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THE MONTH IN BRIEF

TO understand the labour position in November we must return to the dull old business of examining statistics. The cost of living is falling; so too are wholesale prices. Industrial disputes in November were twice the number in October and the workpeople involved was less than one-sixth of that in the previous month. Labour in the cotton mill-industry is plentiful and still in demand. The yarn spun and the goods woven in the seven months April to October are astonishingly good. The gist of the statistics is that there has been a considerable increase in production as compared with even last year. At the same time there is no decided spirit of optimism. Indeed in some quarters constant carping, never a wholesome occupation, has become a little more noticeable.

The solemn fact is that although India has enjoyed a satisfactory monsoon her customers abroad are not anxious to make their usual purchases. A committee of business-men representing the Chamber of Commerce of the United States has issued a report based on a tour in Europe. They say that upon a conservative estimate the consumption of 300 million people in Europe has been reduced to not over 30 per cent of what it was before the war. On an examination of the national debts of one hundred countries it will be found that these are nearly ten times as great as at the beginning of the War. Germany, formerly a large buyer of our products, showed signs of resuming purchases. The vagaries of the mark in recent weeks have precluded business of a satisfactory nature.

THE BALANCE OF TRADE

The foreign trade figures are an interesting barometer and the following tables give the latest figures for (1) India, (2) Bombay, and (3) Karachi:—

India

	In lakhs of rupees.				
	July 1921.	August 1921.	September 1921.	October 1921.	November 1921.
Exports (private merchandise) ..	17.28	19.56	20.00	18.22	19.92
Imports do. ..	17.72	20.80	19.71	23.54	26.40
Net exports do. (a) ..	-44	-1.24	29	-5.32	-6.48
Imports of treasure ..	1.52	1.77	1.53	4.14	3.36
Exports of treasure ..	2.75	4.58	2.17	82	69
Net exports of treasure (a) ..	1.23	2.81	64	-3.32	-2.67
Enclaved Rupee paper (net exports) (a) ..	57	74	..	4	-5
Interest on enclaved rupee paper ..	1	2	..	1	2
Visible balance of trade (a) ..	1.35	2.29	93	..	..
In favour of India ..	..	..	..	8.61	9.22
Against India ..	..	..	..	..	..

Bombay

	July 1921.	August 1921.	September 1921.	October 1921.	November 1921.
	R. (thousands)	R. (thousands)	R. (thousands)	R. (thousands)	R. (thousands)
Exports (private merchandise) ..	4,84.11	7,06.89	5,93.65	5,04.02	6,27.39
Imports do. ..	6,35.64	7,20.51	7,16.46	8,12.83	8,62.06
Net exports do. (a) ..	-1,51.53	-14.02	-1,22.81	-3,08.81	-2,34.67
Imports of treasure ..	1,48.98	1,69.72	1,48.78	3,92.88	3,27.52
Exports of treasure ..	2,69.95	4,33.68	2,63.72	79.12	51.79
Net exports of treasure (a) ..	1,20.97	2,63.96	54.94	-3,13.76	-2,75.73

(a) A minus indicates an excess of imports over exports.



Karachi

	July 1921.	August 1921.	September 1921.	October 1921.	November 1921.
	R. (thousands).	R. (thousands).	R. (thousands).	R. (thousands).	R. (thousands).
Exports (private merchandise).	1,50.03	89.79	1,31.05	74.90	1,17.35
Imports do. ..	2,35.41	2,06.53	1,02.12	2,38.55	3,18.37
Net exports do. (a) ..	-85.38	-1,16.74	28.93	-1,63.65	-2,01.02
Imports of treasure ..	56	52	37	1,50	3.11
Exports of treasure ..	1.90	9.96	3.47	60	..
Net exports of treasure. (a)	1.34	9.44	3.10	-90	-3.11

(a) A minus indicates an excess of imports over exports.

India therefore is again faced with an adverse balance of trade which does not make very encouraging reading.

BUSINESS CONDITIONS

While exchange was at 1s. $4\frac{9}{16}d.$ for telegraphic transfers in Bombay on London in the first week of November, a month later the rate had fallen to 1s. $3\frac{3}{8}d.$ Two months ago the rate was 1s. $5\frac{13}{32}d.$ The statement of bank clearings for November differs in no essential degree from that of the previous month in reflecting the comparative inactivity which is being experienced mainly, if not wholly, as an outcome of conditions abroad. Bank clearings in Bombay and Karachi as in Calcutta and Rangoon were below the October level, and the only point that calls for remark is that while the monthly clearings in Calcutta have consistently fallen since August those of Bombay have shown an upward and downward or seesaw course. Money in Bombay has been very easy during the last three or four months as it ordinarily is during the monsoon. This year however with the stagnation of trade, funds have greatly accumulated. For the financing of cotton and other crops, however, the movement of currency from Bombay up-country is taking place. The rupee portion of the paper Currency Reserve in Bombay has fallen from Rs. 26 crores on the 31st October to Rs. 24 crores at the end of November. On 7th December the figure was Rs. 23 crores. In the share market there has been only

spasmodic activity. The average market quotation of 65 cotton mills companies at the end of November was Rs. 1,867 as against Rs. 1,972 at the end of October, Rs. 1,875 at the end of September and Rs. 1,852 at the end of August. The average amount paid up has remained at Rs. 383 per share since August.

LABOUR IN COTTON MILLS

On pages 49-51 data showing the production of the cotton mills of the Presidency are set out. These data are a valuable index not merely of the state of the trade but also of the demand for labour in this important industry.

	Millions of lbs. of yarn spun.			Millions of lbs. of woven goods produced.		
	Seven months ended October.			Seven months ended October.		
	1919.	1920.	1921.	1919.	1920.	1921.
Bombay Island ..	206	197	206	125	112	129
Ahmedabad ..	42	42	50	47	43	50
Other centres ..	30	29	34	19	17	20
Total Presidency ..	278	268	290	191	172	199

WHOLESALE PRICES

The wholesale index number for 43 articles was 193 in November taking July 1914 as 100. Food articles stood at 193 or 2 per cent above the level of the previous month and non-food articles at 192 or 4 per cent below the previous month's figure. As compared with the corresponding month of last year, prices have fallen 5 per cent.

THE LEVEL OF RETAIL PRICES

In November the average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the cost of living index for Bombay was one point or less than 1 per cent below that in October 1921. The level, taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914, was 182 for all articles and 179 for food only. The articles have been given the relative importance which each bears to the aggregate expenditure.



INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

The total number of industrial disputes in progress involving a stoppage of work was 30 in November and the number of workpeople involved in all disputes was approximately 8,000 as compared with 51,000 in October 1921. The estimated aggregate duration of all disputes during November was approximately 62,000 working days as compared with 232,000 in October, a decrease of 73 per cent. The estimated aggregate duration of all disputes from April 1st to the end of November was 1,245,841 days. Detailed information will be found on pages 45-48.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE, 1921

DRAFT CONVENTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The following draft Conventions and Recommendations were adopted by the Third International Labour Conference which met in Geneva during October and November 1921:—

CONVENTIONS

- (1) Minimum age of trimmers and stokers in ships.
- (2) Medical inspection of children and young persons in ships.
- (3) Use of white lead in painting.

Agricultural Workers—

- (4) Right of association.
- (5) Workmen's compensation.
- (6) Employment of children.
- (7) Weekly rest in industrial undertakings.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Agricultural Workers—

- (1) Technical education.
- (2) Unemployment.
- (3) Social Insurance.
- (4) Night work of children.
- (5) Night work of women.
- (6) Maternity.
- (7) Living-in conditions.
- (8) Weekly rest in commercial establishments.

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Among the Resolutions adopted were the following:—

- (1) Competence to deal with agricultural labour questions.
- (2) Agricultural hours to be put on a future agenda.
- (3) Anthrax: Further investigation.
- (4) Night work of children in devastated areas.
- (5) Distribution of raw materials.
- (6) Unemployment.
- (7) 36-hour weekly rest.

BOMBAY CENSUS

The Superintendent of Census for the Bombay Presidency (Mr. Sedgwick) gives the total population of Bombay City at this census as 1,175,914. Of these, 771,332 are males and 404,582 females. He points out that the sex composition of the resident population is highly abnormal, the ratio of males to females being very high. In past censuses the disparity was pronounced as will be seen from the following table:—

Percentage of males and females to total resident population of Bombay City, 1872-1921

	Males.	Females.		Males.	Females.
1872	60.5	39.5	1901	60.5	39.5
1881	59	41	1911	64	36
1891	62	38	1921	65	35

The 1901 figure is interesting because at that census 114,000 persons, mainly males, are estimated to have migrated owing to plague. Mr. Sedgwick concludes that there is a slow enhancement of the disparity of the sexes, a movement that must have commenced long before 1872. For comparison the following percentages are not without interest:—

	Males.	Females.
Karachi Municipality (1921) ..	59	41
Calcutta Municipality (1911) ..	68	32
Madras (1911) ..	51	49
London (1911) ..	47	53



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														
January	184	178	323	202	215	210	202	317	153	196	297	200	241	231
February	167	192	305	189	203	194	179	301	164	167	277	197	228	219
March	152	186	289	188	190	177	170	306	189	175	259	189	224	211
April	162	178	329	178	201	173	149	314	270	214	279	191	238	224
May	166	171	397	173	211	179	168	305	175	113	284	204	220	217
June	161	152	420	170	213	173	159	310	178	172	294	198	227	222
July	151	145	452	181	216	171	144	318	179	164	288	208	222	220
August	163	155	456	184	225	173	132	306	183	133	257	209	212	217
September	164	156	470	184	228	189	139	295	186	119	257	209	212	218
October	167	156	385	163	208	178	135	293	186	145	247	216	211	210
November	166	160	312	158	193	164	134	287	184	188	240	202	209	204
December	154	160	255	141	173	148	122	284	181	175	239	204	203	192
1921														
January	158	160	306	146	185	138	120	274	163	148	233	216	195	191
February	159	145	324	149	188	133	110	265	163	172	234	216	193	191
March	156	139	338	150	189	129	108	256	163	152	246	216	190	190
April	173	149	329	164	199	146	112	267	163	169	247	216	198	198
May	173	151	314	162	196	150	115	272	142	166	248	232	200	199
June	184	158	267	169	194	161	126	270	109	141	239	222	205	197
July	186	151	234	185	191	171	137	269	138	156	244	206	203	199
August	216	166	229	181	205	160	137	267	138	160	242	210	202	203
September	212	169	230	174	202	150	217	265	138	180	240	206	211	207
October	192	164	207	180	189	130	169	273	135	182	209	202	199	195
November	196	175	203	190	193	129	170	263	138	163	204	198	192	193

Note.—The figures of 1921 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, October 1921 and November 1921

The prices quoted are for local weights and measures.

Articles.	Grade.	Rate per	Equivalent in tolas.*	July 1914.	October 1921.	November 1921.	Increase + or decrease - in November over or below	
							July 1914.	October 1921.
				As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.	As. p.
Rice	.. Rangoon Small-mill	.. Paylee	.. 212	5 10	9 5	9 2	+3 4	-0 3
Wheat	.. Punjab Pissi	.. ..	.. 204	5 10	10 8	11 0	+5 2	+0 4
Jowari	.. Rangoon	.. ..	.. 208	4 3	8 10	8 3	+4 0	-0 7
Bajri	.. Ghati	.. ..	.. 196	4 7	10 3	9 7	+5 0	-0 8
Gram	.. Punjab red	.. ..	.. 200	4 4	9 5	9 5	+5 1	..
Tur dal	.. Cawnpore	.. ..	.. 196	5 11	9 10	10 2	+4 3	+0 4
Sugar (raw)	.. Sangli, middle quality	.. Seer by weight	.. 28	1 2	2 8	2 8	+1 6	..
Sugar (refined)	.. Java, white	.. ..	.. 28	1 1	2 3	2 0	+0 11	-0 3
Tea	.. Ceylon, middle quality	.. Lb.	.. 39	7 10	10 1	10 1	+2 3	..
Salt	.. Bombay black	.. Paylee	.. 172	1 9	2 4	2 6	+0 9	+0 2
Beef	.. Crawford Market	.. Lb.	.. 39	2 6	5 1	5 0	+2 6	-0 1
Mutton	.. Average for sheep and goat	.. ..	.. 39	3 0	7 6	7 6	+4 6	..
Milk	.. Medium	.. Seer by measure	.. 56	2 9	5 0	5 0	+2 3	..
Ghi	.. Belgaum Deshi	.. by weight	.. 28	7 1	11 2	10 8	+3 7	-0 6
Potatoes	.. Mettuppalayam	.. ..	.. 28	0 8	1 3	1 6	+0 10	+0 3
Onions	.. Nasik	.. ..	.. 28	0 3	0 10	0 10	+0 7	..
Cocconut oil	.. Middle quality	.. ..	.. 28	3 7	4 0	4 0	+0 5	..

THE COST OF LIVING INDEX FOR NOVEMBER 1921

A fall of one point

All articles .. 82 per cent Food only .. 79 per cent

In November 1921 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 1 point below that in the previous month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914, the levels in the last two months were 183 in October and 182 in November. The general index is still 6 per cent below the high-water mark reached in October 1920 and less than 1 per cent below the twelve-monthly average of 1920.

Except for gram which remained stationary, and wheat and tur dal which rose 6 points each, there was a fall in the prices of food-grains varying from 5 to 17 points as compared with prices in October. The price of rice fell 5 points, jowari 12 points and bajri 17 points. The prices of tea, mutton, milk, cocconut oil, kerosene oil and firewood remained at the level of the previous month. Refined sugar prices continue a downward movement. There was a rise of 20 per cent in the price of potatoes.

The articles included in the index are cereals, pulses, other articles of food, fuel and lighting, clothing and house rent. The articles have been given the relative importance which each bears to the total aggregate expenditure. No allowance is made for any change in the standard of living since July 1914.

July 1914 = 100

October 1920	.. 193	May 1921	.. 167
November ..	.. 186	June ..	.. 173
December ..	.. 181	July ..	.. 177
January 1921	.. 169	August ..	.. 180
February ..	.. 162	September ..	.. 185
March ..	.. 160	October ..	.. 183
April ..	.. 160	November ..	.. 182

The following table shows the price levels of articles of food in October and November 1921 as compared with that for July 1914 which is taken as 100. The levels are calculated from the prices of articles per standard (or railway) maund or seer on page 8.

Articles	July 1914	October 1921	November 1921	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in November over or below October 1921
Rice	.. 100	159	154	- 5
Wheat	.. 100	187	193	+ 6
Jowari	.. 100	195	183	-12
Bajri	.. 100	243	226	-17
Gram	.. 100	218	218	..
Tur dal	.. 100	172	178	+ 6
Sugar (raw)	.. 100	223	220	- 3
Sugar (refined)	.. 100	212	191	-21
Tea	.. 100	129	129	..
Salt	.. 100	127	134	+ 7
Beef	.. 100	203	200	- 3
Mutton	.. 100	229	229	..
Milk	.. 100	191	191	..
Ghi	.. 100	158	150	- 8
Potatoes	.. 100	196	236	+40
Onions	.. 100	386	383	- 3
Cocconut oil	.. 100	112	112	..
All food articles (weighted average)	.. 100	180	179	- 1

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

BOMBAY COST OF LIVING INDEX

A

Articles.	Unit of quantity.	Annual consumption (Mass Units). (In crores.)	Per			Total Expenditure.		
			July 1914.	October 1921.	November 1921.	July 1914.	October 1921.	November 1921.
Cereals—								
Rice	Mound	70	Rs. 5.59	Rs. 8.91	Rs. 8.62	Rs. 391.30	Rs. 623.70	Rs. 609.40
Wheat	"	21	5.59	10.46	10.81	117.39	219.66	227.01
Jowari	"	11	4.35	8.49	7.94	47.85	93.39	87.34
Beji	"	6	4.31	10.49	9.76	25.86	62.94	58.56
Total and Average—Cereals		100	4.30	9.38	9.39	43.00	93.80	93.96
Pulses—								
Gram	Mound	10	5.84	10.06	10.39	58.40	100.60	103.90
Tur dal	"	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total and Average—Pulses		100	205	207	60.52	123.98	125.00	
Other food articles—								
Sugar (raw)	Mound	7	8.56	19.05	18.82	59.92	133.35	131.74
Sugar (refined)	"	2	7.62	16.18	14.55	15.24	32.36	29.00
Tea	"	1	40.00	51.61	51.61	1.00	1.29	1.29
Salt	Ser	46	2.13	2.71	2.86	10.65	13.55	14.30
Beef	"	5	0.32	0.65	0.64	8.96	18.20	17.92
Mutton	"	28	0.42	0.96	0.96	13.86	31.68	31.68
Milk	Mound	35	9.20	17.58	17.58	128.80	246.12	246.12
Ghee	"	14	5.20	80.00	76.19	76.18	120.00	114.28
Potatoes	"	11	50.79	10.56	49.28	96.47	116.16	116.16
Onions	"	11	4.48	8.77	5.94	4.65	17.94	17.92
Coconut Oil	"	3	1.55	5.98	5.98	12.70	14.28	14.28
Total and Average—Other food articles		100	190	193	381.24	725.24	734.68	
Total and Average—All food articles		100	180	179	1,024.16	1,848.91	1,836.10	
Fuel and lighting—								
Kerosene oil	Case	5	4.37	8.44	8.44	21.85	42.20	42.20
Firewood	Mound	48	0.79	1.28	1.28	37.92	61.44	61.44
Coal	"	1	0.54	1.14	1.12	0.54	1.14	1.12
Total and Average—Fuel and lighting		100	174	174	60.31	104.78	104.76	
Clothing—								
Quarters	Lb.	27	0.59	1.62	1.56	15.93	43.74	42.12
Shirts	"	25	0.64	1.80	1.76	16.00	45.00	44.00
T. Cloth	"	36	0.58	1.62	1.56	20.88	58.32	56.16
Total and Average—Clothing		100	270	269	52.81	147.06	142.28	
House rent	Per month	10	11.30	18.70	18.70	113.00	187.00	187.00
Grand Total and General Average		100	183	182	1,250.28	2,287.75	2,270.11	

Note.—If the aggregate expenditure in July 1914 at the prices ruling in that month was Rs. 1,250.28 crores the aggregate expenditure in November 1921, at November price levels was Rs. 2,270.11 crores, i.e., an increase of 82 per cent (Rs. 1,250.28 = 100; Rs. 2,270.11 = 182).

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.	
		Oct. 1921.	Nov. 1921.	Oct. 1921.	Nov. 1921.
Cereals—					
Rice	31.4	159	154	4,992.6	4,835.6
Wheat	9.4	187	193	1,757.8	1,814.2
Jowari	3.8	195	183	741.0	695.4
Beji	2.1	243	236	510.3	474.6
Total and Average Index No.	46.7	172	168	8,001.7	7,819.8
Pulses—					
Gram	3.1	218	213	675.8	635.8
Tur dal	1.3	172	178	223.6	231.4
Total and Average Index No.	4.4	205	207	899.4	907.2
Other food articles—					
Sugar (raw)	4.8	225	220	1,070.4	1,056.0
Sugar (refined)	1.2	212	191	254.4	229.2
Tea	0.1	129	129	12.9	12.9
Salt	0.9	127	134	114.3	120.6
Beef	0.7	203	200	142.1	140.0
Mutton	1.1	225	229	251.9	251.9
Milk	10.3	191	191	1,967.3	1,967.3
Ghee	6.1	158	150	963.8	905.0
Potatoes	4.0	196	236	784.0	544.0
Onions	0.4	396	383	154.4	153.2
Coconut oil	1.0	112	112	112.0	112.0
Total and Average Index No.	30.6	190	193	5,827.5	5,902.1
Fuel and lighting—					
Kerosene oil	1.8	193	193	347.4	347.4
Firewood	3.0	162	162	486.0	486.0
Coal	0.1	211	207	21.1	20.7
Total and Average Index No.	4.9	174	174	854.5	854.1
Clothing—					
Dhatis	1.3	275	264	357.5	347.2
Shirts	1.3	281	275	365.3	357.5
T. Cloth	1.7	279	269	474.3	457.3
Total and Average Index No.	4.3	278	269	1,197.1	1,158.0
House rent					
	9.1	165	165	1,501.5	1,501.5
Grand total of weights	156				
General Average or Cost of Living Index (July 1914 = 100)		183	182	18,281.7	18,142.7

WHOLESALE PRICES IN NOVEMBER

BOMBAY

The index number of wholesale prices for the City of Bombay shows that in November 1921 prices fell one per cent as compared with the previous month, 5 per cent as compared with November last year and 10 per cent as compared with the twelve-monthly average of 1920. The present index number is based on carefully collected market prices and is indirectly weighted. Food articles number 15 and non-food 28. The base is the pre-war month July 1914. The index is published at the request of business firms in Bombay in such a way as to show the relative level of average wholesale prices, and the groups have been selected primarily with a view to suit the conditions of Bombay's trade.

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

Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay

Groups.	No. of items.	Increase (+) or decrease (-) per cent in November 1921 as compared with	
		the preceding month (Dec. 21)	the corresponding month of last year (Nov. 20)
I. Cereals	7	+1	+11
L. Pulses	1	+1	+13
S. Sugar	1	+1	+1
O. Other food	5	+1	+10
Total food	15	+1	+11
II. Oilseeds	4	-1	-1
III. Raw cotton	5	-1	-1
IV. Cotton manufactures	1	-4	-4
V. Other textiles	1	-1	-1
VI. Hides and skins	1	-1	-1
VII. Other raw and manufactured articles	1	-1	-1
Total non-food	28	-4	-4
General average	43	-1	-5

There was a rise in the price of cereals, pulses and other food varying from 2 to 7 per cent as compared with October 1921. The

price of wheat and salt remained at about the same level; but all other articles of food showed an increase with the exception of bajra which is now being harvested. Sugar shows a downward movement but there are indications of a slackening in the tendency to fall. The wholesale food index for November was 109 which is 2 per cent higher than that for October 1921 but is on the same level as in November 1920.

