cent. for fixed wage workers and piece workers respectively.	Mill closed and new hands to be engaged when mill is reopened.
4. The Textile Mills, Parbhadevi Road, Bombay.	3,000 (Night shift).	....	3 February	5 February	Against non-payment of the annual bonus to 20 night shift workers whose names were not on the mill register on the 15th December 1922.	Work resumed on promise that the question of bonus would be considered.
5. The Presidency Mills, Ferguson Road, Bombay.	100 (Women Rec-lers).	....	3 February	5 February	Against order to do special work with old bobbins instead of the usual work.	Work resumed.
6. The Planet Mill, Ferguson Road, Bombay.	400 (Weavers).	....	3 February	6 February	Demand for an increase of one pie per lb. in the rates.	Work resumed.
7. The Whittle Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd., Viramgam.	1,200	....	6 February	26 February	Against proposal to reduce the grain compensation allowance by 20 per cent. in the Weaving Department and 8 per cent. in the Spinning Department.	Work resumed. Grain compensation allowance reduced by 15 per cent. in the Weaving Department. Reduction in the case of Spinning Department under consideration.
8. The Alfred Spinning and Weaving Mills, Viramgam.	925	....	7 February	Do. ..	Do. ..	Do. ..
9. The Crown Mill, Parbhadevi Road, Bombay.	400 (Weavers).	....	8 February	20 February	1. Demand for 9 pies per lb. for finer cloth now being turned out instead of the ordinary rate of 7½ pies per lb. 2. Against the refusal to remove two unpopular head jobbers.	Work resumed with 50 new men and 300 strikers.
10. The Bradbury Mill, Ripon Road, Bombay.	1,600	....	11 February	14 February	Refusal by the management to pay the monthly wages on the 12th (the 13th being a Hindu holiday).	Work resumed unconditionally.



Principal Trade Disputes in progress in February 1923—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>						
11. The Hindustan Mill, Ripon Road, Bombay.	300 (Spinners).	....	1923. 11 February..	1923. 14 February..	Refusal by the management to pay the monthly wages on the 12th (the 13th being a Hindu holiday).	Work resumed unconditionally.
12. The Alexandra Sassoon Mill, Chinchpokly Road, Bombay.	50 (Boys from Ring Department.)	....	Do. ..	12 February.	Do. ..	Do.
13. The E. D. Sassoon Mill, Chinchpokly Road, Bombay.	100 (Boys from Ring Department.)	....	Do. ..	Do. ..	Do. ..	Do.
14. The Kasturchand Mill, Dadar, Bombay.	83 (Weavers).	....	15 February .	16 February .	Refusal by the management to give an increase of 1½ pie per lb. on cloth.	Strikers paid off and discharged.
15. The Fazulbhoy Mill, Pipe Road, Parel, Bombay.	100 (Spinners).	....	16 February .	20 February.	Against refusal of the management to reinstate an old jobber suspended six months ago.	Work resumed by some and new hands engaged in place of other strikers.
16. The Currimbhoy Mill, Pipe Road, Parel, Bombay.	125 (Spinners).	....	16 February .	20 February .	Refusal by the management to pay for extra work on holidays.	Some resumed work and new hands engaged in place of the strikers.
17. The Motilal Hirabhai Spinning and Weaving and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., outside Kalapur, Ahmedabad.	275 (Throstle Department).	....	23 February .	1 March ..	Against the ill-treatment of the labourers by the Jamadar and the Spinning master.	Work resumed on promise of good treatment.
18. The Ahmedabad Cotton and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Sarangpur Road, Ahmedabad.	144 (Frame Department).	....	23 February .	24 February .	Against the punishment of a jobber for careless work.	Work resumed on promise of future good treatment.
19. The Ahmedabad Cotton and Waste Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Dudheshwar Road, Ahmedabad.	75 (Throstle Department).	....	24 February .	27 February .	Against the dismissal of a jobber for unsatisfactory work.	Work resumed on reinstatement of the jobber.
<i>Transport.</i>						
20. The Phoenix Taxi and Transport Service, Ltd., Jetha Street, Lamington Road, Bombay.	50	....	22 February .	23 February .	Against the fining and discharging of two drivers and the prevalent fine system of the company.	Work resumed.
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>						
21. The Western India Boot and Equipment Factory, Ltd., Dharavi, Bombay.	75	....	2 February .	6 February .	1. Non-payment of wages for December 1922 on 1st February 1923 as usual. 2. Demand for payment of wages on the 15th of every month as in mills and not on the 1st of the following month.	Work resumed on promise of payment of wages on the 15th of every month.
22. The Wallace Flour Mill, No. B Rose Cottage Lane, Mazgaon, Bombay.	184	....	15 February .	21 February .	Refusal by the management to pay a bonus for the year 1922 on the 15th February 1923 as usual.	Work resumed unconditionally by 170 men, 14 being paid off and discharged.

