

5/24 No 41

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE

INDIAN BRANCH

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Industrial and Labour Developments in June, 1948.

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

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CHAPTER 1. INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION.

INDIA - JUNE 1948.

15. Conventions and Recommendations.

Ceylon: Action taken on Conventions during 1947.

The following information relating to the action taken by the Government of Ceylon on various International Labour Conventions is taken from the Administration Report of the Commissioner of Labour for 1947 (Part I - Civil 0):-

Convention No. 50: Regulation of certain special systems of recruiting workers.- A request has been made to the Secretary of State to clarify the position of Servants' Agencies under this Convention. This subject is still under correspondence.

Convention No. 64: Regulation of written Contracts of Employment of Indigenous Workers.- Draft legislation to give effect to this Convention was under discussion with the Legal Draftsman during 1947.

Convention No. 65:- In August, 1947, the Secretary of State for the Colonies informed the Government that His Majesty's Government proposed to ratify Convention No. 65 concerning statistics of wages and hours of work and inquired whether it could be applied to Ceylon. The acceptance of the Convention will involve the collection of a considerable amount of statistics, not obtained at present, and the question is being examined as to the administrative arrangements that are necessary for the purpose.

Conventions Nos. 82-86.- In October, 1947 the Secretary of State for the Colonies informed the Ceylon Government of the adoption of five new Conventions by the International Labour Conference in 1946 (Nos. 82 to 86) and suggested exploring the possibility of their application to Ceylon. The Government of Ceylon has already given approval to some of the principles enunciated in these Conventions where they are embodied in recommendations adopted earlier by the International Labour Organization. While these Conventions are under discussion, the Government has forwarded its comments on them to the Secretary of State for the Colonies. Further action on these Conventions was still under consideration at the end of 1947.

(Part I - Civil (0). Administration Report of the Commissioner of Labour for 1947).

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CHAPTER 2. INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS AND
NATIONAL NON-PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATIONS.
INDIA - JUNE 1948.

22. Regional Institutions.

Third Session of Economic Commission for
Asia and the Far East, Coochabund, 1 to 12
June, 1948.

The third session of the United Nations Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE) was held at Coochabund from 1 June to 12 June 1948. The session which was inaugurated by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the Prime Minister of India, on 1 June 1948, was attended by delegations from the following countries: Australia, Burma, China, France, India, Netherlands, New Zealand, the Philippines, Pakistan, Siam, the U.S.S.R., the United Kingdom, and the U.S. A. (Members of the ECAFE); Cambodia, Ceylon, Hongkong, Laos and Malaya and British Borneo (Associate Members of the ECAFE). Representatives of the following specialised agencies also attended the session: the FAO, ILO, UNESCO and WHO.

The Minister for Transport in the Government of India, and Dr. John Matthai, Leader of the Indian delegation to the session, was unanimously elected chairman of the Commission for 1948. The Hon. Sao Hkun Hkun, leader of the Burman delegation to the Commission, was elected Vice-Chairman. The more important among the resolutions adopted by the Commission during the session related to the promotion of trade, provision for technical training, industrial development, the promotion of agriculture and flood control in the countries falling within the scope of the ECAFE.

Statement on Technical Training by I.L.O. Representative.— On 3 June 1948 the Commission heard a statement by Madame Thibert, Representative of the I.L.O., emphasising the importance of collaboration between the I.L.O. and the ECAFE. A statement by Madame Thibert outlining the practical ~~services~~ services for which the I.L.O. is equipping itself in the sphere of technical training and the steps it is taking for setting up and operating an international service for the promotion of technical training was circulated to those attending the session as document E/CH.11/93/Add.1 dated 6 June 1948.

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Trade Promotion in ECAFE Region.— On 10 June 1948 the Commission adopted three of the four resolutions recommended by its Committee on Trade Promotion in the ECAFE region. It also agreed on the same day to a part of the fourth resolution on the contribution of the Japanese economy to the reconstruction and development of the ECAFE region. These resolutions suggested inter alia the establishment of a Trade Promotion Section within the ECAFE Secretariat for the exchange of information in inter-regional import and export trade; the creation of a Working Party of experts to study the possibilities of utilising Japanese economy by countries of the ECAFE region; special financial arrangements to facilitate trade in the region; and mutual appraisal by the countries in the region of the import needs and export possibilities of their respective territories and an examination of the possibility of sponsoring special trade agreements. The remaining part of the fourth resolution, which was finally adopted by the Commission on 12 June 1948, recommended that arrangements for the exchange of Japanese capital goods for raw materials from ~~the~~ ^{countries in the} region of the ECAFE, should be based on the principle that within the limits set by the ~~Eastern~~ Far Eastern Commission and the peace settlement, when concluded, Japan's trade and industrial plans should be adjusted to the needs and requirements of the economic development of the Member and associate Member countries of the ECAFE.

Technical Training and Use of Expert Assistance.— On this subject, the Commission adopted on 10 June 1948 a draft resolution recommended by its Committee on Technical Training. The Commission noted with interest the decisions of the Governing Body of the ILO at its 104th Session to undertake at the request of the Economic Commission for Europe a practical programme in manpower problems, including technical training which it is intended to extend to other regions; and bearing in mind the competence and long experience of the ILO in these fields, the Commission resolved that the efforts of the Executive Secretary in close collaboration with the Specialised Agencies concerned be renewed and expedited in order that machinery be established to carry out a programme for the promotion of technical training facilities within the region, the exchange of trainees both within and without the region, and the use of expert assistance by Governments. Pending formal agreement on the machinery referred to above, the Commission requested its Secretariat to create a working section to:

- (a) actively pursue its efforts to secure opportunities for technical training and the use of expert assistance within countries of the region and abroad;
- (b) continue to disseminate information to Member and Associate Member Governments and, in particular, issue as quickly as possible a summary of information collected so far;
- (c) recommend to them that they encourage trainees to take advantage of exchange opportunities; and
- (d) give due attention to those conditions of work and social welfare which have a direct bearing on technical training.

Flood Control.— The Commission decided on 10 June 1948 on the recommendation of its Committee on Flood Control, to submit for consideration by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations at its Seventh Session a resolution on the establishment of a Bureau of Flood Control for Asia and the Far East. The establishment of such a Bureau is, according to the Commission, a matter of great importance and urgency as the problem of flood control affects the livelihood and welfare of over half a billion human beings in the valleys of great rivers in Asia and the Far East that are subject to the danger of floods and consequent famines.

Industrial Development.— The Commission considered on 11 June 1948 the report of its Committee on Industrial Development and adopted a draft resolution recommended by the Committee urging the supply of capital goods from more advanced countries to countries in the ECAFE region. The resolution expressed the view that "for the purpose of meeting the immediate and short-term requirements of the economic and industrial rehabilitation and recovery of this region, the most urgent need is for the importation of capital goods and basic materials from the more advanced industrial countries".

The resolution appealed to these countries to assist the region of Asia and the Far East by making available to meet its needs, an adequate share of their production of capital goods and basic materials. All member countries were requested to specify their requirements to meet both short-term and long-term needs for industrialisation.

The resolution further authorized the Working Party of the Commission to continue and complete its survey of the economic and industrial development of this region, empowering the Working Party to co-opt additional expert members from any source. It specified the following subjects for immediate study: fuel and power; transport and transport equipment, in relation to industry; fertilisers and agricultural requisites; basic materials including ores and metals; textiles and heavy engineering industries.

On the subject of finance, the resolution authorized the Working Party to make a study of the financial requirements of the ECAFE region for short-term and long-term industrial development and the means of improving banking and credit structures of the countries in this region in order to use domestic capital to the full. The Working Party was also asked to explore the means of obtaining from foreign sources loans, investments and advances and suggest ways for overcoming the difficulties of obtaining foreign exchange.

The resolution recorded its opinion that a clear enunciation by member countries of their financial, fiscal and industrial policy and the efficient administration of such controls as were necessary would promote conditions favourable to investment and enterprise.

The resolution called for a co-ordinated development of cottage and small-scale, medium and large-scale industries with ~~special~~ special emphasis upon industries ancillary to agriculture.

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Food and Agriculture.— On 12 June 1948 the Commission adopted the report of its Committee on Food and Agriculture. The first of the three resolutions on this subject adopted by the Commission urged the need for continued cooperation between the ECAFE and the FAO, and the second called for the establishment of a joint FAO-ECAFE Working Party on agricultural requisities. The third urged that the reduction of prices of all essential commodities will bring maximum relief to all peoples in the region, and appealed to all producing countries concerned and to FAO and other specialised agencies to explore methods by which the prices of all essential commodities may be lowered to levels satisfactory to both importing and exporting countries and requested the Executive Secretary to enter into consultation with FAO and other specialised agencies as well as with governmental and inter-governmental authorities concerned for the securing of this objective.

Decision to call Conference of Experts on Inland Transport.— Disagreeing with the view expressed by the Committee on industrialisation that there was no need for a conference of experts on inland transport in the ECAFE region, the Commission during the final day of the session adopted an amended resolution on inland transport calling for the convening of such a conference of experts.

(The Hindu, dated 2, 4, 11, 12 and 13-6-1948;
The following documents of the Economic
Commission for Asia and the Far East, Third
Session, Cootacamund:—

E/CH.11/95/Add.1 dated 6 June 1948;
E/CH.11/AC.5/2, 3, 4 and 5, dated 9 June 1948;
E/CH.11/AC.6/2; dated 8 June 1948;
E/CH.11/AC.7/1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 (different dates);
E/CH.11/AC.8/1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 (different dates);
E/CH.11/AC9/1-2, dated 8-9 June 1948).

(Copies of ~~the~~ all the documents relating to this session of the ECAFE are understood to have been sent to the Montreal and Geneva Offices by Madame Thibert, who attended the session as the representative of the I.L.O.).

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CHAPTER 3. PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATIONS.

INDIA - JUNE 1948.

31. Workers' Trade Union Movements.

Malayan Union: Federation of Trade Union Members
employed in similar Trades: New Bill passed.

The Legislative Council of the Malayan Federation at Kuala Lumpur has passed a Bill which in effect bans the Communist-dominated Pan-Malayan Federation of Trade Unions. The Bill lays down that in future only trade unions whose members are employed in similar trades may federate.

During the debate on the recent labour unrest in Malaya some Councillors stated that the instigators of the trouble were "professional sedition mongers who demonstrated under a foreign flag, used the clenched fist salute, and incited violence and anarchy".

(Amrita Bazar Patrika, 2-6-1948).

All-India Conference of Union of Post and
and Telegraph Workers, Madras, May 24-27,
1948.

The first All-India conference of the Union of Posts and Telegraph workers was held in Madras from 24 to 27 May 1948, under the presidentship of Mr. N.M. Joshi.

The conference by resolution urged the Government of India to fix the pay of pre-1951 and post-1951 entrants and to grant house rent allowance based on the present population instead of the 1941 census. The conference also demanded the immediate confirmation of temporary employees, the immediate sanction of dearness allowance according to the cost of living, compensatory allowance, and good conduct pay. The conference authorised the Supreme Council to decide the future line of action by obtaining the opinion of the members by means of referendum or a strike ballot, if the above demands were not conceded by the Government within three months.

The conference further decided not to affiliate the Union to the All-India Trade Union Congress.

Mr. N.M. Joshi was elected President of the Union for the ensuing year.

(The Times of India, dated 29-5-1948).

Most Representative Workers' Organisation in
India: Government of India's findings .

The Trade Union Record, June 1948, publishes at pages 110-112 a summary of the findings of the Government of India in its enquiry into the most representative workers' organisation in India. The enquiry revealed, according to the Government of India, that at the time of the enquiry the A.I.T.U.C. had a total membership of 862,216 and, the I.N.T.U.C., a total membership of 938,940. In May 1948, the Federation of Posts and Telegraphs Unions with a membership of 28,000 affiliated itself to the I.N.T.U.C., while the M. and S.M. Railway Employees' Union, on account of which the A.I.T.U.C. claimed a membership of 17,856 left the latter organisation. This would give for the I.N.T.U.C. a total membership of 938,940 plus 28,000 or 966,940; and, for the A.I.T.U.C. a total membership of 862,216—17,856 or 844,360.

Most Representative Organisation of Workers in
India: A.I.T.U.C.'s Challenge.

The Government of India's decision that the Indian National Trade Union Congress (I.N.T.U.C.) is the most representative organisation of workers in India (vide para 51, pages 22-23 of the report of this Office for May 1948), has been challenged by the All-India Trade Union Congress (A.I.T.U.C.) and the 'Trade Union Record', the official organ of the A.I.T.U.C., publishes as a supplement to its June 1948 number, the A.I.T.U.C.'s challenge regarding the credentials of the I.N.T.U.C., submitted by Mr. N.M. Joshi, the ~~General~~ Secretary of the A.I.T.U.C., to the Secretary-General of the I.L.O. at the 51st Session of the International Labour Conference at San Francisco.

Main charges.— The A.I.T.U.C.'s main charges are: (a) The inquiry held by the Government of India into the representative character of the A.I.T.U.C. and the I.N.T.U.C. respectively was not impartial. (b) The real membership of the I.N.T.U.C. is much smaller than that of the A.I.T.U.C. and the larger membership attributed to the I.N.T.U.C. in the report of the Government Enquiry is due to the ~~was~~ wrong inclusion in the I.N.T.U.C. membership of 270,000 agricultural workers and handloom weavers in Madras and the Central Provinces and Berar. The number of unions in these two occupations has not been mentioned in the Government report, their membership figures have not been checked and the

existence of these unions, if they exist at all is not at least known to the Registrars of Trade Unions of the two Provinces as their annual reports do not mention of these Unions. (c) The I.N.T.U.C. is not a free Trade Union organisation, being dependent on Government and employers for support and help having little genuine support from the workers of the country.

(The Trade Union Record, June 1948).

Policy and Programme of the Indian National Trade Union Congress.

Reference was made at pages 18-19, ~~sixth~~ paragraph 51, of the report of this Office for May 1948, to the adoption, by the first annual session of the Indian National Trade Union Congress (I.N.T.U.C.) at Bombay, of a 25-point Statement of Policy and Programme. The following are the 25 immediate objectives of the I.N.T.U.C. as set out in the statement:

- (1) The quickest steps should be taken so that every one can have the benefit of free elementary education.
- (2) Provision should be made for vocational and pre-employment training for workers of all categories.
- (3) Facilities on an adequate scale should be provided:
 - (a) for the workers to improve their knowledge and capacity while in employment and thereby to rise to higher positions,
 - (b) for the deserving children of the workers to receive higher general and technical education.
- (4) Employment opportunities should be vastly extended by a rapid execution of schemes for rural reconstruction and industrial development.
- (5) Employment aids should be made available so as to bring together, with the minimum loss of time and on an equitable footing, those seeking employment and the work waiting to be done.
- (6) No measures should be adopted in any industry which have the effect of curtailing the volume of employment without an impartial and expert examination of the situation in each case.
- (7) During periods of forced unemployment, some work should be provided in every case so as to assure at least the satisfaction of the minimum basic needs of every family.
- (8) Specific standards of work, working conditions and amenities should be evolved for different occupations and categories of establishments, to secure the health, safety and convenience of the workers, and adequate provision should be made for the enforcement of the regulations.

(9) The wage structure should be such as to guarantee the national basic minimum of 100 rupees per month, for every family, in large towns, at the 1947 scale of prices with suitable differentials for skill and intensity of work—and corresponding adjustments in other areas in relation to conditions and the cost of living.

(10) Wages should be standardised in all industries on a national basis in the case of industries of an All-India character, and regionally in the case of other industries.

(11) The return on invested capital, i.e., capital plus reserves, should be kept down to a maximum of 5 per cent as long as a living wage is not made available to the workers.

(12) Profits remaining after the appropriation for dividend under the previous clause, and for reserves on a reasonable scale should be shared equitably between the workers and the owners of the capital. The return on invested capital, including the investors' share in surplus profits, should not exceed 5 per cent. A limit should be placed on the extent of additional reserves, which would be considered a part of invested capital for the purpose of calculating the return. The workers' share in the surplus profits should be partly in cash and partly in the form of shares in capital of industry with corresponding rights in the administration at all levels.

(13) A system of compulsory savings for the workers should be instituted for all employees through provident fund to which contributions must be made by the employers and as well as the employees.

(14) Immediate steps should be taken to secure effective association of the workers in dealing with production and welfare matters.

(15) The employers should be legally prohibited from disturbing the status quo arbitrarily without giving due notice to the workers and enabling them to avail themselves of the opportunities for settlement by mutual negotiations or through conciliation and arbitration.

(16) Adequate machinery should be provided for prompt settlement of disputes between employers and employees by conciliation and arbitration, the personnel of which should be properly trained in industrial matters and social ~~questions~~ questions.

