U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
JAMES J. DAVIS, Secretary
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
ETHELBERT STEWART, Commissioner

MONTHLY
LABOR REVIEW

VOLUME XVIII NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY, 1924

WASHINGTON
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
1924

CERTIFICATE.

This publication is issued pursuant to the provisions of the sundry civil act (41 Stats. 1430), approved March 4, 1921.

ADDITIONAL COPIES

OF THIS PUBLICATION MAY BE PROCURED FROM
THE SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D. C.
AT
15 CENTS PER COPY
SUBSCRIPTION PRICE, $1.50 PER YEAR

Contents.

MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW

VOL. XVIII—NO. 2 WASHINGTON FEBRUARY, 1924

Comparison of Workmen's Compensation Laws of the Mexican States.[1]

By ETHEL C. YOHE, OF THE U. S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS.

IN THIS study a summary and comparison will be made of the principal features of the workmen's compensation laws of 15 Mexican States, as follows: Campeche, Chiapas, Chihuahua, Coahuila, Hidalgo, Mexico, Michoacan, Nuevo Leon, Puebla, Querétaro, Sinaloa, Sonora, Vera Cruz, Yucatan, and Zacatecas.

Section XIV of article 123 of the Federal constitution of Mexico forms the basis for these laws, being as follows:

> Employers shall be liable for industrial accidents and occupational diseases arising from work; therefore, employers shall pay the proper indemnity, according to whether death or merely temporary or permanent disability has ensued, in accordance with the provisions of law. This liability shall remain in force even though the employer contract for the work through an agent.

Scope of the Laws.

Employments Covered.

GENERALLY, compensation laws are distinguished more for their diversities than for their similarities, but many of the Mexican State laws are alike as regards industries covered. Six States (Chihuahua, Coahuila, Hidalgo, Nuevo Leon, Puebla, and Zacatecas) include work in factories, workshops, and agricultural pursuits in which mechanical power is used. Work in gas and electric plants and mining and quarry operations and all construction work are covered in Coahuila, Hidalgo, Nuevo Leon, Puebla, and Zacatecas. Telephone and telegraph establishments, metallurgical works, stevedoring, industrial undertakings, cleaning of wells, sewers, etc., and establishments manufacturing or using poisonous, unhealthful, explosive, or inflammable substances are included in the list of employments coming under the act in Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, Puebla, and Zacatecas. Transportation operations are covered in the States of Nuevo Leon and Puebla, in the latter State whether the transportation be by rail, water, or airplane.

The following employments appear less frequently: Mill work (Coahuila and Hidalgo); city firemen, and the construction and repair

[1] The data on which this article is based are from: Campeche, Codigo del trabajo, Campeche, 1918; Chiapas, Ley reglamentaria del trabajo, Tuxtla Gutiérrez, 1918; Chihuahua, Ley del trabajo, Chihuahua, 1922; Coahuila, Ley reglamentaria del articulo 123 de la constitución géneral de la república, Saltillo, 1921; Hidalgo, Ley sobre accidentes del trabajo, Pachuca, 1915; Mexico, Constitución politica, Toluca, 1921; Michoacan de Ocampo, Ley del trabajo número 46, Morelia, 1921; Nuevo Leon, Ley sobre accidentes del trabajo, Monterey, 1906; Puebla, Codigo del trabajo, Puebla, 1921; Querétaro, Ley del trabajo, número 34, Querétaro, 1922; Sinaloa, Ley sobre indemnizaciones por accidentes sufridos en el trabajo, Culiacán, 1920; Sonora, Leyes sobre previsión social, promulgada en el decreto, número 52, Hermosillo, 1919; Vera Cruz-Llave, Ley del trabajo [1918], Jalapa, 1922; Yucatan, Codigo del trabajo, decreto número 386, Mérida, 1918; Zacatecas, Ley sobre accidentes del trabajo, Guadalupe, 1922.

of lightning rods (Puebla); railroad operations (Chihuahua and Puebla); railroad shops (Coahuila); coal and wood storage warehouses (Puebla); all large industrial establishments (Vera Cruz); and commercial establishments (Chihuahua).

State and municipal employees are included under the compensation laws of Chihuahua, Hidalgo, Michoacan, Sinaloa, and Sonora. Employees of theaters and motion-picture houses and the wage-earning employees (*asalariado*) of circuses are covered by Coahuila and Puebla in their laws. Clerks (*dependientes*) and domestic servants are included in the laws of Hidalgo.

The law of Puebla states that apprentices have the same rights and are entitled to the same benefits under the compensation law as are other employees.

Employers Exempted.

Three States (Chihuahua, Sinaloa, and Sonora) exempt employers having five or less than five employees from paying compensation.

In addition to this exemption, the law of Chihuahua exempts employers whose capital stock does not exceed 5,000 pesos ($2,493, par), and the laws of Sinaloa and Sonora provide that when the liquid assets of an employer do not exceed 50,000 pesos ($24,925, par) he shall pay a smaller amount of compensation. The law of Mexico State provides that an employer whose capital stock does not exceed 50,000 pesos shall be exempt.

Injuries Covered.

As will be seen by the following provisions, the compensation laws are limited not only as to employments covered and persons compensated, but also as to injuries covered. The Mexican State laws specify that the employer is liable for industrial accidents and occupational diseases suffered by the employee only when they have arisen in the course of, or have resulted as a natural consequence from, the employment. Injuries are not compensable when they are due to force majeure, or to the employee's intoxication, willful misconduct, gross negligence, or violation of safety rules, or to a cause foreign to the employment.

On the other hand, in 10 States[2] the employer is penalized if he has been guilty of negligence. In Campeche, Chihuahua, Michoacan, Puebla, Querétaro, Sinaloa, and Sonora, the amount of compensation is increased 50 per cent when an accident occurs in an establishment lacking the required safety devices and in Yucatan the compensation is doubled in such a case.

The laws of Campeche, Chiapas, Coahuila, Michoacan, Querétaro, and Yucatan stipulate that the employer is liable for industrial accidents or occupational diseases suffered by his employees even when the labor contract is made through an agent (*intermediario*).

When an employee leaves his work place without the permission of a superior, goes to another place and there suffers an accident, his employer will be required to furnish only hospital service, medicines, and medical treatment, according to the laws of Chihuahua, Sinaloa, and Sonora. If, however, he was injured while going to the aid of

[2] Campeche, Chihuahua, Coahuila, Hidalgo, Michoacan, Puebla, Querétaro, Sinaloa, Sonora, and Yucatan.

one or more injured workers or of some one in danger, the employer is liable for compensation.

The laws of Sinaloa and Sonora contain provisions making an independent contractor liable for injuries received by the workmen, and specifying that the individual or company for whom the contractor is working shall not be held liable.

Industrial accidents.—The compensation law of Campeche defines an industrial accident as a physical injury caused by some fortuitous event during the employment. Three States (Coahuila, Querétaro, and Vera Cruz) restrict the meaning still further by defining it as an unforeseen or unexpected event, happening suddenly and producing symptoms of injury. In Hidalgo this term means any physical injury arising out of or in the course of employment. A disability in Michoacan and Querétaro is the loss or abnormal function of any of the physical members of the body or mental faculties of the worker, resulting from an industrial accident, incapacitating him for the efficient performance of the trade or calling in which he was occupied at the time of the accident.

Five States [3] merely declare the employer liable for any injury arising out of or as a consequence of the employment. The law of Puebla contains a definite provision that when an employee suffers an industrial accident the legal presumption is that the injury arose out of or as a consequence of his work; the burden of proof is on the employer to prove the contrary.

Occupational diseases.—An occupational disease is defined in the laws of Campeche and Puebla as any illness (*alteración de la salud*) which develops following the performance of the employment and as a consequence of it. Seven States [4] specify that an occupational disease is one contracted or developed during the regular employment and as a consequence of it. The laws of Puebla, Sinaloa, and Sonora authorize all employers to require prospective employees to undergo a physical examination.

Compensation Benefits.

Basis of Compensation and Weekly Maximum and Minimum.

THE compensation scale is usually based upon the earnings of the injured employee. In Chihuahua, Sinaloa, and Sonora the worker's average weekly wages at the time of the injury are used as the basis for determining the amount of compensation, while in Puebla the disabled employees' average wages earned during a prescribed period [5] preceding the injury are used. In Chihuahua the weekly benefits are subject to a minimum of 6 pesos ($2.99, par) and a maximum limit of 35 pesos ($17.45, par), while in Sinaloa and Sonora the range is from 6 to 15 pesos ($2.99–$7.48, par).

Death.

The methods employed in determining compensation for death vary considerably. In Chiapas the amount of compensation is proportioned to the earning capacity and needs of dependents of de-

[3] Chihuahua, Michoacan, Puebla, Sinaloa, and Sonora.
[4] Chihuahua, Coahuila, Michoacan, Querétaro, Sinaloa, Sonora, and Vera Cruz.
[5] Wages received during the last four weeks of normal work.

ceased, this amount, however, not to exceed one year's earnings of the deceased employee. Three States (Campeche, Vera Cruz, and Yucatan) provide for amounts equal to annual earnings for one or two years, depending on length of service in Yucatan. The laws of Sinaloa and Sonora, however, pay 50 per cent of the average weekly wage, with a maximum of 15 pesos ($7.48, par) and a minimum of 6 pesos ($2.99, par), for 300 weeks. In Chihuahua the average weekly wage, but not more than 35 pesos ($17.45, par) or less than 6 pesos ($2.99, par), is paid for 150 weeks. A number of the States [6] provide for compensation equal to from six months' to three years' wages of the deceased, varying with conjugal condition and number of children. Death benefits in Coahuila and Mexico (State) are proportioned to life expectancy as measured by the life expectancy table adopted by these States. The laws usually make the benefits to children payable until they reach the age of 16 years, but many state that the benefits shall not cease if, at the age named, the recipient is mentally or physically incapacitated for earning a living. In Puebla benefits are paid to children until they reach 18 years of age. In four States (Hidalgo, Nuevo Leon, Mexico, and Zacatecas) compensation benefits to the widow terminate upon her remarriage. Thirteen of the 15 State laws examined provided for benefits to be paid to ascendants if they have been dependent upon the deceased, and if there are neither spouse nor descendants.

According to the law of Campeche, if an employer proves that he is financially unable to pay compensation immediately, he may, with the consent of the deceased employees' heirs and assigns, and after receiving permission from the department of labor, pay instead a pension of not less than 20 per cent of the deceased employee's annual wages. He is required to guarantee the payment of this pension. Pensions to widows cease if they remarry or lead immoral lives, while pensions to descendants terminate when they become 16 years of age. The law of Puebla requires the employer who wishes to pay a pension instead of compensation in fatal cases to guarantee the following payments: An amount equal to 40 per cent of the deceased employee's annual wages to the widow and legitimate and recognized illegitimate children and orphaned grandchildren who have been supported by the deceased employee until the minors attain the age of 18; 20 per cent of the deceased employee's annual wages to the widow who has neither children nor grandchildren; 10 per cent to each of the ascendants if neither widow nor descendants survive, provided the total amount paid to them does not exceed 30 per cent of the wages.

In addition to the foregoing benefits most of the States provide for burial expenses, the maximum allowances ranging from 20 to 75 pesos ($9.97 to $37.39, par). In case there are no dependents the entire liability of employers in Sinaloa and Sonora is limited to such burial expenses. If death does not result immediately, employers in Campeche, Michoacan, and Yucatan are required to pay the injured employee his full wages from the time of the accident until his death.

[6] Hidalgo, Michoacan, Nuevo Leon, Puebla, Querétaro, and Zacatecas.

Permanent Total Disability.

Four States (Chihuahua, Coahuila, Sinaloa, and Sonora) specify what constitutes permanent total disability. The loss of both hands or arms, or both legs above the knees, or both eyes, or the fracture of the spinal column causing complete paralysis of that part of the body below the fracture, is considered as permanent total disability in Chihuahua, Sinaloa, and Sonora. The law of Coahuila stipulates that the loss of both eyes, both arms, both legs, or loss of an arm and a leg at the same time, or the loss of mental balance constitutes permanent total disability. The other States merely declare that permanent total disability is that which incapacitates the worker for life for the performance of any work. The State of Mexico provides that for permanent total disability compensation payments, amounting to two-thirds of his previous earnings, shall continue for the full period of the injured workman's life. In Chiapas the employer pays a lump sum equal to six months' wages of the injured workman, while in Chihuahua benefits equal 175 weeks' and in Sonora 350 weeks' pay. In Vera Cruz the employee may receive either a life pension at half pay or an amount equal to four years' earnings, as the employee chooses. An employee who is totally and permanently disabled in Coahuila receives full wages for his probable lifetime as measured by the life expectancy table adopted by that State. Other States[7] pay benefits ranging from one to two years' entire wages. In Yucatan, if the employee had worked for the same employer over two years, he receives five years' earnings, and if less than two years an amount equal to two years' pay.

Permanent Partial Disability.

Three States (Michoacan, Querétaro, and Vera Cruz) describe partial disability as that which permanently incapacitates the employee for the performance of the work which he was doing at the time of the accident. The laws of Coahuila and Sonora contain a schedule of specified partial disabilities for which benefits are awarded for stated periods, in the Coahuila law the payment being expressed in percentages of total disability. The law of Sinaloa contains a list of permanent partial disabilities for the use of the municipal or State boards of conciliation in fixing the amount of compensation. Complete loss of function of hand, leg, arm, or foot, resulting from an industrial accident, will be considered as the loss of that member according to the laws of Chihuahua, Sinaloa, and Sonora.

In some States benefits for permanent partial disability differ from other benefits in that a choice is given, in some cases to the employer and in others to the employee, as to how the benefits shall be paid. For instance, in Campeche, Michoacan, and Querétaro the employer may either pay an amount varying from six months' to one and one-half years' earnings or furnish the employee other suitable employment with equal pay, as the employer sees fit. In Puebla and Yucatan the employee may decide whether he desires other work at the same wage or an amount equal to one year's earnings. In Vera Cruz also, the employee may decide whether he wishes to receive a life

[7] Campeche, Michoacan, Nuevo Leon, Puebla, Querétaro, and Zacatecas.

pension amounting to one-fourth of the wages he was receiving at the time of the accident or an amount equal to two years' wages.

An employer in Hidalgo is required to furnish other work in addition to paying compensation amounting to one year's pay. The laws of Campeche and Yucatan contain provisions that the employer shall pay the injured workman full wages from the time the accident occurred until he is able to return to work. An accident victim in Nuevo Leon shall receive an amount varying from 20 to 40 per cent of his previous earnings, the maximum, however, being one and one-half year's pay. A life pension of two-thirds of the difference between the wages which he had been receiving and those which he receives after he takes up another occupation is to be awarded to an injured employee in Mexico (State). An employer in Zacatecas shall pay benefits ranging from 10 to 50 per cent of the employee's previous earnings for a period of two years or longer, depending upon the circumstances of the worker and of the employer, to be decided by experts.

Second injuries.—In fixing the compensation of an employee who suffers a second injury the combined effect of the two injuries and the compensation already received will be taken into consideration in the States of Chihuahua, Sinaloa, and Sonora.

Temporary Disability.

Four State laws (Coahuila, Michoacan, Querétaro, and Vera Cruz) describe temporary disability as that which incapacitates an employee for the performance of his work only for a certain length of time. Employers in Campeche, Puebla, and Yucatan are required to pay employees who are temporarily disabled their full wages from the time of the injury until they are able to return to work, provided the disability does not last longer than six months. If it exceeds this time, benefits for permanent total disability shall be awarded to the employee. Benefits for temporary disability in Coahuila include full wages from the time of the injury until the disabled employee is able to return to work, while in Hidalgo, Michoacan, Nuevo Leon, and Querétaro the employer is required to pay the employee one-half of his wages until he is able to return to work, provided in Michoacan this time does not exceed one year and in Nuevo Leon two years. No time limit is stated in the Hidalgo and Querétaro laws. The law of Chiapas requires only medical care for the disabled employee.

In industrial accident cases in Chihuahua the employer shall pay the full wage for the first two weeks of incapacity and thereafter a weekly amount equal to half the average wage until the amount of the award is paid, but this amount may not be more than 20 pesos ($9.97, par) nor less than 6 pesos ($2.99, par) per week. The payment of compensation does not cease even though, in the physician's opinion, the employee is able to return to work. For slight injuries (those which produce only sores, bruises, or minor dislocations) employers are required to pay the full wage as well as to continue the worker in his employ, upon recovery. In such cases in Sinaloa and Sonora, however, the employer may either furnish the necessary medical services and reemploy the victim when recovered or pay half

the average weekly wage for the time fixed by the board, as he sees fit.

For temporary disability the worker in the State of Mexico shall receive his entire wages for one month; if he is disabled for a longer period he shall receive compensation amounting to three-fourths of his regular earnings. The law of Vera Cruz differs from those already mentioned in that after the employer has compensated the workman with one-half pay for six months, the board of conciliation and arbitration is to decide as to the continuance of the payments. A temporarily disabled employee in Zacatecas receives his full pay for the first year and 40 to 60 per cent of his previous earnings for the second year, depending upon the nature of the employment. When, according to the decision of two physicians the employee is able to return to work, the compensation ceases.

Hernia.

In the case of hernia, in Chihuahua, if the worker can prove that it is of recent origin, that its appearance was attended with pain, and was immediately preceded by some unusual exertion in the course of the worker's employment, the employer must provide hospital care and medicine, if needed, as well as medical or surgical attention, according to the circumstances. In addition he is required to pay half wages for not more than two months and to provide for an operation. If the worker refuses to submit to an operation when a physician recommends it, the employer is released from any responsibility, and if the worker dies because of not having submitted to the operation, the employer is not liable for compensation. The procedure and compensation for hernia under the laws of Sinaloa and Sonora are practically the same as in the Chihuahua law, except that the payment of half the average wage is to be made for only four weeks instead of for two months.

Medical Service.

FOURTEEN[8] of the Mexican State laws examined make definite provision for employers to furnish injured employees with medical and pharmaceutical attention until the latter are able to return to work or until in the attending physicians' opinion, they are no longer in need of such aid. Hospital care is included also in the laws of Chihuahua, Sinaloa, and Sonora. Employers in these States are not liable for inadequate medical treatment or hospital service, even though injurious consequences result. In every such case the injured worker is entitled to complain to the central board of conciliation and abitration directly or through the local labor inspector. In Nuevo Leon and Zacatecas the employer is obliged to furnish medical and pharmaceutical attention for six months only. First-aid treatment in cases of industrial accidents and occupational diseases by a physician designated by the employer is obligatory. Further treatment shall be rendered by the physician if the worker so desires. A requirement for medical and hospital service for employees'

[8] Campeche, Chiapas, Chihuahua, Coahuila, Hidalgo, Mexico, Michoacan, Nuevo Leon, Querétaro, Puebla, Sinaloa, Sonora, Yucatan, and Zacatecas.

families as well, making an assessment for this purpose of an amount not exceeding one day's wages, is included in the laws of Sinaloa and Sonora.

Physicians and surgeons are required, upon request, to make medical reports, specifying the condition of the injured employee, the nature of the accident which caused the injury, and the medical attention rendered him, under the laws of Chihuahua, Hidalgo, Puebla, Sinaloa, and Sonora.

Time for Claim.

LIMITATIONS are placed on the time in which claims for compensation may be made in five of the State laws (Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, Sinaloa, Sonora, and Zacatecas), varying in length from two years (Nuevo Leon and Zacatecas) to four years (Coahuila) from the date of the accident.

Security of Payments.

EMPLOYERS in three States (Campeche, Hidalgo, and Puebla) are allowed to insure their risks in approved insurance companies at their own expense. Permission of the department of labor is necessary in each case and will be given when it is in the employees' interest. The law of Puebla specifies that in no case may the insurance policy be less than the compensation benefit to which the employee is entitled under the law. Furthermore, labor contracts in which the employers insure their risk against compensation for industrial accidents and occupational diseases will be null and void if not in writing.

The provisions of six State laws (Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, Zacatecas Chihuahua, Sinaloa, and Sonora) specify that compensation benefits are not subject to attachment for payment of debts of the disabled employee, and in addition the laws of the three last-mentioned States prescribe that compensation payments are nonassignable.

The rights which the compensation laws establish are for those persons only in whose favor they are declared, and therefore, they may not be transferred, renounced, or diminished by any agreement made previous to the accident causing the injury. The foregoing provision is contained in the laws of Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, and Zacatecas, while three other State laws (Hidalgo, Sinaloa, and Sonora) stipulate that these rights shall not be renounced and any agreement to do so is of no avail.

Administration and Procedure.

A VERY important factor of compensation laws is the provision for an administrative system by which injured employees may be assured of their rights under the law. The laws of eight States (Chihuahua, Coahuila, Michoacan, Querétaro, Sinaloa, Sonora, Vera Cruz, and Yucatan) stipulate that the municipal and central boards of conciliation and arbitration are to have charge of the enforcement of the law, and to this end will receive accident reports, investigate claims, settle disputes, hear cases, grant awards, and issue decrees. In Chiapas, if the compensation in question amounts to 50 pesos

($24.93, par) or less, a commission will administer the case, but if it exceeds this amount the case will be taken to the court. No provision is made for the administration of compensation cases in the Mexico (State) law. In four States (Hidalgo, Nuevo Leon, Puebla, and Zacatecas) the law is administered by the courts, whereas in Campeche the department of labor performs this function.

In case of any dispute in Chihuahua, Sinaloa, and Sonora concerning the real amount of the average weekly wage which forms the basis for determining the compensation, the employer or his legal representative, upon petition of the municipal board of conciliation or the central board of conciliation and arbitration, as the case may be, or the person claiming compensation, shall submit in writing duly authenticated evidence as to the wages paid during the time in question as shown by the pay rolls. Within 20 days following a decision of the central board concerning accidents a petition for a rehearing may be made, but only on the following grounds: (1) That the board either did not have authority to act or exceeded its authority; (2) that the decision or award was obtained through fraud, malice, or bad faith; (3) that the petitioner has discovered new and material evidence which could not have been discovered before the first hearing. All claims for compensation must be in the prescribed legal form and must be accompanied by the employment contract, the certificate of civil registry, and the medical certificate, according to the law of Chihuahua. This law further specifies that no lawyer or representative of a workman or his beneficiaries may charge more than 5 per cent of the compensation recovered.

In Hidalgo the State is to provide free of charge in the capital an attorney to assist injured workers in their court proceedings to obtain compensation. In other parts of the State the president of the municipality is to perform this service gratis. If special provisions concerning compensation are inserted in the contract of employment, they will not be binding until approved by the board of conciliation and arbitration. Complaints that the decision of the judge in the compensation case is inequitable or that the person in charge of obtaining the compensation for the injured employee was negligent in the performance of his duties, may be made to the governor of the State.

The following provisions are found in the laws of both Nuevo Leon and Zacatecas: The judge of the judicial district at the time when the accident occurred shall have jurisdiction over suits for compensation arising from industrial accidents, whatever the amount involved. Oral hearings in accordance with the provisions of the Code of Civil Procedure may be had in those cases for which no provision is made in the compensation law. When the amount involved in the case does not exceed 1,200 pesos ($598.20, par) the claimant may be represented by a personal agent having a written authorization. If the employer files an appeal from an adverse judgment, he shall, pending the determination of the appeal, pay the plaintiff 50 per cent of the sum awarded, no bond from the plaintiff being required.

In Zacatecas appeals lie from judgments rendered in compensation suits, provided the amount involved exceeds 500 pesos ($249.25, par). Judgments not subject to appeal are to be reviewed by the upper court for the purpose of deciding whether the judge of the lower

court has violated the rules of procedure in any essential point or whether the judgment is notoriously unjust, which court may declare the judgment or any part thereof null and void if found to be unjust or in violation of the rules of procedure.

In case of a dispute between the employer and the employee concerning the nature or importance of the injury or occupational disease in Sinaloa and Sonora, the employee may be required to submit to a physical examination by a medical commission composed of three physicians appointed in the following manner: One physician named and paid by the municipal or State conciliation board, another named and paid by the employer, and the third named by the first two (or by the governor in case the first two disagree) and paid by the one asking for the examination. The members of the commission may be appointed for a special case, or for all cases arising in an establishment during a fixed period, on the consent of the central conciliation and arbitration board. The commission acts at the request of the central board or on the written request of an employer or employee. A permanent commission ordinarily meets every three months. If an employer refuses to pay the compensation awarded or stops payment before the end of the period, the employee shall immediately notify the central board which will request the municipal authorities to attend to the matter, no charge being made for the service.

Accident Reporting.

IN FOUR States (Chihuahua, Coahuila, Hidalgo, and Puebla) employers are required to report accidents within 24 hours, if not immediately, as in the case of Coahuila and Hidalgo. In Chihuahua accidents are required to be reported to the local municipal authorities, whereas in Coahuila either the municipal or the judicial authority may be notified. In Puebla employers are obliged to report to the labor and social welfare department under penalty of from 1 pesos to 100 pesos (49.85 cents to $49.85, par). The fine imposed upon employers in Hidalgo for failure to report accidents is from 10 to 1,000 pesos ($4.99 to $498.50, par). In this report the employer shall state the names and residences of relatives of the victim, as well as the name of the attending physician and the witnesses of the accident.

Accident Prevention.

EMPLOYERS in all of the States are required to adopt adequate measures to prevent accidents, to install safety devices, to keep their work places in a hygienic condition, and to post notices warning employees of danger and specifying precautions to be taken to avoid accidents.[9]

Under the laws of Chihuahua, Sinaloa, and Sonora the employees are also required to use reasonable care in their work, and if they remove, damage, or destroy safety devices, warnings, or notices they may be discharged without rendering the employer liable to payment of indemnity for such discharge.

[9] A more detailed study of these provisions may be found in the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW, December, 1923, pp. 13-25.

Eugenics as Viewed by a Sociologist.[1]

By WARREN S. THOMPSON, MIAMI UNIVERSITY.

EUGENICS, according to Galton, is "the science which deals with the influences that improve the inborn or native qualities of a race, also with those that develop them to the utmost advantage." This science has of late begun to attract considerable attention and, if I mistake not, is going to attract still more in the near future. There are three chief causes of this growing interest in eugenics at the present time. The first of these is the publicity given to the facts regarding the decreasing size of the family in the upper economic class and the consequent rapid dying out of this class. The second is the insistence of the advocates of birth control that what we need in this country is a population of high quality rather than one of great numbers. The third is the publicity given to the conclusions arrived at by the intelligence testers. They now claim to be able to tell us just who is fit and who is not fit. They believe they can separate the wheat from the chaff in a very exact manner.

Because of this growing interest in eugenics it behooves us to study its tendencies carefully in order to determine whether the doctrines it expounds are worthy of the support of students of social science.

It is but natural that most of the recognized exponents of eugenics should be biologists. It is they who have made the scientific studies of heredity and as a consequence have the greatest claim to competence when it comes to saying how the results of genetic investigation can be applied to the improvement of the human breed. If the biologist were content to do this, I would, as a sociologist, have no quarrel with him. When, however, he begins to interpret history from the standpoint of genetics, and, further, when he prescribes the future form of social organization which we must develop if we are to breed a good stock, I feel not only that the sociologist has the right but even that it is his duty to scrutinize the eugenists' policies very carefully. As a human ecologist, the sociologist is probably better fitted to pass judgment upon the social value of proposed programs of race improvement than the biologist. No human problem is purely a biological problem. Though man is subject to the same genetic laws as all the other animals, yet he can never be dealt with as merely an animal. When, therefore, the biologist comes to conclusions regarding man and his institutions which are manifestly based upon his studies of heredity among the lower animals, I do not feel bound to accept his views.

What Eugenics is Teaching.

ONE of the chief defects of eugenics as now taught is that it confuses, if it does not identify, human nature with the traits which the chromosomes carry from parent to offspring. The eugenist does this because of his experience as a specialized biologist (geneticist). He is accustomed to study plants and animals and has come

[1] Paper read before the eighteenth annual meeting of the American Sociological Society, Washington, D. C., Dec., 27, 1923, and to be published in the proceedings of the society. Published here by permission of the author and of the American Sociological Society.

to feel that they are relatively immune to the influence of environment save as to quantity of growth. If he wants to develop any new quality in them or to intensify any existing quality, the only way is through selective breeding. Consequently he has come to believe that any improvement in mankind must come in the same way. He does not seem to be aware that the quality of man's civilization may change very greatly without any change in his hereditary traits taking place. Since I can not accept the doctrine that human nature and hereditary traits are identical, I deny that all improvement in the life of mankind must be brought about by selective breeding, though I sincerely hope that as time goes by we shall learn how to use selective breeding to benefit mankind in a positive manner. At present, however, the biologist can, as a scientist, do little more than warn against certain matings, which have frequently, indeed generally, resulted in defective offspring, and encourage care in the selection of mates among those who appreciate the value of good stock.

It is not my intention to become involved in the old nature versus nurture controversy. It is now generally recognized that in its usual form this controversy is fruitless. But it is in order to call attention to the fact that social psychology has definitely shown that human nature is not to be identified with hereditary traits. Human nature, as we know it in individuals, is made up of the hereditary traits of the individual plus the development of these traits through contact with his environment. When once this well-established truth of social psychology is grasped, it is seen that to quarrel as to whether heredity or environment is stronger is not only useless, but foolish. Each of these factors is a sine qua non of human development. In any particular case it may be possible to show that one of them was decisive in producing a given act or course of action, but to argue the question in general terms merely indicates that one has not yet grasped the full significance of complementary forces in human life. To prove that human nature is the product of the complementary forces—heredity and environment—is beyond the scope of this paper, and it is unnecessary before a gathering of this kind. A little observation of people about us will convince us that human nature does change, and if we will read the writings of wise people who have been interested in human nature either in themselves or other people (e. g., good autobiographers and novelists among others) we can ascertain that they have always known that human nature changed and was rather easily molded into new forms. Many popular proverbs and saws also prove that the common people have known this as a fact from time immemorial; while in practical life we find that almost everyone treats human nature as though it were, what it in fact is—the development of man's hereditary traits in relation to a particular environment. It may seem strange, therefore, that the doctrine of the unchangeability of human nature based upon the doctrine of noninheritance of acquired characters should have taken such a hold on the avowed eugenists of our time. I believe the explanation of this lies in their intense specialization and in the fact that some of the leaders in this field have the temperament of the propagandist rather than that of the scientist.

So much for the general position and outlook of the eugenists proper.

Bases of the Present Eugenics Vogue.

OF LATE, however, eugenics has acquired a group of spokesmen and spokeswomen—self-appointed, it is true—who have undertaken to point out the great dangers lying ahead of us if we do not embark upon an extensive eugenics program. People who fear race suicide, advocates of birth control, and intelligence testers have all undertaken to spread the gospel of good breeding. It is but natural that with such publicity agents and with the help of journalistically minded pseudoscientists the teachings of eugenics as they are reaching the public should take on certain unscientific, not to say jingoistic, aspects.

For many years, but for the last 10 or 15 in particular, we have frequently had our attention called to the fact that the old native stock in the older settled parts of the country, particularly the Northeast, had a much lower rate of increase than the newer immigrant stocks. This fact of a differential birth rate alone has been sufficient to make many people feel that the future of our Nation is imperiled and has caused much discussion among those who are thus dying out. There is no proof as yet that it has caused them to raise any larger families. (Occasionally, no doubt, it has influenced a couple to add a child or two to their contribution to Anglo-Saxondom.)

Here, however, was a definite situation to which to apply eugenics. It was assumed that the upper economic classes, largely composed of old stock, were good stock and, consequently, that it was dysgenic if this stock did not maintain its proportion to the whole. So far as I am aware no one has questioned the general statement that this part of our population is good stock. Their success in life has proved it conclusively to practically everyone. For the time being we will let the matter rest there, only asking: Good for what? and What is implied in calling the process dysgenic?

About the time it became generally known the old stock was dying out in the industrialized North the advocates of birth control seemed suddenly to awaken to the situation, and they suggested that if the lower classes, as well as the upper classes, were to control the size of their families, then there would be no relative diminution of the quantity of better stock, and there was no need to fear for the future of the Nation. Every advocate of birth control is ipso facto a practical eugenist. They inevitably talk of the need for quality in population and the danger of too great numbers.

Finally come the intelligence testers and put the capsheaf on the shock of eugenic knowledge by telling us what is good stock and what is poor stock. They tell us that somewhere around 5 to 15 per cent of the people are of good native ability, and that about one-fourth of these are of distinctly superior quality. From this group must come those fit to assume leadership—those having initiative and energy and constructive imagination. They also tell us they can pick out those having different degrees of "native intelligence" ranging all the way from the feeble-minded to the genius. Furthermore, they have already gone sufficiently far in their testing to assure us that in this country nearly all of those with superior endowments are to be found in the upper economic classes, and that they are nearly all of old Anglo-Saxon stock. They still further assure us that,

given but a few minutes, an experienced tester can so accurately pigeonhole a boy or girl at the age of 12 that he can predict not only his or her future scholastic attainments, but can even prognosticate his or her life's achievements or lack of achievements.

There is a third belief gaining general acceptance, which, when taken in conjunction with those mentioned above, completes the eugenic structure in the mind of the average intelligent American reader of our better magazines. This is the belief that the processes of selection among modern civilized men are no longer natural, but have become artificial. It is believed that in times past natural selection among men was eugenic, but that to-day artificial selection, particularly as modified by modern charity and preventive medicine, is dysgenic. Consequently, it seems the logical thing to say that only by overcoming this dysgenic artificial selection by a eugenic artificial selection can the human stock be improved.

How the fabric of present-day eugenics is being woven out of these different elements is easy to see. First, we have a biological doctrine of determinism in heredity translated into a doctrine of social determinism by the identification of human nature with heredity. Then we have the assumption that success under our present organization of society is proof positive of the possession of the superior qualities upon which the future welfare of mankind depends. In addition it is claimed that we now have a method of examining people which enables us to pick out with almost unerring accuracy and at a very early age, without waiting for them to attain success, those who have these superior qualities. (And let us remember that in spite of all protests and qualifications made by the intelligence testers they really believe that they are testing natural, inherited qualities, not knowledge acquired from experience.) Lastly, but underlying all, we have the assumption that the natural selection of earlier ages, which is supposed to have been eugenic, has been replaced within the last century or two by an artificial selection which is dysgenic. From this belief it is natural to conclude that we must launch a positive eugenics offensive if our civilization is not to decline.

The eugenics offensive now under way, aside from the well-established facts of genetics, rests, therefore, on three main assumptions which the human ecologist has a right to challenge:

1. That human nature can be identified with hereditary traits and is therefore unchangeable.

2. That we can by means of intelligence tests and by watching their attainment of economic success pick out the superior people in our population.

3. That the processes of human selection are now artificial as contrasted with those existing previous to the last century or two which were natural. The latter were eugenic, the former dysgenic.

It is not to be expected that the pseudoscientific popularizers of eugenics would either be aware that they were making any assumptions or that they would question their validity if they were so aware. But by no means all of the blame for the degeneration of eugenics from a science to a propaganda urging the blond Nordic to be more prolific which is now in process in this country can be charged to these pseudoscientists. A perusal of three or four of the best recent books on this subject will convince anyone that reputable biologists

have contributed to this tendency, while we sociologists are by no means guiltless.

Proof of the Assumptions of Present-day Eugenics.

I HAVE said above practically all I care to say regarding the first assumption, viz, that human nature can be identified with heredity, and the consequent belief in the unchangeability of human nature. This rests upon the failure of the eugenist to understand what social attitudes are and the processes by which they are developed. Furthermore, the whole of sociology is a challenge to this assumption.

