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INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE
INDIAN BRANCH

Report for August 1941.

N-B. Each section of this report may be taken out separately.

<u>Contents</u>	<u>Pages</u>
<u>National Labour Legislation.-</u>	
<u>Government of India:</u>	
(a) <u>Draft Factories (Amendment) Bill, 1941.</u>	1
(b) <u>Amendment to Tea Districts Emigration Labour Rules, 1933.</u>	1
<u>Bihar:</u>	
<u>Draft Amendment to Payment of Wages Rules, 1937.</u>	2
<u>Bengal:</u>	
(a) <u>Workmen's Compensation (Bengal Amendment) Bill, 1941: Bill passed by Legislative Council.</u>	2
(b) <u>The Bengal Bus Drivers and Conductors' Bill, 1940: Motion for Select Committee Disallowed.</u>	2
(c) <u>The Calcutta and Suburban Police (Amendment) Bill, 1941: Better Control of Seamen's Lodging Houses in Calcutta.</u>	2-3
<u>Mysore State:</u>	
<u>Mysore State Labour Emergency Act, 1941.</u>	3-4
<u>Burma:</u>	
<u>The Burma Extraordinary Pension Rules, 1940.</u>	5
<u>Social Policy.-</u>	
<u>Labour Legislation: Punjab Government discusses Problems with Employers.</u>	
	6
<u>Conditions of Work.-</u>	
<u>Hours of Work:</u>	
(a) <u>Bengal Shops and Establishments Act and Rules: Bengal Chamber of Commerce seeks Elucidation on Certain Points.</u>	7
(b) <u>Applicability of Bombay Shops Act to Daily Wage-earners: Appeal before Bombay High Court.</u>	7-8
(c) <u>Proposed Shops Bill in Mysore: Views of Piecegoods Merchants' Association, Bangalore.</u>	8
(d) <u>Bombay Shops Act applies to Owner-Managed Concerns: High Court Judgment.</u>	8-9
(e) <u>Hours of Work in Jute Mills: Working Week increased from 45 to 50 Hours.</u>	9
<u>Wages:</u>	
<u>Committee to enquire into Standardisation of Wages in the Bombay Textile Industry: Bombay Government's Proposal.</u>	10
<u>Industrial Disputes:</u>	
<u>Proposal to amend Bombay Industrial Disputes Act, 1938: Tripartite Conference held in Bombay.</u>	11
<u>General:</u>	
<u>Factory Administration in Bihar, 1940.</u>	12-13
(b) <u>Factory Administration in Bombay, 1940.</u>	13-14

Economic Conditions.-

- (a) 13th Industries Conference: Provisional Agenda. 15
- (b) Industrial Research in Hyderabad: Committee to be set up in the State. 15
- (c) Charcoal to replace Petrol: Madras Government's Scheme. 15-16
- (d) Improvement in Indian Banking Conditions: Over 1000 Banks with Total Deposits of Rs. 2875 millions in 1940. 16
- (e) Government of India takes over the Assam Bengal Railway from 1-1-1942: Decrease in working expenses anticipated 16
- (f) Striking increase in India's Exports: Rs. 476 millions in 1938-39 and Rs. 812 millions in 1940-41. 17
- (g) Working Class Cost of Living Index Numbers for Various Centres in India during May 1941. 18

Social Insurance.-

Working of the Bombay Maternity Benefit Act during 1940. 19

Agriculture.-

- (a) Staff for Rural Reconstruction: Bengal Government's Scheme for training 6000 official and 50,000 non-official workers. 20
- (b) The Bengal Agricultural Income-Tax Bill, 1941. 20
- (c) Methods of Increasing Rice Production in India: Question considered by Governing Body of I.C.A.R. 21

Navigation.-

Home for Indian Seamen in Calcutta. 22

Professional Workers, Salaried Employees and Public Servants.-

Subordinate Government Employees in Bombay Demand Dearness Allowance. 23

Co-operation and Cottage Industries.-

Yarn Shortage for Handloom Weavers in U.P.: Government plan for Conference to consider Problem. 24

Living Conditions.-

Nutrition:

- (a) Balanced Diet for School boys: Dr. Mhaskar's Estimate. 25
- (b) Supply of Cheap Milk to Working Classes in Bombay: Details of Proposed Scheme. 25-26

Organisation, Congresses, etc.-

Workers' Organisations:

- (a) 20th Half-Yearly Meeting between A.I.R.F. and Railway Board, Bombay, 4-8-1941. 27-28
- (b) Postal Employees Demand Dearness Allowance: Bombay Conference. 28

Social Conditions.-

Mill-hands in Cawnpore and Drink Habit: Government move to reduce Incidence. 29

Public Health:-

Appointment of District Health Officers: Bombay Government adopts scheme. 30

4. Education. -

Educational Reorganisation in Hyderabad State: New Scheme providing improved facilities for Vocational Education Approved. 31.

5. Social Policy in War Time. -

Wages:

(a) Dearness Allowance for Madras Government Servants.	32
(b) Dearness Allowance to Papanasam Mill Workers.	32
(c) Increased Dearness Allowance to Ahmedabad Textile Workers.	33
(d) Grain Allowance for Low-Paid Government Employees in Orissa.	33
(e) Dearness Allowance for Cotton Textile Workers in Bengal.	33
(f) Dearness Allowance for Cawnpore Municipal Employees.	33
(g) Higher Dearness Grant for Mill Workers in Bombay.	34-35
(h) War Dearness Food Allowance to Cawnpore Textile Workers.	35-36

safety of Workers:

Safety of Workers during Air-raids: Government of Bengal discusses Problem with Business Interests. 36-37

Social Insurance:

The C.P. and Berar Provident Fund (Temporary Relaxation) Rules. 37

Price Control:

Price Control in India: Conference under Government auspices to be held shortly. 37

War Production:

(a) Supply Member's review of India's War Production.	38-42
(b) Industrial Advisory Committee, Bombay Circle, set up by Government of India.	42

Demobilisation and Employment:

War Service Men and Government Employment: Concessions announced by Government of Bengal. 43

Control Measures:

Exh (a) Extension of Import Control: Industrial Requirements Covered.	44
(b) Complete Control of Machine Tools.	45
(c) Import of machinery from the United Kingdom into India: Permission of Government of India needed.	45
(d) Iron and Steel (Control of Distribution) Order, 1941: Grievances of Iron and Hardware Merchants.	45-46
(e) The Motor Spirit Rationing Order, 1941: Control of Petrol Consumption.	46-47

Rent Control:

Amendment to New Delhi House Rent Control Order, 1939. 48

6. List of more important publications received in this Office during August, 1941. 49

Government of India.-

Draft Factories (Amendment) Bill, 1941.

The Government of India intends introducing in the forthcoming session of the Central Legislature a Bill to amend the Factories Act for the following objects and reasons: Section 5 of the Factories Act, 1934, has been found defective in two respects. In the first place, a notification under sub-section (1) can apply only to such factories as were in existence on the date of the notification and not to factories similar in all respects which may be established subsequently (though of course such later established factories could be notified separately). Secondly, factories once brought under the scope of the Act by virtue of a notification under sub-section (1) may subsequently cease to be under it by the operation of the provisions in sub-section (3), if they employ less than 10 workers continuously for 12 months, and if a factory goes out of the ambit of the Act in this manner, a fresh notification will be necessary to bring it back within the Act when it again employs more than 10 persons. The Bill which is intended to remedy these defects, seeks to give power to Provincial Governments to enable them to notify once for all the application of the provisions of the Act to any specified classes of establishments employing 10 or more persons.

(The Gazette of India, Part V,
dated 9-8-1941, pages 133 to 134).

Government of India.-

Amendment to Tea Districts Emigration Labour Rules, 1933.

The Government of India has gazetted certain amendments to the Tea Districts Emigrant Labour Rules, 1933, mostly as regards the form of registers and returns prescribed under the Rules.

(Notifications Nos. L.3030 (1) to (6) dated
23-8-1941; The Gazette of India, Part I,
dated 30-8-1941, pages 1234 to 1239.)

Bihar.-

Draft Amendment to Payment of Wages Rules, 1937.

The Bihar Government proposes amending the local Payment of Wages Rules, 1937, to provide that in every factory notice specifying prevailing rates of wages should be displayed.

(Bihar Gazette, Part II, dated
27-8-1941, pages 647 to 648.)

Bengal.-

Workmen's Compensation (Bengal Amendment) Bill, 1941:
Bill passed by Legislative Council.

Reference was made at page 1 of our July 1941 report to the introduction of the Workmen's Compensation (Bengal Amendment) Bill, 1941, in the local Legislative Council. The Bill was passed by the Council on 28-8-1941.

(The Statesman, 29-8-1941.)

Bengal.-

The Bengal Bus Drivers and Conductors' Bill, 1940:
Motion for Select Committee Disallowed.

Reference was made at page 2 of our August 1940 report to the introduction in the Bengal Legislative Council by Mr. Humayun Kabir of the Bengal Bus Drivers and Conductors' Bill, 1940. Mr. Kabir sought on 24-8-1941 to move the Bill to a Select Committee.

Sir Bijoy Prasad Singh Roy, Minister, opposing the bill said that the measure was not a simple one as Mr. Kabir wanted the House to believe. If it was accepted it would injure trade. Bus services had to compete with other transport services, namely, railways and tramways. If wages and hours of work were fixed, as suggested in Mr. Kabir's bill, then higher wages had to be paid to the employees and their number had to be increased. This would seriously prejudice trade which was now passing through a serious crisis.

Mr. Kabir replied that it appeared from the speech of Sir Bijoy that Government not only intended to oppose the measure but also wanted to kill it. The danger to trade of which Sir Bijoy spoke could well be averted by bringing within the scope of the bill other transport services.

The motion was defeated.

(The Amrita Bazar Patrika, 24-8-1941)

Bengal.-

The Calcutta and Suburban Police (Amendment) Bill, 1941:
Better control of seamen's Lodging Houses in Calcutta.

The Bengal Government recently introduced in the local Legislative Council the Calcutta and Suburban Police (Amendment) Bill, 1941 (the text of the Bill is published at pages 88 to 89 of Part IV B of the Calcutta Gazette Extraordinary dated 7-8-1941) with the object of improving the conditions obtaining in seamen's lodging houses in Calcutta. The statement of objects and reasons says: A special enquiry by the Deputy Commissioner, Port Police, revealed that the conditions existing

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in seamen's lodging houses (known as "lathi houses") in Calcutta are exceedingly bad. Not only are these houses insanitary and overcrowded, but the proprietors take every advantage of the sailors who stay there. With a view to control these houses, and in pursuance of Government's policy of improving conditions for Indian seamen, the proprietors were required to take out licences under section 39 of the Calcutta Police Act, 1866, and under section 22 of the Calcutta Suburban Police Act, 1886. Recently, however, a man who was prosecuted for running a lathi house without a licence was acquitted on the ground that as no food was supplied, the sections of the Acts mentioned above did not apply. Government is advised that in the absence of a clear definition of "lodging house" in the Acts referred to, the acquittal was not improper and considers that the Acts should be amended so as to include these houses within their scope. The present Bill is an attempt to ensure proper control of these houses, and thereby, to protect the seamen who take shelter therein.

(The Amrita Bazar Patrika, 4-9-1941.)

Mysore State

Mysore Labour Emergency Act, 1941.

The Mysore Government has issued on 26-8-1941 an Emergency Ordinance called the Mysore Labour (Emergency) Act, 1941. The Act comes into force immediately and applies to all industrial concerns, Government or private in the whole State. The salient features of the Act are briefly noticed below:

Fostering of Unions of Workers.- Under the proposed Bill, the Government will appoint a Commissioner of Labour, whose jurisdiction will extend throughout the State. The Commissioner will help in organising associations of employees in each industrial undertaking employing not less than 100 workmen, and assist and guide the officers of such associations in the discharge of their duties. The Government may also appoint for any local area or otherwise one or more Assistant Commissioners of Labour to exercise similar function under the guidance of the Labour Commissioner. No employer shall dismiss or reduce any employee or punish him in any other manner by reason of the circumstances that the employee is an officer or member of a registered trade association. Where the offence is one of wrongful dismissal, the Court shall direct that the employer shall pay the dismissed employee wages for the period he is kept out of employment, based on his average wages for the twelve months preceding the date of dismissal. Where the offence is one of wrongful reduction or other punishment, the Court trying any offence under this section may direct that out of the fine recovered (which may amount to Rs.1,000) such amount as it deems fit shall be paid to the employee concerned as compensation.

