



UNOFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS AND BOOKS

Name of Publication	Author	Published by
1. Industrial Law ..	Tillyard ..	A. & C. Black, Ltd., London.
2. Industrial Accidents and their Compensation.	G. L. Campbell ..	Constable & Co., London.
3. The Employers' Liability Act, 1880, and the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906.	Ruegg ..	Butterworth & Co., London.
4. Handbook of Industrial Law.	J. H. Greenwood	University of London Press, London.
5. Workmen's Compensation Insurance.	C. E. Golding ..	Sir Isaac Pitman and Sons, Ltd., London.
6. Digest of Workmen's Compensation Laws in the United States and Territories with Annotations.	F. Robertson (Compiler and Publisher.)	.....
7. The Law of Employers' Liability and Workmen's Compensation.	Thomas Beven ..	Stevens and Haynes, London.

WELFARE

The following publications relating to welfare have been received in the Labour Office :—

The Journal of Industrial Hygiene—Vol. IV, No. 6 for October 1922. (Published by the Harvard Medical School, Massachusetts.)

The present issue contains an interesting article on "The Ideal Work-Curve" by Thomas Bedford, Investigator to the Industrial Fatigue Research Board.

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Bulletin No. 9 of the International Record of Child Welfare Work—for August and September 1922 with supplements Nos. 19 and 20. (International Association for the Promotion of Child Welfare, Brussels.)

The Nation's Health—Vol. IV, Nos. 6—9 for June—September 1922.

The June issue contains an article on "Common Sense in Factory Ventilation" by Dr. C. E. A. Winslow.

The August issue contains an article on "Recreation—Its Place in Positive Health" by Benjamin Selekman.

Welfare Work—Employers' experiments for improving working conditions in Factories by E. Dorothea Proud. (G. Bell & Sons, Ltd., London.)

The Child Welfare Movement—by Janet E. Lane Claypon. (G. Bell & Sons, Ltd., London.)

INDUSTRIAL PEACE

Industrial Unrest—The Report of the Commissioners (July 1917) collated and epitomised by Sir William Chance. (P. S. King & Son, London.)

Terms of Industrial Peace—by Alex Ramsay. (Constable & Co., Ltd., London.)

Industrial Peace—Its Advantages, Methods and Difficulties—by L. L. F. R. Price. (Macmillan & Co., Ltd., London.)

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THE MONTH IN BRIEF

Employment

IN the cotton mill industry of Bombay the attendance of workers again showed an improvement over the previous month. This was said to be due to the decrease in sickness in the city and to the anticipated bonus. The average absenteeism from representative mills was 8·35 per cent. as compared with 9·29 per cent. for the preceding month. The supply of labour was generally equal to the demand. In Ahmedabad the supply of skilled labour in cotton mills was adequate during the month and the supply of unskilled labour was actually in excess of the demand. Absenteeism in the mills rose, by about 1 per cent., to 5 per cent. This increase is attributed to the distribution of bonus in October after which unskilled operatives usually remain absent from work, until they have spent the money received as bonus. The percentage of absenteeism, however, was not greater than in the corresponding month of last year. In Sholapur the supply of labour was generally plentiful and no change in absenteeism was recorded as compared with the previous two months. Absenteeism in Sholapur was approximately 12 per cent.

In the engineering trades in Bombay, attendance again fell as compared with the figure of the previous month, the absenteeism rising from 17·1 to 18·26 per cent. Absenteeism in this industry has increased steadily since the close of the monsoon, but towards the end of the month under review some signs of improvement were recorded. The supply of labour was equal to the demand in all trades except boiler makers, assistant boiler makers, turners and pattern makers. These classes of workers were mainly in demand in railway workshops. The absenteeism in the Reclamation scheme at Marine Lines was

5 per cent., the same as in the previous month and at Colaba 17·5 per cent. as compared with 6·5 per cent. in the previous month. There has been a large increase in absenteeism at Colaba. On the construction of *chawls* (tenements) at Naigaum, De Lisle Road and at Worli, absenteeism remained the same as in the previous month, *viz.*, about 3 per cent. at Naigaum and De Lisle Road and about 10 per cent. at Worli. In the Bombay Port Trust, the attendance of labour employed in the Chief Engineer's Department was generally equal to the demand. Absenteeism in the month of November was 14·89 per cent. as compared with 13·78 per cent. in the previous month. The increase was said to be due to fever. The attendance of dock labour showed a further increase in absenteeism as compared with the previous month, the average absenteeism being 25 per cent. as against 22·08 per cent. in the previous month. This figure of absenteeism is the highest recorded of all classes of labour in the Presidency and the cause is attributed to the tendency of the Indian labourer to overstay his leave, as numbers of workers have returned to their villages for agricultural reasons.

In Karachi absenteeism among labour employed in the Engineering Workshop of the Port Trust, which recorded a slight improvement during October, again rose during November by about 2 per cent., to 5 per cent. The supply of skilled labour was plentiful and that of unskilled labour even greater than the demand.

The Cost of Living

In November 1922 the cost of living, as described elsewhere in the *Labour Gazette*, was about 2 points below the level of the preceding month. The average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the cost of living index for the City and Island of Bombay (100 represents the



level of July 1914) was 160 for all articles and 155 for food articles only. There is a fall of 12 per cent. as compared with this time last year and a fall of 17 per cent. below the high-water mark (October 1920).

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

The Wholesale Index Number

The index number of wholesale prices for November showed a rise of more than one per cent. in the general level, as compared with October, but the level was lower than that in September. This rise (which was preceded by a marked fall of prices both in September and October) was due to an advance in non-food articles, the noticeable fall in food grains being more than compensated by a rise in exported raw materials.

	Increase per cent. over July 1914.			
	August 1922	September 1922	October 1922	November 1922
Foods ..	88	85	78	76
Non-foods ..	84	79	72	77
All articles ..	86	81	74	76

In comparison with the corresponding month of last year, prices have fallen by 9 per cent., the fall from the high-water mark (January 1920) being about 24 per cent. The price of wheat in Bombay on the 15th December was Rs. 4-14-9 per Indian maund as against Rs. 5-4-8 on the 30th November. The prices for Rangoon rice in the Bombay market on these dates were Rs. 5-9-6 and Rs. 6-1-2.

Industrial Disputes

Charts Nos. 9 and 10 on industrial disputes show at a glance the considerable increase in

the number of workpeople affected by strikes during November, as compared with the previous month. The number of disputes, involving stoppages of work, as beginning in November was 13. Eight disputes which began before November were still in progress. The number of disputes settled in November was 19. Most of the disputes were in Ahmedabad mainly over the question of the annual bonus. During November there were 21 disputes involving 15,206 workpeople, as compared with 9,817 in the previous month and 8,091 in November 1921. The estimated aggregate duration of all disputes during November was nearly 60,287 working days, as compared with 62,372 days in October 1922 and 61,809 days in November 1921. A general review of strikes in the Presidency will be found on page 24 of this issue.

Labour Legislation, etc.

The Bombay and Karachi Chambers of Commerce have given very careful consideration to the Workmen's Compensation Bill and have forwarded their reports to Government. The Bombay Millowners' Association has also been considering this question. The Select Committee, it is understood, will meet in Delhi on or about the 9th January 1923. The Government of Bombay has also communicated its views on the proposed Mines Act, which will be taken up at the ensuing session of the Central Legislature. The Legislative Council has passed the Bill on House Rents referred to on pages 4 and 5 of the November *Labour Gazette* and the Act allows for an increase as shown on page 5 of that issue.

On December 6th, His Excellency the Governor opened the new *chawls* (tenements) which have been constructed by the Development Directorate at Worli. His Excellency's speech will be found on page 15.

Cotton Mill Production

The main features of the two following tables are the slight decrease in yarn production and a greater decrease in the production of woven goods in the cotton mills in this Presidency during the seven months ended October 1922, as compared with the corresponding period of the previous year. There was, however, a small increase in the production of yarn in



October 1922. The prices of local made piece-goods fell in November, while those of yarn were weak. Imported piece-goods and yarn indicated a similar movement.

(1) Month of October

	Millions of lbs. of yarn spun			Millions of lbs. of woven goods produced		
	October			October		
	1920	1921	1922	1920	1921	1922
Bombay Island ..	28	28	29	17	20	16
Ahmedabad ..	7	7	7	6	7	6
Other centres ..	5	5	5	3	3	3
Total, Presidency ..	40	40	41	26	30	25

(2) Seven months ended October

	Millions of lbs. of yarn spun			Millions of lbs. of woven goods produced		
	Seven months ended October			Seven months ended October		
	1920	1921	1922	1920	1921	1922
Bombay Island ..	197	206	201	112	129	116
Ahmedabad ..	42	50	53	43	50	46
Other centres ..	29	34	35	17	20	18
Total, Presidency ..	268	290	289	172	199	180

The Outlook

A comparison of the figures of exports from India during the six months April to September 1922 with those of 1921 reveals the interesting fact that the main exports of India have increased by 28 per cent. while imports, on the other hand, have decreased by 11 per cent. as compared with the corresponding period of last year. Seeds increased by no less than 145 per cent., raw jute by 85 per cent., tanned and dressed hides and skins by 44 per cent., gunny cloth by 39 per cent. and rice and raw cotton by 31 per cent. each. The exports to France increased by 83 per cent., to Belgium by 80 per cent. and to Germany by 62 per cent. The increase in exports to the United States is 23 per cent. and to Japan 4 per cent. as against 39 per cent. in the case of the United

Kingdom. Exports to China have increased by 43 per cent. The increase in the value of imports of cotton piece-goods is 26 per cent. and in twist and yarn 11 per cent. Sheet iron and plates have increased by 70 per cent. while machinery and mill work, sugar, railway plant and cutlery have decreased between 20 and 50 per cent. The exports of rice to Germany have been considerable and substantial shipments have been booked during the period from February to July next. Some of the Indian milled rice is remilled in Germany and re-exported to various countries, notably, Cuba, Portugal and Scandinavia. Rice has been bought largely, it is understood, from Indian firms. Conditions in the United Kingdom are not so satisfactory as they were owing to the unemployment problem. A cable message received by the American Trade Commissioner in Calcutta from Washington shows that American production continues to be heavy although prices are irregular. There is but little unemployment and wages continue high. The cloud upon the horizon is still prevailing in Continental Europe. No less than eight German Banks are now in existence in Amsterdam and the Amsterdam office of the Deutsche Bank recently handed a petition to the Stock Exchange Committee to be admitted to the Stock Exchange, which is significant as foreigners in most Exchanges of any importance in Europe are not admitted as members.

The Balance of Trade

The trade figures for November for Bombay and Karachi are given on the next page. Those for the whole of India were not received in time for insertion.

India

	In lakhs of rupees				
	June 1922	July 1922	August 1922	September 1922	October 1922
Exports (private merchandise) ..	19,23	24,40	25,21	21,60	21,63
Imports do. do. ..	16,40	18,15	21,20	18,23	22,91
Balance of Trade in merchandise ..	+2,83	+6,25	+4,01	+3,37	-1,28
Balance of transactions in treasure (private) ..	-4,12	-6,52	-1,96	-3,91	-3,52
Visible balance of trade including securities.* ..	-1,11	+32	+2,96	+10	-3,86

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



Bombay

	In lakhs of rupees					
	June 1922	July 1922	August 1922	September 1922	October 1922	November 1922
Exports (private merchandise)	8.30	8.50	7.60	4.80	4.38	7.84
Imports do. ..	6.17	6.86	7.85	7.20	8.17	8.23
Balance of Trade in merchandise	+2.13	+1.64	- 25	-2.40	- 3.79	- 39
Imports of treasure ..	4.07	6.63	2.27	4.20	3.47	2.82
Exports of treasure ..	36	22	42	53	31	4
Balance of transactions in treasure	-3.71	-6.41	-1.85	-3.67	- 3.16	-2.78

Karachi

	July 1914	October 1914	November 1914	December 1914	January 1915	February 1915
Exports (private merchandise)	1.12	1.76	1.33	1.31	56	2.44
Imports do. ..	1.42	1.40	1.83	1.40	2.25	1.65
Balance of Trade in merchandise	- 30	+ 36	- 50	- 9	- 1.69	+ 79
Imports of treasure ..	..	..	3	2	..	4
Exports of treasure ..	2	6	21	5	1	..
Balance of transactions in treasure	+ 2	+ 6	+ 18	+ 3	+ 1	- 4

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

Business Conditions

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

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

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

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

In crores of rupees

	September 1922	October 1922	November 1922	Increase (+) or decrease (-) in November 1922 as compared with the previous month.
Bombay	70	63	67	+ 4
Karschi	2	3	3	..
Calcutta	62	75	74	- 1
Rangoon	9	9	10	+ 1

The latest report shows the rupee portion of the Reserve in Bombay at 22.76 crores. In addition there is in Bombay Rs. 14 crores in the form of gold, and the percentage of gold and silver in the Paper Currency Reserve for the whole of India is 64.

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

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

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

The aftermath of the speculative mania referred to in the *Labour Gazette* for October is shown in these 65 cotton mill quotations for November 1922.

BONUS TO BOMBAY MILL WORKERS

The Committee of the Bombay Millowners' Association has sanctioned the payment of a bonus for 1922 to all operatives on the muster roll of mills on 15th December 1922. The rates to be paid are the same as those of last year which were published on page 18 of the *Labour Gazette* for December 1921, viz., to fixed wage earners - men, women and children - one full month's wages for service of 9 months and over, 75 per cent. of one full month's wages for service of 6 months but under 9 months and 50 per cent. of one full month's wages for service of 3 months but under 6 months; to piece-workers a bonus on the above scale not exceeding Rs. 175 provided that the bonus shall be paid only to employees with three full months' service and over. The bonus will be paid by all mills on 27th January 1923.



THE COST OF LIVING INDEX FOR NOVEMBER 1922

A fall of two points

All articles .. 60 per cent.

Food only .. 55 per cent.

In November 1922 the average level of retail prices for all the commodities taken into account in the statistics of a cost of living index for the working classes in Bombay, was two points below the level of the previous month. Taking 100 to represent the level in July 1914, the index was about 162 in October and 160 in November. The general index is 17 per cent. below the high-water mark reached in October 1920 and 7 per cent. below the twelve-monthly average of 1921.

A FURTHER FALL IN FOOD PRICES

In comparison with the previous month, there was a further fall in the retail prices of food articles. With the exception of rice which still remained stationary, all food-grains declined, jowari falling by 6 points, bajri and turdal by 5 points, and wheat and gram by 4 points. There was no change in the price of raw sugar (gul), salt, beef, mutton, milk, tea and coconut oil, while refined sugar decreased by 6 points and ghee by 5 points. A fall of nearly 12 per cent. in the price of potatoes and a rise of 10 per cent. in that of onions, owing to seasonal causes, were noticeable.

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.

Month	Index	Month	Index
July 1914 = 100		April 1922	162
November 1919 (three years ago)	174	May ..	163
October 1920	193	June ..	163
November 1920 (two years ago)	186	July ..	165
November 1921 (a year ago)	182	August ..	164
December ..	179	September ..	165
January 1922	173	October ..	162
February ..	165	November ..	160
March ..	165		

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

Articles.	July 1914	October 1922	November 1922	Increase (+) or decrease (-) of points in November over or below October 1922
Rice	100	132	132	..
Wheat	100	148	144	- 4
Jowari	100	115	109	- 6
Bajri	100	168	163	- 5
Gram	100	172	168	- 4
Turdal	100	144	139	- 5
Sugar (raw)	100	205	205	..
Sugar (refined)	100	237	231	- 6
Tea	100	129	129	..
Salt	100	152	152	..
Beef	100	198	198	..
Mutton	100	231	231	..
Milk	100	191	191	..
Ghee	100	175	170	- 5
Potatoes	100	196	173	- 23
Onions	100	230	250	+ 20
Coconut oil	100	112	112	..
All food articles (weighted average)	100	158	155	- 3

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



BOMBAY COST OF LIVING INDEX

A

Articles.	Unit of quantity.	Annual consumption (Mass Units). (In crores.)	Price.			Total Expenditure.		
			July 1914.	October 1922.	November 1922.	July 1914.	October 1922.	November 1922.
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cereals—	Maund	70	5.59	7.406	7.406	391.30	518.42	518.42
Rice	"	21	5.59	8.271	8.063	117.39	173.69	169.32
Wheat	"	11	4.35	5.021	4.734	47.85	55.23	52.07
Jowari	"	6	4.31	7.255	7.016	25.86	43.53	42.09
Bajri	"							
Total and Average—Cereals ..	—	—	100	136	134	582.40	790.87	781.90
Pulses—	Maund	10	4.30	7.406	7.240	43.00	74.06	72.40
Gram	"	3	5.84	8.443	8.099	17.52	25.33	24.30
Turdal	"							
Total and Average—Pulses ..	—	—	100	164	160	60.52	99.39	96.70
Other food articles—	Maund	7	8.56	17.583	17.583	59.92	123.08	123.08
Sugar (raw)	"	2	7.62	18.078	17.583	15.24	36.16	35.17
Sugar (refined)	"	1	40.00	51.615	51.615	1.00	1.29	1.29
Tea	"	40	2.13	3.240	3.240	10.65	16.20	16.20
Salt	"	5	0.32	0.641	0.641	8.96	17.95	17.95
Beef	Seer	28	0.964	0.964	0.964	13.86	31.81	31.81
Mutton	"	33	0.42	17.583	17.583	128.80	246.16	246.16
Milk	Maund	14	9.20	86.484	86.484	76.18	133.34	129.73
Ghee	"	1 1/2	50.79	88.891	7.750	49.28	96.71	85.25
Potatoes	"	11	4.48	8.792	7.750	4.65	10.72	11.63
Onions	"	3	1.55	3.573	3.875	4.65	10.72	11.63
Cocoanut Oil	"	1/2	25.40	28.568	28.568	12.70	14.28	14.28
Total and Average—Other food articles ..	—	—	100	191	187	381.24	727.70	712.55
Total and Average—All food articles ..	—	—	100	158	155	1,024.16	1,617.96	1,591.15
Fuel and lighting—	Case	5	4.37	7.656	7.656	21.85	38.28	38.28
Kerosene oil	Maund	48	0.79	1.281	1.281	37.92	61.49	61.49
Firewood	"	1	0.54	0.992	0.937	0.54	0.99	0.94
Coal	"							
Total and Average—Fuel and lighting ..	—	—	100	167	167	60.31	100.76	100.71
Clothing—	Lb.	27	0.59	1.375	1.375	15.93	37.13	37.13
Chaddars	"	25	0.64	1.495	1.464	16.00	37.38	36.60
Shirtings	"	36	0.58	1.359	1.313	20.88	48.92	47.27
T. Cloth	"							
Total and Average—Clothing ..	—	—	100	234	229	52.81	123.43	121.00
House rent	Per month	10	11.30	18.7	18.7	113.00	187.00	187.00
Grand Total and General Average ..	—	—	100	162	160	1,250.28	2,029.15	1,999.86

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 1922 at November price levels was Rs. 1,999.86, i.e., an increase of 60 per cent. (Rs. 1,250.28 = 100; Rs. 1,999.86 = 160).



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.	
		October 1922.	November 1922.	October 1922.	November 1922.
Cereals—					
Rice	31.4	132	132	4,144.8	4,144.8
Wheat	9.4	148	144	1,391.2	1,353.6
Jowari	3.8	115	109	437.0	414.2
Bajri	2.1	168	163	352.8	342.3
Total and Average Index No. ..	46.7	135	134	6,325.8	6,254.9
Pulses—					
Gram	3.1	172	168	533.2	520.8
Turdal	1.3	144	139	187.2	180.7
Total and Average Index No. ..	4.4	164	159	720.4	701.5
Other food articles—					
Sugar (raw)	4.8	205	205	984.0	984.0
Sugar (refined)	1.2	237	231	284.4	277.2
Tea	0.1	129	129	12.9	12.9
Salt	0.9	152	152	136.8	136.8
Beef	0.7	198	198	138.6	138.6
Mutton	1.1	231	231	254.1	254.1
Milk	10.3	191	191	1,967.3	1,967.3
Ghee	6.1	175	170	1,067.5	1,037.0
Potatoes	4.0	196	173	784.0	692.0
Onions	0.4	230	250	92.0	100.0
Cocoanut oil	1.0	112	112	112.0	112.0
Total and Average Index No. ..	30.6	191	187	5,833.6	5,711.9
Fuel and lighting—					
Kerosene oil	1.8	175	175	315.0	315.0
Firewood	3.0	162	162	486.0	486.0
Coal	0.1	183	173	18.3	17.3
Total and Average Index No. ..	4.9	167	167	819.3	818.3
Clothing—					
Dhoties	1.3	231	231	300.3	300.3
Shirtings	1.3	233	228	302.9	296.4
T. Cloth	1.7	233	225	396.1	382.5
Total and Average Index No. ..	4.3	232	228	999.3	979.2
House rent	9.1	165	165	1,501.5	1,501.5
Grand total of weights =	100				
General Average or Cost of Living Index (July 1914 = 100) ..	....	162	160	16,199.9	15,967.3

General Average or Cost of Living Index (July 1914 = 100) ..