(17) The workers' right to organise and carry on organised activities in a lawful and peaceful manner should be fully protected.

(18) As the first essential of healthy and efficient living, every working class family should have a sanitary dwelling of suitable size, located in an environment conducive to physical and social well-being.

(19) Adequate provision should be made for recreation facilities, holiday homes and health resorts for the workers, and for the utilisation of their leisure time in wholesome pursuits.

(20) A comprehensive system of social security should be built up providing against the hazards of old age, sickness,

accidents, unemployment, maternity etc., in consonance with the social and economic conditions in the country; stress always being on prevention of risks rather than dealing with their consequences.

(21) Greater attention should be given to the improvement of the conditions of the workers in smaller establishments and those who do not benefit by the protection at present extended to employees engaged in organised industry.

(22) Agricultural labour should be organised and vigorous ameliorative activity should be undertaken through mutual adjustments, the process of law and the general uplift of the rural community as a whole.

(23) Steps should be taken to stabilise prices at a reasonable level having regard to the interests of the entire body of the consumers as well as the producers.

(Extracted from Copy of Resolutions adopted at the First Session of the Indian National Trade Union Congress, received in this Office on 8 June 1948).

C.P. and Berar: Working of Indian Trade Unions Act during 1946-47.

Number of Unions.— At the close of 1946-47 there were 96 provincial unions, 1 Central union and 5 Federations, on the register in the Central Provinces and Berar. Of these only 48 provincial unions submitted returns and showed a total membership of 20,149 as compared to a total of 17,779 ~~members~~ members shown by 32 unions during 1945-46. The following table shows the number and membership of unions, submitting returns, classified by industry:—

Industry	Number of unions submitting returns.	Membership			Total
		At the beginning of the Year.	At the end of the year	Men Women	
Railway & Transport.	6	574	1,055	4	1,059
Textiles.....	13	14,293	8,669	1,050	9,669
Printing Presses.	2	405	488	..	488
Municipal.....	10	1,947	2,259	446	2,705
Engineering.....	6	1,413	1,356	158	1,474
Miscellaneous....	11	2,680	4,528	246	4,774
All Industries...	48	21,512	18,285	1,864	20,149

* Includes 5,043 members whose sex classifications are not known.

A frequency distribution of the unions according to membership showed that 55.5 per cent of the unions had a membership of 100 to 299. No union had more than 5,000 members. Sixty seven per cent of the total membership was accounted for by 12 of the largest unions.

Assets.— The total income of the unions was 40,915 rupees and expenditure 41,259 rupees.

The one Central union viz., the All-India Railwaymen's Union, Nagpur had a membership of 15,705 of which 5 were women. The union had an income of 5,195 rupees and the entire amount was spent during the year.

Of the 3 Federations, 2 were Teachers Federations and the other Local Bodies Employees' Federation. At the end of the year they had 190 unions affiliated to them. Their total income was 14,835 rupees and expenditure 9,876 rupees.

(Indian Labour Gazette, April 1948).

Assam: Working of Indian Trade Unions Act during 1946-47.

Number of Unions.— The total number of registered unions in Assam at the close of the year 1946-47 was 36 as against 19 in 1945-46. Of these 25 unions submitted returns and had a membership of 15,518 workers as compared to 5,680 workers shown by 12 unions in 1945-46. The following table shows the number and membership of the unions, which submitted returns, classified by industry:—

Industry.	Number of unions submitting returns.	Membership			Total
		At the beginning of the Year	At the end of the year	Women	
Transport....	7	1,155	1,676	..	1,676
Engineering..	2	50	69	..	69
Printing				..	
Presses....	2	196	432	..	432
Municipal....	1	159	159	8	147
Docks.....	1	94	90	..	90
Tea.....	2	526	2,939	275	5,212
Miscellaneous.	10	1,949	7,760	152	7,892
All Industries.	25	3,887	13,105	413	15,518

A frequency distribution of the unions by size showed that 55.9 per cent of the membership was accounted for by 2 unions alone. The highest concentration of the unions was in the group 100 to 299. There were 7 unions in this group.

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Assets.- The total income and expenditure of the unions were 24,145 rupees and 15,867 rupees.

Five unions were reported to have paid 76 rupees 10 annas by way of death benefits, 4 unions paid strike benefit amounting to 570 rupees 15 annas, 5 unions paid unemployment benefit amounting to 42 rupees 6 annas, 1 union paid 15 rupees 8 annas for sickness and accident while 5 unions paid 105 rupees 4 annas for educational and social purposes.

Activities.- Representations made by the unions on behalf of their members related mainly to pay and allowances, leave, pension, provident fund, liveries, maternity and sickness benefits. Relief was obtained in most of the cases. Five unions demanded their recognition by the employers. Only in 2 cases they were successful. Four unions were reported to have investigated the working, living and housing condition of labourers. Six industrial disputes were settled by the unions through collective agreement. Seven strikes were conducted by the unions and they met with success.

(Indian Labour Gazette, April, 1948).

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CHAPTER 4. ECONOMIC QUESTIONS.

INDIA - JUNE 1948.

41. Industrial and Mining Production.

Industrial Finance Corporation to function from
1 July 1948.

The Industrial Finance Corporation Bill, to which reference was made at page 6 of the report of this Office for February 1948, received the assent of the Governor-General of India on 27 March 1948 and was gazetted on the same day as Government of India Act XV of 1948.

By a Notification dated 15 June 1948, the Government of India has nominated the Board of Directors of the Corporation and directed that the Act should come into force from 1 July 1948.

(The Gazette of India Extraordinary,
dated 27 March 1948, Part IV, pp. 71-85;
dated 15-6-1948, page 855).

Sind: Two More Trading Estates to be set up:
Government sanctions Scheme.

In view of the increasing demand on the Sind Industrial Trading Estate, Karachi (vide page 75 of the report of this Office for May 1947), the Government of Sind has sanctioned 5,000,000 rupees for the development of two more industrial trading estates in Hyderabad and Sukkur.

All facilities of lands, buildings, water, power and communication will be provided by the Government for the tenants on the estates. Besides the Government will also give all possible help and technical guidance to the industrialists who wish to build industries on the estates. Of the amount sanctioned 5,000,000 rupees will be granted for the first year and 2,000,000 rupees for the two subsequent years.

('Dawn', dated 29-5-1948).

42. Production and Export of Agricultural Products.

India - June 1948.

Pakistan: Increasing Jute Production: Development of Chittagong Port and Co-ordination of Transport Facilities.

- A Jute Conference, held in Pakistan on 21 and 22 May 1948, has recommended the development of the Chittagong Port, co-ordination of transport facilities and survey of the various rivers to find a suitable site for an alternative sea port. Mr. Abdur Rab Nishtar, the Pakistan Communications Minister, who presided over the Conference said that the decision of the Government on the recommendations would take some time but every effort would be made to start the work as early as possible.

Development of Chittagong port.- To examine the various aspects of the development of the Chittagong Port and the planning of Greater Chittagong, the Conference recommended that a committee of eight members representing the Central and the provincial Governments, the Navy and the shipping companies should be set up. It also recommended that in order to co-ordinate railway and port facilities for the handling of jute a berth committee for Narayanganj should be constituted. It suggested that efforts should be made to increase direct loading of cargoes at Chittagong from wagons into ships, that mechanically operated trollies be provided for the handling of jute in transit sheds and that the question of overhauling of the existing hydraulic cranes at the Chittagong Port be undertaken.

Establishment of Inland Water Board.- For river-cum-sea service, it was recommended that the Railway should acquire the necessary flotilla for the movement of jute from internal riverine points in East Bengal to Chittagong in order to run an all-the-year-round service; but it was also urged that private enterprise should be encouraged to provide its own service to supplement the rail and river capacity. The Conference suggested that an Inland Water Board should be established under statute which should be entrusted with the upkeep and maintenance of inland ports and should be responsible for maintenance and conservancy services, maintenance of buoys and jetties river lighting etc. It also recommended that a Rail-River Transport Control Board should be established under statute and entrusted with the co-ordination and development of traffic in the best national interest. The Board would be under the administrative control of the Central Government and would be composed of representatives of the Central and provincial Governments, Railways, steamer companies and country craft associations. It was further

recommended that a survey should be undertaken to investigate the establishment of an alternative seaport to Chittagong.

Prices of jute: enquiry to be instituted.— The Conference finally suggested that an enquiry should be instituted to find out ~~xxxxx~~ whether internal prices of raw jute were high and how far they were instrumental in encouraging substitutes. The high prices it was felt, were due to world causes, but there was a likelihood of a fall of 10 per cent in prices at the next harvest and this was considered sufficient by the trade representatives to keep out serious substitutes.

The trade representatives expressed the opinion that there should be free export of jute to all foreign countries including India. The personal opinion of the other members was that control on ~~xxxx~~ exports was necessary for several reasons and the Indian mills might be allowed to satisfy only their net requirements after utilising the total Indian ~~production~~ production.

(‘Dawn’, dated 25-5-1948).

Construction of 6,000 Tube- Wells within
Five Years: India Government's programme.

A Conference convened by the Ministry of Agriculture to consider ways and means of co-ordinating at the provincial ~~xxxxxx~~ level the work for construction of tube-wells and provision of power supply so that a comprehensive estimate could be submitted to the Central Government, was held at New Delhi on 21 May 1948. The Conference was attended, among others by the Irrigation Adviser, Government of India, and Chief Engineers of the United Provinces and Bihar Governments.

Addressing the Conference Mr. B.R. Sen, Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, said that the Government of India, had drawn up a programme of ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ construction of 6,000 tube-wells in various parts of the country over the next five years or six years as an aid to the Grow-More-Food Campaign. The Government of India had asked for the services of two experts from the United States to survey the provinces and prepare schemes for constructing tube-wells. The experts were expected to arrive in India shortly.

Position in provinces.— The Chief Engineer of the United Provinces explained that they already had about 2,100 tube-wells in the province and that plans had ~~xxxxxx~~ been prepared for constructing about 750 more as electric energy became available. The United Province Government, it was stated, had placed orders for power plant costing about 9,600,000 rupees. It was stressed that apart from electric

energy, the shortage of tube-well materials was also acting as a bottle-neck.

The Chief Engineer of the Bihar Government stated that Bihar at present had 134 tube-wells and there were plans to construct 250 more as and when these could be energized.

The Conference also discussed the manufacture of bore-hole pumps in India. It was suggested that further particulars about cost, etc., should be obtained before the provinces could express a definite opinion.

(The Hindu, dated 24-5-1948).

Food Production Drive in Saurashtra:
Minimum Acreages for Foodcrops to be
Fixed.

With a view to increasing food production in Saurashtra the Rajaparamukh of Saurashtra has promulgated ~~an~~ an ordinance called The Saurashtra Growth of Food Crops Ordinance, 1948, empowering the Government of Saurashtra to fix the maximum amount of commercial crops that can be sown by cultivators as also the minimum amount of foodcrops that should be sown. The food crops specified in the Ordinance are rice, wheat, ~~js~~ and jowar, while the commercial crops are cotton, oilseeds, tobacco and pulses of all kinds. The Government has also been empowered to grant exemption, fix and guarantee prices of ~~important~~ foodgrains and remit any portion of the land revenue or irrigation charges if found necessary.

A second Ordinance gives protection to agricultural tenants against arbitrary eviction.

(National Herald, dated 27-5-1948).

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India: The Damodar Valley Corporation Act,
1948.

The Damodar Valley Corporation Bill (vide page 11 of the report of this Office for February 1948) after having been passed by the Constituent Assembly of India (Legislative) on 18 February 1948 received the assent of the Governor-General of India on 27 March 1948 and has been gazetted as the Damodar Valley Corporation Act, ~~1948~~ 1948 (Act XIV of 1948).

(The Gazette of India Extraordinary,
Part IV, dated 27 March 1948, pages 59-70).

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43. Foreign Trade and Exchanges.

India - June 1948.

Indo-Pakistan Trade Agreement: Supply of
Essential Goods.

The Governments of India and Pakistan, by a trade pact signed in Karachi on 26 May 1948, have agreed on the mutual supply of specified ~~quantities~~ quantities of certain essential commodities.

Requirements of Pakistan.- Among the commodities India has agreed to supply to Pakistan are: coal (185,000 tons per month, including as far as possible 5,000 tons of hard coke), cloth and yarn (4,00,000 bales), railway stores (worth about 4 million rupees); and specified quantities of steel and pig iron scrap, paper and board, leather and footwear, jute manufactures, woollen and worsted goods, tobacco, mustard oil, tea chests, etc.

India's requirements.- Pakistan has agreed to supply India the following besides certain other articles: raw jute (5,000,000 bales); raw cotton (650,000 bales); food-grains (175,000 tons - mainly rice); gypsum, rock salt, etc.

Terms of agreement.- The period of the agreement will be one year from 1 July 1948 to 30 June 1949 except as regards: (a) raw cotton and cotton textiles, for which the agreement shall cover the period from 1 September 1948 to 31 August 1949; and (b) food grain for which the agreement will be for the period 1 June 1948 to 31 August 1949. With such exceptions as may be mutually agreed upon, supplies will ordinarily be made through commercial channels. Neither Dominion will re-export to any country any commodity imported from the other Dominion in the form in which it was imported.

In order to implement the agreement in a smooth and orderly way, it has been agreed that monthly progress reports should be exchanged between the two Dominions, and that meetings between representatives of the two Dominions should be held every other month for this purpose.

(The Hindustan Times, 10-6-1948).

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Siam competing with Indian Lac Industry.

India's strong position in regard to the lac industry is, according to an unofficial note issued by the Government of India, threatened by the striking progress made in this direction by Siam during 1946 and 1947. The statistics available show that Siam is now not only producing more lac but is also refining it into shellac for direct export to the United States of America and other foreign countries. Against a pre-war average annual export of 5,000 tons of sticklac (mostly to India) from Siam, about 10,000 tons of sticklac and 1,500 tons of shellac were exported from Bangkok during the first nine months of 1947 alone. This is equivalent to about 25 per cent of India's total production. There is evidence, too, of improvement in the quality of the Siamese shellac and its price is about two-thirds of that of Indian shellac. Shellac factories have been started in Siam for an annual output of 6,000 tons of shellac. This is about one-third of India's production.

It is estimated that the lac industry in India provides employment for at least 30,000 workers who convert crude lac into purified shellac and in addition is the source of livelihood to about three million families in the villages who collect lac from the trees.

(Unofficial Note issued by the Press
Information Bureau, Government of India,
dated 4-6-1948).

Indian Trade Delegation to visit Germany.

The Government of India is sending a trade delegation to Germany to explore the possibility of importing from Germany badly needed textile, agricultural and printing machinery into India. In addition, the delegation will also seek to revive the pre-war imports from Germany of articles like steelware, aluminium sheets, synthetic wax, dyes, etc. In return, the delegation will offer to sell jute manufactures, hides and skins, shellac, manganese, peroxide and limited quantities of nickel.

Mr. J.K. Jha of the Commerce Ministry has been appointed leader of the delegation.

(The Statesman, dated 5-6-1948).

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India approves Geneva Trade Agreement.

Reference was made at pages 25-27 of the report of this Office for November 1947 to the negotiations on tariff concessions concluded by India at the 1947 session of the Preparatory Committee of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Employment held in Geneva. The Government of India has now instructed its Permanent Representative to the United Nations at New York to sign the Protocol of Provisional Application of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade on behalf of India.

The main commodities in respect of which India is giving tariff concessions are: Milk and milk products, canned food, fruits and vegetables, specified chemicals, specified coal tar dyes, machinery (specified classes), motor vehicles (reduction of preference only), radio sets, typewriters, optical instruments, raw wool (textile), fertilizers and domestic refrigerators.

The principal commodities in respect of which India is receiving tariff concessions are: Jute and jute manufactures, cotton manufactures, cashewnuts, mica, shellac, coir matting, sports goods, carpets, spices and condiments, essential oils, tea and tobacco.

(The Statesman, dated 6-6-1948).

Egyptian Cotton for India: Delegation to
visit Egypt.

The Government of India has decided to send a delegation to Egypt to negotiate the purchase of long-staple cotton from that country, in return for Indian commodities such as jute and tea. The delegation will be led by Mr. Kasturbhai Lalbhai (~~President~~) (Ahmedabad Millowners Association), and its members will be Mr. J.P. Patel (Bombay Millowners Association), Mr. N.L. Kanoria (Indian Jute Mills Association) and Mr. Babes C. Ghose (Indian Tea-planters' Association, Calcutta). Mr. T.P. Barat, Textile Commissioner, Bombay, will be member-Secretary of the delegation. The delegation is scheduled to leave for Cairo on 16 June 1948.

(The Bombay Chronicle, 16-6-1948).

Japanese Trade Mission in Pakistan:
Discussions concluded.