Conciliation.- There will be a Registrar of Associations who will be ex-officio Chief Conciliator of the State. The Government may appoint a special Conciliator in respect of any dispute. During the pendency of any proceedings before the Conciliator under the foregoing provisions, the Government may, and if both the parties agree, either prior to the commencement of such proceedings or after the failure of the Conciliator to bring about a settlement, refer the dispute to a Board of Conciliation,

consisting of three independent persons.

Arbitration.- Where the parties are not able to reach ~~to~~ a settlement through conciliation, the Conciliation Board shall report to the Government which will then refer the dispute to a Court of Arbitration constituted for determining industrial disputes. The award of the Court shall be binding on the parties to the disputes and on their successors and assignees and shall not be called in question in any Civil or Criminal Court or other judicial proceedings.

Changes in Conditions of Work.- No employer shall make any change in contravention of the terms of a registered agreement, settlement or award of the conciliation board, sole arbitrator or court of arbitration. The penalty for making such illegal changes may be a fine extending to Rs. 5,000 and for continuation of the offence, a further fine of Rs. 200 per day during which the offence continues.

Illegal Strikes and Lockouts.- A strike or a lock-out shall be illegal which has any object other than or in addition to the furtherance of an industrial dispute within the industrial undertaking in which the strikers or employer locking-out are engaged. A strike shall be illegal if it is commenced or continued without giving the necessary notice and before the initiation of conciliation proceedings where an agreement is not arrived at only for the reason that the employer has not carried out the provisions of any standing order or has made an illegal change; in cases where conciliation proceedings in regard to the industrial dispute to which the strike relates have commenced, before the expiry of 14 days after the publication of the Report; in case where the dispute has been referred to arbitration before an award has been given; in contravention of the terms of a registered agreement, settlement or award. In cases where conciliation proceedings in regard to any industrial dispute have been completed, a strike relating to such dispute shall be illegal if it is commenced at any time after the expiry of two months after the publication of the Report.

A lock-out shall be illegal if it is declared, commenced or continued without giving necessary notice and before the initiation of conciliation proceedings, where an agreement is not arrived at; in cases where conciliation proceedings in regard to the industrial dispute to which the lock-out relates have commenced before the expiry of 14 days after publication of the Report; in cases where the dispute has been referred to arbitration, before an award has been given; in contravention of the terms of a registered agreement, settlement or award. In cases where conciliation proceedings in regard to any industrial dispute have been completed, a lock-out relating to such dispute shall be illegal if it is commenced at any time after the expiry of two months after the publication of the Report. Any employer who has declared a lock-out and continues it after it has been declared by the Registrar to be illegal shall, on conviction, be punishable with fine which may extend to Rs. 2,500 and shall, in addition, be directed by the Court to pay the employees kept out of employment by such lock-out, wages for the period they are so kept out based on the average earned by each employee during the twelve months preceding the commencement of the lock-out.

(The Hindu, 3-8-1941, and the Times of India, 28-8-1941.)

(Requisition has been made to the Government of Mysore for two copies of the Act; when received, one copy will be forwarded to Montreal.)+

Burma. -

The Burma Extraordinary Pension Rules, 1940. *

The Burma Government has on 25-7-1941 adopted the Burma Extraordinary Pension Rules, 1941, which applies to all persons paid from civil estimates, other than those to whom the Workman's Compensation Act applies, whether their appointment is permanent or temporary, on time-scale of pay or fixed pay or piece-work rates who are under the rule making control of the Governor.

The Rules provide for the grant of gratuity or pension to the victim of an injury or disease met with or contracted in the course of his duties according to the nature of the injury. Injuries are graded as: (1) equal to loss of limb, (2) very severe, (3) severe and likely to ^{be} permanent. In case the victim dies of an injury or disease, his widow and children are granted a gratuity or pension as the case may be; in assessing the amount of compensation, contributory negligence of the victim will be taken into account. The benefits under these Rules will not affect any other pension or gratuity to which the victim or his widow and children are otherwise entitled. For the purpose of the Rules "disease" means (i) venereal disease or ~~septicaemia contracted by a medical officer as a result of attendance~~ in the course of his official duty on an infected patient or of conducting a postmortem examination in the course of that duty, or (ii) disease solely and directly attributable to an accident.

(The Burma Gazette, Part I, dated 2-8-1941, pages 993 to 998.) *

SOCIAL POLICY

6

Labour Legislation:

Punjab Government discusses Problems with Employers.

The Punjab Government is understood to be contemplating the enactment of legislation for the welfare of labourers. This question, and the need for increasing wages in view of the rise in prices, were discussed at an informal conference of the industrialists of the Punjab which was held at Lahore on 9-8-1941, under the presidency of Sir Manohar Lal, Finance Minister.

The proceedings of ^{the} conference were not open to the public, but it is understood that the conference discussed the general industrial situation in the province in all its aspects, and also dealt with the question of a dearness allowance to industrial workers. It was pointed out that at a time when industrialists are earning profits as the result of war conditions, the wages of labourers, who have been hard hit on account of the rise in prices of the necessities of life, ought to be increased.

Other matters which came up before the Conference included certain labour measures now under consideration of the Government of India and various profit-sharing and provident fund schemes already in force in several big Indian commercial concerns.

(The Statesman, 10 and 11-8-1941.)

7

CONDITIONS OF WORK

Hours of Work

Bengal Shops and Establishments Act and Rules:

Bengal Chamber of Commerce seeks Elucidation on Certain
Points. ✓

The Bengal Chamber has recently taken up with the Government of Bengal certain difficulties in regard to the interpretation of the Bengal Shops and Establishments Act and Rules; these are:

(a) whether it would be proper to regard leave granted to employees during the first year of operation of the Act as privilege leave given in anticipation of its being earned; so that in terms of section 12(a) of the Act, the grant of further leave under the Act would not arise until the lapse of twelve months' continuous employment from the date of the termination of the leave taken during the first year; (b) whether the phrase "a person wholly or principally employed in connection with the business of a commercial establishment" includes such persons as sweepers, farashes, duffries (peons), dhobies (washermen), drivers, and cooks ~~and khansamas~~ who are employed by commercial establishments in a capacity incidental to the business of the establishment; and (c) whether in clause (b) of sub-section (1) of section 5 of the Act, the exclusion of "any industry, business or undertaking which supplies power, light or water to the public....." covers the employees of a Managing Agency House engaged on the work of a company which supplies light or power or water to the public and whose business is managed and controlled by the Managing Agency House.

The reply of the Bengal Government is pending.

(Abstract of Proceedings for April, May
and June 1941 of the Bengal Chamber
of Commerce.) ✓

Applicability of Bombay Shops Act to Daily Wage-
earners: Appeal before Bombay High Court. ✓

Does the Bombay Shops and Establishments Act apply to daily wage earners? An application in remission, based on this legal issue, has been admitted by the Bombay High Court in the third week of August 1941. The matter was treated in the lower Court as a test case.

The applicant is Mr. Hasanalli Gulamali Patanwalla, the proprietor of a hotel, who was convicted in May last by the Chief Presidency Magistrate, Bombay, under the Act and fined Rs. 20. The Inspector of Shops and Establishments, Bombay Municipality, visited the applicant's hotel on January 16 and 17. It was alleged that ~~altogether~~ although he had kept a register of employment, it was not written up. On January 20, a notice was sent to the applicant. On February 9, the Inspector again visited the hotel and found the register still blank. Moreover, the extract of the Act was purchased but it was not displayed. It was further alleged that the weekly holiday was not granted in the hotel and the weekly holiday notice

8

was not exhibited. In the lower Court, the Inspector, according to the applicant, admitted that the latter had told him that the servants in his shop were employed as daily wage earners. The Magistrate who originally decided the case was satisfied that there was nothing in the Act or the Rules framed thereunder to exclude the daily wage earners from the ambit of the Act.

Their Lordships issued a rule.

(The Times of India, 21-8-1941.) ✓

Proposed Shops Bill in Mysore:

Views of Piecegoods Merchants' Association, Bangalore. ✓

It is understood that there is a proposal to adopt a Shops Act in Mysore State and that the Labour Commissioner in Mysore has been inviting the views on the subject of the various interests concerned. The question was considered by the Bangalore City Piecegoods Merchants' Association recently. The discussions in the committee of the Association revealed that opinion among members on the question was sharply divided. Some members felt that conditions in Mysore State and even in its most important commercial towns, unlike Bombay and Calcutta, were not such as to warrant the passing of any such legislation. They expressed the view that the Government might await the experience of those British Indian Provinces, which have passed Shop Acts. Reference was also made to the fact that the neighbouring province of Madras had not passed such an Act. The other section of the Association which favoured the passing of a Shop Assistants' Act, felt that the time was ripe for the enactment of such legislation in Mysore. The shop-keepers themselves, no less than their servants, felt the need for periodical holidays from their routine business and also a reduction of their daily hours of work to a reasonable limit. This section also suggested that the Government might frame a Bill on the lines of those passed in British Indian provinces, with suitable modifications for local conditions, and that the same might be circulated for public opinion.

(The Indian Express, 20-8-1941.) ✓

Bombay Shops Act applies to Owner-Managed Concerns:

High Court Judgment. ✓

Reference was made at page 4 of our July 1941 report to the appeal preferred by the Bombay Government to the local High Court about the applicability of the Bombay Shops and Establishments Act to owner-managed one-man shops. On 28-8-1941, the Chief Justice, Sir John Beaumont, and Justice Sen delivered judgment to the effect that the Act covers such concerns. Their Lordships observed that there was nothing to suggest that the Act did not apply to the one-man-shop; the prohibition referred to as to the closure of the shop at 9 p.m. applied to ~~any~~ shop. It seemed to the Court that there was no justification for restricting the meaning of the relevant section, under which the accused was charged, which the Legislature had seen

9

had seen fit to lay down. Their Lordships, therefore, convicted the accused for keeping his shop open after 9 p.m. and fined him Rs. 4-15-0.

As regards the second charge of not displaying an extract of the Act, Their Lordships observed that, as there were no persons employed, it was not necessary to exhibit the extract in the shop. But they convicted the accused for not keeping the visit-book for the Inspector and fined him one anna.

(The Times of India, 30-8-1941.) ✓

Hours of Work in Jute Mills:
Working Week increased from 45 to 50 Hours. ✓

On the recommendation of its Committee, the Indian Jute Mills Association, at a special meeting on 28-8-1941 adopted a resolution deciding to increase the working hours of the member mills from 45 to 50 hours a week; this increase in working hours would obtain from 1-9-1941 to the end of this year.

Reviewing the recent policy of the Committee regarding working hours, the chairman said that it had been suggested in certain quarters that the Committee of the Association should have by now recommended an immediate increase in working hours. He assured the Association that the Committee had viewed with great concern the present high prices ruling in Hessian, but they were not satisfied that an adjustment of working hours would guarantee that these prices would eventually fall to a reasonable level. He said that in coming to a decision regarding changes in working hours, they had to consider many factors, not the least of which was labour, and he could not be a party to a policy, which advocated the chopping and changing of working hours in order to adjust prices and which would undoubtedly lead to labour troubles.