WHOLESALE PRICES IN NOVEMBER BOMBAY*

The index number of wholesale prices for November 1922 showed a rise of more than one per cent. in the general level as compared with October, but the level was lower than that in September. This rise which was preceded by a marked fall of prices in September and October, was due to an advance in non-food articles, the noticeable fall in food-grains being more than compensated by a rise in exported raw materials. In comparison with the corresponding month of last year prices have fallen by 9 per cent., the fall from the twelve-monthly average of 1921 being 10 per cent.

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:—

Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay

Groups.	No. of items.	Increase (+) or decrease (-) per cent. in November 1922 as compared with	
		the preceding month (October 1922).	the corresponding month of last year (November 1921).
1. Cereals ..	7	- 6	- 30
2. Pulses ..	2	- 7	- 37
3. Sugar ..	3	+ 1	+ 5
4. Other food ..	3	+ 4	+ 37
Total food ..	15	- 1	- 9
5. Oilseeds ..	4	- 4	+ 3
6. Raw cotton ..	5	+ 5	+ 2
7. Cotton manufactures ..	6	- 1	- 15
8. Other textiles ..	2	....	+ 1
9. Hides and skins ..	3	+ 30	+ 10
10. Metals ..	5	+ 2	- 9
11. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	3	+ 3	- 5
Total non-food ..	28	+ 3	- 8
General average ..	43	+ 1	- 9

* Karachi wholesale prices will be found on pages 39-41

The index number of food articles was 176 in November as against 178 in October, thus showing a fall of one per cent. There was a further decline in food-grains, the price of cereals falling by 6 per cent. and that of pulses by 7 per cent. "Other foods" showed a noticeable rise of 4 per cent. due to the progressive increase in the price of turmeric. There was a slight rise in the price of sugar, amounting nearly to one per cent.

In comparison with the previous month, the average for non-food articles showed a rise of nearly 3 per cent., the increase being mainly due to a jump in the prices of exported raw materials. Hides and skins and raw cotton which showed a fall in the preceding month, have advanced considerably, the former going up by 30 per cent. and the latter by 5 per cent. Oilseeds, however, fell by four per cent. and cotton manufactures by one per cent. There was a rise in the prices of metals and "other raw and manufactured articles".

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

100 = average of 1921

Groups.	Nov. 1921.	Feb. 1922.	May 1922.	Aug. 1922.	Oct. 1922.	Nov. 1922.
I. Cereals ..	107	98	98	91	79	75
II. Pulses ..	110	106	101	83	75	70
III. Sugar ..	77	77	82	86	79	80
IV. Other food ..	112	124	129	140	147	153
Total food ..	100	98	100	97	92	91
V. Oilseeds ..	90	94	104	96	96	92
VI. Raw cotton ..	119	109	133	138	115	121
VII. Cotton manufactures ..	99	91	94	93	85	84
VIII. Other textiles ..	96	97	97	97	97	97
IX. Hides and Skins ..	102	93	87	87	70	91
X. Metals ..	88	83	80	79	78	80
XI. Other raw and manufactured articles ..	93	98	91	88	86	89
Total non-food ..	97	93	94	93	87	89
General average—all articles ..	98	95	96	95	89	90



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

Annual wholesale prices

July 1914 = 100

	Food.	Non-food.	All articles.
Twelve-monthly average 1918 ..	170	270	237
" " 1919 ..	202	233	222
" " 1920 ..	206	221	215
" " 1921 ..	193	198	196
Eleven-monthly average 1922 ..	188	186	185

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

The Construction of the Index

No.	Articles.	July 1914.	November 1922.		
			Total Numbers.	Average.	
1	Cereals (Rice, wheat, jowari, barley, and bajri).	6 Index Nos.	600	823	137
2	Pulses (Gram and turdal).	2	200	222	111
3	Sugar (Refined and raw).	3	300	638	213
4	Other articles of food (Ghee, malt, etc.) ..	3	300	781	260
5	Total all food ..	14	1,400	2,464	176
6	Oil seeds (Linseed, rapeseed, poppyseed, and singly) ..	4	400	530	133
7	Raw cotton ..	3	300	520	173
8	Cotton manufactures (Long cloth, shirtings, chudders, etc.) ..	6	600	1,343	224
9	Other textiles (Silk) ..	2	200	277	139
10	Hides and skins ..	3	300	437	146
11	Metals (Copper braziers, steel bars, tinplates, etc.) ..	5	500	923	185
12	Other raw and manufactured articles (Kerosene and coal) ..	3	300	564	188
13	Total non-food ..	26	2,800	4,594	177
14	General Average ..	40	4,000	7,058	176

Statistics of Retail Prices of Food in Principal Countries

The following table shows the percentage increase in the retail prices of food articles in principal countries:—

Country.	Comparison between July 1914 and ..	Increase per cent.
South Africa ..	October 1922 ..	19
United States ..	September 1922 ..	37
Canada ..	October 1922 ..	38
Holland (Amsterdam) ..	August 1922 ..	44
New Zealand ..	October 1922 ..	39
Australia ..	September 1922 ..	49
India (Bombay) ..	November 1922 ..	55
United Kingdom ..	November 1922 ..	76
Sweden ..	October 1922 ..	78
Denmark ..	August 1922 ..	84
Norway ..	October 1922 ..	120
France (Paris) ..	October 1922 ..	190
Belgium ..	October 1922 ..	306
Italy (Rome) ..	September 1922 ..	372
Germany ..	October 1922 ..	26,523

COMPARATIVE RETAIL PRICES

BOMBAY, KARACHI, AHMEDABAD AND SHOLAPUR

On page 43 will be found statistics of food prices in October and November 1922 for Bombay, Karachi, Ahmedabad and Sholapur. These are official prices supplied through the Director of Agriculture to the Labour Office, and are averages of prices taken eight times a month from retail shopkeepers patronised by the labouring classes.* The articles selected, seventeen in number, are those commonly consumed by the working classes.

On the same page, the prices are expressed as percentages of prices in July 1914, thus showing in each individual case the increase since the beginning of the War. The general index number for each place is the simple arithmetic average of the percentages of prices, and shows the average increase in food prices since July 1914. The index numbers for November 1922 show that in comparison with the previous month, there was a fall in prices in all the centres except Karachi. The price of cereals showed a general fall, while that of pulses advanced in Karachi and Ahmedabad. In "Other foods" there was a decrease in Bombay and Sholapur and an increase in Karachi and Ahmedabad.

* See Appendix C of Government Resolution, General Department, No. 3653 of 1892 and accompaniments to Government Resolution, Revenue Department, No. 6367 of 1911.



The following table compares the retail food prices in Karachi, Ahmedabad and Sholapur with those in Bombay, in October and November 1922 (Bombay prices = 100). The general average in this table shows the average cost of food prices in each of the three places Karachi, Ahmedabad and Sholapur as compared with Bombay. It will be seen that the retail price levels in all the three centres are below the level in Bombay.

Bombay prices in October 1922 = 100

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

Bombay prices in November 1922 = 100

Articles	Bombay	Karachi	Ahmedabad	Sholapur
Cereals—				
Rice ..	100	98	117	101
Wheat ..	100	72	83	89
Jowari ..	100	77	87	81
Bajri ..	100	54	71	62
Average—Cereals ..	100	75	90	83
Pulses—				
Gram ..	100	78	100	79
Turdal ..	100	97	120	103
Average—Pulses ..	100	88	110	103
Other articles of food—				
Sugar (refined) ..	100	91	101	91
Jagri (Gul) ..	100	76	91	104
Tea ..	100	124	124	83
Salt ..	100	59	77	103
Beef ..	100	93	58	119
Mutton ..	100	73	78	58
Milk ..	100	52	70	65
Cheese ..	100	85	93	76
Potatoes ..	100	143	120	106
Onions ..	100	81	57	96
Cocunut oil ..	100	90	140	86
Average—Other articles of food ..	100	88	93	93
Average—All food articles ..	100	85	94	88

REDUCTION OF WAGES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

THE FALL IN 1922

The rise in the rates of wages in the United Kingdom reached its highest watermark at the end of December 1920, when, according to the *Ministry of Labour Gazette* for October, 1922, the average increase over the pre-war level was estimated at between 170 and 180 per cent. Since that date a steady decline in the rates of wages has set in, and at the end of September 1922 weekly full-time rates of wages of adult workpeople in the industries, for which particulars were available, averaged about 75 or 80 per cent. above the pre-war rates as against the approximate rise of 96 per cent. in the mill industry in the Presidency—87 per cent. in the Bombay City and Island, 122 per cent. in Ahmedabad, 94 per cent. in Sholapur and 111 per cent. in other centres.

During September, 1922, the normal working week was shorter, the number of full-time working hours in the industry ranging between 44 and 48 per week. In August 1914 the number of hours worked during the same period averaged from 48 to 60. If this fact be taken into consideration, the percentage increase on the pre-war rates of hourly wages was even greater. The average reduction in the rates of weekly wages was, from the end of December 1920 to the end of September 1922, about 35 per cent. of rates current at the end of December 1920.

WAGES IN THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY

According to the *Ministry of Labour Gazette* for October 1922, "in August, 1914, piece rates of wages in this industry generally stood at about 5 per cent. above the standard list prices. By the end of 1920 they had been raised to 215 per cent. above the standard. Of this increase, however, 30 per cent. on list prices was granted in 1919, concurrently with a reduction in weekly working hours from 55½ to 48 in order to maintain weekly wages at the same level as before. The piece rates have since been reduced to 105 per cent. above the standard, i.e., to about 95 per cent. above the pre-war level. Allowing for the shorter working week now worked, weekly full-time wage rates are now generally about 69 per cent. above the pre-war



level, as compared with 160 per cent. at the end of 1920. In addition, however, special increases and allowances have been granted to certain classes of operatives, e.g., blowing-room men, strippers and grinders, and mule spinners, the effect of which would be to augment slightly the percentages quoted. It has been arranged that a further reduction of 10 per cent. on standard list prices is to take effect in October."

THE COST OF LIVING

At the same time the average level of the cost of living which had reached the highest point, namely, 176 per cent. above the pre-war rate, in November 1920, had fallen, at the end of September 1922, to a level, 78 per cent. above the rates prevailing in July 1914. Remarkable upon this close approximation between the relative positions of wages and cost of living to their pre-war levels, the *Economist* for October 28, 1922, observes that this state of things is "no doubt satisfactory from some points of view. But the time has come to remember that the cost of living, which in times of war stress served as a handy and perhaps necessary standard is not an ideal wage-level criterion even for trades which are not subject to acute competition. In the long run the standard of living in the country as a whole must be regulated by wage levels in the export industries, and wage level there must be regulated in accordance with the ability of those industries to pay."

WAGES IN AHMEDABAD

PROPOSED REDUCTIONS

At a recent meeting, the Ahmedabad Mill-owners' Association have resolved that "in view of the marked decline in the cost of living and the continued depressed condition of the local textile industry, the wages of operatives should be substantially reduced. The Managing Committee be requested to take necessary action to give effect to the above resolution at an early date". The matter has been referred to the local Labour Union for opinion. No decision regarding the amount of the reduction to be effected has as yet (December) been arrived at.

WAGES IN KENYA*

In Kenya and East Africa generally, industrialism has not made much progress. Apart from the important Railway Workshops and those of the Public Works Department there are, however, several large factories at work or nearing completion, and a considerable number of smaller concerns worked by power. The following information regarding wages of the different classes of workers has been communicated by the Indian Trade Commissioner in East Africa at the request of the Labour Office.

Indian carpenters, who during and immediately after the war were earning from Rs. 7-8-0 to Rs. 22-8-0 a day, now earn about Rs. 135 a month. Free daily rations, and if employed by the P. W. D. or Railways, free quarters are provided for them. The trade depression has now affected them adversely and many are said to be deserting the Colony. The average Indian mason earns about Rs. 112 to Rs. 135 a month with free rations and quarters, or about Rs. 6 a day when not employed by the month. During the war he earned about Rs. 11-4-0 a day. A smith, in the workshops mentioned above, earns about Rs. 135, and a fitter up to Rs. 225 a month. Indian mechanics are gradually being displaced by Africans. Some of the African tribes now show special aptitude for this type of work. The Customs policeman earns from Rs. 33 to Rs. 36 a month including a bonus of Rs. 6; if he is an Indian a bonus of Rs. 7-8-0 is paid. Indian clerks in Government offices, where they can hope for pensions, start on Rs. 112-8-0 a month, while in commercial services they start on about double this amount. The demand for clerks is not, however, now very great owing to trade depression.

In Mombasa, the ordinary coolie earns from about Rs. 37-8-0 to Rs. 45 a month, and *hamals* earn Rs. 2-4-0 a day or from Rs. 37-8-0 to Rs. 60 a month. The wages of domestic servants vary considerably. A bearer earns from Rs. 22-8-0 to Rs. 37-8-0, a cook (African) from Rs. 37-8-0 to Rs. 75 and a *dhobi* about Rs. 30 or Rs. 37-8-0 a month.

The wages of labourers in general, practically all African, in up-country factories, on railway

* In this article £1 = Rs. 15.



construction and road-making etc., are governed by local conditions. African labour is said to be very unstable, particularly those engaged on daily wages. They work as long as they earn enough to pay their hut tax and to buy a few comforts. Those on monthly contracts are, however, liable to punishment for absconding.

GENERAL

There are no regular Trade Unions in East Africa. The idea, however, of the strike has taken root. There was recently a one-day strike of golf caddies in Mombasa. Strikes of rickshaw boys and others have occurred in Nairobi. Strikes, it is understood, have not been unknown on 'Shambas' (farms). As industries develop in East Africa, labour difficulties will undoubtedly increase owing to the smallness of the native population.

HOUSE RENTS IN GREAT BRITAIN

In view of the Act recently passed in the Legislative Council, Bombay, regarding the permissible increase in house rents in the Presidency of Bombay and in Aden, referred to on page 4 of the *Labour Gazette* for November 1922, it is interesting to note that the average increase conditionally permissible in urban working class rents in Great Britain is approximately 53 per cent. of the gross rents of 1914. "The permissible increases," according to the British *Labour Gazette* for November 1922, "have not, however, been put into force in all cases, and special inquiries in regard to the extent to which the permissible increases are actually being collected show that increases on account of higher rates and of the 30 per cent. on net rents—the maximum permissible up to July 1921—were operative to the extent of about 95 per cent. and increases in respect of the further 10 per cent. on net rents, which have been legal since July 1921, were operative, at the beginning of November, to the extent of between 85 and 90 per cent. Applying these proportions to the respective permissible increases, the actual increase in the gross rents of working class dwellings in Great Britain since July 1914, is found to average about 50 per cent. This percentage has been utilised in compiling the statistics relating to the cost of living."

HOUSING OF THE INDUSTRIAL CLASSES

INAUGURATION OF THE FIRST SETTLEMENT

On 6th December 1922, the first part of the Bombay industrial housing scheme consisting of 20 *chawls* or 1,600 tenements, was inaugurated by His Excellency Sir George Lloyd at Worli. Sir Lawless Hepper, the Director of Development in requesting His Excellency to inaugurate the scheme reviewed the whole project. The following are extracts from his speech:

"The problem of housing the poorer classes in Bombay is one which has been before Government and the public, in one form or another, for more than twenty years. I do not propose, however, to attempt a review of the past history of the question. To do so would occupy too much time, whilst nothing I could say would add to the very lucid statement of the case in the speech delivered by your Excellency at the meeting of the Legislative Council on the 3rd August 1920. It will be sufficient to record that, whilst the problem remained, for many years, one mainly of academic interest, it was left to your Excellency and to your Excellency's Government, to carry through, as a practical measure, the great project for the general development of Bombay and its suburbs, which includes, as one of its most important parts, the provision of 50,000 one-roomed tenements for the working classes—the Bombay Industrial Housing Scheme which you, Sir, have kindly consented to inaugurate this afternoon.

BUILDING PROGRAMME

Of the 50,000 tenements, about 34,000 are to be built on land which the Improvement Trust hope to be able to provide in their various schemes, the remainder being constructed on ground to be acquired by the Directorate, or to be reclaimed in the north-east of the Island. At the present time the Improvement Trust have made over to the Directorate, at Naigaum and Worli, land which will accommodate 163 *chawls*; whilst the Directorate has acquired property at DeLisle Road sufficient for 33. In these three areas 196 blocks, or 15,680 tenements, are either under construction by departmental agency, or have been let out on contract. Apart from smaller areas the Dharavi and Sewri-Wadala schemes of the Improvement Trust are expected to provide accommodation for 7,200 and 6,400 tenements respectively; but it is on this site, at Worli, that the largest compact industrial settlement will be formed; comprising it is expected, some 13,000 tenements, capable of housing a population of about 65,000. The land on which



these tenements are now being built was formerly a low lying swamp, and it is due to the enterprise and foresight of the Bombay City Improvement Trust that, in connection with their great scheme for the development of the Worli hill site as a high class residential suburb, it has been possible by filling to make this area available, at a low cost, for housing the poorer classes.

ECONOMY AND SPEED OF EXECUTION

It is, however, in the method of construction of the blocks that the principal innovations have been introduced with a view to economy and speed of execution. The object has been to reduce to a minimum the work to be cast, or poured, in position, necessitating the use of expensive shuttering. The design evolved by Mr. Harvey and his officers up to date provides for a skeleton frame-work consisting of the columns, beams, floors and roof which alone are poured *in situ*. The inner partitions and outer walls are formed of suitable concrete slabs made at a central factory, whilst all other details are similarly manufactured in standard sizes and brought, ready made, to the site of the work. As a result, the skeleton frame-work, once completed, can be rapidly clothed to form the finished building and the cost of each block of 80 tenements has been brought down by Rs. 25,000 as compared with the original design; the present estimate, including sanitary fittings, but exclusive of land, roads and drainage, being Rs. 99,500 per block, but this figure must not be considered as representing the maximum economy possible, for further efforts are being and will continue to be made to reduce the cost and time of building.

To-day, at Naigum, DeLisle Road and Worli, there are 20 *chawls*, or 1,600 tenements, complete and ready for occupation, and the Directorate is thus able within 18 months of the date on which it obtained possession of the first plot of land, to offer accommodation to about 8,000 people. The rate of progress has now reached the equivalent of an output of one *chawl* every five working days, so that as month succeeds month, and additional blocks of tenements become available, there will be brought about the gradual realisation of the project which your Excellency has done so much to further—the better housing of the poorer classes of this great City."

His Excellency Sir George Lloyd then delivered the following speech:—

INCEPTION OF THE SCHEME

"I think that everyone present here to-day will understand and appreciate the quiet satisfaction with which I see one of the most important schemes for the improvement of this great city advanced to what is

really the first step of its constructive and final stage. When I first came to Bombay as Governor and made enquiries about the conditions of life of the working classes—a matter which I conceived it to be one of my primary duties to examine—I found that it had been recognised for years that something should be done to provide these classes with decent houses to live in, and I determined first of all to see for myself whether it was true that the conditions in which they were compelled to pass their lives were as bad as they were represented to be. What I saw then, by personal investigation of the slum life of Bombay, satisfied me that the conditions were even worse than I had ever imagined, and that not only something should be done but something must be done immediately to remove what was rapidly becoming an almost indelible blot on the reputation of this city. Accordingly, I next endeavoured to ascertain how the conditions of the daily life of the working classes could best be ameliorated within the shortest possible time, and in August 1920, as Sir Lawless Hepper has reminded you, I introduced in the Legislative Council certain amendments of the law which were necessary to enable my Government to proceed to tackle this difficult problem on bold and comprehensive lines.