The second assumption—that we can pick out the superior people in our population without difficulty—I wish to discuss in as detailed a manner as time will permit.

Intelligence Tests.

WITH regard to the reliability of intelligence tests as an agency fitted to select men of superior capacities, I will set forth only two or three reasons why I have but little faith in them. In the first place, the responses needed to assure one a high rating are so obviously dependent upon acquired experience that environment is certain to affect one's rating to a marked degree. This fact seems so clear when one examines the detailed results of these tests for oneself that one can but wonder why the testers themselves persist in maintaining that they measure hereditary traits only, or "native intelligence," as they prefer to call it. It is of course true that a person who has not the inborn capacity to acquire certain information and do certain things will never benefit by experience to the same extent as another who has this capacity. This fact is of great significance in enabling the tester to pick out the mentally deficient. But I can not accept as having much validity the fine graduations of native general intelligence attributed to normal children and young people on the basis of test scores. When one finds that almost the best scores in the Army tests were made by stenographers and bookkeepers, one may surely be permitted to doubt the value of these tests to select superior ability.

Again, when it is found that there is a high degree of correlation between a high score and a good social status plus good schooling, the testers do not seem to draw the obvious conclusion that they are in part at least, testing the social factors in the lives of the testees, but rather they consider it proof that the native intelligence is much greater in these higher social groups. Surely it is not misrepresenting the actual situation to say that the very point at issue, the one which needs most careful proof, is thus largely assumed. A high degree of correlation between two factors is generally looked upon as presumptive evidence that there is some causal relation between them. This principle seems to be entirely ignored by many of the mental testers.

In the second place, supposing that the mental test can distinguish those people having in greater or less degree the native ability to do certain things, does it follow that what is distinguished is a fundamental hereditary difference (except in the case of those with ex-

tremely low scores) entering into all life's relations—one which will determine the individual's future in accordance with a prognosis made by the tester by the time the child is 12 years old? If native mental ability of any sort is tested, it seems to me that it is the ability to get on in our present educational system. In other words, it is native ability of a rather highly specialized sort and not general ability or intelligence, as is usually claimed. In the Army tests this fact is recognized when it is said that these tests were devised and applied to select men who could be quickly educated to perform certain given tasks. But when the general social significance of the results of these tests is discussed this fact seems to be forgotten. Most people have the impression that if the Army tests are to be relied upon we have a great concentration of native intelligence in the upper economic classes of our population and a very small amount in the lower economic classes.

In the third place, an examination of the results of the Army tests as set forth by the actual data do not seem to me to give any warrant to the sweeping claims made for them as tests of general ability and fitness for the leadership of civilization. In the interpretation of the results one feels that most writers have not given sufficient weight to the qualifications contained in the statistical part of the report. One is tempted to think that many of the people who have helped to give publicity to the findings of the tests have never examined these findings with any degree of care. Certainly if they have examined them carefully they have brought to the task a bias which has prevented them from drawing the correct conclusions from them.

The sociologist is interested in human improvement and while he is unable to accept the view that human nature is unmodifiable, yet he is anxious to find the limits that hereditary or native qualities place upon environmental influence. Consequently, as a sociologist, I, for one, welcome the studies of the eugenists showing where these limits are to be found. Every advance along this line is all to the good. I also welcome any method of testing human capacities which will lead to a more precise classification of men, both according to hereditary endowment and social adaptability. In improvement along this line lies our greatest opportunity to employ the human resources of society far more effectively than at present, for the benefit of all. But while I welcome every advance in eugenics and intelligence testing which will add precision to our efforts to control social processes, I do not feel we have sufficient proof for the very prevalent notion that people having high scores are the real superiors among mankind, and are the only ones fitted for the carrying on and improvement of our civilization.

Superiority of the Economically Successful.

FURTHERMORE, with regard to the second part of the second assumption, viz, that attainment of a position in the upper economic classes is proof of superior capacity, I feel that it is only an assumption and its truth needs to be proved. Just as I believe the attainment of a high score in the intelligence tests is dependent upon the possession of certain specialized endowments, so I believe that the attainment of a position in the upper economic classes is

generally dependent upon the possession of certain specialized faculties. In fact, the faculties needed for attainment are so much alike in the two cases that one is disposed to wonder whether, unconsciously, the intelligence tests have not been devised to pick out those likely to succeed in the economic competition of our existing social system. It would not be at all strange if this were the case, and it would explain certain high correlation coefficients. Besides, it would greatly encourage us to hope that sometime in the future mental tests of a different nature may be devised which will measure other kinds of ability, and even general ability, if there is such a thing.

But let us look at what their success tells us about the more salient characteristics of the members of the upper economic classes, and see if we can come to any conclusion regarding their superior fitness as carriers of civilization. What qualities do they possess and how do these qualities enable them to adapt themselves to the social process?

Mental alertness of some kind is certainly required for the attainment of membership in the upper economic classes. Not necessarily mental alertness in all respects, because many men of great economic attainment seem almost impervious to new ideas and are quite lacking in that sympathetic imagination which would enable them to understand and appreciate the situations in which other people find themselves. Furthermore, they often show a surprising inability to understand the complexity of the forces which have brought them to the front, if the interviews with them and articles by them and about them in popular periodicals are fair samples of their thinking. Surely we can not conclude that their alertness is general; it is specialized and concentrated and when coupled with tenacity of purpose, a second quality we would all grant to most of the economically successful, manifests itself in the acquirement by the individual of certain tangible goods which can be counted and valued by everyone. This second quality—tenacity of purpose—is probably not of as many varieties as is mental alertness, but whether or not it is admirable depends upon whether it serves purely individual and selfish ends or whether it serves social purposes. Many successful people show that they are thick-skinned, almost impervious to feelings and thoughts other than those of a personal and selfish nature. In such people tenacity of purpose may be distinctly antisocial, and its possession in a high degree, instead of marking a man as superior, may really indicate that he is so far degenerate. Many people showing the greatest tenacity of purpose are, in fact, degenerate because what was at first tenacity of purpose has become obsession. As such, therefore, tenacity of purpose does not mark a man as superior, although without much of this he will probably never succeed at anything.

Adaptability is a third quality of the successful. Again, these people show specialized adaptability. They are generally rather quick to size up a business situation and to fit themselves into it, but the situation sized up is often only a part of the whole social situation, e. g., a man may see the trend of development in his line of work before it is generally perceived and by making his adaptation early, attain a marked degree of success. But all this implies only adaptation to one small phase of life. The same man may not adapt himself politically or socially, and generally, as has been amply

proven time and time again, does not adapt himself in the only way nature cares about, that is, to secure survival. The upper economic classes as a whole have shown a great lack of ability to adapt their family life to modern social organization or what is of equal, if not greater importance, lack of ability to adapt the social order to the needs of family life. These are certainly fundamental adaptations which man must make to prove that he is fit, and the so-called superiors are the people who are failing most signally in making them. It may be true that this failure is due to certain social conditions which these people encounter, rather than to any lack of native capacity to make the adaptation, so that it shows unwillingness and perverted education rather than inability. But even if that is the case, it shows that they possess a type of mind rather easily seduced from following the instinctive tendencies calculated to secure survival, and have not yet developed the will to make a conscious adaptation which will secure it. In any event, nature says they are not fit in one fundamental respect and decrees their extinction.

To cite ambition, love of ease, love of luxury, and the desire to be unhampered in movement from place to place, as causes of very small families or childlessness, or failure to marry may help us to understand why these classes are dying out, but these causes in no way alter the fact that they do not make certain fundamental adaptations. Nor does it in any way change the situation to recognize how the man and woman with a family are handicapped by the existing social order. It only points out some of the ways in which our social organization must be modified to remove these handicaps. In the meantime the failure to raise children and the failure to modify the social system so that families are not an unnecessary burden shows a great lack of adaptability in the upper classes, for they control the system. It seems to me, therefore, that we find ourselves in the dilemma that we must admit either that the upper classes lack the power of making the most fundamental of all adaptations, or that they are unwilling to make these adaptations, and in either case, we must seriously question whether they are fit to carry our civilization on to better things.

Still another way of looking at the matter is that the upper classes have not found enough of real value in life to give them the courageous faith needed by those who would like to make the world a better place for the next generation to live in. (I assume in this discussion that the failure of these classes to reproduce themselves and to add to the population is voluntary.) People who have passed beyond the stage where reproduction is entirely uncontrolled, and who yet fail to reproduce, must certainly accept the charge of lack of abiding faith in the worthwhileness of life as a whole. In effect, though probably unconsciously, they say, "We find our daily life so engrossing and strenuous, and yet so little worth while that we do not care to participate in the larger, more enduring life of the race." I can but wonder whether people who thus confess a feeble interest in the future and who are so lacking in faith in life are really so superior that the direction of civilization can be safely intrusted to them.

Nature's answer is clear. She says they are unfit. She shows clearly that she prefers the lower classes who live simply, who reproduce more or less instinctively, who do not think about the future of

the race or of civilization, but who are carrying the burden of the future in the rearing of children. We may call these people brutish, we may say that they are intellectually inferior, we may hold that they have not risen above the level of instinctive reactions, we may believe that they carry the burden of the future only because they know not how to avoid it, and because they do not yet feel it to be a burden, but they survive, and the future belongs to them. We may believe and prove to our own satisfaction that a civilization developed by such a people will be distinctly inferior to ours, but if nature prefers it because we can not, or will not, participate in the future by rearing children, we should have no fault to find with her. It simply means that we and the civilization we have developed are among those numerous experiments in which nature continually indulges and that we have failed to find sufficient of permanent value in life to make us willing and anxious to participate not only in the present but also in the future.

There is one other factor in the failure of the upper classes to adapt themselves which should be mentioned. It is the lack of philoprogenitiveness. If this lack of love of offspring is due to some hereditary defect in the make-up of successful people, no power on earth can prevent their extinction. For this simply means that one of the prime essentials for securing survival is lacking among the intelligent people in the upper classes. Naturally they will die out. If, on the other hand, the lack of offspring is due merely to wrong social training, which gives to ambition objects inconsistent with raising a fair-sized family, the remedy lies in so changing the social system that other objectives, not inconsistent with a healthy family life, will come to the fore. It seems to me the upper classes feel, unconsciously perhaps, that our present social order is not worth preserving and not knowing how or being unwilling to alter it radically so that there will be a place in it for family and children they supinely await extinction. We face the necessity of deciding whether people who either do not possess a strong philoprogenitive tendency or who smother it to attain immediately selfish ends inconsistent with family life or who are unwilling to exert themselves to bring about fundamental changes in their social order, which they so largely control, are superior stock. In the face of these considerations, I do not believe we can blithely assume the superiority of the upper classes as a whole and base a sound eugenic program on this assumption.

Natural Selection, Past and Present.

THE third assumption in the present eugenic offensive must be scrutinized in passing. It is the assumption that in ages past natural selection was eugenic, but that to-day, i. e., for perhaps a century in a few of the more advanced nations, natural selection has become less and less operative until now it is replaced entirely by artificial selection which is dysgenic. The chief basis of support for this argument is the fact that modern medicine and charity, both public and private, operate to keep alive and allow to propagate a class of inferior people who would have died under the more rigorous conditions of life existing in ages past. There is some truth in this contention, but we can not fully accept the conclusions usually drawn.

Modern medicine and charity do preserve many unfit, but this does not prove either that natural selection has ceased to operate or that it was eugenic in ages past.

In the first place, ever since man developed his first folkway, selection of human stock for survival has been more or less controlled. It is probably but little more controlled to-day than it was in ancient Greece. In Sparta a definite eugenics program was put into effect, and so far as history shows, it did not produce any very lasting or admirable results. The constant wars of the past were probably even more disastrous to the upper classes than the World War was. Such institutions as the Inquisition and a celibate priesthood, and such great movements as the earlier crusades were all dysgenic as we understand that term. But all the while the type of people most fitted to survive under the existing social order have gone on propagating and we are their descendants. I can see no good reason to believe that the selection of to-day is less natural than it was 2,000 years ago. It is probably somewhat less rigorous because of modern medicine and charity, but if the lower classes, and particularly the defective, benefit most from modern charity the upper classes benefit most from modern medicine, and probably the unfit thus kept alive do not materially change the relative proportions surviving in these different classes. It is the differential birth rate which changes these proportions, as any one can readily see who studies mortality and natality tables.

People who wish to play so prominent a part in the affairs of their day that they do not find time for family and children, who are unwilling to partake of the struggles and hardships of the common lot, are doomed to extinction. Those who can make the combination of satisfying their ambition and raising a fair-sized family will survive, and though civilization may change under their guidance, I do not see why we should be exercised for fear that it will not be Anglo-Saxon, or Teutonic, or Gallic, as the case may be. If we do not have children it will not affect us or ours, that the present social order which we call western civilization will have perished. The people who do survive and carry on will probably develop a civilization which will suit them better than ours. If it is so organized that it has a place for the family and if it rests upon those virtues growing out of the intimacies of family and communal life, it will probably displace ours and survive much longer than ours has and thereby prove its fitness.

Are the Superior in Intellect Also the Superior in Social Value?

I HAVE given above several reasons why I consider the present criteria by which it is thought superior stock can be selected are defective and inadequate. There is one other question I should like to raise because it seems to me that our attitude toward present eugenic programs will be very greatly affected by the answer we make to it. Supposing, for the sake of argument, that we can pick out the people of superior intellectual endowments with a fair degree of accuracy, are these people really those best fitted to develop a high type of civilization? Certainly most of us would not admit that the leaders in industry and commerce produced since the rise of modern

industrialism are fitted to guide the destinies of the human race, nor would we admit that the professional classes, who are their satellites, are much better fitted to assume this hegemony. Whence comes then this great emphasis upon need of propagating from the intellectually superior classes? Does a faith in the beneficence of science necessarily imply a belief that the best possible civilization can be developed by giving predominance to the intellectually superior? Personally I do not believe that it does.

It may be that the intellectually superior are the vicarious sacrifice offered up by mankind in return for the benefits derived from their work. This is a very conceited or very charitable way of looking at the matter, depending upon the viewpoint of the observer—whether he is stationed within or without this class. In trying to take a long-time view of the processes of population growth it seems to me that a predominance of the intellectual in men and women to-day is generally leading to such abnormal modes of living and to such selfishness that this class has comparatively little to contribute to the spiritual enrichment of human life. Their very intellectual development seems to act as an insulating medium which shuts them off from the currents of life throbbing through the masses of mankind. As a consequence they do not really contribute anything to the spiritual life of the people whom they are supposed to be leading. They are not real leaders, and when the history of our times is written from the proper perspective these classes may be looked upon as a fungous growth upon our social order. Only here and there will there be an individual standing out as a beacon light on the pathway leading toward the spiritual emancipation of the common people, and such an individual will not be one hailed as a leader of these (i. e., the upper economic) classes to-day. He will be one who has voiced aspirations for mankind not usually associated with the man described as a "captain of industry," a "go-getter," an "efficiency expert," a great "legal light," a "master intellect," a "financial Napoleon," etc., to which titles most of the supposedly superior now seem to aspire.

If time permitted I should like to present for your consideration some of the facts which lead me to think that the intellectually superior have as a general thing been so seduced from natural modes of living and have so insulated themselves from the common stream of human thoughts and sentiment that they are not fit spiritual leaders of mankind. But I can only stop to say that it seems to me history teaches this and observation of present-day social processes confirms it. Whether this need be the case in a society becoming self-conscious is another matter.

A Rational Eugenics Program.

YOU may be wondering whether one who inclines to the views set forth above can have any rational eugenics program; whether this is not a counsel of fatalism or at least of laissez faire. It is not. It merely represents an effort to put certain of the processes of present-day population growth into a perspective where we shall see them at their true value, and where we may the better detect their tendencies. It is a counsel to study these tendencies without bias so that we may the better direct them.

Practically, a twofold program for the improvement of the quality of population is thoroughly consistent with the position taken in what precedes.

(1) We should, as the eugenists have so repeatedly urged, make arrangements to eliminate those who have been proved defective. No more need be said of this phase of the matter.

(2) We should so change our present social order that the raising of a fair-sized family by the members of all other (i. e., other than the defective) classes of the population will not be penalized as at present and so that good opportunities will be given all children to develop their natural capacities. As for those supposedly intelligent people who will not respond to these changes by raising families (notice I say will not, not can not), I feel that they thereby acknowledge their unfitness to participate in the only kind of civilization which can have any degree of stability, viz, one based upon the family, and therefore they are of but little worth to mankind. Consequently, I do not view their sterility with any concern.

I can not take time to specify in any detail the changes which our social order must undergo to remove the penalties attached to raising a family. I will, however, mention a few changes which seem to me of fundamental importance. For one thing, the whole mode of living in our large cities must be profoundly changed. Perhaps the large city will have to be made over entirely to find a place for the family in its organization; perhaps it will have to be destroyed. Man was never made for modern city life, and unless he shows sufficient ingenuity to adapt cities to his needs he must get rid of them or succumb to them.

For a second thing, the whole system of remuneration for work must be overhauled. Such slogans as "equal pay for equal work" are absurd, if we are to have real homes. The value of children to society must be recognized by more than mothers' pensions. Besides, in the upper classes, the age at which a fair income is attainable must be sufficiently low to make it available when it is most needed for the raising of a family.

In the third place, industry, which is now run entirely on an individual efficiency basis, with its sole aim quantity production, must devise some way to maintain high production without making it necessary to shatter family life. It seems questionable whether a social order based upon the individual as the unit of its organization can survive for any length of time, and modern industry is chiefly responsible for this being the case to-day.

In the fourth place, the entire training of women must be greatly changed—especially beginning with the high school. The training of men is bad enough, but to give women the same training, as is now generally done, is the height of absurdity. If men and women had been intended to function alike nature would have made them alike. We must seriously undertake the task of remodeling the school training of girls and women in order to focus the center of their interests where it must naturally remain—in the home.

In the fifth place, our entire system of providing opportunity for the development of the natural capacities of all children will have to be overhauled and greatly altered and extended. It is but an indifferent selective agency at the present time. When these and such

other social changes are made as are generally agreed to be necessary to give us a more sane outlook upon the essentials of life, and when the control of the propagation of the distinctly inferior is in hand, eugenics will have done all it can. Those of us who have a faith in our social order deep enough to make us willing to give hostages to it will partake of the future; the rest of us will die out, and surely it is colossal conceit to suppose that the world suffers great loss in our doing so. If we have not sufficient moral strength to live up to what our intelligence tells us is necessary for participation in the future, we probably should not leave children better equipped than are we to contribute to the social processes and so we shall never be missed. The future belongs to those who are willing to participate in it through their children. Nature seems to have no preference as to where the children shall come from; if we have, we must show the courage of our convictions both by raising families and by changing the social order so that those who are really fit to carry on will have the better chance.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND LABOR CONDITIONS.

Labor Relations in the Pottery Industry.

THE present outlook in the pottery industry, with special reference to labor relations, is discussed by the labor committee of the employers' association, known as the United States Potters' Association, in its report to the association in convention last December.[1] This statement is summarized in the following pages.

Industry now stabilized.—Employer and employee relations in the general ware branch of the pottery industry have apparently been more normal during the year 1923 and since the strike of 1922 than at any other time since the pre-war period. The agreement between the National Brotherhood of Operative Potters and the United States Potters' Association, affecting the general ware branch of the trade, provides that wage negotiations may be reopened under "pronounced or radical changes in labor, living, or market conditions." However, the wage scale determined as a result of the strike will remain in effect until October 1, 1924, unless demand for changes is made.[2] The brotherhood formulated no demands at the last convention held in July, however, and the labor committee of the employers' association has held no meeting since the time of the final adjustment of the strike. There has therefore been no serious controversy affecting the trade and it is probable that there will be no issue in the near future. Minor disputes in individual factories, resulting in short interruptions, have occurred, but they have all been settled in accordance with the provisions of the agreement by the united efforts of the association's officers and the brotherhood. Such disputes, according to the report, arose either through "direct action of some local exceeding its authority or by the influence of the membership of a local intimidating the workers involved to the extent that they discontinued work to escape criticism."

A better spirit of cooperation was displayed by the workers during the months immediately following the strike, resulting in increased output and a better quality of product. The continued heavy volume of business, however, and the demand for labor which often exceeded the supply, had, in the opinion of the committee, the effect of creating the spirit of independence which usually prevails during prosperous times. In certain shops losses due to carelessness occurred. In suggesting methods of controlling this tendency the committee emphasizes its previous recommendations—that superintendents make themselves familiar with the provisions of the wage agreement, insist that the provisions be literally observed, and give their departments the closest possible supervision.

[1] Crockery and Glass Journal, New York, Dec. 6, 1923, pp. 16–18. "Labor executive committee report," by W. E. Wells, chairman.

[2] See MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW, March, 1923, p. 57.

There has been practically no unemployment in the industry since 1914.

Efficiency of labor.—The speed of the workmen has increased to a considerable degree since 1913, in the opinion of the chairman. In the kiln drawing, kiln placing, and dipping departments, it is estimated that "the apparent speed of the workers has increased nearly 100 per cent in 25 years."

Production costs.—The labor cost of producing a kiln of ware has, in the estimation of the committee, increased 74 to 80 per cent since 1913. "It is safe to say there are but few departments in which the worker does not draw at least 80 per cent more than he did in 1913 and in shorter time." This increase is not reflected in the "prevailing plusages" (percentage increases), because concessions made on base prices and in other conditions do not appear in the plusage rates, while advances of more than 80 per cent are generally paid to day-wage employees whose earnings are not calculated on the plusage basis. The cost of living, meanwhile, the committee says, has advanced slightly more than 50 per cent. Fuel costs have increased over 200 per cent and all other elements of cost have advanced in various amounts so that the total cost of producing a kiln of ware has increased approximately 100 per cent. The committee prophesies that costs are liable to be stabilized at this point for some time.

Effect of the piecework system upon production.—In the opinion of the committee, some of the loss due to damage in manufacture may quite possibly be due to the piecework system, particularly in the kiln drawing, kiln placing and dipping departments in which a large percentage of the losses occur. The labor cost in these three departments is about 11 per cent of the total cost of production. It is suggested that even if the day-wage system costs considerably more, it would not increase the cost more than the equivalent of the saving resulting.

> While our product is susceptible to an unusual degree to damage in manufacture, and some loss must be accepted as an inevitable part of cost, that loss is greater than it should be in the majority, if not in all of our factories. And I have been wondering whether a large part of this excessive waste is not due to the piecework system, especially in the kiln drawing, kiln placing, and dipping departments. In these departments a very large percentage of the total loss occurs. The apparent speed of the workers has increased nearly 100 per cent in 25 years. The men constantly drift about from one pottery to another on the lookout for bigger time and easier conditions. The supply of workers is chronically short. The employers grant concessions to hold their men. If the firm tries to correct abuses or to insist upon its rights, the whole crew quits. Nearly all the aggravating shop controversies, outlaw strikes and interruptions occur in these departments. The locals of these trades, of the kiln men especially, have been the supreme trouble makers. They make as much trouble for the brotherhood as they make for the manufacturers. * * *
>
> The dippers try to match the kiln men in speed and the kiln drawers try to surpass them. Is it conceivable that good workmanship is to be expected from men moving at such speed, under such conditions and in such a frame of mind? And it is not impossible that all or nearly all these unhappy conditions are the outgrowth of the piecework system.

A conference between the labor committee and the kiln men was held early in 1923 in an attempt to find some remedy for the evils and inconsistencies that have grown up in the kiln placing. The present system is just as unsatisfactory to the men as to the manufacturers.

A two days' discussion developed that nothing could be done under piecework. "If there is any remedy at all, it is in adopting day wage, the only objection to which is that the cost per kiln would be greater. But if the kilns are better filled, the losses substantially reduced, and most of our labor wrangles eliminated, is it not worth a trial at least?" It is suggested that an attempt be made to reach an agreement to try a day wage in these three departments for one year, with the option of then resorting to the present system if the costs prove excessive or if prevailing evils are not remedied.

Child Welfare in Porto Rico.

THE Children's Bureau of the United States Department of Labor has recently published a study of child welfare in Porto Rico,[1] which was undertaken at the request of the Department of Education of Porto Rico, and was apparently welcomed by the whole island.

As this report of developing activities shows, the interest in child welfare touches every branch of the Government as well as the private organizations in Porto Rico. The Children's Bureau has never undertaken any piece of work in which the cooperation was more genuine and desire for improvement greater than in Porto Rico.

Because of the close connection between the welfare of children and the welfare of the whole community, this study inevitably deals to some extent with the general social and economic conditions of the island. The natives are predominantly an agricultural people, and have been greatly affected by the changes brought about since the island passed into the hands of the United States. Formerly much of the land was devoted to grazing, the area under cultivation was largely in small holdings, and quantities of sweet potatoes, yams, rice, corn, and bananas were grown. The rural dwellers were poor, but usually food could be obtained with little exertion, and money counted for little in their lives. After the annexation to the United States the large-scale production of sugar and tobacco increased rapidly, with consequences not altogether happy for the inhabitants.

One result peculiarly unfortunate for the children was a decrease in the milk supply. Sugar and tobacco cultivation flourished at the expense of the pasture lands, and while between 1899 and 1920 the population of the island increased from 953,243 to 1,299,809, and the number of acres devoted to sugar cultivation rose from 21,503 to 227,815, the number of acres used for pasturage fell from 450,834 to 20,409, and the number of cows and heifers decreased from 104,538 to 61,864. Naturally the amount of milk available decreased and the price rose to 25 cents a quart. In 1922 the wages of common field labor were $1 to $1.25 a day. Under the circumstances, it was in many cases practically impossible to secure proper food for babies and young children.

The Porto Rican mothers frequently find breast feeding impossible. Pure milk is expensive and difficult to obtain and pasteurization is little understood.

[1] U. S. Children's Bureau publication No. 127: Child Welfare in the Insular Possessions of the United States. Part I—Porto Rico, by Helen V. Bary.

The poorer families commonly feed babies on family food at an early age. This is so generally true that in cases of infants only a few months old brought for treatment the best hospitals have found it advisable to accustom the babies to family diet before returning them to their homes.

The increasing cultivation of sugar and tobacco has had other effects upon the natives. Both crops can be most profitably grown on a large scale, and the small holdings are decreasing and the large ranches increasing. Thousands of natives find nothing but day labor open to them, and day labor, under the new order, is not a profitable pursuit.

Under existing conditions the cultivation of sugar and tobacco partakes more of the nature of industry than of that of farming. The development of these crops has taken place so rapidly that the transition has been accompanied by hardships difficult to overcome. * * * For the harvest, sugar requires approximately 150,000 workers and tobacco 40,000. For work between seasons the number of laborers required is far less. In periods of slack work during the season no occupation is open to agricultural workers in these districts on their idle days, and when these crops are harvested at least half of the laborers must make a complete change of residence in order to search for other work. Thousands of Porto Ricans have thus become migratory workers, with no homes and virtually no possessions.

Added to the general poverty is a general ignorance of sanitary requirements, and the effect of these two upon the health and development of the children is marked. A study of the average height and weight of children in Porto Rico showed that both boys and girls were shorter and weighed less than the average for children of the same sex and age in the United States. A physical examination of 7,681 school children in San Juan in 1921–22 showed that 6,599, or 85.9 per cent, were in need of treatment for one or more defects, the largest group, numbering 5,394, showing defects of the respiratory system. The infant mortality rate is high, and such diseases as tuberculosis, anemia, and rickets are rife. But perhaps the most difficult of the child-welfare problems of the island is presented by the large number of homeless children. Sometimes poverty has led the parents to give these children to relatives or acquaintances, and sometimes they have wandered away from parents who could not care for them. The great majority have some connection with families in which they work as servants.

Such servants are found in almost every household, and it is only by such work that many of these children escape starvation. The typical Porto Rican lady does not go marketing nor run her own errands. Whether a regular servant is hired or not there is always sure to be some child about to run errands. Largely because of the difficulty of keeping food in a warm climate the householder buys only enough food for the day or for one meal at a time, which necessitates a constant running of errands. The child servant also entertains and looks after the children of the family. Very seldom are these child servants given any education. When they grow up they are paid wages, or leave either to establish homes of their own or to obtain paid positions as servants.

Some of the boys instead of thus acting as servants pick up a living on the streets, but the girls are usually in families. According to a conservative estimate, the number of these homeless children was placed some years ago at 10,000. The existing homes and refuges can afford shelter to only a limited number, and the question of how to deal with this mass of juvenile poverty is puzzling.

In the face of all these difficulties governmental and private agencies seem to be carrying on a strenuous campaign to improve the situation.

The per capita expenditure on schools is lower than in the United States, owing to the general poverty of the island, but the proportion of the government revenues devoted to educational purposes is larger than in the United States. The main effort is devoted to the primary schools, with the idea of reaching the mass of the people before providing higher education for the comparatively few able to take advantage of it. Medical service has to be mainly gratuitous. "The working class does not and can not pay for medical services." Over 50 public hospitals, "some mere shacks," have been established within the past 20 years, the International Health Board is carrying on campaigns for the eradication of hookworm and malaria, and certain private agencies are joining in the effort to raise the general level of health.

The report contains an interesting account of the activities of the "children's year" carried on in connection with the survey, and stresses the cordial welcome given the workers wherever they were able to introduce health work or campaigns for the improvement of conditions affecting the children.

PRICES AND COST OF LIVING.

Retail Prices of Food in the United States.

THE following tables are based on figures which have been received by the Bureau of Labor Statistics from retail dealers through monthly reports of actual selling prices.[1]

Table 1 shows for the United States retail prices of food December 15, 1922, and November 15 and December 15, 1923, as well as the percentage changes in the year and in the month. For example, the price per pound of bacon was 40.3 cents in December, 1922, 38.5 cents in November, 1923, and 37.5 cents in December, 1923. These figures show a decrease of 7 per cent in the year and 3 per cent in the month.

The cost of the various articles of food [2] combined show an increase of 3 per cent December, 1923, as compared with December, 1922, and a decrease of 1 per cent December, 1923, as compared with November, 1923.

TABLE 1.—AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SPECIFIED FOOD ARTICLES AND PER CENT OF INCREASE OR DECREASE, DECEMBER 15, 1923, COMPARED WITH DECEMBER 15, 1922, AND NOVEMBER 15, 1923.

[Percentage changes of five-tenths of 1 per cent and over are given in whole numbers.]

Article.	Unit.	Average retail price on—			Per cent of increase (+) or decrease (−) Dec. 15, 1923, with—	
		Dec. 15, 1922.	Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1922.	Nov. 15, 1923.
		Cents.	*Cents.*	*Cents.*		
Sirloin steak	Pound	36.8	38.9	38.6	+5	−1
Round steak	do	31.5	33.1	32.9	+4	−1
Rib roast	do	27.3	28.3	28.3	+4	0
Chuck roast	do	19.4	20.4	20.4	+5	0
Plate beef	do	12.7	13.0	13.0	+2	0
Pork chops	do	29.5	28.9	26.5	−10	−8
Bacon	do	40.3	38.5	37.5	−7	−3
Ham	do	45.4	45.5	44.7	−2	−2
Lamb, leg of	do	35.6	35.8	35.5	−0.3	−1
Hens	do	33.6	33.7	33.4	−1	−1
Salmon, canned, red	do	31.4	31.4	31.3	−0.3	−0.3
Milk, fresh	Quart	13.7	14.3	14.3	+4	0
Milk, evaporated	15–16 oz. can	11.9	12.2	12.2	+3	0
Butter	Pound	60.2	58.9	60.3	+0.2	+2
Oleomargarine	do	28.7	30.1	30.4	+6	+1
Nut margarine	do	27.3	28.5	28.7	+5	+1
Cheese	do	36.6	37.7	37.7	+3	0
Lard	do	17.5	18.9	18.9	+8	0
Vegetable lard substitute	do	23.3	23.7	24.0	+3	+1
Eggs, strictly fresh	Dozen	66.5	66.3	64.9	−2	−2

[1] In addition to monthly retail prices of food and coal, the bureau secures prices of gas and electricity from each of 51 cities. These prices are published at quarterly intervals in the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW. Retail prices of dry goods were published quarterly until November, 1923.

[2] The following 22 articles, weighted according to the consumption of the average family, have been used from January, 1913, to December, 1920: Sirloin steak, round steak, rib roast, chuck roast, plate beef, pork chops, bacon, ham, lard, hens, flour, corn meal, eggs, butter, milk, bread, potatoes, sugar, cheese, rice, coffee, and tea. The remainder of the 43 articles shown in Tables 1 and 2 have been included in the weighted aggregates for each month beginning with January, 1921.

TABLE 1.—AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SPECIFIED FOOD ARTICLES AND PER CENT OF INCREASE OR DECREASE, DECEMBER 15, 1923, COMPARED WITH DECEMBER 15, 1922, AND NOVEMBER 15, 1923—Concluded.

Article.	Unit.	Average retail price on—			Per cent of increase (+) or decrease (−) Dec. 15, 1923, compared with—	
		Dec. 15, 1922.	Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1922.	Nov. 15, 1923.
		Cents.	*Cents.*	*Cents.*		
Eggs, storage	Dozen	.....	42.3	41.4	.....	−2
Bread	Pound	8.6	8.7	8.7	+1	0
Flour	do	4.9	4.6	4.5	−8	−2
Corn meal	do	4.0	4.4	4.4	+10	0
Rolled oats	do	8.7	8.8	8.8	+1	0
Corn flakes	8 oz. package	9.7	9.7	9.7	0	0
Wheat cereal	28 oz. package	25.5	24.3	24.3	−5	0
Macaroni	Pound	20.0	19.7	19.6	−2	−1
Rice	do	9.5	9.7	9.7	+2	0
Beans, navy	do	10.5	10.5	10.3	−2	−2
Potatoes	do	2.1	2.6	2.6	+24	0
Onions	do	4.6	6.3	6.0	+30	−5
Cabbage	do	3.6	3.9	4.1	+14	+5
Beans, baked	No. 2 can	13.1	12.9	12.9	−2	0
Corn, canned	do	15.2	15.6	15.6	+3	0
Peas, canned	do	17.4	17.7	17.7	+2	0
Tomatoes, canned	do	12.7	12.9	12.9	+2	0
Sugar, granulated	Pound	8.3	10.3	10.4	+25	+1
Tea	do	68.5	70.4	70.2	+2	−0.3
Coffee	do	36.7	37.8	37.8	+3	0
Prunes	do	20.1	18.0	17.8	−11	−1
Raisins	do	19.2	16.4	16.0	−17	−2
Bananas	Dozen	37.1	38.3	39.1	+5	+2
Oranges	do	48.5	49.0	41.5	−14	−15
All articles combined [1]		.....	.....	.....	+3	−1

[1] See note 2, p. 29.

Table 2 shows for the United States average retail prices of specified food articles on December 15, 1913 and 1914, and on December 15 of each year from 1918 to 1923, together with percentage changes in December of each of these specified years compared with December, 1913. For example, the price per pound of corn meal was 3.1 cents in December, 1913; 3.2 cents in December, 1914; 6.4 cents in December, 1918; 6.6 cents in December, 1919; 5.5 cents in December, 1920; 4.1 cents in December, 1921; 4.0 cents in December, 1922; and 4.4 cents in December, 1923.

As compared with the average price in December, 1913, these figures show the following percentage increases: 3 per cent in December, 1914; 106 per cent in December, 1918; 113 per cent in December, 1919; 77 per cent in December, 1920; 32 per cent in December, 1921; 29 per cent in December, 1922; and 42 per cent in December, 1923.

The cost of the various articles of food combined showed an increase of 45 per cent in December, 1923, as compared with December, 1913.