(The Hindu, 30-8-1941.) ✓

10

Wages

Committee to enquire into Standardisation of Wages in the Bombay Textile Industry: Bombay Government's Proposal. ✓+

The Bombay Textile Labour Inquiry Committee in its report, published recently, has examined in Chapter V the question of standardisation of wages in the Bombay textile industry and made a few recommendations on the subject. (Vide pages 21 to 24 of our May 1941 report for a brief summary of the Committee's main recommendations; a copy of the Committee's Report was sent to Montreal with our Minute D.1/499/~~41~~⁴¹ dated 30-6-1941.) It is now understood that the Bombay Government will shortly appoint a Committee to go in greater detail into the problem of standardisation of wages with a view to give effect to the Inquiry Committee's recommendations. ✓+

Industrial Disputes

Proposals to Amend Bombay Industrial Disputes Act, 1938: Tripartite Conference held in Bombay. ✓

The Government of Bombay has recently proposed to amend the Bombay Industrial Disputes Act, 1938, and for this purpose held a Conference of representatives of trade, commerce and industry and of labour. Mr. C.H. Bristow, Advisor to the Governor of Bombay, presided.

In the original Act, it was stated, there was no provision for the settlement of disputes between employees and employees, though the words "between employees and employees" have been inserted in the Act under the section relating to settlement of disputes. Government proposed the deletion of the words "between employees and employees" and the substitution of the words "connected with any industrial matter" to be inserted at the proper place. Representatives of millowners objected to the change, while those of workers' unions, on behalf of labour, agreed. Another amendment proposed related to the definition of a member of a registered union. The amendment suggested that a member should have paid his subscription consecutively for six months and that he should not be in arrears for a period not exceeding three months. Representatives of workers expressed opposition to this suggestion and referred to the difficulties of the members of the Seamen's Union, whose subscriptions were paid yearly.

Mr. Bristow observed that the provision might not apply to the Seamen's Union.

(The Times of India, 29-8-1941.) ✓

Factory Administration in Bihar, 1940.*

Number of Factories.- The number of factories on the register at the commencement of the year under report was 386. 18 factories were added to the register during the year under report. In the new registrations, rice mills form the majority. 15 factories were removed from the register. The total number of factories on the register at the end of the year was 389. Of the 389 factories on the register 339 worked during the year. Of the 339 factories that worked during the year 269 were perennial and 70 seasonal. The average number of days worked during the year by perennial and seasonal factories respectively were: perennial - 253 days, and Seasonal - 186 days.

Number of Workers.- The average daily number of workers in factories was 104,599 as against 95,988 in 328 working factories in the previous year (which is an increase of nearly 9 per cent. over the previous year). The increase was due to increased employment in certain industries, mainly in the iron and steel and sugar industries and to new registrations; there was however a decrease in employment in engineering and tobacco industries.

Employment of Women and Children.- The average daily number of women workers in factories during the year under report was 7,609 as against 6,758 in the previous year, which is an increase of 12.5 per cent. over the previous year. The average daily number of adolescent workers in factories during the year under report was 620 as against 321 in the previous year which is an increase of nearly 94 per cent. over the previous year. The average daily number of child workers in factories during the year under report was 328 as against 117 in the previous year which is an increase of 180 per cent. over the previous year. The number of women workers in factories has steadily increased during the last three years. There was very considerable increase in the employment of adolescent and child workers employed in factories during the year under report; it is not at present ~~possible~~ possible to judge whether the increase is only temporary due to special circumstances or whether it will be maintained.

Inspections.- Of the 339 factories which worked during the year 315 factories were inspected as against 289 in the previous year. The number of factories uninspected was 24 as against 39 in the previous year. The total number of inspections of all classes during the year including visits to unregistered factories was 544 as against 526 in the previous year. 211 factories were visited once, 74 twice, 23 thrice and 7 more than three times.

Prosecutions.- During the year under report prosecutions were instituted against the occupier or the manager of seven factories as against nine factories in the previous year. There were 23 charges in all against ^{14 persons and convictions were obtained against} all the persons in all charges ~~against~~ except one. The total amount of fine imposed was Rs. 555 as against Rs. 435 in the previous year.

* Annual Report on the working of the Factories Act, 1934, in the Province of Bihar for the year 1940 by Mr. H.M. Rai, Chief Inspector of Factories, Bihar. Superintendent, Government Printing, Bihar, Patna. 1941. Price As.8. pp.34.

13

Working of Employment of Children Act.- The Employment of Children Act, 1938, as amended by the Employment of Children (Amendment) Act, 1939, was extended to the Chota Nagpur Division and the district of Santal parganas by Government notification. The inspectors of factories are inspectors for the purposes of the Act. The number of workshops registered under the Act up to the end of the year under report was 110. ✓

Factory Administration in Bombay, 1940.* ✓

Number of Factories.- The number of factories subject to the control of the Factories Act increased from 3,460 to 3,640 (including 1,385 concerns to which the Act has been extended by Notification under Section 5. These concerns are referred to as "N" concerns in the report). 512 (220 + 292 "N") factories were added to the register and 332 (88 + 244 "N") were removed. The net increase was thus 180 (132+48 "N"). The number of factories that actually worked during the year was 1,966 + 1,352 "N" compared with 1,821 + 1,299 "N" in the preceding year. 1,245 + 1,226 "N" of the factories were perennial concerns and 721 + 126 "N" seasonal. 251 + 438 "N" of the perennial and 561 + 78 "N" of the seasonal factories were connected with the cotton industry.

Number of Workers.- The number of operatives employed in all ~~industries based on the~~ annual returns received and including the weighted night shift average in the cotton textile mills was 455,512 + 25,092 "N" compared with 443,713 + 22,327 "N" in the previous year. The number of adult shifts worked in the cotton textile industry excluding the "N" concerns was 86,544,129 as against 89,393,809 in the previous year; the decrease was due to a general strike in Bombay of about 6 weeks duration. There were fairly wide fluctuations in night shifts; a large increase in the early months was not sustained although the closing months witnessed a further spurt. Of the total number of workers, 70,898 were women and 770 children as against 70,597 and 920 respectively in 1939.

Inspections.- 1,058 factories were inspected once, 1,272 twice, 325 thrice and 496 more than thrice while 167 were not inspected. The total number of inspections made by whole-time and ex-officio inspectors was 3,318.

Accidents.- 11,993 persons were involved in accidents of whom 38 died, 2,407 were severely injured and 9,548 sustained minor injuries. The total number of persons injured in 1939 was 10,086. The incidence of accidents on the average was 2.49 per 100 operatives employed daily against the 1939 average of 2.16.

prosecutions.- 401 cases were instituted against 94 factories by the full-time inspectors. Convictions were secured in 311 cases against 77 factories whilst fines of Rs. 10,164 were imposed. The accused were acquitted in three cases. 71 cases against 14 factories are pending.

Working of the Employment of Children Act.- This Act prohibits the employment of children below the age of 12 years in ten classes of workshops. The Inspectors of Factories have been made responsible for its administration in the cities of Bombay, Ahmedabad and Poona. Annual Factory Report, Bombay Province, 1940 (including Notes on the Administration of the Bombay Maternity Benefit Act and the Payment of wages Act). Government Central Press, Bombay. Annas 4 or 5d. 1941.pp.66

Comprehensive surveys have been made in the cities indicated. Most of the concerns have submitted the notice of occupation whilst instructions have been given regarding the employment of child labour and the responsibility of occupiers. Not a single notice was sent in before the Inspectors visited.

The situation in the cities was as follows:-

Locality	Nature of Industry	No. of Workshops	No. of working children below the age of 12	Remarks.
Bombay	Bidi Making	1,715	352	
	Dyeing and printing.	89	1	
	Soap making	9	...	
	Wool cleaning	16	12	
Ahmedabad	Bidi factories	311	...	The industries do not employ children below 12 years or age. 423 out of the 454 were visited.
	Cloth Printing	129	...	
	Match Matches and fire-works.	1	...	
	Soap making	11	...	
	Tanning	2	...	

Ninety concerns were found in Poona of which 67 are hand-loom factories and 13 are engaged in the manufacture of bidis. A few children were employed and these have been certified for age.

Young children were also found in the large bidi factories in Nasik, Sholapur and the Southern Maratha areas and the provisions of the Act have been applied. ✓ +

13th Industries Conference:
Provisional Agenda. ✓

The Government of India proposes to convene the 13th Industries Conference during the coming cold weather. While the questions regarding the date and venue of the conference are still awaiting decision of the Government, it has prepared a provisional agenda. The Central Government will be prepared, so far as time permits, to place before the conference such other matters of importance as various Chambers of Commerce and trade organisations may suggest. The provisional agenda of the conference, as drawn up by the Central Government includes: consideration of the schemes for stimulation of handloom industry in various provinces and the allotment of grants-in-aid for 1942-43, if it is decided to extend the same; the report of the fact-finding committee on hand-loom industry, if ready; matters arising out of the proceedings of the meetings of the Board of Scientific and Industrial Research; and establishment of a permanent industrial museum at the Imperial capital.

(The Statesman, 29-8-1941.) ✓

Industrial Research in Hyderabad:
Committee to be set up in the state. ✓

In view of the importance of industrial research to national effort stimulated by the war, the Nizam's Government is considering a proposal to set up in Hyderabad State an industrial research committee which will be entrusted with the task of collecting information relating to the industrial potentialities of the State. The committee, which will work in close co-operation with the Board of ~~State~~ Scientific and Industrial Research, consists of scientists, engineers and industrialists.

The Committee will apportion research schemes to suitable laboratories and workshops in the State, and, it is understood the the Government, in the initial stage, proposes to allot Rs. 25,000 for such special research work.

(The Times of India, 31-8-1941.) ✓

Charcoal to replace Petrol:
Madras Government's Scheme.

With a view to encouraging the use of cheap producer gas in place of petrol for motor vehicles, the Government of Madras have examined measures for stimulating the supply of charcoal necessary for producer-gas vehicles. It is estimated that for 2,000 such vehicles about 30,000 tons of charcoal would be required in a year.

On this basis, it is learnt, arrangements are being made for the sale of coupes in the poorer classes of reserve forests to contractors producing charcoal. In view of the growing demand, it is expected that private enterprise would develop casuarina plantations and other sources for the production of ~~high~~ high grade charcoal to supplement the

supply from the Forest Department. The Government have asked the Registrar of Co-operative Societies in this connection to organise co-operative societies to assist in the cultivation of casuarina in suitable areas for the supply of charcoal.

(The Hindustan Times, 31-8-1941.)
+

Improvement in Indian Banking Conditions:
over 1000 Banks with Total Deposits of Rs.2879 millions
in 1940. +

The resilience which the Indian banking structure has shown in ~~adapting~~ adapting itself to the strain imposed by war conditions is reflected in the statistical tables relating to banks in India and Burma for the years 1939 and 1940 published by the Reserve Bank.

Deposits of all classes of banks showed a substantial rise, particularly during 1940, but the increase was mostly accounted for by a rise in the deposits of scheduled banks which improved despite war conditions, from Rs. 2556.6 million at the end of 1939 to Rs. 2879 millions at the end of 1940. The number of their branches at the end of 1940 was 1,348.

There was no major banking failure, but 60 petty non-scheduled banks having a total paid up capital of Rs. 602,000 went into liquidation or were wound up or otherwise ceased to work during 1940. The number of joint stock banks operating at the end of 1940 was about 1,002.

The table gives, perhaps for the first time, a complete picture of current banking conditions, including as they do several other interesting details such as the names of members and sub-members of the various clearing houses, a list of non-scheduled banks and indigenous bankers approved for concession rates under the new scheme of remittances introduced by the Reserve Bank from October 1, 1940, and the names of banks located in various towns in India and Burma. Maps showing the distribution of the offices of the various classes of banks in India have also been included.

(The Statesman, 1-8-1941.) ✓

Assam-
Government of India takes over the/Bengal Railway
from 1-1-1942: Decrease in working expenses anticipated.

As from 1st January, 1942, the Government of India would take over the Assam-Bengal Railway, ~~Company's interest in the system by buying out the remaining interest of Rs. 1 1/2 million and intended to amalgamate this a Company-owned railway, by buying out the remaining interest of the Company in the system by payment of 1 1/2 million. It is intended to amalgamate this railway with the Eastern Bengal Railway and this amalgamation would, it is expected, result in a decrease in working expenses.~~

(The Statesman, 31-8-1941.)