The next stage which confronted us after we had settled the general lines of advance was the provision of funds, and I desire here to record my warm appreciation of the manner in which my Government was assisted by the people of Bombay in raising the very large amount of money which alone made it possible to proceed with the various inter-connected schemes which we all had so much at heart. The development of Bombay which is now in progress affords to my mind an admirable example of what can be achieved by working in the spirit of co-operation which it has always been my settled policy to foster. Here you have, as Sir Lawless Hepper has pointed out, the first fruits of a scheme which has been and could only have been carried out with the fullest co-operation between Government, the Municipality, the Improvement Trust, the Port Trust, and last but not least the people of Bombay. There have not been wanting occasionally people who have attempted to make ill-feeling between Government and the local bodies, but the tasks that unite us are so great and the desire to work in harmony so strong that I am confident that we shall maintain the fine relations that exist at present. The scheme is still far from complete; but two important stages have been successfully negotiated, the stages of examination and preparation, and we have come here to-day to receive ocular proof of the commencement of the last and to my mind the most satisfactory stage, the stage of construction.



THE CHAWL POLICY

Of course we have not succeeded in getting thus far without some criticism, though there has been extremely little, but I desire to deal with some of the points that have been raised in regard to the chawl policy. We have been asked 'why we build nothing but these enormous chawls for the working classes?' 'Why,' they say, 'do you not build little cottages for them? Do you not know the people come mostly from the country, where they are accustomed to live in huts in the fields? Would they not greatly prefer a little house with a garden round it?' So runs the criticism but it fails to recognise the fact of which these critics are perhaps unaware, that the Directorate is already investigating the possibility of putting up cottages in those areas where sufficient land is available at a reasonable price. But the critics fail entirely to take account of the facts which we have to face here. If Bombay were a place where land was sold by the square mile or even by the acre, with a network of railways, tramways and roads ready to our hand, there might be something in the suggestion that only cottages should be built, but here land is sold not by the acre but by the square yard, and you cannot have working class people living miles away from their work. The suggestion, in short, does not fit in with the physical facts of Bombay Island, and the garden city plan of construction has not been generally adopted not because it has not been thought of but because hard facts have compelled us to reject it.

Then there are the pessimists who, when they are confronted with a big scheme, say in the first place that the money will never be found: that even if it is found what is the use of throwing it all into the sea, and anyhow you will never see a rupee of it back again and so on. I am always inclined to admire the facility with which arguments for inactivity can be brought forward one after another by persons who may, in other respects, convey an impression of complete incompetence. But, while I almost envy their facility, I am not at all convinced by their arguments, and I have consistently refused to be deterred by considerations of this feeble character from pushing on with what I considered it to be an important duty of my Government to perform.

REPLY TO CRITICS

I come now to the critics, and for many of them I have the greatest respect. The scientific foundation of the scheme, which we are here to inaugurate today, is that the human organism flourishes best in the midst of plenty of light and air, even if some of it is rather hot air; and I believe that very much the same is true of the greater human organism of Government. And so I welcome the light and the fresh air of open

criticism, merely pausing to point out that there are two kinds of criticism, one of which is much more valuable than the other. It is almost useless to say you should not have done such a thing: on the other hand, it is most useful to find a critic who will say you should have done so and so, and you should take such a course in future. Criticism of that sort, backed with adequate reasons, is always welcome, and I can assure you that it is never allowed to pass unheeded. I have heard it suggested more than once in connection with the Development schemes as a whole that we have not taken the public sufficiently into our confidence. I venture to remind such critics however that the broad outlines of our schemes were put plainly before the public before any action of any kind was taken at all. This was done in the Legislative Council which, I think, you will agree with me, is the most appropriate place in which Government can expound its proposals to the public of this Presidency, and since then every stage of the schemes has been open to criticism by the same body, and thus by the public whom it represents.

My Government has also taken care to ensure that every detail of the schemes as they progress is promptly published, and many of you must have seen the very full account of all the activities of the Development Department which has recently been widely distributed to all those who were likely to take an interest in its work. The best way in which a Government can encourage honest and constructive criticism is to take care that it leaves nothing undone to ensure that its critics are at least well informed, and I can assure you that the man in the street, if he studies the information that has been published, is in a position to know as much about the details of all the schemes as I do myself, or more.

But, Ladies and Gentlemen, there is one critic for whose opinion above all I have the greatest respect, whose opinion I may say is the last word on the subject: in fact it would not be too much to say that by his opinion the whole scheme of industrial housing must stand or fall. Need I say that the critic to whom I now refer is the man for whom these rooms have been built? And what are his views? I cannot say that we fully know them yet, but I can say that his criticism, so far as it can be judged at present, is certainly not unfavourable—and that I think is very gratifying. Already many demands for these rooms have been received: numbers of prospective tenants have been inspecting them and have expressed their satisfaction with the facilities and the space afforded, with the wide air spaces and the water and sanitary arrangements. The only complaint has been that separate bathing accommodation is not provided for each room. This criticism, with which I have very great sympathy, is being carefully considered by the Directorate,



and while I think that possibly the separate bathrooms for either sex on each floor will be found by experience to meet all requirements, I shall be glad to learn that this difficulty has been surmounted without adding greatly to the cost of construction. These tenements are not intended, as one local newspaper rather spitefully, as it seems to me, described them, to be 'palaces for the poor', but it may be fairly claimed that they represent a great advance on the accommodation already available for our labouring classes. They are being provided moreover at a price which closely approximates the estimates made by the Directorate no less than two years ago, and we are confident that their bulk production is going to reduce costs very considerably.

It is not two years ago that this site was flanked by high hills along the coast and was itself a swamp some 8 or 9 feet lower than the land on which we stand this afternoon. The hills have been pulled down and put here in this wonderfully brief space of time. It may interest you to know that the first foundations of these buildings was driven on the 10th of January this year, and their rapid completion reflects the greatest credit on all concerned. I desire to associate myself with the remarks made by the Director regarding the officers mentioned by him, and particularly to congratulate the Director himself and the Deputy Director, Mr. Monie, who is now on leave, and whose work in connection with the Development schemes since their inception has been of the highest order.

But perhaps even more if possible I want to thank the rank and file of the engineers, overseers and foremen who by their devotion, keenness, and hard work have wrought all this good. From this time forward there will be arising for the next few years a constant succession of completed buildings of this type for the creation of what is practically the Labour side of the New or Greater Bombay—whilst in other areas the corollary developments for business areas, for shipping areas, for suburban areas, for railway development, for factory areas, is simultaneously being carried out.

In conclusion, gentlemen, I welcome you here on behalf of my Government and trust you will all assist with your support and your encouragement the great works we are undertaking for the good of your city."

WELFARE WORK IN TATA MILLS

THE MATERNITY SCHEME

The Welfare schemes in operation in the textile mills controlled by Messrs. Tata Sons, Ltd., provide for maternity allowances to women workers, a sick benefit fund, and the payment of compensation for accidents arising in the course of employment. The Labour Office has been

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receiving periodical reports on the working of these welfare schemes. On page 29 of the *Labour Gazette* for January 1922 a reference was made to the rules regulating the payment of maternity allowances. It will be remembered that this scheme was instituted in January 1921. Two months' wages inclusive of all usual allowances are paid as maternity benefits to a woman in a delicate state of health, who has put in at least 11 months' service, provided the claim is supported by the mill doctor or any other medical practitioner. The following table shows the number of women workers benefited and those still to receive benefits and the amount of benefits paid in each of the mills during the quarter April-June 1922.

Maternity Allowance, April-June 1922

Mill.	Total Number benefited (a).	Amount paid (b).	Average monthly expenditure.	Number of new recipients who will receive part allowance in next quarter.	Amount of such allowance.
		Rs. s. p.	Rs. s. p.		Rs. s. p.
Ahmedabad ..	8	238 0 0	79 5 4	4	99 4 0
Central ..	44	643 5 0	214 7 0	21	210 6 0
David ..	20	455 5 0	151 12 4	7	108 4 0
Standard ..	3	66 5 0	22 1 8	2	37 9 0
Swadashi ..	28	464 10 0	154 14 0	8	126 9 0
Tata ..	9	288 15 0	96 5 0	3	67 14 0
Bombay United ..	8	228 0 0	76 0 0	..	..
Total ..	120	2,384 8 0	794 13 4	45	649 14 0

(a) Including those who received part allowance in previous quarter and new recipients in the current quarter.

(b) Including the amount paid to those who received part allowance in previous quarter and the amount paid to new recipients.

An examination of the statistics of female operatives treated by the Lady Doctor during the last ten months shows that the average number treated per day of the doctor's visit was greatest in the Tata Mills and least in the Bombay United Mills. Of the diseases treated, diseases of the alimentary and respiratory systems were most frequent. The average number of cases of each of these treated monthly during the period March to November 1922 were about 50 and 17 respectively. Cases of malaria claimed on an average 27 patients per month.

There was one fatal accident at the Tata Mills and Rs. 300 were paid as compensation to the dependants of the deceased workman.



INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE, 1922

REFORM OF THE GOVERNING BODY *India's Position*

It will be remembered that the reform of the constitution of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office and the periodicity of the sessions of the Conference, formed the first item on the agenda of the Fourth Session of the International Labour Conference.

India's claim for a seat on the Governing Body of the International Labour Office was discussed on page 29 of the *Labour Gazette* for September 1921 and later statistics on the subject were published on page 14 of the *Labour Gazette* for February 1922. The proposed revision of Article 393 of the Treaty of Peace was referred to on page 29 of the *Labour Gazette* for June 1922. Attention may also be drawn to Lord Chelmsford's speech before the Council of the League of Nations which will be found on page 21 of this issue.

The Committee of the International Labour Conference on Constitutional Reform, on which India was well represented, considered these questions in its second report. It examined the report presented by the Governing Body with a view to the amendment of Article 393 of the Peace Treaty. The new Article proposed by the Committee was as follows:—

"1. The International Labour Office shall be under the control of a Governing Body consisting of 32 persons

16 representing the Governments,
8 " " Employers, and
8 " " Workers.

2. Of the 16 persons representing the Governments, one each shall be appointed respectively by France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Japan and the United States of America.

3. The ten other persons shall be appointed by the Members selected for the purpose by all the Government delegates to the Conference.

Four of the ten Members so elected shall be non-European States.

If and for so long as the one of the six States named does not elect to fill the place reserved for it on the Governing Body, the vacancy so created shall be filled by a person appointed by a Member selected for the

purpose by all the Government delegates to the Conference.

If the State in question is a European State, the Member taking its place shall also be a European State; similarly, if the State is a non-European State the Member replacing it shall be also a non-European State.

4. The persons representing the employers and the persons representing the workers shall be elected respectively by employers' delegates and the workers' delegates at the Conference. Two employers and two workers shall belong to non-European States.

5. The period of office of the members of the Governing Body will be 3 years.

6. The method of filling vacancies and other similar questions, such as that of substitutes, may be determined by the Governing Body, subject to the approval of the Conference.

7. The Governing Body shall, from time to time, elect one of its members to act as its Chairman, shall regulate its own procedure, and shall fix its own times of meeting. A special meeting shall be held if a written request to that effect is made by at least 12 members of the Governing Body."

The above proposals were considered at the fourteenth sitting of the International Labour Conference. Mr. N. M. Joshi, the Indian Workers' Delegate, in the course of his speech opposed all the proposals of the Committee. He said that the present proposals while increasing the total strength of the Governing Body from 24 to 32 and reducing the number of states of chief industrial importance from eight to six, gave to non-European Governments 37½ per cent. of the total representation, but in the case of the employers and workers gave the non-European countries 25 per cent. of the representation. Continuing he said:

"I want the Conference very carefully to consider whether the non-European world, taken as it is to-day, is only one-quarter of the whole of the European world which has joined the League of Nations. I do not think any one here will suggest that the non-European world is as small as these proposals indicate. It is true that there are only four workers' delegates from the non-European world attending this Conference, but you must remember that these four do not represent small countries. The European world has certain advantages over us; Europe is divided into a very large number of countries. It is possible also for the European representatives to represent different countries, but it is not possible for the non-European representatives to come here to represent countries other than their own."



Mr. Joshi also suggested the insertion of the words "at least" before the figures for non-European States. On some of the members urging that the sub-sections of the Article should be discussed and voted upon one by one, the President agreed to it.

Mr. Lapointe, representing Canada, proposed that the new sub-section indicating the countries by name which should have the right to a Government representative on the Governing Body, should be replaced by the mention of the eight states of chief industrial importance. He drew attention to the recent decision of the League of Nations in regard to the eight states of chief industrial importance, and said that Canada might well have occupied the first place as regards length of railways. His amendment would leave to growing States the possibility of one day taking the place on the Governing Body which they were entitled to.

Mr. B. N. Basu, the Indian Government delegate, in supporting Mr. Lapointe's amendment said that there was no valid reason for fixing the chief states of industrial importance at six instead of eight, and that the recent decision of the Council of the League of Nations including India among the eight States (see page 7 of the *Labour Gazette* for October 1922) had given universal satisfaction in that country. He deprecated the idea of going back upon the decision of the League of Nations. In conclusion Mr. Basu made an eloquent appeal to the British Empire delegates and to the French sense of justice to vote in favour of the amendment.

The amendment of Messrs. Lapointe and Basu was approved by the Conference by 62 votes for to 8 against, and the whole resolution as amended regarding Articles 2 and 3 was approved by 65 votes for to 14 against, with one declared abstention. The new draft Article 393 was subsequently accepted by the Conference by 82 votes to 2 with six declared abstentions. It may be mentioned that an amendment of the Treaty as proposed not only requires a two-thirds majority in the Conference and must be accepted by all the States-Members of the Council of the League of Nations but, must obtain three-fourths of

the votes of the States-Members of the League itself. The new draft of Article 393 as accepted by the Conference reads:—

"The International Labour Office shall be under the control of a Governing Body consisting of thirty-two persons:—

Sixteen representing Governments,
Eight representing the Employers, and
Eight representing the Workers.

Of the sixteen persons representing Governments, eight shall be appointed by the Members of chief industrial importance, and eight shall be appointed by the Members selected for that purpose by the Government Delegates to the Conference excluding the Delegates of the Eight Members mentioned above. Of the sixteen Members represented six shall be non-European States.

Any question as to which are the Members of chief industrial importance shall be decided by the Council of the League of Nations.

The persons representing the Employers and the persons representing the Workers shall be elected respectively by the Employers' delegates and the Workers' delegates to the Conference. Two Employers' representatives and two Workers' representatives shall belong to non-European States.

The period of office of the Governing Body shall be three years.

The method of filling vacancies and of appointing substitutes and other similar questions, may be decided by the Governing Body subject to the approval of the Conference.

The Governing Body shall, from time to time, elect one of its members to act as its Chairman, shall regulate its own procedure, and shall fix its own times of meeting. A special meeting shall be held if a written request to that effect is made by at least twelve of the representatives on the Governing Body."

The election which followed gave the following results:—

GOVERNMENTS: Belgium, Canada, Chile, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, India, Italy, Japan, Poland and Spain.

EMPLOYERS: Great Britain, France, Italy, Belgium, Czecho-Slovakia and South Africa.

WORKERS: France, Netherlands, Great Britain, Germany, Canada and Sweden.

To sum up, the position of India at the movement in regard to the Governing Body of the International Labour Office is as follows:—India is included in the Government group as a country of chief industrial importance. She is not, however, included in either the Employers' or Workers' group; but it is understood that Mr. N. M. Joshi,



the Workers' Delegate from India was elected a substitute member to take the place of an absentee member.

SPECIAL ATTENTION TO UNORGANISED WORKERS

At the sixth sitting of the Conference, Mr. Joshi, speaking on the Report of the Director of the International Labour Office, said that the Conference and the Governing Body should pay special attention to the application of Conventions and Recommendations to Colonies, Protectorates and Native States. The Oriental Countries, he continued, where the workers were yet unorganised were being neglected. He was of opinion that the Conference should study the working conditions both in those countries where workers were organised and in those where they were not. He asked the Director of the International Labour Office to consider the setting up of branch offices in Oriental countries similar to those established in the capital cities of Europe and the United States.

REPORT ON WORKING CLASSES IN ORIENTAL COUNTRIES

At the nineteenth sitting of the Conference Mr. Joshi submitted the following proposition:—

"This Conference requests the Governing Body to appoint a special commission to make a full investigation into the conditions of work and life of the working classes in the Oriental Countries and to present a report to be considered at the 1923 Conference relating to this important question."

This proposition was modified by the Commission of Selection as follows:—

"The Conference decide to ask the Governing Body to institute a preliminary investigation with the means now at the disposal of the International Labour Office, and having regard to the decisions to be taken, to submit a report for examination by the 1923 Conference."

Mr. Joshi in supporting this resolution said:—

"This Conference knows very well that we here have very little first-hand information about these conditions. The Director of the International Labour Office, in his Report, has admitted the necessity of making such enquiries, so that progress in the improvement of the lot of the working classes in Eastern countries may become more rapid, and so that they may be brought into line with the Western world in this regard.

During the course of the discussions, the Conference has also seen the difficulty of judging matters concerning these countries. When it was a question of judging whether there were organisations of working classes in Japan we could not do it for want of sufficient information. If this is the case as regards Japan, certainly we are not in a position to judge about conditions in China, Malaya, Java, Ceylon, Persia and other Asiatic States which have joined this Organisation, and whatever information we have at present is obtained generally through Governments. I do not want to suggest that the Governments give wrong information but it will be admitted that the information given by a Government is after all one-sided. There may be another side to the picture which the Governments of the different countries may not have placed before the Conference

WORKING CONDITIONS IN EASTERN COUNTRIES

I want the International Labour Organisation to collect first-hand information as regards the standard of life of the working classes in these countries, as regards the wages, the hours of work, the housing conditions, the factory legislation and any other labour legislation as well as the organisation of labour. Delegates from the Western countries cannot have any idea of how low the wages in these Eastern countries are. Personally, I do not know much about these countries; but I know about India, and some of the Delegates here were shocked when I told them last year that in certain trades the average wages were about ten shillings a month. In Ceylon, many Indian workers are employed on the rubber estates. They get there about fifteen shillings a month. I know also many Indian workers go to Malaya, and they get practically the same wages—the wages vary between fifteen and twenty shillings a month. Now, these wages are very much lower than the wages in Western countries.

Then the hours of work also vary a great deal. In India we have a Factory Act, and the workmen generally work sixty hours a week. I do not know whether there is any Factory Act in Ceylon and Malaya and China; but I am sure that the hours worked there are much longer than they are here.

Then as regards the housing conditions, it is necessary that we should have some first-hand information. In some cities, in India at least, the housing conditions are terrible, and it is necessary that this Conference should know what they are. In the same way this Conference should be in possession of full information regarding the factory legislation in those countries. Moreover, in some of these countries there is special legislation which puts the working classes at a disadvantage. I mentioned in one of my previous speeches in the Conference that in India a breach of



contract of service is considered a criminal offence, but in the case of other people, the educated classes, the employers and other classes, it is only a civil offence. I do not know why those conditions should exist. Moreover, in some of these countries there is legislation to compel the working classes under certain contingencies to work while there is no similar compulsion which applies to other classes.

I should like the International Labour Office to make an enquiry into this kind of legislation and then this Conference will be able to pass judgment upon it much better.

I have been speaking before this Conference and urging the Conference not to be indifferent to the teeming millions of the East. The special reason why this Conference should not do that is this. In the West the workers are educated to some extent. I do not say that they get the same education as the other classes; but they get some education. In the East they do not get any education. Among the working classes you will not find even five per cent. of the people who can read and write. I shall be right in saying, I think, that among the unskilled workmen you will not find one per cent. of the people who can read and write. On account of this the working classes of these countries are thoroughly unorganised. The organisations that do exist are not strong enough to influence either the employers or the Government.

I want this Conference, for these two reasons, namely, the illiteracy of the working classes and their unorganised state, to give special attention to the working classes of these countries. Otherwise the improvement in their condition will not be rapid. I am afraid that the improvement will not come for a number of years. My original resolution therefore asks this Conference to collect, by sending out a Commission, information about these matters."

Sir Louis Kershaw, the Indian Government delegate, brought forward an amendment to the resolution changing the wording thus:

"The Conference decides to ask the Governing Body to communicate with the Governments concerned regarding the possibility of introducing a preliminary investigation."

Mr. Joshi opposed the amendment, which was however carried. But the whole resolution as amended, when put to vote before the Conference, failed to obtain a quorum and was lost.

INDIA'S INDUSTRIAL IMPORTANCE

LORD CHELMSFORD'S SPEECH

On page 7 of the *Labour Gazette* for October 1922 a brief reference was made to the decision

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of the Council of the League of Nations to include India among the eight chief industrial countries, which entitles her to a seat on the Governing Body of the International Labour Office. Lord Chelmsford, representing India, at the recent annual session of the Council of the League of Nations spoke on the industrial importance of India. The following are extracts from his speech.