The Japanese Trade Delegation (vide page 37 of the report of this Office for May 1948) left Pakistan on June 6, 1948, after concluding discussions with representatives of the Pakistan Government.

A Press Note issued by the Ministry of Commerce and Works, Government of Pakistan, states that the primary objectives of the delegation were to find raw materials for Japan's industries and to survey Pakistan's requirements of machinery and equipment, as also cloth, yarn and other consumer goods; the ultimate objective being to establish normal trade relations between the two countries for mutual benefit. As a prelude to the establishment of trade between Pakistan and Japan the delegation purchased 20,000 bales of cotton. The delegation also took note of other commodities, like jute, hides and skins, which Pakistan can export to Japan and surveyed Pakistan's requirements of capital goods. A Pakistan delegation will shortly be visiting Japan to continue the discussions and to make further arrangements for the flow of goods between the two countries.

(Civil and Military Gazette,
dated 9-6-1948).

Protection for Indian Non-ferrous Metals and
Machine Tool Industries: Government of India's
Decisions.

The Government of India has published this month its decisions on the recommendations made by the Tariff Board on the claims for protection from the non-ferrous metals industry and the machine tools industry in India.

Non-ferrous metals industry: Protective Tariff till March 1950.— The Tariff Board had held that this industry is established on sound business lines, and is eligible for protection. The Government has accepted the following principal recommendations of the Board:

Copper unwrought, copper scrap, lead ingots, lead scrap, zinc ingots, slabs, blocks or bars and zinc scrap should continue to be free of import duty. The present duty on tin, tin scrap and tin plate scrap, nickel and nickel scrap, cobalt, chromium, tungsten, magnesium, mizak and scrap of all other non-ferrous metals and alloys should be removed.

A protective duty, to remain effective till 31 March 1950, should be levied on brass ingots at 10 per cent ad valorem; on Zinc sheets and lead sheets at 20 per cent ad valorem; on yellow metal alloys other than brass, tin solder, other white metal alloys, type metal, nickel alloys, brass sheets, manufactured goods such as steam and sanitary fittings, tubes, pipes and sections of brass and lead, bare hard drawn or annealed electrolytic copper wires and cables; aluminium conductors (steel reinforced) at 30 per cent ~~and~~ ad valorem; on copper sheets and pipes and tubes of copper at 24 per cent ad valorem (British manufacture) and 56 per cent ad valorem (non-British manufacture); on copper rods at 35 per cent ad valorem (British manufacture) and 45 per cent ad valorem (non-British manufacture); on brass wires and rods at 35 per cent ad valorem and on electrolytic copper rods at 20 per cent ad valorem (British manufacture) and 30 per cent ad valorem (non-British manufacture).

Machine tools industry.— In respect of the machine tools industry the Board had held that the industry qualified for the grant of protection and had made inter alia the following important recommendations: A protective duty of 25 per cent ~~and~~ ad valorem should be levied on all machine tools imported into India subject to certain exceptions. The industry should be protected ~~in~~ up to 31 March 1950 but the protective duty should remain in force only for one year in the first instance; the Government should create a special fund for the development of the industry and make an annual non-lapsable contribution of one million rupees to this fund out of the additional revenue derived from the protective duty; export of pig iron should be allowed only after India's industrial needs are satisfied; larger quotas for pig iron, steel, coke and coal should be allowed to machine tool manufacturers; all Government and quasi-Government purchases of machine tools should be restricted to the Indian made goods as far as possible; and an advisory committee

consisting of representatives of manufacturers, importers and main consumers should be constituted to be in close touch with the various schemes of development and control.

The Government of India while accepting the conclusion that the machine tools industry is a key industry and should be effectively fostered by positive state action, is doubtful whether the levy of a protective duty would prove practicable considering the present position of the industry. However, the Government has taken special note of the recommendation regarding the special fund and is considering alternative methods of developing the industry including the grant of subsidy or other financial assistance to producers. The other recommendations of the Board mentioned above have been accepted by the Government.

(The Gazette of India Extraordinary, dated 11 June,
1948, pages 819-824;
The Gazette of India Extraordinary, dated 14 June,
1948, pages 849-850).

44. Prices and Cost of Living.
India - June 1948.

West Bengal Black Marketing Ordinance 1948
(VI of 1948).

Reference was made at page 76 of the report of this Office for November 1947 to the West Bengal Black Marketing Bill, 1947. As the Bill could not be enacted in time, owing to certain technical difficulties, the Governor of West Bengal has now promulgated as an Ordinance, the main provisions of the Bill. The West Bengal Black Marketing Ordinance (No. VI of 1948), contains a comprehensive definition of black marketing and provides for deterrent punishment, machinery for the expeditious trial and imprisonment of ~~the~~ black marketers. A significant provision in the Ordinance is that upon the conviction of any person for the ~~offence~~ offence of black marketing, the Provincial Government may require that person to exhibit in his place of business notices of such number, size and lettering, in such position and containing such particulars relating to the conviction as the Provincial Government determines.

Office |

(The Calcutta Gazette Extraordinary,
Part III-A, dated 15 June 1948;
pages 507-512 ;
Amrita Bazar Patrika, dated 15-6-1948).

46. Wages.

India - June 1948.

Wages of Agricultural and Non-Factory Labour
in Bombay Province during 1946-47.

Statistics of agricultural and non-factory wages compiled by the Directorate of Labour Information, Bombay, on the basis of monthly returns from representative talukas of each district in the province show that as compared with 1945-46 the rates of wages recorded a moderate increase.

Agricultural labour.- The weighted average daily rate of wages of agricultural labour as a whole increased from 1 rupee 11 pies to 1 rupee 5 annas and 2 pies or by 15 per cent in the urban areas and from 15 annas 8 pies to 1 rupee 9 pies or by 7 per cent in the rural areas. The highest proportionate rise was recorded in the urban areas of the Central Division being 2 annas 2 pies or 14 per cent.

Unskilled labour.- As compared with 1945-46, the weighted average daily rate of wages of unskilled labour in the province as a whole increased from 1 rupee 3 annas 11 pies to 1 rupee and 6 annas or by 10 per cent in the urban areas and from 1 rupee to 1 rupee 11 pies or by 6 per cent in the rural areas. The highest proportionate rise, 3 annas 5 pies or 21 per cent was recorded in the urban areas of the Southern Division. A fall of wages from 15 annas 5 pies to 14 annas 11 pies or of 2 per cent occurred in the rural areas of the ~~Rayachoti~~ Daccan Circle.

Skilled labour.- The weighted average daily rate of wages of skilled workers in the urban areas increased by 5 annas 11 pies or 11 per cent over that of 1945-46; that in rural areas increased by 2 annas 10 pies or 10 per cent. The highest rise was recorded in the Southern Division being 5 annas 1 pie or 27 per cent.

The following table shows the weighted average rates of daily wages for the whole province for field labour, unskilled labour and skilled labour during 1946-47 as compared with the corresponding figures for 1945-46 and 1943:-

P.T.O. for Table.

Category of Labour.	1915			1945-46 (a)			1946-47 (b)			Percentage increase of (b) over (a).
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	
<u>Urban Areas</u>										
Field Labour	0	4	9	1	0	11	1	5	2	15
Unskilled Labour.....	0	5	9	1	3	11	1	6	0	10
Skilled Labour.....	0	12	6	2	3	2	2	7	1	11
<u>Rural Areas</u>										
Field Labour.....	0	4	0	0	15	8	1	0	9	7
Unskilled Labour.....	0	4	6	1	0	0	1	0	11	6
Skilled Labour.....	0	10	9	1	15	3	2	0	1	10

(Labour Gazette, April, 1948).

Classification of Railway Workers for purposes
of Pay Commission's Recommendations: Government
accepts Tribunal's Report.

The Government of India has accepted the report submitted to it by the Railway Workers' Classification Tribunal (vide page 47 of the report of this Office for April 1948). All Government Railway Administrations have been instructed to implement the Award as early as possible, and in full measure, in accordance with the undertakings given by Government.

Recommendations.— The Tribunal, in its report, has appended a general list of skilled and semi-skilled categories, as well as separate lists for each railway. It has recommended: (i) that where the classification of skilled and semi-skilled categories has not been defined in its general list of classified 'skilled' and 'semi-skilled' artisans, the most fair and best means of defining the skilled and semi-skilled categories of each trade should be through the Trade Test method; and (ii) that, in order to create and an avenue of

promotion for an unskilled labourer to a skilled tradesman, any labourer who has completed three years of service and is able to pass a specified simple Basic Trade Test should be admitted into the semi-skilled category and designated as a 'Basic Tradesman' in the trade in which he has been tested, the percentage of such 'Basic Tradesmen' in the semi-skilled category being fixed in accordance with the minimum requirements of each trade. This procedure does not apply to apprentice-trained artisans who, on completion of their apprenticeship, will be classified under the 'skilled' category.

While accepting the Tribunal's proposals, the Ministry of Railways has ordered that in those cases where, under ~~previous~~ previous orders, any categories have already been classified as 'skilled' and paid as such but the award of the Tribunal would only entitle them to a lower classification, the individual already admitted to the 'skilled' rate of pay should be permitted to draw as personal to himself, pay in the scale of 55 rupees rising upto 95 rupees, that is up to the efficiency bar. Promotion in that scale beyond the efficiency bar will be regulated in the normal way, subject to the individual being ~~classified~~ fitted in the meantime into a 'skilled' category.

(The Statesman, dated 6-6-1948).

47. Reconstruction Plans.

India - June 1948.

Scientific Research Department set up by
Government of India.

The Government of India has set up with effect from 1 July 1948 a Department of Scientific Research. The Department will work under the Prime Minister. It will take over the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, the Board of Atomic Research and such other functions of the Director, Scientific and Industrial Research, as the Government might decide to transfer to it.

It will also co-ordinate the scientific activities of the other Ministries. In its co-ordination work, the Department will be assisted by a Co-ordination Committee consisting of eminent scientists.

(The Statesman, dated 5-6-1948).

India: Atomic Energy Act, 1948.

The Atomic Energy Bill, 1948 (vide page 49 of the report of this Office for April 1948) after having been passed by the Constituent Assembly of India (Legislative) received the assent of the Governor-General of India on 15 April 1948 and has been gazetted as the Atomic Energy Act, 1948 (Act No. XXIX of 1948).

(The Gazette of India Extraordinary,
Part IV, dated 15 April 1948, pp. 145-150).

49. Rehabilitation.

India - June 1948.

India: Rehabilitation of Refugees: Finance
Administration constituted.

The Government of India has, by a Notification dated 1 June 1948, directed that the Rehabilitation Finance Administration Act, 1948 (vide page 56 of the report of this Office for April 1948) should come into force from 1 June 1948.

With effect from the same date the Government has set up a Rehabilitation Finance Administration under the Chairmanship of Mr. S.S. Rachpal. Besides the Chairman the Administration consists of 3 official and 3 non-official members.

(The Gazette of India Extraordinary,
dated 1-6-1948, pages 735-756).

India: New Minister of State for Relief and
Rehabilitation.

Mr. Mohan Lal Saxena member of the Constituent Assembly of India has been appointed Minister of State in the Central Government and has been allotted the portfolio of Relief and Rehabilitation.

Mr. Saxena assumed charge of his Ministry on 8 June 1948.

(The Gazette of India Extraordinary,
dated 8-6-1948, page 789).

Apprenticeship Training Scheme extended
to Refugees.

A Government of India Press Note, published in the Hindustan Times announces that with a view to providing facilities to suitable adult male refugees from Pakistan to gain practical experience of production work under factory conditions so as to facilitate their resettlement, the apprenticeship training scheme of the Ministry of Labour has been extended to them.

The Government of India has sanctioned, for the present 2,000 seats for the purpose. These facilities are now available in the provinces of East Punjab, Delhi and Ajmer-Merwara, the United Provinces, West Bengal, Bombay, Bihar and Orissa. The duration of the training will be from six to 12 months. Apprentices undergoing training will be paid a consolidated allowance of 40 rupees per month in lieu of stipend, board and lodging plus such other emoluments, if any, as the owner of the industrial establishment may agree to pay at his discretion.

(The Hindustan Times, 5-6-1948).

India: Review of Working of Relief and
Rehabilitation Department: Nearly 200
Million Rupees spent on Refugee Relief.

The Statesman dated 30 May 1948 publishes a review by its special correspondent of the activities of the Relief and Rehabilitation Department of the Government of India. The following is a brief summary of the review.

4,700,000 people migrated to India.— According to available figures nearly 4,700,000 people have evacuated to India from West Punjab, the North-West Frontier Province, Sind, Baluchistan, West Punjab States, Bahawalpur, and other areas. To this can be added over 1,000,000 people migrating from Eastern Pakistan. The number of people crossing the Indian border into Pakistan totals 6,000,000. At least 198,800,000 rupees has been spent or granted so far by the Indian Government for the evacuation relief and rehabilitation of refugees. The review points out that the material resources of the Government of India after war years and the 1943 Bengal famine were very much depleted, but refugees have been fed and well looked after. Statistics show that the percentage of sickness in refugee camps is very low—a testimony to good administration in these centres.

Rehabilitation.- The review stresses that rehabilitation, though much handicapped by the absence of settlement of refugees' property, is progressing well. Between 1,500,000 and 2,000,000 refugees have already been settled on land in East Punjab, East Punjab States and elsewhere. Several schemes to bring more land under cultivation for distribution to uprooted families are being carried out. Thousands of urban refugees have been absorbed in business, industries and in private and Government employment. Vocational training facilities have been provided for thousands of others and free education for all children. Homes for widows and orphans have been opened. A number of women, originally accommodated in the centres, are now earning their livings. In consultation with the Ministry of Labour, schemes for technical and vocational training of 7,000 refugees at various centres in India have been put into operation.

Housing Scheme.- A 25 million rupees scheme to build houses in 12 towns in East Punjab has been sanctioned and work is already well advanced. Nearly 5,000 houses are being built in Delhi at a cost of about 12 million rupees. Another 500 houses for Harijans costing about 300,000 rupees, are also under construction.

Expenditure.- The evacuation of refugees by road, rail and air has cost the Government 27.5 million rupees. Over 120 million rupees have been spent on accommodation, food, clothing and medical relief. A model vocational training centre has been opened in Delhi at an estimated cost of 500,000 rupees, and its expansion will cost another 500,000 rupees. The technical and vocational training scheme is expected to cost about 600,000 rupees while a large sum is being spent on the education of students in India and abroad, giving them loans and providing double shifts in schools and colleges. A sum of 700,000 rupees has already been disbursed as loans to rural and urban refugees and more are planned.

(The Statesman, dated 30-5-1948).

Administration of Refugee Camps: to be handed
over to Provincial Governments: Distribution
of Refugee Population.

According to a Government of India Press Note published in the 'Statesman' the Central Government has decided to hand over the administration of all refugees camps in India to provinces and States concerned.

The Directorate General of Evacuation, which was originally set up in the middle of January 1948, for the evacuation of non-Muslims from Pakistan in general and Sind in particular was later on assigned the duty of organising reception points and camps for accommodation of refugees in a wide area comprising Rajputana States, Cutch and the Kathiawar States, ~~Central~~ Central India States, Bombay Presidency and the Central Provinces.

Dispersal of refugees.- There has been a marked ~~marked~~ decrease in camp populations in Rohtak and Karnal District camps, whereas gradual decrease has been continuing in the camps of Ludhiana, Ambala, Gurgaon, Hissar and Amritsar districts. The Nasrula camp in Hoshiarpur has been wound up. The total camp population in East Punjab has decreased from 453,706 in the third week of April 1948 to its present figure of 429,213. The ~~present~~ population in refugee camps under the control of the East Punjab Government is distributed as follows: Ludhiana, 27,855; Ferozepore, 58,813; Ambala, 57,958; Gurgaon, 42,509; Rohtak, 70,659; Karnal, 83,800; Amritsar, 12,000; Jullundur, 52,891; Hoshiarpur, 5,624; Hissar, 33,758; and Gurdaspur, 23,546.

The total number of refugees registered in the United Provinces is about 400,000. Dehra Dun has the largest number where registered refugees alone are 49,249 of whom 11,700 are destitutes who are fed and clothed at Government expense. Schools have been opened to impart vocational and academic training to children of school-going age. Other refugee camps in the United Provinces are at Faizabad, Bonares, Badaon, Jaunpur, Meerut, Filibhit, Rijnore, Bareilly and Barabanki.

In the Rajputana region, there are about 25,662 refugees. In Kathiawar, there are about 20,960 refugees, and in Central India and the Central Provinces about 31,050.

(The Statesman, dated 20-6-1948).

Bombay: Relief and Rehabilitation of
Refugees: New Department to be created.

The Government of Bombay has decided to create a department of Relief and Rehabilitation under the control and supervision of the Chief Secretary to the Bombay Government.