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

Count or Number	Month of January			Ten months ended January		
	1921.	1922.	1923.	1921.	1922.	1923.
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 Pounds	6,043	6,971	8,000	51,987	65,623	69,618
Nos. 11 to 20 "	21,138	21,706	22,672	198,755	204,466	204,213
Nos. 21 to 30 "	12,788	13,550	12,617	129,066	132,339	135,844
Nos. 31 to 40 "	1,027	1,110	842	10,800	10,542	10,506
Above 40 "	96	197	124	1,088	1,694	1,611
Waste, etc. "	7	117	9	187	351	90
Total ..	41,099	43,651	44,264	391,883	415,015	421,882

Bombay Island

Count or Number	Month of January			Ten months ended January		
	1921.	1922.	1923.	1921.	1922.	1923.
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 Pounds	5,457	6,264	7,279	47,893	59,119	63,845
Nos. 11 to 20 "	15,657	15,753	16,125	153,988	148,740	144,652
Nos. 21 to 30 "	7,751	7,972	7,305	79,310	79,862	81,774
Nos. 31 to 40 "	399	492	389	4,354	5,082	4,811
Above 40 "	66	86	63	792	842	899
Waste, etc. "	2	3	3	140	171	21
Total ..	29,332	30,570	31,164	286,477	293,816	296,002

Ahmedabad

Count or Number	Month of January			Ten months ended January		
	1921.	1922.	1923.	1921.	1922.	1923.
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 Pounds	206	230	284	1,517	2,147	1,690
Nos. 11 to 20 "	2,309	2,737	2,876	18,937	26,169	28,451
Nos. 21 to 30 "	3,847	3,967	4,257	37,143	37,601	40,492
Nos. 31 to 40 "	516	503	352	156	4,368	4,718
Above 40 "	15	72	33	183	591	482
Waste, etc. "	....	107	....	3	110	....
Total ..	6,893	7,616	7,802	62,979	70,986	75,833

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

Bombay Presidency

Description.	Month of January.			Ten months ended January.		
	1921.	1922.	1923.	1921.	1922.	1923.
Grey and bleached piece-goods—	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Chudders Pounds ..	888	803	1,501	13,692	13,949	13,791
Dhotis ..	4,710	6,800	7,339	46,357	65,160	80,500
Drills and jeans ..	682	685	633	10,592	7,857	6,314
Cambrics and lawns ..	34	62	44	510	732	55
Printers ..	222	582	803	2,661	3,852	4,582
Shirtings and long cloth ..	5,894	9,262	9,343	75,114	83,147	79,985
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings ..	1,166	944	910	14,345	12,303	10,151
Tent cloth ..	307	108	84	1,501	1,135	857
Other sorts ..	572	1,524	2,934	5,982	11,613	18,513
Total ..	14,465	20,770	23,591	170,754	199,748	195,255
Coloured piece-goods ..	4,802	5,797	6,935	72,164	72,473	68,602
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods ..	164	188	181	2,067	1,685	1,996
Hosiery ..	18	16	21	248	176	106
Miscellaneous ..	72	55	125	840	909	1,076
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool ..	2	2	7	117	63	87
Grand Total ..	19,523	26,828	30,860	246,190	275,054	267,156

Bombay Island

Description.	Month of January.			Ten months ended January.		
	1921.	1922.	1923.	1921.	1922.	1923.
Grey and bleached piece-goods—	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Chudders Pounds ..	362	451	674	7,751	8,798	7,358
Dhotis ..	1,220	2,149	1,377	11,834	20,055	17,458
Drills and jeans ..	649	603	580	9,914	7,400	5,914
Cambrics and lawns ..	19	46	22	322	551	289
Printers ..	5	6	47	47	267	54,978
Shirtings and long cloth ..	3,258	6,469	5,197	48,942	57,304	8,270
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings ..	982	683	664	12,171	9,865	720
Tent cloth ..	255	82	58	1,270	942	12,611
Other sorts ..	315	1,024	1,951	2,806	6,545	..
Total ..	7,065	11,543	10,523	95,057	111,727	107,924