17

Striking Increase in India's Exports:
Rs. 476 millions in 1938-39 and Rs. 812
millions in 1940-41. ✓

One way to judge India's industrial expansion since the outbreak of the war is by discovering the type of articles, wholly or mainly manufactured, which have been exported in larger quantities from India during the year ended March, 1941, as compared with the corresponding pre-war period of 1938-39. The total value of exports of articles wholly or mainly manufactured increased by Rs. 336,300,000 from Rs. 476,100,000 in 1938-39 to Rs. 812,400,000 in 1940-41.

Cotton.- Exports of cotton yarn and manufactures were nearly double the figures for the corresponding period in 1938-39, the increase being over Rs. 93,700,000. As for jute manufactures, exports registered an increase of Rs. ~~191~~ 191,500,000.

Pig Iron.- There was greater demand for Indian pig-iron. Iron manufactures like angles, bolts and rods, bars and channels and iron or steel manufactures like cast pipes and fittings, sheets and plates, tubes, pipes and fittings, wrought, and other manufactures of iron or steel all recorded increases of value. Thus, exports of iron and steel and manufactures thereof recorded a jump of over Rs. 20,000,000.

Machinery and Building Materials.- Other articles which were much in demand abroad were machinery of all kinds (including belting for machinery) the exports of which showed an increase of Rs. 175,000 and metals other than iron and steel and manufactures thereof, the export of which rose from ~~Rs. 2,175,000~~ Rs. 2,175,000 to Rs. 2,498,000. Building and engineering material like bricks and lime and magnesite is also finding a larger market abroad. A large export trade in boots and shoes has been built up. Exports of hides and skins, tanned or dressed, and leather and leather manufactures have increased by Rs. 7,096,000. Among tanning materials, myrobalan extracts have shown an increase, while dyes and colours rose in value by Rs. 345,000.

Paper and Stationery.- Another industry to which prosperity has been brought by the war is paper and stationery. Exports of paper, paste-board and stationery increased by Rs. 2,867,000 from Rs. 1,275,000 to Rs. 4,142,000. Exports of rubber manufactures increased eleven times.

Oil.- The total exports of oil increased by over Rs. 13,700,000. The essential oil industry is being developed, and exports of lemon grass oil have shown an improvement.

Miscellaneous Goods.- Increases in quantities and values have also been recorded by paints and painter's materials, provisions and oilman's stores, manufactured tobacco, umbrellas, waxes of all kinds, candles, casein, coke, coir matting, cordage and rope of vegetable fibre, wheat flour, liquors, musical and other instruments, apparatuses, appliances and parts thereof, anchors and cables, hoops and strips.

(The Times of India, 12-8-1941.)+

18

Working Class Cost of Living Index Numbers for
Various Centres in India during May 1941. ✓

The index number of the cost of living for working classes in various centres of India registered the following changes during May 1941, as compared with the preceding month:-

Bombay.- The index number (base: Year ending June 1934) of the cost of living for working classes in Bombay for May 1941 rose by 1 point to 122. The average for the calendar year 1940 was 112 as compared with 106 for 1939.

Ahmedabad.- The index number (base: year ending July 1927) of the cost of living in Ahmedabad during May 1941 advanced by 1 point to 82. The average for 1940 was 79 as against 73 for the preceding year.

Sholapur.- The index number (base: year ending January 1928) of the cost of living in Sholapur during May 1941 remained stationary at 78 as compared with the preceding month. The average for 1940 was 76 as compared with 74 for the preceding year.

Nagpur.- The index number (base: January 1927) of the cost of living in Nagpur in May 1941 remained stationary at 72 as compared with the preceding month. The average for 1940 was 70 as against 63 for 1939.

Jubbulpore.- The index number (base: January 1927) of the cost of living in Jubbulpore during May 1941 fell by 1 point to 71. The average for 1940 was 67 as against 59 for 1939.

Madras.- The index number (base: year ending June 1936) of the cost of living in Madras during May 1941 fell by 1 point to 108. The average for 1940 was 107 as against 100 for 1939.

Cawnpore.- The index number (base: August 1939) of the cost of living in Cawnpore during May 1941 rose by 1 point to 108. The average for 1940 was 111.

(Extracted from Monthly Survey of Business
Conditions in India for May 1941.) ✓

19

SOCIAL INSURANCE

Working of the Bombay Maternity Benefit Act during 1940.* ✓

Returns were received from 568 of the 573 factories amenable to the Act. The average number of women employed daily was 44,731. The number of women who claimed maternity benefits was 4,218, of whom 3,907 were paid benefits for actual births. The total amount of benefit paid during the year was Rs. 98,811-4-11. The number of claims paid in 1940 per 100 women employed was 8.84 as against 9.24 in 1939. The number of cases in which pre-maternity benefits were paid was 2,291. ✓

* Annual Factory Report, Bombay Province, 1940 (including Notes on the Administration of the Bombay Maternity Benefit Act and the Payment of Wages Act). Printed at the Government Central Press, Bombay. Price Annas 4 or 5d. 1941. pp.69.

20

AGRICULTURE

Staff for Rural Reconstruction:
Bengal Government's Scheme for training 6000 official and 50,000
non-official workers. ✓

A comprehensive scheme of training of the entire staff of ^{the} Jute Regulation Department, who would henceforth be required to do rural reconstruction work in addition to their duties relating to jute, has been inaugurated by the Department of Rural Reconstruction and Jute Regulation, Bengal. In accordance with this scheme a training camp was started at Dinajpur for a period of three weeks commencing from 21-7-1941 to give practical training in survey and settlement and in rural reconstruction to the Chief Inspectors and selected Inspectors, numbering 60. The second part of the scheme is about to start. The Chief Inspectors have been instructed to start training camps in 36 charges covering the whole province and work there according to the plan and programme drawn up by the Director of Rural Reconstruction to train the rest of the staff of each charge in three batches - each batch consisting of about 50 men. The training of each batch will last for about two weeks, and will include practical work in rural reconstruction in all the villages of one selected Union.

The scheme will yield about 6000 men fully equipped with training in rural reconstruction before the end of September 1941. In addition, arrangements are being made for training non-official workers, and it is hoped that about 50,000 of them shall be trained during the coming cold weather.

(Press Note dated 20-8-1941 issued
by the Director of Public Information,
Bengal.) ✓

The Bengal Agricultural Income-Tax Bill, 1941.

The Bengal Government proposes introducing in the local Legislature an Agricultural Income-tax Bill shortly, "both because additional revenue is urgently needed to meet the expanding needs of the Province, and because they consider that it is equitable to impose such a tax." The purpose of the Bill is to levy a tax on agricultural income arising from lands situated in Bengal. The rates are slightly less steeply graded than those existing under the Indian Income-Tax Act, 1922, but the exemption limit is the same as under that Act, and there is no super-tax.

(The Calcutta Gazette Extraordinary,
Part IV-A, dated 2-9-1941, pages
112 to 138.) ✓+

Methods of Increasing Rice Production in India:
Question considered by Governing Body of I.C.A.R. ✓

The increase of rice production in India and large-scale introduction among cultivators of the great number of new varieties evolved by 10 years of research were among subjects discussed at recent meetings of the Governing Body of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research.

Details of New Scheme.- It is explained that new and improved varieties of rice suited to different tracts, including some which will grow on dry land, are ready for distribution. To popularise these varieties in the rice growing provinces, the Governing Body sanctioned Rs. 1,10,000 for a two-year scheme. While within a few years of the introduction of new sugarcane varieties, some 75 per cent. of the area under the crop was sown with the new varieties, in the case of rice the percentage of the area covered by new varieties, so far, is only six.

Governing Body's Recommendations.- Among the Governing Body's recommendations for increasing rice production are: distribution to cultivators of manures, especially of cake, at cheap rates on a large scale, the price being recovered after the harvest; distribution of pure and improved seed on a large scale; encouragement of growing, subsequent to paddy, of suitable rabi crops like gram and other pulses in paddy lands, and inducement to cultivators to utilise for rice cultivation as far as possible areas released from other crops. The meeting emphasized the necessity for adequate irrigation of paddy lands and invited the particular attention of the provinces and States concerned to this problem. It is emphasized that room exists for increasing production to meet the acute shortage of rice.

(The Statesman, 1-8-1941.) ✓

Home for Indian Seamen in Calcutta. ✓

Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar, Commerce Member, Government of India, met at Calcutta in the first week of August 1941 the members of a committee which recently reported on the construction of an Indian seamen's Home in Calcutta. The Finance Minister to the Government of Bengal, Mr. Aftab Ali, M.L.A., and representatives of labour and shipping interests were also present. After full discussion, certain tentative conclusions were reached regarding the construction, maintenance and management of the Seamen's Home. Sir Ramaswami will now report to the Government of India on the proposal and will hold further communication with shipping companies and the Government of Bengal regarding the details of the scheme.

(The Hindu, 11-8-1941.) ✓.

PROFESSIONAL WORKERS, SALARIED EMPLOYEES AND PUBLIC SERVANTS

Subordinate Government Employees in Bombay Demand
Dearness Allowance. ✓

Representatives of Service Associations of Subordinate and Inferior Government employees in Bombay which have not yet formed an association met together in a formal meeting under the auspices of the All-India Government Employees' Federation, on 10-8-1941, Mr. S.C. Joshi presiding, and passed unanimously a resolution inviting immediate attention of the Government to the abnormal rise in prices and to the need of granting immediately an adequate dearness allowance to all subordinate and inferior employees of the Government.

(The Bombay Chronicle, 13-8-1941) ✓

Yarn shortage for Handloom Weavers in U. P. :
Government plan for Conference to consider Problem. ✓

The U.P. Government has decided shortly to call a conference of mill interests and handloom workers to decide how best to avert the crisis which is threatening 700,000 workers employed on handlooms and are using mill-spun yarn or art silk yarn imported from Japan. It appears that mills are indifferent suppliers of yarn for handloom and that the price of such yarn has gone up. The present supply of handspun yarn is being augmented through the co-operation of the All-India Spinners' Association, but ~~handspun~~ handspun yarn is not able to meet the needs of handlooms.

The Director of Industries has been asked to collect data on the subject to help the proposed conference to decide how to relieve the threatened distress. The Government of India's intervention might become necessary to secure the import of art silk from China and America and to secure regular supply of mill yarn at reasonable prices. But before the Central Government are approached the provincial Government will determine the extent of relief needed and how far provincial action could meet the situation.

(The Statesman, 24-8-1941.)

~~Similar difficulties are experienced in other parts of India as well.~~

~~(The Statesman, 24-8-1941.)~~

28

LIVING CONDITIONS

Nation

Balanced Diet for School boys:

Dr. Bhaskar's Estimate. ✓

In his lecture on "Cheap Balanced Diet" delivered at the Princess Mary Gymkhana, on 15-9-1941 before the members of the Bombay Women's Work Guild, Dr. K.S. Bhaskar, Joint Honorary Secretary of the Bombay Presidency Baby and Health Week Association and Honorary Adviser to the Bombay Mofussil Maternity Child Welfare and Health Council gave the following particulars of "balanced diets" suitable to India, both non-vegetarian and vegetarian, which, in his opinion, would be found to yield good results.

<u>Articles</u>	<u>Non-Vegetarian Balanced Diet</u>	<u>Vegetarian Balanced Diet</u>
	Ozs.	Ozs.
Fresh whole milk	9.00	6.00
Meat	3.00	...
Rice	5.00	5.75
Rice bran	0.50	...
Wheat	6.00	6.75
Bajri (Pennisetum typhoidem)	3.00	5.14
Groundnut cake	0.50	0.30
For Dal (Cajanus indicus) and other pulses, Whole Horse Grams	3.50	\$ 4.25
Vegetable oils	1.60	0.50
Jaggery	2.00	2.00
Fruit and Root Vegetables	5.00	10.57
Leafy Vegetables	3.00	
Animal Proteins per centage.	<u>28.21</u>	<u>8.75</u>
Animal Fats per centage.	30.49	25.88
Total Proteins (Gms)	106.57	92.83
Total Fats (Gms.)	84.08	39.41
Total Carbohydrates (Gms.)	468.74	564.89
Calories	3141	3063
Cost per month per boy	Rs.6-6-0	Rs.4-10-0

(The Bombay Chronicle, 14-8-41) ✓

Supply of Cheap Milk to Working Classes in Bombay:

Details of Proposed Scheme. ✓

A move has recently been initiated to supply fresh milk at the cheapest possible rate to the citizens of Bombay, particularly to the labouring classes, the vast majority of whom are ~~particularly~~ practically deprived of this healthy diet owing to increased price. It is proposed to import milk from Anand, about 266 miles from Bombay, under scientific supervision in sufficiently large quantity so as to meet the daily requirements of the city. The whole project is being carefully examined by business men and technicians and it will take some time before it is actually put into operation.