The first function of the department will be to take over charge, from 15 June 1948, of the 21 camps in the province now housing approximately 125,000 refugees. While the scope and duties of the department have not yet been defined, it is proposed to undertake relief and rehabilitation on more organised lines. Rehabilitation will be proceeded with ~~after~~ after the refugees have been classified into trade categories. The required particulars are

expected to be furnished through the registration forms each refugee has been called upon to complete under the Refugee Registration Act, which has recently been enacted in Bombay.

(The Times of India, 12-6-1948).

Training of Refugee Women: Centres opened
by Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation .

According to a Government of India Press Note published in the 'Statesman' over 1,000 refugee women have been given occupation in six work centres in Delhi run by the women's section of the Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation. In these centres refugee women are employed in crafts like tailoring, knitting and embroidery. They are paid either on piecework basis or daily wages.

There are at present 789 women and children living in various homes for destitute women. Classes in embroidery, basket-making, spinning and tailoring are conducted in these homes to make these women and children self-supporting.

(The Statesman, dated 20-6-1948).

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United Provinces: The United Provinces Land
Acquisition (Rehabilitation of Refugees) Act,
1948.

The United Provinces Land Acquisition (Rehabilitation of Refugees) Act, 1948, gazetted by the provincial Government on 5 June 1948 provides for the acquisition of land for the rehabilitation of refugees from Western Pakistan, and prescribes an expeditious procedure for the determination of the compensation to be paid on account of such acquisition. The Provincial Government, or such other authority appointed by it, may by order requisition any land for the erection of houses and shops for the rehabilitation of refugees. The land is requisitioned by serving a notice on the owner or occupier thereof. Provision is made for the payment of such compensation as may be agreed upon in writing between the persons interested in such compensation and the Provincial Government. If no such agreement is reached the Government shall refer the matter with its recommendation as to the amount of compensation to the compensation officer whose decision will be final.

(U.P. Act No. XXVI of 1948;
Government Gazette of the United Provinces,
Part VII-A, dated 5 June 1948, pages 45-45).

The United Provinces Refugees Rehabilitation
(Loans) Act, 1948.

The Government of the United Provinces has published on 16 June 1948 the United Provinces Refugees Rehabilitation (Loans) Act, 1948, which provides for the granting of loans of money by the provincial Government to refugees from Pakistan for the purpose of their rehabilitation. The Chief Administrator or the Controlling authorities appointed for the purpose of granting loans to refugees may advance to a refugee on application, a loan not exceeding 5,000 rupees. Sanction of the Provincial Government is necessary for loans exceeding 5,000 rupees. The loan together with interest if any is repayable by such annual instalments as may be prescribed. In case of a default in repayment provision is made for the recovery of the loan as arrears of land revenue.

(U.P. Act No. XXVIII of 1948;
Government Gazette of the United Provinces,
Extraordinary, dated 16 June 1948, pages 1-4).

52. Welfare and Workers' leisure.

India - June 1948.

India: Coal Mines-Labour Welfare Fund Rules
1948 - Draft.

The Government of India gazetted on 26 June 1948 the draft of the rules which it proposes to make in exercise of the powers conferred by section 10 of the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1947 (vide pages 22-25 of the report of this Office for June 1947). The rules provide ~~amongst~~ for, among other matters, the constitution of the Advisory Committee, Sub-Committees and Housing Board, prescribes the terms of office of the members of the Committees, their conditions of service, their remuneration, the procedure to be followed in the disposal of business, the powers of the Advisory Committee and the Board, and the mode of recovery of excise duty. The draft is to be taken into consideration on or after 20 July 1948.

(Gazette of India, Part I, dated 26 June 1948,
pages 763-772).

Working conditions for Post and Telegraph
Staff: Labour Officers appointed.

The Government of India has set up a welfare organisation for the postal and telegraph staff. In pursuance of this ~~the~~ scheme which will benefit about 100,000 members of the staff, 8 labour officers have been appointed in the Post and Telegraph Department; in addition to the 3 in the department workshops at Bombay, Calcutta and Jubbulpore.

The main duties of the labour officers will be to improve the conditions of work for the staff and to provide them with canteens, co-operative stores, recreation and medical and education facilities. They will also help in redressing grievances of the staff by bringing them to the notice of the authorities and by liaison with the heads of ~~the~~ circles as well as the organisation of the Chief Labour Commissioner. 7 of the labour officers, one of whom is a woman, will be attached to different postal circles and one to the Post and Telegraph Directorate for co-ordination of welfare work.

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Bihar: Patna University to institute course
of study in Labour and Social Welfare .

By a notification dated 2 June 1948, the Government of Bihar has amended the Patna University Regulations providing for an examination for the grant of a diploma in Labour and Social Welfare, to be held once every year. Any registered student of the University who has passed the Bachelor of Commerce examination or Bachelor of Arts examination may be admitted to the examination for the Diploma in Labour and Social Welfare, if he has completed in one or more institutions approved for the purpose by the Syndicate of the University a regular course of study for a period of nine months and has undergone a practical training. Any graduate of the University who is employed in the Labour Department of either provincial or Central Government may also be admitted to the examination as a private candidate. The candidates will be examined in the following subjects, besides practical work and an oral test: (1) sociology and theory of labour and wages; (2) labour legislation and labour laws; (3) labour management; (4) labour welfare; (5) the worker and trade unionism; and (6) statistical methods as applied to labour.

(The Bihar Gazette, Part II, dated
9 June 1948, pages 1231-1232).

56. Labour Administration.

India - June 1948.

Conditions of Work in Ceylon during 1947:
Administration Report of the Commissioner
of Labour for 1947*.

Labour conditions in Ceylon during 1947 and the main developments during the year in the fields of labour legislation and administration are reviewed in the Administration Report of the Commissioner of Labour for 1947. The general conditions of labour in Ceylon and the working of the main labour laws are dealt with in Part I of the Report; Part II deals with Indian immigrant labour.

Part I - General

Ministry of Labour and Social services.— The Cabinet under the Soulbury Constitution took the oaths of office on 26 September 1947, and the House of Representatives met on 14 October. The functions of the former Ministry of Labour, Industry and Commerce were re-allocated and a new Ministry of Labour and Social Services formed under the Hon. Mr. T. B. Jayah.

Visit of I.L.O. Mission.— An official mission from the I.L.O. consisting of Mr. R. Rao and Miss L.E. Bodmer, visited Ceylon in March 1947, with the primary object of discussing the proofs of reports on subjects on the agenda of the Asian Regional Conference.

Preparatory Asian Regional Conference.— A delegation from Ceylon attended the Preparatory Asian Regional Conference of the International Labour Organisation held in New Delhi during October-November 1947.

Apprenticeship training.— The report of the Committee on Apprenticeship Training was issued as a Sessional Paper in September 1947. Its recommendations include the setting up of an Apprenticeship Board for the regulation of trade, special and engineering apprenticeship and the provision of additional technical schools in the more important parts of the Island (vide pages 40-43 of the report of this Office for November 1947).

* Ceylon: Part I - Civil(O): Administration Report of the Commissioner of Labour for 1947—June 1948. Printed at the Ceylon Government Press, Colombo. To be purchased at the Government Publications Bureau, Colombo; Price: Rs.1.85.

Labour Legislation: (a) Industrial Disputes.- The draft of a Bill for the prevention, investigation and settlement of trade disputes has been finalised and is under consideration by the new Ministry of Labour and Social Services. The Bill provides for conciliation by the Labour Department, arbitration where both parties agree, compulsory arbitration in trade disputes in essential trades and the registration of collective agreements.

(b) Shops and Offices (Regulation of Employment) Bill.- The final draft of this Bill had not been received from the Legal ~~Department~~ Draftsman by the end of 1947.

(c) Eviction of Estate Labourers Bill.- The Executive Committee of Labour, Industry and Commerce when considering the draft Bill decided that the scope of the Bill should be extended to cover labour housed in lines provided by Government Departments. The Legal Secretary has, therefore been requested to have the necessary amendments made to the Bill.

(d) Wages Boards Ordinance.- A Memorandum suggesting certain amendments to the Wages Boards Ordinance, No. 27 of 1941 (vide page 51, para 56 of the report of this Office for January 1948) was considered by the Executive Committee of Labour, Industry and Commerce. At the close of 1947 the subject was under consideration by the Minister of Labour and Social Services.

(e) Mines and Quarries.- The Mines, Quarries and Minerals Ordinance, No. 55 of 1947, was passed by the State Council in July 1947. It provides for the safety, health and welfare of workers in mines and quarries. It places certain restrictions on the employment of women and young persons and specifies the hours of work of young persons and adults (vide pages 11-12 of the report of this Office for November 1947). The Ordinance has not yet been brought into operation.

(f) Estate Schools.- Certain amendments to the Education Ordinance were made by Ordinance No. 26 of 1947 to give effect to a resolution of the State Council that all estate schools shall be converted into primary State Schools and shall form part of the system of national education. The obligation of estates to provide, on rent, school buildings and quarters for teachers and also to provide space for school gardens has been retained until such time as Government can provide its own schools. Provision has also been made for raising the compulsory school-going age progressively to 16 years, subject to exemption in suitable cases after the age of 14.

Workmen's Compensation.- 10,153 accidents were reported during the year as against 8,481 in 1946. Of these 196 were fatal as against 177 in 1946. According to the returns furnished by employers the amount of claims paid during the year was 436,500,69 in respect of 9,953 cases. The figures for 1946 and 1945 were 345,612 rupees in respect of 5,826 cases and 400,361 rupees in respect of 5,565 cases respectively. Of the 1,189 agreements registered during the year, 245 were in respect of permanent disablement, 944 in respect of temporary disablement and 2 in respect of commutation of half monthly payments due for the period of

temporary disablement. The total amount of compensation paid in respect of the 243 cases of permanent disablement was 155,138.05 rupees. There were two claims for compensation in respect of industrial diseases. In both cases the claims were rejected after inquiry. The applicant in one case, however, filed an appeal to the Supreme Court, which was pending at the close of the year.

Trade Unions.- During the year, 52 unions applied for registration under the Trade Unions Ordinance, and 18 were registered. Of the 114 unions which were functioning at the end of 1946 the registration of 51 unions was cancelled. Among the workers' unions which submitted returns the Ceylon Indian Congress Labour Union had the largest membership, viz., 116,521 on 31-3-1947. The Ceylon Plantation Workers' Union came next with a membership of 9,430. Followed by the Ceylon Estate Staff's Union with a membership of 4,472. As regards funds the Ceylon Mercantile Union heads the list with a credit balance of 22,525 rupees. ~~xxxxxx~~ The Ceylon Indian Congress Labour Union comes next with 18,224 rupees to its credit.

The total membership of unions affiliated to the various Federations of Labour in Ceylon is as follows:- Ceylon Trade Union Federation 22,944; All-Ceylon Trade Union Congress 7,016. The registration of the Federation of Labour was cancelled for failure to submit annual returns.

Trade Union Organization and Joint Negotiating Machinery.- The Government of Ceylon appointed a Trade Union Adviser in October 1946 and about 45 meetings in all parts of the Island were addressed by him during 1946-1947. During 1947 a series of 4 broadcast talks was given on trade unionism and an attempt was made to provide training in trade union problems to officers of commercial establishments whose duties brought them in contact with trade unions. A course of lectures on trade unionism was also held after office hours for officers and members of trade unions. The course proved a success and though the class was ~~an~~ small the enthusiasm and keenness shown were very great. Members of the class subsequently achieved positions of responsibility in their unions.

During 1947 there were 105 strikes resulting in a total loss of 743,831 man-days. Attempts were made to set up joint negotiating machinery which would eliminate the causes leading to strikes. Early in the year steps were taken to call a meeting of all Unions concerned with Local Government manual workers of the Western Province. The idea of a joint industrial council for Local Government was suggested and a draft scheme put forward. This was accepted by the unions. One major principle accepted by the Unions was that "Where in any locality within the provincial area a difference arises which cannot be, or shows no prospects of being, settled or after negotiation is referred by either or both parties to the Provincial Council, the Provincial Council shall: (a) act as a Conciliation Board at the request of either or both parties and this shall be by means of a Conciliation Board appointed from a panel of members selected from both employers and trade unions represented on the ~~Committee~~

Council; (b) investigate the full facts relating to such difference as affecting all parties between whom the difference has arisen and report to the full Council; (c) make and communicate to the Parties the decision of the full Council thereon; (d) use all available means for settling the difference; (e) refer the difference to the National Council (where formed) in case the Provincial Council is unable to settle it; and (f) take steps to ensure that no strike, lockout, or arbitration shall take place in the locality concerned until the matter has been enquired into and considered by the Provincial Council and the National Council, where formed, provided that this clause shall not operate ~~unless~~ after a period of 21 days has elapsed from the time of reference of the dispute to the Provincial Council by either or both parties". The question was taken to the Local Government Service Commission which after two meetings with the Trade Union Adviser decided to postpone consideration of the matter. No decision has yet been made.

Attempts were then made to induce the Employers' Federation of Ceylon and the Ceylon Estate Employers' Federation to accept the principle of permanent joint negotiating machinery. It appeared to find favour with the latter but was not taken up by the former. The Department sent copies of draft schemes of Joint Industrial Councils for different trades or industries, e.g., tobacco factories, banks, printers, oil installations, etc., to both employers' and workers' unions. No industry-wide joint industrial councils emerged, however, though the practice of consultation at the factory or workshop level appears to have begun. The Ceylon Estate Employers' Federation was the only organization to translate its appreciation of the ideas into action at high level. After general discussion of the scheme among all branches of its organisation it agreed to the creation of a Joint Industrial Council with the Ceylon Estates Staffs' Union. The main object of the Council was to secure the largest possible measure of joint action between estate employers and estate staffs for the development of the ~~existing~~ planting industries and for the improvement of the conditions of service of estate staffs. The Council has made a good start, for in the first few months of its existence it set up an agreed salary scheme for all subordinate staff/employees.

In the plantation industry a seven-point agreement existed from 1940-46. This provided a procedure for the settlement of disputes by means of ad hoc meetings between the union and the employer. There is now no agreement in force but the standard practice developed under the agreement continues but only on an individual and voluntary basis.

Trade disputes: Striking increase in number of man-days lost. - During 1947 there were 105 strikes; of these 53 cases, involving 11,949 labourers and resulting in a loss of 199,657 man-days, occurred on estates. There were 52 strikes in trade and industry outside plantations resulting in a loss of 544,174 man-days. The total number of man-days lost during 1947 was thus 743,831, as against 282,746½ man-days in 1946 and only 9,595 man-days in 1945.

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Conciliation and arbitration: (a) Industrial labour.- At the end of 1946, inquiry into 4 petitions relating to trade disputes within the meaning of the Essential Services (Avoidance of Strikes and Lock-outs) Order, 1942, was pending and, during the year, 7 petitions relating to trade disputes were received. Of these, 9 cases were disposed of during the year while further inquiry into 2 other cases was at the end of the year held up, pending a decision of the Supreme Court on an application made by the employers. The 2 cases relate to the motor transport trade and they were referred to a Special Tribunal before the trade was removed from the category of essential services on 7 March 1947. The contention of the Company was that the Special Tribunal had no authority to proceed with the inquiry after 21 March 1947. Of the 9 petitions disposed of, 4 related to terms and conditions of employment while the rest related to dismissals. With the removal of a number of services from the category of essential services recourse was had during the year to a greater extent than previously to the Industrial Disputes (Conciliation) Ordinance (Chap. 110) for the settlement of disputes.

(b) ~~Statisticians~~ Clerical Workers.- The ~~statisticians~~ clerical staff and other office employees of the Oil Companies in Colombo presented petitions to the Department under the Essential Services (Avoidance of Strikes and Lockouts) Order 1942 on trade disputes regarding their terms and conditions of employment. The Special Tribunal to whom the matter was referred for settlement by his award re-aligned the salaries fixed by an earlier award in the light of changes that had since that time been effected in the salaries of Government employees and bank clerks.

(c) Estate Workers.- There were 53 strikes on estates involving 11,849 labourers, as against 87 strikes last year. The number of working days lost was 199,657 as against 31,850 1/2 in 1946. Most of the strikes were due to the termination of services of labourers and were of short duration. In some cases the labourers first struck work and thereafter presented their demands to the management. Two major strikes occurred during the year. The first was a result of some supervising kanganies being asked to do ordinary labourers' work. It began on 3 June and ended on 10 October 1947 lasting 112 working days and involving about 1,000 labourers. The second strike which began on 22 October and ended on 17 December 1947, was a result of the summary dismissal of the President and the Secretary of the Estate Committee, for insubordination. The strike was at the start confined to one division involving 300 labourers but later spread to other divisions involving nearly 1,000 labourers in all.