The average index for non-food articles was one per cent lower than the food index and 4 per cent below the level in the preceding month. The most noticeable reductions were in the following groups—Cotton manufactures and hides and skins which fell 4 and 10 per cent respectively as compared with the previous month. "Other textiles" remained at the same level. The variations in the other groups were between 1 to 2 per cent only.

The subjoined table compares November prices with those of the preceding months and of the corresponding month last year. The table expresses the price levels as percentages of the twelve-monthly average of 1920—

100 = average of 1920 -

Groups	Nov. 1921.	Feb. 1921.	May 1921.	Aug. 1921.	Oct. 1921.	Nov. 1921.
I. Cereals	102	98	106	123	118	102
L. Pulses	96	97	91	100	99	92
S. Sugar	85	89	86	63	57	55
O. Other food	90	85	92	103	102	100
Total food	94	91	95	100	97	94
II. Oilseeds	95	75	85	90	75	73
III. Raw cotton	88	71	75	90	100	111
IV. Cotton manufactures	95	87	90	88	90	87
V. Other textiles	90	88	76	74	74	74
VI. Hides and skins	115	106	102	96	112	100
VII. Metals	90	87	95	90	78	78
VIII. Other raw and manufactured articles	100	107	115	104	100	98
Total non-food	95	87	90	91	90	87
General average—all articles	95	89	95	94	91	89

The main fact which emerges from this table is that the general level of wholesale prices in Bombay is now below the average of 1920. No item is so far below the average as is sugar. The level of Hides and Skins in November 1921 coincides with the twelve-monthly average of 1920.

The following two tables are intended to show (1) the wholesale price level now as compared with July 1914 and (2) the recent movements in food and non-food wholesale prices—

Annual wholesale price

July 1914 = 100

	I		
	Food.	Non-food.	All articles.
Twelve-monthly average	1918 — 170	220	227
1919 — 202	225	222	
1920 — 206	221	215	
Eleven-monthly average	1921 — 194	199	197

Months.	II			
	Index number for all food.	Index number for all non-food.	Index number for all articles.	Increase (+) or decrease (-) per cent. of index number for all articles.
January 1921	115	115	111	-1
February	100	115	111	-1
March	100	100	100	-1
April	100	100	100	+4
May	106	200	199	-1
June	104	205	197	-1
July	101	205	196	+1
August	205	202	203	+2
September	202	211	207	+2
October	109	196	195	-1
November	105	192	195	-1

The movement of wholesale prices in Bombay as compared with other countries will be found on page 43.

The Madras Publicity Bureau has issued the following statement regarding the cost of living in Madras in November 1921, as compared with July 1914:—

"It is estimated that the cost of living in Madras in the beginning of November was 82 per cent higher than in July 1914.

This result is obtained by comparing the prices of food, kerosine, firewood, clothing and housing at the two dates, and assigning to each commodity a certain weight in accordance with its estimated importance in the life of the working classes. The weighting adopted is the same as that adopted by the Labour Office of Bombay, except that:

- (1) Wheat is omitted and the weight assigned to wheat in Bombay added to that assigned to rice.
- (2) Ragi is substituted for cholam and lambu.
- (3) Dhali is substituted for gram, and Bengal gram for Turdal.

The commodities and the respective weights assigned to them are therefore:

Commodity.	Price.	Weight.
(1914 price = 100)		
Rice (5 sorts)	158	40.8
Ragi	160	5.9
Dhal	214	3.4
Bengal gram	208	17.0
Jaggery	20	4.1
Sugar (refined)	200	1.2
Tea	111	1
Tea Sub.	106	1
Beef	200	5
Mutton	225	10.5
Chick	167	6.1
Chicken	240	4
Onions	146	1.0
Cauliflower	102	1.8
Kerosine	175	3.1
Firewood	101	4.3
Clothing	101	2.1
House rent		

The calculation is made as follows: The price in the current month is divided by the price in July 1914; and the quotient multiplied by 100. The product is multiplied by the weight assigned to this multiplication are added together. The sum in this instance is 1818. This is divided by 100, the sum of the weights, and the quotient, 18.18 represents the ratio to 100 that the weighted average November price of the commodities observed bears to the price in July 1914.

The Bombay weighting was calculated on all-India consumption.

The prices are those of the Triplicane Urban Co-operative Society or of the Moore Market, except for clothing and house rent."

WHOLESALE PRICES IN INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

On page 43 will be found the index numbers of wholesale prices in India (Bombay) and in foreign countries with the absolute and secondary maxima indicated in heavier type. Lack of uniformity in the number and nature of articles taken into account, and the method of combining such data suggests the need for caution in making comparisons between the index numbers of different countries.

In almost all countries wholesale prices reached the maximum in 1920. In India however the date when the peak was attained almost synchronizes with the date of the signing of the Armistice in 1918 and is, therefore, earlier than in many other countries.

The following table shows in order of magnitude the fall in wholesale prices in the countries for which recent data are available :—

Average prices for 1913 = 100

Name of country	Month and year of absolute maximum since outbreak of war	Peak index no	Index no. for September 1921	Decrease from peak in points	Percentage decline
Sweden	June 20	366	182	184	50
United Kingdom (Statist)	April 20	313	176	137	44
U.S.A. (Bureau of Labour)	May 20	272	152	120	44
France	April 20	587	342	245	42
Japan	March 20	321	207	114	36
Canada	May 20	263	172	91	35
Norway(a)	Sept 20	425	287	138	32
India (Bombay) (b)	Sept 18	263	207	56	21

(a) Average December 1913 — June 1914 = 100. (b) July 1914 = 100.

It will be seen that the fall of wholesale prices has not been so severe in India as in many other countries. The fall is greatest in Sweden, the U. K. and U.S.A. followed closely by France.

COMPARATIVE PRICES

From the table below it will be seen that taking the retail food prices in Bombay in October and November 1921 equal to 100, Ahmedabad shows the highest rise and Sholapur and Karachi show a level below Bombay. As compared with Bombay however the level in Ahmedabad was not so high in November as it was in October.

Bombay prices in October 1921 = 100

Articles.	Bombay.	Karachi.	Ahmedabad.	Sholapur.
Cereals—				
Rice	100	133	116	97
Wheat	100	103	95	89
Jowari	100	87	101	123
Bajri	100	72	96	70
Average—Cereals..	100	99	102	95
Pulses—				
Gram	100	100	96	92
Tur-dal	100	96	126	92
Average—Pulses..	100	98	111	92
Other articles of food—				
Sugar (refined)	100	100	128	116
Jagri (Gul)	100	85	106	89
Tea	100	89	124	103
Salt	100	70	70	131
Beef	100	97	97	58
Mutton	100	78	104	65
Milk	100	65	76	76
Ghi	100	89	95	105
Potatoes	100	137	118	105
Onions	100	84	84	84
Cocunut oil	100	107	124	118
Average—Other articles of food	100	91	102	95
Average—All food articles	100	94	103	96

Bombay prices in November 1921 = 100

Articles—	Bombay.	Karachi.	Ahmedabad.	Sholapur.
Cereals—				
Rice	100	128	112	94
Wheat	100	102	104	92
Jowari	100	88	110	118
Bajri	100	79	102	85
Average—Cereals..	100	99	107	97
Pulses—				
Gram	100	99	102	85
Tur-dal	100	101	133	95
Average—Pulses..	100	100	117	90
Other articles of food—				
Sugar (refined)	100	97	131	124
Jagri (Gul)	100	88	105	96
Tea	100	89	124	103
Salt	100	74	74	138
Beef	100	98	95	57
Mutton	100	80	104	65
Milk	100	65	76	76
Ghi	100	87	93	100
Potatoes	100	157	176	130
Onions	100	95	107	84
Cocunut oil	100	111	113	118
Average—Other articles of food	100	95	109	99
Average—All food articles	100	96	109	98

RETAIL PRICE STATISTICS

BOMBAY, KARACHI, AHMEDABAD AND SHOLAPUR

On page 44 will be found statistics of food prices in October and November 1921 for Bombay, Karachi, Ahmedabad and Sholapur. These are official prices supplied through the Director of Agriculture to the Labour Office and are averages of prices taken eight times a month from retail shop-keepers patronized by the labouring classes. These towns are selected because they are the mainspring of industrial activity in the Presidency.

The articles selected are those commonly consumed by the working classes. The index number is based on the prices for seventeen commodities and is the simple arithmetic average of the percentages of prices of the several articles as compared with the prices for July 1914, which being the pre-war month is taken as the base.

In November 1921 the unweighted food indexes for Karachi, Ahmedabad and Sholapur show a fall from the previous month. The index for Bombay records no change. The trend of prices of "other articles of food" is similar to the total food index in all the places except Bombay. In the group "Cereals" there was a fall in all the towns. The "pulses" group registers a rise in Bombay and Sholapur but a fall in Ahmedabad and Karachi.

INDEX NUMBERS OF INDIAN PRICES

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS FIGURE

The following summary table shows the unweighted index numbers of 28 exported articles, 11 imported articles, and all articles (39) combined with the prices in 1873 taken as 100. The year 1873 was chosen as standard as it was considered to be a normal year with the additional advantage of being the one in which silver fell as a result of the policy of demonetisation pursued by Germany and other countries. These figures have been taken from the publications of the Department of Statistics,

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India, and are republished in view of their general interest to the public :—

Index numbers of Indian prices

Year.	Exported articles (28) (un-weighted).	Imported articles (11) (un-weighted).	General index for 39 articles (un-weighted).
1873	100	100	100
1913	154	117	143
1914	160	114	147
1915	155	146	152
1916	163	236	184
1917	170	262	196
1918	199	289	225
1919	277	274	276
1920	281	280	281

For purposes of comparison with the wholesale index numbers of foreign countries published on page 43, the figures in the above table are expressed below as percentages of 1913 prices :—

100 = 1913

Year.	Exported articles (28).	Imported articles (11).	General index (39) articles.
1913	100	100	100
1914	104	97	103
1915	101	125	106
1916	106	202	129
1917	110	224	137
1918	129	247	157
1919	180	234	193
1920	182	239	197

The 28 articles of export are :—(1) rice, (2) wheat, (3) jowari, (4) bajri, (5) gram, (6) barley, (7) ragi, (8) sugar, (9) tea, (10) ghi, (11) linseed, (12) rapeseed, (13) sesamum, (14) poppyseed, (15) castor oil, (16) jute (raw), (17) jute (gunny bags), (18) cotton (raw), (19) cotton yarn, (20) T cloth, (21) silk (raw), (22) wool (raw), (23) hides (raw), (24) skins (dressed), (25) coal, (26) lac, (27) saltpetre and (28) indigo.

Imported articles, 11 in number, include the following :—

(1) sugar (Mauritius), (2) salt, (3) grey shirtings, (4) grey yarn, (5) coloured yarn,



(6) silk (raw), (7) iron, (8) copper, (9) spelter, (10) coal and (11) kerosene oil.

It will be seen from the tables elsewhere in this issue that (1) the rise in the Department of Statistics index in 1920 is 91 per cent over the average of 1914 as against 115 per cent over July 1914 in the wholesale index number published by the Labour Office for Bombay only;

(2) the rise since the war has not been so rapid nor so great as in many other countries.

RETAIL PRICES IN INDIA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES

On page 48 will be found a table showing index numbers of the retail prices of food in India and foreign countries. In making detailed international comparisons great caution is required because the method of construction of these numbers is not identical. In all cases the figures are official unless otherwise stated. The index numbers will be described in a subsequent issue of the "Labour Gazette."

The main point that strikes the eye as one scans the table is the comparatively small rise in the Dominions and in the United States as compared with the rise in countries that were nearer to the scene of action in the Great War. The rise in Germany and Austria is noticeable. Of allied countries prices of food in Italy seem to have risen more than those in France and much more than those in the United Kingdom. Another point brought out by the table is the high-water mark reached in most countries last year and it also shows how widespread has been the impact of war and how closely countries are knit together in their economic solidarity.

FALL IN THE COST OF LIVING COMPARISON BY COUNTRIES

The table given below indicates the decline from the peak in the cost of living in different countries arranged in order of magnitude. It will be seen that New Zealand and Italy reached the maxima only in 1921 and that Germany still shows an upward movement.

Expenditure in July 1914 = 100

Name of country.	Month and year when peak was reached.	Peak Index number.	Index number for August 1921.	Decrease from peak in point.	Per cent. decrease.
United Kingdom	Nov 20	276	222	54	20
Belgium (a)	Oct 20	477	384	93	19
Canada	July 20	190	155	35	18
India (Bombay)	Oct 20	193	180	13	7
Italy (Rome) (b)	April 21	411	391	20	5
New Zealand	Feb 21	160	156	4	2
Germany	Aug 21	1,177	1,177	..	..

(a) April 1914 = 100. (b) First half of 1914 = 100.

COST OF LIVING ABROAD

South Africa.—Indexes of the cost of living (food, fuel and light, and rent) for October 1921, forwarded by the Census and Statistics Office, Pretoria, show the following results:—

Town.	October 1921 index 100 = Union average 1910.	Percentage increase, October 1921	
		Over 1914 Union average (per cent).	Each town over the 1914 figure for the same town (per cent).
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Cape Town	1,291	18.2	31.9
Durban	1,455	33.2	41.5
Pretoria	1,563	43.1	25.6
Johannesburg	1,444	32.2	23.7
Average of nine towns	1,399	28.1	..

The average of nine towns shows a fall of 1.1 per cent on the corresponding figure for September. Comparisons of one town with another or with the Union average can only be effected in columns (2) and (3), not in column (4).

Germany.—The "Frankfurter Zeitung's" Price Index (100 = 1914) was at the beginning of November 2,687. Since June 1st, 1921, prices, according to this index number, have practically doubled.



INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES IN THE PRESIDENCY

On pages 45—48 will be found a statement of each dispute in progress during November 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". 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 November.

I. Industrial Disputes classified by Trades

Trade.	No. of disputes in progress in November 1921.			No. of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in November 1921.*	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in November 1921.*
	Started before 1st November.	Started in November.	Total.		
Textile	5	21	26	7,789	61,455
Transport	..	1	1	25	50
Engineering	..	1	1	250	250
Miscellaneous	..	2	2	27	54
Total, November 1921	5	25	30	8,091	61,809
Total, October 1921	2	13	15	50,608	231,896

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

There were 30 industrial disputes in November, 26 of which were in cotton mills. The number of people affected was about 8,000 and the working days lost (i.e., the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days less workers replaced)

61,809, a considerable decrease on the October statistics.

Table II shows the causes and results of the disputes. The large number due to the question of bonus, is noticeable. During the last five months September was the worst month for disputes and October the second worst. July was the month in which least industrial disputes occurred.

II. Industrial Disputes—Results, July to November 1921

	July 1921.	August 1921.	September 1921.	October 1921.	November 1921.
Number of strikes and lock-outs	10	14	21	15	30
Disputes in progress at beginning	2	2	3	2	5
Fresh disputes begun	8	12	18	13	25
Disputes ended	8	11	19	10	26
Disputes in progress at end	2	3	2	5	4
Number of workpeople involved	2,516	32,204	49,068	50,608	8,091
Aggregate duration in working days	12,268	192,001	256,498	231,896	61,809
Demands—					
Pay	5	6	2	1	5
Bonus	..	..	1	5	14
Personal	4	2	..	3	6
Leave and hours	..	3	1	3	2
Others	1	3	17	3	3
Results—					
Successful	1	5	2	2	13
Partially successful	1	1	..	4	5
Unsuccessful	6	5	17	4	8

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

The data in the table above and in that on pages 45—48, exclude the days on which the concerns were closed (i.e. from 17th to 21st Nov.) on account of riots. The closing down of the mills was hardly in the nature of a strike or lock-out.



III.—Industrial Disputes—Analysis of Table II

Month.	No. 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.)
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	30	61,809	27	43	17	13

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES COMMITTEE

This Committee has up to the 10th December held only three meetings but has covered a great deal of ground. The discussion on types of anti-strike machinery possible in Bombay was narrowed down by the deletion of Wages Boards and Arbitration Courts to—

- (1) Works Committees,
- (2) Boards of Enquiry,
- (3) Boards of Conciliation.

So far only the first have been formally considered and with a view to ascertaining the present condition of Works Committees in Bombay Mr. S. B. Kulkarni, Superintendent of the Currimbhoy Ebrahim Workmen's Institute, and Mr. S. D. Saklatwala of Tata Sons were examined. The impression given was that Works Committees were one of a number of charitable institutions set up in these extremely go-ahead firms. They have been established in all the mills of both companies but for a year only, and have not yet been entrusted with the consideration of the most important questions—

hours and general wage rates. They seem to require a good deal of nurturing. In some cases men's grievances had been met even against the interests of the firm, just to encourage the use of this method of articulation. The movement does not yet show signs of supplanting the strike which Mr. Saklatwala regards as the uneducated man's means of voicing some real grievance which he is unable to express in words or diffident of representing to the management.

In the course of his verbal evidence, he stated that he represented eight mills employing 24,300 persons of which 14,800 persons including 2,500 women belonged to their Bombay mills. The social work in their mills was being done by the Social Service League, as this body had trained workers, and being a non-partisan body inspired confidence. For constituting the Works Committee, each mill was divided into seven departments, and each of the departments elected 5 representatives, and the jobbers, muccadums and firemen, each electing 5 men. The heads of departments also attended the Committee meetings. About seventy-five per cent. of the workmen took part in the voting, and they were keen on electing the right men. Thus, seventy representatives met together to formulate their grievances, and most often, these were reasonable. The Committees, however, were not allowed to discuss questions of wages or the general topics affecting labour, as the workmen were quite illiterate. The demands of the workmen were more for bare necessities. The illiteracy of the workmen was a stumbling block in the way of their organising themselves, nor could they properly represent their grievances. Outsiders helped a good deal in organising the workmen. In order to fit the workmen to represent their grievances, and to appreciate and take advantage of the welfare schemes, they should be educated. So far, only the Tata and the Currimbhoy mills had instituted Works Committees. Finally, Mr. Saklatwala said that he was quite satisfied with their working and hoped that they would lead to a better understanding between labour and capital. Work in the Committee was an education in itself for the men, who would form their own views. He saw no signs of the formation of genuine trade unions in Bombay,



but he felt that employers should not stand in the way of the formation of healthy trade unions, nor did he object to outsiders helping the workmen to organise themselves, provided they genuinely represented the workmen's views.

Regarding housing, he said that 45 per cent of the occupants of the premises built by the mills, were outsiders. The David mills with 3,000 workmen provided 550 rooms of which each room accommodated 5 persons, and a rent of Rs. 3 to Rs. 4 was charged. The workmen prefer to live in these premises, and he himself believed in the value of personal touch between the management and the workmen. The grain shops which they opened were more popular in Nagpur, than in Bombay, because in the latter place the workmen were more in the hands of the 'sowcar.' They had suffered a loss of 5 lakhs on account of the scheme.

Mr. Saklatwala then furnished a statement of measures which he recommended for the prevention and settlement of industrial disputes. They were (1) the encouragement of welfare work undertaken by employers, and the appointment by Government of a Welfare Organiser and adviser, (2) improvement of housing conditions, (3) the spreading of co-operative credit and retail distributive societies in industrial areas, (4) decreasing of liquor shops and encouragement of tea shops as a substitute, in industrial areas, (5) spreading of compulsory and free primary education in areas from which labour is recruited, (6) appointment of health visitors by Government, (7) the establishment of Works Committees in all factories and (8) of a conciliation board whose decisions should not be made obligatory but should be left to public opinion and (9) the appointment of a member for labour in the Central Government and a Minister of Labour in each of the Presidencies.

PROTRACTED STRIKES

THE BUCKINGHAM AND CARNATIC MILLS

The strikes at the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills ended on the 21st of October. According to the Labour Commissioner, there had been a good deal of unrest in these mills before the big strike which occurred on 20th

May last. On the 19th of April for example, about 900 employees of the Carnatic Mills, largely younger men, went on strike without notice to show resentment of a disciplinary action taken against one of the men. A lenient view of the man's case was taken and the employees returned to duty on the following day. On the 3rd of May about 800 boys at the Buckingham Mills went on strike owing to action taken against some of their number for irregular attendance. On the same day 400 boys at the Carnatic Mills went on strike, although they had no grievances of their own. They returned to work on the 4th of May and those in the Buckingham Mills on the 5th of May. On the 9th instant 800 boys in the Buckingham Mills struck work but returned to work on the following day. On the 20th of May 600 in the Carding department of the Carnatic Mills went on strike and 5,096 in other departments of the same mills were affected. There was a general grievance regarding the question of leave, bonus, gratuity etc. and also regarding the 13 dismissed men of the Buckingham Mills. The last demand was in contravention of the settlement arrived at in January. On the 20th of June 5,620 workers of the Buckingham Mills went on strike in sympathy with the Carnatic Mills. At the end of July there were more than 2,000 people composed largely of Adi Dravidas and some of the caste Hindus and Muhammadans working in the Mills. There was approximately the same number of similar workers in the Carnatic Mills.

The Corporation on its own initiative appointed a committee to mediate and bring about a settlement of the strike. This proved abortive. A committee was appointed by Government to enquire into the disturbances which took place in July in connexion with these strikes and completed its report in August. A third committee—a committee of businessmen with Mr. J. F. Simpson, M.L.C., President of the Chamber of Commerce—attempted to bring the strike to a close. The strikers refused to consider the proposals made by the committee and there were further outbreaks of violence. By the middle of October the workers were sick of the struggle and of the repeated failures of the leaders to make good any of their promises in standing up against the



terrorism of the rowdy element. On 21st of October 616 of the strikers were re-engaged in both the Mills, and from that date batches of strikers were taken back daily. The total strength of the two Mills was increased to about 9,300 at the end of the month, the number of strikers taken back being 2,273. This will relieve the situation caused by unemployment to a considerable extent. The Simpson Committee is still exerting itself to secure future peace.