TABLE 2.—AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SPECIFIED FOOD ARTICLES AND PER CENT OF INCREASE OR DECREASE, DECEMBER 15 OF CERTAIN SPECIFIED YEARS COMPARED WITH DECEMBER 15, 1913.

[Percentage changes of five-tenths of 1 per cent and over are given in whole numbers.]

Article.	Unit.	Average retail price Dec. 15—								Per cent of increase (+) or decrease (−) Dec. 15 of each specified year compared with Dec. 15, 1913.						
		1913	1914	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1914	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923
		Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.							
Sirloin steak	Pound	25.1	25.6	40.4	39.1	39.7	35.3	36.8	38.6	+2	+61	+56	+58	+41	+47	+54
Round steak	...do...	22.6	23.0	38.2	35.9	35.7	30.8	31.5	32.9	+2	+69	+59	+58	+36	+39	+46
Rib roast	...do...	19.9	20.1	31.9	30.3	30.1	26.7	27.3	28.3	+1	+60	+52	+51	+34	+37	+42
Chuck roast	...do...	16.2	16.5	27.3	24.3	23.2	19.2	19.4	20.4	+2	+69	+50	+43	+19	+20	+26
Plate beef	...do...	12.4	12.5	21.1	17.3	16.5	12.8	12.7	13.0	+1	+70	+40	+33	+3	+2	+5
Pork chops	...do...	20.3	19.5	41.3	38.1	33.0	30.4	29.5	26.5	−4	+103	+88	+63	+50	+45	+31
Bacon	...do...	26.7	27.8	58.5	50.3	47.4	38.7	40.3	37.5	+4	+119	+88	+78	+45	+51	+40
Ham	...do...	26.5	26.8	53.3	49.9	49.9	44.4	45.4	44.7	+1	+101	+88	+88	+68	+71	+69
Lamb	...do...	18.5	19.0	34.4	33.6	35.2	32.3	35.6	35.5	+3	+86	+82	+90	+75	+92	+92
Hens	...do...	20.8	19.9	38.4	39.1	40.2	35.8	33.6	33.4	−4	+85	+88	+93	+72	+62	+61
Salmon, canned, red	...do...	.....	.....	[1] 31.4	[1] 36.4	[1] 38.4	33.9	31.4	31.3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Milk, fresh	Quart	9.1	9.0	15.7	16.7	16.8	14.1	13.7	14.3	−1	+73	+84	+85	+55	+51	+57
Milk, evaporated	[2]	.....	.....	.....	16.9	14.8	12.7	11.9	12.2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Butter	Pound	39.7	39.3	72.7	78.0	62.0	52.1	60.2	60.3	−1	+83	+96	+56	+31	+52	+52
Oleomargarine	...do...	.....	.....	.....	43.4	39.5	30.1	28.7	30.4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Nut margarine	...do...	.....	.....	.....	35.8	34.7	28.5	27.3	28.7	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cheese	...do...	22.5	23.0	42.7	43.3	39.0	33.0	36.6	37.7	+2	+90	+92	+73	+47	+63	+68
Lard	...do...	15.8	15.4	34.2	34.9	25.6	15.9	17.5	18.9	−3	+116	+121	+62	+1	+11	+20
Vegetable lard substitute	...do...	.....	.....	.....	37.7	29.5	21.6	23.3	24.0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Eggs, strictly fresh	Dozen	47.6	47.8	81.1	90.1	92.4	70.5	66.5	64.9	+.04	+70	+89	+94	+48	+40	+36
Eggs, storage	...do...	34.5	31.7	58.1	63.5	69.4	49.1	40.8	41.4	−8	+68	+84	+101	+42	+18	+20
Bread	Pound	5.6	6.5	9.8	10.2	10.8	9.1	8.6	8.7	+16	+75	+82	+93	+63	+54	+55
Flour	...do...	3.3	3.7	6.7	7.7	6.6	5.0	4.9	4.5	+12	+103	+133	+100	+52	+48	+36
Corn meal	...do...	3.1	3.2	6.4	6.6	5.5	4.1	4.0	4.4	+3	+106	+113	+77	+32	+29	+42
Rolled oats	...do...	.....	.....	.....	9.2	10.9	9.6	8.7	8.8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Corn flakes	[3]	.....	.....	.....	14.1	14.1	11.9	9.7	9.7	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wheat, cereal	[4]	.....	.....	.....	27.6	30.2	29.3	25.5	24.3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Macaroni	Pound	.....	.....	.....	19.8	21.6	20.2	20.0	19.6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Rice	...do...	8.7	8.8	13.9	17.7	13.2	9.3	9.5	9.7	+1	+60	+103	+52	+7	+9	+11
Beans, navy	...do...	.....	.....	15.4	12.2	9.4	8.2	10.5	10.3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Potatoes	...do...	1.8	1.4	3.2	4.3	3.2	3.1	2.1	2.6	−22	+78	+139	+78	+72	+17	+44
Onions	...do...	.....	.....	3.9	8.1	4.1	8.0	4.6	6.0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cabbage	...do...	.....	.....	.....	6.1	3.4	5.1	3.6	4.1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Beans, baked	[5]	.....	.....	.....	17.0	16.3	13.8	13.1	12.9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Corn, canned	[5]	.....	.....	.....	18.9	17.8	16.0	15.2	15.6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Peas, canned	[5]	.....	.....	.....	19.2	18.7	17.8	17.4	17.7	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tomatoes, canned	[5]	.....	.....	.....	16.1	13.0	13.0	12.7	12.9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sugar, granulated	Pound	5.4	6.1	10.8	14.5	10.5	6.5	8.3	10.4	+13	+100	+169	+94	+20	+54	+93
Tea	...do...	54.5	54.7	67.4	69.3	72.1	67.7	68.5	70.2	−0.4	+24	+27	+32	+24	+26	+29
Coffee	...do...	29.7	29.6	32.4	48.9	39.7	35.6	36.7	37.8	−0.3	+9	+65	+34	+20	+24	+27
Prunes	...do...	.....	.....	19.2	29.3	25.6	18.7	20.1	17.8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Raisins	...do...	.....	.....	16.1	23.9	32.4	25.5	19.2	16.0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Bananas	Dozen	.....	.....	.....	40.4	41.8	37.3	37.1	39.1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Oranges	...do...	.....	.....	.....	52.0	49.5	50.3	48.5	41.5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
All articles combined. [6]	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	+1	+79	+89	+71	+44	+41	+45

[1] Both pink and red.
[2] 15-16 ounce can.
[3] 8-ounce package.
[4] 28-ounce package.
[5] No. 2 can.
[6] See note 2, page 29.

Table 3 shows for the United States average retail prices of the principal articles of food for the years 1913 and 1923, and for each month of 1923.

Prices of beef, dairy products, and all groceries increased from January to December, 1923, while prices of pork, lamb, and hens showed a slight decrease.

TABLE 3.—AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF THE PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF FOOD IN THE UNITED STATES, BY YEARS, 1913 AND 1923, AND BY MONTHS FOR 1923.

Article.	Unit.	Av. for year 1913.	1923												Av. for year 1923.
			Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	
		Cts.	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*
Sirloin steak	Pound	25.4	37.2	37.1	37.3	37.9	38.7	40.1	41.0	41.1	41.1	40.1	38.9	38.6	39.1
Round steak	...do	22.3	31.6	31.5	31.7	32.3	33.0	34.5	35.5	35.5	35.5	34.4	33.1	32.9	33.5
Rib roast	...do	19.8	27.5	27.5	27.6	27.8	28.2	28.8	29.3	29.2	29.4	28.9	28.3	28.3	28.4
Chuck roast	...do	16.0	19.6	19.5	19.5	19.7	19.9	20.4	20.8	20.8	21.0	20.8	20.4	20.4	20.2
Plate beef	...do	12.1	12.9	12.8	12.8	12.7	12.7	12.6	12.8	12.7	13.1	13.1	13.0	13.0	12.9
Pork chops	...do	21.0	29.3	28.7	28.3	28.4	30.0	29.9	31.2	32.1	36.7	34.2	28.9	26.5	30.4
Bacon, sliced	...do	27.0	39.8	39.4	39.2	39.1	39.1	39.0	39.1	39.2	39.4	39.3	38.5	37.5	39.1
Ham, sliced	...do	26.9	45.1	45.0	45.0	45.1	45.3	45.4	46.0	46.3	46.6	46.4	45.5	44.7	45.5
Lamb, leg of	...do	18.9	36.3	36.0	36.0	36.2	36.7	38.1	38.5	37.2	37.5	36.5	35.8	35.5	36.7
Hens	...do	21.3	34.5	35.5	35.8	36.1	36.2	35.4	34.8	34.5	35.0	34.8	33.7	33.4	35.0
Salmon, canned, red.	...do	.....	31.3	31.3	31.2	31.2	31.2	31.1	31.1	31.2	31.3	31.4	31.4	31.3	31.3
Milk, fresh	Quart	8.9	13.7	13.7	13.6	13.6	13.5	13.5	13.6	13.7	14.0	14.1	14.3	14.3	13.8
Milk, evaporated	(1)	.....	12.1	12.1	12.2	12.2	12.2	12.2	12.2	12.2	12.2	12.2	12.2	12.2	12.2
Butter	Pound	38.3	59.1	57.7	57.6	57.3	52.1	50.0	49.1	51.8	55.0	56.2	58.9	60.3	55.4
Oleomargarine	...do	.....	28.9	29.0	29.0	29.1	29.1	29.1	29.1	29.2	29.3	29.7	30.1	30.4	29.3
Nut margarine	...do	.....	26.7	26.7	27.4	27.5	27.6	27.5	27.4	27.6	27.7	27.7	28.5	28.7	27.6
Cheese	...do	22.1	37.3	37.5	37.1	36.3	35.5	36.1	36.2	36.3	37.0	38.5	37.7	37.7	36.9
Lard	...do	15.8	17.4	17.4	17.4	17.5	17.3	17.2	17.1	17.1	17.9	18.6	18.9	18.9	17.7
Vegetable lard substitute.	...do	.....	22.3	22.4	22.4	22.6	22.6	22.7	22.8	22.8	23.0	23.5	23.7	24.0	22.9
Eggs, strictly fresh	Dozen	34.5	55.7	46.2	38.5	34.4	35.1	35.4	37.1	41.5	48.6	54.6	66.3	64.9	46.5
Eggs, storage	...do	.....	40.0	42.4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	41.7	42.3	41.4	.....
Bread	Pound	5.6	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.8	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.7
Flour	...do	3.3	4.9	4.9	4.8	4.9	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.6	4.5	4.7
Corn meal	...do	3.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.1
Rolled oats	...do	.....	8.8	8.7	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8
Corn flakes	(2)	.....	9.7	9.7	9.7	9.7	9.7	9.7	9.7	9.7	9.7	9.7	9.7	9.7	9.7
Wheat cereal	(3)	.....	25.0	24.8	24.7	24.6	24.5	24.4	24.4	24.4	24.4	24.4	24.3	24.3	24.5
Macaroni	Pound	.....	19.8	19.8	19.8	19.8	19.7	19.7	19.8	19.8	19.7	19.7	19.7	19.6	19.7
Rice	...do	8.7	9.5	9.4	9.4	9.4	9.4	9.4	9.4	9.4	9.5	9.6	9.7	9.7	9.5
Beans, navy	...do	.....	10.9	11.3	11.4	11.4	11.4	11.4	11.3	11.0	10.9	10.6	10.5	10.3	11.0
Potatoes	...do	1.7	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.5	2.7	3.2	4.2	3.7	3.4	2.9	2.6	2.6	2.9
Onions	...do	.....	5.1	5.3	5.4	6.5	7.8	8.1	7.4	6.5	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.0	6.4
Cabbage	...do	.....	4.0	4.7	6.6	8.4	8.0	6.2	5.4	4.8	4.6	4.2	3.9	4.1	5.4
Beans, baked	(4)	.....	13.1	13.1	13.0	13.0	13.0	13.0	12.9	12.9	12.9	12.9	12.9	12.9	13.0
Corn, canned	...do	.....	15.3	15.4	15.4	15.4	15.4	15.4	15.4	15.4	15.5	15.5	15.6	15.6	15.4
Peas, canned	...do	.....	17.5	17.4	17.4	17.5	17.5	17.5	17.6	17.6	17.6	17.6	17.7	17.7	17.6
Tomatoes, canned	...do	.....	12.7	12.8	12.9	12.9	13.0	13.0	13.0	13.0	12.9	12.9	12.9	12.9	12.9
Sugar, granulated	Pound	5.5	8.3	8.7	10.2	10.6	11.2	11.1	10.5	9.6	9.6	10.6	10.3	10.4	10.1
Tea	...do	54.4	68.7	68.9	68.9	69.2	69.3	69.5	69.4	69.7	69.7	70.0	70.4	70.2	69.5
Coffee	...do	29.8	37.0	37.5	37.9	38.0	38.0	37.8	37.7	37.6	37.6	37.8	37.8	37.8	37.7
Prunes	...do	.....	20.0	19.9	19.8	19.7	19.5	19.3	19.2	19.0	18.8	18.3	18.0	17.8	19.1
Raisins	...do	.....	18.9	18.7	18.4	18.0	17.8	17.6	17.5	17.4	17.1	16.8	16.4	16.0	17.6
Bananas	Dozen	.....	37.1	36.9	36.7	36.6	37.0	38.1	38.8	38.4	37.8	38.3	38.3	39.1	37.8
Oranges	...do	.....	46.8	47.1	47.9	50.2	55.3	53.9	53.1	50.9	51.0	51.1	49.0	41.5	49.8

[1] 15–16 ounce can. [2] 8-ounce package. [3] 28-ounce package. [4] No. 2 can.

Table 4 shows the trend for the United States in the retail prices of the principal articles of food, by relative figures. These figures have been computed by dividing the average price for each month of 1923 and the average for the year 1923 by the average price for each article for the year 1913. Should the percentage increase since 1913 be desired, it is only necessary to subtract 100 from these relative figures.

TABLE 4.—RELATIVE RETAIL PRICES OF THE PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF FOOD FOR THE UNITED STATES BY YEARS, 1913 AND 1923, AND BY MONTHS FOR 1923.

Article.	Unit.	Av. for 1913.	1923												Av. for year 1923.
			Jan. 15.	Feb. 15.	Mar. 15.	Apr. 15.	May 15.	June 15.	July 15.	Aug. 15.	Sept. 15.	Oct. 15.	Nov. 15.	Dec. 15.	
Sirloin steak	Pound	100	146	146	147	149	152	158	161	162	162	158	153	152	154
Round steak	...do	100	142	141	142	145	148	155	159	159	159	154	148	148	150
Rib roast	...do	100	139	139	139	140	142	145	148	147	148	146	143	143	143
Chuck roast	...do	100	123	122	122	123	124	128	130	130	131	130	128	128	126
Plate beef	...do	100	107	106	106	106	105	104	106	105	108	108	107	107	107
Pork chops	...do	100	140	137	135	135	143	142	149	153	175	163	138	126	145
Bacon, sliced	...do	100	147	146	145	145	145	144	145	145	146	146	143	139	145
Ham, sliced	...do	100	168	167	167	168	168	169	171	172	173	172	169	166	169
Lamb	...do	100	192	190	190	192	194	202	204	197	198	193	189	188	194
Hens	...do	100	162	167	168	169	170	166	163	162	164	163	158	157	165
Milk, fresh	Quart	100	154	154	153	153	152	152	153	154	157	158	161	161	154
Butter	Pound	100	154	151	150	150	136	131	128	135	144	147	154	157	145
Cheese	...do	100	169	170	168	164	161	163	164	164	167	174	171	171	167
Lard	...do	100	110	110	110	111	109	109	108	108	113	118	120	120	112
Eggs, strictly fresh.	Dozen	100	161	134	112	100	102	103	108	120	141	158	192	188	135
Bread	Pound	100	155	155	155	155	155	155	157	155	155	155	155	155	155
Flour	...do	100	148	148	145	148	145	145	142	136	136	139	139	136	142
Corn meal	...do	100	133	133	133	133	133	133	137	137	140	143	147	147	137
Rice	...do	100	109	108	108	108	108	108	108	108	109	110	111	111	109
Potatoes	...do	100	124	124	129	147	159	188	247	218	200	171	153	153	171
Sugar, granulated	...do	100	151	158	185	193	204	202	191	175	175	193	187	189	184
Tea	...do	100	126	127	127	127	127	128	128	128	128	129	129	129	128
Coffee	...do	100	124	126	127	128	128	127	127	126	126	127	127	127	127
All articles combined.[1]	.....	100	144	142	142	143	143	144	147	146	149	150	151	150	146

[1] See note 2, p. 29.

Table 5 shows the changes in the retail prices of each of 22 articles of food [3] as well as the changes in the amounts of the articles that could be purchased for $1, each year, 1913 to 1923, and for each month of 1923.

TABLE 5.—AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SPECIFIED ARTICLES OF FOOD AND AMOUNT PURCHASABLE FOR $1, IN EACH YEAR, 1913 TO 1922, AND BY MONTHS FOR 1923.

Year.	Sirloin steak.		Round steak.		Rib roast.		Chuck roast.		Plate beef.		Pork chops.	
	Average retail price.	Amt. for $1.	Average retail price.	Amt. for $1.	Average retail price.	Amt. for $1.	Average retail price.	Amt. for $1.	Average retail price.	Amt. for $1.	Average retail price.	Amt. for $1.
	Per lb.	*Lbs.*	*Per lb.*	*Lbs.*	*Per lb.*	*Lbs.*	*Per lb.*	*Lbs.*	*Per lb.*	*Lbs.*	*Per lb.*	*Lbs.*
1913	$0.254	3.9	$0.223	4.5	$0.198	5.1	$0.160	6.3	$0.121	8.3	$0.210	4.8
1914	.259	3.9	.236	4.2	.204	4.9	.167	6.0	.126	7.9	.220	4.5
1915	.257	3.9	.230	4.3	.201	5.0	.161	6.2	.121	8.3	.203	4.9
1916	.273	3.7	.245	4.1	.212	4.7	.171	5.8	.128	7.8	.227	4.4
1917	.315	3.2	.290	3.4	.249	4.0	.209	4.8	.157	6.4	.319	3.1
1918	.389	2.6	.369	2.7	.307	3.3	.266	3.8	.206	4.9	.390	2.6
1919	.417	2.4	.389	2.6	.325	3.1	.270	3.7	.202	5.0	.423	2.4
1920	.437	2.3	.395	2.5	.332	3.0	.262	3.8	.183	5.5	.423	2.4
1921	.388	2.6	.344	2.9	.291	3.4	.212	4.7	.143	7.0	.349	2.9
1922	.374	2.7	.323	3.1	.276	3.6	.197	5.1	.128	7.8	.330	3.0
1923	.391	2.6	.335	3.0	.284	3.5	.202	5.0	.129	7.8	.304	3.3
January	.372	2.7	.316	3.2	.275	3.6	.196	5.1	.129	7.8	.293	3.4
February	.371	2.7	.315	3.2	.275	3.6	.195	5.1	.128	7.8	.287	3.5
March	.373	2.7	.317	3.2	.276	3.6	.195	5.1	.128	7.8	.283	3.5
April	.379	2.6	.323	3.1	.278	3.6	.197	5.1	.127	7.9	.284	3.5
May	.387	2.6	.330	3.0	.282	3.5	.199	5.0	.127	7.9	.300	3.3
June	.401	2.5	.345	2.9	.288	3.5	.204	4.9	.126	7.9	.299	3.3
July	.410	2.4	.355	2.8	.293	3.4	.208	4.8	.128	7.8	.312	3.2
August	.411	2.4	.355	2.8	.292	3.4	.208	4.8	.127	7.9	.321	3.1
September	.411	2.4	.355	2.8	.294	3.4	.210	4.8	.131	7.6	.367	2.7
October	.401	2.5	.344	2.9	.289	3.5	.208	4.8	.131	7.6	.342	2.9
November	.389	2.6	.331	3.0	.283	3.5	.204	4.9	.130	7.7	.289	3.5
December	.386	2.6	.329	3.0	.283	3.5	.204	4.9	.130	7.7	.265	3.8

Year.	Bacon.		Ham.		Lard.		Hens.		Eggs.		Butter.	
	Per lb.	*Lbs.*	*Per lb.*	*Lbs.*	*Per lb.*	*Lbs.*	*Per lb.*	*Lbs.*	*Per dz.*	*Lbs.*	*Per lb.*	*Lbs.*
1913	$0.270	3.7	$0.269	3.7	$0.158	6.3	$0.213	4.7	$0.345	2.9	$0.383	2.6
1914	.275	3.6	.273	3.7	.156	6.4	.218	4.6	.353	2.8	.362	2.8
1915	.269	3.7	.261	3.8	.148	6.8	.208	4.8	.341	2.9	.358	2.8
1916	.287	3.5	.294	3.4	.175	5.7	.236	4.2	.375	2.7	.394	2.5
1917	.410	2.4	.382	2.6	.276	3.6	.286	3.5	.481	2.1	.487	2.1
1918	.529	1.9	.479	2.1	.333	3.0	.377	2.7	.569	1.8	.577	1.7
1919	.554	1.8	.534	1.9	.369	2.7	.411	2.4	.628	1.6	.678	1.5
1920	.523	1.9	.555	1.8	.295	3.4	.447	2.2	.681	1.5	.701	1.4
1921	.427	2.3	.488	2.0	.180	5.6	.397	2.5	.509	2.0	.517	1.9
1922	.398	2.5	.488	2.0	.170	5.9	.360	2.8	.444	2.3	.479	2.1
1923	.391	2.6	.455	2.2	.177	5.6	.350	2.9	.465	2.2	.554	1.8
January	.398	2.5	.451	2.2	.174	5.7	.345	2.9	.557	1.8	.591	1.7
February	.394	2.5	.450	2.2	.174	5.7	.355	2.8	.462	2.2	.577	1.7
March	.392	2.6	.450	2.2	.174	5.7	.358	2.8	.385	2.6	.576	1.7
April	.391	2.6	.451	2.2	.175	5.7	.361	2.8	.344	2.9	.573	1.7
May	.391	2.6	.453	2.2	.173	5.8	.362	2.8	.351	2.8	.521	1.9
June	.390	2.6	.454	2.2	.172	5.8	.354	2.8	.354	2.8	.500	2.0
July	.390	2.6	.460	2.2	.171	5.8	.348	2.9	.371	2.7	.491	2.0
August	.392	2.6	.463	2.2	.171	5.8	.345	2.9	.415	2.4	.518	1.9
September	.394	2.5	.466	2.1	.179	5.6	.350	2.9	.486	2.1	.550	1.8
October	.393	2.5	.464	2.2	.186	5.4	.348	2.9	.546	1.8	.562	1.8
November	.385	2.6	.455	2.2	.189	5.3	.337	3.0	.663	1.5	.589	1.7
December	.375	2.7	.447	2.2	.189	5.3	.334	3.0	.649	1.5	.603	1.7

[3] Although monthly prices have been secured on 43 food articles since January, 1919, prices on only 22 of these articles have been secured each month since 1913.

TABLE 5.—AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SPECIFIED ARTICLES OF FOOD AND AMOUNT PURCHASABLE FOR $1, IN EACH YEAR, 1913 TO 1922, AND BY MONTHS FOR 1923—Concld.

Year.	Cheese.		Milk.		Bread.		Flour.		Corn meal.		Rice.	
	Average retail price.	Amt. for $1.	Average retail price.	Amt. for $1.	Average retail price.	Amt. for $1.	Average retail price.	Amt. for $1.	Average retail price.	Amt. for $1.	Average retail price.	Amt. for $1.
	Per lb.	*Lbs.*	*Per qt.*	*Qts.*	*Per lb.*	*Lbs.*	*Per lb.*	*Lbs.*	*Per lb.*	*Lbs.*	*Per lb.*	*Lbs.*
1913	$0.221	4.5	$0.089	11.2	$0.056	17.9	$0.033	30.3	$0.030	33.3	$0.087	11.5
1914	.229	4.4	.089	11.2	.063	15.9	.034	29.4	.032	31.3	.088	11.4
1915	.233	4.3	.088	11.4	.070	14.3	.042	23.8	.033	30.3	.091	11.0
1916	.258	3.9	.091	11.0	.073	13.7	.044	22.7	.034	29.4	.091	11.0
1917	.332	3.0	.112	9.0	.092	10.9	.070	14.3	.058	17.2	.104	9.6
1918	.359	2.8	.139	7.2	.098	10.2	.067	14.9	.068	14.7	.129	7.8
1919	.426	2.3	.155	6.5	.100	10.0	.072	13.9	.064	15.6	.151	6.6
1920	.416	2.4	.167	6.0	.115	8.7	.081	12.3	.065	15.4	.174	5.7
1921	.340	2.9	.146	6.8	.099	10.1	.058	17.2	.045	22.2	.095	10.5
1922	.329	3.0	.131	7.6	.087	11.5	.051	19.6	.039	25.6	.095	10.5
1923	.369	2.7	.138	7.2	.087	11.5	.047	21.3	.041	24.4	.095	10.5
January	.373	2.7	.137	7.3	.087	11.5	.049	20.4	.040	25.0	.095	10.5
February	.375	2.7	.137	7.3	.087	11.5	.049	20.4	.040	25.0	.094	10.6
March	.371	2.7	.136	7.4	.087	11.5	.048	20.8	.040	25.0	.094	10.6
April	.363	2.8	.136	7.4	.087	11.5	.049	20.4	.040	25.0	.094	10.6
May	.355	2.8	.135	7.4	.087	11.5	.048	20.8	.040	25.0	.094	10.6
June	.361	2.8	.135	7.4	.087	11.5	.048	20.8	.040	25.0	.094	10.6
July	.361	2.8	.136	7.4	.088	11.4	.047	21.3	.041	24.4	.094	10.6
August	.363	2.8	.137	7.3	.087	11.5	.045	22.2	.041	24.4	.094	10.6
September	.370	2.7	.140	7.1	.087	11.5	.045	22.2	.042	23.8	.095	10.5
October	.385	2.6	.141	7.1	.087	11.5	.046	21.7	.043	23.3	.096	10.4
November	.377	2.7	.143	7.0	.087	11.5	.046	21.7	.044	22.7	.097	10.3
December	.377	2.7	.143	7.0	.087	11.5	.045	22.2	.044	22.7	.097	10.3

Year.	Potatoes.		Sugar.		Coffee.		Tea.	
	Per lb.	*Lbs.*	*Per lb.*	*Lbs.*	*Per lb.*	*Lbs.*	*Per lb.*	*Lbs.*
1913	$0.017	58.8	$0.055	18.2	$0.298	3.4	$0.544	1.8
1914	.018	55.6	.059	16.9	.297	3.4	.546	1.8
1915	.015	66.7	.066	15.2	.300	3.3	.545	1.8
1916	.027	37.0	.080	12.5	.299	3.3	.546	1.8
1917	.043	23.3	.093	10.8	.302	3.3	.582	1.7
1918	.032	31.3	.097	10.3	.305	3.3	.648	1.5
1919	.038	26.3	.113	8.8	.433	2.3	.701	1.4
1920	.063	15.9	.194	5.2	.470	2.1	.733	1.4
1921	.031	32.3	.080	12.5	.363	2.8	.697	1.4
1922	.028	35.7	.073	13.7	.361	2.8	.681	1.5
1923	.029	34.5	.101	9.9	.377	2.7	.695	1.4
January	.021	47.6	.083	12.0	.370	2.7	.687	1.5
February	.021	47.6	.087	11.5	.375	2.7	.689	1.5
March	.022	45.5	.102	9.8	.379	2.6	.689	1.5
April	.025	40.0	.106	9.4	.380	2.6	.691	1.4
May	.027	37.0	.112	8.9	.380	2.6	.693	1.4
June	.032	31.3	.111	9.0	.378	2.6	.694	1.4
July	.042	23.8	.105	9.5	.377	2.7	.693	1.4
August	.037	27.0	.096	10.4	.376	2.7	.697	1.4
September	.034	29.4	.096	10.4	.376	2.7	.697	1.4
October	.029	34.5	.106	9.4	.378	2.6	.700	1.4
November	.026	38.5	.103	9.7	.378	2.6	.704	1.4
December	.026	38.5	.104	9.6	.378	2.6	.702	1.4

Index Numbers of Retail Prices of Food in the United States.

IN TABLE 6 index numbers are given which show the changes in the retail prices of each of 22 food articles,[4] by years from 1907 to 1922, and by months for 1922 and 1923.[5] These index numbers, or relative prices, are based on the year 1913 as 100, and are computed by dividing the average price of each commodity for each month and each year by the average price of that commodity for 1913.

[4] See note 2, 29.

[5] For index numbers of each month, January, 1913, to December, 1920, see MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW for February, 1921, pp. 19–21.

These figures must be used with caution. For example, the relative price of rib roast for the year 1920 was 168, which means that the average money price for the year 1920 was 68 per cent higher than the average money price for the year 1913. The relative price of bacon for the year 1919 was 205 and for the year 1920, 194, which figures show a drop of 11 points but a decrease of only 5 per cent in the year.

In the last column of Table 6 are given index numbers, showing the changes in the retail cost of all articles of food combined. From January, 1913, to December, 1920, 22 articles have been included in the index, and beginning with January, 1921, 43 articles have been used.[4] For an explanation of the method used in making the link between the cost of the market basket of 22 articles, weighted according to the average family consumption in 1901, and the cost of the market basket based on 43 articles and weighted according to the consumption in 1918, see MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW for March, 1921 (p. 25).

The curve shown in the chart on page 38 pictures more readily to the eye the changes in the cost of the family market basket and the trend in the cost of the food budget than do the index numbers given in the table. The retail cost of the food articles included in the index has decreased since July, 1920, until the curve is brought down in December, 1923, to approximately where it was in August, 1917. The chart has been drawn on the logarithmic scale,[6] because the percentages of increase or decrease are more accurately shown than on the arithmetic scale.

---

[4] See note 2, p. 29.

[6] For a discussion of the logarithmic chart see article on "Comparison of arithmetic and ratio charts," by Lucian W. Chaney, MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW for March, 1919, pp. 20-34. Also "The 'ratio' charts," by Prof. Irving Fisher, reprinted from Quarterly Publications of the American Statistical Association, June, 1917, 24 pp.

TABLE 6.—INDEX NUMBERS SHOWING CHANGES IN THE RETAIL PRICES OF THE PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF FOOD IN THE UNITED STATES, BY YEARS, 1907 TO 1923, BY MONTHS FOR 1922 AND 1923.

[Average for year 1913=100.]

Year and month.	Sirloin steak.	Round steak.	Rib roast.	Chuck roast.	Plate beef.	Pork chops.	Bacon.	Ham.	Lard.	Hens.	Eggs.	Butter.	Cheese.	Milk.	Bread.	Flour.	Corn meal.	Rice.	Potatoes.	Sugar.	Coffee.	Tea.	All articles combined.
1907	71	68	76	.....	.....	74	74	76	81	81	84	85	.....	87	.....	95	88	.....	105	105	.....	.....	82
1908	73	71	78	.....	.....	76	77	78	80	83	86	86	.....	90	.....	102	92	.....	111	108	.....	.....	84
1909	77	74	81	.....	.....	83	83	82	90	89	93	90	.....	91	.....	109	94	.....	112	107	.....	.....	89
1910	80	78	85	.....	.....	92	95	91	104	94	98	94	.....	95	.....	108	95	.....	101	109	.....	.....	93
1911	81	79	85	.....	.....	85	91	89	88	91	94	88	.....	96	.....	102	94	.....	130	117	.....	.....	92
1912	91	89	94	.....	.....	91	91	91	94	93	99	98	.....	97	.....	105	102	.....	135	115	.....	.....	98
1913	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**
1914	102	106	103	104	104	105	102	102	99	102	102	94	104	100	113	104	105	101	108	108	100	100	102
1915	101	103	101	101	100	96	100	97	93	97	99	93	105	99	125	126	108	104	89	120	101	100	101
1916	108	110	107	107	106	108	106	109	111	111	109	103	117	102	130	135	113	105	159	146	100	100	114
1917	124	130	126	131	130	152	152	142	175	134	139	127	150	125	164	211	192	119	253	189	101	107	146
1918	153	165	155	166	170	186	196	178	211	177	165	151	162	156	175	203	227	148	188	176	102	119	168
1919	164	174	164	169	167	201	205	199	234	193	182	177	193	174	179	218	213	174	224	205	145	129	186
1920	172	177	168	164	151	201	194	206	187	210	197	183	188	188	205	245	217	200	371	353	158	135	203
1921	153	154	147	133	118	166	158	181	114	186	148	135	154	164	177	176	150	109	182	145	122	128	153
1922: Av. for year	147	145	139	123	106	157	147	181	108	169	129	125	149	147	155	155	130	109	165	133	121	125	142
January	139	136	135	119	106	138	139	164	97	173	145	118	149	153	157	148	130	107	194	113	120	126	142
February	139	135	134	118	106	140	140	173	101	173	140	120	149	148	154	155	130	107	194	116	119	125	142
March	141	138	136	121	107	149	144	185	109	177	92	120	149	146	155	161	130	107	182	118	119	124	139
April	143	141	138	122	107	157	147	188	107	177	92	118	145	143	155	161	130	108	171	122	120	124	139
May	148	146	141	124	107	164	147	191	108	177	97	117	139	140	157	161	127	109	176	120	120	125	139
June	151	150	142	126	107	161	150	193	109	173	99	117	141	140	157	161	130	110	206	129	121	125	141
July	154	153	144	127	106	164	150	194	109	168	104	119	143	144	157	158	130	110	212	138	121	125	142
August	154	153	142	125	104	167	150	189	109	164	108	115	144	146	155	155	130	110	153	147	121	126	139
September	152	151	142	125	104	173	150	180	109	164	130	122	145	147	155	148	130	110	135	144	121	125	140
October	151	148	141	124	106	174	151	177	111	163	157	133	154	149	155	145	130	110	129	144	122	125	143
November	147	144	139	123	105	157	151	172	111	159	187	143	161	151	155	145	130	109	124	147	122	126	145
December	145	141	138	121	105	140	149	169	111	158	193	157	166	154	154	148	133	109	124	151	123	126	147
1923: Av. for year	154	150	143	127	106	145	145	169	112	164	135	145	167	155	155	142	137	109	168	184	127	128	146
January	146	142	139	123	107	140	147	168	110	162	161	154	169	154	155	148	133	109	124	151	124	126	144
February	146	141	139	122	106	137	146	167	110	167	134	151	170	154	155	148	133	108	124	158	126	127	142
March	147	142	139	122	106	135	145	167	110	168	112	150	168	153	155	145	133	108	129	185	127	127	142
April	149	145	140	123	105	135	145	168	111	169	100	150	164	153	155	148	133	108	147	193	128	127	143
May	152	148	142	124	105	143	145	168	109	170	102	136	161	152	155	145	133	108	159	204	128	127	143
June	158	155	145	128	104	142	144	169	109	166	103	131	163	152	155	145	133	108	188	202	127	128	144
July	161	159	148	130	106	149	145	171	108	163	108	128	163	153	157	142	137	108	247	191	127	128	147
August	162	159	147	130	105	153	145	172	108	162	120	135	164	154	155	136	137	108	218	175	126	128	146
September	162	159	148	131	108	175	146	173	113	164	141	144	167	157	155	136	140	109	200	175	126	128	149
October	158	154	146	130	108	163	146	172	118	163	158	147	174	158	155	139	143	110	171	193	127	129	150
November	153	148	143	128	107	138	143	169	120	158	192	154	171	161	155	139	147	111	153	187	127	129	151
December	152	148	143	128	107	126	139	166	120	157	188	157	171	161	155	136	147	111	153	189	127	129	150

[1923]

TREND IN RETAIL COST OF ALL ARTICLES OF FOOD, COMBINED, FOR THE UNITED STATES, BY MONTHS, JANUARY, 1914, TO DECEMBER, 1923.