The report points out that some unions displayed an unfortunate weakness to report complaints made to them without any preliminary investigation as to whether they were genuine or not. It does not appear that unions have devised a satisfactory procedure for checking complaints made by their members. If this is done, a fair proportion of requests made to the Department would never be made. It is emphasised

that unions should proceed with more caution in their statements of fact as this would apart from saving valuable time, enhance their prestige in the eyes of employers.

At the end of 1947 the number of non-Indian workers employed in estates was 136,511 of whom 42,244 were resident on the estates.

Wages Boards.— As regards the working of the Wages Boards Ordinance, the report refers to two gratifying developments. The first of these was a ~~markedly~~ discernible tendency ~~manifesting~~ to arrive at decisions by compromise in contrast to the tendency shown in the early stages of a stubborn refusal to see that the other side had a case at all. The second was the gradual expansion in the coverage both as regards industries and the total number of workers to whom the benefits of the Ordinance have been made available. Wages Boards functioned during the year for the following trades:— (1) the Tea, Cocoa, Cardamom and Pepper Growing and Manufacturing Trades; (2) the Rubber Growing and Manufacturing Trade; (3) the Coconut Trade; (4) the Engineering Trade; (5) the Printing Trade; (6) the Plumbago Trade; (7) the Rubber Export Trade; (8) the Tea Export Trade; (9) the Toddy, Arrack and Vinegar Trade; (10) the Cigar Manufacturing Trade; (11) the Motor Transport Trade; and (12) the Hatch Manufacturing Trade.

The total number of inspections made during the year was 2,346. This comprised 250 estates and 78 establishments inspected on complaints made and 1,522 estates and 496 establishments on routine inspections and represents an increase of nearly 20 per cent as against the previous year. The inspections revealed that notices required under the Wages Boards Ordinance had not been posted in as many as 995 estates or establishments and that the notices at 455 places were inadequate. 197 estates or establishments had not kept the records required to be maintained and those at 939 places were inadequate. The wages of 115,000 male workers, 107,000 female workers and 55,500 child workers employed in estates were checked in the course of the ~~inspection~~ inspections. As regards other establishments, the wages of approximately 10,200 male workers, 900 female workers and 100 child workers were checked. Large numbers of workers in estates as well as establishments were benefited materially by these inspections. Short payments amounting to 250,963 rupees were recovered by the Department and paid to the workers concerned during the year as against 51,599 rupees in 1946.

Decisions made by Wages Boards.— During 1947 the decision of the Wages Board for the Motor Transport Trade came into force on 1 March 1947 and those of the Board for the Hatch Manufacturing Trade on 1 June 1947.

The workers in the Motor Transport Trade have been grouped into 11 classes "A" to "I", and monthly rates have been fixed for permanent workers and daily rates for temporary workers. The minimum rate of wage for time work in this trade consists of a basic rate and a special allowance which varies with the Cost of Living Index. The variation in the rates of the special allowance for permanent workers

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in this trade for every rise or fall of five points in the cost of Living Index Number is 1 rupee for Classes A-F, 90 cents for Classes, G.H.J. and K. and 75 cents for Class L. For temporary workers the rate of variation is 5 cents a day for Class L and 5 cents a day for Classes A-H. Provision does not exist for the payment of daily rates of wages for omnibus checkers, time keepers, omnibus inspectors and omnibus stand supervisors.

The workers in the Hatch Manufacturing Trade consist of two groups--adult workers (18 years and over) and young persons. The adult workers are classed in four grades and the young persons in three grades. Wages have been fixed on a daily basis consisting of a basic rate and a special allowance varying with the Cost of Living Index Number. The rate of variation for every rise or fall of five points in the Cost of Living Index Number is 5 cents a day for adult workers, 2 cents a day for young persons of the age of 17 years and over but under 18 years and 1 cent a day for young persons over 14 years and under 17 years.

With effect from 1 January 1947 the number of hours constituting a normal working day on a Saturday was reduced to seven for workers in the Coconut Trade employed in the Colombo area in the manufacture of desiccated coconut, coconut oil and fibre and coir products (other than the transporting of husks to ~~summakatt~~ and from retting tanks).

Maternity benefits.— Intensive inspection of estates and other establishments carried out during the year under review considerably contributed to the effective enforcement of the provisions of the Maternity Benefits Ordinance. Active co-operation both from employers and employees was generally received and this greatly facilitated the smooth working of the Ordinance. It was found, however, that the records required to be kept under the Maternity Benefits Ordinance were inadequately maintained in the majority of the smaller estates and other establishments. Most of these establishments were inspected for the first time and on the requirements of the law being brought to the notice of the employers, in most cases, they readily complied with the legal requirements.

The Alternative Maternity Benefits Scheme has afforded expectant women workers on estates, both resident and non-resident, the means of a comparatively safe confinement, facilities for after-care in a properly equipped maternity ward or lying-in room, the services of a qualified midwife at confinement and a cash benefit of 24 rupees. It on the conditions prevalent in the country it appears that the provision of Alternative Maternity Benefits is the more satisfactory means of achieving the objects of the Ordinance than the payment of full cash benefits as the latter are capable of utilisation for purposes unconnected with the wants of the mother.

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Employment Exchanges.— Prior to the war there was only one Employment Exchange in Colombo, which was first established in 1958. When demobilization on a large scale commenced in September 1945, it was decided that facilities should be provided at outstations throughout the Island to persons demobilized from the Services and to men who were employed in civilian capacities by the Services to register their names if they were unemployed. For this purpose a number of employment exchanges and registration centres were established throughout Ceylon and at the beginning of the year there were 14 Employment Exchanges and 5 Registration Centres. In February 1947 the Government approved a recommendation that, in place of those outstation employment exchanges and registration centres which were in most cases staffed by one Labour Inspector and a temporary clerk who had to perform other labour work in addition to employment exchange work, six outstation District employment exchanges should be established at Kandy, Kalutara, Galle, Negombo, Jaffna and Badulla, to carry out all the functions of an Employment Exchange and not merely register un-employed persons. It was also decided that every Inspector of Labour throughout the Island should register unemployed at his office and forward the registration cards to the nearest District Employment Exchange. Accordingly, 5 Employment Exchanges and 2 Registration Centres were closed during the year.

The total number of unemployed persons registered at the employment exchanges during 1947 was 88,187, including re-registrations. The number placed in employment during the period was 7,404. The balance as at 31 December 1947, was 34,744 excluding deferred, ~~or~~ lapsed and cancelled registrations.

Working of Shops Ordinance.— The 1946 administration report stated that the Shops Ordinance is enforced in the three Municipalities of Colombo, Kandy and Galle, and the 38 Urban Council areas, (vide page 55, para 56 of the report of this Office for January 1948). Actually, however, only the provisions relating to hours of work, holidays with pay and the closing order are enforced. 389 shops were inspected for the first time during the year in Colombo, 218 in Kandy and 24 in Galle. 896 shops were inspected for the first time for the year in the 38 Urban Council areas. 1,818 re-inspections were carried out in the Municipal areas and 2,640 in the Urban Council areas for the year. A greater number of prosecutions were launched than 1946.

The report points out that there are numerous infringements of the Order relating to closing of shops and a number of employers have resorted to the practice of working employees for periods longer than the prescribed hours behind closed doors. These instances are difficult to investigate. Another disturbing feature which re-inspections have revealed is that there is a large percentage of incorrigible offenders whom previous convictions have not deterred from breaking the law. The inevitable conclusion is that the penalty prescribed under the Ordinance, namely, a fine not exceeding 25 rupees or imprisonment not exceeding a month for the first offence, 50 rupees and 3 months for second offence and

100 rupees and 6 months for a third offence, is ~~utterly~~ utterly inadequate. The report, however, adds that in spite of the gloomy overall picture there was a slightly greater degree of co-operation than in past years from both employer and employee though the improvement still falls short of an effective standard.

Safety of Women in mines and factories.- According to reports received from the various Revenue Officers there were at the beginning of the year 1,844 factories in the Island. During the year 31 factories were registered and 22 were closed down, leaving at the end of the year 1,853 factories as duly licensed. 9 accidents were reported during 1947 as against 22 in 1946. As a result of these accidents 4 persons were killed and 14 persons injured. Mines were supervised by the Inspector of Mines. At the beginning of 1947 there were 51 registered mines. Fifty new mines were registered during the year, but the dull state of the mining industry recorded during the previous years continued throughout the year under review and 44 mines were closed down. The total number of mines reported to be working at the end of the year was 58 employing 1,640 men as compared with 51 mines employing 1,785 men in 1946.

Labour welfare.- The report adds that the subject of labour welfare has been receiving the attention of the Department for some considerable time. Action taken in the preceding years in this sphere has been somewhat meagre and confined mainly to the dissemination of information and ideas on the subject among employers including Government Departments. The establishment of a Model Welfare Centre in Colombo was also proposed but had to be deferred owing to the difficulty of securing suitable building accommodation for the purpose in Colombo. During the year under review, the subject was given greater attention and a separate branch was created within the Department in August 1947 with an Assistant Commissioner in charge. His duty will be to render more ~~positive~~ positive assistance and help to organise and co-ordinate welfare schemes in Government Department and private establishments.

Variation in working class cost of living index.- The Colombo working class cost of living index number (base average price November, 1938-April 1939=100) stood at 239 at the close of 1946. In January 1947 it rose to 244 mainly due to an increase in the price of tea. It rose further to 253 in February due to an increase in the price of coconut and to a further increase in the price of tea. It stood at 251 in March and 252 in April. In May due to an increase in the price of fresh fish the index rose again to 257. In June it rose to 259, which was the peak figure for the year. From July the Index showed a downward trend, due to the decline in the prices of firewood, vegetables, coconuts, tea, clothing, etc., and at the end of the year it stood at 251, two points higher than in November, mainly as a result of the increased prices of cigarettes.

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Part II - Indian Immigrant Labour

Migration of labour between India and Ceylon.- The ban imposed by the Government of India on the emigration of un-skilled labourers to Ceylon remained in force throughout the year, and there ~~was~~^{was} little change in the general situation. During 1947 the number of persons returning to India was approximately 58,000 and the number proceeding to Ceylon 54,577 as against 76,657 and 78,594, respectively, in 1946. The number of Indian Immigrant labourers repatriated during the year at Government expense was 222 as against 260 in 1946.

The report gives detailed information relating to the health, education, savings, etc., of Indian labourers working in Ceylon's tea and rubber estates.

(The Administration Report of the Commissioner of Labour, Ceylon, for 1946, was summarised at pages 51-56; para 56, of the report of this Office for January 1948).

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57. Holidays.
India - June 1948.

Holidays with Pay: Jute Mills remain
closed for 10 days.

As conditions in the Jute Mill, still made it impracticable for mills to grant holidays with pay to their labour under the provisions of the Factories (Amendment) Act, the Committee of the Indian Jute Mills Association, Calcutta, arranged for the closure of all mills for a period of ten days during May 1948. A similar procedure had been ~~was~~ adopted also in 1946 and 1947.

(Jute Bulletin dated April 1948: issued
by the Indian Central Jute Committee,
Calcutta).

59. General.

India - June 1948.

Indebtedness in Bengal: 53.8 per cent
families owe 148 rupees per family .

A total of 53.8 per cent of the families of Bengal are indebted, according to a sample survey carried out by the Indian Statistical Institute at the instance of the Government of undivided Bengal. The survey which was conducted in two stages, was completed in May 1945. The interim report submitted by the Institute to Government, touches on the present position of indebtedness in rural Bengal. Information was collected from 80,710 families scattered over 64,000 square miles of the inhabited rural areas of the province. The average loan per indebted family was 148.1 rupees.

(The Hindu, dated 14-6-1948).

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Chapter 6 General Rights of Workers

66. Strike and Lockout, Rights.

India - June 1948.

✓ United Provinces: Fresh Order relating to
Strikes and Lock-outs.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 5 of the United Provinces Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, and in supersession of the Government notification dated 20 May 1947 (vide report of this Office for May 1947 at page 7) the Governor of the United Provinces ~~issued~~^{issued} on 14 June 1948 an order prohibiting strikes and lock-outs in the province in connection with any industrial dispute without at least 14 days' previous notice to the opposite party within one month before such strike or lock-out is declared; and where such a dispute has been referred to an industrial tribunal, a court of inquiry or a board of conciliation or a works committee, during the period from the making of the reference to until the expiry of two months after the conclusion of the proceedings upon such reference. The order further requires that every such notice of strike or lock-out shall specify a date, within 3 days of which if no strike or lock-out takes place in pursuance of the notice, the notice shall cease to have effect and a fresh notice of 14 days shall have to be given for a strike or lock-out. Contravention of the order is made punishable with imprisonment which may extend to 5 years or with fine or with both.

(Notification No. 422(II)/XVIII-810(L)-
1948, dated 14 June 1948;
The Government Gazette of the United
Provinces, Extraordinary, dated
14 June 1948, pages 1-2).

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67. Conciliation and Arbitration.

India - June 1948.

The Bombay Industrial Relations (Amendment) Act, 1948.

The Bombay Industrial Relations (Amendment) Bill, 1948, as passed by the Bombay Legislative Assembly on 3 April 1948 and by the Bombay Legislative Council on 5 April 1948 (vide page 76 of the report of this Office for April 1948) received the assent of the Governor-General of India on 15 May 1948 and has now been gazetted as the Bombay Industrial Relations (Amendment) Act, 1948 (Act XLIII of 1948).

The Act, as has been stated at pages 74-75 of the report of this Office for April 1948, empowers the Government inter alia to set up Wage Boards for the different industries in the province and a Provincial Wage Board for all the industries together. It further empowers the provincial Government on the application of the registered union to direct the constitution of a Joint Committee and to prescribe a time limit for the employees to nominate the members to such a Joint Committee. Other provisions of the Act are: power to the Industrial Court to deal with contempt of Court in respect of itself as well as Courts subordinate to it; shortening the powers of settling industrial disputes by doing away with conciliation whenever possible; and provision for review by the Industrial Court of its own decisions.

(The Bombay Government Gazette, Part IV,
dated 18 May 1948, pages 391-402).

Bombay: Amendment to Industrial Disputes (Bombay)
Rules.

The Government of Bombay has amended the Industrial Disputes (Bombay) Rules 1947 by inserting after Part III of the rules a new Part, Part IIIA. The rules in this part provide that in respect of the constitution functions and procedure of Works Committees in Bombay the rules applicable in Bombay shall be the same as appear in Part V of the Industrial Disputes (Central) rules 1947. Breach of any of these rules is made punishable with a fine up to 50 rupees.

Reference was made to the publication of the draft of the above amendments at pages 69-70 of the report of this Office for March 1948.

(The Bombay Government Gazette Extraordinary
Part IVA, dated 24 24 May 1948, page 220).

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Adjudicator's Award in Railwaymen's Dispute
accepted by Government of India.

The Government of India has announced its acceptance of Justice Rajadhyaksha's award in the Railway dispute in respect of hours of work, periodic rest and leave reserve (vide pages 65-68 of the report of this Office for March 1948) and has accordingly issued an order enforcing the decisions of the Adjudicator. The award will be binding on the Railway Administrations concerned and their workmen for a period of three years from 15 June 1948.

The decision on the recommendations relating to liberalisation of the existing leave rules and holiday concessions will be announced later.

(Labour Ministry Order No. LR2(165) dated
15-6-1948; The Gazette of India
Extraordinary, June 15, 1948, pages
855-856).

Bombay: Speedy Settlement of Industrial Disputes:
Additional Posts of Adjudicators created.

With a view to expedite the settlement of industrial disputes which are referred for adjudication under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, the Government of Bombay has sanctioned the creation of two posts of adjudicators under the administrative control of the Industrial Court, Bombay, for a period of one year in the first instance with effect from the date of actual appointment.

(Labour Gazette, April 1948).

Speedy settlement of Industrial Disputes:
United Provinces Government's order
Constituting Conciliation Boards and
Industrial Courts amended.

Reference was made at pages 70-72 of the report of this Office for March 1948 to the Order of the Government of the United Provinces constituting Conciliation Boards and Industrial Courts. An amendment to the Order published by the Government in an extraordinary issue of the Gazette in May 1948 substitutes the words "recognized Association of employers" for the words "registered trade union of employers" in certain clauses of the Order.

(Government Gazette of the United Provinces
Extraordinary, dated 15 May 1948—
Notification No. 2252(L)/XVIII-857(L)/48,
dated 15 May 1948).

Maintenance of Industrial Truce in Central
Provinces: Labour Leaders' Assurance.

Reference was made at page 64, ~~para~~ para 66, of the report of this Office for March 1948, to the one-day protest strike organised by the Central Provinces provincial Trade Union Congress. Following the strike a number of labour leaders were arrested under the Central Provinces and Berar Public Safety Act, 1948.