"In 1919, this matter was decided by the Washington Conference, and India suffered a very grave disappointment on that occasion. I happened at that time to be Viceroy of India, and I can very well recollect the strong feeling of disappointment expressed by India when the decision was taken. India, however, showed no pique or resentment in the matter, and when the Washington resolutions were transmitted to the various Governments, India, I believe, was the first country to pass those resolutions into statutory enactments.

I wish to speak now of the report of the Committee to which this matter was referred, and I should like to say at once that I appreciate to the full the skill and industry which has been displayed in that report. I may say emphatically, however, on behalf of India, that I am bound to differ most fundamentally from the principles which have been adopted by those who investigated this matter.

It may be asked 'What constructive proposal have you to make in place of those contained in the report which your memorandum has purported to destroy?' I suggest that the Committee which investigated this matter need have gone no further than the Preamble to Part XIII of the Treaty of Peace."

Lord Chelmsford then read the Preamble—

"And whereas conditions of labour exist involving such injustice, hardship and privation to large numbers of people as to produce unrest so great that the peace and harmony of the world are imperilled; and an improvement of those conditions is urgently required; as, for example, by the regulation of the hours of work, including the establishment of a maximum working day and week, the regulation of the labour supply, the prevention of unemployment, the provision of an adequate living wage, the protection of the worker against sickness, disease and injury arising out of his employment, the protection of children, young persons and women, provision for old age and injury, protection of the interests of workers when employed in countries other than their own, recognition of the principle of freedom of association, the organisation of vocational and technical education and other measures."

THE HUMAN FACTOR

"I think it is clear from these words that the human element should be the chief concern of the International Labour Office, and, therefore, it is the human factor which must be of paramount importance in deciding what constitutes a State of chief industrial importance. If population alone were to count, India's claim would, I contend, be indisputable. There are, however, two objections which might be urged to this.



It might be said that the ratio of the wage-earning population to the total population must be taken into consideration. Why? This is one of the criteria appearing in the report of the Committee, but surely the wage-earning population does not cease to have a claim because it lives side by side with a large number of people with whom the International Labour Office is not concerned.

There is a second objection which may be urged, namely, that the trade union organisation of India is rudimentary. There is no mention of any such condition in the Preamble to Part XIII of the Peace Treaty. Further, I would urge very strongly that for this very reason it is necessary for the International Labour Office to encourage India to perfect its industrial organisation. Consider how useful it would be for the Labour Office when it is examining the case of backward populations in connection with industries, if it had to help and to guide it a representative of India, who was thoroughly conversant with the conditions of the industrial population of that country.

Again, India is not reactionary in this matter. I beg to repeat that India was probably the first, or one of the first, countries to convert the resolutions of the Washington Conference into statutory form.

RAILWAYS AND HORSE POWER

I pass now to the other criteria which are mentioned in the report of the Committee—railways and horse power. India is not afraid of being tested by any of these criteria. As regards railways, it appears as third among the list of nations. As regards horse power, it appears as ninth. Why should the development of maritime tonnage be regarded as a criterion? If it is a criterion at all, it is a criterion of commercial and not of industrial importance; and even here, if the human factor is taken into consideration, India has 141,000 maritime workers as lascars on British ships, on Indian ships and on ships of other nations. This fact should surely appeal to the Council, if the human factor is taken into account.

INDUSTRIAL POPULATION

I proceed now to develop India's substantive claim. I am most anxious to be as concise as possible, and therefore, if the Council will allow it, I will read the last paragraph of our memorandum, because it states that substantive claim as concisely as possible.

It remains to justify India's specific claim to inclusion among the eight States of chief industrial importance. India does not ask that her precise position among these eight States should be determined; the difficulties and dangers of attempts at a precise evaluation of merits in such matters are sufficiently obvious from the preceding paragraphs of this note. Her claim is based on broad general grounds, and does not need elaborate statistical methods to justify it. She has an industrial wage-earning population which may be estimated at roughly 20 millions, and, in addition, a large wage-earning class employed in agricultural work. Whatever deductions may be suggested from these figures, the outstanding and indisputable fact remains that consistently with the clear intention of the

Treaty, the resulting figure will still be so large that India's position as one of the chief industrial States must be recognized. Even if for the moment we accept Mr. Gini's figures, it may be seen that we obtain the following striking tables of the twelve States with the largest industrial population:—

United Kingdom	..	..	13,000,000
Germany	..	..	12,000,000
France	..	..	8,000,000
India	..	..	8,000,000
Italy	..	..	5,500,000
Japan	..	..	5,000,000
Czecho-Slovakia	..	..	2,500,000
Poland	..	..	2,100,000
Belgium	..	..	1,360,000
Spain	..	..	1,300,000
Canada	..	..	1,250,000
Switzerland	..	..	1,000,000

These, and no others, have an industrial population of 1 million and over. There is a drop of 50 per cent. between the sixth and seventh States in the list, and no system of weighted adjustments can properly be used to exclude the first six from a list of the eight States of chief industrial importance from the point of view of the Labour Covenant.

At the same time India's claim does not rest solely on a population basis. India has a railway mileage practically identical with that of France, greater than that of Germany, and markedly greater than that of the United Kingdom; her maritime workers (141,000) outnumber those of any other member of the Labour Organization except the United Kingdom; she is one of the large world producers of oil and manganese; her cotton industry is markedly more important than the cotton industries of Italy, Belgium, or Japan; her jute industry has no parallel, and her mills supply the world with packing materials; her coal output is very close to that of Belgium, and only slightly inferior to that of Japan. In the committee's table of absolute unweighted criteria, India stands fourth, although the population figure on which that table is based has been shown to be very seriously underestimated.

As evidence of India's industrial position, let me remind the Council very briefly of the part she played in the War. (In doing so, I am making no appeal to emotion, but merely giving proof that what she did could only have been done by a great industrial State.) As regards the mining industry it was her coal that largely equipped all the shipping of the East. Her wolfram, manganese, mica and saltpetre industries were indispensable to the Allies. It is scarcely possible to conceive how the Allies would have fared without her jute and jute products. Her cotton and woollen industries to a large extent supplied the needs of the British and some of the Allied forces. Her hide industries supplied boots for the Italian and English Governments. The iron and steel industries of India were responsible for the railways in Palestine, East Africa and Mesopotamia. India served as a base for food supplies for all the campaigns in the East."



INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES IN THE PRESIDENCY

On pages 46 and 47 will be found a statement of each dispute in progress during November 1922, with the number of workpeople involved, the date when the dispute began and ended, the cause and the result. The word "dispute" in the official sense means an interruption of work and it is here used in that sense as virtually synonymous with "strike". A dispute, as counted by the Labour Office, is an interruption of work involving ten or more persons and of not less than twenty-four hours' duration. Detailed statistics have been collected since 1st April 1921, the date on which the Labour Office was instituted.

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

I.—Industrial Disputes classified by Trades

Trade.	Number of disputes in progress in November 1922.			Number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress in November 1922.	Aggregate duration in working days of all disputes in progress in November 1922.*
	Started before 1st November.	Started in November.	Total.		
Textile ..	8	11	19	15,066	60,067
Miscellaneous ..	..	2	2	140	220
Total, November 1922 ..	8	13	21	15,206	60,287
Total, October 1922 ..	2	22	24	9,817	62,372

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

There were 21 industrial disputes in November 1922, 19 of which were in cotton mills. The number of workpeople affected was about 15,000 and the working days lost (i.e., the number of workpeople multiplied by the number of working days less workers replaced)

60,287, a slight decrease on the October statistics.

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

II.—Industrial Disputes—Results July to November 1922

	July 1922.	August 1922.	September 1922.	October 1922.	November 1922.
Number of strikes and lock-outs ..	14	13	7	24	21
Disputes in progress at beginning ..	..	1	2	2	8
Fresh disputes begun ..	14	12	5	22	13
Disputes ended ..	13	11	5	16	19
Disputes in progress at end ..	1	2	2	8	2
Number of workpeople involved ..	13,336	65,397	2,578	9,817	15,206
Aggregate duration in working days ..	58,809	87,927	20,709	62,372	60,287
Demands—					
Pay ..	4	5	4	5	7
Bonus ..	1	..	..	14	8
Personal ..	4	2	1	4	3
Leave and hours ..	4	3	..	..	2
Others ..	1	3	2	1	1
Results—					
In favour of Employees ..	..	2	..	6	3
Compromised ..	..	1	..	3	2
In favour of Employers ..	13	8	5	7	14

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



III.—Industrial Disputes

Month.	Number of strikes and lock-outs.	Aggregate duration in working days.	Proportion settled.			In progress. (Per cent.)
			In favour of employ-ers. (Per cent.)	In favour of employ-ees. (Per cent.)	Com-promised. (Per cent.)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
April 1921 ..	6	184,450	33	17	17	33
May 1921 ..	11	227,115	27	9	18	46
June 1921 ..	10	79,804	70	10	..	20
July 1921 ..	10	12,268	60	10	10	20
August 1921 ..	14	192,001	36	36	7	21
September 1921	21	256,498	80	10	..	10
October 1921 ..	15	231,896	27	13	27	33
November 1921	31	62,009	29	42	19	10
December 1921	9	26,321	78	11	11	..
January 1922..	17	33,389	65	18	..	17
February 1922.	12	32,087	67	8	17	8
March 1922 ..	8	300,829	75	..	25	..
April 1922 ..	15	18,352	54	13	20	13
May 1922 ..	15	54,930	80	..	7	13
June 1922 ..	10	4,250	70	20	10	..
July 1922 ..	14	58,809	93	..	..	7
August 1922 ..	13	87,927	62	15	8	15
September 1922	7	20,709	71	..	..	29
October 1922..	24	62,372	29	25	13	33
November 1922.	21	60,287	67	14	10	9
Total or (cols. 4 to 7) Average	283	2,006,303	59	13	11	17

A General Review of Disputes

The question of the annual bonus was an unsettling influence among labour in Ahmedabad in the beginning of November. Several mills had already gone on strike towards the end of October, and six continued on strike in the early part of November. Negotiations were pending between the Millowners' Association, Ahmedabad, and the local Labour Union over the question of reducing the "Moghvari" (scarcity) allowance granted to spinners last

year. The announcement regarding the deduction made the spinners restive and workers numbering about 9,000 in the Throstle Departments of 29 mills in Ahmedabad struck work on 10th November. The President of the Throstle Union, Ahmedabad, Miss Anusuya Sarabhai, against whose advice the spinners went on strike, resigned her office in consequence. The strike came to an end on 13th November when the President, Millowners' Association, Ahmedabad, assured the strikers that the Millowners were ready to abide by the award of the arbitrators given on 1st October 1922. A reference to the award was made on page 19 of the October issue of the *Labour Gazette*. Other strikes in Ahmedabad were of small importance and of short duration. Two mills in Ahmedabad were closed on 25th and 26th November, as there were large stocks of cloth on hand and little or no demand for cloth in the market. It is stated that these two mills will be closed for 3 days a week for the present. Other mills working at a loss will, it is said, follow the practice of closing for two or three days a week.

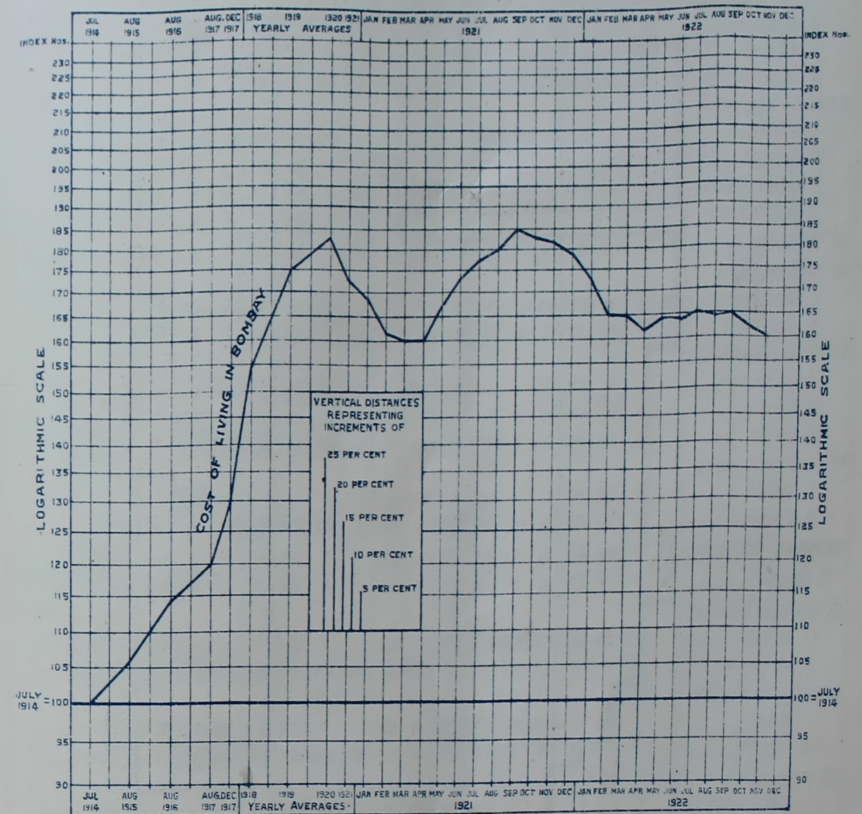
In Bombay there were, during November, two strikes in Cotton mills and two in Tannery Companies. These were of short duration and did not involve many workpeople. The strike in the Sir Waghji Mill, Wadhwan Camp, Kathiawar, which began on 23rd October, came to an end on 2nd December. The strike in the Saraswati Mill at Broach lasted for about 9 days when the employees returned.

Disputes in other Provinces

Messrs. Addison & Co., Madras, declared a lockout involving about 200 printers as the workers refused to accept the new working hours by which the workers got an hour's recess instead of half an hour, in accordance with the new Factory Act, but had to begin work earlier by half an hour. A settlement was, however, arrived at according to which the workers were to work till 4 p.m. instead of 2 p.m. on Saturdays and to begin work, on other days, at 8-30 a.m. as usual. Two other disputes in Madras arose from the dismissal of a fellow workman in each case.

There were no labour disputes in the Punjab during November.

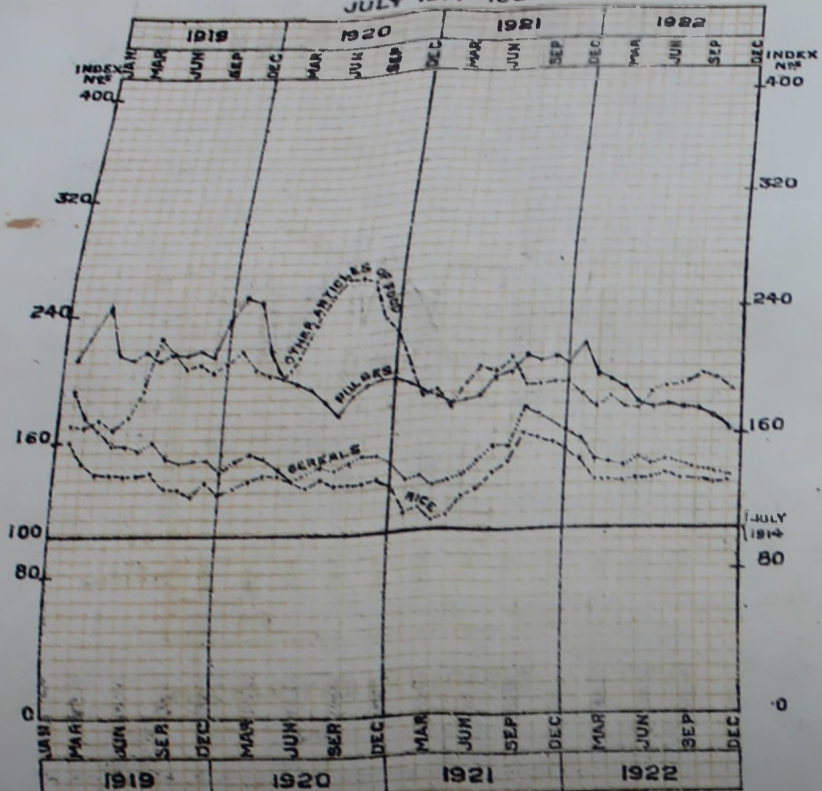
COST OF LIVING IN BOMBAY
RATIO OR LOGARITHMIC CHART.



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

CHART No 4

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



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

CHART No 5

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



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

CHART No 6

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE-INDIA.

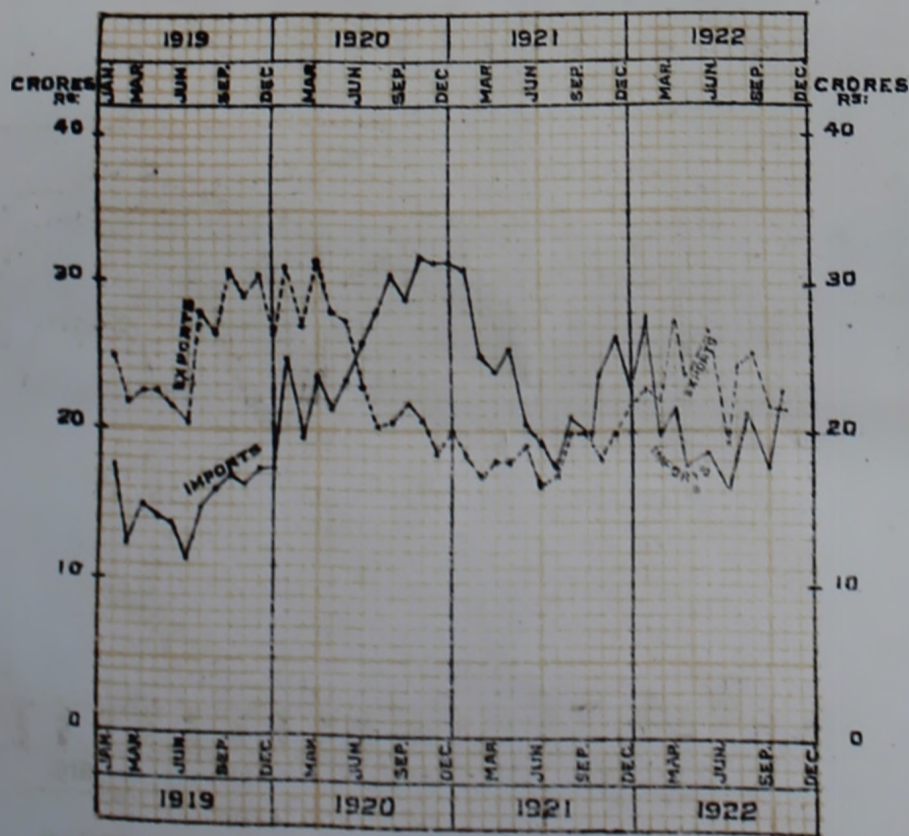
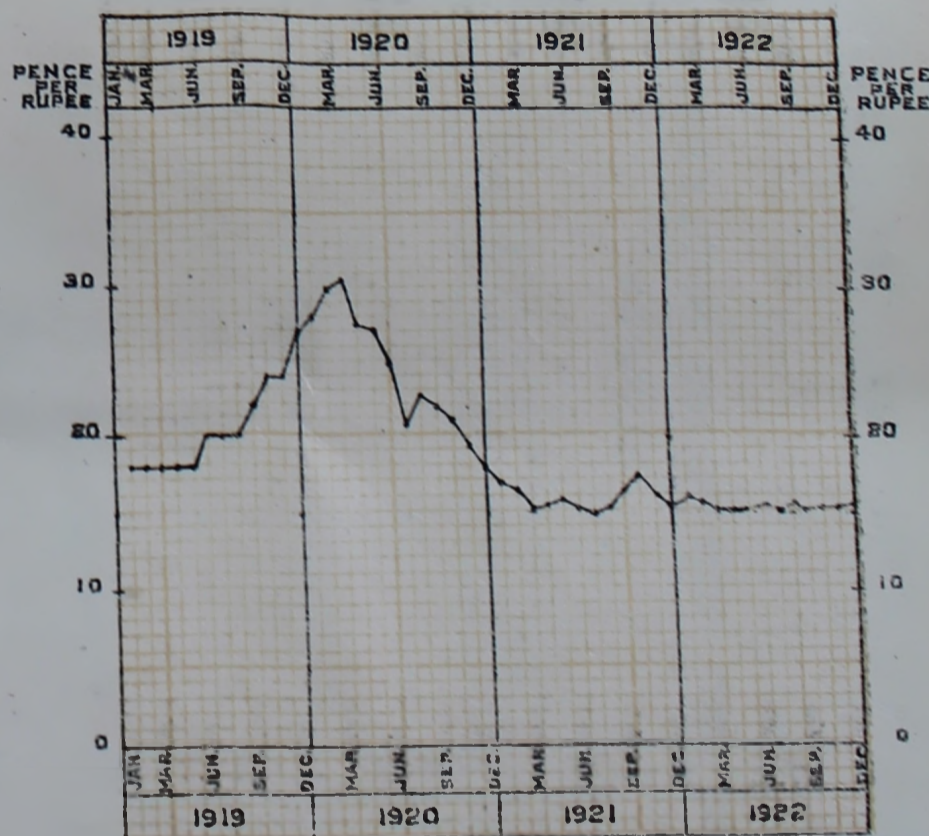


CHART No 7

RATE OF EXCHANGE IN BOMBAY.