[1913=100.]

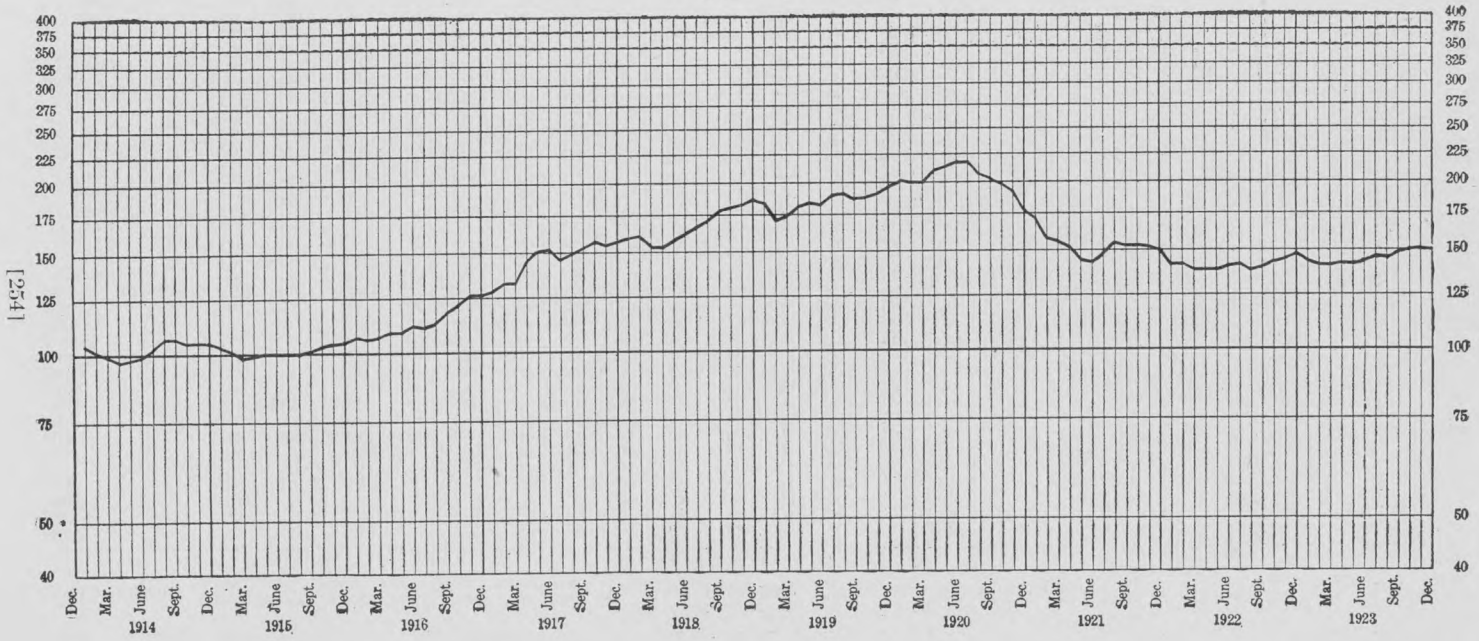


Table 7 shows by index numbers the trend in the retail cost of food in the United States from 1890 to 1923. The percentage increase in the cost from 1922 to 1923 was 3 per cent, while the percentage increase from 1890 to 1923 was 110 per cent. This percentage means that the cost of food in 1923 was more than twice as much as it was in 1890.

TABLE 7.—INDEX NUMBERS SHOWING THE TREND IN THE RETAIL COST OF FOOD IN THE UNITED STATES, BY YEARS, 1890 TO 1923.[1]

[Average for year 1913=100.]

Year.	Relative price.	Year.	Relative price.	Year.	Relative price.	Year.	Relative price.
1890	70	1899	68	1908	84	1916	114
1891	71	1900	69	1909	89	1917	146
1892	69	1901	72	1910	93	1918	168
1893	71	1902	75	1911	92	1919	186
1894	68	1903	75	1912	98	1920	203
1895	67	1904	76	1913	100	1921	153
1896	65	1905	76	1914	102	1922	142
1897	65	1906	79	1915	101	1923	146
1898	67	1907	82				

[1] The number of articles included in the index number for each year has not been the same throughout the period, but a sufficient number have been used fairly to represent food as a whole. From 1890 to 1907 30 articles were used; from 1907 to 1913, 15 articles; from 1913 to 1920, 22 articles; and from 1921, 43 articles. The relatives for the period have been so computed as to be comparable with each other.

Retail Prices of Food in 51 Cities on Specified Dates.

AVERAGE retail food prices are shown in Table 8 for 40 cities for December 15, 1913 and 1922, and for November and December 15, 1923. For 11 other cities prices are shown for the same dates, with the exception of December, 1913, as these cities were not scheduled by the bureau until after 1913.

TABLE 8.—AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF THE PRINCIPAL

[The prices shown in this table are computed from reports sent monthly to the bureau by retail dealers

Article.	Unit.	Atlanta, Ga.				Baltimore, Md.				Birmingham, Ala.			
		Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.
		1913	1922			1913	1922			1913	1922		
		Cts.	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*
Sirloin steak	Pound	23.7	32.8	35.0	34.4	22.3	35.0	37.0	36.8	28.0	33.0	36.8	36.4
Round steak	do	21.3	29.8	31.4	30.6	20.8	32.0	34.2	33.8	23.0	29.5	32.7	32.7
Rib roast	do	19.7	25.4	27.3	27.0	17.5	28.7	29.4	29.4	20.5	25.1	27.0	26.8
Chuck roast	do	15.8	18.1	20.4	19.9	15.3	19.2	20.0	19.8	16.1	19.7	21.9	20.9
Plate beef	do	9.9	11.7	11.7	11.9	12.6	13.1	13.3	13.6	10.0	11.7	13.4	13.2
Pork chops	do	23.3	27.6	28.3	24.9	17.0	28.2	26.5	24.5	20.6	29.7	31.0	27.2
Bacon, sliced	do	31.4	37.1	35.4	34.3	20.5	35.4	34.1	33.3	33.0	41.4	40.0	37.8
Ham, sliced	do	30.0	46.7	44.7	44.1	27.5	50.6	50.7	49.7	32.0	45.5	46.2	45.6
Lamb, leg of	do	20.2	35.8	35.6	34.5	17.5	36.5	36.9	37.3	21.9	35.6	39.5	38.6
Hens	do	20.3	30.3	31.7	32.0	20.7	35.9	35.4	35.2	19.3	30.6	30.6	31.3
Salmon, canned, red	do	.....	27.9	29.6	29.6	.....	26.6	26.5	26.5	.....	30.5	30.2	30.0
Milk, fresh	Quart	10.8	16.7	17.7	20.0	8.7	13.0	13.0	13.0	10.0	19.0	18.5	19.0
Milk, evaporated	15–16 oz. can	.....	14.0	14.0	14.1	.....	11.7	12.0	12.0	.....	13.1	13.3	13.4
Butter	Pound	40.4	58.3	58.6	58.6	40.2	64.6	63.7	65.6	44.0	58.6	59.8	61.6
Oleomargarine	do	.....	31.7	33.4	32.8	.....	26.3	27.4	28.0	.....	33.9	34.6	34.4
Nut margarine	do	.....	26.4	26.8	26.5	.....	27.5	27.4	27.5	.....	30.6	32.4	32.9
Cheese	do	25.0	36.8	36.8	36.4	23.3	36.1	37.3	37.4	23.0	37.2	37.4	37.7
Lard	do	15.5	18.0	18.9	18.9	14.8	17.0	18.9	18.8	15.7	17.8	18.7	19.0
Vegetable lard substitute	do	.....	21.8	22.7	22.9	.....	22.1	23.5	23.8	.....	22.0	20.3	20.5
Eggs, strictly fresh	Dozen	43.3	59.5	55.7	59.1	40.4	66.4	66.1	66.9	41.8	62.0	60.0	66.9
Eggs, storage	do	28.5	41.6	40.6	40.6	33.1	37.6	39.7	40.4	35.0	43.5	43.4	42.9
Bread	Pound	5.6	9.6	9.1	9.1	5.5	8.4	8.8	8.8	5.4	9.0	8.8	8.8
Flour	do	3.4	5.3	5.2	5.2	3.1	4.6	4.3	4.3	3.6	5.7	5.5	5.5
Corn meal	do	2.6	3.2	3.9	3.8	2.5	3.1	3.7	3.7	2.5	3.0	3.6	3.6
Rolled oats	do	.....	9.5	9.2	8.8	.....	8.5	8.5	8.5	.....	9.6	9.3	9.3
Corn flakes	8-oz. pkg	.....	9.6	9.8	9.7	.....	8.9	8.9	8.9	.....	10.1	10.0	10.1
Wheat cereal	28-oz. pkg	.....	26.6	26.6	26.5	.....	24.5	22.3	22.6	.....	27.2	26.2	26.0
Macaroni	Pound	.....	21.9	20.6	20.7	.....	19.4	19.2	18.9	.....	19.7	19.0	19.1
Rice	do	8.6	9.0	8.8	8.8	9.0	9.3	9.7	9.6	8.2	9.6	9.5	9.7
Beans, navy	do	.....	12.0	12.9	12.7	.....	10.3	10.4	9.9	.....	11.4	11.8	12.0
Potatoes	do	2.3	3.1	3.6	3.7	1.8	2.0	2.9	2.7	2.1	3.2	3.7	3.7
Onions	do	.....	6.1	7.5	8.0	.....	4.8	6.5	6.4	.....	5.5	7.1	7.0
Cabbage	do	.....	4.7	4.9	5.5	.....	3.6	3.9	4.0	.....	4.8	5.1	5.2
Beans, baked	No. 2 can	.....	13.3	13.3	12.5	.....	12.0	11.7	11.7	.....	15.0	14.1	14.2
Corn, canned	do	.....	16.0	15.8	16.0	.....	14.2	14.4	14.4	.....	16.1	16.4	16.2
Peas, canned	do	.....	18.0	17.9	18.1	.....	16.2	16.6	16.6	.....	20.1	20.6	20.8
Tomatoes, canned	do	.....	12.6	13.4	13.4	.....	11.3	11.6	11.5	.....	11.3	12.4	12.4
Sugar, granulated	Pound	5.5	8.8	10.8	11.0	4.9	7.6	9.7	10.0	5.2	8.7	10.7	10.7
Tea	do	60.0	88.6	93.6	93.6	56.0	65.9	66.9	66.9	61.3	81.8	86.1	85.0
Coffee	do	32.0	36.8	37.1	36.9	24.4	32.6	32.6	32.7	28.8	37.4	38.6	38.3
Prunes	do	.....	21.1	18.3	18.4	.....	18.8	16.6	16.8	.....	21.3	19.4	19.0
Raisins	do	.....	20.6	17.4	17.3	.....	16.5	14.2	14.1	.....	20.6	18.9	18.2
Bananas	Dozen	.....	24.4	28.0	26.7	.....	26.6	28.6	28.2	.....	34.7	38.1	38.3
Oranges	do	.....	40.0	37.2	32.5	.....	46.8	47.0	40.1	.....	40.4	38.8	37.6

[1] The steak for which prices are here quoted is called "sirloin" in this city, but in most of the other cities included in this report it would be known as "porterhouse" steak.
[2] Per pound.

ARTICLES OF FOOD IN 51 CITIES ON SPECIFIED DATES.

As some dealers occasionally fail to report, the number of quotations varies from month to month.]

Boston, Mass.				Bridgeport, Conn.			Buffalo, N. Y.				Butte, Mont.			Charleston, S. C.			
Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1922.	Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1922.	Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.
1913	1922						1913	1922						1913	1922		
Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.
[1] 33.0	[1] 60.3	[1] 62.7	[1] 61.5	43.6	47.3	47.0	21.6	35.9	36.7	36.5	27.6	27.0	26.9	22.5	33.2	33.2	33.2
34.3	47.7	50.6	50.2	36.7	40.1	40.2	18.8	29.4	30.8	31.0	24.3	23.5	23.3	21.0	30.9	31.4	29.8
23.7	36.0	38.3	37.7	33.1	35.7	35.7	16.4	26.7	28.1	27.9	22.7	21.5	20.3	20.0	27.7	26.4	26.4
16.2	23.2	24.8	25.4	23.3	26.3	26.0	15.0	19.6	20.9	20.5	15.9	15.4	14.8	15.0	19.8	20.2	19.6
.....	15.4	17.1	17.1	10.9	11.0	11.3	11.8	12.0	12.1	12.5	11.3	10.3	10.2	12.5	13.2	14.5	14.5
21.9	32.2	30.3	29.9	30.7	30.5	28.5	17.6	30.1	29.5	27.3	30.0	25.8	25.3	25.0	29.7	30.5	25.9
24.3	38.5	37.1	36.1	44.7	44.1	44.1	20.6	35.0	31.8	31.2	48.6	47.7	46.8	27.0	38.4	34.6	34.6
30.7	50.5	52.2	50.2	52.5	51.4	51.0	26.3	46.2	45.8	44.2	53.4	51.4	52.3	27.5	43.3	42.0	41.8
20.2	39.2	37.8	37.6	36.6	36.7	36.5	15.4	30.9	30.0	30.0	28.9	31.3	30.0	24.0	41.9	38.5	39.0
24.0	40.1	38.4	37.3	39.1	38.5	37.6	19.8	35.1	34.1	34.1	26.2	26.4	25.7	21.8	36.6	34.9	34.7
.....	29.7	29.3	29.2	33.3	30.1	30.4	.....	27.4	27.6	27.9	37.7	36.1	37.5	.....	27.1	26.8	26.6
8.9	14.5	15.9	15.4	15.0	15.0	15.0	8.0	14.0	13.8	13.5	14.2	14.3	14.3	12.0	18.0	18.9	18.0
.....	12.2	12.8	12.8	12.0	12.5	12.5	.....	11.6	11.8	11.9	12.3	12.5	12.5	.....	11.9	12.0	12.0
37.9	56.6	58.4	59.1	55.7	58.7	59.3	39.1	61.7	60.3	61.6	56.9	55.7	55.8	39.0	55.6	55.2	56.8
.....	28.5	31.8	31.1	27.5	28.8	29.6	.....	27.5	29.2	29.5	30.0	.....	.....	.....	27.0	29.0	30.0
.....	25.9	27.1	28.0	25.5	27.0	27.0	.....	25.7	28.0	28.1	30.4	33.2	33.5	.....	28.0	29.0	30.0
23.4	37.4	38.8	39.2	35.9	39.6	39.5	21.5	35.5	37.9	37.2	36.7	38.8	39.6	21.0	35.0	35.4	35.1
15.8	18.4	19.9	19.7	17.5	18.5	18.6	14.2	16.7	18.0	18.0	20.9	21.9	21.7	15.0	18.8	20.1	20.3
.....	24.6	25.1	25.2	22.9	24.6	24.4	.....	22.2	22.8	23.2	26.3	26.2	26.3	.....	21.6	23.2	23.6
57.5	87.7	97.6	86.9	89.4	89.1	83.8	47.6	70.8	70.7	72.3	78.1	72.9	70.6	46.7	51.2	49.5	65.0
36.0	45.6	48.3	47.2	45.2	46.0	47.6	31.4	38.4	39.3	38.8	44.4	42.1	42.2	35.2	35.8	38.0	37.9
5.9	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.6	8.5	5.6	8.2	8.5	8.5	9.7	9.7	9.7	6.4	9.4	10.2	10.2
3.6	5.5	5.0	5.0	4.9	4.4	4.5	3.0	4.4	4.0	4.0	5.5	4.9	4.9	3.7	5.9	5.7	5.7
3.6	4.8	5.1	5.0	6.9	6.9	7.0	2.6	3.3	4.1	4.1	3.9	4.2	4.5	2.6	3.0	3.5	3.6
.....	8.2	8.9	8.9	8.5	8.3	8.3	.....	8.1	7.6	7.6	6.7	6.9	6.7	.....	9.5	9.3	9.3
.....	10.0	9.6	9.5	9.3	9.4	9.3	.....	9.2	9.1	9.1	11.9	12.1	12.3	.....	10.0	9.9	9.9
.....	25.9	24.5	24.3	25.3	23.6	23.4	.....	25.4	24.1	23.8	29.2	27.9	28.3	.....	25.0	24.7	24.9
.....	23.8	23.3	22.9	24.2	23.8	23.7	.....	22.0	21.7	22.0	23.3	21.0	21.3	.....	19.7	19.8	19.8
9.4	11.0	11.0	10.9	10.1	9.9	10.0	9.3	9.0	9.2	9.4	9.9	9.8	9.6	5.6	6.4	6.8	6.8
.....	10.5	10.3	10.3	10.9	11.1	11.1	.....	10.5	10.8	10.4	9.3	10.8	10.6	.....	11.4	11.9	11.6
1.7	2.2	2.6	2.6	2.1	2.9	2.7	1.7	1.7	2.4	2.2	1.2	1.8	1.8	2.2	2.5	2.8	2.8
.....	5.1	6.5	6.4	4.5	7.1	6.7	.....	4.7	6.6	6.8	3.9	5.1	5.2	.....	5.0	6.6	6.2
.....	4.8	4.8	4.9	3.9	4.9	4.8	.....	2.6	3.4	3.4	3.0	3.1	2.9	.....	3.8	4.4	4.4
.....	14.2	14.7	14.7	11.9	11.6	11.5	.....	11.1	11.1	11.1	17.9	16.8	17.0	.....	11.3	10.9	10.8
.....	18.7	19.3	19.0	17.9	19.1	19.3	.....	15.0	14.9	14.9	16.1	15.0	15.0	.....	14.3	14.2	14.1
.....	21.6	21.3	21.4	20.1	21.2	21.1	.....	16.0	15.7	15.9	16.5	16.0	16.0	.....	18.5	18.2	18.2
.....	14.0	12.2	12.3	12.5	13.8	13.5	.....	13.1	13.4	13.6	14.7	15.0	15.0	.....	10.4	10.7	10.7
5.3	8.3	10.3	10.5	7.9	10.3	10.4	5.1	8.1	10.0	10.0	9.9	12.5	12.7	5.0	8.0	10.0	10.2
58.6	68.9	70.2	70.2	57.6	58.0	58.0	45.0	61.3	62.9	62.9	79.0	82.5	82.5	50.0	71.4	71.4	71.6
33.0	42.8	43.2	43.2	34.9	36.1	36.1	29.3	35.0	34.8	34.7	45.8	45.6	45.7	26.8	32.4	32.6	32.6
.....	21.2	17.9	17.9	19.7	17.3	17.9	.....	19.4	17.3	18.2	20.5	18.1	17.5	.....	20.3	17.9	17.5
.....	18.9	15.3	15.5	19.2	15.3	15.5	.....	17.7	14.7	14.4	20.8	19.8	19.0	.....	19.2	16.3	15.7
.....	45.9	41.7	51.1	36.0	38.0	38.0	.....	46.4	48.9	46.9	[2] 15.7	[2] 16.2	[2] 16.7	.....	35.6	40.7	47.5
.....	51.3	56.9	40.1	47.4	50.4	39.6	.....	53.7	54.0	48.4	50.0	51.3	43.2	.....	36.3	30.0	29.0

TABLE 8.—AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF THE PRINCIPAL ARTI

Article.	Unit.	Chicago, Ill.				Cincinnati, Ohio.				Cleveland, Ohio.			
		Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.
		1913	1922			1913	1922			1913	1922		
		Cts.	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*
Sirloin steak	Pound	24.1	38.1	40.7	40.9	23.0	32.1	34.1	34.1	24.6	33.0	35.8	35.4
Round steak	do	21.2	29.4	31.7	31.6	20.7	29.1	30.7	30.2	21.7	27.0	29.8	28.8
Rib roast	do	19.7	28.9	31.3	31.3	19.5	26.7	27.4	27.1	18.6	24.9	24.8	25.8
Chuck roast	do	15.7	19.5	21.0	21.1	15.3	17.1	17.8	17.6	17.0	18.5	19.5	20.0
Plate beef	do	11.8	11.8	12.5	12.3	11.8	13.4	13.8	13.8	12.5	11.5	11.4	11.6
Pork chops	do	17.9	25.9	25.2	23.5	18.9	25.0	23.3	23.2	19.4	27.3	29.2	25.7
Bacon, sliced	do	32.0	45.4	43.7	42.2	22.6	33.5	31.7	30.9	27.9	40.1	39.4	38.3
Ham, sliced	do	31.8	46.5	48.4	46.9	27.8	45.5	47.6	46.1	36.3	45.1	50.1	48.5
Lamb, leg of	do	19.4	34.4	35.7	34.9	17.5	32.1	32.1	32.3	18.0	33.4	32.6	32.3
Hens	do	17.7	29.5	30.0	29.2	22.7	32.8	32.8	32.9	19.3	32.9	34.2	34.3
Salmon, canned, red	do	.....	31.9	33.9	33.4	.....	28.0	28.2	28.3	.....	30.0	29.2	29.5
Milk, fresh	Quart	8.0	12.0	14.0	14.0	8.0	12.0	14.0	14.0	8.0	14.0	14.0	14.0
Milk, evaporated	15-16 oz. can	.....	11.1	11.5	11.5	.....	11.5	11.5	11.4	.....	11.5	11.7	11.6
Butter	Pound	38.3	60.4	58.8	60.9	39.3	60.4	59.2	60.5	42.2	64.4	62.4	64.4
Oleomargarine	do	.....	25.3	26.9	27.2	.....	29.5	31.6	31.8	.....	29.3	30.8	31.6
Nut margarine	do	.....	24.0	26.3	26.4	.....	28.4	28.5	29.2	.....	27.1	29.5	29.9
Cheese	do	25.3	38.8	40.7	40.5	21.4	36.8	38.1	37.8	24.0	35.2	37.3	37.5
Lard	do	15.0	16.9	19.0	18.8	13.9	15.7	18.0	17.6	16.4	18.3	19.7	19.9
Vegetable lard substitute	do	.....	22.8	25.1	25.0	.....	22.4	24.1	24.3	.....	23.7	24.7	25.8
Eggs, strictly fresh	Dozen	40.0	65.8	65.0	64.0	38.0	59.9	65.4	58.2	48.0	76.1	74.8	64.4
Eggs, storage	do	32.9	39.3	40.7	39.7	30.6	37.4	37.2	37.7	34.3	42.4	46.6	43.3
Bread	Pound	6.1	9.7	9.7	9.7	4.8	8.4	8.4	8.4	5.6	7.9	7.9	7.9
Flour	do	2.9	4.3	4.1	4.1	3.3	4.6	4.4	4.4	3.1	4.7	4.6	4.6
Corn meal	do	2.9	5.1	5.4	5.2	2.8	2.9	3.7	3.7	2.9	3.6	4.2	4.3
Rolled oats	do	.....	8.1	8.4	8.5	.....	8.6	8.6	8.5	.....	8.6	8.8	8.8
Corn flakes	8-oz. pkg	.....	9.4	9.2	9.3	.....	9.4	9.2	9.2	.....	10.0	10.0	9.9
Wheat cereal	28-oz. pkg	.....	24.1	23.3	23.5	.....	24.3	23.3	23.0	.....	25.6	24.5	24.3
Macaroni	Pound	.....	18.0	18.3	18.4	.....	16.2	16.5	16.0	.....	20.0	19.8	20.2
Rice	do	9.0	9.5	10.1	10.5	8.8	8.8	9.5	9.6	9.0	9.0	9.8	9.7
Beans, navy	do	.....	10.6	10.6	10.6	.....	9.9	9.3	8.8	.....	9.9	9.9	9.6
Potatoes	do	1.7	1.8	2.3	2.3	1.8	2.0	2.2	2.2	2.0	2.0	2.4	2.4
Onions	do	.....	4.5	6.0	5.9	.....	4.8	5.6	5.3	.....	4.0	5.8	5.7
Cabbage	do	.....	3.7	3.7	3.9	.....	3.6	3.9	4.0	.....	3.4	4.3	4.3
Beans, baked	No. 2 can	.....	12.9	12.8	12.7	.....	11.3	11.5	11.6	.....	12.4	12.9	12.9
Corn, canned	do	.....	14.1	15.2	15.2	.....	13.8	14.2	14.2	.....	15.5	16.3	16.3
Peas, canned	do	.....	15.6	16.9	17.1	.....	16.4	16.9	16.8	.....	17.3	17.1	17.2
Tomatoes, canned	do	.....	13.5	14.1	14.1	.....	12.2	12.9	12.8	.....	13.5	13.8	13.5
Sugar, granulated	Pound	5.1	7.7	9.4	9.6	5.2	8.1	10.2	10.1	5.4	8.2	10.3	10.3
Tea	do	55.0	67.4	72.9	72.5	60.0	68.0	72.2	72.8	50.0	68.0	68.0	69.6
Coffee	do	30.7	35.2	38.0	38.0	25.6	31.6	33.1	33.1	26.5	39.0	40.5	40.6
Prunes	do	.....	20.3	19.1	19.3	.....	19.2	19.0	18.7	.....	19.4	18.9	18.2
Raisins	do	.....	19.5	17.3	16.8	.....	18.8	16.4	16.2	.....	20.1	16.2	16.0
Bananas	Dozen	.....	38.3	38.9	40.8	.....	38.7	45.0	45.8	.....	45.0	56.0	50.8
Oranges	do	.....	52.1	56.1	42.6	.....	43.1	41.8	33.0	.....	50.0	51.7	40.5

[1] The steak for which prices are here quoted is called "rump" in this city, but in most of the other cities included in this report it would be known as "porterhouse" steak.

CLES OF FOOD IN 51 CITIES ON SPECIFIED DATES—Continued.

Columbus, Ohio.			Dallas, Tex.				Denver, Colo.				Detroit, Mich.				Fall River, Mass.			
Dec. 15, 1922.	Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.
			1913	1922			1913	1922			1913	1922			1913	1922		
Cts.	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*
33.6	40.7	37.4	23.6	34.0	32.8	33.5	22.9	28.4	28.3	28.6	24.8	34.0	36.4	36.3	[1]34.3	[1]56.6	[1]58.4	[1]57.8
29.4	32.4	32.1	21.3	30.7	29.2	30.6	20.7	23.1	24.4	24.2	20.4	27.1	29.7	28.8	27.3	42.8	43.6	42.1
25.9	28.5	28.2	20.6	27.0	26.4	26.8	16.7	20.8	20.9	21.0	20.2	24.8	25.9	25.8	23.3	27.0	28.2	27.9
20.1	21.8	22.5	16.4	20.7	21.4	21.7	15.0	15.7	16.2	16.5	15.4	18.2	19.3	19.5	18.3	20.3	20.9	20.5
13.8	14.2	14.4	13.6	15.0	15.2	15.7	9.9	9.4	9.6	9.7	11.7	11.6	12.0	12.1	.....	12.6	13.4	12.2
26.6	27.9	24.0	21.6	32.5	29.8	28.8	20.0	27.0	27.0	24.5	18.2	28.8	28.6	25.7	20.2	29.4	29.6	25.9
36.8	38.5	37.2	37.5	43.8	38.0	37.9	28.0	43.1	41.8	40.3	22.3	40.3	38.7	37.8	25.4	38.7	36.1	35.9
44.1	44.6	44.5	31.6	50.6	50.0	50.6	30.0	48.8	49.5	47.8	28.0	47.3	48.4	47.9	30.4	46.3	46.1	46.4
34.4	37.8	40.4	22.5	40.0	41.3	41.9	15.6	34.1	34.5	33.6	16.0	36.8	36.7	36.0	19.0	38.9	38.9	38.4
30.1	31.4	31.3	19.3	29.9	29.7	29.3	19.9	26.8	26.2	27.9	18.6	32.3	33.5	33.9	24.6	41.8	41.8	40.5
31.6	32.4	32.2	.....	31.4	30.2	30.5	.....	33.8	33.0	32.8	.....	30.7	30.2	29.8	.....	31.1	31.7	31.3
12.0	13.0	13.0	10.8	15.0	15.0	15.0	8.3	11.8	11.7	11.7	9.0	13.8	14.0	14.0	9.0	14.0	15.0	15.0
11.8	12.0	11.9	.....	13.3	14.0	14.0	.....	11.8	12.0	12.1	.....	11.5	11.8	11.8	.....	12.9	13.4	13.4
61.3	59.9	60.8	41.3	58.1	58.5	59.6	37.9	56.6	57.0	56.7	38.9	61.9	60.2	61.7	36.4	52.8	56.2	56.8
27.1	29.8	30.2	.....	27.3	30.3	31.5	.....	29.0	31.4	31.8	.....	28.3	29.6	30.1	.....	31.3	31.7	31.7
25.5	27.7	28.0	.....	30.1	31.3	31.8	.....	28.0	29.6	29.6	.....	27.1	26.8	27.2	.....	30.3	29.0	29.0
37.1	38.6	37.6	20.0	36.5	38.3	37.8	26.1	38.4	39.6	39.6	22.7	37.8	37.3	37.0	23.6	36.7	39.0	38.9
15.9	17.9	17.4	17.2	21.1	22.7	22.2	16.1	19.5	19.5	19.3	16.0	17.2	19.7	19.6	15.3	16.7	18.8	18.6
22.5	24.0	24.7	.....	21.0	20.6	20.6	.....	24.4	21.9	22.6	.....	23.1	24.3	24.6	.....	23.0	24.5	25.5
61.7	68.9	57.8	45.0	54.3	49.1	56.6	47.1	66.2	60.1	60.9	45.3	68.6	63.9	63.9	55.8	99.8	94.3	98.9
39.3	40.4	39.7	37.5	44.6	43.5	43.0	36.0	40.7	41.4	40.5	33.5	40.1	42.7	41.7	36.0	43.0	45.9	44.9
7.6	7.7	7.7	5.4	8.9	8.7	8.7	5.6	8.2	7.8	7.8	5.6	8.6	8.6	8.6	6.3	9.2	9.1	9.1
4.6	4.2	4.2	3.3	4.7	4.4	4.5	2.6	3.8	3.7	3.6	3.1	4.5	4.1	4.2	3.3	5.2	4.9	4.9
3.0	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.6	4.3	4.4	2.5	3.2	3.5	3.5	2.8	4.5	4.7	4.7	3.6	6.2	6.5	6.9
8.8	9.3	9.1	.....	10.8	10.9	10.7	.....	8.8	8.8	9.1	.....	9.1	9.0	8.9	.....	9.4	9.6	9.7
9.5	10.1	10.1	.....	11.4	11.0	10.7	.....	10.0	9.9	9.9	.....	9.1	8.9	9.1	.....	9.9	10.0	10.0
26.1	24.6	24.6	.....	26.0	25.4	25.3	.....	25.2	24.5	24.5	.....	25.2	23.9	24.1	.....	28.5	26.6	26.1
19.3	18.9	18.7	.....	21.5	21.1	21.2	.....	20.6	20.3	20.4	.....	19.7	19.5	19.3	.....	23.9	23.9	24.0
10.2	10.0	10.0	9.3	9.9	9.9	10.7	8.6	9.5	9.9	9.7	8.4	9.2	9.8	9.9	10.0	10.1	10.3	10.4
9.6	9.6	8.9	.....	10.9	11.4	11.8	.....	10.9	11.7	11.3	.....	9.8	8.8	8.6	.....	11.1	10.5	10.3
1.7	2.1	2.1	2.4	3.6	3.9	4.3	1.6	1.8	2.4	2.3	1.6	1.3	1.7	1.6	1.8	2.1	2.7	2.7
5.0	7.3	7.7	.....	6.5	7.0	7.1	.....	3.9	5.0	5.1	.....	4.1	5.6	5.5	.....	4.9	6.8	6.8
3.9	4.6	4.9	.....	5.0	5.1	5.4	.....	2.2	2.5	2.6	.....	3.1	4.1	4.2	.....	4.1	4.5	4.4
13.5	13.9	13.7	.....	15.9	14.6	15.5	.....	14.3	14.6	14.3	.....	12.3	12.0	12.0	.....	13.1	13.2	12.9
12.6	12.9	13.1	.....	17.5	16.5	16.6	.....	14.5	15.3	15.3	.....	15.5	15.1	15.8	.....	15.8	16.7	16.2
14.9	15.5	15.5	.....	21.8	21.1	21.7	.....	16.0	16.4	16.6	.....	16.8	17.2	17.2	.....	17.9	17.9	17.6
13.2	13.8	13.7	.....	13.8	14.0	14.2	.....	13.6	13.1	13.2	.....	12.8	12.8	12.9	.....	13.6	13.6	13.5
8.3	10.4	10.5	5.6	9.0	10.8	11.3	5.2	9.1	11.0	11.1	5.1	7.9	9.8	9.9	5.3	8.5	10.6	10.7
76.6	82.1	80.5	66.7	96.7	92.3	93.2	52.8	69.1	66.5	66.0	43.3	65.1	64.0	63.7	44.2	60.5	59.3	59.9
35.1	37.7	38.5	36.7	43.3	42.7	43.4	29.4	36.3	36.9	37.1	29.3	36.5	37.6	37.8	33.0	38.4	39.3	39.6
20.5	20.0	20.1	.....	24.0	19.1	19.2	.....	21.4	19.2	18.5	.....	20.4	17.4	17.1	.....	18.5	16.9	17.1
19.4	16.5	16.3	.....	20.0	17.4	16.9	.....	19.8	17.1	16.6	.....	18.3	16.1	15.7	.....	20.6	18.2	17.1
38.2	40.5	40.5	.....	34.4	34.0	35.0	.....	[2]13.7	[2]15.0	[2]14.9	.....	34.7	35.8	37.4	.....	[2]10.2	[2]11.3	[2]11.4
46.1	47.6	41.6	.....	54.0	54.1	49.5	.....	51.7	53.8	45.2	.....	51.8	56.3	47.7	.....	51.6	51.8	37.7

[2] Per pound.