A communiqué issued by the Government of the Central Provinces during the latter half of May 1948 announces that the labour leaders have been released on signing a statement assuring the Government that they would co-operate with the Government in the maintenance of industrial truce in the province.

The statement which ^{has} been signed by Mr. R.S. Ruiker, President, Provincial Workers United Front; Mr. R.R. Haldalkar, Vice-president, Provincial Trade Union Congress; Mr. J.N. Mazumdar, President, Girni Mazdoor Sangh, Hinganghat; and Mr. B.V. Gotmare, Secretary, Provincial Workers' United Front, suggested that if the following steps are taken by the Government industrial truce in the province can be secured: (1) decisions on important major questions before the Industrial Tribunal are given within a month and matters referred to the court of enquiry are finished soon thereafter; (2) prosecutions for proved breach of awards are made within one month; (3) works committees in Textile Industry are formed within two months as far as possible; and (4) reports of the principal sub-committees on minimum wage, housing, etc., are submitted to the Government within a month; and the Government's decision is taken as far as possible within two months of the submission of the report, in consultation with the Government of India where required.

The signatories on their part agree: (1) that Labour will co-operate fully and wholeheartedly with the Industrial Tribunal and will not protract inquiry by seeking adjournments; (2) that for the constitution of the Work Committees, Trade Unions will, within a fortnight, furnish all the information required by the employers or by the Labour Office and also furnish the names of their representatives to the employers; (3) that workers organisations will maintain the industrial truce and will not resort to strike until all remedies for peaceful settlement of disputes under the provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act (Central and Provincial) have been completely exhausted.

(The Hindu, dated 24-5-1948).

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68. Labour Courts.
India - June 1948.

Cognisance of Offence: Procedure in regard
to complaints filed in Bombay Industrial
Court.

The Government of Bombay has prescribed the following procedure in regard to complaints to be filed in the Labour Courts under section 32 of the Bombay Industrial Relations Act:-

"If a complaint is brought by the worker concerned, he should be referred by the Labour Officer to an approved or Representative Union for the local area for taking up his case to the Labour Court. If the Labour Officer himself comes to know of the offence he should try to set matters right by taking it up with the management in the first instance. In case he fails in his endeavours and feels that the offence should be taken cognisance of by the Labour Court, he should move the Court and report his action to Government".

The Assistant and District Labour Officers have been instructed to report cases involving an offence under the Bombay Industrial Relations Act which come to their notice to the Labour Officer, Bombay, who will take action on the above lines.

(Labour Gazette, April 1948).

✓ Working of the Industrial Court, Bombay,
during 1939-1947.

The April 1948 issue of the "Labour Gazette of Bombay, publishes a note on the working of the Court of Industrial ~~Disputes~~ Arbitration during 1939-1947. The following is a summary of the note.

Number of cases filed and decided.- Since hearing the first case before it on 14 November 1939, and uptill the end of December 1947, the Industrial Court decided 644 of the 1,055 cases filed before it under the Bombay Industrial Disputes Act and the Bombay Industrial Relations Act. The following statement shows the number of cases filed, decided or withdrawn since the inception of the Court:-

	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Cases filed....	28	66	67	62	251	125	142	104	226
Cases pending from previous year.....	15	10	22	140	107	152	107
Cases on hand..	28	68	80	72	253	265	249	236	333
Cases decided..	25	50	52	45	69	116	66	109	134
Cases withdrawn.	3	25	18	7	44	42	51	20	74
Cases pending at the end of the year.....	..	15	10	22	140	107	152	107	125

In addition the Court has also decided 80 adjudication cases under the Defence of India Rules. After the lapse of the Defence of India Rules, 38 cases were referred to the Court under section 10 of the Industrial Disputes Act (Central), 1947. Seven of them were decided by 31 December 1947.

Nature of cases.- Of the 1,055 cases, 14 were filed by employers' organisations; 124 by individual employers; 151 by trade unions; 34 by Government Labour Officers; 655 by individual workers; 16 by employers' associations and trade unions (Submissions); 63 by the provincial Government; and 16 submissions by employers and trade unions.

Analysed according to the subject matter there were 781 applications for illegal changes; 25 appeals against standing orders; 3 appeals from the Registrar of Trade Unions; 114 applications for illegal strikes; 33 submissions; 63 references by the provincial Government; and 56 miscellaneous cases.

Work during 1947.- During the year 1947, 226 cases came to the Industrial Court as compared with 104 in 1946. Of these, 134 or 59.3 per cent were decided and 74 withdrawn. Of the 226 cases, 3 were filed by the employers' Associations; 15 by individual employers; 27 by trade unions; 127 by workers; 12 by employers' association and trade unions (Submissions); and 44 by the provincial Government.

For details regarding the cases reference may be made xxx to pages 1039-1043 of the April 1943 issue of the Labour Gazette.

Reinstatement of dismissed Employees:
"Janata" pleads for amendment of
Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

Commenting on a recent decision of the Bombay High Court that the question of the reinstatement of dismissed employees did not come within the scope of the Industrial Disputes Act of 1947 and that Industrial Tribunals had no power under the Act to order the re-employment of workers once they were dismissed, the "Janata", a Socialist Weekly, in its 20 June 1948 issue says that the decision has caused great dissatisfaction among trade unionists in Bombay. The journal adds that the High Court's ruling could be utilised to deal a crushing blow to the labour movement. Employees, active as trade union workers, would no longer be able to claim protection from the Act against victimisation by revengeful employers.

The issue of the jurisdiction of Industrial Tribunals was also raised in the Madras High Court recently in two cases, and in both the employers argued that the Industrial Tribunals had no jurisdiction to inquire into questions concerning promotion and employment of workers. The High Court decided to order stay of the proceedings of the tribunals temporarily till a final decision was announced on 8 July 1948.

Need for amending the Act.- According to the "Janata", these instances make it clear that if the Industrial Disputes Act is to fulfil its original purpose, it must be modified to widen its scope. Trade unionists in Bombay and elsewhere have suggested that the necessary amendment should be made through an ordinance. The Government should no longer neglect this demand as it concerns an issue vitally affecting the trade union movement throughout India.

("Janata", dated 20-6-1948).

69. Workers' Participation in the Management
of Profits of Undertakings.
India - June 1948.

Interim Bonus to Plantation Labour: United
Planters' Association's decision.

Reference was made at page 74, para 69 of the report of this Office for May 1948, to the discussions between the Government of Madras and the United Planters' Association of Southern India regarding the payment of an interim bonus to plantation labour. The Standing Committee of the United Planters' Association after consulting the estates in South India, has now agreed to declare a bonus of six and one-fourth per cent in the case of plantation labour in tea estates. The Committee, however, did not favour granting more than four per cent bonus with regard to labour in the coffee estates, which has already been conceded to all plantation labour, in view of the fact that the coffee crop had been below normal last year.

(The Hindu, dated 14-6-1948).

Northern India Mercantile Chamber of Commerce
oppose Profit-Sharing Plan.

The executive committee of the Northern India Mercantile Chamber of Commerce in a resolution on the proposed Government scheme for profit-sharing between the worker and the factory owner (vide para 69, pages 75-76 of the report of this Office for May 1948), holds that the scheme "will hardly be able to achieve the objective aimed at".

The committee feels that the timegap between the earning of wages and accrual of profits is much too long to provide any incentive to the worker to work harder and raise production. According to the committee a scheme of profit-sharing will create serious difficulties for the state as an employer in respect of Railways, Posts and Telegraphs, electrical undertakings and waterworks. The committee suggests that extra-payment besides wages, should be linked to production and not to profits because profits are affected by many extraneous factors and they would be a very "uncertain basis for providing extra rewards to labour".

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The committee's resolution on 'fair wages' says that in fixing fair wages for workers, Government should take into consideration the cost of industrial production. Any rise in wages without reference to cost will have serious repercussions on the country's industrial development.

(National Herald, 28-5-1948).

CHAPTER 7. EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

INDIA - JUNE 1948.

71. Organisation of the Labour Market.

India: Employment Exchanges: Working during April 1948.

Employment situation.- The employment exchanges reported little change in the employment situation during April 1948. Labour troubles, the holding up of progress in the development of industry due to lack of raw materials and transport facilities, and retrenchment in Government Departments continued to affect the employment position in Madras. The Bombay region also did not hold much promise of improvement in the employment position owing to difficulties in the way of industrial expansion and the slow progress of Government's post-war projects. From Solapur it was reported that the mills were finding it unprofitable to work a third shift and were discontinuing it, causing further unemployment. In the Central Provinces also there were difficulties owing to the closure of seasonal factories and shortage of crude oil required by flour and oil mills. From West Bengal it was reported that the Assam railway project was likely to increase employment opportunities in that area. The Cooch Bihar State Road Development Scheme also held out good prospects for employment for unskilled labour. In the United Provinces the closure of seasonal factories was stated as likely to result in various types of workers being unemployed, but there was scope for employment for a large number of persons in the Government's land colonisation schemes. In the East Punjab scope existed for employment of manual labour on road, canal and similar development projects and in building construction work. In Delhi, new metal industries were coming into existence for which big demands for technical workers were anticipated but there was a dearth of suitable workers.

Registration and placings.- The total number of registrations and placings effected at employment exchanges and district employment offices during April 1948 are given below:-

	April 1948	March 1948	April 1947
Total number of registrations (including registrations).....	63,851	58,205	40,207
Total number of persons placed in employment...	18,581	17,652	9,562

For the seventh month in succession the exchanges thus achieved a record number of placings.

Of these placed in employment 4,820 were ex-services personnel as compared with 5,542 in the previous ~~year~~ month.

16,544 applicants were offered the opportunity of being considered for employment during the month but declined to take advantage of the opportunity afforded. 3,826 declined because the pay offered was felt to be inadequate, and 4,185 declined for various other reasons. 8,553 failed to report for interview with employers without offering any satisfactory explanation. The number of ex-services personnel who failed to take advantage of the opportunity of obtaining employment was 8,099 (49 per cent).

Placings by wage groups.— Figures relating to placings during April 1948 analysed according to wage groups were as follows:—

<u>Wage groups: Basic Monthly Pay.</u>	<u>Number of placings.</u>
Above 101 rupees.....	565
61 to 100 rupees.....	1,190
36 to 60 rupees.....	7,855
21 to 35 rupees.....	7,555
20 rupees or less.....	1,658

In general almost all exchanges reported a shortage of skilled workers in engineering trades and certain specialised occupations, and a surplus of clerical, unskilled and semi-skilled workers. In particular, there was a shortage of radio mechanics, moulders, turners, draftsmen, overseers, tractor drivers etc. Calcutta, however, reported a surplus of engineering graduates without any experience and of electricians without licenses.

Employment of Displaced persons.— 21,078 displaced persons were registered during the month, which was slightly higher than the number registered during the previous month. 6,050 displaced persons were placed in employment as compared with 5,606 in March.

It was reported by the Meerut Exchange that the Selection Board for the selection of refugees for technical and vocational training interviewed about 700 applicants of whom 500 were selected and posted to various training centres. The Rohtak Exchange reported that 120 refugees had been settled on in a village and had formed a Co-operative Society.

Several Exchanges reported that one of the main difficulties in placing refugees was their unsuitability for the vacancies which existed in addition, reluctance to accept jobs suited to their qualifications and ability was another major factor affecting their resettlement. Reluctance to take up manual work continued among displaced persons in East Punjab and it was reported that refugees employed on manual work either did not work whole-heartedly or left it. From Bihar and Orissa it was reported that refugees were not very keen to accept jobs but were anxious to start their own businesses. From Madras, also, it was reported that most of the few refugees in the province did not want employment but wanted monetary assistance to start business. From U.P.,

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where a number of refugees have been appointed in Provincial Service and Upper Subordinate vacancies, especially in the Medical, Engineering and Revenue Departments, it was reported that refugees were not taking full advantage of the employment opportunities offered to them and it had not been possible to induce them to join the Group Labour Employment Units.

(Report on the Work of the Directorate of Employment Exchanges for the Month of April, 1948, issued by the Directorate-General of Resettlement and Employment).

West Punjab: 15,000 Applicants placed in Employment since 15 August 1947.

A West Punjab Government Press note, published in the Civil and Military Gazette, Lahore, states that jobs for more than 15,000 persons have been found by the Department of Resettlement and Employment, West Punjab and North West ~~Frontier~~ Frontier Province, since 15 August 1947.

Since then more than 66,000 applications have been received by the Department for securing employment in various trades and professions.

(Civil and Military Gazette, 22-6-1948).

Bengal Bus Syndicate supports Employment Exchanges.

The Bengal Bus Syndicate, Calcutta, has advised its members to take full advantage of the free and voluntary service offered by the Employment Exchanges run by the Ministry of Labour, Government of India.

(Employment News dated April 1948, issued by the Directorate-General of Resettlement and Employment).

'Dawadi' system abolished in Rajasthan.

It is understood that the Government of the Rajasthan Union has abolished the dawadi (maid-slaves) system throughout the Union with immediate effect.

(The Hindustan Times, 7-6-1948).

Pakistan: Essential Personnel Ordinance:
Few persons registered during April.

According to a Press Note of the Pakistan Government published in the 'Dawn' only about 331 persons offered themselves for registration as essential personnel, under the Essential Personnel (Registration) Ordinance (vide para 71, page 64 of the report of this Office for February 1948), at various employment exchanges in Pakistan during April 1948.

Suggesting that the low figure may be due to a misapprehension in the minds of many persons regarding the object of the Ordinance the Press note emphasises that it is not contemplated to put any restriction on the freedom of movement and of freedom of choice of employment of persons registered under the ordinance now or in future. The object of the ordinance is simply to gather data regarding manpower available in ~~the~~ Pakistan in certain essential categories.

('Dawn', dated 2-6-1948).

Madras: Re-employment of Skilled Workers:
Milloowners' Association to set up Employment
Exchange.

At a meeting of the Southern India Milloowners' Association held in Coimbatore on 13 June 1948, under the chairmanship of Mr. R. Venkataswami, it was resolved to start a re-employment exchange, as a temporary measure, with a view to secure employment for all skilled textile workers who have lost their jobs as a result of the implementation of the standardisation scheme (vide pages 21-22, para 46, of the report of this Office for January 1948).

The Exchange will be run by the Association and the Labour Officer, or any other officer of the Government will be invited to act as liaison officer. Mills will send a list of their skilled unemployed to the Employment Exchange for registration as also their requirements in various categories and will undertake to co-operate with the Exchange in securing jobs for displaced workers before recruiting new hands.

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While the Re-employment Exchange is in existence, mills will recruit only through the Exchange. Labour Unions will also be asked to send names of unemployed skilled workers to the Exchange.

Apprenticeship for boys.— The Minister for Industries and Labour, Mr. H. Sitarama Reddi, who was present at the meeting, suggested that an apprentice scheme without commitment lasting about six months should be started ~~for~~ to enable boys to get trained for employment in the industry. The Chairman promised to draw out a scheme and put it into operation as soon as the absorption of the skilled workers was complete.

(The Hindu, dated 16-6-1948).

Pakistan: First Meeting of Council of Technical
Education: Survey Committee appointed.

The Pakistan Council of Technical Education held its first meeting in Karachi on 14 June 1948 under the chairmanship of Mr. Fazlur Rahman, Minister for Education, Government of Pakistan.

Survey Committee.— The Council appointed a committee of 7 to carry out a survey of the needs of Pakistan (present and anticipated during the next 7 years) of technical personnel of various categories. The Committee will also formulate a comprehensive scheme for the development of technical education covering all stages for all grades of technical personnel of various categories. The Committee will submit its report within three months in respect of technical education in engineering subjects, and within four months with regard to other technical subjects.

Agricultural Education Committee.— The Council also appointed a Committee to consider the question of agricultural education, with particular reference to training in animal husbandry and veterinary subjects, as also the question of provision of facilities for higher post-graduate training and research in special branches of agricultural sciences. The Committee, is to report to the Council within three months.

(‘Dawn’, dated 12-6-1948).

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72. Vocational Guidance and Training.

India - June 1948.

Resettlement and Employment Organisation:
Radio Mechanics course recognised by Central
and Provincial Governments.

The Government of India, Madras and Bombay have agreed to recognise the training course for radio mechanics conducted by the Resettlement and Employment Organization at its technical training centres. Training in radio mechanics is now provided at 5 technical training centres and many of the successful trainees have succeeded in obtaining employment.

Trainees holding the certificate of competency in radio servicing and repairs, will now be eligible for appointment in the All-India Radio. In Madras ex-servicemen, trainees will be permitted to appear for the Industrial School Leaving Certificate examination. On passing the examination they will be considered for appointment as radio supervisors in the provincial Broadcasting Department. In Bombay ex-services trainees will be eligible for appearing at the examination conducted by the Board of Technical and Industrial Training.