TRADE BOARDS

The appointment of the committee with Lord Cave as chairman to enquire into the working of the Trade Boards in the United Kingdom has aroused no little interest. In the course of a letter to the "Times," Lord Askwith deprecates the discussion going on in the press and advises the people to repose confidence in the Royal Commission instead of prejudicing the enquiry. He believes that the commission has been appointed "not for shelving but for the purpose of quick report on the working of existing Acts of Parliament". He counsels the magistrates to administer the Acts, as they are the law of the land. "Whether the first Act has been extended too widely; whether its machinery purposely adapted for cautious movement, is not now running quickly enough; whether unsuitable rates have been given to juveniles and learners; whether the wrong types of persons have been sitting upon the boards, and whether the general results have been satisfactory," Lord Askwith says, "are some of the questions which the Royal Commission must investigate."

That the working of the Trade Boards Act has not been satisfactory, is evidenced by the speech of Mr. J. J. Mallon (which appeared in the "London Times" of 29th September 1921), Secretary of the Trade Boards Advisory Council (which represents all trade unions having any connexion with Trade Boards). He said that the Act should be improved to make the machinery more flexible and less cumbersome. Further, on the 5th October the Committee of the National Union of Manufacturers resolved to collect all available information as to the operation of the Act in every

industry, and press the Government either to suspend or abolish the Act. The Dress-making and Women's Light Clothing Trade Board protested against the action of employers in Portsmouth in declining to pay the wages to which the workers were legally entitled, and welcomed the appointment of the Committee. The Hair, Bass and Fibre Trade Board acknowledges the assistance and usefulness of the board in stabilising wages and averting strikes. The Industrial Christian Fellowship recognises the value of the Acts in protecting the interests of the great mass of workers who have no Trade Unions. Other industries like the Shirt-making, the Brush and Broom-making and the Boot and Shoe-repairing industries favour the extension of the Act.

BONUS TO BOMBAY MILL WORKERS

The Labour Office has received the details of the bonus (mention of which was made on page 30 of the "Labour Gazette" for November) sanctioned by the Bombay Millowners' Association. Only those operatives who were on the Muster Rolls of the Mills on the 30th November 1921 are entitled to the bonus. The details are as below:—

1. *Fixed Wage Workers*—All men, women and children on fixed wages shall receive a bonus in accordance with the following *pro rata* scale:—

(A) One full month's wages for service of 9 months and over.

(B) 75 per cent of one month's wages for service of 6 months but under 9 months.

(C) 50 per cent of one full month's wages for service of 3 months but under 6 months.

Note.—(1) The bonus to be given under the above scale shall be based on all wages, together with percentages of increases sanctioned from time to time and, as a guide, the Committee suggest that the wages earned in November be taken as a basis of payment.

(2) The minimum amount payable under the above scale shall, in no case, be less than Rs. 20, or in the case of half timers, less than Rs. 14 *pro rata*.

(3) The maximum amount payable in the case of any one operative under the above scale shall be Rs. 175.

2. *Piece Workers*—All piece-workers shall receive bonus upon the above *pro rata* scale according to



the nature of their occupations as detailed below provided that the bonus shall only be paid to employees with three full months' service and over:—

(A) Jobbers and others whose average piece-work earnings amount to Rs. 175 or over, shall be given a *pro rata* bonus of Rs. 175.

(B) Jobbers and others whose average piece-work earnings amount to Rs. 150 or over but under Rs. 175, shall be given a *pro rata* bonus of Rs. 150.

(C) Jobbers and others whose average piece-work earnings amount to Rs. 120 or over but under Rs. 150, shall be given a *pro rata* bonus of Rs. 120.

(D) Jobbers and others whose average piece-work earnings amount to Rs. 85 or over but under Rs. 120, shall be given a *pro rata* bonus of Rs. 100.

(E) Jobbers and others whose average piece-work earnings amount to Rs. 60 or over but under Rs. 85, shall be given a *pro rata* bonus of Rs. 84.

(F) Jobbers whose piece-work earnings amount to under Rs. 60, shall be given a *pro rata* bonus of Rs. 60.

(G) Drawing, Slubbing, Inter and Roving Tenders on piece-work shall be given a *pro rata* bonus of Rs. 30.

(H) *Mules*.—Mule Spinners on piece-work shall be given a *pro rata* bonus of Rs. 48 and Engine Piecers on piece-work and Side Piecers on piece-work shall be given a *pro rata* bonus of Rs. 36.

(I) Winders, Reelers and other women on piece-work shall be given a *pro rata* bonus of Rs. 24.

(J) Warpers on piece-work shall be given a *pro rata* bonus of Rs. 42.

(K) Sizers on piece-work shall be given a *pro rata* bonus of Rs. 84.

(L) Back Sizers on piece-work shall be given a *pro rata* bonus of Rs. 42.

(M) Drawers on piece-work shall be given a *pro rata* bonus of Rs. 36.

(N) Reachers of piece-work shall be given a *pro rata* bonus of Rs. 20.

(O) Weavers on piece-work shall be given a *pro rata* bonus of Rs. 42.

3. The bonus shall be paid on or about the 14th January 1922.

4. A Sub-Committee consisting of Messrs. J. A. Kay, S. D. Saklatvala and C. N. Wadia, C.I.E., M.L.C., have been empowered to answer any questions and clear up any points that may be referred to them, through the Secretary, in regard to the payment of the bonus.

WORKING DAYS LOST IN NOVEMBER

At a meeting held on the 22nd November the Committee of the Bombay Millowners' Association passed a resolution "that all men on fixed wages working on or supervising machines, such as mixers, blow-room hands, card tenters, carriers, ring boys, followers, jobbers (all departments), assistant jobbers, folders, callendermen, navaganies and carriers, etc., shall only be paid a half day's wages" for the 17th, and no pay whatsoever for the 18th, 19th, 20th and 21st November 1921 but that if any mill operatives actually worked throughout the whole day or on the four latter days, such men should be paid for the full time that they have worked.

COOLIE LABOUR IN ASSAM

The Government of Assam have appointed a Committee to enquire into the conditions of coolie labour in that province. The terms of reference include:—

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

(2) whether it is possible and desirable that the indirect remuneration represented by the above-mentioned concessions should be converted into an increase of money wages;

(3) to make any recommendations which seem desirable for improving the conditions of labour; and

(4) to enquire into the desirability of applying the proposed legislation in connection with compensation for injuries received by workmen, to tea gardens.

HONORARY CORRESPONDENTS

To the list of names published on page 23 of the "Labour Gazette" for November 1921, should be added:—

Mr. Kanji Dwarkadas, M.L.C., Chartered Bank Buildings, Bombay.

Mr. S. K. Bole, M.L.C., Keshavalaya Dadar, Bombay.



JOINT WORKS COMMITTEE

On page 20 of the "Labour Gazette" for September a note was made regarding the pamphlet issued by the Industries Department, Bengal, which had been received in the Labour Office. The following is the draft constitution of a Joint Works Committee referred to. A note in the pamphlet states "This draft constitution is intended only as a model and may require modifications."

The Committee will consist of the following:—

Representatives of the management..	4
Representatives of the jobbers ..	4
Representatives of the workers—	
(a) Mill and spinning ..	3
(b) Weaving and finishing ..	3
(c) Other workers ..	2
Total ..	16

The representatives of the jobbers will be elected by the jobbers at a meeting. The representatives of the workers of each group will be elected at a meeting of the employees of that group. These meetings will be convened by the Manager at such times as he considers suitable. No person shall be qualified for election as a representative of the workers unless he is 25 years of age and has served for at least one year in the mill.

Term of appointment.—The members of the Committee will hold office for six months. Vacancies occurring within that term will be filled as in the case of the original appointment. The first Committee will hold office from the 1st September 1921.

President.—The President will be either the Manager or the nominee of the Manager. The President, or, in his absence, the senior representative of the management present at a meeting of the Committee, shall preside over that meeting.

Secretary.—The Secretary will be appointed by the Committee at the first meeting, subject to the approval of the President.

Meetings.—A meeting of the Committee will be held on the first Thursday in each month or, if that day is a holiday, on the next succeeding working day. A special meeting may be called by the President at the request of not less than three members of the Committee. Notice of each meeting, stating the agenda, will be circulated to members by the Secretary at least three days before the date fixed for the meeting. A copy of the notice will also be posted up in a prominent place in the mill. The Secretary will keep a record of the proceedings of each meeting and submit it to the management, after approval and signature by the President.

The President shall adjourn any meeting if, in his opinion, there are not sufficient members present to enable the subjects on the agenda to be adequately discussed.

Functions of the Committee.—The following subjects may be dealt with by the Committee:—

I.—Subjects affecting the working of the mill—

- (1) Terms of employment.
- (2) Continuity of employment.
- (3) Reduction of labour turn-over.
- (4) Time-keeping, overtime, punctuality and regularity of attendance, holidays.
- (5) Increase in productive efficiency.
- (6) Reduction in waste of material and stores.
- (7) Prevention of accidents, first-aid.
- (8) Sanitation and hygiene.
- (9) Training of young persons.
- (10) Rest-room, tea-rooms.

II.—Social welfare of the employees—

- (1) Medical aid.
- (2) Education.
- (3) Sports and entertainments.
- (4) Co-operative Stores.
- (5) Housing accommodation.

The Committee may also consider any other subject which is referred to it by the Manager.



Any member of the Committee wishing to propose a subject for discussion at a meeting shall give notice to the Secretary at least five days before the meeting. The President shall decide whether any particular subject proposed for discussion by a member of the Committee falls within the list of subjects with which the Committee is empowered to deal, or, if he considers that the subject should be discussed with the representatives of the management in the department concerned before it is brought up at the Committee meeting he may make arrangements accordingly.

The Committee may refer any subject brought before it to a sub-committee for consideration and report, or for disposal.

THE GENOA CONFERENCE

INDIAN SEAMEN—GOVERNMENT'S ACTION

From 15th June to 10th July 1920 an International Labour Conference was held at Genoa at which certain recommendations and conventions were discussed. Those passed by the Conference have recently been before the Indian Legislature, and it is desirable to explain the action taken with regard to these. Recently the All-India Trade Union Congress has passed resolutions regretting the action thus taken, and it is clear that the full facts of the case not having been adequately reported in the press have been misunderstood in some quarters. The recommendations and conventions discussed by the Conference dealt with—

- (1) the limitation of hours of work in the fishing industry;
- (2) the limitation of hours of work in inland navigation;
- (3) the establishment of national seamen's codes;
- (4) the minimum age for admission of children to employment at sea;
- (5) unemployment insurance for seamen;
- (6) unemployment indemnity in case of loss or foundering of the ship;
- (7) facilities for finding employment for seamen;

(8) the limitation of working hours on board ship.

Of these, all with the exception of the last were passed by the Conference—Nos. (1) to (5) in the form of recommendations and Nos. (6) and (7) in the form of draft conventions. The last—No. (8)—was discussed as a convention, but was not, as already indicated, adopted. A full account of the proceedings of the Conference is available for reference in the Labour Office. The Government delegates were Sir Louis Kershaw of the India Office and Captain D. F. Vines, late Presidency Port Officer and Shipping Master, Calcutta, Commander Hodgkinson, R.N., and Mr. J. E. P. Curry, Shipping Master, Bombay, were advisers. The employers' delegate was Mr. A. Cameron of Messrs. Gray, Dawes & Co., London, and the advisers to this delegate included Mr. J. C. Melville, Irrawaddy Flotilla Co. of Burma, Captain C. S. Penny, Marine Superintendent, British India Steam Navigation Co., Bombay, and Mr. Taylor. The workers' delegate was Mr. A. M. Mazarro, then President of the Asiatic Seamen's Union, Bombay. The advisers to the workers' delegate were Bhikha Ahmed, lascar, and Habiboolla Ellamdeen, fireman.

The resolutions and conventions were discussed in the Legislative Assembly on 26th September and in the Council of State on the following day. The Honourable Mr. C. A. Innes, Member for Commerce, pointed out in the Assembly that two important matters discussed at the Conference were not before the House. The first was the question of limitation of hours of work on board ship. There was nothing to place before the House because no draft convention and no recommendation were passed at the Conference. The fact that the Conference failed by a fraction of a vote to adopt the principle of an eight-hour day will profoundly influence the future of this question, and the Government of India are keeping in close touch with any settlement that may be come to in the United Kingdom, and when the question proposed to be taken there is known the question will doubtless be taken up in India. The second question not placed before the House, dealt with the limitation of hours in



inland navigation (recommendation (2)). This was a complex question and opens up many difficult questions. Two years have been allowed to report progress by the Conference, and Government do not propose to reply to this until July 1922. It is by no means clear, even assuming that a limitation of hours of work in inland navigation is theoretically desirable, how that limitation can be enforced in practice. It is proposed to direct enquiries to that point and the House will have another opportunity of discussing this question.

In regard to recommendation (1) (the limitation of hours of work in the fishing industry), the Assembly recommended that no action should be taken. The Commerce Member said: "I doubt myself whether it will be applied in any country in the world, and I am quite certain that, at any rate at present, we could not apply it in India. We have no organizations of employers or of workers to consult. Deep-sea fishing in India is in its infancy. Such sea fishing as is carried on is almost entirely inshore fishing; it is carried on in very primitive boats and with very primitive appliances. The fishermen, although they may be financed by merchants, usually remunerate the men they employ by a share in the catch. Every maritime Local Government is unanimous in holding that it would be entirely premature for the Government of India to take any action on this recommendation."

The Assembly also decided that no action should be taken with regard to recommendation (3)—the establishment of National Seamen's Codes. The reason is, the codification of our numerous Merchant Shipping Acts must take precedence over the establishment of any Seamen's Code. Some progress has been made in the Legislative Department of the Government of India in this codification, and when it is complete it will to a very large extent serve the purposes of a Seamen's Code.

The recommendation regarding the minimum age for admission of children to employment at sea—resolution (4)—was adopted subject to the following reservations: (a) that it shall apply only to foreign-going ships and to home trade ships of a burden exceeding 300 tons; and (b) that nothing in the draft convention shall be deemed to interfere with

the Indian custom of sending young boys to sea on nominal wages in the charge of their fathers or near relatives. The minimum age is fixed in the recommendation at 14. The first reservation is explained in section 26 of the Indian Merchant Shipping Act of 1883. Agreements with seamen are obligatory at present only in respect of seamen engaging to serve on the ships referred to, and it is only when agreements are required that the recommendation can be enforced, as such agreements are signed in the presence of the Shipping Master. It would not be possible to enforce the recommendation in cases where agreements are unnecessary, as in the case of small ships, usually sailing ships engaged in the coasting trade of India. The second reservation is intended to safeguard the practice whereby sea-cunnies, serangs, tindals and other Indian seamen are allowed to take with them on board ship their young sons or nephews. These boys serve as deck-hands on nominal wages and it is a sort of apprenticeship, greatly valued by Indian seamen.

The fifth recommendation which deals with unemployment insurance for seamen, was not adopted. The principle of unemployment insurance has not been accepted in India generally, and this principle applies to the question of seamen's labour. And that for two reasons. Indian seamen combine to a large degree their seafaring profession with the profession of agriculture, so that when they are unable to obtain employment on ships they can always go back to their villages and find employment in the fields. The second reason is that there is no machinery at present by which a system of unemployment insurance could be made effective.

The convention concerning indemnity in case of loss or foundering of the ship was not adopted, but enquiries were to be made as to whether the law should not provide (1) that any Indian seaman whose service is terminated before the period contemplated in his agreement by reason of the wreck or loss of his ship should be entitled to his wages until he is repatriated to the port of his departure from India; and (2) that he should be paid compensation for loss of his personal effects up to the limit of one month's wages. The draft convention provides that the indemnity



against unemployment resulting from such loss or foundering is to be paid for the days during which the seaman remains in fact unemployed at the same rate as the wages payable under the contract, but the total indemnity payable under the convention to any one seaman may be limited to two months' wages. The Indian law on the subject is briefly as follows:—Section 25 of the Merchant Shipping Act of 1883 prescribes that the master of every ship, except those not exceeding 300 tons engaged in the home trade, shall enter into an agreement with every seaman he engages. Section 29 prescribes that when a lascar is engaged for a voyage which ends at a port not in British India his agreement shall contain a stipulation that other fit employment should be found for him on board some other ship bound for the port at which he was shipped or that he should be provided free of charge on such terms as may be agreed upon with a passage to some port in British India. If a ship is wrecked section 51 of the Merchant Shipping Act of 1859 states that the wages of seamen on board that ship cease from the date of the wreck. Chapter III of the Indian Merchant Shipping Act of 1880, however, makes provision for the subsistence and conveyance home of an Indian seaman shipwrecked on the Indian coast and there are similar provisions in the English Merchant Shipping Act of 1894. Government do not commit themselves to the principle of an unemployment indemnity at present, and in lieu of ratifying the convention are of opinion that an enquiry on the lines proposed should be undertaken. The objection to an indemnity against unemployment is that it would be extremely difficult to work it in the present circumstances of India. At present there are no Labour Exchanges and no Employment Offices. There are, therefore, no ready means by which a shipwrecked seaman on his arrival in India can be registered for employment, and, therefore, the system of unemployment indemnity necessitating the seamen to prove precisely how long they had been unemployed and that they had attempted to find employment would lead, it is feared, to constant disputes between seamen and ship-owners. The Assembly adopted the proposal of the Honourable Mr. Innes, which is in the interests of the seamen themselves. Repatriation

to India plus a definite sum down on their return would obviate the trouble of proving that they had tried to obtain employment on another ship and had not succeeded in doing so.

The Legislative Assembly adopted in regard to the convention that facilities should be given for finding employment for seamen that it "should not be ratified, but that an examination should be undertaken without delay of the methods of recruitment of seamen at the different ports in India in order that it may be definitely ascertained whether abuses exist and whether those abuses are susceptible of remedy." The convention is directed against crimping in any shape or form and as the Commerce Member pointed out "this is an object with which I think everyone will sympathise." The Indian law is contained in the Merchant Shipping Act of 1859. Sections 18 to 20 of that Act deal with this question and section 20 makes it an offence to demand or receive money either directly or indirectly from seamen in return for finding them employment. The most difficult point is whether the present system of licensed shipping brokers should be abolished and a system of public employment agencies introduced. Before any confident decision can be reached on this thorny question of recruitment further information is undoubtedly necessary.

It will be seen from what has been said on the recommendations and conventions of the Genoa Conference that these have been carefully considered by Government and by the Legislative Assembly and Council of State. Much is being done with special reference to the peculiar conditions of India in this matter.

THE MINIMUM WAGE

DISCUSSION IN THE BENGAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

The Government of Bengal have forwarded to the Labour Office the proceedings of the Bengal Legislative Council containing the debate on the resolution for fixing minimum wages for each industry in Bengal. Mr. K. C. R. Chaudhuri, in bringing forward the



Resolution' that early steps be taken to establish or institute Industrial Boards for the determination of a minimum wage for each industry in Bengal,' pointed out that his object was to draw attention to the low rates of wages paid to employees in a large number of trades and industries in Bengal. He said that he would like to see an All-India Act to abolish sweating by fixing a rate of something like one and a half annas per hour as a general minimum piece-rate of wages, based on a 48-hour week with overtime for all industrial workers including plantations.

TRADE BOARDS

The Hon'ble Mr. Kerr, Member in charge of the Department of Commerce, was unable to accept the resolution on behalf of Government and it was put and lost. The Hon'ble Member dealt with the Trade Boards Act of 1919 which applied to four trades only (the ready-made tailoring trade, paper-box making, the finishing processes of the lace trade, and chain making). It was only in 1918 that the present Act came into force and power was given to the Minister of Labour to extend the Act to other trades in which there was reason to believe that the wages were not sufficient. He showed how on the board of an equal number of employers and employees the Chairman from the Ministry of Labour practically settles, as is to be expected, the minimum wage and how in times of falling prices considerable dissatisfaction arises. "The gravest test," says Lord Bryce in his recent book on "Modern Democracies" with regard to results in Australia, "will come when the workmen are denied some increase they ask for, or employers begin to ask for a reduction." Apart from this point, the frequent delays and the inevitable technicality of the rulings are giving rise to great irritation.

THE CASE AGAINST A MINIMUM WAGE

The report of the American Commission on Foreign Enquiry of the National Civic Federation in 1919 says: "In the United States the minimum wage is unscientific and

uneconomic in character. At its foundation, it has the idea that the opinion of one or two individuals may properly establish a standard of living for the members of some particular group, and at the market prices of some particular day, which society as a whole is obliged to provide to the individuals of that particular group in return for a certain number of hours of work and quite without reference to any practical or scientific co-ordination of real wages between different sections, or in relation to the service or work performed by those to whom that wage is paid."

Mr. Kerr pointed out that the minimum wage system expels from private industry a number of low grade workers, and that the system would be impracticable in any country, according to Professor Pigou, Professor of Political Economy in Cambridge, without a well organized state policy of poor relief. We have of course no such policy in India. Another tendency of the minimum wage system is that it is apt to bear hardly on home industries. Home industries are subject to fierce competition with factory industries and it is home industries which are least able to bear a rise in wages. A further objection to the minimum wage system is its tendency to encourage what is called the "Ca Canny" principle, principle of doing as little as possible for the wage paid. That principle is not confined to Western countries.

A MINIMUM WAGE IN BENGAL

Mr. Kerr dealt with the impossibility of applying the minimum wage to agricultural industries in this country. "Broadly speaking," he said, "the wages in the industries of Bengal are regulated by agricultural wages, that is to say the ordinary labour comes from a village, and industrial concerns, in order to attract the labourer, must offer higher wages than he gets in his own village. Now, that is the only principle on which we could regulate the minimum wage in Bengal. . . . Apart from the fact that we have not sufficient knowledge for the purpose, and from the fact that we should have to make allowances for all sorts of differences in land tenures and agricultural products and so forth, even if we could get



over all these difficulties and fix a minimum wage that would be accepted by all as fair and reasonable, we have not got the staff to go round and see that these minimum wages were paid." He believed that the experience of Bengal during the last twelve months shows that labour has its own ways and means of pressing its demands on capital, and the recent Committee on industrial relations laid it down as an axiomatic principle that the best and most satisfactory method of settling labour disputes between employers and workmen is for the parties directly concerned to come to an agreement between themselves. At the present moment the Government of Bengal feel that, for the reasons stated, such legislation would be premature in Bengal.