The question of keeping milk in absolutely fresh condition during the transportation over long distances is also being considered. I'

26

felt by some experts that the solution lies in the specialised application of refrigeration known as "quick chilling". As an experimental measure, consignments of milk have been arriving in Bombay from ~~Anand~~ Anand since March 1941 and it is being supplied to the municipal hospitals after careful analysis by the Health Department. The quantities of milk so far transported to Bombay have been about 30 maunds per day, and in view of the success obtained, ~~plans~~ plans are well advanced for increasing this supply in the near future. A well insulated railway van fitted with a refrigeration plant is being used for transporting milk.

"Quick chilling" means the extremely rapid extraction of heat which reduces the temperature of milk nearly to the freezing point within a few minutes. The technique is very different from the ordinary freezing or cold storage treatment, and success lies in the rapidity of cooling combined with precise control of temperature. It is pointed out that milk treated in this manner and stored at a properly controlled temperature will remain in a fresh condition for many days or even weeks, as shown by the tests made by the Health Department as well as by the Haffkine Institute. Dry ice is the most convenient medium for maintenance of the proper conditions during transport.

The successful scientific achievement referred to is the result of the use of a process which, it is claimed, is widely used in Great Britain, America, Japan and other countries, for the treatment of feedstuffs, and there is, it is felt, a very wide scope for its use in India where large surplus supplies of milk, cream, fruit, fish and meat are to be found in some parts of the country, while in others they are almost unobtainable.

(The Times of India, 8-8-1941.)

27

Workers' Organisations.

20th Half-Yearly Meeting between A.I.R.F. and Railway Board, Bombay, 4-8-1941. ✓.

The extension of Provident Fund benefits; the working of the present dearness allowance rules; blocks in the promotion of low paid staff; principles to be adopted in regard to staff on the transfer of railways from company to State management, and the grievances of certain accounts staff were the subjects discussed at the 20th half-yearly meeting between the Railway Board and the All-India Railwaymen's Federation held in Bombay on 6-8-1941. The deputation from the Federation included, besides Mr. Jamnadas Mehta, the President, ^{and} Mr. S. Guruswami, General Secretary, and some fourteen other delegates from various unions affiliated to the Federation. A press communiqué was issued by the Railway Board with the concurrence of the Federation regarding the discussions at the meeting; ~~the~~ summary of the discussions as given out in the communiqué is given below:

Provident Fund.- In regard to the extension of Provident Fund benefits, the Federation submitted that the original provision of Rs. 1.8 million made by the Railway Board for this purpose had been reduced to Rs. 750,000, as perhaps the Board felt that there would not be many volunteers for admission to the Fund.

The Chief Commissioner, Sir Leonard Wilson, explained that the provision of Rs. 750,000 represented the amount provided in 1941-42 over and above that allowed for in the previous year. The provision of Rs. 1 million or 1.2 million represented a necessarily rough estimate as the option need not be exercised at once but at any subsequent time during the employee's service. If, however, the cost turned out to be, say, Rs. 1.3 million there was no intention of going back on what the Board had undertaken to do in the matter. To other arguments, the Chief Commissioner pointed out that the Railway Board could not take a short view of this matter and that the present high earnings might last only for the duration of the war, while the Provident Fund benefits were a permanent liability. He also referred to the debts owed by the Railways to the Depreciation Fund and the ~~the~~ contributions to be made to the general finances of the country and concluded that, as the present scheme had only been introduced about eight months ago, it would not be reasonable to expect a further advance in so short a time.

Dearness Allowance Rules.- In regard to the working of the present dearness allowance rules, the Chief Commissioner referred to the submission made by the Federation that those who were still eligible for and were drawing grain compensation allowance should not be deprived of the dearness allowance and said that he was prepared to consider this matter.

Promotions.- The question of blocks in promotion in the grades of low-paid staff was then discussed. The Federation showed to the Chief Commissioner a list giving details of certain staff who had been blocked on Rs. 60 for many years especially in the Divisional Offices on the N.W. Railway.

The Chief Commissioner remarked that, after all, work must have some relation to the pay drawn and that so long as an employee held a particular post which was considered to be worth Rs. 60 - he could not be paid more than Rs. 60, simply because he had been in the post for some time. The Chief Commissioner said that the Railway Board were constantly examining the classification of the grades in relation to the nature of the work performed.

Staff of Company-managed Railways transferred to State-management.- In regard to the principles to be adopted regarding staff, on the transfer of a company-managed railway to State management, the Chief Commissioner explained that the object of the Government was to take over and keep the staff on the same conditions generally as were applicable to them at the time of transfer in all major matters such as pay, provident fund benefits, etc., although in some minor matters, they might be brought under State rules in order to provide ~~uniform~~ uniform conditions.

Machinery to settle Disputes between A.I.R.F. and Railway Board.- The Federation stated that there were cases in which deadlock was reached in discussion with the board, and it was desirable in such a contingency that machinery should be provided to assess and decide on the relative claims of the two parties. With this end in view, it was submitted that, in the absence of the standing machinery recommended by the Whitley Commission, the Railway Board should agree in such cases to join with the Federation in applying to the Government for action under the Trade Disputes Act.

The Chief Commissioner asked if it was really necessary in every case that one side should get its views accepted when, as was inevitable, the views of both sides sometimes differed. He added that the Board would only be inclined to agree to a procedure suggested by the Federation where they were in doubt regarding any matter.

(The Bombay Chronicle, 11-8-1941.)-

Postal Employees Demand Dearness Allowance:
Bombay Conference.

At the Bombay Presidency Postmen and Lower Grade Staff Conference held at Bombay on 2 and 3-8-1941, Mr. N.M. Joshi presiding, resolutions were adopted, among others, (1) requesting postal authorities that a war allowance at the rate of 40 per cent. of the wages should be given to the inferior staff, as the cost of living had soared up due to the war, (2) urging an increase in house rent allowance in Bombay City from Rs. 6-8 to Rs. 10, and proportionate increase in the mofussil, and (3) demanding that the same conditions should apply to the superior and inferior staffs, as regards leave, pension and the maintenance of reserve staff.

(The Bombay Chronicle,
4 and 5-8-1941.) ✓

Mill-hands in Cawnpore and Drink Habit:
Government move to reduce Incidence. ✓

With a view to discourage, and, if possible, to prevent the drink habit among industrial workers in Cawnpore, it is understood that the Government of the United Provinces has approached mill managements to fix Wednesdays and Saturdays for disbursement of wages in their factories, so that the Government can close all liquor shops in the mill area on these days. It is learnt that 29 out of 80 factories in Cawnpore employing workers numbering 16,000 have agreed to carry out the suggestion of the Government. It is hoped that the other mills will also follow suit.

(The Leader, 22-8-1941.) ✓+

Appointment of District Health Officers:
Bombay Government adopts Scheme. ✓

The Government of Bombay has decided, as an experimental measure, to appoint three whole-time district health officers in selected districts and to appoint the civil surgeons of three other districts as district health officers in addition to their own duties, as representations had been made to Government that the health staff appointed by local boards to look after public health and sanitation in rural areas was inadequate. The three districts selected for the appointment of whole-time health officers are Surat, Sholapur and Belgaum, while the Civil Surgeons of Kaira, Ahmednagar and Kanara have been directed to work also as health officers.

(The Times of India, dated 12-8-1941),

Educational Reorganisation in Hyderabad state:
New Scheme providing improved facilities for Vocational Edu-
cation Approved. ✓

In 1935, the Government of H.E.H. the Nizam appointed a Committee under the chairmanship of the late Dr. A.H. Mackenzie, the then Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the Osmania University, to go into the question of educational reorganisation in the State. The recommendations of the Committee were approved by Government with slight modifications. A year later the Board of Secondary Education was constituted and a separate Department of Technical and Vocational Education was created. Government also requisitioned the services of Mr. Abbott, Ex-Chief Inspector of Government Technical Schools in England, to advise them on the question of the reorganisation of vocational education in the State. The Mackenzie Committee had recommended that vocational courses should be set up in the existing schools of general education, but Mr. Abbott favoured the idea of imparting vocational education in separate institutions. The Government accepted Mr. Abbott's recommendation.

Main features of Re-organisation Scheme:- Establishment of more Technical Schools. - The essence of the reorganisation scheme is bifurcation, that is, the diversion of students having an aptitude for higher academic education to institutions where they may receive a type of training likely to be beneficial to them in practical life. With a view to meet this demand and also with the object of checking the growth of unemployment in the State, resulting from a purely liberal type of education, it has also been decided to open vocational, industrial, agricultural, etc., schools in as large numbers as possible, in accordance with the programme chalked out by Mr. Abbott, to coincide with the end of the Primary, the Lower Secondary and the High School stages, respectively. The Department of Technical and Vocational Education has been constantly engaged during the last three years in increasing the facilities for such education on the lines recommended by Mr. Abbott. The Technical College has been reorganised and provision has been made in this Institution for imparting commercial in addition to instruction in mechanical and electrical engineering. The industrial schools at Aurangabad and Nizamabad have also been reorganised, while five new industrial schools, two at Hyderabad, one for boys and one for girls, and one each at Gulbarga, Warangal and Nanded have been opened. There are, in addition, six aided industrial schools. A Central School of Art and Crafts has also been recently opened at Hyderabad. The question of establishing six vocational high schools and two agricultural schools is now under consideration.

Planned Industrial Development. - Realising that the problem of unemployment among the educated classes cannot be solved merely by multiplying facilities for technical and vocational education, the State Government is also planning the economic and industrial development of the State with a view to widening the field of employment.

("Hyderabad Information", August 1941 issue.) ✓

Wages

Dearness Allowance for Madras
Government servants.

The Government of Madras has recently passed orders regarding the grant of dearness allowance to their employees with effect from 1-8-1941. In November 1940, it was announced that a special compensatory cost of living allowance would be granted at a flat rate of Re. 1 per mensem to Government servants in receipt of emoluments not exceeding Rs. 40 per mensem, if employed in Madras City, and Rs. 30 per mensem if employed in Mofussil, when the Madras City monthly cost of living index stood at an average of 112 over a period of three consecutive months. In view of the sudden rise in the index figure for July 1941 to 113 as compared with 109 for June, 1941, the Governor has decided that the allowance should be granted when the Madras City monthly cost of living index stands at an average of 110 over a period of three consecutive months. The allowance will be granted only when the Madras City monthly cost of living index stands at an average of 110 over a period of three consecutive months, and will ~~accrue~~ accrue for the first time as from the 1st of the fourth month and will be drawn with the pay for that month in the following month, without retrospective effect. The allowance will be continued even if after introduction, the index figure falls below 110 in a particular month, but will be discontinued if the average of the monthly index figure for three consecutive months falls below 110, the discontinuance taking effect as from the 1st of the fourth month, that is, from the pay bill for that month, without retrospective effect. The allowance will ordinarily be granted only to whole-time Government servants borne on the regular establishment. Whole-time Government servants paid at piecework rates, menials paid from contingencies, labourers in Government workshops, the labour force employed in the Government cinchona plantations, etc., other than casual employees, will also be eligible for the allowance.

(The Hindu, 21-8-1941.) *

Dearness Allowance to Papanasam Mill Workers.

It is reported that, in view of the dearness of foodstuffs and other articles, the management of the Madura Mills Co., Ltd., Papanasam, South India, recently declared an increment of Re.1 in the monthly pay of all the labourers who are getting a monthly wage of Rs. Rs 50 and below. The increment has been given effect to from the July 1941 payment itself. It was also decided in the interest of the labourers that all commodities purchased from "the Harvey Mills Employees' Co-operative Stores" would be sold only at the pre-war prices, and the loss sustained therefrom, would be made up from the monthly gratis amount of Rs. 3,000 agreed to be paid by the Mill management to the stores.