TABLE 8.—AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF THE PRINCIPAL ARTI

Article.	Unit.	Houston, Tex.			Indianapolis, Ind.				Jacksonville, Fla.			
		Dec. 15, 1922.	Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.
					1913	1922			1913	1922		
		Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.
Sirloin steak	Pound	29.1	28.4	28.6	25.5	34.0	35.8	35.0	25.5	32.1	34.1	33.9
Round steak	do	27.7	27.5	27.5	24.2	32.5	34.6	33.4	21.0	26.7	28.5	27.8
Rib roast	do	23.9	23.3	23.8	17.8	25.6	25.6	24.9	21.3	25.4	26.8	26.2
Chuck roast	do	18.9	18.9	18.6	16.3	21.7	22.2	21.5	14.1	15.8	17.6	17.9
Plate beef	do	14.6	15.4	15.2	12.5	13.8	13.8	13.8	10.6	10.9	10.3	10.3
Pork chops	do	28.8	29.3	26.1	20.7	27.3	26.1	24.3	22.5	29.2	29.1	27.4
Bacon, sliced	do	43.9	45.0	45.4	29.7	38.0	34.4	33.4	30.1	35.4	34.4	33.9
Ham, sliced	do	46.7	45.4	45.4	30.3	48.2	47.7	46.4	29.3	43.6	45.5	45.3
Lamb, leg of	do	34.4	34.2	34.2	19.0	33.6	38.3	38.3	20.6	35.0	34.7	34.7
Hens	do	31.7	30.7	32.7	20.8	29.8	32.0	33.1	24.2	34.3	35.1	34.5
Salmon, canned, red	do	30.7	29.9	30.4	.....	36.5	37.1	37.1	.....	29.7	31.2	30.7
Milk, fresh	Quart	15.8	15.3	15.8	8.0	10.3	12.0	12.0	12.3	17.7	18.7	18.7
Milk, evaporated	15-16 oz. can	12.9	12.8	12.8	.....	11.6	11.5	11.6	.....	12.1	12.8	12.9
Butter	Pound	58.8	57.3	57.4	38.3	59.5	58.3	59.9	39.6	59.3	59.2	60.6
Oleomargarine	do	32.8	32.0	29.4	.....	28.2	30.3	30.4	.....	29.0	30.2	29.3
Nut margarine	do	29.6	30.2	29.9	.....	27.1	28.5	29.1	.....	28.8	27.6	27.2
Cheese	do	36.1	35.7	35.8	21.8	37.4	37.2	37.2	22.5	35.9	35.1	35.5
Lard	do	17.9	20.6	20.5	14.6	14.7	17.2	17.1	15.3	17.7	18.9	18.9
Vegetable lard substitute	do	24.3	17.9	17.5	.....	23.4	24.7	24.6	.....	22.5	22.6	22.5
Eggs, strictly fresh	Dozen	51.5	47.7	56.3	38.5	60.2	61.4	57.6	50.0	67.2	61.4	61.1
Eggs, storage	do	40.3	40.0	42.2	32.8	37.6	40.5	39.1	40.0	42.3	38.8	40.5
Bread	Pound	6.6	7.1	7.1	5.1	7.3	8.5	8.5	6.1	10.6	10.3	10.3
Flour	do	5.1	4.5	4.5	3.1	4.6	4.4	4.4	3.7	5.4	5.4	5.4
Corn meal	do	3.6	4.0	4.1	2.6	3.0	3.5	3.6	2.8	3.3	4.0	4.0
Rolled oats	do	8.7	8.7	8.7	.....	8.0	7.6	7.7	.....	9.5	9.4	9.2
Corn flakes	8-oz. pkg	9.7	9.7	9.7	.....	9.0	8.8	8.9	.....	9.6	9.7	9.7
Wheat cereal	28-oz. pkg	24.7	23.9	23.9	.....	26.6	24.0	24.3	.....	25.3	24.7	24.7
Macaroni	Pound	19.9	19.6	19.5	.....	18.8	18.6	18.6	.....	19.4	19.2	19.2
Rice	do	7.7	7.9	8.0	9.2	10.0	10.3	10.5	6.8	8.7	9.3	8.9
Beans, navy	do	10.3	10.5	10.5	.....	10.3	9.8	9.3	.....	11.1	11.2	10.9
Potatoes	do	3.6	3.7	3.8	1.7	1.5	1.7	1.8	2.5	2.9	3.5	3.8
Onions	do	5.4	6.3	6.0	.....	4.4	6.1	6.4	.....	5.1	7.2	6.9
Cabbage	do	4.9	4.9	4.8	.....	3.8	3.9	3.8	.....	4.6	5.2	5.1
Beans, baked	No. 2 can	13.8	13.3	13.3	.....	13.3	13.2	13.2	.....	12.1	12.2	11.9
Corn, canned	do	13.6	13.9	13.9	.....	13.6	13.6	13.5	.....	16.0	15.9	15.9
Peas, canned	do	18.4	17.3	17.3	.....	15.4	16.0	16.1	.....	16.3	17.2	17.3
Tomatoes, canned	do	12.1	11.8	11.8	.....	13.5	14.2	14.1	.....	10.9	11.1	11.0
Sugar, granulated	Pound	8.5	10.0	10.1	5.8	8.8	10.4	10.4	5.9	8.3	10.7	10.8
Tea	do	72.2	71.6	71.5	60.0	76.1	77.6	78.0	60.0	84.5	88.5	89.5
Coffee	do	32.3	32.9	32.9	30.0	37.8	38.5	38.5	34.5	38.3	39.3	39.8
Prunes	do	20.9	18.0	17.1	.....	21.5	18.9	19.1	.....	21.3	18.9	18.7
Raisins	do	19.9	16.8	16.0	.....	20.2	17.6	17.5	.....	20.0	18.2	18.0
Bananas	Dozen	31.9	30.5	30.6	.....	30.0	31.1	32.5	.....	30.7	33.3	35.0
Oranges	do	43.2	42.6	38.2	.....	47.5	48.6	40.3	.....	31.0	31.7	27.9

[1] The steak for which prices are here quoted is called "sirloin" in this city, but in most of the other cities included in this report it would be known as "porterhouse" steak.

CLES OF FOOD IN 51 CITIES ON SPECIFIED DATES—Continued.

Kansas City, Mo.				Little Rock, Ark.				Los Angeles, Calif.				Louisville, Ky.				Manchester, N. H.			
Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.
1913	1922			1913	1922			1913	1922			1913	1922			1913	1922		
Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.	Cts.
24.6	34.8	37.7	37.8	25.0	31.7	32.1	31.4	23.1	33.7	34.9	34.3	23.0	29.3	31.0	30.0	[1]34.5	[1]50.0	[1]56.5	[1]54.6
22.1	29.2	31.7	31.6	20.0	28.3	29.3	28.7	21.3	28.1	28.1	27.9	20.0	26.7	27.3	27.3	28.8	41.9	44.2	44.1
18.1	23.6	25.5	25.3	20.0	25.1	25.0	25.9	19.4	28.7	27.8	27.7	18.1	22.5	23.0	22.8	20.8	24.8	27.7	28.0
15.6	16.9	18.1	18.0	16.3	17.7	18.1	18.6	16.1	18.2	17.8	17.9	15.5	16.8	17.0	17.0	17.3	19.7	21.9	21.3
12.2	10.6	10.6	10.9	12.5	13.6	14.0	14.4	13.4	13.6	13.4	13.1	13.1	13.1	13.3	12.8	.....	14.3	15.1	15.3
19.6	25.3	24.7	21.9	20.0	31.5	30.3	28.1	25.3	37.1	38.7	36.1	19.0	25.0	22.9	20.5	19.3	27.9	28.6	25.6
30.3	43.5	41.8	40.5	36.7	41.8	39.7	38.8	33.5	52.8	51.1	50.9	27.0	37.1	32.9	31.7	24.0	34.9	34.1	31.7
28.8	45.0	46.1	45.0	27.5	46.9	46.7	45.6	34.5	59.8	58.7	57.6	28.5	40.2	39.5	38.6	27.5	40.9	40.4	38.8
18.7	31.4	31.8	32.5	18.8	35.7	37.9	34.4	19.1	33.6	33.7	33.6	18.2	32.5	35.0	34.6	20.0	35.1	36.1	35.5
16.4	27.7	28.5	28.9	20.0	29.2	27.3	28.3	27.9	39.1	39.9	39.9	21.6	28.6	32.3	31.3	24.5	40.7	41.5	40.1
....	31.7	34.0	34.0	....	29.9	30.4	30.8	....	38.6	38.0	39.1	....	30.0	29.5	29.4	.....	29.7	29.6	29.6
9.3	13.0	13.3	13.3	10.5	15.3	15.7	15.7	10.0	15.0	15.0	15.0	8.6	13.0	13.0	13.0	8.0	13.0	14.8	14.8
....	12.1	12.2	12.0	....	12.9	13.4	13.4	....	10.9	10.8	10.7	....	12.0	12.3	12.2	.....	13.4	14.0	13.9
40.3	61.3	58.2	59.8	45.0	59.9	59.6	60.3	39.7	59.2	61.5	60.8	41.3	61.9	60.5	63.4	41.4	58.2	60.2	61.3
....	27.0	27.9	26.8	....	29.5	31.9	30.4	....	31.2	33.6	33.8	....	28.1	30.0	31.2	.....	28.5	27.8	27.8
....	27.1	28.3	28.0	....	29.4	28.9	29.0	....	28.9	30.4	30.4	....	26.7	27.0	28.7	.....	23.3	21.0	21.0
22.0	37.5	38.4	37.9	23.3	38.7	37.9	38.0	19.5	38.0	38.9	39.4	22.5	36.4	36.6	35.8	22.3	35.7	37.4	38.2
16.4	17.5	19.2	18.8	16.5	19.4	19.6	19.7	18.1	20.0	20.2	20.7	15.8	15.3	17.4	17.1	15.8	17.5	18.8	18.8
....	23.9	25.4	25.4	....	22.5	21.2	20.8	....	23.6	22.3	22.6	....	23.3	24.8	24.0	.....	23.7	21.5	21.8
38.0	58.7	56.9	56.6	40.0	46.6	49.3	52.8	53.3	63.2	65.4	57.8	36.6	60.0	59.9	58.5	52.4	77.5	82.2	76.8
33.0	38.9	38.9	38.4	....	41.2	42.1	41.1	38.3	44.9	45.6	43.0	33.3	37.3	36.7	36.0	37.0	44.1	47.0	43.8
6.0	7.9	8.0	8.2	6.0	8.3	8.1	8.1	6.0	8.8	9.0	9.0	5.7	8.8	8.4	8.4	5.9	7.6	8.4	8.4
3.0	4.5	4.2	4.2	3.6	5.3	5.1	5.0	3.5	5.0	4.6	4.5	3.5	5.2	4.9	4.9	3.4	5.1	4.9	4.8
2.8	4.5	4.5	4.5	2.8	3.2	3.7	3.5	3.5	4.6	4.7	4.6	2.4	2.8	3.5	3.3	3.4	4.5	4.9	4.8
....	8.2	8.6	8.7	....	10.2	9.3	9.3	....	10.3	9.9	9.6	....	8.6	8.5	8.4	.....	8.5	8.6	8.6
....	9.9	10.2	10.2	....	9.8	9.8	9.8	....	10.0	9.6	9.6	....	9.3	9.3	9.2	.....	9.5	9.8	9.8
....	26.5	25.2	25.2	....	26.8	24.6	24.3	....	24.4	23.6	23.3	....	24.7	23.7	23.7	.....	25.6	24.3	24.4
....	21.4	21.5	21.6	....	21.6	20.3	20.3	....	16.0	16.8	16.5	....	17.2	16.9	17.1	.....	24.7	24.3	24.0
8.7	9.1	9.3	9.3	8.3	8.2	8.1	8.0	7.7	9.5	10.1	10.2	9.0	8.5	8.2	8.3	8.8	9.0	9.3	9.3
....	10.8	10.5	10.1	....	11.4	10.4	10.5	....	9.4	9.7	9.5	....	10.2	8.8	8.4	.....	10.4	10.1	9.9
1.9	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.6	2.8	2.7	1.9	2.5	3.5	3.5	2.0	1.6	2.1	2.1	1.6	1.9	2.3	2.3
....	5.2	6.9	7.1	....	5.5	7.3	7.0	....	4.8	5.6	5.7	....	4.0	6.2	5.7	.....	4.3	6.3	6.2
....	3.3	3.8	3.9	....	3.9	4.5	4.7	....	4.4	3.9	4.4	....	3.4	3.9	3.9	.....	3.6	3.9	4.1
....	14.2	14.0	14.1	....	13.3	12.8	13.0	....	13.4	13.2	13.1	....	11.9	11.5	11.5	.....	15.1	14.4	14.4
....	13.7	14.3	14.6	....	14.9	15.3	15.1	....	16.1	16.4	16.1	....	13.6	13.6	13.7	.....	17.2	17.4	17.5
....	15.2	15.7	15.8	....	18.6	18.6	18.7	....	19.4	18.4	17.9	....	15.5	15.6	15.6	....	20.3	21.1	21.1
....	13.2	13.8	13.7	....	12.8	12.7	12.9	....	[2]15.5	[2]15.1	[2]15.0	....	11.3	12.1	12.1	.....	[3]18.8	[3]20.9	[2]21.3
5.5	8.6	10.4	10.5	5.3	9.0	11.3	11.2	5.3	8.5	10.5	10.6	5.3	8.2	10.6	10.6	5.3	8.6	10.7	10.8
54.0	80.0	80.4	79.8	50.0	91.8	91.8	91.8	54.5	72.1	70.1	71.6	65.0	72.4	72.7	72.7	47.5	57.1	57.7	58.0
27.8	38.0	39.4	39.4	30.8	39.7	41.8	42.4	36.3	38.8	39.9	40.6	27.5	34.9	36.0	36.2	32.0	38.2	39.5	39.7
....	20.5	17.5	17.4	....	20.2	18.6	18.3	....	19.3	17.8	18.5	....	19.9	16.6	18.3	.....	19.7	17.7	16.6
....	20.2	17.7	17.0	....	21.5	18.4	18.1	....	18.7	16.3	16.1	....	19.3	15.1	15.2	.....	19.0	15.4	15.6
....	[4]13.3	[4]12.8	[4]13.9	....	[4]10.3	[4]11.7	[4]12.0	....	[4]11.5	[4]13.1	[4]13.3	....	37.2	39.2	38.3	.....	[4]10.5	[4]43.8	[4]43.8
....	53.9	51.0	46.9	....	46.8	46.5	38.2	....	38.5	40.0	41.5	....	38.8	35.6	34.3	.....	52.1	52.7	42.1

[2] No. 2½ can. [3] No. 3 can. [4] Per pound.

TABLE 8.—AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF THE PRINCIPAL ARTI

Article.	Unit.	Memphis, Tenn.				Milwaukee, Wis.				Minneapolis, Minn.			
		Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.
		1913	1922			1913	1922			1913	1922		
		Cts.	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*
Sirloin steak	Pound	24.0	28.6	33.2	33.6	23.4	36.0	37.1	36.8	19.3	29.3	27.8	29.0
Round steak	do	20.0	25.4	28.4	28.4	21.6	30.9	32.1	31.8	18.0	24.9	24.9	25.1
Rib roast	do	21.0	21.7	24.4	24.5	18.8	26.2	26.8	27.0	18.7	23.5	22.6	22.8
Chuck roast	do	15.0	16.7	18.1	18.0	16.4	21.4	21.7	21.8	14.7	17.3	17.8	18.1
Plate beef	do	12.5	12.5	13.7	13.1	12.1	12.5	13.2	13.1	10.0	9.5	10.1	10.1
Pork chops	do	20.0	24.9	25.0	22.1	17.4	27.2	25.7	22.8	17.2	27.5	25.5	24.6
Bacon, sliced	do	30.0	37.9	35.6	34.8	27.4	41.2	40.2	37.8	26.7	43.8	39.7	38.5
Ham, sliced	do	29.0	46.2	42.5	43.5	27.8	44.8	44.0	43.5	28.3	45.9	45.0	43.1
Lamb, leg of	do	20.6	35.3	34.5	33.9	18.5	35.8	35.1	35.1	14.6	31.5	31.8	31.9
Hens	do	19.6	27.6	28.3	28.5	17.2	28.0	26.7	27.5	16.4	27.6	25.2	26.4
Salmon, canned, red	do	.....	34.6	36.8	35.9	.....	32.6	34.8	35.3	.....	37.9	37.7	37.2
Milk, fresh	Quart	10.0	15.0	15.0	15.0	7.0	10.0	11.0	11.0	8.0	11.0	12.0	12.0
Milk, evaporated	15–16 oz. can	.....	11.8	12.8	12.7	.....	11.3	11.7	11.7	.....	12.1	12.6	12.6
Butter	Pound	38.8	55.9	57.4	58.2	38.8	60.5	58.6	60.0	36.9	57.7	55.2	57.0
Oleomargarine	do	.....	30.0	29.3	26.0	.....	26.3	27.9	28.8	.....	27.0	28.3	28.9
Nut margarine	do	.....	26.7	24.8	25.0	.....	25.2	27.4	27.8	.....	25.1	26.0	26.2
Cheese	do	22.0	35.9	35.9	35.3	22.3	34.8	37.2	37.0	21.3	35.2	35.9	35.7
Lard	do	15.0	15.8	18.2	17.8	16.0	17.7	19.2	19.3	15.4	17.0	18.3	18.5
Vegetable lard substitute	do	.....	20.2	23.6	23.9	.....	22.6	24.6	25.4	.....	24.3	25.5	26.0
Eggs, strictly fresh	Dozen	39.0	51.5	50.0	57.0	40.0	67.1	60.4	63.0	39.1	60.9	50.3	51.1
Eggs, storage	do	30.0	39.0	41.2	43.2	33.0	36.3	38.6	36.4	31.6	36.5	40.2	37.7
Bread	Pound	6.0	9.1	9.1	9.0	5.7	8.9	8.8	8.8	5.6	9.0	9.0	9.0
Flour	do	3.5	5.3	5.1	5.1	3.0	4.2	4.2	4.1	2.8	4.7	4.2	4.3
Corn meal	do	2.5	2.8	3.5	3.4	3.2	3.8	4.3	4.4	2.5	3.9	4.1	4.1
Rolled oats	do	.....	8.9	9.3	9.1	.....	7.3	7.4	7.4	.....	8.2	8.6	8.6
Corn flakes	8-oz. pkg	.....	9.6	10.2	9.7	.....	9.0	9.2	9.2	.....	9.8	10.1	10.0
Wheat cereal	28-oz. pkg	.....	25.3	24.3	24.3	.....	24.5	24.4	24.0	.....	25.0	24.1	24.1
Macaroni	Pound	.....	17.8	18.0	18.0	.....	17.4	17.5	17.5	.....	17.7	17.6	17.5
Rice	do	8.1	8.2	8.1	8.1	9.0	9.7	10.3	10.3	8.6	9.9	9.7	9.7
Beans, navy	do	.....	10.6	10.1	10.0	.....	10.2	10.1	9.9	.....	9.8	9.8	9.7
Potatoes	do	2.0	2.5	3.3	3.0	1.7	1.3	2.0	2.0	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.6
Onions	do	.....	4.3	5.1	5.0	.....	4.4	6.3	6.3	.....	3.9	5.9	6.0
Cabbage	do	.....	3.3	3.1	3.3	.....	2.3	2.4	2.6	.....	2.8	3.4	3.4
Beans, baked	No. 2 can	.....	13.3	12.9	13.0	.....	11.6	11.8	11.6	.....	14.2	14.1	14.2
Corn, canned	do	.....	14.3	15.0	14.7	.....	15.0	15.4	15.6	.....	13.5	13.9	14.0
Peas, canned	do	.....	17.4	17.5	17.1	.....	15.4	15.5	15.4	.....	15.6	16.1	16.1
Tomatoes, canned	do	.....	12.5	12.7	12.7	.....	13.6	14.0	14.0	.....	14.7	14.8	14.8
Sugar, granulated	Pound	5.3	8.3	10.5	10.6	5.5	8.0	9.5	9.8	5.0	8.5	10.0	10.3
Tea	do	63.8	82.6	86.6	83.5	50.0	68.6	69.9	69.7	45.0	65.0	65.7	64.9
Coffee	do	27.5	36.6	37.7	37.7	27.5	33.8	33.9	34.0	30.8	40.7	42.2	42.2
Prunes	do	.....	20.5	17.8	18.2	.....	20.6	18.3	18.2	.....	20.8	18.8	19.0
Raisins	do	.....	19.3	17.1	16.7	.....	18.3	16.2	15.2	.....	19.4	17.2	16.7
Bananas	Dozen	.....	34.4	35.0	36.0	.....	[3]10.2	[3]12.3	[3]12.5	.....	[3]12.3	[3]12.4	[3]15.3
Oranges	do	.....	43.0	38.7	40.6	.....	54.2	56.0	47.9	.....	55.3	53.2	48.3

[1] Whole. [2] No. 3 can. [3] Per pound.

CLES OF FOOD IN 51 CITIES ON SPECIFIED DATES—Continued.

Mobile, Ala.			Newark, N. J.			New Haven, Conn.				New Orleans, La.				New York, N. Y.			
			Dec. 15—			Dec. 15—				Dec. 15—				Dec. 15—			
Dec. 15, 1922.	Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	1913	1922	Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	1913	1922	Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	1913	1922	Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	1913	1922	Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.
Cts.	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*
30.0	32.7	32.3	27.2	42.4	45.4	45.6	30.8	48.2	53.2	51.7	21.5	31.2	30.2	31.4	25.7	40.6	42.6	42.3
29.2	31.5	31.2	26.5	40.1	43.4	43.2	28.4	39.7	43.4	42.8	19.1	27.7	27.3	28.6	25.3	39.1	41.2	40.6
26.0	24.5	24.6	21.0	33.6	35.1	34.9	22.8	33.4	36.4	35.7	18.5	27.2	27.2	27.8	21.3	35.3	36.5	36.6
19.5	19.8	19.5	17.3	22.5	25.1	24.6	18.8	24.1	27.3	26.7	15.4	19.0	19.3	20.5	15.8	21.7	23.0	23.1
15.8	15.0	14.7	12.4	12.1	13.0	13.1	.....	14.5	14.4	14.6	12.0	16.0	16.0	16.4	14.5	17.7	18.4	18.3
35.0	35.4	31.9	21.0	30.1	30.3	27.4	19.6	30.5	28.9	25.9	24.0	32.2	30.1	27.1	18.4	33.7	31.6	30.2
41.9	38.8	38.3	25.3	38.8	38.5	38.5	28.2	41.3	39.2	37.4	30.4	40.9	38.9	38.1	25.5	39.1	37.0	35.8
45.8	43.3	43.8	[1] 19.8	[1] 27.2	[1] 27.6	[1] 26.9	30.8	52.2	53.6	51.6	27.0	42.2	41.3	41.7	29.0	50.6	50.6	50.2
34.4	35.0	34.4	20.0	37.5	37.5	37.0	18.7	37.6	38.1	37.6	20.5	38.5	38.9	38.4	15.4	34.4	35.3	35.2
35.0	34.4	35.0	23.4	37.3	36.6	35.8	23.3	40.6	39.6	38.1	22.0	36.5	34.7	35.2	20.7	35.9	35.0	34.4
30.3	28.2	28.2	.....	29.6	28.3	28.2	.....	33.2	34.5	34.7	.....	37.5	41.5	41.6	.....	29.7	29.8	29.7
15.0	20.0	20.0	9.0	17.5	16.5	16.5	9.0	15.0	16.0	16.0	9.8	14.0	15.0	15.0	9.0	16.0	15.0	15.0
12.8	12.8	12.6	.....	11.9	11.9	11.9	.....	11.8	12.4	12.4	.....	11.8	12.3	12.1	.....	11.7	11.7	11.9
62.2	60.2	61.4	43.7	63.1	61.5	64.6	37.3	53.3	55.9	57.9	39.8	59.0	57.3	59.5	41.1	61.7	60.4	61.9
30.3	30.8	31.8	.....	29.3	30.0	30.6	.....	29.7	32.0	33.0	.....	30.1	30.6	31.0	.....	28.3	30.0	30.2
28.0	29.5	29.3	.....	25.9	27.3	28.3	.....	27.0	29.0	30.3	.....	28.1	28.6	28.8	.....	25.6	27.6	28.2
39.7	37.8	37.5	24.8	37.6	40.8	40.8	23.5	35.0	37.4	37.6	21.9	36.8	36.3	36.4	20.2	36.1	39.3	39.0
17.8	18.4	18.6	16.3	17.5	18.9	18.6	15.6	17.0	18.8	18.8	15.0	16.9	17.9	18.1	16.1	17.9	19.3	19.8
22.8	20.3	20.1	.....	22.3	24.8	24.8	.....	22.1	23.3	23.3	.....	22.8	21.8	21.8	.....	22.9	25.0	25.5
51.0	51.4	55.0	57.2	80.5	81.5	78.8	56.4	83.5	89.0	87.8	34.0	49.1	44.4	51.5	54.3	79.0	82.2	77.0
38.4	41.4	41.0	35.6	43.4	45.8	44.2	34.2	43.7	46.9	45.3	30.0	37.4	37.1	38.2	36.7	41.9	42.5	42.7
8.3	8.7	8.9	5.5	8.6	8.5	8.5	6.0	8.1	8.0	8.0	5.0	7.7	7.6	7.6	6.1	9.7	9.6	9.6
5.4	4.9	4.9	3.6	4.9	4.6	4.5	3.1	4.8	4.5	4.3	3.7	5.7	5.4	5.5	3.2	4.9	4.5	4.7
3.3	4.1	4.0	3.6	6.5	6.6	6.5	3.2	5.9	6.2	6.1	2.7	3.2	3.9	3.9	3.4	5.5	5.5	5.5
9.0	8.9	8.7	.....	7.9	8.1	8.1	.....	8.9	8.8	9.0	.....	8.9	8.4	8.5	.....	7.9	8.2	8.2
9.4	9.1	9.2	.....	8.9	8.9	8.9	.....	9.5	9.5	9.5	.....	9.5	9.4	9.5	.....	8.7	8.7	8.8
24.2	23.4	23.4	.....	25.4	23.3	23.3	.....	24.8	23.4	23.5	.....	24.4	24.0	24.0	.....	24.6	22.7	22.8
20.3	19.2	19.2	.....	21.1	20.9	20.9	.....	22.4	22.3	22.3	.....	9.5	9.0	9.1	.....	20.1	20.0	20.1
8.6	10.4	10.8	9.0	8.9	9.7	9.5	9.3	10.0	10.0	10.2	7.5	8.6	9.1	9.1	8.0	9.2	9.5	9.7
11.8	8.5	8.5	.....	10.4	10.7	10.5	.....	9.9	10.4	9.9	.....	10.2	10.0	9.7	.....	11.1	11.8	11.7
2.9	3.0	2.9	2.5	2.3	3.2	3.1	1.7	2.1	2.9	2.8	2.2	2.9	3.2	3.3	2.4	2.6	3.4	3.4
4.7	5.9	5.6	.....	5.1	6.5	6.3	.....	5.2	6.7	6.8	.....	4.2	5.2	5.2	.....	4.7	6.4	6.3
3.7	4.4	4.4	.....	4.2	4.6	4.6	.....	3.6	5.3	5.0	.....	3.8	4.0	4.1	.....	3.4	4.4	4.2
13.3	12.0	12.0	.....	11.1	11.1	11.1	.....	12.4	12.2	12.3	.....	12.8	12.6	12.6	.....	11.6	12.0	11.9
15.0	14.9	14.9	.....	14.6	14.4	14.6	.....	17.5	18.2	18.1	.....	13.0	13.4	13.4	.....	14.1	15.4	15.5
15.7	15.5	15.5	.....	17.3	17.4	17.5	.....	21.1	20.5	20.3	.....	16.7	17.6	17.6	.....	16.3	17.3	17.4
12.4	11.8	11.8	.....	11.2	12.0	12.1	.....	[2] 22.2	[2] 22.1	[2] 21.5	.....	11.6	11.7	11.6	.....	10.8	11.3	11.2
8.6	10.3	10.6	5.3	8.0	10.0	10.1	5.5	8.0	10.3	10.3	5.1	7.8	9.7	9.8	4.9	7.7	9.7	10.0
76.3	76.7	76.7	53.8	50.8	54.9	54.9	55.0	56.9	57.2	56.9	62.1	72.0	69.5	69.5	43.3	50.2	58.1	58.1
35.6	38.0	38.2	29.3	33.0	36.2	36.3	33.8	38.6	40.4	40.4	25.0	30.9	31.0	30.9	27.2	33.0	34.8	34.9
20.3	18.0	17.7	.....	18.3	16.4	16.0	.....	19.0	17.5	17.3	.....	21.3	19.4	18.7	.....	19.0	16.0	16.1
20.6	16.7	16.5	.....	17.8	15.3	15.2	.....	18.0	15.4	15.2	.....	19.0	16.0	15.5	.....	17.6	15.4	15.4
27.3	29.4	28.5	.....	37.8	38.5	38.9	.....	32.0	33.5	34.1	.....	23.8	26.0	24.0	.....	43.8	42.4	43.2
43.3	36.5	37.1	.....	50.5	59.3	46.3	.....	46.5	48.5	40.5	.....	45.7	39.0	39.1	.....	52.9	61.3	49.7

TABLE 8.—AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF THE PRINCIPAL ARTI

Article.	Unit.	Norfolk, Va.			Omaha, Nebr.				Peoria, Ill.		
		Dec. 15, 1922.	Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1922.	Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.
					1913	1922					
		Cts.	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*
Sirloin steak	Pound	36.3	40.6	40.4	26.0	34.4	35.7	36.2	30.4	31.9	31.6
Round steak	do	30.0	33.8	34.1	22.4	30.7	32.1	31.8	29.1	29.6	29.6
Rib roast	do	29.5	32.4	33.3	20.0	24.6	25.6	26.4	23.0	22.6	23.1
Chuck roast	do	19.1	21.1	20.7	16.6	18.9	20.5	20.8	19.2	18.8	19.2
Plate beef	do	14.0	14.5	14.5	11.2	10.3	11.2	10.3	12.8	12.4	12.5
Pork chops	do	28.8	28.5	25.8	19.7	26.7	25.1	22.7	27.0	25.9	23.6
Bacon, sliced	do	36.3	34.2	32.8	28.0	45.6	44.4	42.8	41.1	40.4	38.9
Ham, sliced	do	39.6	41.2	38.1	30.0	48.5	48.2	47.2	45.4	45.4	44.3
Lamb, leg of	do	37.2	39.2	40.5	16.3	35.8	35.6	36.1	34.4	35.6	33.3
Hens	do	35.6	36.0	35.5	15.6	26.4	27.6	27.5	27.4	28.1	27.5
Salmon, canned, red	do	29.9	28.6	28.6	.....	33.5	33.4	33.6	33.1	32.2	32 2
Milk, fresh	Quart	17.0	17.0	17.0	8.7	11.0	12.3	12.3	10.8	11.6	12.5
Milk, evaporated	15–16 oz. can	11.3	11.7	11.6	.....	11.8	12.1	12.0	11.8	12.0	11.9
Butter	Pound	58.1	57.3	59.6	37.2	58.2	53.9	56.5	59.0	57.3	58.3
Oleomargarine	do	30.4	28.3	31.0	.....	28.9	29.2	29.5	29.2	29.9	30.5
Nut margarine	do	28.5	26.8	27.0	.....	27.9	28.4	28.4	27.4	28.1	28.8
Cheese	do	35.5	33.9	33.5	23.5	35.4	36.5	36.5	36.7	37.6	37.7
Lard	do	16.9	17.9	17.7	17.6	19.1	19.7	20.0	17.1	19.1	19.0
Vegetable lard substitute	do	22.0	18.4	19.0	.....	24.4	24.5	26.0	24.4	25.0	25.3
Eggs, strictly fresh	Dozen	60.8	55.7	60.0	36.0	53.8	48.8	50.6	59.5	50.0	60.9
Eggs, storage	do	38.7	44.3	42.9	31.7	36.0	40.0	37.4	36.7	40.8	40.2
Bread	Pound	8.1	7.9	7.9	5.2	9.8	9.8	9.8	8.5	8.8	8.8
Flour	do	4.9	4.4	4.4	2.8	4.2	3.8	3.8	4.7	4.5	4.5
Corn meal	do	3.5	4.2	4.1	2.5	3.5	4.0	4.1	3.7	4.1	4.3
Rolled oats	do	8.1	8.1	8.1	.....	9.6	10.2	10.6	9.1	9.4	9.4
Corn flakes	8-oz. pkg	9.6	9.3	9.3	.....	10.2	10.2	10.2	10.0	9.9	10.3
Wheat cereal	28-oz. pkg	25.4	23.6	23.5	.....	24.8	23.9	24.4	26.8	26.3	26.3
Macaroni	Pound	19.9	20.4	20.0	.....	20.8	19.8	19.6	19.8	19.8	19.6
Rice	do	9.2	10.1	10.0	8.5	9.3	9.1	8.8	9.9	9.4	9.8
Beans, navy	do	10.0	10.1	9.9	.....	11.2	10.8	10.7	10.8	10.3	9.9
Potatoes	do	2.3	2.5	2.6	2.0	1.5	1.9	1.9	1.7	1.9	1.9
Onions	do	5.3	6.4	6.1	.....	4.2	5.8	5.9	4.9	6.7	6.5
Cabbage	do	3.8	4.5	4.5	.....	2.9	3.4	3.9	3.4	3.5	3.8
Beans, baked	No. 2 can	10 6	9.8	9.8	.....	15.4	15.1	14.9	13.7	12.6	12.7
Corn, canned	do	15.0	15.7	15.7	.....	16.0	16.7	16.5	14.6	14.5	14.3
Peas, canned	do	18.8	18.5	18.7	.....	16.7	17.2	17.2	17.0	17.7	17.6
Tomatoes, canned	do	11.3	10.9	11.3	.....	13.8	14.3	14.5	14.4	14.1	14.1
Sugar, granulated	Pound	8.0	9.5	9.9	5.7	8.8	9.7	10.2	8.9	10.8	10.9
Tea	do	76.8	81.4	81.8	56.0	74.2	75.1	74.2	61.1	61.4	61.5
Coffee	do	37.7	37.1	37.5	30.0	40.5	40.8	40.6	36.0	36.9	36.9
Prunes	do	19.4	17.7	16.4	.....	20.1	18.4	18.5	22.3	20.4	20.3
Raisins	do	18.9	15.6	15.4	.....	21.3	18.8	18.6	20.4	17.8	17.3
Bananas	Dozen	33.5	35.4	36.3	.....	[4] 12.4	[4] 12.7	[4] 13.4	[4] 11.8	[4] 12.2	[4] 13.5
Oranges	do	40.5	42.1	38.6	.....	51.2	45.9	40.9	42.1	50.2	41.6

[1] The steak for which prices are here quoted is called "sirloin" in this city, but in most of the other cities included in this report it would be known as "porterhouse" steak.

CLES OF FOOD IN 51 CITIES ON SPECIFIED DATES—Continued.