INDIA'S LABOUR DELEGATE AT THE GENEVA CONFERENCE

At the recent International Labour Conference Mr. Joshi, the labour delegate from India, opposed the French Government's view that agricultural questions should be excluded from the agenda of the Conference. He pleaded for an investigation into the conditions under which the Indian agricultural labourer worked, especially on tea, coffee, and rubber plantations. He also spoke in favour of primary education before vocational education for agricultural wage earners. He hoped that the International Labour Office would, at an early date, investigate the question of primary education and the question of wage earners in countries like India.

Mr. Joshi spoke strongly in favour of a better representation of non-European countries on the staff of the International Labour Office. "I feel," he said, "that the Director should change his policy and should try to put on the staff people from different nations, especially from Asia, and from countries like India, Japan, and China." He pointed out the advantages of having on the staff men with experience of Indian conditions and the gain to the International Labour Movement by having these countries interested through their representatives in such questions. He was also in favour of agents of the International Labour Office being appointed in India, China and

Japan as in England, France, and the United States, to collect information and to distribute information.

In a speech on the Maritime Commission he disagreed with one of the Government delegates of India who said that the Conventions and Recommendations of the Conference were mere suggestions which the Government might accept or might not accept. Mr. Joshi held that such Conventions and Recommendations were rather in the nature of negotiations and something more than suggestions.

SEAMEN'S UNION

A general meeting of the Indian Seamen's Union, Bombay, which consists of the Saloon crew of the P. & O. and B. I. and other lines, was held in Bombay on the 22nd October 1921, with Mr. Joseph Baptista as Chairman. The rules of the Union were explained and the names of office-bearers, who were mostly honorary workers, were announced. The total income of the union for the six months beginning from 1st April was Rs. 17,557-2-0 and the expenditure for the same period was Rs. 8,829-2-6. The expenditure included the death benefit accruing to members viz. Rs. 75 which is paid to their relatives. Other subjects discussed at this meeting included the question of unemployment of the members of the Union.

MR. DADIBHAI DALAL

The appointment of Mr. Dadibhai Dalal, C.I.E., to the Secretary of State's Council means the loss of one keenly interested in the activities of the Labour Office, especially in regard to labour statistics and the machinery for the prevention and early settlement of industrial disputes. Mr. Dalal's forte is, of course, finance, but his interests cover the whole field of economics. He possesses a dominating sense of public duty and in its highest and best development, the genius of common sense. Bombay's loss is, therefore, Whitehall's gain. Those of us who knew his hospitality to be as wide as his sympathies and interests will remember how much can be achieved by a few hours' conversation round a table than by weeks and months of long-range correspondence.



ARTIFICIAL HUMIDITY

ITS NECESSITY IN COTTON MILLS

BY

T. MALONEY, M.C., A.M.C.T.

Humidification Adviser to the Government of India

In the early days of the 18th century, the naturally moist climate of Lancashire helped considerably towards her pre-eminence as a producer of cotton yarns and fabrics; for it was early recognised that cotton worked better in a fairly humid atmosphere. In dry climates difficulties were experienced in the production of any but the coarsest yarns owing to the generation of electricity in the fibres, which by mutual repulsion caused brittle yarns, many breakages, and a final product which was deficient in strength. In the weaving shed, even greater difficulties were experienced and the number of breakages led to poor cloth, which naturally did not command the price paid for Lancashire goods.

To overcome the natural difficulties of the climatic conditions America—England's first serious competitor—introduced moisture into the air of the rooms of her textile mills by artificial means, the whole object being to establish a higher relative humidity; and from the time that this policy was adopted her cotton industry has advanced. India was confronted by the same problems as America and to weave successfully the products of her spinning machines her manufacturers, almost without exception, found it advisable to use artificial humidification in the weaving departments.

The necessity for moistening systems for spinning and preparation rooms was not so great owing to the low counts of yarn generally spun. There are two other main reasons for the use of artificial humidification:—

(1) The strength of yarn is to a large extent dependent on the amount of moisture it contains and this is governed by the relative humidity of the air and to a less degree by its temperature.

(2) The introduction of moisture is an efficient method of reducing temperature.

Consider for example a room containing machinery which takes 400 H.P. to drive. The heat from the machinery alone would, in a ten-hour day, amount to 10,000,000 B.T. units. To this must be added the heat given off by the bodies of the workpeople and the radiant heat of the sun. It will then be readily understood why the temperature of a spinning room rises so high even with moderately good ventilation. By introducing moisture the temperature can be considerably reduced and, theoretically, it would be possible to keep the temperature of the room to within one or two degrees of the outside wet bulb temperature, if a sufficient quantity of saturated air were introduced.

The question as to what is the most suitable relative humidity depends to a great extent upon the process. For example the relative humidity required in the card room need not be considered as regards the effect upon strength, but should be sufficient to prevent formation of electricity at the cards, and keep down the temperature to within reasonable limits. The same remark would seem to apply to drawing, slubbing and intermediate frames. Excessive humidification should be avoided at the frames or roller licking will cause trouble. At the roving frames and spinning frames the necessity of considering the strength of the product is more important and relative humidity should be sufficient to give a reasonable moisture content to the yarn, in addition to preventing formation of electricity, or breakages will be too frequent. The weaving process will necessitate the largest percentage of humidity of all departments owing to following reasons:—

(a) friction on individual warp threads necessitating consideration of strength;

(b) generation of frictional electricity in large quantities;

(c) sizing of warp threads. (In order that the size may not become brittle a moist atmosphere is essential.)

There are however certain definite objections to the use of high percentages of humidity at high temperatures:—



(1) the workman is not capable under such conditions of a large energy output; and production, when dependent on the human factor to any extent, suffers;

(2) continuous work in high wet bulb temperatures renders workers susceptible to colds, bronchial diseases, and is conducive to a permanently indifferent state of health;

(3) cooling down of rooms during the night causes saturation, deposition of dew, corrosion of machinery and wet floors—leading to increased allowances for depreciation; more frequent mechanical breakages and increased danger of accidents, septic wounds, etc.;

(4) increase in horsepower required to drive the machinery, due to belt slip.

This leads one to believe that there must be an optimum atmospheric condition for successful production of yarn and cloth. What this is for each department should be one of the foremost considerations of the departmental managers, who should certainly insist upon keeping detailed hygrometrical records, so that there may be a chance of correctly estimating the desirable temperatures and relative humidity, and keeping to them as nearly as possible.

LABOUR IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

According to the Annual Factory Report for 1920, there were 894 factories in the Presidency within the scope of the Indian Factories Act, giving employment to no less than 339,000 persons as compared with 319,000 in 1919. Of these 557 were cotton ginning, cleaning, and pressing factories, and 180 cotton mills. In the island and city of Bombay there were 86 cotton mills employing 109,000 men, 29,000 women and 3,000 children—a total of 141,000. Ahmedabad with its 65 cotton mills employs 48,000 workers of whom 33,000 are men, 8,000 women and 7,000 children—more than twice the number of children that are employed in Bombay. The table below shows the average daily number of persons employed in the cotton

and all industries in Bombay, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Karachi.

Industry.	Town and Island of Bombay.	Ahmedabad.	Sholapur.	Karachi.
Cotton spinning and weaving Mills.				
Adults—				
Males	109,505	32,768	9,381	..
Females	28,717	8,049	3,438	..
Total	138,222	40,817	12,819	..
Children—				
Males	1,723	4,803	1,392	..
Females	953	2,185	404	..
Total	2,676	6,988	1,796	..
Total Average Daily Number	140,898	47,805	14,615	..
All Industries.				
Adults—				
Males	165,286	35,829	10,125	5,012
Females	30,498	9,667	4,077	369
Total	195,784	45,496	14,202	5,381
Children—				
Males	2,061	4,843	1,403	61
Females	986	2,196	404	..
Total	3,047	7,039	1,807	61
Total Average Daily Number	198,831	52,535	16,009	5,442

Accidents.—The table below shows the number and percentage of accidents during the past ten years:—

Year.	Number of persons injured.				Average per 100 operatives employed.
	Fatal.	Serious.	Minor.	Total.	
1911 ..	20	126	1,353	1,499	'63
1912 ..	30	85	1,476	1,591	'61
1913 ..	43	63	1,490	1,596	'59
1914 ..	22	48	1,532	1,602	'60
1915 ..	21	67	1,682	1,770	'63
1916 ..	23	87	1,102	1,242	'42
1917 ..	28	75	819	922	'31
1918 ..	39	128	698	865	'23
1919 ..	26	99	896	1,021	'32
1920 ..	33	108	768	909	'27



Prosecutions.—Altogether 19 prosecutions were instituted, four by the full-time Inspectors, of which, three were in Bombay and one in Broach. The persons convicted paid fines ranging from Rs. 10 to Rs. 150. Of the remaining 15 prosecutions, 5 were in Ahmedabad, 4 in Sholapur, 3 in Bijapur, 2 in West Khandesh and 1 in Surat. Of these 13 convictions were recorded and fines ranging from Rs. 10 to Rs. 75 were imposed.

Housing of mill hands.—It is gratifying to learn that some of the Mills both in Bombay and Ahmedabad have built model houses for their mill workers. The Colaba Mill, Bombay, has built lines in one of the best localities of Bombay, and in Ahmedabad 1,425 rooms are said to have been made ready; 300 more are under construction and 500 more are to be erected.

Wages.—The table below shows the average wages paid to skilled and unskilled labourers in Bombay and Ahmedabad, based on the reports of factory inspectors:—

	Bombay.		Ahmedabad.	
	Per month.		Per month.	
	Rs.	P.	Rs.	P.
1. Skilled Labour—				
Blacksmith	64	53		
Fitter	63	53		
Carpenter	56	58		
Bricklayer	55	57		
Mason	47	58		
Weaver (man)	45	44		
Spinner (man)	37	25		
Dyer	30	23		
Engine-driver	65	44		
Boiler-man	35	44		
2. Unskilled labour—				
Messenger	24	20		
Coolie (man)	28	20		
Do. (woman)	16	16		

THE NEW JAPANESE FACTORY BILL

The Minister of Foreign Affairs in the House of Lords on 12th March stated with regard to the Washington Conventions that the formalities required for the ratification of the Draft Conventions give rise to certain difficult questions of constitutional procedure, but that the Government had every intention of giving an early decision on this point and of bringing the matter up before July 1921. The Acting Consul General for Japan in India has been good enough to inform the Labour Office as to the present position. Writing from Simla

on 17th August he says that according to Mr. B. Kishi, an official of the Department of Commerce and Agriculture, Tokyo (who recently was in Simla), the Bill was not presented at the last Diet. He also says that the Japanese Government are preparing to amend the present law in accordance with the provisions of the Washington Conference. From other sources the Labour Office understands that Government have decided to combine the Factory and Mining Bills and also that concerning the protection of women workers before and after childbirth into one bill called the "Industrial Labour Bill". The new Bill will, it is said, not merely apply to women and children (as does the existing Factory Law), but also to males. It will also be wider in its scope by including all factories, engineering, building, and transport concerns employing ten or more workers. The present Law prescribes a working day of 13 hours as a maximum and in the largest industry (silk) an additional hour of overtime on 120 days in the year. At Washington a 9½ hour day or a 57 hour week for adults and an 8 hour day for children was recommended. The minimum age will probably be raised to 14 and there will be rest days and rest intervals for all workers. Night work will be prohibited for employees under 16.

In this connexion the following statistics have been compiled by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, Tokyo, for 1918:—

Factories.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Textile factories—			
Raw silk	21,118	290,011	311,129
Total	129,503	648,151	777,654
Machine and tool factories	270,610	18,296	288,906
Chemical works	113,364	46,398	159,762
All factories	646,115	763,081	1,409,196

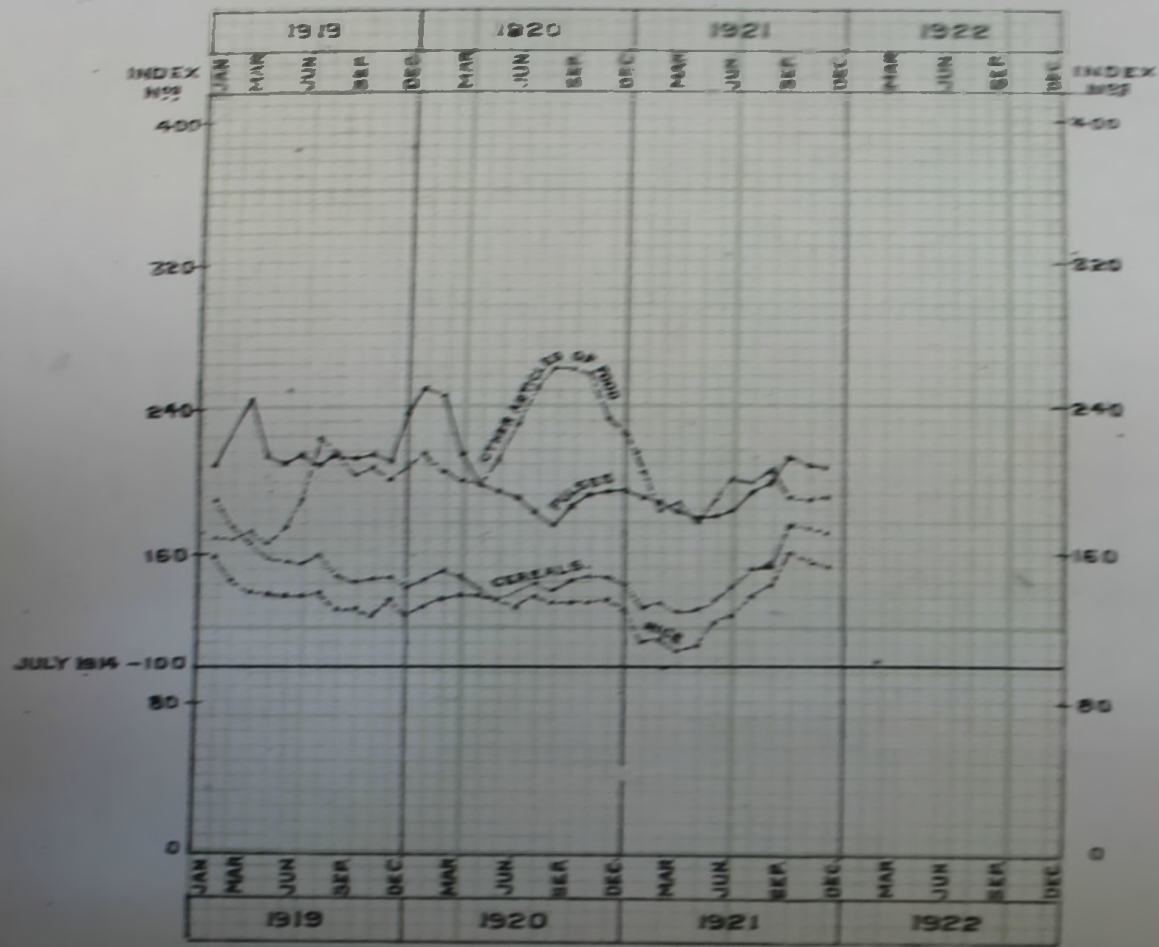
In 19,299 factories employing not less than ten operatives each, male labour amounts only to 42 per cent and female labour to 58 per cent. Of the total number of child workers under 15 years of age (of whom there were in cotton spinning 2,527 male and 35,478 female) 18 per cent were boys and 82 per cent girls.

CHARTS

1. Cost of Living in Bombay.
2. Progress of the Monsoon, 1921.
3. Retail Prices of Rice, Pulses, Cereals and other Articles of Food in Bombay.
4. Cost of Living in India, the United Kingdom, Canada and Belgium.
5. Imports and Exports of Merchandise—India.
6. Rate of Exchange in Bombay.
7. Strikes in the Bombay Presidency, 1921.
8. Foods and Non-foods Wholesale Prices, Bombay.

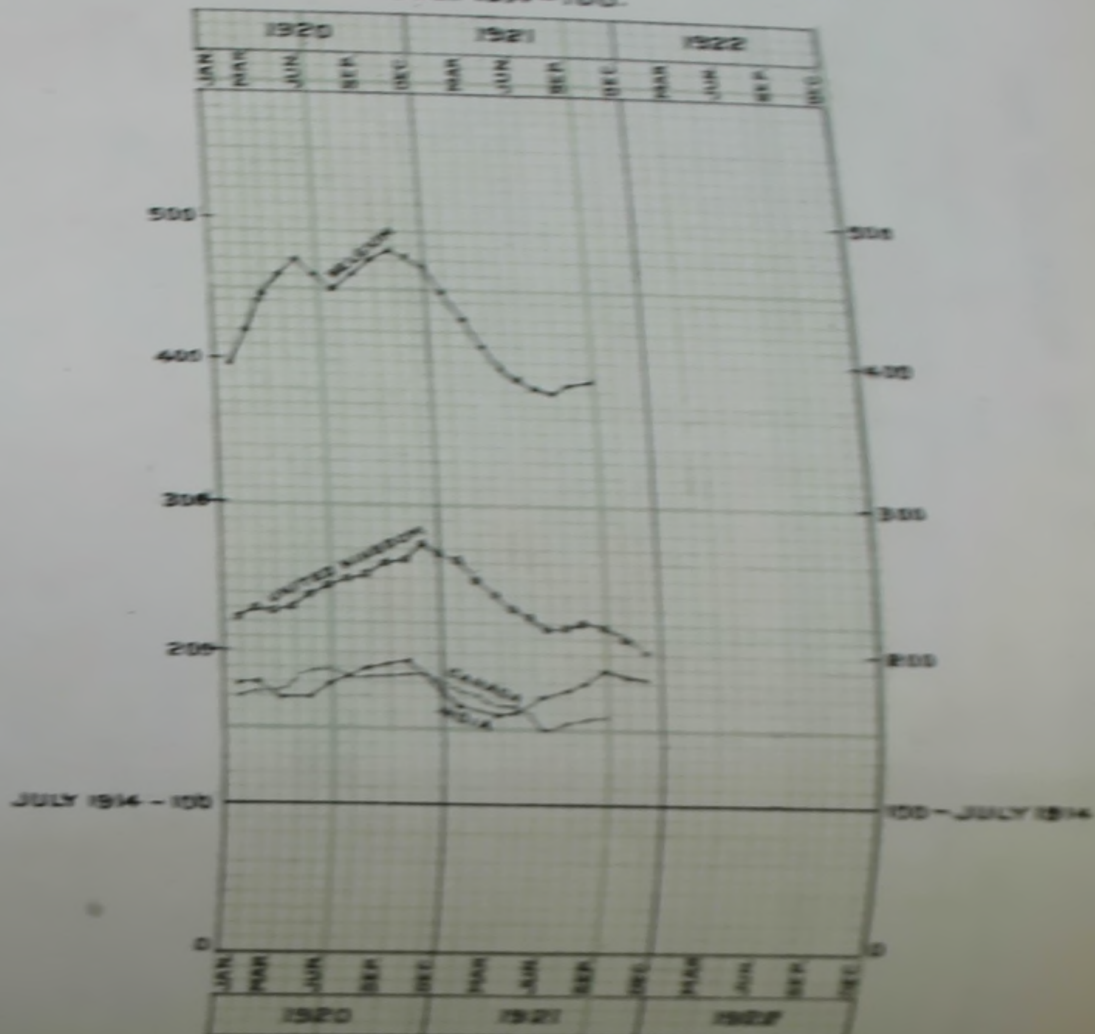
CHART NO. 3.

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



Note—(1) Pulses—Average price of Gram and Kullhi.
 (2) Rice—Clea.
 (3) Cereals—Average price of rice, wheat, Jawar and Bajra.
 (4) Other articles of food—Average price of sugar, tea, salt, besf, mutton, milk, ghi, potatoes, onions, coconut oil &c.

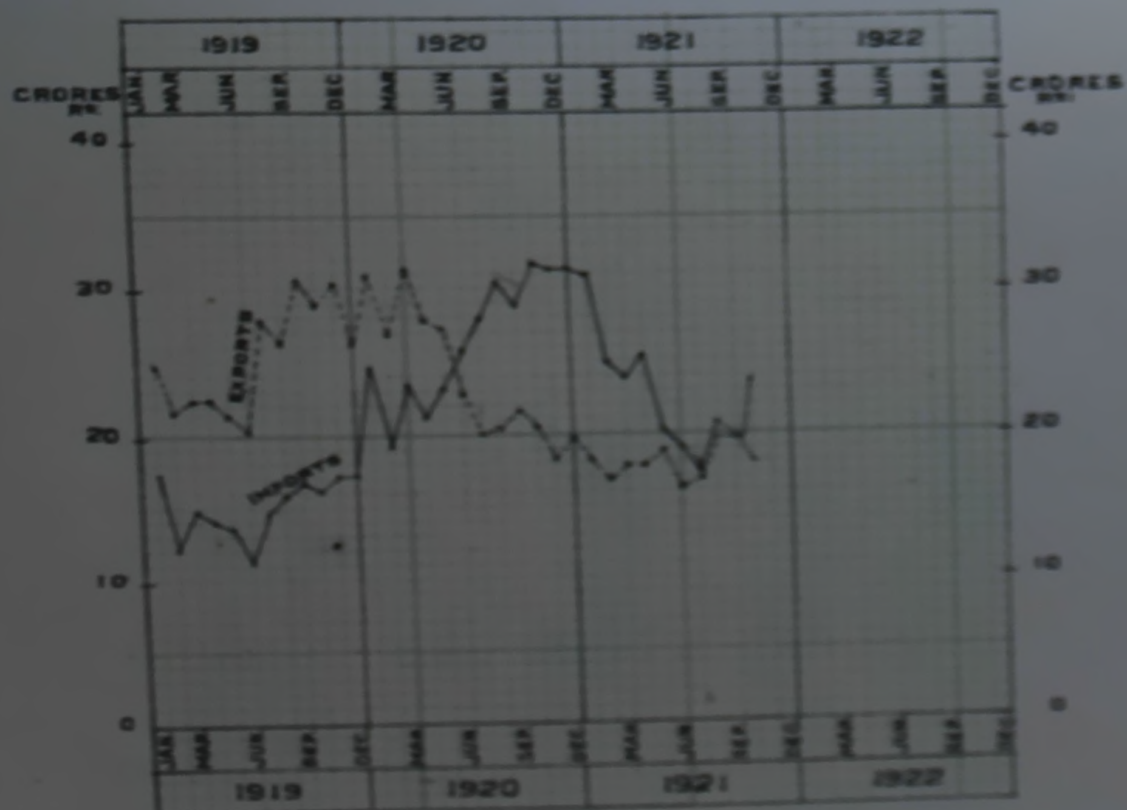
CHART NO. 4. COST OF LIVING IN INDIA, AND UNITED KINGDOM, CANADA AND BELGIUM JULY 1914 = 100.