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

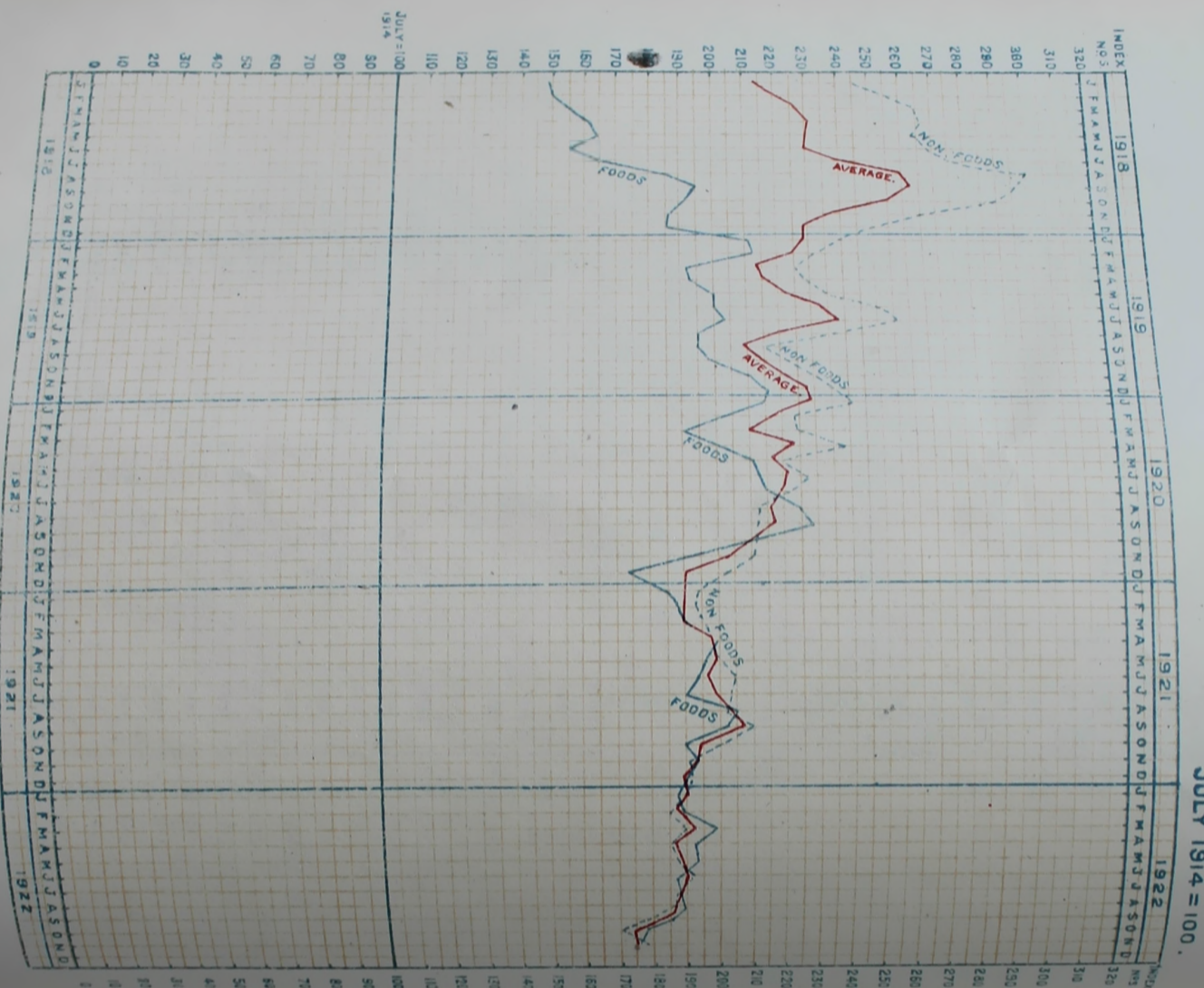


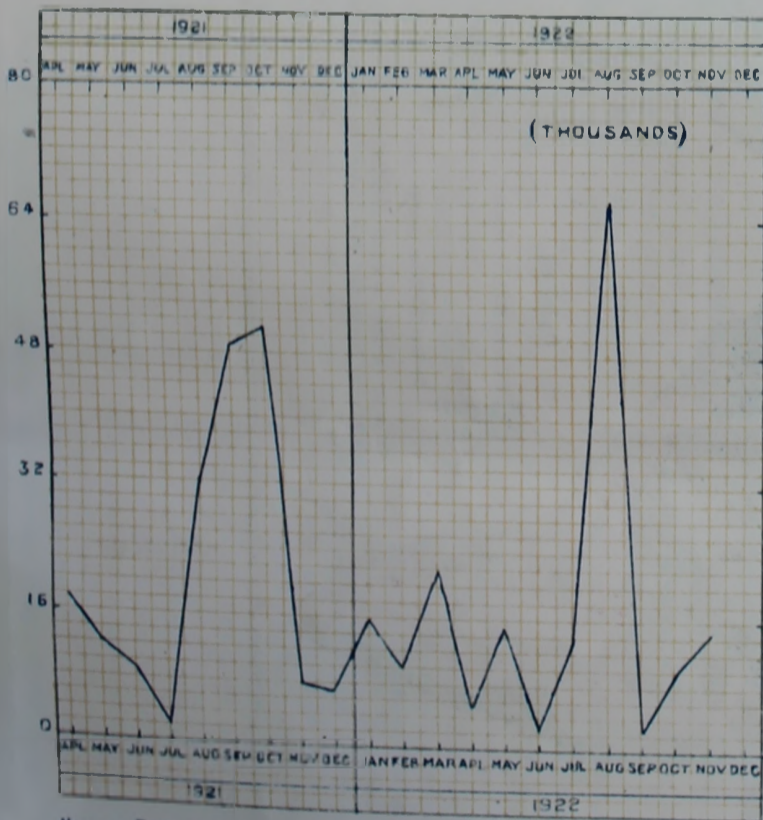
CHART No. 9

STRIKES IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY 1921-1922.

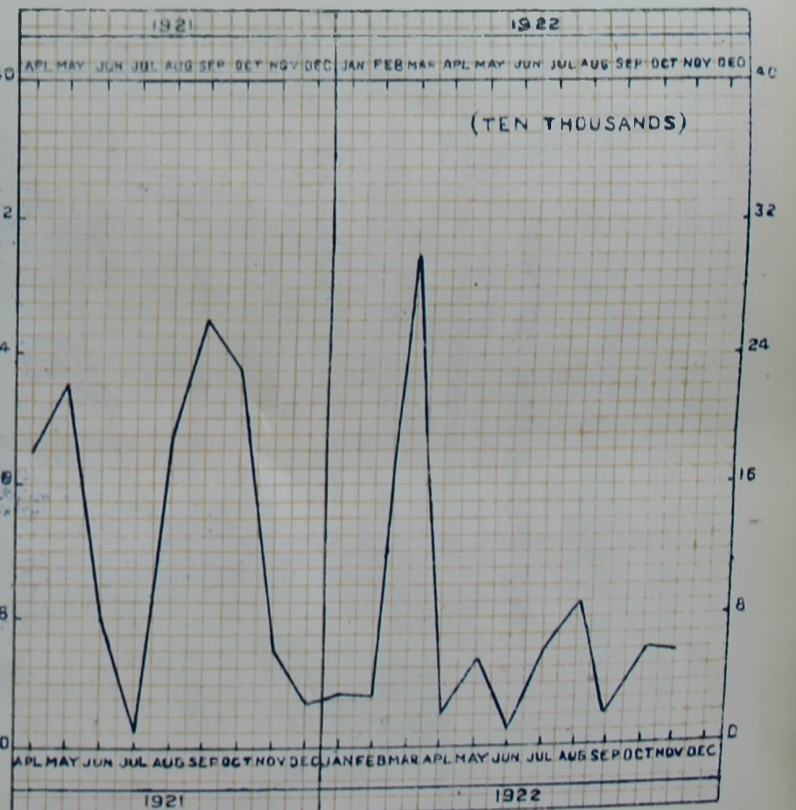
CHART No. 10

NUMBER OF WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED

NUMBER OF WORKING DAYS LOST

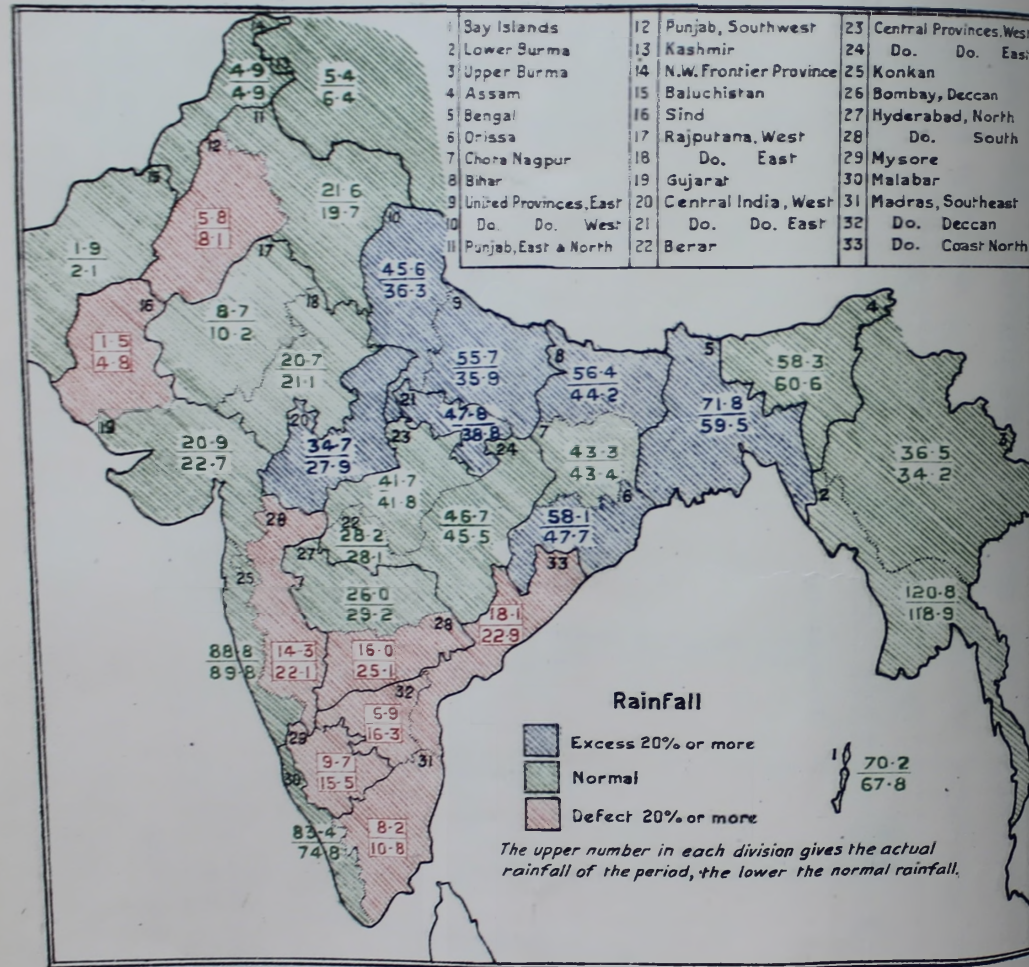


NOTE: - EACH SQUARE ABOVE = 2,000



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

THE MONSOON OF 1922
India Rainfall June to September 1922.



12	Punjab, Southwest	23	Central Provinces, West
13	Kashmir	24	Do. Do. East
14	N.W. Frontier Province	25	Konkan
15	Baluchistan	26	Bombay, Deccan
16	Sind	27	Hyderabad, North
17	Rajputana, West	28	Do. South
18	Do. East	29	Mysore
19	Gujarat	30	Malabar
20	Central India, West	31	Madras, Southeast
21	Do. Do. West	32	Do. Deccan
22	Do. Do. East	33	Do. Coast North

TRADE UNIONS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Fourth Quarter of 1922—A Small Decrease in Membership.

Two previous reviews of Trade Unions in the Presidency have been published in the *Labour Gazette*—the review for the third quarter appeared in the September issue and that for the second quarter in the June issue. The latest available information for the fourth quarter is contained in the tables on pages 29-31. Table I on pages 29-30 shows that there are nominally 9 unions with a membership of 24,000 in Bombay City and Island, 9 unions with a membership of 21,435 in Ahmedabad, and 4 unions with a membership of 6,037 in the rest of the Presidency. The total for the whole of the Presidency is, therefore, 22 unions with a total membership of 51,472, as compared with 23 unions and 52,776 members in the third quarter, and 22 unions and 57,914 members in the second quarter of this year. These numbers, as in the previous reviews, include only those of unions which are known to be actually in existence.

decrease, whereas the Karachi Branch shows an increase of 500 members. Apart from these and several minor changes in the office-bearers of three of the Bombay Unions, no appreciable alterations have taken place during the last quarter.

The following table shows the decrease in membership for the last three quarters.

Summary table showing the decrease in membership

1922 Quarter ended	Membership at end of quarter.	Percentage decrease (-) on previous quarter.
June	57,914	..
September	52,776	-8.87
December	51,472	-2.47

THE DECREASE IN UNIONS AND MEMBERSHIP

The number of unions shows a decrease of one, 22 as against 23 in the last quarter, due to the exclusion of the Bombay Tramway Union. A description of the Tramway strike will be found in the *Labour Gazette* for the month of November (page 23). The Union has ceased its activities as a Union of Tramway employees, its members being no longer employees of the Company. No present employees of the traffic staff of the Company are members of the Union. The decrease in the total membership is mainly due to (1) the exclusion of the Bombay Tramway Union, which had 2,000 members at the time of the last review, (2) a decrease of about 450 members in the Sukkur Branch of the N. W. Railway Union, and (3) a small decrease of about 250 members in the Drivers, Oilmen and Firemen's Union in Ahmedabad. Three Unions in Bombay, viz., the Clerks' Union, the Bombay Presidency Postmen's (including Packers') Union and the G. I. P. Railway Staff Union, show small increases in membership. The Sukkur Branch of the N. W. Railway Union shows a

THE BOMBAY UNIONS

Of the Bombay Unions the following are the most important :—

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

The Indian Seamen's Union, which is both numerically and financially the strongest Union, acts more as an employment bureau for Indian seamen than as a union. Seamen leaving their ships register their names in the books of the Union, and are allotted to ships according to their different ratings, strictly in rotation. The Shipping brokers, or in some cases the Shipping Company itself, only accept seamen obtained through the agency of the Union. It is stated that this method is satisfactory in practice as it ensures every man receiving employment in rotation and prevents hardship to certain seamen on account of their remaining unemployed for prolonged periods. The Secretary of the Union states that, before this

system was in vogue, it was not uncommon for a seaman to remain out of work for 18 months or even longer. Of the total of 10,000 members of this Union, one-half belong to the P. & O. line and the other half to the British India and other lines. The three other important Unions in Bombay are under the Central Labour Board which has Rai Saheb Chandrika Prasad as President, Mr. F. J. Ginwalla as Vice-President and Mr. S. H. Jhabvala as Secretary. The membership of these Unions has remained unchanged during the last quarter, but the Secretary of the Central Labour Board states that the existing members are paying their subscriptions more regularly than hitherto. The Port Trust Railway Staff and Employees' Union, which is recognised by the Manager, Port Trust Railway, is reported to be in a state of inanition. The Secretary, Mr. S. S. Pradhan, states that the members of the Union have now no grievances, and so the Union is not supported. Subscriptions are not, at the moment, being collected, but the Union has not entirely ceased to exist. He hopes to reorganise it in the near future. The G. I. P. Railway Staff Union, which records an increase in membership of about 500, is composed of 1,500 members of the clerical staff of this railway in Bombay City and Island, the same number of members at other stations in the Presidency and 500 members at out-stations such as Itarsi, Bina, and Bhopal. This Union is still pressing for recognition by the Agent. The President of the Union, Mr. Motilal J. Mehta, states that the Union has become more popular among the clerical establishment of the G. I. P. Railway since the Union started to publish a magazine called the *G. I. P. Union Monthly*. By means of this magazine, members in out-stations are able to keep in touch with the activities of the Union.

There are no unions of mill workers in Bombay City and Island.

QUASI-LABOUR UNIONS

There have been no changes during the last quarter in regard to the associations in Bombay, mention of which was made in the last review. These are mainly:—

- (1) The Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants of India and Burma.

- (2) The Bombay Presidency Postal Association.
- (3) The Postal Clerks' Club.
- (4) The Kamgar Hitwardhak Sabha.
- (5) The Girmi Kamgar Sangh.

The Secretary of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants of India and Burma, the largest of these associations, organised the Railwaymen's Conference, recently held in Bombay, which is referred to on the next page.

THE AHMEDABAD UNIONS

Few changes have taken place in the Ahmedabad Unions since the last review was published. Owing to the question of the annual bonus and the proposed reduction of the 'Moghware' or scarcity allowance (granted in 1921 to spinners on account of the sudden rise in the prices of food-stuffs), the members of the Throstle Union went on strike without the permission of its executive. This proposed reduction of the scarcity allowance was referred to on page 14 of the *Labour Gazette* for November. The President of this Union, Miss Anusuya Sarabhai, resigned as the spinners went on strike against the advice of the Union. The Unions of cotton workers in Ahmedabad continue to be best unions in the Presidency. They are, as stated in the previous review, organised by occupations and not on what is often known as the "Soviet System," i.e., by mills, factories or establishments.

THE REST OF THE PRESIDENCY

Apart from the two branches of the N. W. Railway Union at Sukkur and Karachi, there are no other important unions in the rest of the Presidency. The two Unions, shown in Table I, at Sholapur and Poona are not active Unions. The Barsi Light Railway Union has a very small membership and it has not been recognised by the Agent. Recently about 60 painters at Keamari, Karachi, formed themselves into a Union under the Presidentship of Dr. Tarachand J. Lalwani. The main object of the Union is stated to be the strengthening of the economic position of its members so as to enable them to command better wages. The men at present work on steamers through contractors, but will in future attempt to secure work direct and so avoid dealing through the contractors. This Union, however, does

not appear to justify its being included in the statements as an active union.

ACCOUNTS OF THE UNIONS

Table II on page 31 shows the monthly income and expenditure of the unions. Detailed accounts have been received in the Labour Office for the B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Union, the Bombay Presidency Postmen's Union, the Clerks' Union as well as the latest annual reports of these Unions. These reports will be reviewed in the next issue of the *Labour Gazette*.

ORGANISATION OF THE BOMBAY UNIONS

The All-India Trade Union Congress has its headquarters in Bombay, Mr. Joseph Baptista being its President. Its Secretary, Mr. D. Chaman Lal, is now residing in Lahore, where the secretarial work of the Trade Union Congress is at present conducted. There is only one active Bombay Union affiliated to it, viz., the Indian Seamen's Union. The third annual meeting of the Congress is to be held sometime this month in Lahore. The Central Labour Federation, which was formed under the ægis of the Congress to organise trade unions in the Presidency, has not shown any signs of activity during the period under review. The Central Labour Board, mention of which has already been made, is the only active federation of labour unions in Bombay.

CONCLUSION

The salient features of the trade union situation during the quarter have been (1) the collapse of the Bombay Tramway Union after the recent strike; (2) the suspension of the Throstle Union at Ahmedabad, owing to the members of this Union going on strike in November against the advice of the President of the Union; (3) the slight increases in membership of three of the Bombay Unions, two of which are under the Central Labour Board; and (4) the absence of trade unions among cotton mill workers in Bombay City and Island.