(Employment News dated April, 1948,
issued by the Directorate-General of
Resettlement and Employment, Government
of India).

Central Institute for Psychology:
Committee set up.

The Ministry of Education, Government of India has appointed a Committee with Dr. Tara Chand, Educational Adviser to the Government of India, as Chairman to formulate a scheme for the establishment of a Central Institute of Psychology in Delhi for conducting research in selective methods and standardizing tests of various types in the educational field.

The proposed Institute will prepare intelligence tests for the selection of primary school children for secondary education and entrants to teachers' training institutions as well as higher technical institutions. Intelligence tests to grade the children of Backward Tribes or areas in order that they may develop educationally to the fullest extent as well as tests to determine the vocational aptitudes of different people will be devised by the Institute. A Child Guidance clinic in Delhi will also be attached to this Institute, which will give all possible assistance to similar provincial institutions.

(The Hindu, dated 7-6-1948).

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CHAPTER 8. SOCIAL SECURITY.

INDIA - JUNE 1948.

81. Social Insurance.

Ceylon: Health and Unemployment Insurance
Schemes: Blueprints under consideration.

Mr. T.E. Jayah, Labour and Social Services Minister, Government of Ceylon, is understood to have submitted to the Cabinet blueprints for Health and Unemployment Insurance Schemes as well as a National Provident Fund, designed in all to benefit 1,200,000 workers of various categories (except agricultural workers) both in government and private employment. Mr. Jayah has asked for an initial provision of 5,000,000 rupees for the project in the 1948-49 budget. The funds will be administered by the Social Services Department and it is expected that at least one year will be required to set up the necessary machinery for working the three schemes; their benefits will begin to accrue in the second year.

The schemes are on a contributory basis. Both the employer, whether Government or not, and employee will contribute. The contribution of the employer will be the larger. Under the Health and Unemployment Insurance Scheme, the Government contribution for its employees is expected to be about 10 million Rupees a year. Under the Health Insurance Scheme, the Department will adopt a card system of insurance, as used in the U.K. and every person will receive a card for each insurance period. The period of benefit will be limited under the Unemployment Insurance ~~insurance~~ scheme, to prevent abuses.

The National Provident Fund will provide the employee on retirement with a variety of alternatives such as: (a) an annuity equivalent to a Government pension; (b) an annuity for the joint lives of himself and his wife and for the life of the survivor (the amount in this case being somewhat lower); (c) an annuity for the joint life of himself and his wife with a reduced annuity for the life of the survivor (the amount of the joint annuity being somewhat higher than in (b) though lower than the annuity in (a); (d) any of the above, but at a somewhat lower rate, the remainder of the capital being used to provide for the education or marriage of his children; and (e) investment in land or in any form of security so as to produce an income in perpetuity.

(The Times of India Ceylon, 13-6-1948).

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Working of the Workmen's Compensation Act
in British India during 1946.

According to statistics published in the Indian Labour Gazette the total number of accidents in British India during 1946, in respect of which compensation was paid, was 55,241 (excludes figures for Punjab and Sind); the total amount of compensation paid being 3,625,808 rupees. Of the total amount paid in compensation, 1,568,681 rupees were paid in 1,154 cases of accidents resulting in death; 1,503,113 rupees in 3,536 cases resulting in permanent disablement and 954,014 rupees in 50,551 cases resulting in temporary disablement.

Main trends in working of Act during 1946.— The main trends in the working of the Workmen's Compensation Act in India during 1946 were: (a) The number of accidents decreased by 13.7 per cent as compared to 1945 and the amount of compensation by 9.2 per cent. This may be partly due to the fall in employment in 1946, the adoption of safety-first devices to a greater extent, increased vigilance on the part of the Inspectorate, and reduction of working hours. (b) The average amount of compensation per accident increased from 63 rupees to 66 rupees. The average compensation was the highest in Bombay where workers' wages were the highest. (c) Deaths and permanent disablements were proportionately higher in 1946 than in 1945. (d) Deaths and permanent disablements were proportionately more numerous in U.P., Bengal and Bihar than in the other provinces. In Bombay, where the highest number of accidents occurred, the cases were mostly of temporary disablement. (e) Railways accounted for over 25 per cent of the accidents and over 18 per cent of the total compensation paid.

For further details reference may be made to pages 678-684 of the April 1948 issue of the Indian Labour Gazette.

(Indian Labour Gazette, April 1948).

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India: The Employees State Insurance Act,
(Act XXXIV of 1948).

The Employees' State Insurance Bill as passed by the Constituent Assembly of India (Legislative) on 2 April 1948 (vide paragraph 81, page 90 of the report of this Office for April 1948) received the assent of the Governor-General on 19 April 1948 and was gazetted on the same day as the Employees State Insurance Act, 1948 (Act XXXIV of 1948). The Act provides for the compulsory insurance of all employees in non-seasonal factories and for the grant of certain benefits to the employees so insured in case of sickness, maternity and employment injury.

Extent and application.— The Act extends to all the provinces of India, and is to come into force on such date or dates as the Central Government may, by notification in the official gazette, appoint, and different dates may be appointed for different provisions of the Act and for different provinces. The Act applies to all factories (including factories belonging to the crown) other than seasonal factories and the appropriate Government may in consultation with the Employees' State Insurance Corporation and the approval of the Central Government extend the provisions of the Act or any of them to any other establishment or class of establishments, industrial, commercial, agricultural or otherwise.

Employees' State Insurance Corporation to be established.— The Act provides for the establishment of an Employees' State Insurance Corporation for the administration of the scheme of Employees' State Insurance in accordance with the provisions of the Act. The Corporation which will have as its Chairman, the Minister ^{for} Labour in the Central Government will consist of representatives of central and provincial Governments and will include 5 representatives of employers, 5 of employees, and 2 of the medical profession, and 2 persons elected by the Central Legislature. The affairs of the Corporation will be administered by a Standing Committee of the Corporation constituted from among its members and a Medical Benefit Council will also be set up to advise on matters relating to administration of medical benefit. The Corporation is empowered in addition to the scheme of benefits specified in the Act, to promote measures for the improvement of the health and welfare of insured persons and for the rehabilitation and re-employment of disabled or injured workmen and to incur ~~the~~ in respect of such measures expenditure from the funds of the Corporation. Provision is made for the suppression of the Standing Committee or the Corporation by the Central Government if the Committee or Corporation persistently defaults in performing the duties imposed on it by or under the Act or abuses its ~~power~~ powers.

Employees' State Insurance Fund.— The Employees' State Insurance Fund will be mainly derived from contributions from employers and workmen. The Corporation may accept grants, donations and gifts from the Central or any provincial Government, Indian State, local authority or any individual; and the Central Government is required every year, during the first five years to make a grant to the Corporation of a sum equivalent to two-thirds of the administrative expenses of the Corporation, not including therein the cost of any benefits provided by or under the Act. The Insurance Fund may be expended only for certain specified purposes. The most important among these are: payment of benefits and provision of medical treatment and attendance to insured persons; payment of pay and allowances of members of the Corporation, the Standing Committee, the Medical Council; establishment and maintenance of hospitals, dispensaries and other institutions, defraying the cost of the Employees' Insurance Courts set up under the Act, etc.

Contributions.— The rate of contribution payable by the employer and the worker are specified in the First Schedule to the Act and are reproduced below:

Group of Employees	Employees' contribution (recoverable from employees).			Employers' contribution.			Total contribution (employees' and employers' contribution).			
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	
1. Employees whose average daily wages are below 1 rupee.....										
				Nil	0	7	0	0	7	0
2. Employees whose average daily wages are 1 rupee and above but below 1 rupee and 8 annas....	0	2	0	0	7	0	0	9	0	
3. Employees whose average daily wages are 1 rupee 8 annas and above but below 2 rupees.....	0	4	0	0	8	0	0	12	0	
4. Employees whose average daily wages are 2 rupees and above but below 3 rupees.....	0	6	0	0	12	0	1	2	0	
5. Employees whose average daily wages are 3 rupees and above but below 4 rupees.....	0	8	0	1	0	0	1	8	0	
6. Employees whose average daily wages are 4 rupees and above but below 6 rupees.....	0	11	0	1	6	0	2	1	0	
7. Employees whose average daily wages are 6 rupees and above but below 8 rupees.....	0	15	0	1	14	0	2	15	0	
8. Employees whose average daily wages are 8 rupees and above.....	1	4	0	2	8	0	3	12	0	

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No employees' contribution is payable by or on behalf of an employee whose average daily wages are below one rupee. The employees' contribution is payable by the principal employer who is entitled to recover from the employee the employee's contributions by deduction from his wages. Both the employer's contribution and the employee's contribution have to be paid by the principal employer for each week during the whole or part of which an employee is employed.

Benefits.- Under the Act the insured persons or their dependents as the case may be are entitled to the following benefits:

Sickness benefit.- A worker if certified sick and incapable of working, is qualified to claim sickness benefit during any benefit period, if ~~such~~ during the corresponding contribution period, weekly contributions in respect of him were payable for not less than two-thirds of the number of weeks during which he was available for employment within the meaning of the Act, subject to a minimum of 12 contributions. The benefit period is defined as such period of 26 consecutive weeks or 6 consecutive months corresponding to the contribution period, or in the case of the first benefit period, such longer or shorter period, as may be specified in the regulations; and the 'contribution period' as such period of 26 consecutive weeks or 6 consecutive months, or in the case of the first contribution period, such longer or shorter period, as may be specified in the regulations. The maximum period for which sickness benefit is payable is a total of 8 weeks or 56 days during any continuous period of 365 days. ~~But~~ The daily rate of sickness benefit during any benefit period is to be an amount equivalent to one-half of the sum of the average, & daily wages for each of the weeks for which contributions were paid in respect of the persons during the corresponding contribution period, divided by the number of weeks in that contribution period in which he was deemed to have been available for employment.

Maternity benefit.- Under this head, the Act, grants to an insured woman worker the right to claim maternity benefit for a confinement occurring in a benefit period if during the corresponding contribution period, weekly contributions in respect of her were payable for not less than two-thirds of the number of weeks during which she was available for employment within the meaning of the Act, subject to a minimum of 12 contributions. At least one contribution however should have been paid between 35 and 40 weeks before the week in which confinement takes place or notice of pregnancy is given. A woman worker qualified to claim maternity benefit is entitled to receive benefit at the rate of 12 annas per day for all days on which she does not work for remuneration during a period of twelve weeks of which not more than six shall precede the expected date of confinement.

Disablement and dependants' benefits.— A workman disabled by employment injury will receive, for the period of such disablement or life depending on whether the disablement is temporary or permanent as the case may be, periodical payments calculated on the basis of a daily rate equivalent to half his average daily rate of wages during the previous twelve months. Where the disablement is partial the benefit is proportionately reduced. In case of death resulting from employment injury the benefit will be payable to the widow or widows, minor sons and minor and unmarried daughters or in case there are no widow and ~~minor~~ legitimate children to other specified dependants of the deceased workman.

Medical benefit.— An insured person or (where such medical benefit is extended to his family) a member of his family whose condition requires medical treatment is under the Act entitled to receive ~~medical~~ medical benefit. Such medical benefit may be given in the form of out-patient treatment and attendance in a hospital or dispensary or clinic, in the form of visits to the home of injured person, or in the form of treatment as inpatient in a hospital. The medical benefit shall be of such kind and on such scale as may be provided by the Provincial Government or by the Corporation. The cost of the medical benefit will be shared between the Corporation and the Provincial Government in such proportion as may be fixed by agreement between them.

General conditions.— The right to receive any payment of benefit is not transferable or assignable and no cash benefit is liable to attachment or sale in execution of any decree or order of any court. If a worker is entitled to any of the benefits provided by this Act he is not entitled to receive any similar benefit admissible under the provisions of any other enactment. An insured person is not entitled to receive for the same ~~benefit~~ period both sickness benefit and maternity benefit or both sickness and benefit and disablement benefit or both maternity benefit and disablement benefit and if he is entitled to more than one of the benefits he shall be ~~entitled~~ entitled to choose any one of the benefits.

Employees' Insurance Court.— The Act obliges the Provincial Governments to constitute Employees' Insurance Courts to decide disputes and adjudicate on claims. An appeal lies to the High Court from an order of an Employees' Insurance Court if it involves a substantial question of law.

Exemptions.— The appropriate Government may, by notification in the official gazette, exempt any factory or establishment from the operation of the Act for a period not exceeding one year and may renew such exemption for periods not exceeding one year at a time. It may also exempt any person or class of persons employed in any factory or establishment to which the Act applies from the operation of the Act.

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Rules making powers.— Finally, the Central Government is empowered to frame rules on matters relating to the administration of the Corporation, such as nomination and election of members of the Corporation, Standing Committee, Medical Benefit Council, powers and duties of the principal officers, the raising and repayment of loans, investment of funds, accounts to be maintained by the Corporation, their audit and publication. The Provincial Governments are similarly empowered to make rules on matters relating to the Employees' Insurance Courts to be set up under the Act, establishment of hospitals, dispensaries and other institutions, etc., and the scale of medical benefit to be provided to insured persons. The Corporation, in its turn, may make regulations for the administration of the affairs of the Corporation and for carrying into effect the provisions of the Act.

(The Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part IV,
dated 19 April 1948, pages 161-192).

Bihar: Employees' State Insurance Act
extended to Chota Nagpur and Santal
Parganas.

By a notification dated 26 May 1948 the Governor of Bihar has directed that the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948 recently enacted by the Government of India (vide pages 90-93 of the report of this Office for April 1948) shall apply to the Chota Nagpur division and to the Santal Parganas district in Bihar province.

(No. 1814-XL(L)-13/48-L, dated 26-5-1948;
The Bihar Gazette, Part II, dated
2 June, 1948, page 1199).

82. Social Assistance.

India - June 1948.

Bihar Maternity Benefit Rules, 1948
Draft.

The Government of Bihar has gazetted this month the draft of the Rules it proposes to make for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of the Bihar Maternity Benefit Act, 1947 (vide page 5 of the report of this Office for December 1947). Except for certain minor changes, the draft rules are the same as the existing rules made under the Bihar Maternity Benefit Act, 1945 (summarised at page 6 of the report of this Office for September 1946). The draft is to be taken into consideration on or after 26 June 1948.

(The Bihar Gazette, Part II, dated
9 June 1948, pages 1221-1230).

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85. Benefits Organised or paid by Employers.

India - June 1948.

Bihar: Coal Mines Provident Fund and Bonus Schemes Ordinance, 1948, extended to Santal Parganas and Chota Nagpur.

In exercise of the powers conferred by Sub-section (1) of Section 92 of the Government of India Act, 1935, the Governor of Bihar has directed that the Coal Mines Provident Fund and Bonus Schemes Ordinance, 1948 (vide pages 90-91 of the report of this Office for May 1948) shall apply to the Santal Parganas district and to the districts of the Chota Nagpur division in Bihar Province.

(No. 1824-XL(L)-52-L, dated 27-5-1948; The Bihar Gazette, dated ~~2-6-1948~~, Part II, page 1199).

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CHAPTER 9. LIVING STANDARDS.

INDIA - JUNE 1948.

91. Nutrition.

Recommendations of Famine Inquiry Commission:
Action taken by Governments.

A report has been published by the Ministry of Food in the Government of India, showing the action taken hitherto by the Central and the provincial Governments in India on the recommendations made by the Famine Inquiry Commission in its Final Report. A copy each of this report was sent to Montreal and Geneva with this Office's Minute D.1/1260/48 dated 17 June 1948.

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92. Housing.

India - June 1948.

Bihar: Sub-Committee appointed to consider
Industrial Housing Scheme.

As recommended by the Bihar Central (standing) Labour Advisory Board, the Government of Bihar has appointed a Sub-Committee to examine in detail the scheme on Industrial housing in Bihar to which reference was made at page 2 of the report of this Office for April 1948. The Sub-Committee consists of 3 representatives of employers, 3 representatives of employees, 2 representatives of Government and a Member-Secretary and has power to co-opt (one or more) members temporarily.

The more important among the terms of reference of the Sub-Committee are: (a) to determine the number of industrial houses to be planned for at a cost of about ~~2500 rupees~~ 2500 rupees each, together with ancillary services, (b) to specify the minimum requisites for a standard house, the amenities to be provided and the agency for constructing the houses, (c) to consider what substitute building materials should be used on account of shortage of cement and iron and how they might be procured, and (d) to determine the rent to be recovered. The Sub-Committee has been requested to submit their report by the middle of June 1948.

(Supplement to the Bihar Gazette,
26 May 1948, pages 277-278).

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CHAPTER 11. PROBLEMS PECULIAR TO CERTAIN
OCCUPATIONS OR CATEGORIES OF OCCUPATIONS.
INDIA - JUNE 1948.