(Industrial Bulletin dated 1-9-1941
of the Employers' Federation of
India, Bombay.) *

33

Increased Dearness Allowance to Ahmedabad Textile Workers.

In compliance with the demand of the Textile Labour Association, Ahmedabad, the local Millowners' Association decided on 11-8-1941 to give an increase of 45 per cent. in the dearness allowance awarded to the workers in the member mills by the Industrial Court on 26-4-1940. The increased allowance will be given with effect from July, 1941, in view of the improved conditions of the industry, and is liable to revision. An agreement signed by both the Millowners' Association and the Textile Labour Association will be submitted to the ~~Indian~~ Industrial Court. Over 100,000 operatives will get the increased dearness allowance granted by the Millowners' Association.

(The Bombay Chronicle 13-8-1941)✓

Grain Allowance for Low-Paid Government Employees in Orissa.

In a resolution dated 21-11-1940, of the Government of Orissa, it was announced that grain compensation allowance at Re.1 per month would be payable to Government servants in receipt of emolument of Rs. 30 or less a month when the average retail price of rice in the province for all headquarters and sub-divisional stations, taken over the three preceding calendar year months became dearer than 9 standard seers (1 seer = 2 lbs.) to the rupee. As the average price of rice during the three months of May, June and July 1941 had become dearer than 9 seers to a rupee, the Government has sanctioned the payment of grain compensation allowance to such Government servants with effect from 1-8-1941 until further orders.

(The Amrita Bazar Patrika 22-8-1941.)✓

Dearness Allowance for Cotton Textile workers in Bengal.

Approximately 20,000 workers of all the Indian-owned cotton mills in Bengal stand to benefit by the decision of the Committee of the Bengal Millowners' Association, recommending all mills in its membership to grant a dearness allowance to their workers, at the following rates with retrospective or immediate effect, or with effect from as early date as convenient: (1) Those earning up to Rs. 20 per month, on a full month's working basis - two annas per rupee; (2) those earning above Rs. 20, but not over Rs. 50 per month - one anna and six pies per rupee; and (3) those earning above Rs. 50, but not over Rs. 100 - one anna per rupee.

(The Statesman, 24-8-1941.)✓

Dearness Allowance for Cawnpore Municipal Employees.

The finance committee of the Cawnpore Municipal Board has recommended the grant of dearness allowance to municipal employees, according to the following scale: Employees getting below Rs. 30 per month - 2 annas per rupee; from Rs. 30 to Rs. 50 per month 1½ annas per rupee; over Rs. 50 and up to Rs. 80 per month - one anna per rupee.

(The Statesman, 3-8-1941.)✓

Higher Dearness Grant for Mill workers in Bombay.

In order to meet the rise in the cost of living due to the war, workers in the cotton textile industry in Bombay have since December 1, 1939, been paid a dearness allowance in accordance with the recommendations of the majority of the Board of Conciliation which submitted its report in February 1940. This recommendation was to the effect that a dearness allowance at a flat rate of two annas per day be given during the war as an addition to the wages of the cotton textile mill workers to cover variations in the official cost of living index number between 105 and 123 and that, in the event of the index number falling outside the limits of 105 and 123 for any period of three consecutive months, an adjustment of the proposed dearness allowance would be necessary.

New scales.- In view, however, of the hardship that is likely to be caused to workers owing to the recent upward tendency of the Bombay working class cost of living index number, the Government of Bombay took up the matter with the Millowners' Association, Bombay, with a view to securing a revision of the dearness allowance as soon as the upper limit for its revision set by the Board of Conciliation was reached, without waiting for a period of three months. As a result of these discussions Government have been able to persuade the Association to waive its right of insistence that three months should pass after the cost of living index has exceeded the figure of 123 before giving any increase in the dearness allowance, and to adopt a sliding scale of dearness allowance in conformity with the movement of the cost of living index number between 124 and 143.

The sliding scale of dearness allowance per 26 working days in a month against the official working class cost of living index number will be as follows:-

Official Working-class Cost of Living Index Number	Dearness Allowance per 26 working days Rs
124	Rs.4 8 0
125	Rs.4 12 0
126	Rs.5 0 0
127	Rs.5 3 0
128	Rs.5 7 0
129	Rs.5 11 0
130	Rs.5 15 0
131	Rs.6 3 0
132	Rs.6 6 0
133	Rs.6 10 0
134	Rs.6 14 0
135	Rs.7 2 0
136	Rs.7 6 0
137	Rs.7 9 0
138	Rs.7 13 0
139	Rs.8 1 0
140	Rs.8 5 0
141	Rs.8 9 0
142	Rs.8 12 0
143	Rs.9 0 0

35

On the basis of 27 working days, the above sliding scale will secure dearness allowance of Rs. 5-3-0 for the month of July, 1941, as compared with Rs. 3-4-0 which was paid for the month of June 1941. If the index number goes down to 123, dearness allowance will be paid in accordance with the recommendation of the Board of Conciliation, that is, at the rate of two annas per working day.

Nearly 200,000 workers will be affected by the above revision.

(Times of India, 11-8-1941, and the
Bombay Chronicle, 10-8-1941.)

During August there was a further increase of 5 points in the cost of living index over the July 1941 figure of 126.

(The Times of India 26-8-1941.)

Labour Reaction to Increased Scale.- Commenting on the increases agreed to, Mr. N.M. Joshi has expressed the view that the scale of the increased allowance was very inadequate compared to the increase in the cost of living and compared to what was justifiably expected by the Bombay textile workers from the report of the Board of Conciliation.

"I am also disappointed", he added, "that the Government did not take into consideration, on this occasion, the present prosperity of the industry and give the workers a fair share of the profits of that industry. It is equally disappointing that they have not made any proposals to give effect to the recommendations of the report of the Textile Inquiry Committee". Explaining how the scale of the increased allowance was inadequate, Mr. Joshi said that the Report of the Board of Conciliation itself had fallen short of the expectations of the textile workers of Bombay. The workers had reconciled themselves to it on account of their helplessness brought about by the sudden arrest of many of the labour leaders. When the cost of living index reached 122, it showed a tendency to rise very fast. It actually reached 126 for July 1941. The Government had now intervened and proposed a sliding scale based on the principle of partially meeting the increased cost of living. What the workers expected to get according to the scale proposed by the Rangnekar report had been denied.

(The Bombay Chronicle, 14-8-1941.)

War Dearness Food Allowance to Cawnpore Textile Workers.

By reasons mainly of reckless speculation in the grain and cloth markets there has, since the end of June 1941, been an unusually sudden rise in the cost of certain household necessities causing particular hardship to mill workers in the lower grades. As a result of negotiations with the Labour Commissioner, U.P., the Employers' Association of Northern India, Cawnpore, has now agreed to grant a further War Dear Food Allowance on the following scale:-

(1) Cotton, Woollen and Leather Concerns.

<u>Categories.</u>	<u>As.</u>	<u>Ps.</u>	
A. Under Rs.19	2	0	in the rupee
B. Rs. 19 and under Rs.25	1	6	in the rupee
C. Rs. 25 and under Rs.32-8	1	6	in the rupee

<u>Categories</u>	<u>As.</u>	<u>Ps.</u>	
D. Rs. 32-6 and under Rs. 40	1	6	in the rupee
E. Rs. 40 and under Rs. 59	1	6	in the rupee
F. Rs. 59 and under Rs. 75	1	6	in the rupee
G. Rs. 75 and up to Rs. 150	1	6	in the rupee

(11) Jute Concerns.-

<u>Categories.</u>	<u>As.</u>	<u>Ps.</u>	
A. Under Rs. 14	2	0	in the rupee
B. Rs. 14 and under Rs. 18	1	6	in the rupee
C. Rs. 18 and under Rs. 24	1	6	in the rupee
D. Rs. 24 and under Rs. 30	1	6	in the rupee
E. Rs. 30 and under Rs. 75.	1	6	in the rupee
F. Rs. 75 and upto Rs. 150	1	6	in the rupee

This additional increase is granted to cover a cost of living index figure up to 140 points. If it exceeds 140, the Association has promised to grant a fresh increase. The new scale is to be revised also if the index falls below 121. The allowance now announced will be paid on the basic wages under conditions similar to those governing the increases granted in 1938 and 1940 and will be effective from the second wage period of July 1941.

Profit-sharing system Rejected.- The Employers' Association of Northern India also considered an alternative suggestion that some system of profit sharing might be introduced, but it is the feeling of the Managing Committee that any such system is open to serious objection, particularly because it would operate unfairly in the various industries represented by the Association, not only on the employees in different mills but even on employees in different grades in the same mill.

(Circular No. G.M.O.129 dated 12-8-1941 of the Employers' Association of Northern India, Campore.)

Above 70,000 workers are expected to benefit under the above schemes. ✓ +

Safety of Workers.

Safety of workers during Air-raids;
Government of Bengal discusses Problem with Business
Interests. ✓

The effect of hostile attack on the labour population in Calcutta and the neighbouring industrial area and the additional steps to be taken to ensure that such labour remained at their posts, were considered at a conference held recently at Calcutta between representatives of the Government of Bengal, the Industrial Sub-Committee of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, the Director-General of Munitions Production, and the Bengal Public Relations Committee.

In forwarding copies of the proceedings of the conference to various business interests and industrial organisations, the Government of Bengal states that it has carefully considered the whole question of propaganda in relation to labour. While it realises that a

considerable amount of indirect propaganda has been done by certain firms to educate labour in the arrangements that have to be made in the event of hostile attack, it is of the opinion that the time has come for far more direct and intensive propaganda than has as yet been undertaken. The Government feels that staff must now be made to realise that during an air raid or in anticipation of an air attack they should not leave their places of employment and seek shelter in their native districts, but should remain at their posts. The Government regards the problem of ensuring that labour does not leave its work as one of paramount importance and considers that intensive propaganda must be undertaken now if labour is fully to appreciate its position and is not to be influenced by the behaviour of less disciplined persons.

(The Amrita Bazar Patrika, 30-8-1941.) ✓

Social Insurance

The C.P. and Berar Provident Fund (Temporary Tax Relaxation) Rules. ✓

The C.P. Government has, as a war measure, issued Rules relaxing the provisions of the Government Provident Fund rules, in so far as they apply to all civilian personnel under the rule-making control of the Governor of the Central Provinces and Berar, who at any time after the 2nd September 1939, have been, or may hereafter be, transferred temporarily to naval, military or air force employ. If any person to whom these rules apply is a subscriber to a Government Provident Fund, the contributions of the subscriber and the Government are, for the period of his employment in the naval, military or air forces to be calculated on the basis of the total emoluments which he would have drawn had he continued to be in civil employ, and his subscription to the Fund is for the period, if any, of his employment outside India in such forces to be optional, provided that if he exercises the option not to subscribe for any such period, the Government contribution, if any, to his account in the Fund shall cease for that period.

(C.P. and Berar Gazette, Part I, dated 22-8-1941, pages 659 to 660.) ✓

Price Control.

Price Control in India:
Conference under Government auspices to be held shortly. ✓

There has recently been visible a tendency for the prices of various commodities, including textiles, to rise sharply, partly due to speculative influence and partly to more substantial reasons. The Government of India is giving the closest attention to this subject and proposes to convene ~~xxx~~ another Price Control Conference as early as possible. Meantime, the Government has advised the public to refrain from making purchases in excess of their normal requirements, as such purchases only serve to encourage those speculative influences which contribute to a rise in prices.

(The Times of India, 18-8-1941.) ✓

Supply Member's review of India's War Production.