Note—(1) In the case of Belgium April 1914 = 100.
 (2) For India the figures for Bombay (part) are given.
 (3) The comparison rate of India and Canada in Great Britain and the United Kingdom.
 (4) The figures represent 1 penny.

CHART NO. 5.

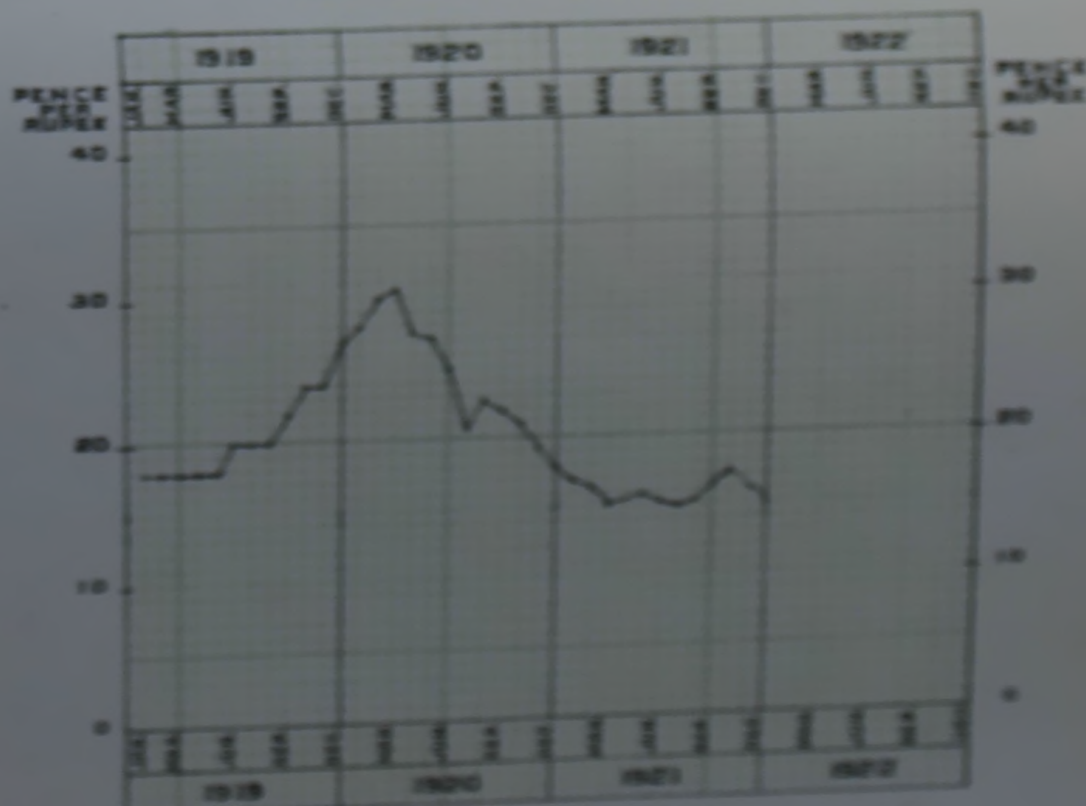
IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—INDIA.



Note—(1) The adverse balance since June 1920.
 (2) Each square equals 1 crore.

CHART NO. 6.

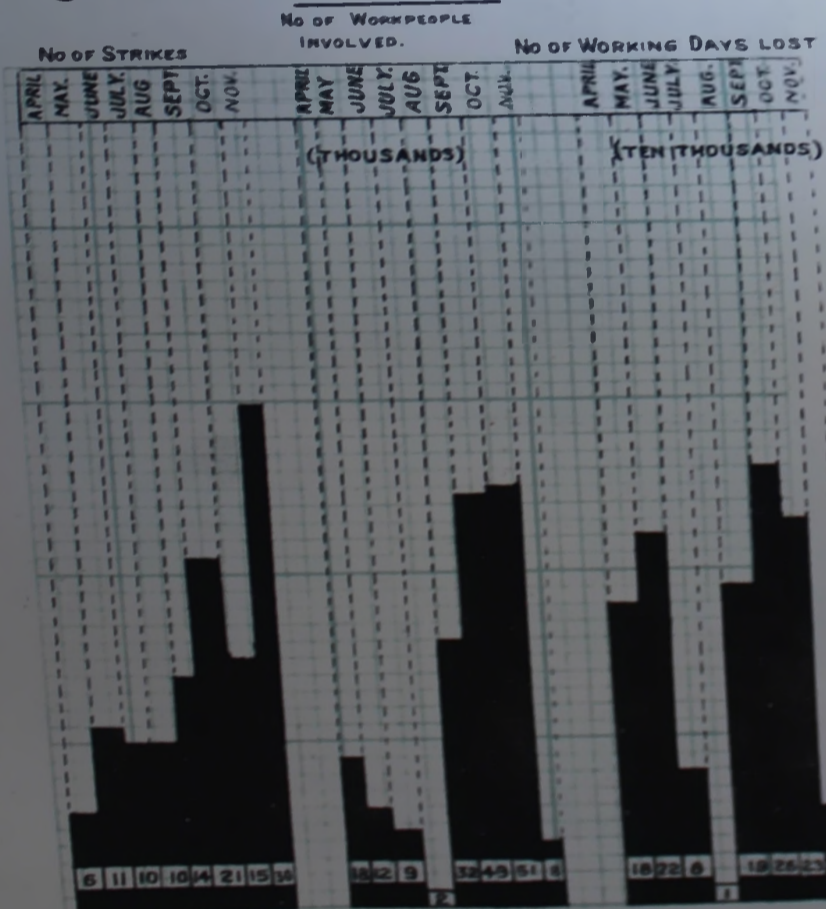
RATE OF EXCHANGE IN BOMBAY.



Note—(1) The reason for the fall of Exchange will be evident from the preceding chart when the balance of trade is adverse (imports are from June 1920 greater than exports). Exchange also tends to be adverse from Indian point of view. This is the Telegraphic Transfer rate on London.
 (2) Each square equals 1 penny.

CHART NO 7.

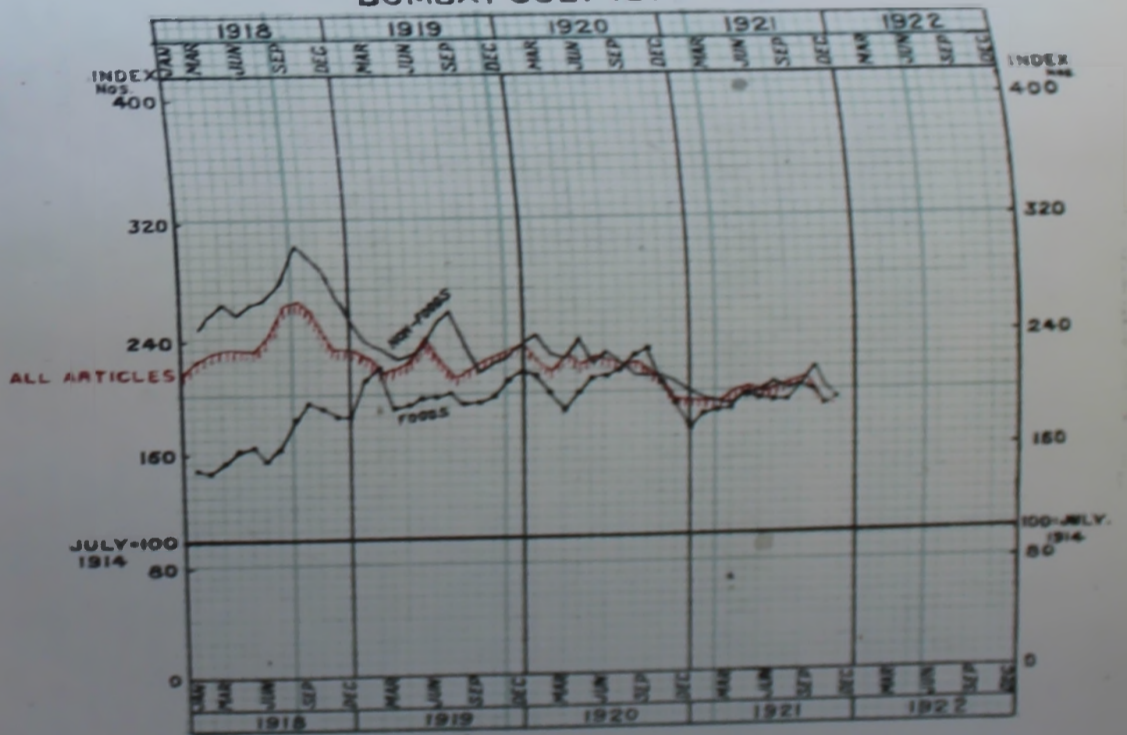
STRIKES IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY 1921.



NOTE: THE SMALL NUMBER OF WORKING DAYS LOST IN JULY AND NOVEMBER IS OWING TO THE SHORT DURATION OF STRIKES.

CHART NO 8.

FOODS AND NON FOODS WHOLESALE PRICES BOMBAY JULY 1914=100.



NOTE: UNWEIGHTED WHOLESALE PRICES INDEX NUMBERS

THE PROGRESS OF THE MONSOON, 1921

(See Chart No. 2.)

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

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

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

Station.	Rainfall in inches.	Departure from normal.	Station.	Rainfall in inches.	Departure from normal.
	(1st June to 31st October.)			(1st June to 31st October.)	
Bombay ..	86.02	+16.22	Surat ..	53.51	+13.07
Ahmednagar ..	17.11	- 2.56	Ahmedabad ..	40.75	+12.12
Sholapur ..	21.08	- 4.27	Rajkot ..	27.43	+ 2.14
Bijapur ..	14.82	- 2.15	Bhavnagar ..	29.45	+ 7.77
Poona ..	18.64	- 5.72			

TRADE UNION LEGISLATION

The Registration and Protection of Trade Unions

The Government of Bombay have received the following replies from the Secretary, the Karachi Chamber of Commerce, Honorary Secretary, the Bombay Engineering Employers' Federation, and the General Secretary, Social Service League, Bombay, representing their views on the proposed legislation by the Government of India regarding the registration and protection of Trade Unions.

KARACHI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Government of India, Department of Industries, letter No. L.—925, dated Simla, 12th September 1921.

Subject.—Registration and Protection of Trade Unions.

Definition of a Trade Union.—We approve of the Government of India's proposal in regard to the definition of a Trade Union in Indian Legislation.

Objects of Trade Unions.—If it is found desirable to define the aims and objects of Trade Unions, in our opinion the utilisation of the organisations or of their funds for political purposes should be definitely excluded.

Exemption from contribution to political funds.—In our opinion the exemption mentioned is to all practical intents and purposes null and void in English Trade Unionism, and still more so would it be ineffective under Indian conditions. Our opinion on this point reinforces our opinion expressed above in regard to paragraph 7.

Protection of Trade Unions.—In general we are against the proposals as being too wide and inclusive for adoption in India at the present stage. It may be pointed out that the powers of Trade Unions developed in England have in many cases led to tyranny on the part of Trade Unions and their officials.

Exclusion of interference by courts.—In our opinion conditions in India necessitate the

supervision of Trade Union management by a Registrar or other official.

Recognition of strikes.—It must be pointed out that, resulting from the definition of Trade Unions, strikes and lock-outs must be considered as one and the same.

Trade Union Funds and Registration.—We agree, subject to our remarks under paragraph 10.

Liabilities of Trade Unions.—We are of opinion that the greatest caution is required in all these matters of immunity from the ordinary process of law. In this connection we would especially point out that the resolution originally proposed by Mr. Joshi in the Legislative Assembly on 1st March 1921, which was calculated to cover all such points, was deliberately amended by the Assembly so as to exclude them.

Picketing.—We agree with Government that in no circumstances should picketing in any form be legalised.

General.—We agree that the subject is an extremely novel one in India, and that the first steps in connection therewith will require extreme caution.

BOMBAY ENGINEERING EMPLOYERS' FEDERATION

I am desired to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. S.D.—2838 dated the 10th October 1921 regarding legislation for the registration and protection of Trade Unions in India and of your letter No. 1267, dated the 1st October 1921, in which you state that His Excellency the Governor of Bombay would be glad to have the opinion of my Federation on this subject.

In reply, I am desired to make the following remarks:—

(a) Letter No. L.—925 dated the 12th September 1921 from the Government of



India amounts to a recommendation that in this country employers should follow the English Law. My Federation are not prepared, at this stage, to recommend that Trades Unionism as practised in England should be adopted in India on the lines following the English Law. My Federation feel that the problem cannot be solved by merely imitating what has been done in England, as the conditions in this country are entirely different. In this country, as yet, the management of Trades Unions rests in the hands of a few professional men. The management of a Union must be really representative of the views of the workers, and to ensure this my Federation consider it imperative that a majority of the Body of Management of a Union should consist of actual workers elected by their fellow members.

(b) Trades Unions having been formed, my Federation are ready to admit that, in the interests of employers and employees alike, they must sooner or later be recognised, if properly constituted.

It is certainly better that labour should be organised from the commencement on the right lines and brought up in the way it should go, instead of being allowed to run wild.

I am desired to put forward the following points for consideration:—

(a) The nature of labour in this country is migratory and the mass of the workers is agricultural. Only a small percentage of the total population of this country is employed in industrial labour.

(b) *Definition, extent and scope of a Trades Union.*—It will have to be clearly defined how it is proposed to form Trades Unions. Are they to be confined to Presidencies, or Towns, or single Works? Nothing is said in the Government of India letter about this.

(c) Will Trades Unions be divided, and if so, how? In one Workshop there are carpenters, blacksmiths, fitters, etc., all working together, but doing different kinds of work. Will they each belong to their own Unions, or will they be expected to

join one Union, because they are working together in the same Workshop?

(d) With regard to the Registration of Trades Unions, my Federation are of opinion that, especially in the case of Public Utility Companies it should be a condition of Registration that the rules of a Union should contain a provision that there shall be no lightning strikes, and no strikes with a secret general ballot. Any infringement of this provision should entail cancellation of Registration. In England balloting is, as a rule, resorted to in all serious situations. In this country, so far as is known, this system has not yet been tried with any measure of success. No method of ascertaining a majority by ballot has yet been devised in India which has been free from the possibility of pressure and intimidation being brought to bear to obtain a verdict in favour of the wishes of a minority. Experience has shown in England that these lightning strikes have entailed the greatest hardships on workmen who have been compelled by a small minority to "go out" on "sympathetic" strikes.

(e) *Picketing.*—My Federation consider that, to countenance picketing in any form, will only assist the minority to enforce successfully their views on the majority. They consider therefore that the question of picketing in any form should be made illegal and will need very careful consideration.

(f) My Federation feel that it cannot be too strongly laid down that the funds of these Trades Unions should not be allowed to be used under any circumstances for political purposes.

(g) *Registration and Election.*—Election to the managing body of a registered Union should be by ballot of all the workers and the majority of the Managing Committee of a Trades Union should be workers themselves.

(h) Employers shall, when any collective bargaining is in progress, be entitled to insist upon interviewing all the Members of the Managing Body or Committee of a Union.



I am asked to draw your attention to the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act of 1907 which is in force in Canada, under which strikes and lock-outs are made illegal prior to or during a reference to a Board of Conciliation and Investigation. My Federation consider that some such similar legislation might be beneficial in this country.

SOCIAL SERVICE LEAGUE, BOMBAY

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1267—Poll., dated the 1st October 1921 forwarding a copy of letter No. L.—925, dated the 12th September 1921, from the Government of India, Department of Industries (Labour), on the subject of the Registration and Protection of Trade Unions. I have the honour to communicate herewith the opinion of the Managing Committee of the Social Service League on the advisability of undertaking legislation to secure the registration and protection of trade unions and on the lines on which such legislation should be formed.

At the outset I have the honour to state that my Committee are strongly of opinion that legislation to secure the registration of trade unions is eminently desirable not only in the interest of the working classes but also in the interest of industrial peace and the development of the industries of the country on a sound basis. It is the lack of organisation among the labouring classes that tends to promote constant strikes and to keep these going when negotiations with representatives of the men, nominated by and responsible to the workmen could have secured an early termination of the disputes. Collective bargaining, the ventilation of grievances and the defining of demands, all are impossible in the absence of responsible workmen's organisations. The workmen also suffer, and cannot secure unity of action and the formulation of joint demands, without resorting to methods which border on violence. Trade Unions have no doubt been started latterly but these bodies stand outside the civil law of the country and have none of the responsibility attaching to properly registered bodies possessing organised statutes and governed by definite rules and

regulations. As the Government of India have, however, already accepted the principle of registration, my Committee do not wish to adduce any further arguments to support their contention that legislation to secure the registration and protection of trade unions should be introduced in the Indian Legislature at an early date.

I shall now deal with the specific proposals in regard to the lines on which registration should be undertaken.

Definition of a Trade Union (paragraphs 6—8).—My Committee concur in the opinion held by the Government of India that there should be a definition of trade unions corresponding to the definition given in the English Statute of 1876, which describes a Trade Union as "a combination for regulating the relation of workmen and masters for imposing restrictive conditions on the conduct of any trade or business." They agree that it should be also clearly stated that benevolent and similar purposes, such as the promotion of education and co-operation, are included within the scope of trade union activities. They, further, agree that the definition should be elastic, and therefore do not approve of the suggestion to prescribe a specific list of the aims and objects of a trade union. The defining of such objects in the bye-laws framed may, however, be made obligatory by the rules covering registration.

In regard to the recognition of political activities among the legitimate objects of trade unions, my Committee accept the view held by the Government of India that, following the provisions of the English Statute of 1913, it should be a legitimate activity of trade unions to interest themselves in elections to the Imperial and Provincial Legislatures and to Municipalities or Local Boards. They agree that certain other provisions of the Act should also be introduced in the Legislature. These are:—
(a) that the political fund be kept separate from other funds, (b) that members of a union who object to contribute towards political objects be exempted on signing an exemption form, and (c) that members be placed under no disability for non-contribution, and that contribution should not be a condition of admission.

Protection of Trade Unions (paragraphs 9—11).—My Committee are of opinion that in the



proposed Bill it should be declared that section 27 of the Indian Contract Act which nullifies agreements restraining the exercise of a lawful profession, trade or business—shall not apply to registered trade unions. They further believe that the principles embodied in sections 2, 3 and 4 of the Trade Union Act, 1871, should be adopted in their entirety in India, so as to make it clear that the purposes of any trade union shall not by reason merely that they are in restraint of trade be deemed to be unlawful, rendering any member of such trade union liable to criminal prosecution for conspiracy or otherwise. Secondly, that such purposes shall not render void agreements of trust and that no courts shall entertain legal proceedings instituted with the object of enforcing or recovering damages for the breach of agreements between members of a trade union or between one trade union and another, although such agreements shall not in themselves be deemed unlawful. The statement of the nature of agreements which fall within the principles of these clauses is fairly comprehensive in the English law, but my Committee would have no objection to the specific nature of these being more clearly specified in the Indian Law, provided, however, the principles underlying the English Section on the subject are not departed from, and the law definitely excludes any interference by the Courts with the internal management of unions. My Committee wish to note that the effect of the law will be to maintain the non-corporate character of trade unions and to withdraw from them both the privileges and responsibilities of incorporation.

Under the law, if it follows the English Act of 1871, strikes will become legal, and though my Committee concur in the view that it is necessary to provide machinery for conciliation and arbitration so as to obtain quick settlement of labour disputes, they are strongly of opinion that the proposed law on trade unions should not contain any provisions regulating strikes.

Trade Union Funds (paragraphs 12—14).—My Committee hold that the funds of trade unions should be subject ordinarily to the law regarding trusts, and that all trade unions must make provision for the appointment of

a trustee or trustees. As the movement is still in its initial stages it is necessary to secure by law the safety of funds by entrusting them to persons who could be held responsible for the investment of the funds in the various ways provided for by the Union Trusts Act. These Trustees need not necessarily be members of a trade union. In addition to this provision for the appointment of trustees, the law should also protect unions against fraud by members, official or others, make it incumbent upon the officials to render duly audited accounts, and incorporate the main provisions on the subject contained in the English Trade Union Act, 1876, and the Trade Disputes Act modified with due reference to the Indian Law on trusts and trustees. The law should clearly prescribe that the liability of trustees is also limited and that the liability of a union is also limited in the case of the contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute (Section 4 (2) of the Trade Disputes Act).

Registration (paragraphs 15—19).—My Committee accept the view that registration should in all cases be optional and that unregistered unions should not be deemed illegal. The advantages of registration will in their opinion be sufficient attraction in themselves. Registration will give a legal entity to unions vesting in them definite rights and privileges; again unregistered unions will find it difficult to obtain recognition by employers. My Committee are of opinion that the principal condition under which unions may be registered—which indirectly provide a definition of the term 'trade union'—should be included in the Bill itself. It is not desirable, they hold, that these important provisions should be secured by rules, the framing of which is entrusted to executive officers and is not controlled by the Legislature. The provisions may be in the manner outlined in the Government of India Memorandum. They agree that specific provisions should be made, preferably through a schedule, regarding the details that should be furnished in connection with an application for registration, and other details of administration on the lines suggested in paragraph 18 of the memorandum. My Committee believe that in provinces where Labour Commissioners are appointed and where Labour Offices are created, the officers in charge should be



appointed Registrars. In other provinces, new appointments should not be created, and the work of registration should be entrusted to the Registrars of Co-operative Societies. My Committee concur in the view that rules under the Act should be made by the Central Government in order to secure uniformity of policy, but they would desire to add that any such rules should be placed on the tables of both the Houses of the Indian Legislature previous to their adoption.