111. Agriculture.

Agrarian Disputes in Saurashtra: New Ordinance
promulgated.

To provide for the settlement of disputes over the sharing of crops between the zamindars and the tenants, the Government of Saurashtra promulgated in the first week of June an Ordinance empowering it to intervene in all cases of disputes, appoint receivers to take charge of foodgrains under dispute, and also fix the share of each party to the dispute. Recently the zamindars in Saurashtra had refused to accept the "anida" system evolved by the Government for the share of the crops in respect of the State lands and had ~~been~~ questioned the right of intervention in disputes between them and their tenants.

Under the term of the Ordinance if tenants and zamindars are unable to arrive at a settlement within a specified time, the Government can appoint a person to take possession of the crops, the sharing of which is under dispute and fix their respective shares. Appeals against the fixation of shares to each party can be made to a tribunal appointed by Government whose decisions will be final. Any person or persons preventing officers of the Government from carrying out these orders are liable to be punished with imprisonment or fine or both.

(The Times of India, 8-6-1948;
The Bombay Chronicle, 8-6-1948).

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Proposed Tenancy Legislation in Bombay:
Minister outlines proposals.

Tenancy legislation aiming virtually at the partial nationalisation of land and the liquidation of all big landlords in the province of Bombay, which will be introduced in the next session of the Bombay Legislature, was outlined by Mr. Morarji Desai, Home and Revenue Minister, at a meeting of the Bombay Legislature Congress Party held at Bombay on 5 June 1948.

The main features of the proposed legislation are: No landlord in the province will be allowed to own more than 50 acres of land. Tenants will have the right to buy all land from landlords in excess of 50 acres. The price will be determined by a tribunal which will be set up. The management of jagir, inam and talukdari villages will be taken over by the Government and surplus income, if any, after covering the cost of management, will be given to the owners. The Government will take over all cultivable land not under cultivation and will give such land to actual cultivators for the payment of land revenue. Finance to the cultivators will be supplied through land mortgage and co-operative banks. All agricultural land, in the first instance, will be offered for sale to tenants and if they are unwilling to buy it, it will be offered to the neighbouring owners, but under no circumstances, will it be sold to non-cultivators. The khoti and other forms of land tenure will be abolished.

(Sunday News, 6-6-1948).

Housing and Remuneration of Permanent Farm-Workers:
Settlement in Agrarian Dispute in Tanjore.

At a joint select conference of kisans (agricultural workers) and mirasdars (landowners) held in Tanjore on 9 June 1948 under the presidency of Mr. O.P. Ramaswami Reddiar, the Premier of Madras, an agreement was reached on the questions of providing human house-sites for the kisans and defining the respective shares of the produce that should accrue to the mirasdars (cultivating landowners) and the pannayaal (i.e. the permanent hired farm worker) when land is directly cultivated by the owner with the help of pannayaal.

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Houses for Kisans.— On the question of providing house sites for landless Harijans and landless agricultural labourers, the conference appointed a Committee consisting of six mirasdars and six kisans with the Collector of Tanjore as Chairman. The Committee will consider certain draft proposals in this connection and will submit its report to the Government within a month. After considering the report, the Government will come to a decision in the matter which will be binding on both mirasdars and kisans. The conference agreed to request the mirasdars that as far as possible, no agricultural labourers should be evicted from their houses during the time the question was under consideration by the Committee appointed.

Workers' share of farm produce.— On this question there was a dispute between the mirasdars and the kisans as to whether the permanent hired farm workers i.e. the panyal should receive as his share one seventh of the produce. Both parties agreed to abide by the Government's award in this matter.

(Hindu, dated 10-6-1948).

Madras: Agricultural Training School to be opened in Tanjore.

The Government of Madras has decided to start an Agricultural Training School in Tanjore district, from June 1948, for training students for the reclamation of lands and the improvement of agriculture. The school will be under the administrative charge of the Madras Agricultural Department.

Sons of professional agriculturists who have passed at least Form III, and who are likely to take to agriculture as their profession will be admitted in the school. The course of studies at the school which will be intensely practical and will cover improved methods of farming will be for one year and no tuition fees will be levied.

(Madras Government Press Madras Note No.153, dated 15 June 1948).

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Assam: The Assam Adhiars Protection and
Regulation Act 1948.

The Government of Assam published on 16 June 1948 the Assam Adhiars Protection and Regulation Act (Assam Act No. XII of 1948) providing for the protection and regulation of adhiars in Assam. An 'adhiar' is a person who under the system generally known as adhi cultivates the land of another person on condition of delivering a share or ~~quantity~~ quantity of the produce of such land to that person. The Government has been empowered to apply all or any of the ~~provisions of the Act~~ provisions of the Act to any district, local area or class of estates on such date as may be notified in the official gazette, direct.

The Act provides that from the gross crop the seed grains, if any, paid by a landlord or person under whom an adhiar holds land shall be repaid to him and ~~that~~ that of the remaining ~~crop~~ crop the maximum portion or share payable to the landowner shall be one-third or one-fourth according as he does or does not supply plough and cattle for cultivating the land. The Act further provides that if the quantity or share of crop fixed by contract between the parties is less than the above maximum the adhiar shall be liable to pay only the quantity fixed by the contract.

(The Assam Gazette, Part IV, dated
16 June 1948, pages 11-14).

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All-India Marketing Board to help Agriculturists:
Policy Sub-Committee's Recommendations.

The establishment of an All-India Marketing Board to co-ordinate the work being done in connection with the marketing of agricultural products, has been recommended by the Marketing Sub-Committee of the Policy Committee on Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries in a report recently submitted to the Government of India. The Marketing Sub-Committee, was set up to examine the question of marketing in India including the improvement of marketing, the maintenance of standards of purity and quality, establishment of warehouses, the organisation and functions of the Central Agricultural Marketing Department and all matters relating thereto.

Marketing Board.— The functions of the All-India Marketing Board, according to the Sub-Committee, would be to co-ordinate the present activities on research with special reference to quality characteristics of agricultural produce, introduction of grade standards, demonstration and publicity of improved methods of marketing, determination of prices and quota and tariff restrictions.

Co-operative Marketing Societies.— Holding that the provision of proper marketing facilities is one of the greatest incentives to the farmer to produce more, the Sub-Committee has made a number of recommendations to further this aim. It gives the highest priority to the creation of a network of co-operative marketing societies, to be extended, by compulsion if necessary, to any village where 60 per cent of the producers agree to join such a society. There would be unions of such societies with provincial federations as the apex. The societies would arrange for the proper storage, grading and eventual marketing of the produce. Where such co-operative organisations cannot be ~~very~~ set up, it is suggested that special marketing committees on the lines of foodgrain procurement committees should be set up.

Improvement of village roads.— The Sub-Committee has stressed the importance of linking villages with the nearest mandi (market) by means of a good all-weather road which should be maintained in proper condition. It has also suggested rationalisation of road and railway freight rates and the provision of adequate storage facilities at rail and road traffic stations including cold storage at assembling points and in transit. The need for a comprehensive survey of the existing storage facilities has also been stressed.

Controlling quality of export.— The Sub-Committee has further recommended the enactment of special Central legislation for controlling the quality of exports. This should be supplemented by a continuous study of the quality demand of buyers from abroad, and ~~understand~~ the results of that study should be made available to the trade in India free of cost. In the case of heavy staples, standard contracts

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should be enforced by legislation. The system of grading under Agmark (a scheme of grading evolved by the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India) should be extended, by compulsion if necessary, both in the case of internal trade and export.

Other recommendations relate to the improvement in the methods of statistical co-ordination between various departments of the Government, the establishment of comprehensive market news services and the standardisation of weights and measures. The enforcement of anti-adulteration laws, even in the primary and assembling markets, has also been urged.

(The Statesman, 14-6-1948).

113. Navigation.

India - June 1948.

Meeting of Executive of All-India Port and Dock
Workers' Federation, Madras, 3-5 June 1948 :
40 Rupees Minimum Wage demanded.

At a special meeting of the Executive of the All-India Port and Dock Workers' Federation held in Madras from 3 to 5 June 1948, it was decided to request all affiliated unions to take a strike ballot within one month in view of the authorities unsatisfactory attitude to their previous demands.

The meeting also prepared a new charter of demands relating to wages and working conditions for quay labour (vide page 101 of the report of this Office for May 1948). The proposals envisaged by the charter included: (1) a minimum basic pay of 40 rupees per mensem; (2) time scales of pay for all and dearness allowance on a sliding scale so as to fully neutralise the rise in the cost of living in the case of employees drawing 150 rupees and below; (3) Universal introduction of an 48-hour week; (4) shorter working hours for those performing work of an arduous nature; (5) standardisation of an all India basis of ~~rank~~ wages and working conditions for all posts and dock workers; (6) liberalisation of existing leave rules; and (7) opening of grain shops in all parts as for railway workers.

(The Hindu, dated 6-6-1948).

Recruitment of Seamen: Shipowners not opposed
to engagement on Basis of Rotation.

Reference was made at page 101 of the report of this Office for May 1948 to the controversy between the Bombay Seamen's Union and the Shipowners over the system of recruitment. It is understood that at an informal meeting held at New Delhi on 27 May 1948 between the representatives of the Central Government and the shipowners, the shipowners' representatives stated that they were not opposed in principle to a system of engaging seamen on the basis of rotation, subject to the rejection of unemployable men and provision for the minimum efficiency requirements of the crew. It was pointed out that most of the larger companies in Bombay were already following this system. The meeting agreed that seamen who are undesirable, that is those found guilty of smuggling or other offences or of serious misdemeanour, should be excluded from the maritime labour force and that suitable steps to enforce this decision should be taken by the maritime boards in Calcutta and Bombay in consultation with the Government.

(The Times of India, 29-5-1948).

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114. Officials.
India - June 1948.

Ceylon: Trade Union (Amending) Ordinance:
Restrictions on Formation of Trade Unions
by Government Servants.

The Ceylon House of Representatives, on 3 June 1948 passed the second reading of the Ceylon Trade Union (Amending) Ordinance which makes provision for the registration of public servants' unions under certain conditions.

Provisions.— Under the Amending Ordinance members of the Police Force, the Prison Department and the Agriculture Corps are barred from forming trade unions, while no unions of Government servants will be permitted to have any political objects or political fund within the meaning of section 41 of the main Ordinance. Under section 41 of the main Ordinance a registered trade union is allowed to maintain a separate fund for the promotion of the civic and political interests of its members, in furtherance of any political object.

Federation of unions disallowed.— The Registrar of Trade Unions can refuse the registration of any trade union unless the rules of the union specifically mention that the union's membership is open only to members of a specified Government department. The union shall not be affiliated to or amalgamated or federated with any other trade union, whether of public servants or otherwise. Thus the amending Ordinance restricts the formation of trade unions only to individual departments. Even one union of the same service (for instance, the General Clerical Service) will not be allowed.

Cancellation of registration.— If any particular union or its members or agents on behalf of the union, promote, organise, aid or finance any strike of any of its members intended (in the opinion of the District Court) wholly or partly to influence or overawe Government on any political issue not affecting public servants in their capacity as such, or wholly or mainly for the purpose of supporting workmen, other than public servants, in any strike or trade dispute, the District Court has the power to direct the Registrar, on an application made by the Attorney-General, to withdraw or cancel the registration of any union.

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Ceylon: Establishment of Whitley Councils:
Cabinet Secretary urges all Departments to
take Early Action.

Reference was made at page 11 of the report of this Office for October 1947 to the decision of the Government of Ceylon to permit public servants to form unions without official control based on the Whitley Councils of the U.K. Emphasising the importance of staff officers keeping in close touch with their subordinates and minor employees, the Prime Minister of Ceylon, Mr. D.S. Senanayake, has recently asked the Secretary to the Cabinet to inform all heads of departments to take early steps to establish Whitley Councils in departments having recognised Associations of public servants.

The Secretary to the Cabinet in ^a ~~the~~ circular addressed to all heads of departments has stressed that means of ~~regular discussion~~ regular discussion should be provided in departments to promote a greater measure of co-operation in all matters affecting the efficiency, and welfare of those employed. The circular points out that adequate machinery for dealing expeditiously with grievances would not only tend to smooth working of the departments but also enable the pooling of experience. It would also ensure that the 'staff side' got a clearer view of the difficulties facing the 'official side' and this should tend to develop greater esprit de corps. The experience of 'Whitleyism' gained in this way would also be most useful in the wider application of these principles.

(The Times of Ceylon, 8-6-1948).

115. Working Conditions of Intellectual
Workers and Liberal Professions.

India - June 1948.

Pakistan: Working Conditions for Teachers:
Committee appointed.

The Advisory Board of Education for Pakistan, at a meeting held in Karachi on 7 June 1948, appointed a committee to suggest ways and means for improvement of the quality and status and sphere of activity of teachers.

The following are the terms of reference: (a) to classify teachers of various types and to determine the minimum educational and training requirements of each; (b) to make concrete suggestions for the institution of training courses; (c) to recommend in what form a roster of all teachers who are up to the standard should be maintained and to consider whether any allowance should be paid to registered teachers who are unemployed for lack of vacancies; (d) to suggest suitable scales of pay as well as rates of dearness, local, special and personal allowances; (e) to determine the channel of recruitment to ensure fair selection; (f) to fix the probationary period after which teachers should be made permanent; (g) to devise leave rules and to recommend attractive rules of disability and old age pension or Provident Fund; (h) to recommend the maximum number of teaching hours per week and maximum number of students per teacher; (i) to recommend the lines on which a scheme of refresher courses and evening classes for teachers ~~and~~ should be drawn up; (j) to consider the desirability of arranging exchange of teachers with other countries; and (k) any other connected matter.

(‘Dawn’, dated 8-6-1948).

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117. Shopworkers.
India - June 1948.

Certain classes of establishments in Madras
Province exempted from Section 11(1) of the
Madras Shops and Establishments Act.

By a notification dated 10 May 1948 the Government of Madras has exempted the following classes of establishments from the provisions of sub-section (1) of section 11 of the Madras Shops and Establishments Act, requiring every shop to remain closed on one day of the week specified by the shop keeper:-

(1) All shops dealing mainly in vegetables, meat, fish, dairy produce, bread or flowers in so far as the sale of these articles is concerned.

(2) All shops dealing mainly in medicines, surgical appliances, bandages or other medical requisites in so far as the sale of these articles is concerned.

(3) All petrol bunks.

(4) Newspaper stalls in so far as the sale of newspapers is concerned.

(G.O.Ms. No.2350, Development, Ka 10 May 1948;
The Fort St. George Gazette, Part I,
dated 1 June 1948, page 470).

Madras: Shops and Establishments Act 1947:
Exemptions.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 6 of the Madras Shops and Establishments Act the Governor of Madras has exempted (1) all the establishments which are engaged in the manufacture of ice and which are shops within the meaning of the Act, from the provisions of the Act relating to the opening and closing hours of shops (viz., sections 7) and ~~to~~ the closing of shops on one day of the week (viz., section 11(1)); (2) all scheduled banks in the province from the provisions of sections 14 and 15 of the Act for the day on which they close their half yearly accounts and for three days immediately preceding and three days immediately following that day, subject to the condition that ~~the~~^{an} time wages shall be paid to any person employed in the Bank who is requested or allowed to work for more than eight hours in any day or forty-eight hours in any week.

(Section 14 of the Act provides for an eight hour day and forty-eight hours week for shop workers with a rest interval for one hour after four hours of work. Section 15 prescribes that the periods of work of a shopworker along with his intervals for rest shall not spread over more than 12 hours in any day.)

(Fort St. George Gazette Part I, dated
15 June 1948, page 529;
Fort St. George Gazette, Part I, dated
22 June 1948, page 546).

List of the more important publications received in the
New Delhi Office during June 1948.

Economic Questions

Government of India, Ministry of Food: Report showing Action taken by Central and Provincial Governments on the Recommendations made by the Famine Inquiry Commission, in the Final Report, April 1948: Printed by the Government of India Press, Calcutta, India, 1948: pp. iv+166.

Working Conditions

- 1) Indian Labour Code, S.N. Bose, Law Superintendent, Bata Shoe Co. Ltd., Eastern Law House Limited, P.15 Ganesha Chander Avenue Calcutta.
- 2) Ceylon: Part I - Civil (0): Administration Report of the Commissioner of Labour for 1947 (M. Rajanayagam, Esq. Acting Commissioner of Labour): June, 1948: Printed on the Orders of Government: Published at the Ceylon Government Press: To be purchased at the Government Publications Bureau, Colombo: Price - Re.1.85:pp.092.
- 3) Administration Report of the Labour Department on the Work done for the Amelioration of the Eligible Communities, for the year ending 31 March 1947: Printed by the Superintendent, Government Press, Madras, 1948: Price 14 Annas: pp. 41+3.

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