Philadelphia, Pa.				Pittsburgh, Pa.				Portland, Me.			Portland, Oreg.				Providence, R. I.			
Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1922.	Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.
1913	1922			1913	1922						1913	1922			1913	1922		
Cts.	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*
[1] 30.0	[1] 46.3	[1] 48.8	[1] 48.8	27.0	42.2	43.2	42.8	[1] 53.0	[1] 57.6	[1] 46.9	21.8	27.6	27.5	27.8	[1] 39.2	[1] 66.3	[1] 70.4	[1] 69.8
26.0	36.7	38.1	38.6	22.8	34.6	35.3	34.8	43.1	43.8	43.9	21.0	25.0	24.5	23.8	31.0	47.1	49.5	48.7
21.8	31.7	32.8	32.8	21.8	31.2	32.2	31.9	27.6	28.7	28.7	18.7	24.0	23.8	23.8	23.8	35.8	37.8	38.0
17.8	19.5	20.7	20.5	16.7	21.4	22.1	21.9	18.2	19.7	19.9	16.0	16.1	15.9	15.9	18.8	25.5	27.7	28.1
12.1	9.5	10.2	9.9	12.7	11.7	11.4	11.9	14.0	15.8	15.2	13.0	11.8	11.4	11.4	.....	16.1	17.4	17.5
20.6	31.4	31.5	29.2	20.8	30.0	28.5	27.0	30.8	30.4	25.9	21.4	33.2	30.7	27.9	19.6	32.2	31.5	30.3
25.0	39.0	35.2	35.7	28.8	43.0	40.0	39.1	38.4	36.7	36.0	30.3	45.0	44.7	42.9	22.8	37.7	37.1	36.7
29.1	50.4	50.9	50.0	29.0	52.4	53.0	50.7	48.2	45.6	45.5	30.8	47.1	46.8	46.7	32.7	52.4	52.9	52.0
18.8	38.5	39.0	37.9	20.7	38.6	37.2	36.9	35.7	36.1	35.5	17.1	32.2	32.5	32.6	19.0	41.0	40.3	39.7
22.6	37.8	37.6	36.5	24.8	38.9	40.0	39.1	38.1	39.9	38.7	21.0	30.5	31.2	31.6	24.2	40.8	40.6	40.4
.....	27.4	26.4	26.4	.....	28.4	29.1	28.2	28.2	28.1	27.4	.....	39.1	35.0	35.0	.....	31.0	30.8	30.8
8.0	12.0	12.0	12.0	9.2	14.0	15.0	15.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	9.7	12.6	13.0	13.0	9.0	15.0	16.0	15.5
.....	11.9	12.3	12.2	.....	11.8	11.9	12.0	12.8	13.7	13.4	.....	12.0	11.9	11.9	.....	12.5	12.6	12.6
46.6	65.7	63.1	65.5	42.0	64.0	62.7	63.9	59.6	60.3	62.1	41.5	56.8	55.9	55.8	38.8	56.0	55.4	57.9
.....	28.5	29.9	30.7	.....	28.7	30.0	30.6	29.8	30.7	30.8	.....	29.8	30.0	30.9	.....	30.1	28.1	28.9
.....	27.2	27.8	29.2	.....	26.5	27.5	28.0	27.9	27.8	27.5	.....	27.9	29.6	30.0	.....	28.2	29.2	28.9
25.0	38.0	38.5	38.6	24.5	37.7	39.4	39.6	36.2	40.3	39.9	20.8	38.2	39.3	39.3	[2] 22.0	35.0	36.4	36.7
15.2	16.3	18.2	18.2	15.6	15.7	18.4	18.3	17.9	19.2	18.8	17.3	20.2	20.1	20.0	15.8	17.3	18.8	18.5
.....	22.8	24.1	24.5	.....	22.8	24.2	24.5	24.2	23.3	23.1	.....	24.9	26.3	26.5	.....	24.2	25.0	24.8
48.3	72.5	74.3	66.6	49.2	69.2	70.2	68.9	76.5	86.4	76.6	50.8	57.5	60.7	51.4	57.3	85.7	91.5	79.8
34.7	41.2	42.5	41.7	35.1	41.8	41.8	42.5	45.3	46.5	44.9	37.5	42.6	44.9	42.0	35.6	44.5	44.0	45.0
4.8	8.5	8.4	8.4	5.4	8.2	8.5	8.5	9.4	9.3	9.3	5.5	9.4	9.2	9.2	6.1	8.7	8.8	8.8
3.1	4.8	4.6	4.6	3.2	4.7	4.4	4.4	5.0	4.5	4.5	2.9	4.5	4.1	4.1	3.4	5.4	5.0	4.9
2.8	3.8	4.0	4.1	3.0	4.1	4.9	4.9	4.4	4.7	4.7	3.6	3.5	3.9	3.9	2.9	4.1	4.3	4.3
.....	8.3	8.3	8.3	.....	8.7	8.8	9.0	6.5	6.9	6.8	.....	9.5	9.4	10.0	.....	9.5	9.3	9.4
.....	9.0	8.9	8.8	.....	9.4	9.5	9.5	9.7	9.7	9.7	.....	11.0	11.4	11.4	.....	9.9	9.8	9.8
.....	25.0	23.8	24.0	.....	25.2	24.9	24.7	25.9	24.6	24.6	.....	28.0	26.2	25.7	.....	26.9	23.8	24.2
.....	21.1	20.4	20.3	.....	19.9	21.6	20.9	23.2	23.6	23.3	.....	16.4	18.2	17.8	.....	22.2	23.2	23.4
9.8	10.2	10.5	10.6	9.2	9.7	10.3	10.3	10.6	10.6	10.6	8.6	10.1	10.0	9.7	9.3	9.9	9.4	9.4
.....	10.4	11.0	11.0	.....	10.7	10.3	9.9	10.8	10.4	9.8	.....	9.4	10.0	10.0	.....	10.5	10.6	10.5
2.3	2.3	3.4	3.1	1.9	2.0	2.8	2.5	1.9	2.4	2.4	1.2	1.4	2.2	2.1	1.7	2.2	2.6	2.5
.....	4.8	5.7	5.6	.....	4.5	6.4	6.0	4.6	6.1	6.0	.....	3.4	4.8	4.6	.....	5.2	6.3	6.2
.....	3.6	3.8	4.1	.....	4.0	4.4	4.5	2.4	3.2	3.1	.....	3.3	2.8	2.9	.....	3.6	4.2	4.2
.....	11.7	11.2	11.3	.....	12.7	12.6	12.7	15.3	15.7	15.8	.....	17.5	15.0	15.4	.....	13.0	12.2	11.9
.....	14.5	14.4	15.3	.....	14.0	15.7	16.0	16.0	15.9	16.6	.....	16.9	18.2	18.2	.....	17.6	16.8	17.1
.....	16.3	16.8	16.8	.....	16.0	17.3	17.4	19.9	20.5	20.4	.....	17.6	18.8	18.8	.....	20.1	19.8	20.0
.....	11.8	12.0	11.9	.....	12.2	12.7	13.0	[2] 23.3	[2] 22.3	[2] 22.1	.....	[3] 15.8	[3] 16.6	[3] 16.7	.....	[2] 13.5	[2] 13.8	[2] 13.8
5.0	7.6	9.6	9.9	5.5	8.3	10.3	10.5	8.5	10.3	10.6	6.0	8.5	10.4	10.7	5.1	8.2	10.1	10.4
54.0	58.8	59.6	59.8	58.0	75.0	75.8	76.2	56.0	58.5	59.1	55.0	63.8	69.9	69.9	48.3	58.5	60.2	60.2
24.5	31.3	31.5	31.3	30.0	35.5	38.4	38.0	40.3	41.3	40.9	35.0	37.5	38.8	38.8	30.0	40.3	41.6	41.8
.....	18.3	15.6	15.5	.....	20.7	19.7	19.3	19.7	17.6	17.0	.....	13.8	11.3	10.7	.....	20.7	18.7	18.6
.....	19.3	15.2	15.1	.....	18.9	16.2	15.5	19.3	15.3	15.2	.....	18.9	14.9	14.9	.....	18.9	15.8	15.4
.....	32.8	35.3	34.3	.....	46.6	45.9	45.3	[4] 11.0	[4] 12.1	[4] 12.4	.....	[4] 14.6	[4] 16.7	[4] 16.8	.....	34.7	37.6	39.0
.....	46.7	48.9	36.7	.....	51.5	55.5	45.2	51.7	49.7	39.7	.....	49.1	50.8	40.8	.....	54.5	56.2	40.4

[2] No. 3 can. [3] No. 2½ can. [4] Per pound.

TABLE 8.—AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF THE PRINCIPAL ARTI

Article.	Unit.	Richmond, Va.				Rochester, N. Y.			St. Louis, Mo.			
		Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1922.	Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.
		1913	1922						1913	1922		
		Cts.	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*
Sirloin steak	Pound	22.2	36.5	39.3	39.0	36.1	39.5	39.4	26.6	33.6	35.0	35.1
Round steak	do	20.0	31.9	34.3	34.5	30.7	33.1	33.1	23.6	31.0	32.3	32.4
Rib roast	do	18.9	29.1	29.8	29.7	27.2	29.0	29.6	19.5	26.7	28.5	28.3
Chuck roast	do	15.9	21.2	22.0	21.4	21.7	23.0	23.2	15.9	18.5	18.8	18.5
Plate beef	do	13.2	15.9	15.2	15.5	12.1	12.2	12.2	12.8	12.6	12.8	12.8
Pork chops	do	20.8	29.3	29.4	26.8	32.5	32.8	28.9	17.8	23.8	24.2	22.2
Bacon, sliced	do	25.0	37.2	33.4	32.2	36.1	34.0	33.7	25.0	38.1	38.8	38.3
Ham, sliced	do	25.0	41.0	39.4	37.7	46.8	45.8	45.5	27.3	41.2	43.6	42.5
Lamb, leg of	do	19.3	40.3	42.1	41.8	36.6	35.8	35.4	18.3	33.1	34.2	34.2
Hens	do	19.3	34.7	33.5	33.2	36.8	37.3	36.2	17.3	28.3	29.4	29.5
Salmon, canned, red	do	.....	32.0	32.0	31.2	28.9	28.6	28.1	.....	31.8	32.7	32.4
Milk, fresh	Quart	10.0	14.0	15.0	15.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	8.8	13.0	13.0	13.0
Milk, evaporated	15–16 oz. can	.....	12.8	13.6	13.6	12.0	12.1	12.1	.....	11.2	11.3	11.4
Butter	Pound	42.2	66.8	62.9	65.2	59.1	58.8	59.8	39.6	63.6	62.7	64.4
Oleomargarine	do	.....	29.5	29.6	29.6	28.5	31.6	31.3	.....	27.3	28.5	28.5
Nut margarine	do	.....	27.6	30.0	30.1	26.4	28.8	29.2	.....	25.3	25.2	25.3
Cheese	do	22.3	37.7	37.5	37.3	36.7	37.4	37.7	20.7	36.1	36.7	36.4
Lard	do	15.4	17.9	19.1	19.1	17.1	18.3	18.3	12.7	14.1	15.8	15.4
Vegetable lard substitute	do	.....	23.4	23.8	24.5	23.1	20.5	20.6	.....	22.1	23.8	24.2
Eggs, strictly fresh	Dozen	38.0	62.8	58.5	63.6	80.9	70.5	74.3	40.8	59.8	59.0	55.2
Eggs, storage	do	33.2	40.4	42.6	42.6	41.4	42.0	42.0	28.8	37.3	39.6	38.6
Bread	Pound	5.3	9.2	8.6	8.6	8.0	8.0	8.0	5.6	8.9	8.9	8.9
Flour	do	3.2	5.0	4.6	4.6	4.9	4.5	4.5	2.9	4.2	4.2	4.2
Corn meal	do	2.3	4.1	4.5	4.6	4.9	4.8	4.9	2.6	3.0	4.0	4.0
Rolled oats	do	.....	9.4	9.3	9.1	7.4	8.4	8.4	.....	8.0	8.5	8.5
Corn flakes	8-oz. pkg	.....	9.6	9.6	9.6	9.7	9.5	9.5	.....	8.9	9.0	9.1
Wheat cereal	28-oz. pkg	.....	26.5	25.3	25.8	24.8	23.5	24.0	.....	24.3	24.1	24.1
Macaroni	Pound	.....	20.3	21.0	20.9	19.0	18.5	18.1	.....	20.7	20.0	20.0
Rice	do	10.0	11.2	11.1	11.3	9.5	9.7	9.8	8.2	9.0	9.3	9.3
Beans, navy	do	.....	10.7	11.4	11.2	10.4	10.4	10.3	.....	9.8	9.8	9.5
Potatoes	do	2.0	2.6	3.4	3.4	1.4	2 1	2.1	1.7	2.2	2.5	2.5
Onions	do	.....	5.4	7.5	7.0	4.3	6.0	6.0	.....	4.6	5.5	5.7
Cabbage	do	.....	4.0	4.8	4.8	2.6	3.2	3.3	.....	3 3	2.9	3.4
Beans, baked	No. 2 can	.....	11.8	11.4	11.5	11.4	11.3	11.4	.....	11.1	11.1	11.4
Corn, canned	do	.....	14.8	15.1	15.3	15.9	16.4	16.2	.....	14.6	15.3	15.5
Peas, canned	do	.....	19.3	19.7	19.7	18.9	19.1	19.1	.....	16.4	16.7	16.8
Tomatoes, canned	do	.....	12.0	11.9	11.8	13.0	12.4	12.4	.....	11.5	12.2	12.2
Sugar, granulated	Pound	5.4	8.4	10.3	10.5	8.0	10.0	9.9	5.1	8.2	10.0	10.2
Tea	do	56.0	79.9	80.0	80.0	61.4	62.5	62.5	55.0	66.4	68.3	69.0
Coffee	do	26.8	35.6	38.1	37.8	34.8	35.0	35.4	24.4	35.3	37.0	36.8
Prunes	do	.....	22.7	19.4	19.2	20.6	19.3	19.2	.....	20.8	20.9	20.5
Raisins	do	.....	19.3	15.2	15.1	18.9	15.0	14.9	.....	18.1	16.3	16.0
Bananas	Dozen	.....	37.3	40.4	40.0	42.9	44.0	45.4	.....	31.1	31.6	32.9
Oranges	do	.....	46.0	45.9	37.1	53.4	55.0	45.8	.....	49.0	43.0	40.4

[1] No. 2½ can.

CLES OF FOOD IN 51 CITIES ON SPECIFIED DATES—Continued.

St. Paul, Minn.				Salt Lake City, Utah.				San Francisco, Calif.				Savannah, Ga.			Scranton, Pa.			
Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1922.	Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.
1913	1922			1913	1922			1913	1922						1913	1922		
Cts.	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*
25.0	32.4	32.7	33.0	22.6	25.4	25.9	26.0	21.0	29.9	30.6	31.6	29.3	28.8	29.6	25.5	46.8	49.0	49.0
20.8	26.1	26.9	26.8	20.0	22.4	23.0	22.8	20.0	27.2	27.7	28.3	24.0	24.2	24.2	21.5	37.3	39.1	39.5
19.6	26.2	25.5	26.1	19.0	20.4	20.3	19.8	21.7	28.5	29.6	29.9	21.9	23.6	24.4	22.8	34.6	36.1	36.9
16.0	19.1	19.9	19.8	14.5	16.1	16.3	16.3	15.0	18.2	18.3	19.1	14.7	15.0	15.6	17.6	25.2	26.9	26.7
10.3	10.1	10.9	11.0	12.5	11.4	11.2	11.4	15.0	14.7	13.9	15.5	12.6	11.8	11.8	11.3	11.3	10.7	10.7
17.4	25.9	25.4	23.5	23.4	28.6	28.9	26.9	24.2	37.4	38.5	36.3	27.3	26.7	25.0	20.8	33.1	33.1	29.6
26.0	40.4	37.7	36.1	29.0	39.0	35.9	35.0	34.4	53.9	50.6	50.1	36.6	33.7	33.5	25.8	41.7	41.1	40.4
27.0	42.4	40.8	40.3	30.0	45.0	41.7	41.3	34.0	52.6	52.9	51.2	38.1	35.0	34.3	27.7	53.3	53.2	52.5
16.3	31.6	30.0	29.6	18.0	31.3	29.6	29.5	16.6	35.6	36.8	36.5	37.5	36.3	36.3	18.7	42.2	45.2	42.7
16.8	26.1	25.0	24.5	22.6	31.4	31.2	30.6	24.5	42.4	42.5	40.3	30.7	31.8	31.1	21.8	41.1	41.8	41.3
.....	35.2	34.4	34.4	.....	32.9	34.4	34.0	.....	28.3	26.6	26.6	35.6	37.1	34.8	.....	36.6	34.9	34.2
7.8	11.0	12.0	12.0	8.7	9.7	10.0	10.0	10.0	13.0	14.0	14.0	17.3	17.5	17.5	8.8	14.0	14.0	14.0
.....	12.1	12.5	12.5	.....	11.1	11.1	11.2	.....	10.7	10.9	10.9	11.4	11.3	11.4	.....	12.2	12.3	12.4
36.9	56.8	55.1	56.6	40.0	56.3	57.0	54.4	38.6	59.0	61.2	60.1	60.2	60.5	60.9	37.8	54.0	56.3	57.3
.....	28.3	28.9	29.9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	29.0	28.8	30.0	32.7	33.6	33.7	.....	27.6	29.8	31.7
.....	26.8	27.0	27.0	.....	28.8	29.5	29.7	.....	28.7	28.2	29.0	30.3	31.2	31.2	.....	24.0	25.0	26.5
21.0	35.5	35.3	35.6	24.2	31.0	33.0	32.5	21.0	37.5	40.0	39.6	36.2	36 1	35.6	18.3	34.5	36.3	36.3
14.8	17.8	19.4	19.9	19.7	20.1	20.2	20.4	18.0	19.6	19.9	20.2	18.0	18.3	18.0	16.5	18.0	19.4	19.3
.....	25.2	21.6	22.6	.....	26.5	28.6	28.6	.....	25.2	25.9	26.4	21.7	19.9	18.2	.....	23.5	24.4	25.1
37.6	60.8	51.4	52.9	48.3	56.1	58.3	52.3	53.3	61.6	63.6	54.2	65.3	57.9	61.9	52.5	76.1	69.6	71.2
30.8	38.8	38.2	38.1	37.0	41.1	45.0	40.0	41.7	43.7	46.9	44.3	39.7	40.0	39.9	35.3	41.5	42.8	42.9
6.0	9.4	9.4	9.4	5.9	9.4	9.8	9.8	5.9	9.0	9.2	9.2	8.7	8.5	8.5	5.5	8.7	9.0	9.0
2.8	4.9	4.4	4.2	2.4	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.4	5.3	4.8	4.8	5.5	5.2	5.4	3.6	5.3	5.1	5.1
2.5	3.4	3.8	3.9	3.3	3.7	3.9	3.9	3.5	4.6	4.7	4.7	2.8	3.5	3.3	.....	5 7	5.5	5.6
.....	9.4	10.0	9.9	.....	9.1	9.2	9.4	.....	9.5	9.3	9.3	8.5	8.7	8.7	.....	9.6	9.6	9.7
.....	10.0	10.0	10.0	.....	11.8	11.1	10.9	.....	10.9	10.4	10.4	9.1	9.1	9.1	.....	9.9	10.1	10.1
.....	26.0	25.0	25.0	.....	25.8	25.3	25.6	.....	25.2	23.0	23.2	24.8	23.6	23.1	.....	26.6	25.4	26.1
.....	19.2	18.7	18.5	.....	20.6	19.5	19.4	.....	14.0	15.0	14.7	17.8	17.6	17.4	.....	23.0	22.5	22.5
10.0	9.6	9.6	9.7	8.2	9.1	9.0	9.1	8.5	9.2	9.3	9.3	7.9	8.4	8.1	8.5	9.7	10.0	9.9
.....	10.0	10.5	10.3	.....	10.0	10.4	10.5	.....	9.1	9.7	9.8	11.6	11.6	11.3	.....	11.4	12 3	12.0
1.4	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.4	1.2	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.4	3.2	3.4	2.4	2.8	2.8	1.9	2.0	2.6	2.5
.....	3.3	6.3	6.7	.....	2 9	4.2	3.9	.....	3.1	3.9	3.7	5.8	6.7	6.8	.....	4.9	6.1	5.9
.....	2.6	3.0	3.5	.....	2.9	3.0	2.9	.....	.....	.....	.....	4.4	4.8	4.9	.....	3.3	3.1	3.6
.....	14.5	14.2	14.6	.....	16.5	15.5	15.5	.....	14.9	14.2	14.2	12.9	12.1	11.9	.....	12.7	12.2	12.2
.....	14.4	15.0	15.0	.....	14.4	14.3	14.3	.....	16.3	16.8	16.8	14.8	14.9	14.6	.....	16.3	16.0	16.1
.....	16.4	16.7	16.9	.....	15.8	15.5	15.4	.....	17.7	17.3	17.1	16.2	17.8	17.8	.....	17.9	18.4	18.4
.....	14.3	14.0	14.0	.....	13.4	13.4	13.9	.....	[1]14.3	[1]14.3	[1]14.2	10.2	10.6	10.6	.....	13.4	13.2	13.2
5.1	8.6	10.2	10.7	5.8	9.2	11.0	11.1	5.4	8.4	10.2	10.3	8.1	10.2	10.1	5.5	8.3	10.3	10.4
45.0	65.4	67.1	67.5	65.7	79.4	82.8	81.4	50.0	57.3	58 1	59.0	66.2	67.6	67.6	52.5	60.1	61.1	61.1
30.0	39.9	40.4	40.4	35.8	43.8	44.8	44.8	32.0	35.7	37.9	38.1	33.8	35.4	34.9	31.3	38.8	39.7	39.6
.....	21.9	20.1	19.7	.....	18.6	16.5	16.5	.....	19.2	16.5	15.8	19.8	16.1	15.2	.....	19.0	17.8	17.1
.....	19.9	17.4	17.3	.....	19.0	15.7	15.2	.....	18.8	14.3	14.0	18.9	15.2	15.1	.....	19.6	16.4	16.2
.....	[2]12.4	[2]13.4	[2]15.0	.....	[2]14.9	[2]16.3	[2]16.5	.....	34.3	32.9	34.3	37.1	38.3	37.5	.....	31.9	35.0	34.0
.....	57.3	59.1	53.8	.....	46.7	40.0	37.4	.....	51.3	55.7	46.2	39.7	35.3	30.7	.....	51.4	52.6	46.1

[2] Per pound.

TABLE 8.—AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF THE PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF FOOD IN 51 CITIES ON SPECIFIED DATES—Concluded.

Article.	Unit.	Seattle, Wash.				Springfield, Ill.			Washington, D. C.			
		Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1922.	Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15—		Nov. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.
		1913	1922						1913	1922		
		Cts.	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*	*Cts.*
Sirloin steak	Pound	23.6	29.3	30.4	30.1	28.9	31.2	32.2	26.5	41.8	44.1	42.8
Round steak	do	20.6	25.8	26.0	26.2	28.7	30.8	31.4	22.6	34.5	37.9	36.1
Rib roast	do	20.0	24.0	24.5	23.9	21.6	21.8	22.0	21.0	32.6	34.3	33.7
Chuck roast	do	15.6	16.1	16.4	16.3	17.9	19.3	19.2	17.3	22.5	24.1	24.4
Plate beef	do	12.9	12.7	12.6	12.7	12.2	12.5	12.4	12.4	12.5	12.9	13.2
Pork chops	do	24.0	34.8	32.0	31.0	26.2	25.6	21.5	19.9	32.0	30.1	26.9
Bacon, sliced	do	33.0	48.4	47.5	46.7	38.7	39.6	37.5	24.9	39.0	36.0	34.8
Ham, sliced	do	30.0	49.6	51.0	49.9	43.2	44.3	43.9	29.0	55.2	54.1	52.8
Lamb, leg of	do	18.0	32.7	32.7	32.2	35.6	35.0	33.8	19.4	41.7	41.1	40.3
Hens	do	24.6	31.0	30.1	30.8	29.3	30.9	28.9	22.0	37.7	39.1	38.0
Salmon, canned, red	do	.....	31.2	30.4	30.4	33.4	34.4	34.5	.....	28.0	28.3	27.8
Milk, fresh	Quart	9.8	13.0	13.0	12.0	11.1	12.5	12.5	9.0	14.0	15.0	15.0
Milk, evaporated	15–16 oz. can	.....	11.1	11.0	10.9	12.6	12.9	12.5	.....	11.5	12.5	12.4
Butter	Pound	43.8	57.1	56.9	56.9	61.7	59.6	60.9	42.3	62.8	62.0	63.5
Oleomargarine	do	.....	29.7	30.3	30.3	28.3	31.1	31.8	.....	27.8	29.8	29.9
Nut margarine	do	.....	29.0	29.6	29.9	27.4	29.2	28.7	.....	27.2	29.1	28.5
Cheese	do	22.3	36.2	36.4	36.2	38.3	39.2	38.9	23.5	38.1	39.3	39.8
Lard	do	16.9	19.7	19.2	19.4	17.4	18.8	19.3	15.0	17.2	18.8	18.7
Vegetable lard substitute	do	.....	25.5	26.4	27.0	23.1	26.3	28.1	.....	23.2	24.4	25.1
Eggs, strictly fresh	Dozen	54.2	56.4	61.7	54.2	62.5	61.2	62.4	42.1	70.4	69.6	70.9
Eggs, storage	do	37.0	43.0	46.3	42.5	39.2	39.4	39.7	35.0	43.8	44.9	42.9
Bread	Pound	6.6	8.6	9.9	9.9	9.5	9.8	9.8	5.5	8.5	9.0	9.0
Flour	do	2.9	4.6	4.2	4.2	5.1	4.7	4.6	3.8	5.2	4.8	4.8
Corn meal	do	3.3	3.9	4.3	4.2	4.5	4.9	4.9	2.6	3.6	4.1	4.0
Rolled oats	do	.....	8.2	8.4	8.5	10.1	10.1	10.2	.....	9.3	9.2	9.2
Corn flakes	8-oz. pkg	.....	11.7	11.6	11.6	9.8	10.3	10.4	.....	9.4	9.5	9.4
Wheat cereal	28-oz. pkg	.....	26.9	24.0	24.2	26.8	25.0	26.1	.....	25.3	24.1	23.9
Macaroni	Pound	.....	18.5	18.2	18.2	20.5	20.3	20.1	.....	21.0	21.2	20.5
Rice	do	7.7	10.9	11.6	11.7	10.1	10.3	10.2	9.4	10.4	10.3	10.1
Beans, navy	do	.....	9.4	10.4	10.2	10.6	10.0	10.0	.....	10.9	10.3	9.9
Potatoes	do	1.5	1.7	2.2	2.2	1.9	2.1	2.0	1.8	2.7	2.8	2.6
Onions	do	.....	4.1	4.8	4.9	4.7	7.0	6.9	.....	5.1	6.8	6.4
Cabbage	do	.....	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.6	3.6	3.9	.....	3.8	4.7	4.8
Beans, baked	No. 2 can	.....	15.2	15.4	14.9	13.7	13.0	13.0	.....	11.9	11.7	11.3
Corn, canned	do	.....	16.8	17.6	17.7	14.3	14.8	14.8	.....	14.6	14.9	14.3
Peas, canned	do	.....	18.5	19.2	19.2	17.9	17.4	17.5	.....	15.9	15.4	15.6
Tomatoes, canned	do	.....	[1] 16.4	[1] 15.8	[1] 15.9	14.4	14.5	14.6	.....	11.2	11.6	11.0
Sugar, granulated	Pound	6.1	8.9	10.6	10.8	9.0	11.0	11.4	5.0	7.9	10.0	10.0
Tea	do	50.0	66.4	73.8	74.6	72.9	76.5	76.2	57.5	76.0	75.9	75.9
Coffee	do	28.0	39.0	39.0	39.6	36.3	38.1	38.1	28.8	34.4	34.9	34.1
Prunes	do	.....	18.1	15.8	15.8	22.8	19.1	18.1	.....	22.1	19.6	19.3
Raisins	do	.....	18.7	16.5	16.4	21.6	19.0	16.9	.....	18.7	16.0	15.0
Bananas	Dozen	.....	[2] 14.8	[2] 15.6	[2] 15.7	[2] 11.6	[2] 13.0	[2] 13.6	.....	37.5	39.4	38.5
Oranges	do	.....	54.3	51.6	42.6	56.2	58.8	51.8	.....	46.2	46.8	39.9

[1] No. 2½ can.

[2] Per pound.

Comparison of Retail Food Costs in 51 Cities.

TABLE 9 shows for 39 cities the percentage of increase or decrease in the retail cost of food [7] in December, 1923, compared with the average cost in the year 1913, in December, 1922, and in November, 1923. For 12 other cities comparisons are given for the one-year and the one-month periods. These cities have been scheduled by the bureau at different dates since 1913. These percentage changes are based on actual retail prices secured each month from retail dealers and on the average family consumption of these articles in each city.[8]

Effort has been made by the bureau each month to have perfect reporting cities. For the month of December 99 per cent of all the firms reporting in the 51 cities sent in a report promptly. The following were perfect reporting cities; that is, every merchant in the following-named 41 cities who is cooperating with the bureau sent in his report in time for his prices to be included in the city averages: Atlanta, Baltimore, Boston, Buffalo, Butte, Charleston, Chicago, Cleveland, Columbus, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Fall River, Houston, Indianapolis, Jacksonville, Kansas City, Little Rock, Louisville, Manchester, Memphis, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Newark, New Haven, New York, Norfolk, Omaha, Peoria, Pittsburgh, Portland, Me., Portland, Oreg., Providence, Richmond, Rochester, St. Paul, Salt Lake City, Savannah, Scranton, Seattle, Springfield, Ill.

The following summary shows the promptness with which the merchants responded in December:

RETAIL PRICE REPORTS RECEIVED DURING DECEMBER, 1923.

Item.	United States.	Geographical division.				
		North Atlantic.	South Atlantic.	North Central.	South Central.	Western.
Percentage of reports received	99	99	99	99	98	99
Number of cities in each section from which every report was received	41	12	7	12	5	5

[7] For list of articles, see note 2, p. 29.

[8] The consumption figure used from January, 1913, to December, 1920, for each article in each city is given in the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW for November, 1918, pp. 94 and 95. The consumption figures which have been used for each month beginning with January, 1921, are given in the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW for March, 1921, p. 26.

TABLE 9.—PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN THE RETAIL COST OF FOOD IN DECEMBER, 1923, COMPARED WITH THE COST IN NOVEMBER, 1923, DECEMBER, 1922, AND WITH THE AVERAGE COST IN THE YEAR 1913, BY CITIES.

City.	Percentage increase December, 1923, compared with—		Percentage decrease December, 1923, compared with November, 1923.	City.	Percentage increase December, 1923, compared with—		Percentage decrease December, 1923, compared with November, 1923.
	1913	December, 1922.			1913	December, 1922.	
Atlanta	48	3	[1] 1	Milwaukee	52	3	[1] 0.2
Baltimore	56	3	0.4	Minneapolis	46	1	[1] 1
Birmingham	54	4	[1] 1	Mobile	.....	4	[1] 1
Boston	56	3	2	Newark	51	2	1
Bridgeport	.....	3	2	New Haven	54	5	1
Buffalo	57	2	1	New Orleans	47	2	[1] 2
Butte	.....	[2] 0.4	1	New York	59	2	1
Charleston, S. C.	52	4	[1] 2	Norfolk	.....	2	[1] 1
Chicago	56	5	0.3	Omaha	45	2	[1] 1
Cincinnati	47	4	1	Peoria	.....	4	[1] 2
Cleveland	47	2	2	Philadelphia	52	1	2
Columbus	.....	5	2	Pittsburgh	54	3	1
Dallas	49	2	[1] 3	Portland, Me.	.....	2	2
Denver	39	0.3	0.4	Portland, Oreg.	36	1	0.2
Detroit	52	2	0.4	Providence	57	2	2
Fall River	57	3	[1] 0.1	Richmond	60	2	[1] 0.3
Houston	.....	1	[1] 1	Rochester	.....	1	[1] 0.4
Indianapolis	43	5	1	St. Louis	50	2	1
Jacksonville	45	4	[1] 1	St. Paul	.....	2	[1] 1
Kansas City	43	2	0.1	Salt Lake City	29	2	2
Little Rock	41	2	0.2	San Francisco	49	3	2
Los Angeles	45	2	2	Savannah	.....	0.2	[1] 0.2
Louisville	40	1	1	Scranton	58	2	0.1
Manchester	53	6	1	Seattle	41	1	3
Memphis	42	4	[1] 0.1	Springfield, Ill.	.....	4	0.4
				Washington, D.C.	57	1	1

[1] Increase. [2] Decrease.

Retail Prices of Coal in the United States.[a]

THE following table shows the average retail prices of coal on January 15 and July 15, 1913; December 15, 1922; and November 15 and December 15, 1923, for the United States and for each of the cities from which prices have been obtained. Prices for coal are secured from the cities from which monthly retail prices of food are received.

In addition to the prices for Pennsylvania anthracite, prices are shown for Colorado, Arkansas, and New Mexico anthracite in those cities where these coals form any considerable portion of the sales for household use.

The prices shown for bituminous coal are averages of prices of the several kinds used. The coal dealers in each city are asked to quote prices on the kinds of bituminous coal usually sold for household use.

The prices quoted are for coal delivered to consumers, but do not include charges for storing the coal in cellar or coal bins where an extra handling is necessary.

[a] Prices of coal were formerly secured semiannually and published in the March and September issues of the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW. Since June, 1920, these prices have been secured and published monthly.

AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF COAL PER TON OF 2,000 POUNDS, FOR HOUSEHOLD USE, ON JANUARY 15 AND JULY 15, 1913, DECEMBER 15, 1922, AND NOVEMBER 15 AND DECEMBER 15, 1923.

City, and kind of coal.	1913		1922	1923	
	Jan. 15.	July 15.	Dec. 15.	Nov. 15	Dec. 15.
United States:					
Pennsylvania anthracite—					
Stove	**$7.99**	**$7.46**	**$15.53**	**$15.86**	**$15.84**
Chestnut	**8.15**	**7.68**	**15.52**	**15.82**	**15.80**
Bituminous	**5.48**	**5.39**	**11.23**	**10.05**	**9.93**
Atlanta, Ga:					
Bituminous	5.88	4.83	10.40	8.25	8.14
Baltimore, Md.:					
Pennsylvania anthracite—					
Stove	[1] 7.70	[1] 7.24	[1] 16.25	[1] 16.75	[1] 16.75
Chestnut	[1] 7.93	[1] 7.49	[1] 16.27	[1] 16.50	[1] 16.50
Bituminous	.....	.....	10.20	8.15	8.00
Birmingham, Ala.:					
Bituminous	4.22	4.01	8.40	8.43	8.43
Boston Mass.:					
Pennsylvania anchracite—					
Stove	8.25	7.50	16.00	16.00	16.00
Chestnut	8.25	7.75	16.00	16.00	16.00
Bridgeport, Conn.:					
Pennsylvania anthracite—					
Stove	.....	.....	15.56	16.50	16.50
Chestnut	.....	.....	15.75	16.50	16.50
Buffalo, N. Y.:					
Pennsylvania anthracite—					
Stove	6.75	6.54	13.24	13.54	13.66
Chestnut	6.99	6.80	13.24	13.54	13.66
Butte, Mont.:					
Bituminous	.....	.....	11.50	11.46	11.39
Charleston, S. C.:					
Pennsylvania anthracite—					
Stove	[1] 8.38	[1] 7.75	[1] 17.00	[1] 17.00	[1] 17.00
Chestnut	[1] 8.50	[1] 8.00	[1] 17.10	[1] 17.10	[1] 17.10
Bituminous	[1] 6.75	[1] 6.75	12.00	12.00	12.00
Chicago, Ill.:					
Pennsylvania anthracite—					
Stove	8.00	7.80	16.18	17.00	17.00
Chestnut	8.25	8.05	16.00	17.00	17.00
Bituminous	4.97	4.65	10.82	8.75	8.71
Cincinnati, Ohio:					
Bituminous	3.50	3.38	9.62	8.39	8.14
Cleveland, Ohio:					
Pennsylvania anthracite—					
Stove	7.50	7.25	15.68	15.48	15.48
Chestnut	7.75	7.50	15.68	15.48	15.48
Bituminous	4.14	4.14	10.90	9.54	8.77
Columbus, Ohio:					
Bituminous	.....	.....	9.74	7.55	7.16
Dallas, Tex.:					
Arkansas anthracite—					
Egg	.....	.....	18.13	17.58	17.58
Bituminous	8.25	7.21	15.48	14.79	14.79
Denver, Colo.:					
Colorado anthracite—					
Furnace, 1 and 2 mixed	8.88	9.00	17.00	16.75	16.75
Stove, 3 and 5 mixed	8.50	8.50	17.00	16.75	16.75
Bituminous	5.25	4.88	11.04	10.68	10.68
Detroit, Mich.:					
Pennsylvania anthracite—					
Stove	8.00	7.45	15.94	16.75	16.38
Chestnut	8.25	7.65	15.94	16.75	16.38
Bituminous	5.20	5.20	12.03	9.91	9.80
Fall River, Mass.:					
Pennsylvania anthracite—			16.50		
Stove	8.25	7.43	15.75	16.17	16.50
Chestnut	8.25	7.61	11.00	16.08	16.42
Houston, Tex.:					
Bituminous	.....	.....	12.83	13.17	13.17
Indianapolis, Ind.:					
Pennsylvania anthracite—					
Stove	8.95	8.00	15.75	16.75	16.50
Chestnut	9.15	8.25	15.75	16.75	16.50
Bituminous	3.81	3.70	9.61	7.48	7.05
Jacksonville, Fla.:					
Bituminous	7.50	7.00	15.00	13.00	13.00

[1] Per ton of 2,240 pounds.

AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF COAL PER TON OF 2,000 POUNDS, FOR HOUSEHOLD USE, ON JANUARY 15 AND JULY 15, 1913, DECEMBER 15, 1922, AND NOVEMBER 15 AND DECEMBER 15, 1923—Continued.

City, and kind of coal.	1913		1922	1923	
	Jan. 15.	July 15.	Dec. 15.	Nov. 15.	Dec. 15.
Kansas City, Mo.:					
Arkansas anthracite—					
Furnace	.....	.....	$16.93	$16.29	$16.36
Stove, No. 4	.....	.....	17.88	17.25	17.33
Bituminous	$4.39	$3.94	8.96	8.54	8.56
Little Rock, Ark.:					
Arkansas anthracite—					
Egg	.....	.....	15.00	15.00	15.00
Bituminous	6.00	5.33	12.50	11.50	11.42
Los Angeles, Calif.:					
Bituminous	13.52	12.50	16.50	15.50	15.50
Louisville, Ky.:					
Bituminous	4.20	4.00	10.11	8.54	8.50
Manchester, N. H.:					
Pennsylvania anthracite—					
Stove	10.00	8.50	18.00	18.00	18.00
Chestnut	10.00	8.50	18.00	17.50	17.50
Memphis, Tenn.:					
Bituminous	[2] 4.34	[2] 4.22	9.41	7.45	7.79
Milwaukee, Wis.:					
Pennsylvania anthracite—					
Stove	8.00	7.85	16.42	16.83	16.83
Chestnut	8.25	8.10	16.40	16.74	16.74
Bituminous	6.25	5.71	12.42	10.84	10.90
Minneapolis, Minn.:					
Pennsylvania anthracite—					
Stove	9.25	9.05	17.66	18.17	18.17
Chestnut	9.50	9.30	17.67	18.08	18.08
Bituminous	5.89	5.79	14.19	11.75	11.63
Mobile, Ala.:					
Bituminous	.....	.....	10.97	11.00	11.07
Newark, N. J.:					
Pennsylvania anthracite—					
Stove	6.50	6.25	12.79	13.45	13.45
Chestnut	6.75	6.50	12.79	13.45	13.45
New Haven, Conn.:					
Pennsylvania anthracite—					
Stove	7.50	6.25	15.33	15.92	16.00
Chestnut	7.50	6.25	15.33	15.92	16.00
New Orleans, La.:					
Pennsylvania anthracite—					
Stove	10.00	10.00	21.50	21.75	22.00
Chestnut	10.50	10.50	21.50	21.75	22.00
Bituminous	[2] 6.06	[2] 6.06	11.21	11.16	11.44
New York, N. Y.:					
Pennsylvania anthracite—					
Stove	7.07	6.66	14.54	14.58	14.50
Chestnut	7.14	6.80	14.54	14.58	14.50
Norfolk, Va.:					
Pennsylvania anthracite—					
Stove	.....	.....	16.00	16.00	16.00
Chestnut	.....	.....	16.00	16.00	16.00
Bituminous	.....	.....	12.43	10.41	9.12
Omaha, Nebr.:					
Bituminous	6.63	6.13	12.04	10.86	10.86
Peoria, Ill.:					
Bituminous	.....	.....	7.13	6.33	6.21
Philadelphia, Pa.:					
Pennsylvania anthracite—					
Stove	[1] 7.16	[1] 6.89	[1] 14.97	[1] 16.18	[1] 16.14
Chestnut	[1] 7.38	[1] 7.14	[1] 14.97	[1] 16.07	[1] 16.04
Pittsburgh, Pa.:					
Pennsylvania anthracite—					
Stove	[1] 7.94	[1] 7.38	[1] 17.00	[1] 18.50	[1] 17.00
Chestnut	[1] 8.00	[1] 7.44	[1] 17.00	[1] 18.50	[1] 17.00
Bituminous	[3] 3.16	[3] 3.18	8.38	7.54	7.54
Portland, Me.:					
Pennsylvania anthracite—					
Stove	.....	.....	15.84	16.81	16.56
Chestnut	.....	.....	15.84	16.81	16.56
Portland, Oreg.:					
Bituminous	9.79	9.66	14.27	14.00	14.11

[1] Per ton of 2,240 pounds. [2] Per 10-barrel lots (1,800 pounds). [3] Per 25-bushel lots (1,900 pounds.)

AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF COAL PER TON OF 2,000 POUNDS, FOR HOUSEHOLD USE, ON JANUARY 15 AND JULY 15, 1913, DECEMBER 15, 1922, AND NOVEMBER 15 AND DECEMBER 15, 1923—Continued.

City, and kind of coal.	1913		1922	1923	
	Jan. 15.	July 15.	Dec. 15.	Nov. 15.	Dec. 15.
Providence, R. I.:					
Pennsylvania anthracite—					
Stove	[4] $8.25	[4] $7.50	[4] $15.60	[4] $16.25	$16.40
Chestnut	[4] 8.25	[4] 7.75	[4] 15.60	[4] 16.25	[4] 16.40
Richmond, Va.:					
Pennsylvania anthracite—					
Stove	8.00	7.25	16.00	16.63	16.50
Chestnut	8.00	7.25	16.00	16.63	16.50
Bituminous	5.50	4.94	12.90	11.70	11.32
Rochester, N. Y.:					
Pennsylvania anthracite—					
Stove	.....	.....	13.45	14.10	14.10
Chestnut	.....	.....	13.45	14.10	14.10
St. Louis, Mo.:					
Pennsylvania anthracite—					
Stove	8.44	7.74	16.44	17.13	17.13
Chestnut	8.68	7.99	16.44	17.31	17.31
Bituminous	3.36	3.04	8.33	7.26	7.13
St. Paul, Minn.:					
Pennsylvania anthracite—					
Stove	9.20	9.05	17.67	18.14	18.14
Chestnut	9.45	9.30	17.64	18.09	18.09
Bituminous	6.07	6.04	14.37	12.25	12.19
Salt Lake City, Utah:					
Colorado anthracite—					
Furnace, 1 and 2 mixed	11.00	11.50	.....	17.50	18.00
Stove, 3 and 5 mixed	11.00	11.50	.....	17.50	.....
Bituminous	5.64	5.46	9.45	8.74	8.48
San Francisco, Calif.:					
New Mexico anthracite—					
Cerillos egg	17.00	17.00	26.75	26.50	26.50
Colorado anthracite—					
Egg	17.00	17.00	24.25	24.50	24.50
Bituminous	12.00	12.00	17.90	16.90	17.40
Savannah, Ga.:					
Pennsylvania anthracite—					
Stove	.....	.....	[5] 17.10	[5] 17.00	[5] 17.00
Chestnut	.....	.....	[5] 17.10	[5] 17.00	[5] 17.00
Bituminous	.....	.....	[5] 14.18	[5] 12.02	[5] 12.20
Scranton, Pa.:					
Pennsylvania anthracite—					
Stove	4.25	4.31	9.82	10.53	10.53
Chestnut	4.50	4.56	10.30	10.53	10.53
Seattle, Wash.:					
Bituminous	[6] 7.63	[6] 7.70	[6] 10.07	[6] 10.35	[6] 10.25
Springfield, Ill.:					
Bituminous	.....	.....	5.35	4.70	4.50
Washington, D. C.:					
Pennsylvania anthracite—					
Stove	[1] 7.50	[1] 7.38	[1] 15.87	[1] 16.22	[1] 16.31
Chestnut	[1] 7.65	[1] 7.53	[1] 15.87	[1] 16.04	[1] 16.22
Bituminous	.....	.....	[1] 11.30	[1] 8.87	[1] 8.87

[1] Per ton of 2,240 pounds.

[4] Fifty cents per ton additional is charged for "binning." Most customers require binning or basketing the coal into the cellar.

[5] All coal sold in Savannah is weighed by the city. A charge of 10 cents per ton or half ton is made. This additional charge has been included in the above prices.

[6] Prices in Zone A. The cartage charges in Zone A were as follows: January and July, 1913, $0.50; December, 1922, $1.25 to $1.75; and November and December, 1923, $1.25. These charges have been included in the price.

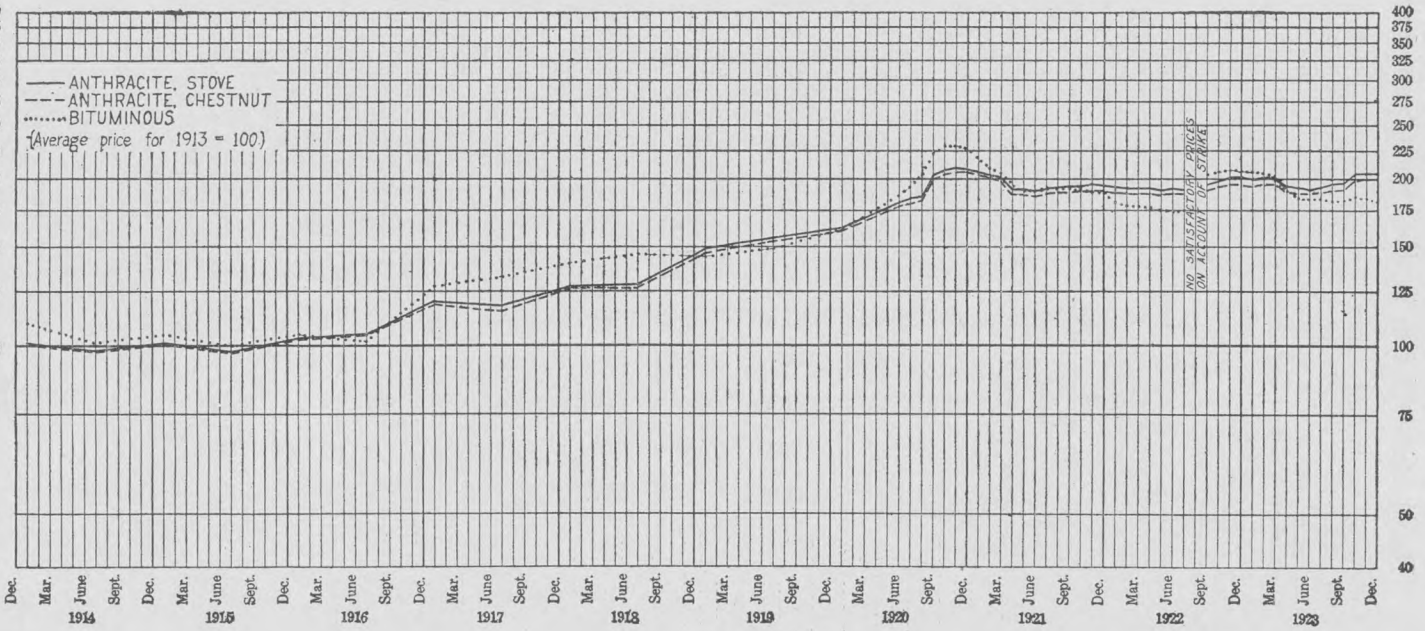
The following table shows for the United States both average and relative retail prices of Pennsylvania white ash coal, stove and chestnut sizes, and of bituminous coal in January and July, 1913 to 1922, and for each month of 1923. An average price for the year 1913 has been made from the averages for January and July of that year. The average prices for each month have been divided by this average price for the year 1913 to obtain the relative prices.

The figures for the chart, showing the trend in the retail prices of coal, have been taken from the table.

AVERAGE AND RELATIVE PRICES OF COAL IN TON LOTS FOR THE UNITED STATES ON SPECIFIED DATES FROM JANUARY, 1913, TO DECEMBER, 1923.

Year and month.	Pennsylvania anthracite, white ash.				Bituminous.	
	Stove.		Chestnut.		Average price.	Relative price.
	Average price.	Relative price.	Average price.	Relative price.		
1913—						
Average for year	$7.73	100	$7.91	100	$5.43	100
January	7.99	103	8.15	103	5.48	101
July	7.46	97	7.68	97	5.39	99
1914—						
January	7.80	101	8.00	101	5.97	110
July	7.60	98	7.78	98	5.46	101
1915—						
January	7.83	101	7.99	101	5.71	105
July	7.54	98	7.73	98	5.44	100
1916—						
January	7.93	103	8.13	103	5.69	105
July	8.12	105	8.28	105	5.52	102
1917—						
January	9.29	120	9.40	119	6.96	128
July	9.08	118	9.16	116	7.21	133
1918—						
January	9.88	128	10.03	127	7.68	141
July	9.96	129	10.07	127	7.92	146
1919—						
January	11.51	149	11.61	147	7.90	145
July	12.14	157	12.17	154	8.10	149
1920—						
January	12.59	163	12.77	161	8.81	162
July	14.28	185	14.33	181	10.55	194
1921—						
January	15.99	207	16.13	204	11.82	218
July	14.90	193	14.95	189	10.47	193
1922—						
January	14.98	194	15.02	190	9.89	182
July	14.87	192	14.92	189	9.49	175
1923—						
January	15.43	200	15.46	195	11.18	206
February	15.55	201	15.53	196	11.14	205
March	15.52	201	15.51	196	11.03	203
April	15.07	195	15.07	190	10.46	192
May	14.96	194	14.96	189	10.08	185
June	14.98	194	14.95	189	10.04	185
July	15.10	195	15.05	190	10.04	185
August	15.19	197	15.14	191	9.94	183
September	15.26	198	15.21	192	9.99	184
October	15.83	205	15.79	199	10.12	186
November	15.86	205	15.82	200	10.05	185
December	15.84	205	15.80	200	9.93	183

TREND IN RETAIL PRICES OF COAL FOR THE UNITED STATES, JANUARY, 1914, TO DECEMBER, 1923.



80624°—24——5 [275]

Retail Prices of Gas in the United States.[a]

THE following table shows for 51 cities the net price for the first 1,000 cubic feet of gas used for household purposes. Prices are, in most cases, for manufactured gas, but prices for natural gas have also been quoted for those cities where it is in general use. For Buffalo and Los Angeles prices are given for natural and manufactured gas, mixed. The prices shown do not include any extra charge for service.

NET PRICE FOR THE FIRST 1,000 CUBIC FEET OF GAS, FOR HOUSEHOLD USE, ON APRIL 15 OF EACH YEAR, 1913 TO 1920, AND ON MAY 15, 1921, AND MARCH 15 AND DECEMBER 15, 1922, AND MARCH 15, JUNE 15, SEPTEMBER 15, AND DECEMBER 15, 1923, BY CITIES

City.	Apr. 15, 1913.	Apr. 15, 1914.	Apr. 15, 1915.	Apr. 15, 1916.	Apr. 15, 1917.	Apr. 15, 1918.	Apr. 15, 1919.	Apr. 15, 1920.	May 15, 1921.	Mar. 15, 1922.	Dec. 15, 1922.	Mar. 15, 1923.	June 15, 1923.	Sept. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.
Atlanta	$1.00	$1.00	$1.00	$1.00	$1.00	$1.00	$1.15	$1.15	$1.90	$1.65	$1.65	$1.65	$1.65	$1.65	$1.55
Baltimore	.90	.80	80	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.92	.92	.92	.92	.85	.85
Birmingham	1.00	.95	.95	.95	.95	.95	.95	.95	.88	.88	.80	.80	.80	.80	.80
Boston	.82	.82	.80	.80	.80	.85	1.02	1.07	1.42	1.34	1.30	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25
Bridgeport	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.10	1.10	[1] 1.30	1.60	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50
Buffalo	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.45	1.45	1.45	1.45	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Butte	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	2.10	2.10	2.10	2.10	2.10	2.10	2.10
Charleston	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.00	1.10	1.10	1.25	1.55	1.55	1.55	1.55	1.55	1.55	1.55
Chicago	.80	.80	.80	.80	.80	.76	.94	.90	1.29	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.17	1.17
Cleveland	.80	.80	.80	.80	.80	.80	.80	.80	.80	.80	.80	.80	.80	1.25	1.25
Denver	.85	.80	.80	.80	.80	.85	.95	.95	.95	.95	.95	.95	.95	.95	.95
Detroit	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.79	.79	.85	.79	.79	.79	.79	.79	.79
Fall River	.80	.80	.80	.80	.80	.95	.95	1.05	1.25	1.15	1.15	1.15	1.15	1.15	1.15
Houston	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.09	1.09	1.09	1.09	1.09	1.09	1.09	1.09
Indianapolis	.60	.55	.55	.55	.55	.55	.60	.60	.90	.90	[2] 1.20	[2] 1.20	[2] 1.15	[2] 1.15	[2] 1.15
Jacksonville	1.20	1.20	1.15	1.15	1.15	1.25	1.25	1.50	1.75	1.75	1.65	1.65	1.65	1.65	2.40
Manchester	1.10	1.10	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.10	1.10	[3] 1.50	[3] 1.40	[3] 1.40	[3] 1.40	[3] 1.40	[3] 1.40	[3] 1.40
Memphis	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	[1] 1.10	1.35	1.35	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20
Milwaukee	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.90	.90	.98	.98	.98	.95	.95
Minneapolis	.85	.80	.80	.77	.77	.77	.95	.95	1.28	1.02	.99	1.03	1.05	1.01	1.01
Mobile	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.35	1.35	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.80
Newark	1.00	.90	.90	.90	.90	.97	.97	1.15	1.40	1.40	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25
New Haven	.90	.90	.90	.90	.90	1.00	1.10	1.10	[1] 1.10	[1] 1.10	1.45	1.45	1.45	1.45	1.45
New Orleans	1.10	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.45	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.30
New York	.84	.84	.83	.83	.83	.83	.85	.87	[4] 1.36	[4] 1.28	[5] 1.21	[5] 1.21	1.23	1.23	1.23
Norfolk	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.20	1.20	1.60	1.40	1.45	1.35	1.40	1.40	1.35	1.30
Omaha	1.15	1.15	1.15	1.00	1.00	1.15	1.15	1.15	1.53	1.40	1.35	1.35	1.35	1.35	1.30
Peoria	.90	.90	.90	.90	85	.85	.85	.85	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20
Philadelphia	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Pittsburgh	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	(6)	(6)	(6)	(6)	(6)	(6)	(6)	(5)
Portland, Me	1.10	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.40	1.40	1.85	1.75	1.55	1.55	1.55	1.55	1.55
Portland, Oreg	.95	.95	.95	.95	.95	.95	.95	.95	1.67	1.50	1.43	1.43	1.43	1.43	1.43
Providence	.85	.85	.85	.85	.85	1.00	1.30	1.30	[1] 1.25	[1] 1.25	[1] 1.15	[1] 1.10	[1] 1.05	[1] 1.05	[1] 1.05
Richmond	.90	.90	.90	.80	.80	.80	1.00	1.00	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.30
Rochester	.95	.95	.95	.95	.95	.95	.95	.95	[7] 1.05	1.10	1.05	1.05	1.05	1.00	1.00
St. Louis	.80	.80	.80	.80	.75	.75	.75	.85	1.05	1.05	1.05	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
St. Paul	.95	.90	.90	.85	.85	.85	.85	.85	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	.85	.85	.85
Salt Lake City	.90	.90	.90	.90	.90	.90	1.10	[3] 1.30	[3] 1.52	[3] 1.52	[3] 1.52	[3] 1.52	[3] 1.52	[3] 1.52	[3] 1.52
San Francisco	.75	.85	.85	.85	.85	.85	.95	1.05	1.04	1.04	.92	.92	.92	.92	.92
Savannah	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1.25	1.60	1.60	1.45	1.45	1.45	1.45	1.45
Scranton	.95	.95	.95	.95	.95	1.15	1.30	1.30	1.70	1.70	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.60
Seattle	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.25	1.25	1.55	1.55	1.55	1.55	1.55	1.55	1.55	1.55
Springfield, Ill	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.10	1.10	1.40	1.40	1.40	1.40	1.35	1.35	1.35
Washington, D. C	.93	.93	.93	.93	.80	.90	.95	.95	1.25	1.10	1.05	1.05	1.05	1.05	1.00

[a] Retail prices of gas are published at quarterly intervals in the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW.

[1] Plus 50 cents per month service charge.

[2] The rate was increased from 90 cents by order of the Federal court, and is subject to final decision by the same court. Pending the decision this increase has been impounded.

[3] Plus 25 cents per month service charge.

[4] The prices of two companies included in this average have an additional service charge of 2½ cents per day.

[5] The price of one company included in this average has an additional service charge of 2½ cents per day.

[6] Sale of manufactured gas discontinued.

[7] Plus 40 cents per month service charge.

NET PRICE FOR THE FIRST 1,000 CUBIC FEET OF GAS, FOR HOUSEHOLD USE, ON APRIL 15 OF EACH YEAR, 1913 TO 1920, AND ON MAY 15, 1921, AND MARCH 15 AND DECEMBER 15, 1922, AND MARCH 15, JUNE 15, SEPTEMBER 15, AND DECEMBER 15, 1923, BY CITIES—Concluded.

Natural gas.

City.	Apr. 15, 1913.	Apr. 15, 1914.	Apr. 15, 1915.	Apr. 15, 1916.	Apr. 15, 1917.	Apr. 15, 1918.	Apr. 15, 1919.	Apr. 15, 1920.	May 15, 1921.	Mar. 15, 1922.	Dec. 15, 1922.	Mar. 15, 1923.	June 15, 1923.	Sept. 15, 1923.	Dec. 15, 1923.
Buffalo	$0.30	$0.30	$0.30	$0.30	$0.30	$0.30	$0.35	$0.35	$0.35	$0.42	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cincinnati	.30	.30	.30	.30	.30	.35	.35	.35	.35	.50	$0.50	$0.50	$0.50	$0.50	.....
Cleveland	.30	.30	.30	.30	.30	.30	.35	.35	.35	.40	.40	.40	[1] .45	[1] .45	[1] $0.45
Columbus	.....	.....	.....	.....	.30	.30	.30	.30	.30	.45	.45	.45	.45	.45	.45
Dallas	.45	.45	.45	.45	.45	.45	.45	.45	.68	.68	.68	.68	.68	.68	.68
Kansas City, Mo.	.27	.27	.27	.27	.30	.60	.80	.80	[1] .80	[1] .80	[1] .85	[1] .85	[1] .85	[1] .85	[1] .85
Little Rock	.40	.40	.40	.40	.40	.40	.45	.45	.45	.45	.45	.45	.45	.45	[1] .55
Louisville	.....	.62	.65	.65	.65	.65	.65	.65	.65	.65	.65	.65	.65	.65	.65
Pittsburgh	.28	.28	.28	.28	.28	.28	.35	.35	.45	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50	.53

Manufactured and natural gas, mixed.

Los Angeles	.....	.....	$0.68	$0.68	$0.68	$0.68	$0.75	$0.75	$0.75	$0.76	$0.69	$0.68	$0.68	$0.68	$0.68
Buffalo	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	[3] .62	[3] .62	[3] .62	[3] .61	[3] .61

[1] Plus 50 cents per month service charge. [3] Price includes a coal charge.

From the prices quoted on manufactured gas average prices have been computed for all of the cities combined and are shown in the next table for April 15 of each year from 1913 to 1920, and for May 15, September 15, and December 15, 1921, and March 15, June 15, September 15, and December 15, 1922 and 1923. Relative prices have been computed by dividing the price of each year by the price in April, 1913.

As may be seen in the table, the price of manufactured gas changed but little until 1921. The price in December, 1923, showed an increase of 34 per cent since April, 1913. From September, 1923, to December, 1923, there was an increase of 1 per cent.

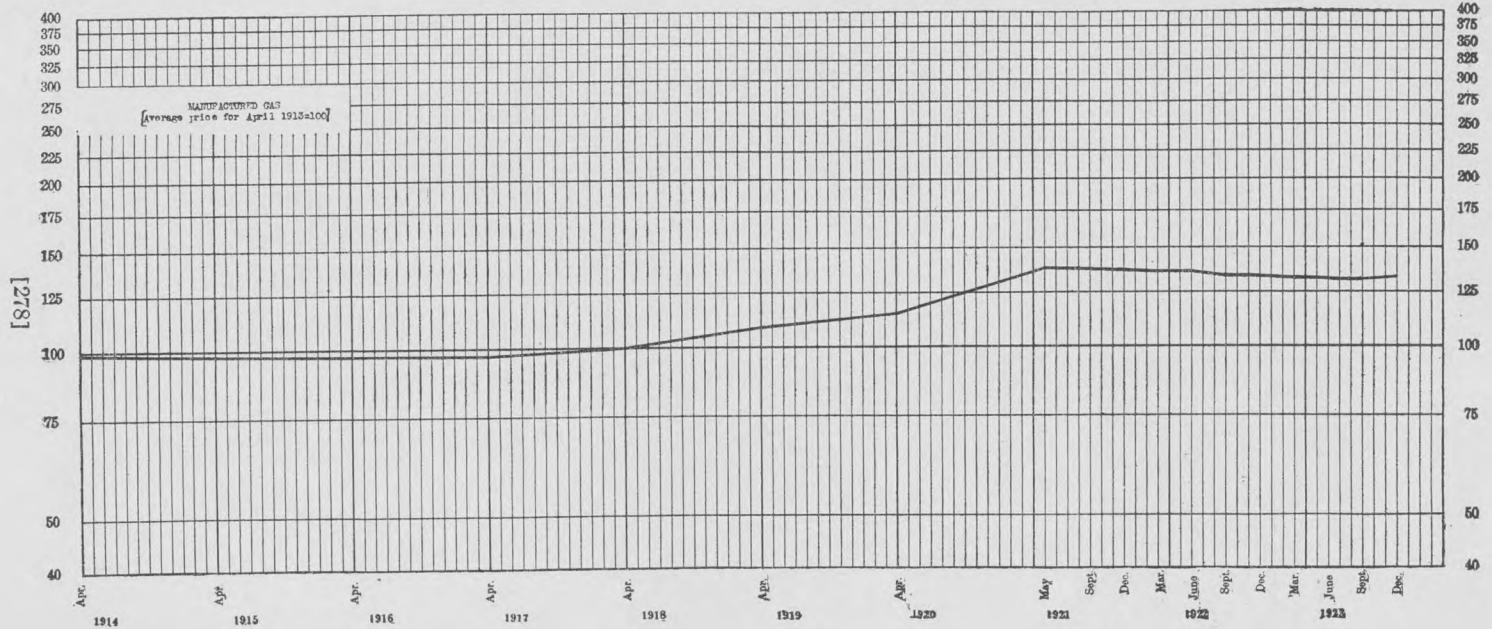
AVERAGE[1] AND RELATIVE PRICES OF MANUFACTURED GAS, FOR HOUSEHOLD USE, PER 1,000 CUBIC FEET, ON APRIL 15 OF EACH YEAR, 1913 TO 1920; AND ON MAY 15, SEPTEMBER 15, AND DECEMBER 15, 1921; MARCH 15, JUNE 15, SEPTEMBER 15, AND DECEMBER 15, 1922 AND 1923, FOR ALL CITIES COMBINED.

[Average prices in April, 1913=100.]

Date.	Average price.	Relative price.	Date.	Average price.	Relative price.
Apr. 15, 1913	$0.95	100	Dec. 15, 1921	$1.30	137
Apr. 15, 1914	.94	99	Mar. 15, 1922	1.29	136
Apr. 15, 1915	.93	98	June 15, 1922	1.29	136
Apr. 15, 1916	.92	97	Sept. 15, 1922	1.27	134
Apr. 15, 1917	.92	97	Dec. 15, 1922	1.27	134
Apr. 15, 1918	.95	100	Mar. 15, 1923	1.26	133
Apr. 15, 1919	1.04	109	June 15, 1923	1.26	133
Apr. 15, 1920	1.09	115	Sept. 15, 1923	1.26	133
May 15, 1921	1.32	139	Dec. 15, 1923	1.27	134
Sept. 15, 1921	1.31	138			

[1] Net price.

TREND IN RETAIL PRICE OF GAS FOR THE UNITED STATES, APRIL, 1914, TO DECEMBER, 1923.



Retail Prices of Electricity in the United States.

THE following table shows for 51 cities the net rates per kilowatt hour of electricity used for household purposes for specified months, from 1913 to 1923.

For the cities having more than one tariff for domestic consumers the rates are shown for the schedule under which most of the residences are served.

The consumption per month is expressed in hours of demand for several of the cities from which prices for electricity have been obtained. Since the demand is determined by a different method in each city, the explanation of these methods is given following the table.

NET PRICE PER KILOWATT HOUR FOR ELECTRICITY FOR HOUSEHOLD USE IN SPECIFIED MONTHS, 1913 TO 1923, FOR 51 CITIES.

City.	Measure of consumption, per month.	December, 1913.	December, 1914.	December, 1915.	December, 1916.	December, 1917.	June, 1918.	June, 1919.	June, 1920.	May, 1921.	1922				1923			
											March.	June.	September.	December.	March.	June.	September.	December.
		Cents.	*Cents.*	*Cents.*	*Cents.*	*Cents.*	*Cents.*	*Cents.*	*Cents.*	*Cents.*	*Cents.*	*Cents.*	*Cents.*	*Cents.*	*Cents.*	*Cents.*	*Cents.*	*Cents.*
Atlanta	First 100 kilowat hours	[1] 7.0	[1] 7.0	[1] 7.0	[1] 7.0	[1] 7.0	[1] 7.0	8.0	8.0	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1
Baltimore	First 40 kilowatt hours	[2] 8.5	[2] 8.5	[2] 8.5	[2] 8.5	[2] 8.0	[2] 8.0	[2] 8.0	[2] 8.0	[2] 8.0	[2] 8.0	[2] 8.0	[2] 8.0	[2] 8.0	[2] 8.0	[2] 8.0	8.0	8.0
Birmingham	First 100 kilowatt hours	[3] 8.5	[3] 8.5	[3] 8.5	[3] 7.7	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.7
Boston:																		
Company A	All current	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	[4] 11.5	[4] 11.8	[4] 11.3	10.0	10.0	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.5
Company B	do	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	[4] 11.5	[4] 11.8	[4] 11.3	10.0	10.0	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.5
Bridgeport	do	9.0	8.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.5	8.0	8.0	8.5	8.0	8.0	8.0	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5
Buffalo [5]	First 60 hours' use of demand	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0
	Next 120 hours' use of demand	5.0	5.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
	Excess	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Butte	First 25 kilowatt hours	[6] 9.5	[6] 9.5	[6] 9.5	[6] 9.5	[6] 9.5	[6] 9.5	[6] 9.5	[6] 9.5	[6] 9.5	[6] 9.5	[6] 9.5	[6] 9.5	[6] 9.5	[6] 9.5	[6] 9.5	8.0	8.0
	Next 25 kilowatt hours																4.0	4.0
Charleston	First 50 kilowatt hours	[7] 10.0	[7] 10.0	[7] 10.0	[7] 10.0	[7] 10.0	[7] 10.0	[7] 10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
	Next 50 kilowatt hours	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0										
Chicago [5]	First 30 hours' use of demand	10.0	10.0	10.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	8.0	8.0
	Next 30 hours' use of demand	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
	Excess	4.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Cincinnati [5]	First 30 hours' use of demand	9.5	9.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5
	Next 30 hours' use of demand	6.7	6.7	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5
	Excess	3.8	3.8	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5
Cleveland:																		
Company A	All current	[8] 10.0	[8] 10.0	[8] 10.0	[8] 10.0	[8] 10.0	[8] 10.0	[8] 10.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
	Excess	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0										
Company B	All current	[9] 8.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.00	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
	Next 690 kilowatt hours	5.0																
Columbus	All current	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0
Dallas	First 800 kilowatt hours	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	7.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	[10] 6.0	6.0
Denver	All current	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0
Detroit	First 3 kilowatt hours per active room.	[10] 12.6	[10] 12.6	[10] 12.6	[10] 12.6	[10] 12.6	[10] 12.6	[10] 12.6	[10] 12.6	12.6	12.6	12.6	10.8	10.8	10.8	10.8	10.8	10.8
	Excess	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6
Fall River	First 25 kilowatt hours	[11] 9.5	[11] 9.5	[11] 8.6	[11] 8.6	[11] 8.6	[12] 8.6	[12] 9.5	[12] 10.5	[12] 10.5	[12] 10.5	[12] 10.5	[12] 9.5	[12] 9.5	[12] 9.5	9.0	9.0	9.0
	Next 975 kilowatt hours															8.5	8.5	8.5
Houston [5]	First 30 hours' use of demand	[13] 12.4	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.2	.....
	Excess	.....	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	.....
Indianapolis:																		
Company A	First 50 kilowatt hours	[14] 7.5	[14] 7.5	[15] 6.5	[15] 6.5	[15] 6.5	[15] 6.5	[15] 6.5	[15] 6.5	[15] 7.5	[15] 7.5	[16] 7.5	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0
	Next 150 kilowatt hours	.....	.....	[17] 5.0	[17] 5.0	[17] 5.0	[17] 5.0	[17] 5.0	[17] 7.0	[17] 7.0	[17] 7.0	[17] 7.0	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5
Company B	First 50 kilowatt hours	[11] 7.0	[11] 7.0	[15] 6.5	[15] 6.5	[15] 6.5	[15] 6.5	[15] 6.5	[15] 6.5	[15] 7.5	[15] 7.5	[16] 7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0
	Next 150 kilowatt hours	.....	.....	[17] 5.0	[17] 5.0	[17] 5.0	[17] 5.0	[17] 5.0	[17] 5.0	[17] 7.0	[17] 7.0	[17] 6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5
Jacksonville	All current	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0
Kansas City	First 5 kilowatt hours per active room (minimum, 3 rooms).	[19] 9.9	[19] 9.9	[19] 9.9	[19] 9.9	[19] 7.6	[19] 7.6	[19] 8.4	[19] 8.7	[19] 8.7	[19] 8.7	[19] 8.7	[19] 8.7	[19] 8.7	[19] 8.7	[19] 8.7	[19] 8.7	[19] 7.5
	Next 5 kilowatt hours per room	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5.0
	Excess	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.8	4.8	5.2	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	2.5

Little Rock	First 200 kilowatt hours	[20] 13.5	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
Los Angeles:																		
Company A	First 100 kilowatt hours	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	6.2	6.2	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6
Company B	do	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	6.2	6.2	5.6						
Louisville	One to 149 kilowatt hours	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6
Manchester	First 25 kilowatt hours	[20] 11.4	[20] 11.4	[20] 11.4	[20] 11.4	[20] 11.4	[20] 11.4	[21] 12.0	[21] 12.0	[21] 12.0	12.0	12.0	12.0	12.0	12.0	12.0	12.0	12.0
	Next 50 kilowatt hours						[21] 6.6	[21] 6.0	[21] 6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0
Memphis	First 6 kilowatt hours per room	[20] 10.0	[20] 10.0	[20] 10.0	[20] 10.0	[22] 6.0	[22] 6.0	[22] 6.0	[22] 6.0	[2] 9.0	[2] 9.0	[2] 9.0	[2] 9.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0
	Excess													5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
Milwaukee	First 5 kilowatt hours for each of the first 5 active rooms.[23]	[24] 11.4	[24] 10.5	[24] 10.5	[24] 9.5	[24] 9.5	[24] 9.5	[25] 10.3	[25] 10.3	9.5	8.6	8.6	8.6	8.6	8.6	8.6	8.6	8.6
	Additional energy up to 9 kilowatt hours for each active room.	[26] 4.8	[26] 4.8	[27] 4.8	[27] 4.8	[27] 4.8	[27] 4.8	[25] 5.6	[25] 5.6	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7
	Excess	3.8	3.8	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	[25] 2.7	[25] 2.7	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1
Minneapolis	First 3 kilowatt hours per active room.	8.6	8.6	8.6	8.1	7.6	7.6	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.5
	Next 3 kilowatt hours per active room.	[17] 5.7	[17] 5.7	[17] 5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1
Mobile	First 50 kilowatt hours	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	8.0	8.0	10.8	8.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0
Newark	First 500 kilowatt hours	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0
New Haven	All current	9.0	8.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.5	8.0	8.0	8.5	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5
New Orleans	First 20 kilowatt hours [21]	[28] 13.0	[28] 12.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.1
	Next 30 kilowatt hours	[17] 6.0	[17] 6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8
New York:																		
Company A	First 1,000 kilowatt hours	[29] 10.0	[29] 10.0	[30] 8.0	[30] 8.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	[31] 7.9	[31] 7.5	[31] 7.4	[31] 7.5	[31] 7.6	[31] 7.6	[31] 7.6	[31] 7.5	7.5
Company B	All current [32]	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
Company C [5]	First 60 hours' use of demand	11.0	11.0	11.0	11.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	[31] 8.8	[31] 8.4	[31] 8.4	[31] 8.5	[31] 8.6	[31] 8.6	[31] 8.6	[31] 8.5	8.5
Norfolk	First 100 kilowatt hours	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0
Omaha	First 150 kilowatt hours	[28] 11.4	[28] 10.5	[7] 8.0	[7] 8.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
	Next 150 kilowatt hours	[17] 5.7	[17] 5.7	6.0	6.0													

[1] First 150 kilowatt hours.
[2] First 50 kilowatt hours.
[3] The gross rate is 10 cents per kilowatt hour with discounts of 10 per cent for a monthly consumption of 1 to 25 kilowatt hours and 15 per cent for a monthly consumption of 25 to 150 kilowatt hours. The average family used 25 or more kilowatt hours per month.
[4] Price includes a coal charge, and a surcharge of 10 per cent from December, 1918, to June, 1920, and 5 per cent from December, 1920, to December, 1921.
[5] For determination of demand see explanation following table.
[6] First 100 kilowatt hours.
[7] First 25 kilowatt hours.
[8] First 36 hours' use of demand: For determination of demand see explanation following table.
[9] First 10 kilowatt hours.
[10] First 2 kilowatt hours per active room.
[11] First 200 kilowatt hours.
[12] First 500 kilowatt hours.
[13] First 2 kilowatt hours per 16 candlepower of installation.
[14] All current. This rate applies to a 5-year contract with a minimum of $1 per month.
[15] First 1.5 kilowatt hours per socket for not less than 10 sockets, 1 kilowatt hour per socket for the next 10 sockets, and 0.5 kilowatt hour per socket for excess sockets.
[16] First 5 kilowatt hours for each of the first 5 active rooms plus the first 3 kilowatt hours for each additional active room, but not less than 15 kilowatt hours per month.
[17] Excess.
[19] First 3 kilowatt hours per active room (minimum 3 rooms).
[20] All current.
[21] Surcharge, 25 cents per month.
[22] First 80 kilowatt hours. There is an additional charge of 30 cents per month. At the end of the year any amount paid in excess of 7½ cents per kilowatt hour is refunded.
[23] And the first 2½ kilowatt hours for each additional active room.
[24] First 4 kilowatt hours for each of the first 4 active rooms and the first 2½ kilowatt hours for each additional active room.
[25] Same schedule as preceding date plus a surcharge of 8 mills.
[26] Additional energy up to 100 kilowatt hours.
[27] Additional energy until a total of 7 kilowatt hours per active room shall have been consumed.
[28] First 30 hours' use of connected load.
[29] First 250 kilowatt hours.
[30] First 900 kilowatt hours.
[31] Price includes a coal charge.
[32] A discount of 5 per cent is allowed on all bills of $2 or over when payment is made within 10 days from date of bill

NET PRICE PER KILOWATT HOUR FOR ELECTRICITY FOR HOUSEHOLD USE IN SPECIFIED MONTHS, 1913 TO 1923, FOR 51 CITIES—Concluded.