So long as children between the ages of 12 and 15 are permitted to work as half-timers, they should be held to be eligible for the membership of trade unions. My Committee suggest that, following the English procedure, even minors should be permitted to join unions.

Liabilities of Trade Unions (paragraphs 20—26).—My Committee are strongly of opinion that the entire scheme of immunity from liability conferred on English Trade Unions by the Trade Disputes Act of 1906 should be embodied in the Indian Law. They do not wish to trace the whole history of trade union legislation in England, but they find that until the passing of this Act, the position of trade unions was not clear, and the resulting litigation gave rise to a number of conflicting decisions by Courts of Law. My Committee are glad that the Government of India propose to abrogate the law of criminal conspiracy in relation to trade unions and to prescribe that only such acts of a trade union would be criminal within the view of the law as would have been declared criminal if committed by an individual. By parity of reasoning, no action should lie in Civil Courts against acts of trade unions if such acts are not actionable when committed by individuals. My Committee, hence, urge that all civil action for the offence of conspiracy against acts of trade unions should be barred, unless the offence is actionable even if done by an individual (Section 1, Trade Disputes Act, 1906). By this the men themselves will not be freed from this responsibility, but only that simultaneous breach of contract will not be punishable as a conspiracy.

Further, the law should declare that no action shall lie in Civil Courts against acts done in contemplation or furtherance of trade

disputes on the ground that such acts induce some persons to commit a breach of contract of employment, or interfere with the business or trade of others. No personal malice actuates the advice in this case where there is breach of contract on the advice of expert advisers of the men, namely, the trade union officials. The man who actually breaks the contract is not, however, immune from action. My Committee are disposed to accept the wording of the English law on the subject, and fear that in trying to define more precisely the expression "contemplation or furtherance", may be introducing complications likely to involve conflicting decisions of law courts.

There remains for consideration section 4 of the Trade Disputes Act which confers on unions complete immunity for the wrongful acts committed by servants. It was not only with the enactment of this law that trade unions in England were granted this immunity, for until the Taff Vale case arose in 1901, it was imagined that for wrongs committed in strikes only the individual wrongdoers could be made responsible. The decision in this case, however, showed that a trade union could be sued in tort for acts done by its agents and that its funds might be rendered liable to damages that might be awarded. This decision went against the fundamental principle of the earliest legislation on trade unions which affirmed their non-corporate character and refused to make them liable for action for the acts undertaken by the members jointly under the directions of the union. The mutual agreements of the members are not enforceable by law and the enforcement of these rest entirely on consent. Even if an action could be brought against members it would have to be brought against every individual member and the interest of each man in the union funds specified. It is inconsistent with this view that bodies which are not incorporated in law and do enjoy the privileges and the safeguards of incorporation should be saddled with liabilities which can attach only to corporate organizations. My Committee, therefore, do not agree with your view that the principle of section 4 of the Trade Disputes Act cannot suitably be incorporated in the Indian Law. They understand that experience in England has shown—



as has been amply borne out by independent observers—that the effect of the provision has been in the direction of ensuring industrial peace and preventing needless litigation. It has established security and inspired confidence in the minds of trade unionists. As the privileges conferred are enjoyed both by employees and employers, the so-called concessions represent neither the charter of liberty nor the charter of license that some critics imagine, but a sound working arrangement, acceptable to and clearly understood by both parties.

When we are discussing the main principles which should govern trade union legislation in India it is needless, my Committee wish to point out, to comment on the lack of experience of trade unions in this country, for in the application of principles, age should not count. There is no reason why one country should not profit by the experience of another, but should wait until it has passed through the same trials and hardships before introducing the improvements which the experience of another country has proved to be necessary. Equally beside the point, in the opinion of my Committee, is the remark that violence and intimidation have characterized a proportion of the disputes. Such violence and intimidation are of more frequent occurrence in England, America and European countries where labour is organized, than in India where labour is kept ignorant and servile. In India, the responsibility for acts of violence lies with employers who attempt to keep labour in a degraded state and with the Government who make no serious efforts at the education of the working classes.

Government are also responsible for allowing disputes to be prolonged in the absence of any statutory arrangement, conciliation and reference to courts of arbitration. Again, in various other respects the position of labour is handicapped in India, and statutes like the Workmen's Breach of Contract Act, the Assam Labour and Emigration Acts, the Madras Planters' Act, fetter their freedom of action, and as men who are not really free, these persons cannot, so long as they do not feel the sense of responsibility and be placed under the

discipline of self-governing organizations like trade unions, be held liable for the violence and intimidation to which Government refer. And even if strong action is necessary to counteract such tendencies, my Committee do not believe that such action should consist in the imposition on unions of civil liability tortious acts. As a curb upon violence it is much more effective action, my Committee suggest, vigorously to prosecute those who commit violence than to take away the property of entirely innocent members of a trade union. The men in their individual capacities who are guilty of violence will be liable for such acts both criminally and in tort. There is no advantage in holding as civilly liable others who have not been direct participants in the wrong-doing and to recover the damages from the funds of the unions.

My Committee are on these grounds unable to agree to the Government of India's proposal to confer partial immunity on trade unions on the lines recommended by the original Trade Disputes Bill as presented to Parliament. In the first place, trade unions are bodies with an exceedingly loose organization, their ramifications are wide-spread, and they employ a large number of officials whose authority it is difficult to define. Again the office-bearers are volunteers over whom it is difficult to maintain effective control, and my Committee feel it would be grossly unjust to impose any liability for the wrongful actions of any of their numerous officials on the funds of a union which represent the hard-earned savings of the working classes contributed largely as a provision against misfortune. The legal doctrine of agency is inapplicable in such cases and it is wise to abrogate it altogether, but failing this my Committee urge that the provisions conferring partial immunity contained in the original Bill of 1906 referred to by Government represent the minimum essential to secure the development of the Trade Union Movement in this country. These provisions should, the Committee believe, grant immunity in regard to acts unauthorized by a responsible committee or repudiated by the union, or exceeding prescribed limits. The benevolent funds should be immune from liability.



Picketing.—The English law on picketing was amplified by the Trade Disputes Act which confers upon unions the right of persuasion. It also declares that it is lawful for persons acting on behalf of a Trade Union in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute to stand at or near a house or place of work with the object of peacefully persuading any person to abstain from working. At the same time, employing violence, intimidation or molestation with a view to coercion is held unlawful. The power to exercise persuasion is an essential part of the right to strike, for, without the exercise of persuasion, it is impossible to bring about or continue a strike. Not only is it necessary to communicate information to fellow workers. But it is often found that outsiders are brought in on false representations to break strikes and it is essential if a strike is to be a success that the trade unionists should be allowed access to them with a view to disarming them from service. It is the action of employers in India in calling upon the aid of the Police or Military to prevent the strikers from approaching outside labour brought in to break strikes that has occasionally led to outbreaks of violence. Peaceful persuasion in the industrial world is of the nature of constitutional agitation in the political world and being equally essential should be freely permitted. It is its suppression and not its exercise that leads to violence. My Committee are unable to subscribe to the view that conditions in India are such that even with the co-operation of responsible representatives of trade unions peace cannot be preserved in industrial disputes, and that acts of violence will remain undeterred owing to the difficulty of obtaining evidence. During labour troubles in Bombay, my Committee understand, no difficulty ever occurred in securing convictions for violence, but as they believe that violence is inevitable with an unorganized labour force to which no other course of action is open to ensure unity of action, my Committee urge that the organization of labour in trade unions and the creation of machinery for settlement of disputes will, in themselves, naturally lead to a reduction in acts of violence. They thoroughly disapprove of any provision prohibiting unions from authorizing picketing in any form by their members.

General.—My Committee finally suggest that following section 28 of the Co-operative Societies Act II of 1912 trade unions should be exempted from payment of income-tax, stamp-duty and registration fees.

Proposed Bill

The Government of Bombay have received replies regarding trade union legislation from 37 bodies and persons. These include the following:—

1. The Collector of Bombay.
2. The Acting Commissioner of Police, Bombay.
3. The Acting Commissioner, Central Division.
4. The Collector of Satara.
5. The Acting Collector of Poona.
6. Professor Kale, Poona.
7. The Collector of Bhelsapur.
8. The Commissioner, Southern Division.
9. The Agent, B. E. and C. I. Railway, Bombay.
10. Messrs. Macdonald, Macdonald & Co., Bombay.
11. The Bombay Port Trust.
12. The Social Service League.
13. The Karachi Chamber of Commerce.
14. The Bombay Chamber of Commerce.
15. The Bombay Engineering Employers' Federation.
16. The Bombay European Textile Association.
17. The Commissioner in Sind.
18. The Collector of Karachi.
19. The Collector of Larkana.
20. The District Traffic Superintendent, Karachi Port.
21. The Karachi Indian Merchants' Association, Karachi.
22. The Commissioner, Northern Division.
23. The Collector of Ahmedabad.
24. The Collector of Broach.
25. The Collector of Surat.
26. Mr. N. D. Mehta, Chief Officer, Ahmedabad Municipality.
27. Mr. A. U. Malji, Broach.
28. Mr. I. W. Thornely, Broach.
29. The Collector of Thana.
30. The Agent, G. I. P. Railway.
31. The Bombay Millowners' Association.
32. The Secretary, Central Labour Board.
33. The Superintendent, Posts and Telegraphs.
34. The Ahmedabad Millowners' Association.



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- 35. Mr. Joseph Baptista.
- 36. The Kangar Hitwardhak Sabha.
- 37. The Acting Inspector General of Police, Poona.

Replies have not yet been received from the All-India Trade Union Congress, the Bombay Central Labour Federation, the Indian Merchants' Chamber and Bureau and Mr. N. M. Joshi. The question is one of exceptional importance and complexity and it has been represented to the Government of India by this Government and other Local Governments that the time given to them in which to reply is insufficient, the time fixed being 30th November 1921. The Government of India consider it desirable that any legislation on the subject which may be found necessary should be introduced in the Imperial Legislature if possible during the next session, i.e., during the first three months of 1922. They recognise, however, that it is a difficult and intricate one and have extended the date for the replies from Local Governments to the 31st January 1922.

REPORT OF THE TRADE UNION CONGRESS

The All-India Trade Union Congress has issued its Report of the first session held in Bombay last year. The Report is signed by Mr. Chaman Lall, the General Secretary, and contains the proceedings of the first Congress, the names of the members of the Standing Committee of the Trade Union Congress, and a list of the Unions connected with the Congress. The Report also contains the constitution of the Bombay Central Labour Federation and the draft constitution of the All-India Trade Union Congress. The financial side of the Congress, especially in view of the number of Unions under the Union, is weak. Mr. Lala Lajpat Rai resigned his office of President of the first session of the All-India Trade Union Congress, as he was far away from the centre of activities; and therefore could not co-operate with the office-bearers. The receipts and disbursements since the last Congress Session (November 1920 to September 1921) are as follows:—

Receipts.		Disbursements.	
	Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.
Advance by Mr. M. D. Didi	142 2 0	Typewriting	200 0 0
Owing to Trades Union	344 4 0	Mr. Goff's salary for 3 months	900 0 0
Owing to Fort Trust Union	220 0 0	Printing and Stationery for Office	172 0 0
Received by Lala Lajpat Rai as affiliation fee	1,500 0 0	Office Expenses	50 0 0
Advance by Mr. D. Chaman Lall	728 6 6	Post's salary for 3 months ending October 1921	62 0 0
		Rent (Office) 3 months ending September 1921	225 0 0
		Rent new premises October	400 0 0
		Expenses, President's Office, Labour	100 0 0
		Telegrams, Printing, Postage, Miscellaneous	517 1 0
			142 1 0
	2,994 12 6		2,994 12 6

Mr. D. Chaman Lall makes a donation to the Trade Union Congress of all salaries due to him.

ALL-INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

The All-India Trade Union Congress held its second session at Jharia on the 30th November and continued its sittings on the 1st and 2nd of December, at which representatives from almost all the provinces were present. Mr. Joseph Baptista of Bombay who was elected President delivered an address in the course of which he suggested that Government should establish a Ministry of Labour. He outlined the constitution of the congress, and hoped that it would develop into a national organ of labour, in which the Co-operative, Trade Union, and Socialistic movements would be represented. He considered the presence of outsiders in the Union as desirable as they constitute an impartial element and who in a trade dispute would represent the consumers' interests. He advised the Unions not to undertake any burdens which they could not bear. Lastly, he suggested that Labour should insist upon giving effect to the conventions and recommendations of the International Labour Conferences, exception being made in the case of those that would prove harmful.

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Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay (Foods)

Article	Grade	Rate per	Expressed as percentages of July 1914			
			July 1914	Dec. 1920	Jan. 1921	Nov. 1921
Cereals— Rice Wheat Di. Di. Di. Di. Di. Di. Di. Di.	Kangron Small-mill	56	100	100	100	100
	Della No. 1	56	100	100	100	
	Khandwa Semi	56	100	100	100	
	Jalindpur	56	100	100	100	
	Kangron	56	100	100	100	
	—	56	100	100	100	
	Choti	56	100	100	100	
	—	56	100	100	100	
	Punjabi yellow (Good sort)	56	100	100	100	
	Carapone	56	100	100	100	
Pulses— Green Turki	Mauritius No. 1	56	100	100	100	
	Java white	56	100	100	100	
	Sangli	56	100	100	100	
	—	56	100	100	100	
	—	56	100	100	100	
	—	56	100	100	100	
	—	56	100	100	100	
	—	56	100	100	100	
	—	56	100	100	100	
	—	56	100	100	100	
Other food— Lentils Chick Salt	Rajputi	56	100	100	100	
	Della	56	100	100	100	
	Bombay (black)	56	100	100	100	
	—	56	100	100	100	

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

Article	Grade	Rate per	Expressed as percentages of July 1914			
			July 1914	Dec. 1920	Jan. 1921	Nov. 1921
Cereals— Rice Wheat Di. Di. Di. Di. Di. Di. Di.	Kangron Small-mill	56	100	100	100	100
	Della No. 1	56	100	100	100	
	Khandwa Semi	56	100	100	100	
	Jalindpur	56	100	100	100	
	Kangron	56	100	100	100	
	—	56	100	100	100	
	Choti	56	100	100	100	
	—	56	100	100	100	
	Punjabi yellow (Good sort)	56	100	100	100	
	Carapone	56	100	100	100	
Pulses— Green Turki	Mauritius No. 1	56	100	100	100	
	Java white	56	100	100	100	
	Sangli	56	100	100	100	
	—	56	100	100	100	
	—	56	100	100	100	
	—	56	100	100	100	
	—	56	100	100	100	
	—	56	100	100	100	
	—	56	100	100	100	
	—	56	100	100	100	
Other food— Lentils Chick Salt	Rajputi	56	100	100	100	
	Della	56	100	100	100	
	Bombay (black)	56	100	100	100	
	—	56	100	100	100	

Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay (Non-foods)

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914.	Nov. 1920.	Oct. 1921.	Nov. 1921.
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
<i>Oil seeds—</i>						
Linseed	.. Bold	.. Cwt.	8 14 6	16 4 0	11 8 0	11 8 0
Rapeseed	.. Cawnpore (brown)	.. ..	8 0 0	13 8 0	10 8 0	10 0 0
Poppyseed	.. Do.	.. ..	10 14 0	16 8 0	14 8 0	14 4 0
Gingily	.. White	.. ..	11 4 0	17 4 0	14 6 0	14 12 0
<i>Textiles—Cotton—</i>						
(a) <i>Cotton—raw—</i>						
Broach	.. Good	.. Candy	251 0 0	437 0 0	.. ..	.. ..
Oomra	.. Fully good	.. ..	222 0 0	275 0 0	375 0 0	402 0 0
Dharwar	.. Saw-ginned	.. ..	230 0 0	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Khandesh	.. Machine ginned	.. ..	205 0 0	230 0 0	.. ..	.. ..
Bengal	.. Do.	.. ..	198 0 0	250 0 0	335 0 0	314 0 0
(b) <i>Cotton manufactures—</i>						
Twist	.. 40S	.. Lb.	0 12 9	2 3 0	1 15 0	1 12 0
Grey shirtings	.. Fari 2,000	.. Piece	5 15 0	16 10 0	16 0 0	16 0 0
White mulls	.. 6,600	.. ..	4 3 0	11 4 0	11 4 0	11 4 0
Shirtings	.. Liepman's 1,500	.. ..	10 6 0	31 12 0	29 0 0	28 0 0
Long cloth	.. Local made 36" x 37½ yds.	.. Lb.	0 9 6	1 13 0	1 12 6	1 11 0
Chudders	.. 54" x 6 yds.	.. ..	0 9 6	1 11 6	1 10 0	1 9 0

Expressed as percentages of July 1914

Prices in July 1914 = 100.

<i>Oil seeds—</i>						
Linseed	.. Bold	.. ..	100	182	129	129
Rapeseed	.. Cawnpore (brown)	.. ..	100	169	131	125
Poppyseed	.. Do.	.. ..	100	152	133	131
Gingily	.. White	.. ..	100	153	128	131
Average—Oilseeds	.. ..	.. ..	100	164	130	129
<i>Textiles—Cotton—</i>						
(a) <i>Cotton—raw—</i>						
Broach	.. Good	.. ..	100	174	..	..
Oomra	.. Fully good	.. ..	100	124	169	181
Dharwar	.. Saw-ginned	.. ..	100	..	..	..
Khandesh	.. Machined ginned	.. ..	100	112	..	..
Bengal	.. Do.	.. ..	100	126	169	159
Average—Cotton—raw	.. ..	.. ..	100	134	169	170
(b) <i>Cotton manufactures—</i>						
Twist	.. 40S	.. ..	100	275	242	219
Grey shirtings	.. Fari 2,000	.. ..	100	280	269	269
White mulls	.. 6,600	.. ..	100	269	268	268
Shirtings	.. Liepman's 1,500	.. ..	100	306	280	270
Long cloth	.. Local made 36" x 37½ yds.	.. ..	100	305	302	286
Chudders	.. 54" x 6 yds.	.. ..	100	289	275	264
Average—Cotton manufactures	.. ..	.. ..	100	287	273	263
Average—Textiles—Cotton	.. ..	.. ..	100	226	247	239

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

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914.	Nov. 1920.	Oct. 1921.	Nov. 1921.
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
<i>Other textiles—</i>						
Silk	.. Canton No. 5	.. Pucca seer	5 4 0	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Do.	.. Nankin	.. ..	17 12 0	11 11 0	5 8 0	5 8 0
<i>Hides and Skins—</i>						
Hides, Cow	.. Tanned	.. Lb.	1 2 6	2 0 9	1 8 0	1 15 7
Do. Buffalo	.. Do.	.. ..	1 1 3	0 14 5	0 15 6	1 3 10
Skins, Goat	.. Do.	.. ..	1 4 0	3 12 7	4 0 3	2 8 8
<i>Metals—</i>						
Copper brazier	.. ..	.. Cwt.	60 8 0	79 0 0	83 0 0	84 0 0
Iron bars	.. ..	.. ..	4 0 0	14 0 0	11 0 0	11 0 0
Steel hoops	.. ..	.. ..	7 12 0	19 0 0	22 0 0	20 0 0
Galvanized sheets	.. ..	.. Box	9 0 0	20 0 0	18 0 0	18 0 0
Tin plates	.. ..	.. ..	8 12 0	22 0 0	13 0 0	13 0 0
<i>Other raw and manufactured articles—</i>						
Coal	.. Bengal	.. Ton	14 12 0	31 0 0	31 0 0	29 0 0
Kerosene	.. Elephant brand	.. 2 Tins	4 6 0	8 3 0	8 3 0	8 3 0
Do.	.. Chester brand	.. Case	5 2 0	10 12 0	10 12 0	10 12 0

Expressed as percentages of July 1914

Prices in July 1914 = 100.