Indian Ordnance Factories are being assisted by 250 "trade" workshops and 23 railway workshops, and these auxiliary establishments have undertaken the production of 700 different items of munitions supply involving the production of 20,000,000 individual articles. Fifty-four firms in India are now licensed to manufacture machine tools; the output of filled shells is already 24 times the pre-war output and is expected to rise in two stages to 96 times. These are some of the details of India's war supply effort given by Sir Muhammad Zafrulla Khan, Supply Member, in a broadcast entitled "India's War Production" from All India Radio, Delhi Station, on July 16. The main points of the broadcast are noticed below:-

What War Production means.- Describing the meaning and scope of Indian efforts in the sphere of war production, he said: It implies a fixed determination on the part of Government, the public and industry, not indeed to make everything that is or may be needed for purposes of defence - for that may well be impossible - but to make everything that can be made within a time appropriate to the nature and course of the war; it implies the strengthening and reinforcing of the specialised industries engaged upon the production of munitions, the use of other industries for unfamiliar work, and a vast increase in ordinary production; it implies long hours of work and a willingness on the part of all concerned to subordinate profit, comfort and even what would in peace-time be regarded as the economic interests of the nation to the main object in view - the winning of the war.

Production before the War:

The Credit Side.- In August 1939, India possessed a flourishing steel industry built up over many years by Indian capital, Indian labour and Indian enterprise. For munitions she had her Ordnance Factories - Government concerns admittedly designed to meet only some of the needs of the Army of India, but about to be expanded and modernised. Her general Engineering Industry had developed enormously since the last war, and was far more competent than in 1914-1918 to shoulder a heavy load. The task of clothing vast armies could safely be entrusted to her Cotton Textile Mills; and for jute goods she was the world's supplier. Throughout the length and breadth of the land there were small factories and workshops which could be used for the manufacture of innumerable components and miscellaneous articles required for defence purposes. And behind this capacity for solid work stood India's natural resources of timber and agricultural and mineral wealth.

The Debit Side.- The Ordnance Factories, which together constitute the specialised munitions industry of India, were never intended to produce everything that a modern Army needs. They were producing a good many things essential to all armies and could clearly increase the volume of their production. But changes in the character of their production were likely to prove difficult. Again, the engineering industry was organised very largely to serve other industries - the

mines, the mills, the transportation services and so on; India made no internal combustion engines, no motor vehicles, no aircraft. While the capacity of her cotton mills seemed almost unlimited, the woollen industry was on a much more modest scale, and for certain common articles - such as Army boots - there were likely to be difficulties in securing very large quantities up to the prescribed specification.

Reasons for Unpreparedness. - That is a picture - in very broad outlines - of where India stood in August 1939. She had certain great advantages; on the other hand her specialised munitions industry was under-developed, and there were very serious gaps in her engineering industry. "Why did not India in peace-time equip herself industrially for War?" The answer is, so far as the Ordnance Factories are concerned, "because the tax-payer would not have stood for it," and so far as the productive sections of the engineering industry are concerned, "because Indian enterprise did not think it worth-while." The manufacture of internal combustion engines, motor vehicles and aircraft - and for that matter of wireless equipment and the more elaborate scientific instruments - is a highly specialised and competitive business. The countries which lead in these matters have reached their present position not by weeks and months, but by years, of trial and error. Secondly, there is a general feeling - mainly outside industry itself - that even if India in certain respects had a bad start it was easy enough for her to catch up. This feeling disregards the existence of certain powerful factors some of which are present in peace-time and all of which are present in war. In the most favourable conditions it is no easy matter to establish a new industry demanding elaborate buildings, machinery and plant of high quality, technical experience and workers trained to operate high precision machine tools, and to produce results of the very finest accuracy.

Production after Outbreak of War:

Munitions. - To make munitions the specialised industries must be backed by a strong and enterprising steel industry, and here India has been fortunate. Her steel industry has been all out from the first, and if all goes well will increase its total output by 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ per cent. very shortly. To the steel industry India is indebted for a supply of armour plate which will progressively keep pace with the demand of the armoured fighting vehicles programme. Next in importance to the steel industry in the munitions chain are the Ordnance Factories. Here the task has been to take up the slack between peace and war production, to expand war production on the old lines, and to get into production with new items. India is now making about five times as many guns a year as were made in peace-time; and India intends to multiply its present production figure by nearly eight. Ordnance equipments - that is, guns and carriages - have in the main to be manufactured in specialised establishments, but a good many components can be, and have been, ~~frank~~ farmed out to Railway Workshops and to the Engineering Industry.

Output of Shells. - Our output of filled shells - that is, the complete shells with fuze - is twenty-four times the pre-war output, and will rise in two stages to about four times what it is now. It is here that India receives the greatest help in respect of munitions proper from the Railway Workshops and the Engineering Industry. Shell bodies and fuzes are being made all over the country. Indian workers have had to learn - and learn quickly - to adjust themselves to

munitions work, and supervisory staffs have had to play their part in designing layouts and providing gauges, tools, jigs, etc.

Gauges, Tools, Rifles, etc.- Before the war, gauges were required mainly by the Ordnance Factories, and almost all machine tools were imported. Now, the Railway Toolrooms alone are producing 1,000 gauges weekly; and even with this production the supply is inadequate. In the manufacture of machine tools India lacks both equipment and skilled personnel; none the less a start has been made and fifty-four firms are now licensed to manufacture machine tools under the Machine Tool Control. Lathes (including small capstans), drilling, shaping, planing, slotting and back sawing machines, furnaces, power blowers, and sand blasting plant are among the machine tools, plant and equipment now being made in India for the first time, and the output is estimated at about four hundred units per month. India's machine tool industry is, however, still in its infancy and is confined as yet to the simplest general purpose machine tools. But a start has been made and gratifying progress has been achieved. The output of automatic weapons and rifles is many times as great as the pace output, and will be very substantially increased. There is little here that non-specialised industry can do to help, for rifles and automatic weapons of all kinds are among the more difficult items of munitions production.

"Trade" Workshops.- The Ordnance Factories are now being assisted by 250 "trade" workshops and 23 Railway workshops, and these auxiliary establishments have undertaken the production of 700 different items of munitions supply involving the production of over twenty million individual articles. India has so far been able, in addition to meeting her own needs, to send overseas something like six hundred thousand filled shells, and a hundred and fifty million rounds of Small Arms Munitions.

Armoured Vehicles and Aircraft.- India has undertaken a programme of armoured fighting vehicles which is well up to the probable supply of suitable chassis from abroad and to her capacity for the production of armour plate. An aircraft factory has been established, and if all goes well this will grow into an Indian aircraft industry.

Ships.- Indian ship-yards are building large numbers of small craft - from mine-sweepers to life-boats - and all available capacity for the larger of these craft is occupied, with orders waiting as slips fall empty. India has hitherto not made marine boilers and propelling machinery. She is now about to begin her first attempt to make propelling machinery, and there is no reason why she should not succeed. We have heard a good deal lately about the possibility of building large merchant ~~vessels~~ vessels in India; there is no reason why a project of that kind should not materialise in war conditions, provided that the first ships can be completed within a reasonable time.

Engineering Industries.- Midway between the munitions producers and the producers of other items of supply stands the general engineering industry. Its work is so diverse that it would not be easy for me ~~this evening~~ to review the whole of it. India has fabricated and used for war purposes very large quantities of structural steel including orders executed and in hand we are very near the two hundred thousand ton mark - and the structural section of the Industry has done sterling work. Cables are an important item, and the

41

output of India's one Cable Company represents 34,400 miles of tinned copper wire in conductor, in addition to 16,000 miles of telephone wire. Railway track and rolling stock have been turned out in considerable quantities, and there has been a very useful miscellaneous output of general engineering stores.

Clothing: Textile Industry.- The calls upon the textile industry from the Defence Services do not absorb more than a part of its total capacity, but they do take up the whole of its capacity for certain fabrics. In woollens, India is not nearly so strong, and her entire capacity for making woollen cloth, and a very large part of her hosiery capacity have been taken up. The Army has a preference for khaki and especially khaki drill. It lives very largely in tents, and frequently uses mosquito nets. Like other people the soldier needs blankets. The cotton and woollen textile industries are producing this year something like 324,000,000 yards of cloth for garments. This year alone the bill for tents is going to be 65 millions of rupees and the bill for blankets ~~xxx~~ 15 millions of rupees. The cost of the textile purchases in 1941-42 will be very nearly equal to the total of the pre-war Defence Budget.

30,000 Tailors.- Before the war the Army was clothed by the output of one factory employing less than 800 men. There are now nine factories, with which are linked a large number of tailoring centres. Thirty thousand tailors are employed, and the output of garments is of the order of five million a month.

Harness and Saddlery.- In this mechanical war harness and saddlery are less demanded than in the past, but India has had to supply surprising quantities of leather goods, and her capacity, - over three million pairs a year - for army boots is fully occupied. Web-equipment has been a big difficulty, but with the co-operation of the Jute Industry it has been possible to produce a really satisfactory webbing, and Indian produced equipment will shortly be as good as that obtainable anywhere. The number of employees in the Government Harness and Saddlery Factory has risen from 2,000 to 12,000, and there are some 200 outside firms assisting.

Timber.- Another key supply is timber which is used for a hundred different purposes - packing cases, ammunition boxes, jetty piles, telegraph poles, railway sleepers, hutting, and so on. From the Indian forests there has poured a constant supply - carried by hand, drawn by elephants, slid down rope-ways, and floated down-rivers - on its way to the ports to be used overseas. With the aid of the Provincial Forest Departments and their ~~tax~~ timber contractors the flow of timber has gradually increased and should this year touch the peak of 500,000 tons.

Other Manufactures.- To complete the picture of India's war production I ought really to take you to the mines, and show you the coal, manganese, and mica now going abroad. I ought to tell you of Indian pig-iron which is playing a useful part in Empire production, and of the very considerable expansion in a number of industries, such as the chemical industry. India will soon, if all goes well, be self-supporting in high explosives, aero-lubricating oil and sulphur. She has increased appreciably her output of drugs and chemical stores of all kinds, and has multiplied twenty-fold her production of the minor miscellaneous articles which the Defence Forces need. She is also developing rapidly her capacity for preserved food-stuffs of various kinds.

India's war effort has never been confined to the needs of troops on Indian soil, and ~~that~~ the products of Indian industry have for many months gone in an increasing stream to serve the overseas forces of the Empire. India will do more ~~on one condition~~ since it is realised that the object in view is not immediate economic benefit or post-war industrialisation but national survival. To that object profit, comfort, health and leisure, and much else that ~~India~~ ^{we value} in peace-time, must be subordinated until the war is over.

(Indian Information dated 15-8-1941.) +

Industrial Advisory Committee, Bombay Circle, set up by Government of India.

In accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Supply Mission in India, the Government of India have decided to set up a committee, to be called the Industrial Advisory Committee, Bombay circle, to advise the Controller of Supplies on problems connected with the production of munitions and engineering stores within the circle. The committee will consist of the Controller of Supplies as chairman, with five representatives of engineering firms in Bombay as members. The Industrial Planning Officer, Bombay, will act as the Secretary of the Committee.

(The Statesman, 21-8-1941.) +

War Service Men and Government Employment: Concessions
announced by Government of Bengal. +

The Government of India and several provincial Governments have already announced the adoption by them of a policy of according preferential treatment in the matter of employment to men who have rendered war service. The following information about the policy in this matter of the Government of Bengal may be taken as typical of Government policy generally in this respect.

The Government of Bengal consider that persons who render war service should not be at a disadvantage in the matter of obtaining civil employment under Government after the war as compared with those who have not rendered such service. Government have therefore decided that the following concessions will be given to candidates who have rendered war service:-

(a) Reservation of vacancies.-

Twenty per cent of the vacancies to be filled by direct recruitment after 1st September 1941 will be left unfilled in order that these vacancies may be filled after the war by candidates who have rendered war service.

(b) Waiving of age limits.-

For the purpose of rules laying down age limits for entrance to Government service, a candidate who has rendered war service will be permitted to deduct the period of his war service from his age.

(c) Waiving of other qualifications.-

Candidates who have rendered war service will be exempt from the possession of the minimum educational qualifications prescribed in the recruitment rules.

(d) Competitive examinations.

In the case of services and posts recruitment to which is made on the basis of a competitive examination comprising a written test and an oral test in the shape of an interview conducted by the Bengal Public Service Commission a candidate who has rendered war service will be exempt from the written test.