Government Servants' Associations

A Resolution of the Government of Bombay states that resolutions passed by associations of Government servants, other than recognised associations, will not be considered by Government.

RAILWAYMEN'S CONFERENCE

SECOND SESSION HELD IN BOMBAY

The All-India Railwaymen's Conference (second session) commenced its sittings in Bombay on 24th November under the Presidentship of Mr. C. F. Andrews. In the course of his opening speech he referred, among other things, to (1) the necessity for auditing union accounts; (2) the so-called "mendicant policy" adopted by some unions in asking employers to collect union dues from the pay of workers; (3) the recent decision of Government not to forfeit the gratuities earned by workers on Railways in the event of their going on a strike not declared to be illegal (see *Labour Gazette* for August 1922, page 18). Mr. Andrews in the course of his address said:—

"I now come to issues that are more economical and less easily understood by the general public. The first of these is the question of gratuity or bonus. I congratulate the Railway Unions and Associations on having won a signal victory in this matter. The vicious clause which made the gratuity forfeited by taking part in any strike, however honourable and legitimate, was fatal to the dignity of Labour. It had to be abolished. It is a matter of great thankfulness that it has now been abolished. But there are irritating exceptions which still remain. The first is the qualifying clause about a strike which has been declared illegal—declared illegal by whom, by the Executive or by the Legislative Assembly? We want that point clearing up. We do not trust an executive decision on that point, which may be only an echo of the Railway Board. Again there is a qualifying clause that men who have left the service since taking part in one of the recent strikes cannot receive the gratuity. Why not? In what way does their case actually and morally differ from that of those who are still in service? If it is once declared that participation in a strike does not cause forfeiture of gratuity, then those who have left the service (apart from dismissal for gross misconduct) are clearly entitled to their bonus. Thirdly, it is quite obvious that the widows or next of kin of employees who have died during the interval should get the bonus. It appears to me that these two last propositions cannot be disputed by any reasonable man. I have put them before the Railway Board some months ago and have received an answer that they are to be carefully considered. But I have not yet received an answer that the position I have here taken has been accepted.

The second technical point to be brought forward is that of recognition of railway labour unions by the Railway companies and the offer of facilities by the



latter for the conduct of business. Here I am utterly opposed to what I can only call the mendicant policy. For instance, it seems to me undignified to ask the Company, for all practical purposes, to collect from the wages the subscriptions for the Railway Union by deducting them from the pay. This puts the Union in a false position of dependence, and the essential thing in any Railway Labour Union is to be in an independent position. Furthermore, it tends to weaken character. If men are not willing to take the trouble to pay the monthly contribution to their Union themselves, it shows they have no use for it. In that case it would be far better to build up the Union from the foundation with smaller numbers rather than attempt to establish a bigger union on a weak and compromising basis. I would mention one further point that should be insisted on in every Railway Union, that is, a public scrutiny and audit of all accounts.

It is understood that Mr. Andrews is to preside at another meeting of representatives of Railway Unions of Northern India to be held at Lahore sometime during this month. Representatives from these unions were not present at the meeting held in Bombay. It is also proposed to hold early in January at Allahabad a conference of representatives of all the Railway Unions of India and Burma. The objects of this proposed conference are (1) to decide once and for all the question of the amalgamation of all Railway Unions into one Federation and (2) if (1) is carried, to elect a Board representing the Railway Unions which should be ready to meet the Railway Board of the Government of India.

QUESTIONS IN THE LEGISLATURES

BOMBAY LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Mr. S. K. BOLE asked: Will Government be pleased to state what progress has been made regarding the enquiry conducted by the Lady doctor in connexion with maternity benefits amongst industrial women workers in Bombay?

The Honourable Sir IBRAHIM RAHIMTOOLA replied: The report of the Lady Dr. (Mrs.) Barnes, Investigator of Women Industrial Workers, is placed on the table.*

BIHAR AND ORISSA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

BABU DEVAKI PRASHAD SINHA asked: (a) Do Government propose to organise a Department of Labour in this province?

* Published in the "Labour Gazette" for September 1922.

(b) What is the labour population of Bihar and Orissa in (i) the mining areas of Chota Nagpur, (ii) Jamsshedpur, (iii) Jamalpur and (iv) in other industrial centres?

(c) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the large number of labour unions and associations formed in this province?

(d) What is being done to study the development of labour in this province and to organise welfare work among labourers?

Mr. J. R. DAIN replied: (a) There is at present no proposal before Government to organise a separate department of labour, but the Department of Industries deals with labour problems and studies the welfare of the labouring population.

(b) The latest statistics of the labour population employed in industrial concerns are as follows:—

The mining areas of Chota			
Nagpur	..	..	114,113
Jamsheedpur	..	..	27,254
Jamalpur	..	..	11,061
Certain other large works			58,237

(c) The growth of organized labour has attracted the attention of Government.

(d) A start has been made in the collection of statistical information with a view to organisation of welfare work, but so far little progress has been made.

BABU DEVAKI PRASHAD SINHA asked: Why has so far only little progress been made in this direction?

Mr. J. R. DAIN replied: The statistics take time to collect.

BABU DEVAKI PRASHAD SINHA asked: Is the work of collecting statistics the only work which Government considers necessary to organise the department of labour?

Mr. J. R. DAIN replied: It is necessary to collect the information before a scheme can be drawn up. At the present moment an attempt is being made to collect statistics regarding the daily prices of labour, hours of work, particulars of strikes, lock-outs, etc., and other information about trade unions, labour associations and labour movements. When this information has been compiled, a scheme will be drawn up.



Table I—Principal Trade Unions in the Bombay Presidency

Name of District.	Name of Union or Federation.	Date of formation.	Number of members.	Name and address of	
				President or Chairman.	Secretary.
1. Bombay City	1. The Indian Seamen's Union.	April 1921	10,000	Joseph Baptista, Matharpacady, Mazagaon, Bombay.	J. E. Fernandez, No. 7, Love Lane, Mazagaon, Bombay.
	2. The B. B. & C. I. Railwaymen's Union.	July 1920	2,000	Rai Saheb Chandrika Prasad of Ajmer. <i>Vice-President</i> —F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.	S. H. Jhabwalla, 123, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay.
	3. The G. I. P. Railwaymen's Union (Carriage and Wagon Departments).	May 1919	2,500	Rai Saheb Chandrika Prasad of Ajmere. <i>Vice-President</i> —F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.	S. H. Jhabwalla, 123, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay.
	4. The Port Trust Workshop Union.	March 1920	3,500	F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.	S. H. Jhabwalla, 123, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay.
	5. The Port Trust Railway Staff and Employees' Union.	June 1920	350	Joseph Baptista, Matharpacady, Mazagaon, Bombay. <i>Vice-President</i> —Chaman Lall, 16, Mozang Road, Lahore.	1. S. S. Pradhan, Clerk, Port Trust Office, Bombay. 2. M. D. Dalvi, Bombay Workmen's Institute, Elphinstone Road, Parel, Bombay.
	6. The Clerks' Union	April 1918	800	B. M. Anandrao, B.A., Malabar Lumbering Company, Bank Street, Fort, Bombay. <i>Vice-President</i> —S. H. Jhabwalla, 123, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay.	1. Anant Padmanabh, Patel and Mukerjee, 53, Meadows Street, Fort, Bombay. 2. S. Bhawani Rao, Ghelabhai Building, Chaupati, Bombay.
	7. The Bombay Presidency Postmen's (including Packers') Union.	April 1918	1,000	F. J. Ginwalla, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.	S. H. Jhabwalla, 123, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay.
	8. The G. I. P. Railway Staff Union.	May 1921	3,500	Motilal J. Mehta, Audit Office, G. I. P. Railway, Bombay.	1. Anand Mukund Gore, Coaching Branch, Audit Office, G. I. P. Ry., Bombay. 2. Narayanji Kale, Operative Branch, C. T. S.'s Office, Bombay.
	9. The Bombay Telegraph Workmen's Union.	July 1922	350	Not elected	S. H. Jhabwalla, 123, Esplanade Road, Fort, Bombay.
2. Ahmedabad			Total Members, Bombay City	24,000	
	1. The Weavers' Union.	February 1920	4,000	Anusuya Sarabhai, Sewa Ashram, Ahmedabad.	Gulzari Lal Nands, Labour Union Office, Ahmedabad. <i>Assistant Secretary</i> —Khandubhai Kasanbhai Desai, Labour Union Office, Ahmedabad.
	2. The Sizing Union	Do.	500	Do.	Do.
	3. The Folders' Union	Do.	450	Do.	Do.



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

Name of District.	Name of Union or Federation.	Date of formation.	Number of members.	Name and address of	
				President or Chairman.	Secretary.
2. Ahmedabad—contd.	4. The Winders' Union.	June 1920	1,050	Anusuya Sarabhai, Ashram, Ahmedabad.	Sewa Gulzari Lal Nanda, Labour Union Office, Ahmedabad. Assistant Secretary.—Khandbhai Kasanbhai Desai, Labour Union Office, Ahmedabad.
	5. The Throstle Union.	February 1920	7,000	Resigned	Resigned.
	6. The Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union.	August 1920	4,000	Anusuya Sarabhai, Ashram, Ahmedabad.	Sewa Gulzari Lal Nanda, Labour Union Office, Ahmedabad. Assistant Secretary.—Khandbhai Kasanbhai Desai, Labour Union Office, Ahmedabad.
	7. The Drivers, Oilmen and Firemen's Union.	September 1920	750	Do.	Do.
	8. The Post and Railway Mail Service Association.	February 1919	200	V. J. Patel, Khamasa, Ahmedabad.	M. V. Kothari, Rajpur, Ahmedabad.
2. Ahmedabad—contd.	9. The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Association.	February 1920	3,485	Do.	M. V. Kothari, Rajpur, Ahmedabad. Assistant Secretary.—B. N. Sarda, Panchkruva Gan, Ahmedabad.
	Total Members, Ahmedabad		21,435		
3. Sukkur	N. W. Railway Union (Sukkur District).	September 1920	3,000	Not elected	1. Topandas Athoomal Station Road (Gharibabad), Sukkur. 2. Sarajuddin, Station Road (Gharibabad) Sukkur.
4. Karachi	N. W. Railway Union (Karachi District).	1920	2,500	Not elected	Kanti Parikash, Bunder Road, Vishandass Nihal Chand Building, Karachi.
5. Sholapur	The Bersi Light Railway Employees' Union.	March 1921	487	G. G. Bhadbhade, Kurduwadi.	G. T. Malgi, Kurduwadi.
6. Poona	The Press Workers' Union.	February 1921	50	V. K. Ashavi, Dnyanprakash Office, Poona City.	1. G. T. Sakpal, Raviwar Path, 44, Poona City.
					2. K. S. Barde, Dnyanprakash Office, Poona City.
	Total Members, Presidency		51,472		



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

Name of District.	Name of Union or Federation.	Income per month.	Sum paid per member per month.	Expenditure	
				per month.	
1. Bombay City		Rs.		Rs.	
	1. The Indian Seamen's Union	2,233	Rs. 6 (per year)	1,590	
	2. The B. B. & C. I. Railwaymen's Union.	350	From 1 to 8 annas according to pay	75	
	3. The G. I. P. Railwaymen's Union	350	From 1 to 8 annas according to pay	75	
	4. The Port Trust Workshop Union	250	As. 4 for those earning Rs. 50 and under per month; As. 8 for those earning above Rs. 50.	60	
	5. The Port Trust Railway Staff and Employees' Union.	Nil.	From As. 4 to Rs. 4 according to pay	Nil.	
	6. The Clerks' Union	200	As. 4	75	
	7. The Bombay Presidency Postmen's (including Packers') Union.	200	As. 8	80	
	8. The G. I. P. Railway Staff Union	450	One day's pay per year	350	
2. Ahmedabad	9. The Bombay Telegraph Workmen's Union.	157	As. 8	Nil.	
	1. The Weavers' Union	2,000	Rs. 1	175	
	2. The Sizing Union	375	Rs. 1 per front sizer; As. 8 per back sizer.	14	
	3. The Folders' Union	300	Rs. 1 per mukadam; As. 8 per folder	Not reported.	
	4. The Winders' Union	131-4-0	As. 2	12	
	5. The Throstle Union	2,400	As. 4 per labourer; As. 2 per doffer; Anna 1 per half-day worker (doffer).	About 500	
	6. The Card Room, Blow Room and Frame Department Union.	1,000	As. 8	226	
	7. The Drivers, Oilmen and Firemen's Union.	225	As. 12 per oilman; Re. 1 per driver or fireman.	14	
	8. The Post and Railway Mail Service Association.	Not reported.	Re. 1 per year for workers earning Rs. 50 and under per month; Rs. 2 per year for those earning above Rs. 50.	Not reported.	
3. Sukkur	9. The B. B. & C. I. Railway Employees' Association.	682	Rs. 2 per year for workers earning Rs. 50 and under per month; Rs. 3 for those earning Rs. 50 to 100; Rs. 4 for those earning Rs. 100 and upwards.	300	
	3. Sukkur	The N. W. Railway Union (Sukkur District).	300	Subscription at the rate of $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of monthly pay from all members.	147
	4. Karachi	The N. W. Railway Union (Karachi District).	500	Do.	200
5. Sholapur	The Bersi Light Railway Employees' Union	About 17	From 1 anna to 1 rupee according to pay.	From Rs. 4 to Rs. 15.	
6. Poona	The Press Workers' Union	About 2	As. 2 to As. 3	About 2.	



TRADE BOARDS

Cave Committee's Proposals

NO NATIONAL MINIMUM WAGE

The Committee appointed to enquire into the working and effects of the Trade Boards Acts, under the Chairmanship of Lord Cave, has recently made its report to the British Labour Minister, and a copy of the Report (Cmd. 1645, price 2s. net) has been received in the Labour Office. The Committee held 27 public sittings, heard 113 witnesses, and received 58 written statements. It will be remembered that the Committee was appointed in September 1921 by the Ministry of Labour, in view of the persistent representations made by business organisations.

TRADE BOARDS AND THEIR OBJECTS

In the 19th century the principle was that the State should refrain from all intervention in such questions as wages, but this was modified after many years of discussion by the Trade Boards Act of 1909 which is based upon the principle that in cases where unduly low wages were paid, the State should intervene, and, with the assistance of a Joint Board, should decree a certified minimum. In other words, these Boards were formed with the object of protecting workpeople in industries in which they were not strong enough to protect themselves. Briefly, the Trade Board comprises an equal number of employers and workpeople, with the addition of independent persons appointed by the Ministry of Labour; it sits to fix wages which cannot be altered for four months. These Boards serve the dual purpose of protecting the humane employer from the unfair competition of unscrupulous rivals who might pay less than a fair wage. They also, of course, protect the employee. In 1918 another Trade Boards Act was passed which extended the original scheme considerably, until now it covers three million workpeople. This latter Act authorised the Ministry of Labour to create a Trade Board in any industry where the organisations of employers and employed were incapable of providing the proper machinery for collective bargaining in regard to wages. Instead of fixing genuinely minimum rates the Boards have fixed varying rates for different classes of workers which

have been given the force of law. Thus, the general current rates, not minimum rates, were given the force of law, and there was a tendency to enforce flat rates all over the country. Moreover, the machinery had deliberately been slow-moving in order that (1) every possible objector may be heard and (2) adequate notice of liability may be given to the employer before legal sanction was accorded to a new rate. While prices were rising, the Trade Boards were almost solely concerned with settling the increases in wages that should be paid. It was, however, never contemplated that there would be a sudden fall in prices necessitating a reduction in the rates fixed under the Trade Boards Act of 1918.

THE COMMITTEE

In these circumstances a Committee consisting of the Right Honourable Lord Cave (formerly Home Secretary of State) as President; the Right Honourable Lord Weir, a member of the engineering firm of G. and J. Weir, Limited, of Glasgow; Dame Adelaide Anderson, late H. M. Chief Woman Inspector of Factories; Dame Edith Lyttelton; Mr. W. T. Layton, Director of the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, now Editor of the *Economist*; Sir Arthur Pease; Mr. J. Bell, Secretary, Oldham Weavers Association; Mr. E. L. Poulton, Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress; Mr. A. Pugh, Secretary of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, and Mr. MacCallum Scott, M.P., Glasgow, were appointed.

The Committee have reported unanimously and have put forward 34 recommendations. They recommend that the Acts be repealed, and that a consolidating Act containing the proposed amendments be passed. The Committee think that Trade Boards have had beneficial effects, and that they have succeeded in abolishing the grosser forms of underpayment and in regularising wage conditions in trades brought under the Acts. They have, in establishing statutory minima, afforded protection to the good employer, able and willing to pay a reasonable rate of remuneration to his workers, from unscrupulous competitors prepared to take undue advantage of the economic necessities of their workers.



The Committee are also satisfied that the operation of the system has also contributed on the whole to the improvement of industrial relations, the machinery having brought the two sides together "round a table" and so enabled each side to understand something of the other's point of view. Complaints as to the overlapping of boards in allied trades have considerable foundation in the opinion of the Committee, and grouping is suggested. The Report points out that the total repeal of the Acts was proposed by very few of the Associations representing employers, and the Committee think that such a repeal would not be in the public interest. They cannot concur in the suggestion made that legislation providing for a national minimum wage to be payable in all trades alike should be substituted for the Boards. Where minimum rates are required, the Committee say, they should be determined with reference to the circumstances of each trade affected and not on a national basis.

The main point of public interest in the Report is the Committee's view of the State's functions in regard to wages. In the first place, they propose that the full machinery of the Trade Board system should be confined to genuine minimum rates applicable to the lowest general grade of workers in any trade. The Minister of Labour is to be left to define the class of worker to whom the minimum is to apply in the Order setting up the Board. As regards piece-workers the Committee believe that it is not the function of a tribunal of an official character to fix elaborate piece price lists, since they propose that the protection of the minimum should be given to piece-workers by the Trade Board, naming a minimum earnings standard. The Committee, however, makes an exception only in the case of home workers for whom specific piece rates are to be fixed, since the home worker cannot possibly have his wages fixed on a time-earnings standard. In regard to the wages of semi-skilled and skilled workers, and the whole system of piece price lists the Committee propose that the two sides of Trade Boards should be entitled to fix rates by agreement; that these rates should be submitted on the request of the parties to the Minister for confirmation; if confirmed they should govern all wage contracts in the industry; and that

if an employer fails to pay these rates, the worker or a Government Inspector on his behalf should have the right to recover in the Civil Courts. Contracting out of this obligation should be permitted in special circumstances approved by two parties on the Board or on appeal from the Board, by a Court of three impartial persons. Such wage agreements should be for any period and subject to any arrangement as to permanence as the parties may decide.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

The following is a summary of the recommendations of the Committee:—

Establishment of Boards

(1) That the power of the Minister of Labour to apply the Acts to a trade be confined to cases where he is satisfied (a) that the rate of wages prevailing in the trade or any branch of the trade is unduly low as compared with those in other employments; and (b) that no adequate machinery exists for the effective regulation of wages throughout the trade.

(2) That in any case in which the Minister considers that a *prima facie* case exists for applying the Acts to any trade, he shall cause a public enquiry to be held into the matter and shall have regard to the report of such enquiry.

Fixing of Rates

- (3) That it be the duty of a Trade Board to fix
- (a) a general minimum time-rate for the general body of workers in the trade, such rate to be fixed with reference to the lowest grade of ordinary workers in the trade;
 - and that a Trade Board be authorised to fix
 - (b) if so, authorised by order of the Minister of Labour, a special minimum time-rate for workers performing work ancillary to that performed by the general body of workers;
 - (c) a piece-work basis time-rate;*;
 - (d) a guaranteed time-rate for piece-workers;
 - (e) minimum piece-rates for out-or home-workers engaged in piece-work in the trade;
 - (f) overtime rates based upon the above rates; and that such rates when confirmed be enforceable in manner now provided by the Trade Boards Acts.
- (4) That a Trade Board have power to fix
- (a) special minimum time-rates and piece-work basis time-rates for special classes of workers in the trade or workers engaged in any special process;
 - (b) minimum piece-rates for in-workers;
 - (c) special minimum piece-rates for in-workers to be fixed on the application of an individual

* A "Piece-work basis time-rate" is a special time-rate on the basis of which piece-rates are to be fixed.



employer to apply in respect of workers employed by him;

(d) overtime rates based upon the above rates; and to apply for confirmation of such rates, and that such rates if confirmed be recoverable by civil proceedings only.