<i>Other textiles—</i>						
Silk	.. Canton No. 5	.. ..	100	223	105	105
Do.	.. Nankin	.. ..	100	145	172	172
Average—Other textiles	.. ..	.. ..	100	184	138	138
<i>Hides and Skins—</i>						
Hides, Cow	.. Tanned	.. ..	100	177	133	170
Do. Buffalo	.. Do.	.. ..	100	84	90	115
Skins, Goat	.. Do.	.. ..	100	303	322	203
Average—Hides and Skins	.. ..	.. ..	100	188	182	163
<i>Metals—</i>						
Copper brazier	.. ..	.. ..	100	131	137	139
Iron bars	.. ..	.. ..	100	350	275	275
Steel hoops	.. ..	.. ..	100	245	284	258
Galvanized sheets	.. ..	.. ..	100	222	200	200
Tin plates	.. ..	.. ..	100	251	149	149
Average—Metals	.. ..	.. ..	100	240	209	204
<i>Other raw and manufactured articles—</i>						
Coal	.. Bengal	.. ..	100	210	210	197
Kerosene	.. Elephant brand	.. ..	100	187	187	187
Do.	.. Chester brand	.. ..	100	210	210	210
Average—Other raw and manufactured articles	.. ..	.. ..	100	202	202	198
Total—Food	.. ..	.. ..	100	193	189	193
Total—Non-food	.. ..	.. ..	100	209	199	192
General Average	.. ..	.. ..	100	204	195	193

Wholesale Market Prices in Karachi (Foods)

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914.	November 1920.	October 1921.	November 1921.
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Cereals—						
Rice	Larkana No. 3	Candy	39 0 0	60 0 0	67 0 0	67 0 0
Wheat, white	5% barley 3% dirt.	"	31 8 0	49 0 0	69 0 0	70 0 0
" red	30% red. 5% barley 3% dirt.	"	31 4 0	48 8 0	68 8 0	69 8 0
" white	92% red. 2% barley 1½% dirt.	"	32 8 0	50 8 0	71 0 0	72 0 0
" red	2% barley 1½% dirt.	"	32 4 0	50 0 0	70 8 0	71 8 0
Jowari	Export Quality	"	25 8 0	37 0 0	45 0 0	44 0 0
Barley	3% dirt	"	26 8 0	39 4 0	46 0 0	51 0 0
Pulses—						
Gram	1% dirt	"	29 8 0	49 12 0	68 0 0	70 0 0
Sugar—						
Sugar	Java, white	Cwt.	9 2 0	33 8 0	18 12 0	18 11 0
Do.	" brown	"	8 1 6	"	"	16 7 0
Other food—						
Salt	Imported	Bengal Maund.	4 7 4	3 2 0	2 6 10	2 5 1

Expressed as percentages of July 1914

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Cereals—						
Rice	Larkana No. 3	"	100	154	172	172
Wheat, white	5% barley, 3% dirt	"	100	156	219	222
" red	30% red. 5% barley, 3% dirt	"	100	155	219	222
" white	92% red. 2% barley, 1½% dirt	"	100	155	218	222
" red	2% barley, 1½% dirt	"	100	155	219	222
Jowari	Export Quality	"	100	145	176	173
Barley	3% dirt	"	100	148	174	192
Averages—Cereals			100	153	200	204
Pulses—						
Gram	1% dirt	"	100	169	231	237
Sugar—						
Sugar	Java, white	"	100	367	206	206
"	" brown	"	100	"	"	203
Average—Sugar			100	367	206	204
Other food—Salt			100	70	54	52

Wholesale Market Prices in Karachi (Non-foods)

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914.	November 1920.	October 1921.	November 1921.
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Oilseeds—						
Cotton seed	3% admixture	Maund	2 11 3	4 2 0	4 0 0	4 2 0
Rapeseed	Black	Candy	51 0 0	97 8 0	66 12 0	65 12 0
Gingelly	9% admixture.	"	62 0 0	112 0 0	87 0 0	78 0 0
Textiles—						
Jute bags	B. Twills	100 bags	38 4 0	48 0 0	43 0 0	41 4 0
Textiles—Cotton—						
(a) Cotton, raw	Sind	Maund	20 4 0	22 8 0	39 0 0	35 8 0
(b) Cotton manufactures—						
Drills	Pepperill	Piece	10 3 6	30 10 0	23 5 0	21 12 0
Shirtings	Liepmann's	"	10 2 0	30 0 0	27 0 0	27 0 0
Yarns	40s Grey (Plough)	Lb.	0 12 2	"	"	"
Other Textiles—						
Wool	Kandahar	Maund	28 0 0	23 0 0	21 0 0	21 8 0

Expressed as percentages of July 1914

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Oilseeds—						
Cotton seed	3% admixture	"	100	153	148	153
Rapeseed	Black, 9% admixture	"	100	191	131	129
Gingelly	"	"	100	181	140	126
Average—Oilseeds			100	175	140	136
Textiles—						
Jute bags	Twills	"	100	125	112	108
Textiles—Cotton—						
(a) Cotton, raw	Sind	"	100	111	193	175
(b) Cotton manufactures—						
Drills	Pepperill	"	100	300	228	213
Shirtings	Liepmann's	"	100	296	267	267
Yarns	40s Grey (Plough)	"	100	296	"	"
Average—Cotton manufactures			100	297	247	240
Average—Textiles—Cotton			100	251	229	218
Other Textiles—Wool			100	82	75	77



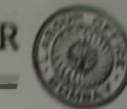
Wholesale Market Prices in Karachi (Non-Foods) — continued

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914.	November 1920.	October 1921.	November 1921.
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Hides—						
Hides, dry	Sind	Mauud	21 4 0	15 0 0	11 0 0	13 0 0
" "	Punjab	"	21 4 0	15 0 0	11 0 0	13 0 0
Metals—						
Copper Braziers	"	Cwt.	60 8 0	82 0 0	82 0 0	83 0 0
Steel Bars	"	"	3 14 0	16 8 0	8 4 0	9 0 0
" Plates	"	"	4 6 0	16 8 0	10 4 0	11 0 0
Other raw and manufactured articles—						
Coal	1st Class Bengal	Ton	16 0 0	42 0 0	37 8 0	37 8 0
Kerosene	Chester brand	Case	5 2 0	10 10 0	10 10 0	10 10 0
"	Elephant	2 Tins	4 7 0	8 1 6	8 1 6	8 1 6

Expressed as percentages of July 1914

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914.	November 1920.	October 1921.	November 1921.
Hides—			100	71	52	61
Hides, dry	Sind	"	100	71	52	61
" "	Punjab	"	100	71	52	61
Average—Hides			100	71	52	61
Metals—						
Copper Braziers	"	"	100	136	136	137
Steel Bars	"	"	100	426	213	233
" Plates	"	"	100	377	235	252
Average—Metals			100	313	195	207
Other raw and manufactured articles—						
Coal	1st Class Bengal	"	100	262	234	234
Kerosene	Chester Brand	"	100	207	207	207
Do.	Elephant	"	100	182	182	182
Average—Other raw and manufactured articles			100	217	208	208
Total—Food			100	167	109	193
Total—Non-food			100	204	163	163
General Average			100	190	173	175

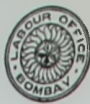


Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices in India and Foreign Countries

Country.	India (Bombay)	United Kingdom.				Canada.	South Africa.	Australia.	New Zealand.	United States of America.		
		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)					(5)	(6)	(7)
No. of articles.	43	45	44	150	60	272	188	92	140	96	325	88
1913 Average	100	100	100	100	100	100	(b)	(b)	100	100	100	100
1914	100	100	99	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1915	100	127	123	100	100	100	111	100	121	100	101	101
1916	100	160	160	100	100	100	134	123	131	100	124	100
1917	100	206	204	100	100	100	175	147	148	100	176	100
1918	100	227	226	225	100	100	205	166	172	100	196	100
1919	100	222	242	235	100	100	216	167	174	100	212	100
1920 March	100	211	308	310	326	353	258	209	202	226	255	248
April	100	224	313	306	332	383	261	230	217	205	225	265
May	100	217	306	304	333	348	263	225	206	216	272	284
June	100	222	301	291	329	335	258	233	205	210	269	258
July	100	220	299	292	324	333	256	261	215	204	262	250
August	100	217	298	298	320	325	244	230	216	184	242	226
September	100	218	293	294	318	318	241	215	218	170	225	208
October	100	210	282	266	308	305	234	236	218	148	207	190
November	100	204	263	245	293	269	225	214	197	137	189	173
December	100	192	243	220	269	251	214	197	214	134	177	163
1921 January	100	191	232	209	251	229	208	206	196	122	167	154
February	100	191	215	192	230	211	194	170	181	124	162	150
March	100	190	208	189	215	203	189	170	171	101	154	143
April	100	198	200	184	209	198	182	170	166	108	151	142
May	100	199	191	182	205	193	179	166	161	106	148	139
June	100	197	183	179	202	187	176	158	158	100	148	141
July	100	199	186	178	198	186	176	160	160	100	152	143
August	100	203	183	179	194	184	174	160	160	100	152	143
September	100	207	176	183	191	181	172	160	160	100	152	143
October	100	195	170	184	184	184	172	160	160	100	152	143
November	100	193	170	184	184	184	172	160	160	100	152	143

Country.	United States of America		France.	Italy.	Japan.	Germany.	Netherlands.	Norway.	Sweden.	Denmark.
	(8)	(10)								
No. of articles.	25	200	22	45	56	77	93	47	33	
1913 Average	100	100	100	(c)	100	(b)	100	(e)	100	
1914	100	100	100	102	95	100	106	100	116	
1915	100	100	100	140	97	100	147	(f) 159	145	
1916	100	100	100	188	117	100	229	233	185	
1917	100	100	100	262	148	100	294	341	244	
1918	100	100	100	339	196	100	400	345	339	
1919	100	100	100	356	239	100	400	322	330	
1920 March	100	213	230	554	96	321	1,587	294	351	
April	100	229	217	587	100	300	1,636	300	354	
May	100	220	222	553	106	248	1,571	301	368	
June	100	227	221	493	101	255	1,463	302	382	
July	100	220	220	496	98	240	1,500	304	409	
August	100	218	213	501	100	235	1,544	296	417	
September	100	191	209	526	105	231	1,571	293	425	
October	100	177	200	502	105	226	1,614	290	419	
November	100	170	192	461	107	221	1,682	267	403	
December	100	146	178	435	105	206	1,631	240	377	
1921 January	100	140	167	407	103	201	1,538	218	344	
February	100	133	157	377	98	195	1,446	203	319	
March	100	140	153	360	97	191	1,414	193	312	
April	100	137	147	347	94	190	1,418	182	297	
May	100	123	140	329	88	191	1,353	184	294	
June	100	117	140	325	82	192	1,353	179	294	
July	100	120	135	332	83	196	1,353	174	300	
August	100	126	138	331	87	199	1,353	174	297	
September	100	125	137	342	87	207	1,353	174	287	
October	100	125	137	342	87	207	1,353	174	287	
November	100	125	137	342	87	207	1,353	174	287	

* July 1914 = 100. (a) New index numbers. (b) 1914 = 100. (c) 1920 = 100. (d) Revised figures. (e) Average Dec. 1913 to June 1914 = 100. (f) The figures from 1915-19 are for December. Note.—The absolute and secondary maxima are indicated in heavier type. (1) Statist. (2) Economist. (3) Board of Trade. (4) Times. (5) Bradstreet. (6) Bureau of Labour. (7) Federal Reserve Board. (8) Annalist. (9) Dun. (10) Gibson.



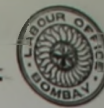
Retail prices of food in October and November 1921

Articles.	Price per	Bombay.	Karachi.	Ahmedabad.	Sholapur.	Bombay.	Karachi.	Ahmedabad.	Sholapur.
		October.	October.	October.	October.	November.	November.	November.	November.
		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 ..	8 14 7	11 6 10	10 0 0	8 6 0	8 10 0	11 6 10	10 0 0	8 6 0
Wheat	.. ..	10 7 4	10 10 8	10 13 7	9 10 8	10 13 0	11 2 1	10 5 2	9 10 8
Jowari	.. ..	8 7 10	7 7 1	9 4 5	10 0 6	7 15 1	6 14 4	8 0 0	9 12 1
Bajri	.. ..	10 7 10	8 4 2	10 10 8	8 15 0	9 12 1	7 0 6	9 6 7	6 13 2
Pulses—									
Gram	.. ..	9 6 2	9 5 5	9 8 10	8 0 4	9 6 2	9 6 2	9 0 3	8 9 8
Turdal	.. ..	10 1 0	10 2 6	13 5 4	9 8 10	10 6 3	10 0 0	13 1 0	9 8 10
Other articles of food—									
Sugar (refined)	.. ..	16 2 11	15 11 0	21 3 1	20 0 0	14 8 9	14 9 9	18 9 8	16 13 6
Jagri (gul)	.. ..	19 0 9	16 13 6	20 0 0	18 4 7	18 13 2	16 0 0	20 0 0	16 13 6
Tea	Lb. ..	0 10 0	0 8 11	0 12 6	0 10 5	0 10 0	0 8 11	0 12 6	0 10 5
Salt	Maund ..	2 11 4	2 0 0	2 0 0	3 11 11	2 13 10	2 0 0	2 0 0	3 11 11
Beef	Seer ..	0 10 5	0 10 3	0 10 0	0 6 0	0 10 3	0 10 0	0 10 0	0 6 0
Mutton	.. ..	0 15 5	0 12 3	1 0 0	0 10 0	0 15 5	0 12 0	0 10 0	0 10 0
Milk	Maund ..	17 9 4	11 6 10	13 5 4	13 5 4	17 9 4	11 6 10	13 5 4	13 5 4
Ghee	.. ..	80 0 0	69 9 0	74 6 8	80 0 0	76 3 1	68 1 4	72 11 8	80 0 0
Potatoes	.. ..	8 12 3	13 12 2	15 7 4	11 6 10	10 9 0	14 7 8	12 7 3	11 0 7
Onions	.. ..	5 15 8	5 11 5	6 6 5	5 0 0	5 15 0	5 0 0	5 0 0	5 0 0
Cocunut oil	.. ..	28 9 1	31 10 11	32 5 2	33 10 11	28 9 1	30 7 7	35 8 11	33 10 11

Note.—1 lb. = 39 tolas; 1 maund = 82 2/7 lbs.; 1 seer = 2 2/35 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	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur
Cereals—								
Rice	159	172	162	158	154	172	162	158
Wheat	187	253	230	187	193	264	219	187
Jowari	195	205	244	349	183	190	210	340
Bajri	243	196	227	254	226	167	200	194
Average—cereals	196	206	216	237	189	198	198	220
Pulses—								
Gram	218	245	239	187	218	246	225	200
Turdal	172	153	216	164	178	150	212	164
Average—pulses	195	199	227	175	197	198	218	182
Other articles of food—								
Sugar (refined)	212	216	235	200	191	198	218	182
Jagri (gul)	223	242	225	235	220	201	207	168
Tea	129	129	160	100	129	230	225	217
Salt	127	129	160	168	134	129	160	168
Beef	203	153	132	100	200	153	132	100
Mutton	229	206	168	168	200	200	132	168
Milk	191	208	270	231	191	257	270	168
Ghee	158	257	168	168	150	159	164	183
Potatoes	196	163	267	183	191	257	270	168
Onions	386	314	406	286	383	267	327	276
Cocunut oil	112	129	162	126	112	124	178	126
Average—other articles of food	197	206	228	185	198	200	213	180
Average—all food articles (unweighted)	196	206	225	196	196	199	210	190



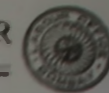
Principal Trade Disputes in progress in November 1921

Name of concern and locality.	Approximate number of workpeople involved.		Date when dispute		Cause.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.	Began.	Ended.		
<i>Textile Trade.</i>			1921	1921		
1. The Alliance Mill, Tardeo, Bombay.	1,100	..	24 October	....	Men demanded the removal of the manager, an outsider.	....
2. The Ahmedabad Manufacturing and Calico Printing Co., Ltd., Ahmedabad.	450	..	29 October	2 November	The Agent refused to take back strikers.	Successful.
3. The Ahmedabad Universal Mill, Ahmedabad.	150	..	29 October	8 November	The workers would not resume work unless workers of the Calico Mill were taken back.	(Workers taken back.) Successful.
4. The Ahmedabad Fine Spinning and Weaving Mills Co., Ltd., Ahmedabad.	91	43	29 October	6 November	The strikers demanded bonus for last year which the Agent would not give as the Mill was a new one.	(The workers of the Calico Mill taken back.) Partially successful. (Grant of Bonus conditional on the decision of the Millowners' Association.)
5. The Advance Mills Co., Ltd., Camp Road, Ahmedabad.	350 (weavers).	..	30 October	2 November	The workers demanded Sunday as a Holiday and the payment of bonus immediately.	Partially successful. (Bonus to be paid on 6th November 1921.)
6. The Ahmedabad New Spinning and Weaving Mills Co., Ltd., Sarangpur, Ahmedabad.	216 (weavers).	..	2 November	3 November	The strikers demanded Rs. 18 which were deducted from their bonus.	Successful. (Deduction from bonus granted to workers.)
7. The Ahmedabad Zaveri Mills Co., Ltd., Sarangpur Road, Ahmedabad.	179 (weavers).	..	2 November	4 November	The strikers demanded a bonus which the Agent promised to give a fortnight after.	Successful. (Bonus promised.)
8. The Sarangpur Cotton Mills Co., Ltd., Outside Raipur, Ahmedabad.	250 (weavers).	..	2 November	8 November	The strikers demanded Rs. 18 deducted from their bonus.	Partially successful. (Payment of deducted bonus promised on the other mills doing the same.)
9. The Rajpur Mills Co., Ltd., Gomti-pur, Ahmedabad.	93 (weavers).	..	2 November	8 November	The strikers demanded an increase in wages of one pie per lb. of outturn of cloth.	Unsuccessful. (Increase of wages not granted.)
10. The Gujrat Spinning and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Outside Kalapur, Ahmedabad.	335 (weavers).	..	2 November	19 November	The workers wanted the four dismissed members of the Mahajan Mandal to be reinstated in the same Mill.	Unsuccessful. (New men employed.)
11. The New Cotton Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Kankaria Road, Ahmedabad.	42 (women of Reeling Department).	..	4 November	4 November	The strikers demanded Rs. 5 more as bonus.	Successful. (Demand for bonus conceded.)



Principal Trade Disputes in progress in November 1921—continued

Name of concern and locality.	Approximate number of workpeople involved		Date when dispute		Cause.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.	Began.	Ended.		
<i>Textile Trade—contd.</i>						
12. The Vivakanand Mills Co., Ltd., Gomtipur, Ahmedabad.	90 (weavers).	..	4 November ..	11 November ..	The strikers demanded a bonus which the Agent would not give as the Mill was a new one.	Successful. (Bonus promised.)
13. The Ahmedabad Sarangpur Cotton Mill Co., Ltd., Kanheria Road, Ahmedabad.	250 (weavers).	..	9 November ..	10 November ..	The strikers demanded one day's pay withheld by the Agent.	Successful. (Demands granted.)
14. The Ahmedabad New Spinning and Weaving and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Sarangpur Road, Ahmedabad.	200 (spinners).	..	10 November ..	11 November ..	The strikers demanded Rs. 45 bonus instead of Rs. 25 given by the Agent.	Successful. (Demands granted.)
15. The Sarawati Mills, Broach.	500 (spinners).	..	10 November ..	18 November ..	Immediate payment of bonus promised in January next.	Successful. (Bonus promised on 23rd November 1921.)
16. The David Mill, Carrell Road, Parol, Bombay.	300 (weavers).	..	12 November ..	24 November ..	The strikers demanded— (1) A general increase in piece rates; (2) One pie per lb. more than former rates for working on old looms; (3) Pay proportionate to the production on the other looms worked by the same weaver for the hours stopped (for more than a day) for want of beams; (4) That rates of wages should be mentioned on the tickets; (5) One pie per lb. more than ordinary rates when a beam of smaller size was attached to a loom of larger size.	Unsuccessful. (220 weavers resumed work unconditionally and the rest were paid off.)
17. The Ahmedabad Vivakanand Mills Co., Ltd., Rajpur, Ahmedabad.	90 (weavers).	..	14 November ..	15 November ..	Men demanded bonus for five months at the rate of Rs. 5 per month.	Compromised. (A bonus of Rs. 3 per month granted.)
18. The Ahmedabad City Ramkrishna Mills Co., Ltd., Rajpur, Ahmedabad.	271 (weavers).	..	14 November ..	....	The strikers demanded Rs. 75 as bonus.	....
19. The Industrial Mill Co., Ltd., Gomtipur, Ahmedabad.	150 (weavers).	536	18 November ..	25 November ..	Reinstatement of a dismissed head-roller.	Unsuccessful.



Principal Trade Disputes in progress in November 1921—continued

Name of concern and locality.	Approximate number of workpeople involved		Date when dispute		Cause.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.	Began.	Ended.		
<i>Textile Trade—contd.</i>			1921	1921		
20. The Rajnagar Weaving and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Idga Road, Ahmedabad.	270 (Textile Department.)	..	19 November ..	21 November ..	The strikers wanted the dismissal of a jobber who harassed the workers.	Unsuccessful.
21. The Ahmedabad New Spinning and Weaving Company, Ltd., Sarangpur Road, Ahmedabad.	25 (Miscellaneous.)	..	19 November ..	20 November ..	The strikers demanded a bonus of Rs. 35.	Successful. (Bonus demanded was given.)
22. The Surat Cotton Spinning and Weaving Mills, Ltd., Surat.	445 (Spinning and Weaving Department.)	..	20 November ..	23 November ..	Bonus of 75 per cent. of pay immediately instead of in February 1922 as such bonus was given before the Diwali Holidays in other Mills.	Successful. (Demands granted.)
23. The Asarwa Mills, Co., Ltd., Asarwa, Ahmedabad.	203 (weavers).	..	21 November ..	26 November ..	Reinstatement of a dismissed Muladan.	Successful.
24. The Sir Waghji (Cotton) Mills, Wadhwan Camp, Kathiawar.	475	..	22 November ..	....	(1) A demand for bonus to be paid immediately; (2) The transfer of the time-keeper.	....
25. The Fine Counts Mills, Broach.	625	..	24 November ..	1 December ..	Immediate payment of bonus as in Sarawati Mills, Broach.	Successful. (Bonus promised.)
26. The Rajnagar Spinning, Weaving and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Idga Road, Ahmedabad.	60 (winders).	..	25 November ..	28 November ..	A group of winders struck for the dismissal of a muladan.	Unsuccessful.
<i>Transport Trade.</i>						
27. The B. B. & C. I. Railway, Gas Generating Department, Colaba, Bombay.	25	..	2 November ..	4 November ..	The workers demanded a general increase in wages.	Unsuccessful. (Work resumed unconditionally.)
<i>Engineering Trade.</i>						
28. Carlisle & Co., Haines Road, Jacob Circle, Bombay.	250 (mechanics).	..	30 November ..	1 December ..	The strikers demanded— (1) A change in hours of work; (2) Wages for 17th and 21st November 1921; (3) Wages on 15th of every month instead of on the third Saturday.	Compromised. (1) No change in hours; (2) Wages promised on condition that other workshops did the same; (3) Demand granted.

Principal Trade Disputes in progress in November 1921—continued.