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

Description.	Month of January.			Ten months ended January.		
	1921.	1922.	1923.	1921.	1922.	1923.
Coloured piece-goods ..	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods ..	3,890	4,738	5,387	62,056	61,290	57,420
Hosiery ..	14	9	14	2,046	1,612	1,883
Miscellaneous ..	72	55	122	110	106	94
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool ..	2	2	6	839	906	1,083
Grand Total ..	11,205	16,530	16,222	160,216	175,696	168,479

Ahmedabad

Description.	Month of January.			Ten months ended January.		
	1921.	1922.	1923.	1921.	1922.	1923.
Grey and bleached piece-goods—	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Chudders Pounds ..	446	270	660	5,094	3,887	5,153
Dhotis ..	2,643	3,675	4,978	26,758	35,274	33,353
Drills and jeans ..	1	8	28	278	272	208
Cambrics and lawns ..	165	400	597	89	93	201
Printers ..	1,941	2,084	3,601	1,651	2,551	19,532
Shirtings and long cloth ..	173	240	215	18,888	18,816	1,645
T. cloth, domestic, and sheetings ..	2	9	31	1,961	2,187	22
Tent cloth ..	145	226	685	24	24	3,618
Other sorts ..	..	..	..	1,726	2,636	..
Total ..	5,514	6,967	10,788	56,476	65,740	66,669
Coloured piece-goods ..	396	290	727	4,334	4,020	4,659
Grey and coloured goods other than piece-goods ..	4	7	6	2	21	8
Hosiery ..	..	..	..	70	65	12
Miscellaneous ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool ..	..	..	1	8	8	11
Grand Total ..	5,914	7,268	11,524	60,958	69,859	71,424



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.—Report on Labour Questions.—Mr. Arthur Greenwood, M. P. for Nelson and Colne, has been asked to present to the Prime Minister a memorial dealing with the issue of Government publications on Labour questions, which has been signed by a large number of leading economists.

The signatories state that they view with grave concern the restriction of the statistical and other Government publications relating to Labour below the pre-war scale. Owing to the severe curtailment of these publications since the war, they say, information on matters in which present conditions are involved is frequently unobtainable, economic knowledge lags behind the progress of events, and waste and friction result. Exact information is continually needed for the understanding and settlement of urgent industrial problems. The signatories suggest that the expenses involved in the investigations concerned depends largely on the method of investigation. Hitherto, various publications have been undertaken each in response to a particular demand. They suggest a general review of the Ministry of Labour's publications and of the opportunities for economizing by means of more co-ordination. They ask, therefore, for the appointment of a Committee to consider the possibility of extending and improving Government publications relating to Labour without any large increase of expenditure upon them.

Canada.—In order to arrive at an agreement in regard to the application of the Draft Conventions of the International Labour Conferences arrangements are being made for a Conference at an early date between the Dominion and the Provincial authorities. The most important matter under discussion is the eight-hour day in respect of which there is a divided jurisdiction between the Federal and Provincial Legislatures. A provincial Conference which met last autumn failed to arrive at an agreement.

South Africa.—Food prices and the cost of living in South Africa have fallen to a level not reached by any country which publishes statistics. The increase in December 1922 since 1914 was 18.47 per cent. in the retail prices of food and 20.51 per cent. in the cost of living. The following table, which has been taken from the *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics* for January 1923, gives the increases in nine principal towns:—

Percentage increase over 1914—December 1922

Town.	Food only.	Food, Fuel, Light and Rent.
Cape Town	22.61	24.21
Port Elizabeth	15.70	15.17
East London	15.00	19.14
Kimberley	5.39	8.36
Pietermaritzburg	23.42	25.40
Durban	28.73	31.71
Pretoria	16.31	20.58
Witwatersrand	16.18	17.99
Bloemfontein	14.62	16.16
Weighted Average	18.47	20.51

United States of America.—The United States Bureau of Labour Statistics was created by act of Congress in 1884 and incorporated in the Department of Labour in 1913. Since its inception its functions have remained practically unchanged, and to the present day it has been the authoritative medium for many years for the collection and dissemination of statistical information regarding wholesale and retail prices, wages and hours of labour, and the cost of living. In addition, special studies are undertaken by the Bureau on such subjects as Workmen's Compensation, industrial accidents and hygiene, labour legislation, employment and unemployment, and collective agreements and trade agreements. The Bureau employs 123 persons. Its editorial and research division is responsible for the *Monthly Labor Review* and the many bulletins—both of which have a large circulation. The value of the Bureau to the public as a fact-finding agency is incalculable.