(5) That any question arising under the last preceding recommendation be determined by agreement between the members representing employers and the members representing workers, and that for this purpose the assent of not less than three-fourths of the members of either side present and voting on the question (not less than one-half of the members on the side being present) do bind the side.

(6) That provision be made for enabling the representative members of a Trade Board to refer any difference which may have arisen with regard to any rate proposed to be fixed under the recommendation numbered (4) above to such person or persons as they may appoint.

(7) That as regards any rate fixed or proposed to be fixed under the above recommendation numbered (4) the provisions of the Corn Production Acts (Repeal) Act, 1921, Section 4, sub-sections (3) to (5), have effect subject to the modification proposed in paragraph 62 above.

District Committees and Boards

(8) That as regards any manufacturing or productive trade to which the Acts have been or may be applied, the Minister of Labour be authorised, after consultation with the Trade Board for such trade, to set up for any area a district committee for the regulation of such trade in the area, and that every such committee have the powers conferred by the Acts upon district committees.

(9) That where a district trade committee has been established it shall be consulted by the Board before a proposal for a rate affecting the district is made.

(10) That a Trade Board which has established a district trade committee shall have power at any time to dissolve it.

(11) That as regards the distributive and retail making-up trades to which the Acts have been or may be applied (including the Laundry Trade), the Minister of Labour be authorised to divide the country into suitable areas and to set up for any area a District Board or District Boards for the regulation of such trades in the area.

(12) That a co-ordinating committee for each trade or group of trades for which District Boards are so formed be set up.

Juvenile Workers and Learners

(13) That the Trade Boards which have not already adopted this course be recommended in fixing minimum rates for learners to have regard to experience not less than to age and to make suitable provision for late entrants.

(14) That Trade Boards be recommended in trades where apprenticeship is of value to encourage that system by fixing a minimum rate for apprentices lower than that fixed for learners of the same age.

Permits of Exemption

(15) That the power of exemption conferred upon Trade Boards by the Acts be extended so as to cover any worker employed in a trade who from age or any other cause is incapable of earning the minimum rate applicable to him.

(16) That permits of exemption when given may be made retrospective to the date of application.

Confirmation of Rates

(17) That the rates fixed by Trade Boards be subject to confirmation by the Minister as at present, but that the Minister be authorised before confirming any rate or referring it back to a Trade Board for reconsideration, to refer the matter to the Industrial Court for its consideration and advice, or to cause a public enquiry to be held into the matter.

Other Recommendations

(18) That the Minister of Labour be authorised to establish a Trade Board for two or more trades and to transfer to any such Board the powers of any existing Board.

(19) That the Minister of Labour be authorised, on the application of a proprietor of any establishment in which two or more trades to which the Acts apply are carried on, by Order to determine which minimum rates of wages shall apply to the workers or any class of workers in such establishment.

(20) That the Minister of Labour be authorised, on the application of a trader or of any person concerned, by Order to determine whether any worker or class of workers falls within the scope of an Order under which a Trade Board is established or of a determination made by such a Board.

(21) That any Trade Board or person aggrieved by any such decision shall have a right of appeal to a Judge of the High Court in manner provided by Section 10 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920.

(22) That the Minister of Labour be authorised, if he is of opinion that the circumstances of any trade or any branch of a trade to which the Acts apply are



such a character as to render the application of the Acts no longer necessary, by Special Order to withdraw that trade or branch from the operation of the Acts either altogether or for such period and upon such conditions as he may think fit, but that before making any such Order the Minister shall cause a public enquiry to be made into the matter.

(23) That the Minister be authorised by Order to empower the Lace Finishing Board, and any other Board to which he may consider that similar considerations apply, to fix a minimum remuneration for middle-women.

(24) That Trade Boards be authorised to fix a series of minimum rates to come into operation contingently on the occurrence of specified events.

(25) That Trade Boards be authorised in fixing overtime rates to make the payment of a daily overtime rate conditional on the completion by the workers of a specified number of hours' work in the week, subject to such work being provided by the employer; and also to fix such rates by reference to a different number of hours' work in different districts.

(26) That the provision which prevents a Trade Board from giving notice of a proposal to vary a rate within six months after it has been fixed, without the consent of the Minister of Labour, be repealed.

(27) That the period allowed for objections to a proposal for the cancellation or variation of a rate be reduced in the case of a rate specified in the above recommendation numbered (3) to one month, and in all other cases to 14 days, from the date of notice being given of the proposal.

(28) That the maximum period allowed to the Minister for confirming a cancellation or a variation of a rate or referring it back to the Trade Board be reduced (unless in his opinion there are special circumstances which make a postponement desirable, and excepting when he refers the rate to the Industrial Court or orders a public inquiry to be held) to 14 days.

(29) That where, as a result of objections to a proposal for a minimum rate, a rate different from the proposed rate is agreed to by not less than three-fourths of the Representative Members on each side of the board present and voting, not less than one-half of the members on each side being present, the Minister be authorised (unless he is of opinion that the difference is of so serious a nature that fresh notice of it should be given) to confirm such different rate as the minimum without any further notice thereof being given.

(30) That when on investigation it is found that an employer is not complying with a compulsory Order, the employer be warned forthwith of the non-compliance.

(31) That when a magistrate convicts an employer of an offence against the Acts it be the duty of the magistræ to order payment of all arrears incurred within six months before the commencement of the proceedings but without prejudice to his power to order payment of arrears for a longer period.

(32) That it be the duty of the Minister to obtain an annual report of the working of the Acts and to present the same to Parliament.

(33) That provision be made for applying the amendments proposed in this Report to the existing Boards.

(34) That the Trade Boards Acts be repealed and a Consolidating Act containing the necessary amendments be passed.

STATEMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY

The Minister of Labour recently issued a statement of Government policy in regard to the administration of the Trade Boards Acts, pending legislation dealing with the above recommendations. With the object of remedying by administrative action those difficulties pointed out by the Committee he proposes to proceed on the following lines.

No Trade Board will be set up unless the Minister is satisfied both (a) that the rate of wages prevailing in the trade or any other branch of the trade is unduly low as compared with those in other employment and (b) that no adequate machinery exists for the effective regulation of wages throughout the trade; and then only after a public enquiry.

In regard to expediting the machinery of the Acts the Minister will consult with the Trade Boards between the date when proposed rates are published and the date when the rates are fixed, so that he may be able to transmit his decision within 14 days of the receipt of the rates. He will also make a regulation dating the period for lodging objections to the proposed rates from the date of publication of the notice.

Every Trade Board concerned will be requested to consider the application to its trade of the Committee's recommendation that District Committees should be set up in the manufacturing and productive trades. The question of establishing District Boards in the appropriate trades covered by the Acts, if possible on the District Committee basis, will be considered.

Lastly in regard to confirming rates, other than rates for the general body of workers, the Minister hopes that they will be fixed by the Trade Boards by agreement between employers' and workers' representatives.

Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay (Foods)

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914.	November 1921.	October 1922.	November 1922.
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Cereals—						
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill	Md.	4 11 3	7 13 9	6 1 2	6 1 2
Wheat	Delhi No. 1	Cwt.	5 9 6	12 8 0	.....	.....
Do.	Khandwa Seoni	Candy	45 0 0	100 0 0	80 0 0	73 8 0
Do.	Jubbulpore	"	40 0 0	82 8 0	70 0 0	70 0 0
Do.	Rangoon	Md.	3 2 6	5 13 1	3 11 3	4 0 4
Jowari	—	"	3 4 6	5 11 5	4 3 9	3 11 3
Barley	—	"	3 4 6	6 5 7	4 10 6	3 12 11
Bajri	—	"	—	—	—	—
Pulses—						
Gram	Punjab yellow (2nd sort)	"	4 3 9	7 9 11	4 14 9	4 10 6
Turdal	Cawnpore	"	5 10 5	9 9 10	6 14 1	6 5 1
Sugar—						
Sugar	Mauritius No. 1	Cwt.	9 3 0	19 14 0	21 8 0	22 0 0
Do.	Java white	"	10 3 0	19 12 0	22 0 0	22 4 0
Raw (Gul)	Sangli	Md.	7 14 3	15 10 4	14 4 7	14 4 7
Other food—						
Turmeric	Rajapuri	"	5 9 3	14 13 3	21 12 4	23 12 11
Ghee	Deshi	"	45 11 5	72 13 9	85 11 5	85 11 5
Salt	Bombay (black)	"	1 7 6	2 2 0	2 8 0	2 7 0

Expressed as percentages of July 1914

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Cereals—						
Rice	Rangoon Small-mill		100	167	129	129
Wheat	Delhi No. 1		100	224	.....	.....
Do.	Khandwa Seoni		100	222	178	163
Do.	Jubbulpore		100	206	175	175
Jowari	Rangoon		100	184	117	127
Barley	—		100	174	129	113
Bajri	Chati		100	194	142	116
Average—Cereals			100	196	145	137
Pulses—						
Gram	Punjab yellow (2nd sort)		100	180	116	110
Turdal	Cawnpore		100	170	122	112
Average—Pulses			100	175	119	111
Sugar—						
Sugar	Mauritius No. 1		100	216	234	239
Do.	Java white		100	194	216	218
Raw (Gul)	Sangli		100	198	181	181
Average—Sugar			100	203	210	213
Other food—						
Turmeric	Rajapuri		100	266	390	427
Ghee	Deshi		100	159	188	188
Salt	Bombay (black)		100	144	170	166
Average—Other food			100	190	249	260
Average—All food			100	193	178	176

Wholesale Market Prices in Bombay (Non-foods)

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914.	November 1921.	October 1922.	November 1922.
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Oilseeds—						
Linseed	Bold	Cwt.	8 14 6	11 8 0	13 15 0	13 2 0
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown)	"	8 0 0	10 0 0	10 8 0	10 6 0
Poppyseed	Do.	"	10 14 0	14 14 0	15 0 0	14 0 0
Gingely	White	"	11 4 0	14 12 0	14 4 0	14 0 0
Textiles—Cotton—						
(a) Cotton—raw						
Broach	Good	Candy	251 0 0	402 0 0	415 0 0	435 0 0
Oomra	Fully good	"	222 0 0	365 0 0	365 0 0	385 0 0
Dharwar	Saw-ginned	"	230 0 0	..	..	..
Khandesh	Machine ginned	"	205 0 0	..	..	..
Bengal	Do.	"	198 0 0	314 0 0	330 0 0	345 0 0
(b) Cotton manufactures—						
Twist	40S	Lb.	0 12 9	1 12 0	1 7 0	1 7 6
Grey shirtings	Fari 2,000	Piece	5 15 0	16 0 0	13 4 0	13 2 0
White mulls	6,600	"	4 3 0	11 4 0	9 6 0	9 6 0
Shirtings	Liepman's 1,500	"	10 6 0	28 0 0	26 0 0	25 12 0
Long cloth	Local made 36" x 37½ yds.	Lb.	0 9 6	1 11 0	1 7 6	1 6 6
Chudders	54" x 6 yds.	"	0 9 6	1 9 0	1 6 0	1 5 9

Expressed as percentages of July 1914

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Oilseeds—						
Linseed	Bold		100	129	157	147
Rapeseed	Cawnpore (brown)		100	125	131	130
Poppyseed	Do.		100	131	138	129
Gingely	White		100	131	127	124
Average—Oilseeds			100	129	138	133
Textiles—Cotton—						
(a) Cotton—raw						
Broach	Good		100	181	165	173
Oomra	Fully good		100	181	164	173
Dharwar	Saw-ginned		100	..	..	..
Khandesh	Machine ginned		100	..	..	..
Bengal	Do.		100	159	167	174
Average—Cotton—raw			100	170	165	173
(b) Cotton manufactures—						
Twist	40S		100	219	180	184
Grey shirtings	Fari 2,000		100	269	223	221
White mulls	6,600		100	268	224	224
Shirtings	Liepman's 1,500		100	270	251	248
Long cloth	Local made 36" x 37½ yds.		100	286	247	237
Chudders	54" x 6 yds.		100	264	231	229
Average—Cotton manufactures			100	263	226	224
Average—Textiles—Cotton			100	239	206	207

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

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914.	November 1921.	October 1922.	November 1922.
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Other textiles—						
Silk	.. Canton No. 5	.. Pucca seer	5 4 0	5 8 0	5 8 0	5 8 0
Do.	.. Nankin	.. "	17 12 0	30 8 0	30 8 0	30 8 0
Hides and Skins—						
Hides, Cow	.. Tanned	.. Lb.	1 2 6	1 15 7	1 1 9	1 14 9
Do, Buffalo	.. Do.	.. "	1 1 3	1 3 10	0 10 11	1 1 8
Skins, Goat	.. Do.	.. "	1 4 0	2 8 8	2 3 4	2 1 9
Metals—						
Copper braziers	.. —	.. Cwt.	60 8 0	84 0 0	78 0 0	77 8 0
Iron bars	.. —	.. "	4 0 0	11 0 0	8 0 0	8 0 0
Steel hoops	.. —	.. "	7 12 0	20 0 0	14 4 0	14 4 0
Galvanized sheets	.. —	.. "	9 0 0	18 0 0	16 0 0	17 8 0
Tin plates	.. —	.. Box	8 12 0	13 0 0	19 0 0	19 0 0
Other raw and manufactured articles—						
Coal	.. Bengal	.. Ton	14 12 0	29 0 0	25 8 0	28 0 0
Kerosene	.. Elephant brand	.. 2 Tins	4 6 0	8 3 0	7 10 6	7 10 6
Do.	.. Chester brand	.. Case	5 2 0	10 12 0	10 3 0	10 3 0

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

Other textiles—						
Silk	.. Canton No. 5	.. ..	100	105	105	105
Do.	.. Nankin	.. ..	100	172	172	172
Average—Other textiles	..		100	138	139	139
Hides and Skins—						
Hides, Cow	.. Tanned	.. ..	100	170	96	166
Do, Buffalo	.. Do.	.. ..	100	115	63	102
Skins, Goat	.. Do.	.. ..	100	203	177	169
Average—Hides and Skins	..		100	163	112	146
Metals—						
Copper braziers	.. —	.. ..	100	139	129	128
Iron bars	.. —	.. ..	100	275	200	200
Steel hoops	.. —	.. ..	100	258	184	184
Galvanized sheets	.. —	.. ..	100	200	178	194
Tin plates	.. —	.. ..	100	149	217	217
Average—Metals	..		100	204	182	185
Other raw and manufactured articles—						
Coal	.. Bengal	.. ..	100	197	173	190
Kerosene	.. Elephant brand	.. ..	100	187	175	175
Do.	.. Chester brand	.. ..	100	210	199	199
Average—Other raw and manufactured articles	..		100	198	182	188
Total—Food	..		100	193	178	176
Total—Non-food	..		100	192	172	177
General Average	..		100	193	174	176

Wholesale Market Prices in Karachi (Foods)

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914	November 1921	October 1922.	November 1922.
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Cereals—						
Rice	.. Larkana No. 3	.. Candy	39 0 0	67 0 0	50 0 0	51 0 0
Wheat, white	.. 5 % barley, 3 % dirt.	.. ..	31 8 0	70 0 0	43 4 0	43 8 0
.. red	.. 30 % red.	.. ..			
.. red	.. 5 % barley, 3 % dirt.	.. ..	31 4 0	69 8 0	42 12 0	43 0 0
.. white	.. 92 % red.	.. ..			
.. red	.. 2 % barley, 1½ % dirt.	.. ..	32 8 0	72 0 0	44 8 0	44 12 0
Jowari	.. 2 % barley, 1½ % dirt.	.. ..			
Barley	.. Export Quality	.. ..	32 4 0	71 8 0	44 0 0	44 4 0
..	.. 3 % dirt	.. ..	25 8 0	44 0 0	28 0 0	27 0 0
Pulses—						
Gram	.. 1 % dirt	.. ..	29 8 0	70 0 0	38 0 0	35 8 0
Sugar—						
Sugar	.. Java, white	.. Cwt.	9 2 0	18 11 0	21 7 0	21 12 0
Do.	.. " brown	.. ..	8 1 6	16 7 0	20 12 0	20 8 0
Other food—						
Salt	.. Bengal Maund.	.. ..	2 2 0	1 10 3	1 10 6	1 10 8

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

Cereals—						
Rice	.. Larkana No. 3	.. ..	100	172	128	131
Wheat, white	.. 5 % barley, 3 % dirt	.. ..	100	222	137	138
.. red	.. 30 % red.	.. ..			
.. red	.. 5 % barley, 3 % dirt	.. ..	100	222	137	138
.. white	.. 92 % red.	.. ..			
.. red	.. 2 % barley, 1½ % dirt	.. ..	100	222	137	138
Jowari	.. 2 % barley, 1½ % dirt	.. ..	100	222	136	137
Barley	.. Export Quality	.. ..	100	173	110	106
..	.. 3 % dirt	.. ..	100	192	130	118
Averages—Cereals	..		100	204	131	129
Pulses—						
Gram	.. 1 % dirt	.. ..	100	237	129	120
Sugar—						
Sugar	.. Java, white	.. ..	100	205	235	238
"	.. " brown	.. ..	100	203	256	253
Average—Sugar	..		100	204	246	246
Other food—Salt	..		100	77	78	78

Wholesale Market Prices in Karachi (Non-foods)

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914.	November 1921.	October 1922.	November 1922.
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Oilseeds—						
Cotton seed	.....	Maund ..	2 11 3	4 2 0	4 0 0	3 12 0
Rapeseed	3 % admixture	Candy ..	51 0 0	65 12 0	65 0 0	61 8 0
Gingelly	Black, 9 % admixture	..	62 0 0	78 0 0	80 0 0	76 0 0
Textiles—						
Jute bags—	B. Twills	100 bags ..	38 4 0	41 0 0	48 0 0	50 0 0
Textile—Cotton—						
(a) Cotton, raw	Sind	Maund ..	20 4 0	35 8 0	34 0 0	38 8 0
(b) Cotton manufactures—						
Drills	Pepperill	Piece ..	10 3 6	21 12 0	20 15 0	21 8 0
Shirting	Liepmann's	..	10 2 0	27 0 0	25 8 0	25 0 0
Yarns	40s Grey (Plough)	Lb. ..	0 12 2	..	..	..
Other Textiles—						
Wool	Kandahar	Maund ..	28 0 0	21 8 0	21 0 0	23 0 0

Expressed as percentages of July 1914

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Oilseeds—						
Cotton seed	.....	100	153	148	139
Rapeseed	3 % admixture	100	129	127	121	
Gingelly	Black, 9 % admixture	100	126	129	123	
Average—Oilseeds	.....	100	136	135	128
Textiles—						
Jute bags	Twills	100	108	125	131	
Textiles—Cotton—						
(a) Cotton, raw	Sind	100	175	168	190	
(b) Cotton manufactures—						
Drills	Pepperill	100	213	205	210	
Shirtings	Liepmann's	100	267	252	247	
Yarns	40s Grey (Plough)	100	..	..	..
Average—Cotton manufactures	.....	100	240	229	229
Average—Textiles—Cotton	.....	100	218	208	216
Other Textiles—Wool	.....	100	77	75	82

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

Article.	Grade.	Rate per	July 1914.	November 1921.	October 1922.	November 1922.
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Hides—						
Hides, dry	Sind	Maund ..	21 4 0	13 0 0	12 8 0	13 8 0
" "	Punjab	..	21 4 0	13 0 0	12 8 0	13 8 0
Metals—						
Copper Braziers	.....	Cwt. ..	60 8 0	83 0 0	79 0 0	78 0 0
Steel Bars	.....	..	3 14 0	9 0 0	7 12 0	7 8 0
" Plates	.....	..	4 6 0	11 0 0	9 0 0	8 8 0
Other raw and manufactured articles—						
Coal	1st Class Bengal	Ton ..	16 0 0	37 8 0	35 0 0	35 0 0
Kerosene	Chester brand	Case ..	5 2 0	10 10 0	10 1 0	10 1 0
"	Elephant	2 Tins ..	4 7 0	8 1 6	7 8 6	7 8 6

Expressed as percentages of July 1914

Prices in July 1914 = 100

Hides—						
Hides, dry	Sind	100	61	59	64	
" "	Punjab	100	61	59	64	
Average—Hides	.....	100	61	59	64
Metals—						
Copper Braziers	.....	100	137	131	129
Steel Bars	.....	100	233	200	194
" Plates	.....	100	252	206	194
Average—Metals	.....	100	207	179	172
Other raw and manufactured articles—						
Coal	1st Class Bengal	100	234	219	219	
Kerosene	Chester Brand	100	207	196	196	
Do.	Elephant	100	182	170	170	
Average—Other raw and manufactured articles	.....	100	208	195	195
Total—Food	.....	100	195	147	145
Total—Non-food	.....	100	163	154	155
General Average	.....	100	176	151	151

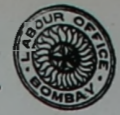


Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices in India and Foreign Countries

Table with columns for Country, India (Bombay), United Kingdom (1-4), Canada, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, United States of America (5-6), and No. of articles. Rows include monthly data from 1913 to 1922.