Name of concern and locality.	Approximate number of workpeople involved		Date when dispute		Cause.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.	Began.	Ended.		
Miscellaneous.			1921	1921		
29. Government Telegraph Office, Karachi.	19 (Boy peons).	..	5 November ..	8 November ..	The strikers demanded continuance of house rent allowance of Rs. 4.	Unsuccessful. (New boy engaged.)
30. Office of Superintendent of Police, Sind Railway.	8 (Clerks).	..	29 November ..	....	General increase in salary.	peons

Retail food index for India and foreign countries

Name of country.	India	United Kingdom	Canada.	South Africa.	Australia.	New Zealand.	United States of America.	France (b)	Italy. (c)	Belgium.	Finland.	Germany.	Holland. (d)	Norway.	Sweden (e)	Denmark.	Austria.
No. of articles.	17	20	29	18	46	59	22 till Dec. 1920; 43 from Jan. 1921.	13	9	22	37	..	27	..	51	..	12
No. of stations.	Bombay.	630	60	9	30	25	45 till Dec. 1920; 51 from Jan. 1921.	Paris.	Rome.	1,028 budgets.	20	..	Amsterdam.	30	44	100	Vienna.
1914 July	100	100	100	(a)100	100	100	100	(b)100	(c)100	100	(f)100	100	(d)100	100	100	100	100
1915 "	132	105	107	131	112	98	120	95	..	..	..	114	..	124	128	181	..
1916 "	161	114	116	130	119	109	129	111	..	..	..	117	..	160	142	146	386
1917 "	204	157	128	126	127	143	183	137	..	..	..	146	214	181	166	622	..
1918 "	210	175	134	131	139	164	206	203	..	..	..	176	279	268	187	1,788	..
1919 "	209	186	139	147	144	186	261	206	..	..	..	204	289	310	212	3,037	..
1920 June	255	228	194	187	163	215	369	315	454	926	842	204	311	294	253	5,552	..
.. July	258	227	197	194	167	215	373	318	459	982	842	210	319	297	253	5,777	..
.. August	190	262	221	196	171	203	373	322	496	1,089	795	212	333	308	..	5,777	..
.. September	183	267	215	195	197	173	199	407	324	501	1,134	777	217	336	307	..	6,206
.. October	193	270	214	197	192	177	194	420	341	523	1,172	827	219	340	306	..	6,184
.. November	185	281	206	196	186	176	189	428	361	513	1,206	872	213	342	303	..	7,131
.. December	178	282	200	188	184	179	175	424	375	511	1,233	916	202	342	294	..	8,918
1921 January	163	278	195	172	186	178	169	410	367	493	1,174	924	193	334	283	..	9,788
.. February	156	263	190	165	184	175	155	382	376	482	1,107	901	194	308	262	..	10,080
.. March	154	249	178	160	181	169	153	358	386	434	1,137	901	193	300	253	..	11,073
.. April	154	238	171	156	173	169	149	328	432	417	1,107	894	187	300	248	..	11,241
.. May	162	232	165	152	168	167	142	317	421	407	1,119	880	183	292	237	..	10,848
.. June	169	218	150	144	165	166	141	312	409	419	1,147	896	180	290	234	..	11,001
.. July	174	220	148	139	161	164	145	306	402	410	1,278	963	178	295	232	236	..
.. August	177	226	154	134	154	163	152	317	417	427	1,324	1,045	..	297	234	..	..
.. September	183	225	159	133	154	161	150	329	430	423	..	..	..	228	..	..	..
.. October	180	210	..	..	..	..	..	331	461	..	..	..	..	218	..	..	..
.. November	179	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

(a) Average for the year 1914. (b) Includes fuel and lighting. (c) Unofficial. (d) January to June 1914. (e) 15th April 1914. (f) 1913-14. (g) Figures from 1914 to 1919 are annual averages. Note.—The absolute maxima for the different countries are indicated in heavier type.

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

Count or Number.	Month of October.			Seven months, April to October.		
	1919.	1920.	1921.	1919.	1920.	1921.
Nos. 1 to 10	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 11 to 20	5,240	4,464	6,445	39,148	34,213	45,987
Nos. 21 to 30	18,786	20,730	20,019	141,186	135,181	141,638
Nos. 31 to 40	12,520	13,124	12,609	87,844	90,138	93,607
Above 40	1,131	1,086	996	8,467	7,627	7,579
Waste, etc.	180	113	171	1,442	772	1,190
	6	114	8	72	170	216
Total	37,863	39,631	40,248	278,179	268,101	290,217

Bombay Island

Count or Number.	Month of October.			Seven months, April to October.		
	1919.	1920.	1921.	1919.	1920.	1921.
Nos. 1 to 10	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 11 to 20	4,824	4,079	5,706	36,185	31,579	41,709
Nos. 21 to 30	15,379	15,661	14,573	112,258	105,568	103,031
Nos. 31 to 40	7,653	7,703	7,359	52,778	55,893	56,577
Above 40	465	395	457	3,452	3,065	3,602
Waste, etc.	110	79	85	954	578	601
	1	109	3	31	137	166
Total	28,432	28,026	28,183	205,658	196,840	205,686

Ahmedabad

Count or Number.	Month of October.			Seven months, April to October.		
	1919.	1920.	1921.	1919.	1920.	1921.
Nos. 1 to 10	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 11 to 20	138	153	210	906	952	1,410
Nos. 21 to 30	1,275	2,201	2,648	11,065	12,254	18,410
Nos. 31 to 40	3,416	4,114	3,800	25,494	25,349	26,708
Above 40	548	575	393	4,105	3,612	3,169
Waste, etc.	36	23	59	316	116	410
	..	..	..	..	3	2
Total	5,413	7,066	7,110	41,886	42,286	50,109

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

Bombay Presidency

Description.	Month of October			Seven months, April to October		
	1919.	1920.	1921.	1919.	1920.	1921.
Grey and bleached piece-goods—	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Chadars Pounds ..	2,398	2,161	2,124	12,014	9,804	10,884
Dhotis	6,207	4,397	6,352	37,568	31,543	47,274
Drills and jeans	1,454	998	759	9,117	7,918	5,837
Cambrics and lawns	108	58	76	581	354	587
Printers	595	215	357	2,162	1,887	2,307
Shirtings and long cloth	9,702	7,459	8,104	55,745	53,200	59,520
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	2,150	1,457	1,102	12,493	9,811	9,327
Tent cloth	183	103	127	1,521	696	837
Other sorts	810	468	1,146	5,240	4,010	7,127
Total	23,607	17,316	20,147	136,441	119,223	143,700
Coloured piece-goods Pounds ..	10,191	7,747	9,166	51,817	50,235	53,463
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods.	207	207	163	1,542	1,526	1,171
Hosiery	25	21	19	110	99	113
Miscellaneous	101	194	102	590	580	657
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	6	3	4	40	82	32
Grand Total	34,137	25,488	29,601	190,540	171,745	199,136

Bombay Island

Description.	Month of October			Seven months, April to October		
	1919.	1920.	1921.	1919.	1920.	1921.
Grey and bleached piece-goods—	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Chadars Pounds ..	1,352	1,345	1,494	6,937	5,759	7,114
Dhotis	1,548	1,185	1,990	10,995	7,740	14,271
Drills and jeans	1,307	940	707	8,554	7,384	5,486
Cambrics and lawns	75	48	52	430	204	448
Printers	4	13	14	80	33	91
Shirtings and long cloth	6,078	5,285	5,467	36,240	34,592	41,703
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	1,702	1,264	815	10,798	8,232	7,587
Tent cloth	157	86	108	1,232	614	706
Other sorts	369	212	617	3,227	1,849	3,903
Total	12,592	10,378	11,264	78,493	66,407	81,309

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

Bombay Island—continued

Description.	Month of October			Seven months, April to October		
	1919.	1920.	1921.	1919.	1920.	1921.
Coloured piece-goods Pounds ..	8,748	6,788	7,833	44,523	43,498	45,598
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods.	204	206	156	1,501	1,512	1,125
Hosiery	19	11	11	74	61	65
Miscellaneous	101	194	102	589	579	655
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	4	3	3	35	81	29
Grand Total	21,668	17,580	19,369	125,215	112,138	128,781

Ahmedabad

Description.	Month of October			Seven months, April to October		
	1919.	1920.	1921.	1919.	1920.	1921.
Grey and bleached piece-goods—	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Chadars Pounds ..	940	715	432	4,479	3,444	2,864
Dhotis	3,853	2,531	3,420	20,934	18,645	26,167
Drills and jeans	92	23	32	278	242	203
Cambrics and lawns	16	2	9	88	85	77
Printers	426	88	229	1,418	1,063	1,615
Shirtings and long cloth	2,837	1,526	1,944	13,800	13,525	13,827
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	425	180	269	1,552	1,395	1,577
Tent cloth	****	****	4	7	30	20
Other sorts	266	108	269	993	1,116	1,760
Total	8,855	5,173	6,608	43,549	39,545	47,310
Coloured piece-goods	815	416	464	3,335	2,960	3,107
Grey and coloured goods other than piece-goods.	1	****	2	3	1	14
Hosiery	6	9	8	37	38	48
Miscellaneous	****	****	****	5	****	****
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	1	****	1	****	1	****
Grand Total	9,678	5,598	7,083	46,929	42,545	50,481

Belgium.—According to the "Revue du Travail," October 1921, just received from the Belgium Ministry of Industry Labour, the index of the cost of living, based on 56 articles for Belgium, was 386 on 15th September 1921 as against 384 a month earlier. The base (100) is the level on 15th April 1914.

An enquiry into the housing situation has been instituted by the Minister of Labour in all the Communes. Information regarding the increase in the number of families since the war, the number of houses built and the peculiar conditions in each Commune, are to be collected and supplied to the organisations dealing with workers' dwellings, and to the National Society of cheap dwelling houses.

CURRENT NOTES FROM ABROAD

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

United Kingdom.—A comparison of the decreases in wages in the United Kingdom in June 1920, January 1921 and July 1921 is of interest. In June 1920, over 2,600,000 workpeople received an increase of £570,000 per week, i.e., an increase of 4s-5d per head and the principal bodies of workpeople affected were railway servants, engineers, ship-builders, woollen and worsted operatives, and workpeople in the printing and book-binding trades. In January 1921, 700,000 workpeople received a net increase amounting to £54,000 per week; while during the same period 1,450,000 men sustained a net decrease of £188,000 per week, with the result that 2,150,000 workpeople sustained a decrease of £114,000 in their weekly wages, i.e., a decrease of 1s-1d per head per week. The principal bodies of workmen affected were coal miners, woollen and worsted operatives, iron and steel workers, railwaymen, workpeople in the bleaching and dyeing trades and in the heavy chemical soap and candle trades.

In July 1921, 3,600,000 workpeople sustained a deduction in weekly wages of £1,070,000—a decrease of 5s-11d per head per week and the principal workers affected were coal miners, workpeople in the engineering trade, railway servants, wool textile operatives and building-trade labourers.

Canada.—According to the Canadian Labour Gazette of September 1921 the average cost of a weekly family budget in August of staple foods in some 60 cities was 11.44 dollars as compared with 7.42 dollars in July 1914. For all items (food, fuel, lighting, rent) the average cost was 21.98 dollars as compared with 14.16 dollars in July 1914. Wholesale prices stood at 236.4 for August as against 238.6 for July; 330.2 for August 1920; 301.1 for August 1919; 284.3 for August 1918; and 136.3 for August 1914.

A report on strikes and lock-outs in 1920 shows that the time loss due to strikes was practically back to the average of the past 20 years. There were 285 strikes and lock-outs. The number of employees involved in the 285 disputes was 52,150 and the total time loss was 886,754 working days. During the month of August 1921, there were in existence 24 strikes, involving approximately 3,221 employees and a total time loss estimated at 83,105 working days, as compared with 32 strikes, 7,662 workpeople and 103,554 working days in July 1921; and 30 strikes, 4,840 workpeople and 74,366 working days in August 1920.

The Deputy Minister of Labour, Mr. F. A. Acland, has been good enough to furnish the Bombay Labour Office with details regarding Trade Unions and the working of Boards of Conciliation and Investigation. In regard to the Trades Unions Act he points out that most of the trade unions of Canada are international in character, that is to say, the unions are common to the United States and Canada, the Canadian membership being a relatively small proportion of the total. None or practically none of these international unions are registered under the Trades Unions Act. In 1920 out of 2,847 branches with a membership of 378,047 no less than 2,309 branches with a membership of 260,247 were international.

South Africa.—Trade Unionism, which had been dormant in South Africa, has revived considerably since the establishment of the Transvaal Federation of Trades in 1911 and the South African Industrial Federation in 1914. This latter Federation held the first trade union congress in 1917. The Labour Charter in the Peace Treaty has further stimulated the growth of the movement. The Federation has been reorganised under the system of national industrial departments; and the first congress under the reformed constitution was held in January 1921 at Johannesburg. The Statistics Act of 1914 being put in force, compulsory returns have been received. The following table shows the number of unions and the membership on 31st December, classified under occupation.

Class of occupation.	Unions.	Membership.
Mining	7	22,516
Engineering and metal working	8	11,369
Building	6	9,404
Printing	1	2,878
General manufacturing	12	4,208
State services (excluding teaching)	7	44,647
Teaching services	5	4,912
Municipal and tramway services	25	6,785
Trading and clerical	11	13,948
Miscellaneous	8	12,087
	90	132,784

NOTE.—In some cases craftsmen and others are members of more than one union.

Most skilled mechanics in the Railway are members of craft unions such are not included in "State Services."

France.—The "Bulletin du Ministère du Travail" for July, August and September just received in the Labour Office gives the following data regarding the cost of living:—

Base 100 = 1914

Paris .. .	{ 1st quarter 1921 ..	338
	{ 2nd " " ..	307
Marseilles ..	29th April " ..	321
Rouen ..	9th July " ..	327
Lille ..	June " ..	336
Amiens ..	" " ..	290

The General Statistical Office gives the following indexes for the whole of France:—

1st quarter 1921	430
2nd " "	364

and for Paris the index of the cost of living (as published by the Statistical Office) has fallen considerably since January 1921, but still appears to be in June 1921 over two and one-third times as expensive as in 1914.

Japan.—According to the report on Trade Unions published by the Police Bureau, there are 273 labour unions with 11,680 members, throughout the country. The prefecture of Tokyo, which comes first, has 74 unions with 34,852 members; Kanagawa has 17 unions and 21,018 members; Osaka has 23 unions with 15,355 members; Hokkaido has 18 unions with

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7,725 members; Hyogo has 18 unions with 5,928 members; and Fukuoka has 8 unions and 5,264 members.

Germany.—The German Metal Workers' Union with a membership of 1,600,000—the largest union in the world—held its fifteenth congress from the 12th to 18th September 1921 at Jena, at which representatives from Metal Workers' Unions in Austria, Czecho-Slovakia, Denmark, France, Holland, Hungary, Luxembourg, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland were present. Three sections of opinion were represented—Social Democrats, Independent Socialists and Communists, of which the Independents were supreme at the last session. The Social Democrats being in a majority at this congress, resolved upon a programme, which included (a) closer union among manual and intellectual workers; (b) promoting the metal workers' interests; (c) to secure a reasonable standard of living, to withstand the effects of war and of the cost of living; (d) provision of employment for the unemployed; (e) the establishment of works councils before permanently introducing a socialised industrial system; (f) education of workers; and (g) abolition of class justice, and an extension of social legislation to enable the people to share the products of industrial undertakings. The next session of the congress is to take place at Cassel in 1923.

According to the report of the Union of Factory Workers there were 4,129 trade disputes in 1920—greater than in any previous year—of which 4,100 were successful, benefiting no less than 1,643,960 persons. The great majority of these disputes ended without necessitating a stoppage of work. An increase of wages, a reduction of working hours and other improvements in the working conditions, were secured; and a reduction of wages in some industries was prevented. The rise in the cost of living appears to have been the cause of the disputes. 1,570,964 persons received an increase amounting to 53.7 million marks per week. The chemical industries headed the list with the greatest number of disputes, the pulp and paper industry, the food-preparation, and the brick-making and other clay working industries, following in order.



The lack of housing accommodation in Germany was considered by a sub-committee of the Federal Parliament and it was estimated that over 800,000 families would have to be accommodated. A proposal giving power to municipalities to appropriate all housing property within their limits and the formation of co-operative societies to administer them was adopted. The sub-committee proposed to create a Federal Housing Commissioner and a Housing Board representing all interested parties. The finances for the scheme are to be secured by taking the profits of private building enterprises, by utilising the private capital of the trust funds of the banks and by increasing the tax on rents. Of the funds thus secured at least 75 per cent are to be paid over to local authorities and other housing societies; the remainder is to be used for building single family houses.

The Labour Office Library.—There has recently been a considerable demand for official and unofficial publications dealing with various questions on labour. The India Office has promised to send out a collection of books but these have not yet arrived. In the meantime the Labour Office has secured from various countries and other sources a very representative collection of official publications on the cost of living, wages, hours of labour, factory legislation, trade unions, conciliation, arbitration, workmen's compensation, and similar subjects. Special mention may be made of the ungrudging assistance of Canada, Australia and the several States of the Commonwealth, New Zealand and South Africa. The International Labour Office, Geneva, has also supplied the Legislative Enactments dealing with a large number of labour questions in the chief industrial countries of Europe. The Labour Office is also in touch with the U. S. A. Bureau of Labour in Washington, and similar bureaux or ministries in France, Belgium, Japan, Italy, Germany, Austria and Spain. It is astonishingly evident how greatly employers with their difficulties and the leaders of labour with the aspirations of the workers, use the library. This is one of the several ways in which they keep in close touch with the Labour

Office and the Labour Office in touch with them. After all, statistics are the straw from which the bricks are made, and did not the author of the *Areopagitica* say that "a good book is the precious life blood of a master spirit, embalmed and treasured up on purpose to a life beyond life?" The following list contains a selection of official and unofficial publications and other books relating to labour:—

Official Publications

INDIA

- Report of the Committee on Industrial Unrest in Bengal.
The Economics of Tenancy Law.
Inland Trade, 1919-20.
Joint Works Committee—their Draft Constitution (Bengal).
Statistics of British India, 1920 and 1921.
Report of the Controller of Currency, 1920-21.
Report of the Working of the Development Department for period ending 31st March 1921.
India in 1920.

ABROAD

UNITED KINGDOM

- Monthly Bulletin of Statistics, Vol. I, Nos. 1 to 11; Vol. II, No. 5.
Labour Gazette (Ministry of Labour), Vol. XXIX, Nos. 1 to 10, January to November 1921.
Labour Overseas, Vol. I, Nos. 1 to 4, April-June 1921.
Reports of the Industrial Fatigue Research Board, Vols. 1 to 10.
Report on Profit-sharing and Labour Co-partnership.
Memoranda on Strikes and Lock-outs.
Departmental Committee on Workmen's Compensation.
Conciliation and Arbitration Report, 1919 and 1920.

AUSTRALIA

- Report of the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage, 1920.
Supplementary Report of the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage, 1920-21.
The Industrial Gazette (New South Wales), December 1920.
The Industrial Gazette (Western Australia), March 1921 and June to October 1921.
Pamphlet on Industrial Court, 1920 (South Australia).



The Fifth Annual Report of the Industrial Department for 1919-20 (Tasmania).
Arbitration and Wage-fixing in Australia—Research Report, No. 10, October 1918 (National Industrial Conference Board).

CANADA

- Labour Gazette, February to October 1921.
Joint Councils in Industry.
Wages and Hours of Labour in Canada, 1901 to 1920.
Canada Year Book, 1919.

NEW ZEALAND

- Monthly Abstract of Statistics, June to October 1921.
Conciliation and Arbitration in New Zealand—Research Report, No. 23, December 1919 (National Industrial Conference Board).
New Zealand Official Year Book.

FRANCE

- Bulletin du Ministère du Travail, January to June 1921.
Monthly Bulletin of Statistics, No. 8.
Bulletin Mensuel de la Sociedad de la Nacioness for 10th September 1921.

GENEVA (INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE)

- International Labour Review, Vol. I, Nos. 1 and 2, January and February 1921.
Do. do. Vol. II, Nos. 1 to 3, for April, May and June 1921.
Do. do. Vol. III, Nos. 1 and 2, July-August 1921.
Do. do. Vol. IV, Nos. 1 and 2, October and November 1921.
Bulletin Official, Nos. 1 to 17 for September to December 1920.
Do. do. Vol. IV, Nos. 14, 16 and 17, for October 1921.
Do. do. do. Nos. 18 and 19, for 1921.
Official Bulletin, Vol. II, Nos. 1 to 3, April, May and June 1921.
Do. do. Vol. III, Nos. 1 to 25, January to June 1921.
Do. do. do. Nos. 1 to 9, July to August 1921.
Daily Intelligence, Vol. I, Nos. 1 to 38, 41 to 60, January to March 1921.

- Daily Intelligence, Vol. II, Nos. 1 to 63, for April to June 1921.
Do. Vol. III, Nos. 1 to 17 and 25, for July to August and September and October 1921.
Do. Vol. IV, Nos. 2 to 24, for November 1921.
Do. do. Nos. 25 to 29, for November 1921.

- Draft Conventions and Recommendations adopted by the International Labour Conference at Washington, 1919.
Do. do. during its Second Session at Genoa, 1920.
Do. do. First Annual Meeting.
Permanent Labour Organization—Constitution and Rules.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

- Quarterly Abstract of Union Statistics, Nos. 1 to 6.
Population Census, 1921.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

- Annual Report of the Department of Labour and Industries.
Industrial Bulletin, Nos. 5 to 14.
The Monthly Bulletin of the Industrial Commissioner (New York State).
The Department of Labour Review for August 1921.
Monthly Labour Review, Vol. X, Nos. 4 to 6, January to June 1920.
Monthly Labour Review, Vol. XIII, No. 4, October 1921.
New York Labour Laws enacted in 1921 (Special Bulletin of the Department of Labour).
Federal Reserve Bulletin for August 1921.
In the Supreme Court of the State of Kansas, Nos. 1, 2, 23625, 3254, 3293, 3653, 3803, 3885 and 3926.
The Kansas Court of Industrial Relations.

BELGIUM

- Revue du Travail, Nos. 1 to 9, January to September 1921.
L'inspection du Travail, 21^{me} Année 1920.

AUSTRIA

- Mittheilung an der Statistischer Zentral Kommission, Nos. 1 to 8.