Japan.—The following bills among others are drafted by the Government with a view to submission to Parliament—

- (1) Bill for the amendment of the Factory Act.
- (2) Bill providing for the separate financial administration of the Health Insurance Act.
- (3) Insurance of Seamen Bill.
- (4) Bill for the amendment of the Seamen's Act.
- (5) Bill for the application of the decisions of the International Labour Conference regarding agricultural labour.

It is understood that the bill for the amendment of the Factory Act will incorporate the provisions of the Draft Conventions fixing the minimum age of children to industrial employment concerning employment of women during the night and concerning the night work of young persons employed in industry. The Bill for the amendment of the Seamen's Act will apply the provisions of the Draft Convention fixing the minimum age for the admission of children to employment at sea.

The Department of Agriculture and Commerce has started a new section dealing with efficiency. The *Kyochō kai* (Harmonisation Society) is contemplating the establishment of an institute for studying the same question. Employers in industrial centres are also discussing the subject at their meetings. The high wages (three times as high as before the war) and the necessity of increasing output has given the study of industrial efficiency great importance.

Geneva.—At its recent session, the Governing Body of the International Labour Office decided to meet again on April 10th and to summon the International Labour Conference on 16th October next. The Governing Body examined a certain number of resolutions referred to it by the previous Labour Conference in regard to (1) the co-operation of experts in the countries concerned to study emigration problems, (2) the relations between the International Labour Office and the International Co-operative Organisation, (3) the circulation of the Office's publications and (4) the selection of another official language besides French and English.

1359—16

BOOKS RECEIVED
Official Publications

INDIA

- Accounts relating to the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India for the Calendar year 1922 (Commercial Intelligence Department, Calcutta).
Accounts relating to the Trade by Land of British India with Foreign Countries.
Annual Report of the Department of Commerce and Industry, Baroda State, for the year 1921-22.
Legislative Assembly Debate—Vol. III, Nos. 16-41.
Council of State Debates—Vol. III, Nos. 14-24.
Bengal Legislative Council Proceedings—Vol. VII, Nos. 3-5, and Vol. VIII.
Proceedings of the Legislative Council of the Governor of Madras—Vol. XI, Nos. 4-6.
Bihar and Orissa Legislative Council Proceedings—Vol. VII, Nos. 1-9.

UNITED KINGDOM

- (H. M.'s Stationery Office, London.)
The Ministry of Labour Gazette—Vol. XXXI, Nos. 1 and 2, for January-February 1923.
Statistics of Compensation and of Proceedings under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, and the Employers' Liability Act, 1880, during the year 1921 (Cond. 1793).
Monthly Bulletin of Information—Vol. VII, No. 2, for January and February 1923.
The Board of Trade Journal (Department of Overseas Trade)—Vol. CIX, Nos. 1365-1368.
Reports of the Industrial Fatigue Research Board—No. 21—Atmospheric Conditions in Cotton Weaving (Textile Series, No. 6), by S. Wyatt, M.Sc.

CANADA

- The Labour Gazette—Vol. XXIII, No. 1, for January 1923. (Published by the Department of Labour.)

AUSTRALIA

- Australian Legislative Digest.
The New South Wales Industrial Gazette—Vol. XXII, No. 5, for December 1922, and Vol. XXIII, No. 1, for January 1923. (Published by the Department of Labour and Industry.)
The Western Australian Industrial Gazette—Vol. II, No. 4, for October 1922. (Issued by the Court of Arbitration.)
The Queensland Industrial Gazette—Vol. VIII, No. 1, for January 1923. (Published by the Department of Labour.)

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

- Monthly Bulletin of Union Statistics—No. 13 for January 1923. (Census and Statistics Office, Pretoria.)
Report of the Mining Industry Board—(U. G. 39-22).