Table with columns for Country, Switzerland, Belgium, Egypt (Cairo), France, Italy (a), Japan, Germany (d), Netherlands (d), Norway, Sweden, Denmark, and No. of articles. Rows include monthly data from 1913 to 1922.

* 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.



Cost of living index numbers for India and foreign countries

Table with columns for Name of country, India (Bombay), United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Italy (Rome), Belgium, Norway, Switzerland, South Africa, France (Paris), Germany, U.S. of America, and Items included in the index. Rows include monthly data from 1914 to 1922.

(a) From 1914 to 1919 figures relate to second quarter. (b) First half of 1914. (c) Unofficial. (d) April 1914. (e) From 1915 to 1919 June figures are given. (f) June 1914. (g) Expenditure of a family of four persons. (h) Average 1913 is the base. Note.—The maxima for the different countries are indicated in heavier type.

Retail food index for India and foreign countries

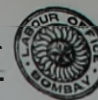
Table with columns for Name of country, India, United Kingdom, Canada, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, United States of America, France, Italy, Belgium, Finland, Germany, Holland, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Switzerland, and No. of stations. Rows include monthly data from 1914 to 1922.

(a) Average for the year 1914. (b) Includes fuel and lighting. (c) Unofficial. (d) January to June 1914. (e) 15th April 1914. (f) Figures from 1914 to 1916 are annual averages. Note.—The maxima for the different countries are indicated in heavier type.



Principal Trade Disputes in progress in November 1922

Name of concern and locality.	Approximate number of workpeople involved.		Date when dispute		Cause.	Result.
	Directly.	Indirectly.	Began.	Ended.		
<i>Textile Trades.</i>						
			1922.	1922.		
1. The Aryodaya Ginning and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Idga Road, Ahmedabad.	20 (Weavers).	....	23 October ..	3 November ..	Refusal to grant bonus according to the award of the arbitrators given on 1st October 1922.	Some resumed work and new hands engaged in place of the others.
2. The Universal Cotton Mills Co., Ltd., Kachni Masjid, Ahmedabad.	150	....	23 October ..	....	Demand for payment of the annual bonus.	....
3. The Sir Waghji Mill, Wadhwan Camp, Kathiawar.	480	....	23 October ..	....	1. Decision of the management to introduce a system of payment to the weavers by "piece" instead of by "weight" of cloth produced. This, the weavers believed, would result in their receiving less wages. 2. Other minor demands.	....
4. The Ahmedabad Ramkrishna Mills Co., Ltd., Gomtipur Road, Ahmedabad.	310	....	24 October ..	6 November ..	Demand for payment of the annual bonus.	Bonus promised.
5. The Ahmedabad Fine Spinning and Weaving Mills Co., Ltd., Gomtipur, Ahmedabad.	65	....	25 October ..	2 November ..	Offer to give less amount of bonus than that fixed by the arbitrators on 1st October 1922.	New hands engaged.
6. The Rajpur Mills Co., Ltd., Gomtipur, Ahmedabad.	93	....	25 October ..	7 November ..	Demand for payment of the annual bonus.	New hands engaged.
7. The Marsden Mills Co., Ltd., Gomtipur, Ahmedabad.	150	....	26 October ..	5 November ..	Refusal of the strikers to accept bonus on condition that they should not, in future, go on strike.	Work resumed unconditionally.
8. The Saraswati Mill, Broach.	101 (Spinning Department).	....	30 October ..	8 November ..	1. Payment of fortnightly wages to be made punctually on the 1st and 15th of every month. 2. Increase in daily wages from Rs. 0-12-6 to Rs. 0-15-0 and Rs. 0-13-0 to Rs. 1-0-0. 3. Payment of wages to workers absent on 2nd October (Gandhi Day). 4. The practice of deducting two days' wages for one day's absence to be discontinued.	Work resumed unconditionally.
9. The Ahmedabad Ginning and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Sarangpur Road, Ahmedabad.	150 (Throstle Department).	....	3 November ..	5 November ..	Against dismissal of a worker.	Work resumed unconditionally.
10. The Commercial Mills, Dariapur, Ahmedabad.	900	....	4 November ..	5 November ..	Refusal to grant a holiday on Dev Divali Day.	Work resumed and a fine of one day's wages inflicted.



Principal Trade Disputes in progress in November 1922—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>						
			1922.	1922.		
11. The Manekchowk Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Dariapur, Ahmedabad.	1,200	....	4 November ..	12 November ..	Refusal to grant a holiday on Dev Divali Day.	Work resumed unconditionally.
12. The Zaveri Mills Co., Ltd., outside Raipur Gate, Ahmedabad.	180 (Weavers).	....	5 November ..	18 November ..	Delay in payment of wages.	New hands engaged.
13. The Aryodaya Ginning and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Idga Road, Ahmedabad.	37 (Winders).	....	7 November ..	13 November ..	Demand for payment of fortnightly wages (which were already due on 4th November) on 6th November 1922.	Strikers were paid off.
14. The Motilal Hirabhai Spinning and Weaving Mills Co., Ltd., outside Kalupur, Ahmedabad.	275 (Throstle Department).	....	8 November ..	12 November ..	Alleged ill-treatment by the Spinning Master.	Work resumed on condition that strikers would not be ill-treated in future.
15. The Simplex Mill, Clerk Road, Jacob Circle, Bombay.	60 (Weavers).	....	9 November ..	10 November ..	Reinstatement of a dismissed Head Jobber.	Work resumed.
16. A General Strike in 29 Cotton Mills in Ahmedabad.	8,845 (Throstle Departments).	....	10 November ..	13 November ..	Alleged errors made in the calculation of the days of absence for the purpose of reducing the amount of bonus to be paid.	Work resumed as the President, Mill-owners' Association, Ahmedabad, made certain promises to the strikers.
17. The Ahmedabad Jubilee Spinning and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Dariapur, Ahmedabad.	500 (Throstle Department).	....	13 November ..	21 November ..	Against payment of a fine of Rs. 3 and forfeiture of bonus for a fortnight for participating in the general strike.	Some resumed work and new hands engaged in place of the others.
18. The Birla Mill, Sewree, Bombay.	300 (Weavers).	1,200	14 November ..	1 December ..	Payment of wages on 15th of every month instead of on the first Saturday after the middle of the month.	Some resumed work and new hands engaged in place of the others.
19. The Gordhan Spinning and Manufacturing Mills Co., Ltd., Naroda Road, Ahmedabad.	50 (Frame Department).	....	28 November ..	30 November ..	Demand for the dismissal of a Mukadam who, the strikers alleged, harassed the workers.	Strikers were paid off.
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>						
20. The Enrico Stein Tannery Co., Ltd., Dharravi, Mahim, Bombay.	80	....	4 November ..	7 November ..	Demand for an increase in wages.	Work resumed on the Manager's promise to grant increments, if justified.
21. The Deccan Trading Tannery Co., Ltd., Dharravi, Mahim, Bombay.	60	....	14 November ..	15 November ..	Increase in daily wages ..	Increase ranging from one to two annas according to work promised.

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 ended October		
	1920	1921	1922	1920	1921	1922
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 Pounds	4,463	6,445	6,617	34,213	45,987	45,504
Nos. 11 to 20	20,730	20,019	20,111	135,181	141,637	137,882
Nos. 21 to 30	13,124	12,609	13,560	90,137	93,608	96,546
Nos. 31 to 40	1,086	996	964	7,628	7,579	7,911
Nos. Above 40	113	171	147	772	1,189	1,188
Waste, etc.	114	8	8	170	216	65
Total	39,630	40,248	41,407	268,101	290,216	289,996

Bombay Island

Count or Number.	Month of October			Seven months ended October		
	1920	1921	1922	1920	1921	1922
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 Pounds	4,079	5,707	6,068	31,579	41,709	41,801
Nos. 11 to 20	15,661	14,573	14,216	105,568	103,031	96,556
Nos. 21 to 30	7,703	7,359	8,394	55,893	56,577	58,413
Nos. 31 to 40	395	457	500	3,085	3,602	3,581
Nos. Above 40	79	85	90	578	601	665
Waste, etc.	109	2	1	137	166	13
Total	28,026	28,183	29,269	196,840	205,686	201,029

Ahmedabad

Count or Number.	Month of October			Seven months ended October		
	1920	1921	1922	1920	1921	1922
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Nos. 1 to 10 Pounds	154	210	174	952	1,409	946
Nos. 11 to 20	2,201	2,647	2,843	12,254	18,410	20,244
Nos. 21 to 30	4,114	3,800	3,821	25,349	26,708	28,247
Nos. 31 to 40	574	393	386	3,612	3,168	3,570
Nos. Above 40	23	59	38	116	411	376
Waste, etc. .. ..	.....	.....	.....	3	3	.....
Total	7,066	7,109	7,262	42,286	50,109	53,383

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

Description.	Month of October			Seven months ended October		
	1920	1921	1922	1920	1921	1922
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Grey and bleached piece-goods—						
Chudders Pounds	2,161	2,124	1,610	9,804	10,885	9,241
Dhotis	4,397	6,352	4,676	31,543	47,273	41,907
Drills and jeans	998	760	533	7,918	5,837	4,367
Cambrics and lawns	58	76	24	354	587	444
Printers	215	357	457	1,887	2,307	2,989
Shirtings and long cloth	7,459	8,104	7,052	53,200	59,520	54,530
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	1,457	1,102	953	9,811	9,327	7,091
Tent cloth	103	127	107	696	837	570
Other sorts	468	1,146	1,847	4,010	7,127	10,138
Total	17,316	20,148	17,259	119,223	143,700	131,277
Coloured piece-goods	7,747	9,166	6,765	50,235	53,463	46,149
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods	207	163	204	1,525	1,171	1,399
Hosiery	21	19	17	99	113	99
Miscellaneous	194	102	123	580	657	705
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool	3	3	9	82	32	53
Grand Total	25,488	29,601	24,377	171,744	199,136	179,682

Bombay Island

Description.	Month of October			Seven months ended October		
	1920	1921	1922	1920	1921	1922
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Grey and bleached piece-goods—						
Chudders Pounds	1,345	1,494	824	5,759	7,114	5,015
Dhotis	1,185	1,991	1,321	7,740	14,271	12,653
Drills and jeans	940	706	499	7,384	5,486	4,130
Cambrics and lawns	48	52	16	204	447	235
Printers	13	14	29	33	91	284
Shirtings and long cloth	5,285	5,467	4,644	34,592	41,703	39,125
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings	1,265	815	783	8,232	7,587	5,819
Tent cloth	86	108	92	614	706	493
Other sorts	211	617	1,247	1,849	3,903	7,067
Total	10,378	11,264	9,455	66,407	81,308	74,821



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

Description.	Month of October			Seven months ended October		
	1920	1921	1922	1920	1921	1922
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Coloured piece-goods Pounds ..	6,788	7,833	5,791	43,498	45,598	38,993
Grey and coloured goods, other than piece-goods " ..	205	156	195	1,512	1,125	1,351
Hosiery " ..	12	12	7	61	65	56
Miscellaneous " ..	194	102	122	580	656	700
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool " ..	3	2	6	80	29	46
Grand Total " ..	17,580	19,369	15,576	112,138	128,781	115,967

Ahmedabad

Description.	Month of October			Seven months ended October		
	1920	1921	1922	1920	1921	1922
	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)	(000)
Grey and bleached piece-goods—						
Chudders Pounds ..	715	432	647	3,444	2,864	3,440
Dhotis " ..	2,530	3,420	2,626	18,645	26,167	22,794
Drills and jeans " ..	23	32	6	242	203	123
Cambrics and lawns " ..	3	9	4	85	77	154
Printers " ..	88	229	321	1,063	1,615	1,762
Shirtings and long cloth " ..	1,526	1,944	1,851	13,525	13,027	11,945
T. cloth, domestics, and sheetings " ..	180	269	159	1,395	1,577	1,098
Tent cloth " ..	....	4	1	30	20	9
Other sorts " ..	108	269	362	1,116	1,760	1,630
Total " ..	5,173	6,608	5,977	39,545	47,310	42,945
Coloured piece-goods	416	464	405	2,959	3,107	2,862
Grey and coloured goods other than piece-goods " ..	....	2	2	1	13	6
Hosiery " ..	9	8	10	38	49	4
Miscellaneous " ..	....	....	1	....	....	....
Cotton goods mixed with silk or wool " ..	....	1	2	1	2	7
Grand Total " ..	5,598	7,083	6,397	42,544	50,481	45,867

CURRENT NOTES FROM ABROAD

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

United Kingdom.—According to the ninety-second quarterly report of the General Federation of Trade Unions, the financial position of the Federation is better than it was possible to hope twelve months ago. Besides meeting every claim the accounts disclose a reserve of £65,339. Further, arrears of contributions and assets, it is expected, should increase this credit balance to over £80,000. One point, however, which is causing anxiety is the number of defections from trade unions. Mr. W. A. Appleton, the Secretary, is of opinion that this point should not be allowed to rest there.

The interim report of an Advisory Committee of the Joint Research and Information Department of the Labour Party and Trade Union Congress on motherhood and child endowments has been published. The Committee concludes that one of the first aims of the Labour Party must be to make adequate provision for mothers and children whose normal means of livelihood are cut off by unemployment, death, illness, or desertion of the father. They recommend (a) adequate maintenance of the father when he is unemployed; and (b) granting pensions to mothers. Other recommendations include, universal free education up to the university, free health service, the extension to all women of the provisions of the Washington Maternity Convention, providing medical aid, together with maintenance six weeks each before and after childbirth, provision of pure milk free or at cost price for nursing mothers and to children under five years, free mid-day meals, clothing and boots for all children in schools. In regard to housing, the ideal aimed at is that of accepting the right of every family to a house sufficiently large for all its members with a regulation of rents which would give the big families a chance.

Australia.—The Commonwealth of Australia last year formed an Institute of Science and Industry. The first Director of the Institute is the Commonwealth Statistician Mr. G. H. Knibbs, C.M.G., who has been succeeded as

Commonwealth Statistician by Mr. C. H. Wickens. The powers and functions of the Director of the Commonwealth Institute of Science and Industry are, subject to the regulations and to the directions of the Minister—

(a) the initiation and carrying out of scientific researches in connexion with, or for the promotion of, primary or secondary industries in the Commonwealth;

(b) the establishment and awarding of industrial research studentships and fellowships;

(c) the making of grants-in-aid of pure scientific research;

(d) the recognition or establishment of associations of persons engaged in any industry or industries for the purpose of carrying out industrial scientific research and the co-operation with and the making of grants to such associations when recognised or established;

(e) the testing and standardization of scientific apparatus and instruments, and of apparatus, machinery materials and instruments used in industry;

(f) the establishment of a Bureau of Information for the collection and dissemination of information relating to scientific and technical matters; and

(g) the collection and dissemination of information regarding industrial welfare and questions relating to the improvement of industrial conditions.

Japan.—The following are a series of measures decided upon by the Japanese Government in August last, to reduce the cost of living:—

(1) The encouragement of co-operative purchase societies.

(2) The improvement and extension of public markets.

(3) The collection and publication of information on prices of necessary articles of daily consumption.

(4) The provision at reduced prices to public bodies and housing societies of wood and charcoal from the State forests.

(5) The reduction of railway freights for articles of daily consumption.

Other measures to prevent the charging of unnecessarily high prices include the publication of statistics of wholesale and retail prices and wages by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, and the appointment of inspectors to supervise associations of merchants trading in staple commodities. The Commission for the investigation of Social Welfare Work recently submitted a scheme to the Government for improving the organisation of public markets, the establishment of a central market, and suggested the introduction of legislation to prevent profiteering by business associations.



On page 26 of the *Labour Gazette* for January 1922 it was stated that the Washington Draft Conventions were being considered by the Privy Council—the competent authority. In a letter of 17th October 1922 to the International Labour Office, the Japanese representative on the Governing Body says that his Government, recognising the importance of the Convention concerning the employment of women before and after childbirth, have accordingly made certain provisions in the Industrial Health Insurance Act promulgated in April 1920, which is to be brought into force in the near future. It is pointed out, however, that as legislation of this nature is being introduced for the first time in Japan by the Health Insurance Act, it may not be possible to conform to the precise terms of the Convention, but that gradually efforts would be made to enlarge the scope of the legislation.

In regard to the Conventions concerning employment of women during night and concerning night work of young persons employed in industry, the Japanese Government will present a Bill to the Parliament amending the present Factory Law, to enforce the prohibition in the factories of Japan. For this purpose the Department of Agriculture and Commerce is examining the question, and a Bill will be presented to the Parliament at its next session.

Russia—The settlement of labour disputes in Soviet Russia is accomplished by means of Disputes Committees, Conciliation Boards and Arbitration Courts. The two latter were established by a decree of 18th July 1922. The Disputes Committees are of two kinds. (a) The *Factory Disputes Committee* is set up permanently for deciding specific disputes in the factory itself and consists of an equal number of representatives of employers and employed. Both sides must agree to a dispute being submitted to this body. Decisions are only valid if approved by both parties and a decision once arrived at is of a binding nature and cannot be abolished unless it is contrary to law. (b) A centralised system of Disputes Committees, acting under the Commissariat for Labour is also in existence. They consist of one representative each of the local section of the Commissariat for Labour, the

Commissariat for Justice and the All-Russian Council of Trade Unions. The procedure here is similar to that of the former Committee. Their usefulness has been increasing and they are often called upon to settle important questions of principle, and they are empowered to prosecute the party in the Courts for breaking the law.

The work of both the above Committees is directed and supervised by the Central Disputes Committee, which consists of representatives of the Commissariats for Labour and Justice and the All-Russian Council of Trade Unions. To it are also referred cases involving questions of principle and it issues instructions as to the interpretation of the labour laws in force.

When a deadlock arises in consequence of the parties failing to agree, the Committees having no power to act, the matter is referred, with the consent of both the parties, to a Conciliation Board, after the necessary declaration to the local Labour Department is made. The court consists of an equal number of representatives of the contending parties, presided over by a Chairman who is appointed either by the Labour Department or by the parties themselves by mutual agreement. The decisions of the Conciliation Board must receive the consent of the contending parties, failing which, it may again be referred to the Arbitration Court. The arbitrators are either selected by agreement or appointed by the Commissariat for Labour, and the decisions of the court are binding and enforceable in Courts of Law. If the interruption of work is in a nationalised industry, the submission of the case to the Arbitration Court is compulsory, but it is not obligatory in privately owned industries.

BOOKS RECEIVED

Official Publications

INDIA

Report of the Chief Inspector of Mines in India (under the Indian Mines Act VIII of 1901) for the year ending 31st December 1921.

Annual Report on the working of Co-operative Societies in the Bombay Presidency for 12 months ending 31st March 1922.

Annual Factory Report of the Presidency of Bombay for the year 1921.



Annual Report on the Working of the Indian Factories Act in the Province of Bihar and Orissa, 1921, by H. W. Brady, Inspector of Factories.

This is the first Annual Report on factory inspection under the Government of Bihar and Orissa. On the 31st December 1921, there were 85 factories as compared with 75 on the beginning of the year. The number of persons employed rose from 55,612 in 1920 to 57,999 in 1921. The total number of accidents increased from 926 in 1920 to 1,456 in 1921. The fencing of dangerous machinery is badly required. The writer is of opinion that in big factories, such as steel works and locomotive works, the main part of any remedy should be the education of the labourer and the petty overseer. Housing and general conditions are receiving practical attention on generous lines in the new factories in the Tatanagar and Dhanbad areas.

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Industrial and Labour Information—Vol. IV, Nos. 4-17.

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Unemployment Enquiry—Remedies for Unemployment.

Methods of Compiling Statistics of Unemployment—Studies and Reports, Series C—Unemployment, No. 7.

Application of the Three-Shift System to the Iron and Steel Industry—Studies and Reports, Series D (Wages and Hours), No. 3, September 1922.

Emigration and Immigration: Legislation and Treaties.

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