Definition of "War Service":- For the purposes of these concessions the following kinds of service will be deemed to be 'war service':-

(a) service of any kind abroad with a mobilized unit. (b) Service in India under military, munitions or stores authorities and service in a factory notified under section 4(1) of the National Service (Technical Personnel) Ordinance II of 1940, with liability in all cases to serve abroad when required. (c) A period of training with military units with liability to serve abroad when required. Preference will be given in the order indicated.

The concessions ~~is~~ announced will be subject to the general reservations that they (1) are consistent with the public interest, (2) do not involve the appointment of any one to a post the duties of which he is not competent to perform. The above concessions will apply to all services and posts under the rule making control of the Government of ~~the~~ Bengal except services or posts for which the possession of technical qualifications is a sine qua non. (Bengal Press Communiqué dated 9-8-1941.)

Control Measures.

Extension of Import Control: Industrial Requirements Covered. +

Import control over a large number of goods has been announced in a notification in the Gazette of India Extraordinary dated 23-8-1941. The controlled goods are classified into Parts A and B of the schedule to the notification. In Part A are included almost all the goods that are under control already; Part B contains a very large number of fresh items. Excepting for a few articles such as dyes, newsprint and aluminium, import control has hitherto been confined to goods the imports of which could be curtailed without damage to any essential Indian interests. It is not necessary or practicable in the case of such goods to look beyond the importers; and it has been sufficient to allot quotas to them on the basis of their past imports. This principle will be maintained in respect of goods in Part A of the schedule.

It has now become necessary to extend control to imports of machinery and other industrial requirements mentioned in Part B of the schedule. This necessity has arisen not only because of the growing need for the conservation of exchange with difficult currencies, but also because supplies, especially from U.S.A., of many of the goods concerned are becoming increasingly restricted, with the result that, before allowing export, the U.S.A. Government requires certificates to be furnished from the Indian Government that the goods represent essential requirements. Further, by the passing of the Lease and Lend legislation in the U.S.A., it has become necessary to base the Indian purchases, both Government and private, of certain American goods which are essential requirements of India to the maximum extent possible on the Lease-Lend arrangement; this involves inter-governmental dealing; and in the case of such goods, it will be necessary before issuing a licence for importation in the ordinary way to consider whether the transaction should not be converted into an inter-governmental one.

The problem has, therefore, become not only one of controlling the flow of imports in order to employ India's resources by way of foreign exchange in the most useful way, but also of securing essential supplies from the only source open to India. In order to secure such supplies the criterion of essentiality in war-time conditions must be satisfied; it follows that imports must be regulated with regard to the needs of industries in India rather than to the interests of established importers. In order that it may be operated with justice to conflicting claims, as supplies are not likely to be unlimited, it has been found necessary to centralise the work of granting import licences in regard to such goods (Part B of the schedule) in the hands of a single authority. The Central Government has accordingly created for the purpose the post of the Chief Controller of Imports under the Commerce Department.

(The Gazette of India Extraordinary, dated 23.8.'41 pages 517 to 534 and the Industrial Bulletin of dated 1-9-1941 of the Employers' Federation of India, Bombay). +

Complete Control of Machine Tools.

All machine tools, irrespective of their age, now come under the machine tool control and have to be licensed. A notification to this effect was issued recently by the Supply Department as an amendment to the Machine Tool Control Order of February 1941. The Order, as it originally stood, provided for licensing and control of new or reconditioned machine tools of various categories below certain specified ages. This age limitation is now abolished and the scope of control is extended to all such machine tools irrespective of their age. According to the Order, the term "machine tools" is defined so as to include appliances for "treating" wood and metal, and certain machine tools are scheduled and described as "scheduled machine tools". A licence which may be obtained free of all fee from the Machine Tool Controller, is required for the import, production, keeping for sale and sale of scheduled machine tools.

(Industrial Bulletin, dated 1-9-1941 of the Employers' Federation of India, Bombay). +

Import of machinery from the United Kingdom into India:
Permission of Government of India needed.

According to a Press Note issued by the Government of India, information has been received from the United Kingdom that orders for manufacturing plant and machinery will not be accepted by manufacturers in the United Kingdom unless they are supported by the Government of India.

Firms, agencies and other importers who desire to make enquiries or place orders in the United Kingdom for machinery and plant must apply for the necessary recommendation to the Government of India. Applications should be made to the Director-General, Munitions Production, Calcutta, who for the present will deal not only with cases of plant and machinery required for industries engaged wholly in the production of goods required for defence of war supply purposes, but also with cases of plant and machinery required for other industries.

(The Times of India, 26-8-1941) +

Iron and Steel (Control of Distribution) Order, 1941:
Grievances of Iron and Hardware Merchants. +

Reference was made at pages 39-40 of the report of this Office for July 1941 to the Iron and Steel (Control of Distribution) Order issued by the Government of India on 26-7-1941. At the All India Iron and Hardware Merchants' Conference held at Bombay on 24-8-1941, Mr. Manna Manu Sabedar presiding, the following resolution was passed protesting against some of the provisions of the Order:-

"This Conference protests against the various orders recently passed for the compulsory acquisition of certain stocks and for the stoppage of all dealings, except under very strict and complicated conditions of licence, without previous consultation with the trade and without giving time for representations and explanations, and is of

opinion that the present orders are vague, abrupt and harsh, and, in their present form, will impede the smooth working of the trade, and causing dislocation and defeating the very object which the Government have in view. It also is apprehensive about the safety of the capital engaged in the trade, the organisation and staff, and the labour and urges on the Government that, before any further rules, enactments or orders are issued, opportunity should be given to the trade to make representations and to explain the difficulties of every section and every locality concerned. On issues of policy, this Conference urges the Government to set up local advisory bodies everywhere".

(The Hindu, 24-8-1941)+

The Motor Spirit Rationing Order, 1941:
Control of Petrol Consumption. +

In exercise of the power conferred by Rule 81 of the Defence of India Rules, 1939, the Government of India has issued on 1-8-1941, the Motor Spirit Rationing Order, 1941.

A Press Note issued by the Government on the Order points out that for some time past the position regarding the availability of sufficient tanker tonnage to bring to India from Burma and other countries her full requirements of petrol and other oil products has been a cause of anxiety, and that although it has hitherto been possible, by careful planning on the part of the shipping authorities and the oil companies, to maintain stocks of petrol at a level adequate to meet requirements, the Government of India feels that it is necessary to envisage a possible deterioration of the tanker position. For this reason, as well as to meet the possibility of a greater military demand, it has decided to take steps designed to build up stocks to a still higher level and as supplies cannot be increased, this can only be effected by a reduction of consumption.

In issuing the Order, the Government of India, it is pointed out, has paid special attention to the objectives of ensuring the maintenance of essential services and of a fair distribution to private consumers.

Main Provisions of the Order.- Under the Order, after 15-8-1941 no person can acquire motor spirit from a dealer or other supplier except on surrender of a special or ordinary receipt, or special, ordinary or supplementary coupon issued to him by the rationing authority. Special receipts will be issued to certain civil and military departments and special coupons to municipalities and other local bodies and persons operating ambulances, travelling dispensaries or school buses. Ordinary coupons will be issued to all members of the public who require motor spirit for use in motor vehicles (other than those mentioned above) or in motor boats.

Applications for special or ordinary coupons as well as for additional supplies of motor spirit will have to be submitted on the appropriate form to the area rationing authorities appointed by the provincial Governments and Chief-Commissioners. Those who require motor spirit for agricultural purposes or for use in industrial undertakings will have to apply to the provincial rationing authority for a

licence. Those who require motor spirit for civil aviation will have to make similar application to the Director of Civil Aviation.

Gas Coupons and receipts may be used anywhere in British India and in any Indian State with which a reciprocal agreement has been reached and notified by the Central Government.

Transport Services. The second schedule to the order indicates that where transport vehicle services are essential (in the absence of any other form of adequate transport) those services must be maintained as far as possible.

Private Owners. ^{Private Owners} An owner is entitled in the first instance to apply for a "Basic Ration" of motor spirit for his vehicle, for which coupons of a kind known as ordinary coupons will be issued. Coupons for basic rations will be granted in accordance with the horse power of the vehicle. The basic rations range from 2 units (1 unit = 1 gallon) per month for vehicles not exceeding 3 H.P. to 12 gallons ^{units} for vehicles not exceeding 19 H.P.

(The Gazette of India Extraordinary, dated 1-8-1941, pages 439 to 462, and the Statesman, 1 and 6-8-1941). +

Amendment to New Delhi House Rent Control Order, 1939.

The Department of Labour, Government of India, adopted on 28-9-1939 the New Delhi House Rent Control Order, for the purpose of checking the tendency for rise in house rents which set in immediately after the war was declared. A Controller was appointed by the Government whose function it was to receive and decide complaints regarding excessive house rent demands and decide what the fair rent should be. Increase in rent was permitted only in case, where some addition, improvement or alteration in the house is made, the maximum of such increase being restricted to $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. interest per annum on the cost of such additions, alterations and improvements. The Order has now been amended to provide that if a tenant in possession wishes to extend the period of tenancy by not less than six, and not more than twelve, months, he may give the landlord, not less than one month before the expiry of the tenancy a written notice of his intention; and that upon the delivery of such notice, the tenancy shall be deemed to have been extended for the period specified in the notice. The landlord, however, can terminate the tenancy for certain stipulated reasons - the house being required for his personal use, tenant not fulfilling conditions of tenancy, etc.

(Notification No. B 52 dated 4-8-1941:
The Gazette of India Extraordinary
dated 4-8-1941.) +

49

List of more important publications received in this Office during
August, 1941. ✓

Conditions of Work.-

- (1) Report on the working of the Payment of Wages Act in the Province of Madras for the calendar year 1940. Madras: Printed by the Superintendent, Government Press. 1941. Price 2 annas.
- (2) Annual Factory Report, Bombay Province, 1940 (including Notes on the Administration of the Bombay Maternity Benefit Act and the Payment of Wages Act). Bombay: Printed at the Government Central Press. Price Annas 4 or 5d. 1941.
- (3) Annual Report on the working of the Factories Act, 1934, in the province of Bihar for the year 1940, by Mr. H.M. Rai, Chief Inspector of Factories, Bihar. Superintendent, Government Printing, Bihar, Patna. 1941. Price Annas 8.
- (4) Annual Report on the working of the Payment of Wages Act, 1936, in the Province of Bihar for the year 1940, by Mr. H.M. Rai, Chief Inspector of Factories, Bihar. Superintendent, Government Printing, Bihar, Patna. 1941. Price Annas 7.

Agriculture.-

Annual Administration Report of the Department of Agriculture, U.P. for the year ending 30-6-1940. Allahabad: Superintendent, Printing and Stationery, U.P. 1941. Price 9 annas.

Co-operation and Cottage Industries.-

- (1) Report of the Superintendent of Cottage Industries, Burma, for the year ending the 30th June, 1940. Rangoon: Superintendent, Government Printing and Stationery, Burma. 1941. Price As.8 or 9d.
- (2) Report on the working of Co-operative Societies in the Madras Province for the co-operative year ended 30th June, 1940. Madras: Printed by the Superintendent, Government Press, 1940. Price Re.1/-.

Organisation, Congresses, etc.-

Indian Jute Mills Association. Report of the Committee for the year ended 31st December, 1940. Calcutta: Printed at the Star Printing Works, 30, Shibnarain Das Lane, 1941.

Public Health.-

Annual Report on Hospitals and Dispensaries in the North-West Frontier Province for the year 1940. Printed and published by the Manager, Government Stationery and Printing, N.-W.F.P., Peshawar. 1941. Price Rs.5-7-0 or £.0-8-3.

Education.-

Annual Report on the Progress of Education in the Delhi Province for the year 1939-40. Printed by the Manager, Government of India, Press, Calcutta 1941.

Miscellaneous.-

- (1) Administration Report of the Madras Port Trust for 1940-41.
- (2) The Commissioners for the Port of Calcutta. Administration Report and Annual Accounts for the year 1940-41. The City Press, 9, Strand Road, Calcutta.