City.	Measure of consumption, per month.	December, 1913.	December, 1914.	December, 1915.	December, 1916.	December, 1917.	June, 1918.	June, 1919.	June, 1920.	May, 1921.	1922				1923			
											March.	June.	September.	December.	March.	June.	September.	December.
		Cents.	*Cents.*	*Cents.*	*Cents.*	*Cents.*	*Cents.*	*Cents.*	*Cents.*	*Cents.*	*Cents.*	*Cents.*	*Cents.*	*Cents.*	*Cents.*	*Cents.*	*Cents.*	*Cents.*
Peoria	First 5 kilowatt hours for each of the first 2 rooms.[33]	[34] 9.9	[34] 9.9	[34] 9.9	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0
	Second 5 kilowatt hours for each of the first 2 rooms.[33]	.....	.....	.....	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0
Philadelphia:																		
Company A	First 12 kilowatt hours	[20] 10.0	[20] 10.0	[20] 10.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0
	Next 48 kilowatt hours	.....	.....	.....	[35] 7.0	[35] 7.0	[35] 7.0	[35] 7.0	[35] 7.0	[35] 7.0	[35] 7.0	[35] 7.0	[35] 7.0	[35] 7.0	[35] 7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0
Company B	First 500 kilowatt hours	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0
Pittsburgh [5]	First 30 hours' use of demand	[20] 10.0	[20] 10.0	[20] 10.0	[20] 9.0	[20] 9.0	[20] 9.0	[20] 9.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0
	Next 60 hours' use of demand	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5
Portland, Me.	All current	9.0	9.0	8.5	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0
Portland, Oreg.:																		
Company A	First 9 kilowatt hours	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6
	Next kilowatt hours [36]	[37] 6.7	[37] 6.7	[37] 6.7	[37] 6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7
	Next 50 kilowatt hours	[38] 5.7	[38] 5.7	[38] 5.7	[38] 5.7	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9
Company B	First 13 kilowatt hours	[39] 9.0	[39] 9.0	[39] 9.0	[39] 8.6	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3
	Next kilowatt hours [40]	[41] 7.0	[41] 7.0	[41] 7.0	[41] 6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7
	Next 50 kilowatt hours	[17] 4.0	[17] 4.0	[17] 4.0	[17] 3.8	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9
Providence	All current	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	9.0	[42] 7.5	[42] 7.5	[42] 7.5	[42] 7.5	[42] 7.0	[42] 7.0	[42] 7.0	[42] 6.9	[42] 6.9	[42] 7.0	[42] 7.0	[42] 6.9
Richmond	First 100 kilowatt hours	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0
Rochester	All current	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0
St. Louis:																		
Company A	First 9 kilowatt hours per active room.	[24] 9.5	[24] 9.5	[24] 8.6	[24] 8.1	[24] 7.6	[24] 7.6	[24] 8.1	[43] 7.6	[43] 7.6	[43] 7.6	[43] 7.6	[43] 7.6	[43] 7.6	[43] 7.6	[43] 7.6	6.7	6.7
	Additional energy up to 9 kilowatt hours per room.	.....	.....	[26] 5.7	[26] 5.7	[26] 5.7	[26] 5.7	[26] 6.2	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	.....	.....
	Excess	5.7	5.7	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	3.4	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.4	2.4
Company B	First 27 kilowatt hours [44]	[45] 9.0	[45] 9.0	[46] 8.6	[47] 7.6	[47] 7.6	[47] 7.6	[48] 8.1	[48] 7.6	[48] 7.6	[48] 7.6	[48] 7.6	[48] 7.6	[48] 7.6	[48] 7.6	[48] 7.6	[48] 7.6	6.7
	Next 12 kilowatt hours [49]	.....	.....	[46] 5.7	[47] 5.7	[47] 5.7	[47] 5.7	6.2	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	.....
	Excess	5.7	5.7	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	3.4	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.4
St. Paul	First 30 kilowatt hours	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9
	Excess	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6
Salt Lake City	First 250 kilowatt hours	9.0	9.0	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1
San Francisco:																		
Company A	First 10 kilowatt hours	[8] 7.0	[27] 7.0	[27] 7.0	[27] 7.0	[27] 7.0	[27] 7.0	[50] 8.0	[50] 8.0	[28] 8.5	[28] 8.5	[28] 8.5	[28] 8.5	[28] 8.5	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0
	Next 40 kilowatt hours	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0
Company B	First 10 kilowatt hours	[8] 7.0	[27] 7.0	[27] 7.0	[27] 7.0	[27] 7.0	[27] 7.0	[50] 8.0	[50] 8.0	[28] 8.5	[28] 8.5	[28] 8.5	[28] 8.5	[28] 8.5	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0
	Next 40 kilowatt hours	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0

Savannah:																			
Company A..	First 50 kilowatt hours	[51] 12.0	[9] 10.8	[9] 10.8	[9] 10.8	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	.....	.....
	Excess	6.0	5.4	5.4	5.4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Company B..	First 100 kilowatt hours	[9] 12.0	[9] 12.0	[9] 12.0	[9] 12.0	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.2	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0
	Excess	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Scranton	First 150 kilowatt hours	[20] 9.0	[20] 9.0	[20] 9.0	8.0	9.0	9.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
Seattle:																			
Company A..	First 40 kilowatt hours	[52] 6.0	[52] 6.0	[53] 5.5	[53] 5.5	[53] 5.5	[53] 5.5	[53] 5.5	[53] 5.5	[53] 6.0	[53] 6.0	[53] 6.0	[53] 6.0	[53] 6.0	[53] 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5
Company B..	....do	[52] 6.0	[52] 6.0	[53] 5.5	[53] 5.5	[53] 5.5	[53] 5.5	[53] 5.5	[53] 5.5	[53] 6.0	[53] 6.0	[53] 6.0	[53] 6.0	[53] 6.0	[53] 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5
Springfield:																			
Company A [5]	First 30 kilowatt hours	[28] 10.0	[28] 10.0	[28] 10.0	[28] 10.0	[28] 10.0	[28] 10.0	[28] 10.0	[28] 10.0	[28] 10.0	[28] 10.0	[28] 10.0	[28] 10.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0
	Next 70 kilowatt hours	[54] 7.0	[54] 7.0	[54] 7.0	[54] 7.0	[54] 7.0	[54] 7.0	[54] 7.0	[54] 7.0	[54] 7.0	[54] 7.0	[54] 7.0	[54] 7.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Company B..	First 30 kilowatt hours	.....	.....	.....	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	5.4	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0
	Excess	.....	.....	.....	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.7	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Washington, D. C.[5]	First 120 hours' use of demand	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0

[2] First 50 kilowatt hours.
[5] For determination of demand see explanation following table.
[8] First 100 kilowatt hours.
[9] First 10 kilowatt hours.
[17] Excess.
[20] All current.
[23] And the first 2½ kilowatt hours for each additional active room.
[24] First 4 kilowatt hours for each of the first 4 active rooms and the first 2½ kilowatt hours for each additional active room.
[26] Additional energy until a total of 7 kilowatt hours per active room shall have been consumed.
[28] First 30 hours' use of connected load.
[33] And 4 kilowatt hours for each additional active room.
[34] 1 to 200 kilowatt hours.
[35] Next 75 kilowatt hours.
[36] The number of kilowatt hours paid for at this rate is that in excess of the first 9 kilowatt hours until 100 hours' use of the demand is reached. After 100 hours of demand have been consumed the lower rate can be applied. For determination of demand see explanation following table.
[37] Next 70 kilowatt hours.
[38] Next 100 kilowatt hours.
[39] First 6 per cent of demand. For determination of demand see explanation following table.
[40] For an installation of 600 watts or less 7 kilowatt hours will apply. For each 30 watts of installation in excess of 600 watts 1 additional kilowatt hour will apply.
[41] Next 6 per cent of demand. For determination of demand see explanation following table.
[42] Service charge, 50 cents per month additional. In December, 1922, and March and December, 1923, there was a reduction of 1 mill under the fuel clause.
[43] First 5 kilowatt hours for each of the first 5 active rooms and the first 2½ kilowatt hours for each additional active room.
[44] For a house of 5 or 6 rooms. For a house of 4 rooms or less, 10 kilowatt hours is paid for at the primary rate. For a house of 7 or 8 rooms, 20 kilowatt hours is paid for at the primary rate.
[45] For a house of 6 rooms or less 15 kilowatt hours; for a house of 7 or 8 rooms, 20 kilowatt hours.
[46] For a house of 6 rooms of less, 15 kilowatt hours at the primary rate and 5 at the secondary rate. For a house of 7 or 8 rooms, 20 kilowatt hours at the primary rate and 10 at the secondary rate.
[47] For a house of 4 rooms or less, 8 kilowatt hours at the primary rate and 6 at the secondary rate. For a house of 5 or 6 rooms, 12 kilowatt hours at the primary rate and 9 at the secondary rate. For a house of 7 or 8 rooms, 16 kilowatt hours at the primary rate and 12 at the secondary rate.
[48] For a house of 4 rooms or less 10 kilowatt hours is paid for at the primary rate. For a house of 5 or 6 rooms 15 kilowatt hours is paid for at the primary rate, and for a house of 7 or 8 rooms 20 kilowatt hours is paid for at the primary rate.
[49] For a house of 5 or 6 rooms. For a house of 4 rooms or less 8 kilowatt hours is paid for at the secondary rate, and for a house of 7 or 8 rooms 16 kilowatt hours is paid for at the secondary rate.
[50] First 30 kilowatt hours.
[51] First 15 kilowatt hours.
[52] First 60 kilowatt hours.
[53] First 45 kilowatt hours.
[54] Next 30 hours' use of connected load.

Determination of Demand.

IN BUFFALO the demand consists of two parts—lighting, 25 per cent of the total installation, but never less than 250 watts; and power, 2½ per cent of the capacity of any electric range, water heater, or other appliance of 1,000 watts or over and 25 per cent of the rated capacity of motors exceeding one-half horsepower but less than 1 horsepower. The installation is determined by inspection of premises.

In Chicago, the equivalent in kilowatt hours to 30 hours' use of demand has been estimated as follows: For a rated capacity of 475 to 574 watts, 11 kilowatt hours; 575 to 674 watts, 12 kilowatt hours; 675 to 774 watts, 13 kilowatt hours; and 775 to 874 watts, 14 kilowatt hours. Although the equivalent in kilowatt hours to 30 hours' use of demand of from 1 to 1,500 watts is given on the printed tariff, the equivalent is here shown only for installations of from 475 to 874 watts; the connected load of the average workingman's home being, as a rule, within this range.

In Cincinnati, the demand has been estimated as being 70 per cent of the connected load, excluding appliances.

In Cleveland, from December, 1913, to December, 1919, inclusive, Company A determined the demand by inspection as being 40 per cent of the connected load. From December, 1919, to the present time, there has been a flat rate for all current consumed.

In Houston, the demand is estimated as 50 per cent of the connected load, each socket opening being rated at 50 watts.

In New York the demand for Company C, when not determined by meter, has been computed at 50 per cent of total installation in residences, each standard socket being rated at 50 watts and all other outlets being rated at their actual kilowatt capacity.

In Pittsburgh since December, 1919, the demand has been determined by inspection. The first 10 outlets have been rated at 30 watts each, the next 20 outlets at 20 watts each, and each additional outlet at 10 watts. Household utensils and appliances of not over 660 watts each have been excluded.

In Portland, Oreg., the demand for Company A has been estimated as one-third of the connected lighting load. Ranges, heating devices, and small power up to rated capacity of 2 kilowatts are not included.

For Company B the demand, when not based on actual measurement, was estimated at one-third of the connected load. No demand was established at less than 233 watts.

In Springfield, Ill., the demand for Company A from December, 1913, to September, 1922, was the active load predetermined as follows: 80 per cent of the first 500 watts of connected load plus 60 per cent of that part of the connected load in excess of the first 500 watts—minimum active load, 150 watts.

In Washington, D. C., the demand is determined by inspection and consists of 100 per cent of the connected load, excluding small fans and heating and cooking appliances.

Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices in December, 1923.

WHILE wholesale prices in December exhibited a strengthening tendency, a further slight reduction in the general level is shown by information gathered by the United States Department of Labor through the Bureau of Labor Statistics in representative markets of the country. The bureau's index number, which includes 404 commodities or price series weighted according to their commercial importance, declined to 151 for December compared with 152 for the month before.

Of the 404 commodities or price series for which comparable data for November and December were collected, increases were shown in 117 instances and decreases in 119 instances. In 168 instances no change in price was reported.

Among farm products decreases in corn, beans, eggs, hides, and hops offset increases in wheat, cotton, potatoes, and wool, resulting in a net decrease for the group. Foodstuffs also averaged lower than in November, while fuel and lighting materials were considerably lower, due to further declines in bituminous coal, mid-continent crude petroleum, and gasoline. In the group of building materials reductions in Douglas fir and southern yellow pine lumber and Portland cement brought the index number well below that of the preceding month. Lower prices also were reported for bran and millfeed middlings, and harness and sole leather, in the group of miscellaneous commodities.

Cloths and clothing, due to strong advances in cotton goods, averaged higher than in November. Small increases also took place among pig iron, copper, lead, silver, tin and other metals. In the two groups of chemicals and drugs and house-furnishing goods no change in the general price level was reported.

INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES, BY GROUPS OF COMMODITIES.

[1913=100.]

Group.	1922	1923	
	December.	November.	December.
Farm products	145	146	145
Foods	144	148	147
Cloths and clothing	194	201	203
Fuel and lighting	216	167	162
Metals and metal products	131	141	142
Building materials	185	181	178
Chemicals and drugs	130	130	130
House-furnishing goods	182	176	176
Miscellaneous	122	118	116
All commodities	156	152	151

Comparing prices in December with those of a year ago, as measured by changes in the index numbers, it is seen that the general level has declined 3¼ per cent. Fuel and lighting materials averaged 25 per cent lower than in December, 1922, while building materials, house-furnishing goods, and miscellaneous commodities were slightly lower. Food articles, cloths and clothing, and metals and metal products were appreciably higher than in the corresponding month of last year. Farm products and chemicals and drugs were on a par with prices in December, 1922.

Average Wholesale Prices of Commodities, October to December, 1923, and for Year 1923.

IN CONTINUATION of information first published in the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW for May, 1922, there are presented herewith the average prices in October, November, and December, 1923, of the commodities included in the series of index numbers of wholesale prices constructed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. For convenience of comparison with pre-war prices, index numbers based on average prices in the year 1913 as 100 are shown in addition to the statement of absolute money prices. Average prices for the year 1923 also are included in the table.

WHOLESALE PRICES OF COMMODITIES, OCTOBER TO DECEMBER, 1923, AND YEAR 1923.

Commodity.	Average prices.				Index numbers (1913=100).			
	Oct., 1923.	Nov., 1923.	Dec., 1923.	Year 1923.	Oct., 1923.	Nov., 1923.	Dec., 1923.	Year 1923.
Farm products.								
(a) Grains:								
Barley, malting, per bushel, Chicago	$0.678	$0.656	$0.685	$0.660	108.4	105.0	109.5	105.5
Corn, per bushel, Chicago—								
Contract grades	1.011	.842	.730	.821	161.7	134.7	116.7	131.4
No. 3 mixed	1.007	.816	.709	.811	163.6	132.5	115.2	131.8
Oats, contract grades, per bushel, Chicago	.439	.442	.449	.439	116.8	117.5	119.6	116.8
Rye, No. 2, per bushel, Chicago	.720	.708	.701	.752	113.1	111.2	110.1	118.2
Wheat, per bushel—								
No. 1, northern spring, Chicago	1.197	1.092	1.112	1.155	131.1	119.6	121.8	126.5
No. 2, red winter, Chicago	1.097	1.061	1.083	1.170	111.2	107.5	109.8	118.7
No. 2, hard winter, Kansas City	1.114	1.099	1.115	1.112	127.1	125.3	127.2	126.8
No. 1, northern spring, Minneapolis	1.172	1.109	1.122	1.181	134.2	127.0	128.4	135.2
No. 1, hard white, Portland, Oreg.	1.078	1.060	1.028	1.210	116.0	114.1	110.6	130.3
(b) Live stock and poultry:								
Cattle, steers, per 100 pounds, Chicago—								
Choice to prime	11.820	11.156	11.025	10.978	132.4	125.0	123.5	123.0
Good to choice	10.450	9.844	9.785	9.952	122.8	115.7	115.0	117.0
Hogs, per 100 pounds, Chicago—								
Heavy	7.775	7.131	7.050	7.690	92.9	85.2	84.3	91.9
Light	7.665	6.969	6.965	7.839	90.7	82.4	82.4	92.7
Sheep, per 100 pounds, Chicago—								
Ewes, native, all grades	5.275	5.656	6.440	6.101	112.5	120.7	137.4	130.2
Lambs, western, good to choice	12.775	12.275	12.500	13.446	163.9	157.5	160.4	172.5
Wethers, fed, good to choice	6.950	7.156	8.000	7.648	130.0	133.8	149.6	143.0
Poultry, live fowls, per pound—								
Chicago	.178	.155	.170	.208	115.5	100.6	110.3	134.8
New York	.233	.230	.231	.255	138.9	137.4	138.2	152.3
(c) Other farm products:								
Beans, medium, choice, per 100 pounds, New York	6.950	6.531	5.719	7.539	174.2	163.7	143.3	189.0
Clover seed, contract grades, per 100 pounds, Chicago	22.200	21.000	20.600	19.315	134.4	127.1	124.7	116.9
Cotton, middling, per pound—								
New Orleans	.292	.339	.352	.287	229.5	266.5	276.8	226.0
New York	.301	.350	.358	.293	234.9	273.5	279.5	228.9
Cottonseed, per ton, average price at gin	40.900	45.920	45.540	43.690	187.7	210.7	209.0	200.5
Eggs, fresh, per dozen—								
Firsts, western, Boston	.395	.548	.479	.350	157.1	217.7	190.4	139.3
Firsts, Chicago	.353	.484	.424	.315	156.1	214.3	187.8	139.3
Extra firsts, Cincinnati	.410	.560	.478	.336	183.3	250.3	213.5	150.2
Candled, New Orleans	.347	.345	.330	.316	148.1	147.2	140.8	134.7
Firsts, New York	.391	.528	.468	.347	157.0	211.8	187.8	139.2
Extra firsts, western, Philadelphia	.434	.624	.518	.382	164.6	236.7	196.3	145.1
Extra, pullets, San Francisco	.445	.433	.426	.334	166.2	161.7	159.2	124.7
Flaxseed, No. 1, per bushel, Minneapolis	2.474	2.413	2.449	2.737	183.4	178.8	181.5	202.9
Hay, per ton—								
Alfalfa, No. 1, Kansas City	25.000	25.000	25.550	23.827	176.2	176.2	180.1	168.0
Clover, mixed, No. 1, Cincinnati	22.650	23.313	24.063	19.101	145.3	149.6	154.4	122.6
Timothy, No. 1, Chicago	26.200	26.500	26.000	23.789	163.5	165.3	162.2	148.4
Hides and skins, per pound—								
Calfskins, No. 1, country, Chicago	.156	.148	.150	.157	82.7	78.5	79.7	83.4
Goatskins, Brazilian, New York	.918	.863	.834	.925	129.2	121.3	117.4	130.1

WHOLESALE PRICES OF COMMODITIES, OCTOBER TO DECEMBER, 1923, AND YEAR 1923—Continued.

Commodity.	Average prices.				Index numbers (1913=100).			
	Oct., 1923.	Nov., 1923.	Dec., 1923.	Year 1923.	Oct., 1923.	Nov., 1923.	Dec., 1923.	Year 1923.
Farm products—Concluded.								
(c) Other farm products—Concluded.								
Hides and skins, per pound—Concluded.								
Hides, heavy, country cows, No. 1, Chicago	$0.088	$0.074	$0.081	$0.108	58.3	49.3	53.4	71.2
Hides, packers, heavy, native steers, Chicago	.154	.141	.136	.167	83.7	76.8	74.1	90.6
Hides, packers, heavy, Texas steers, Chicago	.125	.115	.114	.149	69.1	63.6	63.1	82.4
Hops, prime to choice, per pound—								
New York State, New York	.563	.553	.540	.321	211.4	207.5	202.8	120.7
Pacific, Portland, Oreg.	.297	.238	.205	.155	172.5	138.2	119.3	90.3
Milk, fluid, per quart—								
Chicago	.069	.069	.069	.066	162.1	162.1	162.1	153.1
New York	.084	.082	.077	.076	188.7	184.9	173.6	171.6
San Francisco	.068	.068	.068	.068	158.1	158.1	158.1	158.1
Onions, fresh, yellow, per 100 pounds, Chicago	2.680	2.688	2.625	3.179	170.5	170.9	167.0	202.3
Peanuts, No. 1, per pound, Norfolk, Va.	.059	.054	.053	.063	166.5	151.5	149.6	178.6
Potatoes—								
White, good to choice, per 100 pounds, Chicago	1.110	1.038	1.075	1.457	108.4	101.3	105.0	142.4
Sweet, No. 1, per five-eighths bushel, Philadelphia	.694	1.090	1.556	.824	143.8	225.9	322.5	170.7
Rice, per pound, New Orleans—								
Blue Rose, head, clean	.048	.048	.046	.041	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Honduras, head, clean	.053	.053	.055	.055	103.6	103.6	108.1	108.7
Tobacco, Burley, good leaf, dark red, per 100 pounds, Louisville, Ky	28.000	28.000	28.000	27.779	212.1	212.1	212.1	210.4
Wool, Ohio, per pound, Boston—								
Fine clothing, scoured	1.270	1.270	1.297	1.376	205.8	205.8	210.1	223.0
Fine, delaine, scoured	1.262	1.286	1.310	1.333	229.7	233.9	238.4	242.5
Half blood, scoured	1.174	1.174	1.196	1.196	236.2	236.2	240.3	240.3
One-fourth and three-eighths grades, scoured	.946	.946	.964	.979	197.6	197.6	201.3	204.4
Foods.								
(a) Meats:								
Beef, fresh, per pound—								
Carcass, good native steers, Chicago	.175	.175	.171	.158	135.1	135.1	132.3	122.1
Sides, native, New York	.151	.142	.166	.145	120.2	113.3	132.8	116.1
Beef, salt, extra mess, per barrel (200 pounds), New York	15.900	16.500	16.500	15.875	84.0	87.2	87.2	83.9
Hams, smoked, per pound, Chicago	.219	.209	.205	.212	131.5	125.6	123.2	127.3
Lamb, dressed, per pound, Chicago	.230	.236	.230	.253	154.7	158.7	154.7	170.3
Mutton, dressed, per pound, New York	.126	.124	.140	.119	122.9	120.8	136.6	116.2
Pork, fresh, per pound—								
Loins, Chicago	.210	.156	.133	.180	141.3	105.0	89.2	120.8
Loins, western, New York	.243	.169	.155	.190	159.2	111.0	101.8	124.9
Pork, cured—								
Mess, salt, per barrel (200 pounds), New York	25.700	25.875	25.688	26.322	114.4	115.1	114.3	117.1
Sides, rough, per pound, Chicago	.113	.116	.114	.114	91.7	94.1	92.3	91.8
Sides, short, clear, per pound, Chicago	.120	.123	.115	.120	94.4	96.6	90.3	94.0
Poultry, dressed, per pound—								
Hens, heavy, Chicago	.249	.218	.218	.245	172.2	150.4	150.4	169.2
Fowls, 48–56 pounds to dozen, New York	.325	.253	.241	.275	178.2	138.7	132.3	150.7
Veal, fresh, good, per pound, Chicago	.171	.137	.150	.165	184.3	147.3	161.4	178.0
(b) Butter, cheese, and milk:								
Butter, creamery, extra, per pound—								
Boston	.478	.520	.535	.471	150.7	163.9	168.7	148.4
Chicago	.464	.515	.534	.460	149.3	165.9	172.0	148.3
Cincinnati[2]	.422	.480	.495	.435	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
New Orleans	.496	.530	.550	.501	147.6	157.7	163.6	149.2
New York	.476	.524	.546	.468	147.5	162.6	169.3	145.2
Philadelphia	.488	.536	.558	.477	149.6	164.5	171.1	146.2
St. Louis	.478	.520	.543	.467	154.5	168.3	175.6	151.0
San Francisco	.513	.515	.519	.487	161.6	162.4	163.6	153.7
Cheese, whole, milk, per pound—								
American, twins, Chicago	.243	.239	.221	.232	171.4	168.6	155.5	163.5
State, fresh flats, colored, average, New York	.256	.241	.214	.241	165.8	156.1	139.1	156.7
California flats, fancy, San Francisco	.291	.289	.253	.256	182.7	181.3	158.4	160.7

[1] No 1913 base price.

[2] As to score.

WHOLESALE PRICES OF COMMODITIES, OCTOBER TO DECEMBER, 1923, AND YEAR 1923—Continued.

Commodity.	Average prices.				Index numbers (1913=100).			
	Oct., 1923.	Nov., 1923.	Dec., 1923.	Year 1923.	Oct., 1923.	Nov., 1923.	Dec., 1923.	Year 1923.
Foods—Continued.								
(*b*) Butter, cheese, and milk—Concluded.								
Milk, fluid. (See Farm products.)								
Milk, condensed, per case of 48 14-ounce tins, New York	$6.200	$6.256	$6.275	$6.240	131.9	133.1	133.5	132.8
Milk, evaporated, per case of 48 16-ounce tins, New York	4.700	4.700	4.613	4.708	133.0	133.0	130.5	133.2
(*c*) Other foods:								
Beans, medium, choice. (See Farm products.)								
Bread, per pound—								
Chicago	.078	.078	.078	.076	182.0	182.0	182.0	178.7
Cincinnati	.062	.062	.062	.062	174.7	174.7	174.7	174.7
New Orleans	.058	.058	.058	.059	190.8	190.8	190.8	192.5
New York	.069	.069	.069	.069	162.5	162.5	162.5	162.5
San Francisco	.069	.069	.069	.069	173.0	173.0	173.0	173.5
Cocoa beans, Arriba, per pound, New York	.113	.111	.131	.115	73.5	72.6	85.3	75.2
Coffee, Rio, No. 7, per pound, New York	.111	.110	.109	.115	99.3	98.3	98.3	103.1
Copra, South Sea, sun dried, per pound, New York	.053	.053	.054	.052	50.4	50.4	51.8	50.2
Eggs, fresh, per dozen. (See Farm products.)								
Fish—								
Cod, large, shore, pickled, cured, per 100 pounds, Gloucester, Mass.	8.250	8.250	8.500	7.679	123.0	123.0	126.7	114.5
Herring, large, split, per barrel (180–190 pounds), New York	7.500	7.500	8.500	7.577	113.2	113.2	128.3	114.4
Mackerel, salt, large, 3s, per barrel, Boston	11.385	11.385	11.880	11.468	102.6	102.6	107.1	103.3
Salmon, canned, Alaska, red, per dozen, factory	2.375	2.375	2.375	2.378	162.6	162.6	162.6	162.8
Flour, rye, white, per barrel, Minneapolis	3.795	3.675	4.000	4.126	121.5	117.7	128.1	132.1
Flour, wheat, per barrel—								
Winter patents, Kansas City	6.156	5.988	5.940	6.159	153.5	149.3	148.1	153.5
Winter straights, Kansas City	5.400	5.213	5.130	5.353	140.4	135.5	133.3	139.1
Standard patents, Minneapolis	6.200	6.038	6.100	6.385	135.3	131.7	133.1	139.3
Second patents, Minneapolis	6.025	5.850	5.906	6.191	136.2	132.3	133.6	140.0
Patents, Portland, Oreg.	6.567	6.567	6.426	7.211	146.1	146.1	142.9	160.4
Patents, soft, winter, St. Louis	5.500	5.356	5.410	5.802	120.5	117.3	118.5	127.1
Straights, soft, winter, St. Louis	4.769	4.800	4.675	5.112	112.1	112.9	109.9	120.2
Patents, Toledo	5.225	5.250	5.120	5.694	110.6	111.1	108.3	120.5
Fruit, canned, per case, New York—								
Peaches, California, standard, 2½s	1.800	1.800	1.800	1.871	118.6	118.6	118.6	123.4
Pineapples, Hawaiian, sliced, standard 2½s	3.325	3.325	3.325	3.505	162.0	162.0	162.0	170.7
Fruits, dried, per pound, New York—								
Apples, evaporated, State, choice	.103	.105	.115	.109	143.2	146.7	159.8	151.4
Currants, Patras, cleaned	.135	.119	.115	.137	176.2	154.9	150.1	178.8
Prunes, California, 60–70s	.077	.079	.075	.089	117.4	120.1	114.3	135.5
Raisins, coast, seeded, bulk	.090	.077	.071	.092	124.0	105.5	98.2	126.6
Fruit, fresh—								
Apples, Baldwins, per barrel, Chicago	3.833	3.969	3.938	4.997	120.8	125.1	124.1	157.4
Bananas, Jamaica, 9s, per bunch, New York	2.275	2.125	2.125	2.285	147.8	138.1	138.1	148.4
Lemons, California, choice, per box, Chicago	7.050	4.813	3.750	6.510	122.1	83.4	65.0	112.8
Oranges, California, choice, per box, Chicago	6.300	7.594	5.500	5.168	142.5	171.8	124.4	116.9
Glucose, 42° mixing, per 100 pounds, New York	3.840	3.710	3.510	3.417	179.7	173.6	164.2	159.8
Hominy grits, bulk, car lots, per 100 pounds, f. o. b. mill	2.120	1.825	1.610	1.719	128.4	110.6	97.5	104.2
Lard, prime, contract, per pound, New York	.133	.141	.132	.123	120.9	128.1	120.0	111.5
Meal, corn, per 100 pounds—								
White, f. o. b. Decatur, Ill.	2.070	1.775	1.560	1.669	129.3	110.9	97.5	104.3
Yellow, Philadelphia	2.718	2.700	2.325	2.265	189.5	188.3	162.2	158.0
Molasses, New Orleans, fancy, per gallon, New York	.565	.565	.603	.556	148.4	148.4	158.2	145.9
Oatmeal, car lots, in barrels (180 pounds), per 100 pounds, New York	3.111	3.097	3.083	3.147	125.7	125.1	124.6	127.2
Oleomargarine, standard, uncolored, per pound, Chicago	.215	.222	.225	.209	132.3	136.6	138.5	128.8
Oleo oil, extra, per pound, Chicago	.128	.144	.152	.128	110.5	125.0	131.4	110.6

WHOLESALE PRICES OF COMMODITIES, OCTOBER TO DECEMBER, 1923, AND YEAR 1923—Continued.

Commodity.	Average prices.				Index numbers (1913=100).			
	Oct., 1923.	Nov., 1923.	Dec., 1923.	Year 1923.	Oct., 1923.	Nov., 1923.	Dec., 1923.	Year 1923.
Foods—Concluded.								
(c) Other foods—Concluded.								
Pepper, black, Singapore, per pound, New York	$0.110	$0.110	$0.110	$0.107	100.9	101.4	101.4	99.0
Rice. (See Farm products.)								
Salt, American, medium, per barrel (280 pounds), Chicago	2.490	2.490	2.490	2.472	244.1	244.1	244.1	242.3
Sugar, per pound, New York—								
Granulated, in barrels	.090	.087	.088	.084	210.1	202.6	207.0	197.7
Raw, 96° centrifugal	.076	.073	.073	.070	217.1	208.0	208.9	200.3
Tallow, edible, per pound, Chicago	.098	.096	.093	.091	122.5	120.4	116.2	114.3
Tea, Formosa, fine, per pound, New York	.310	.310	.310	.310	124.8	124.8	124.8	124.8
Vegetables, canned—								
Corn, Maryland, standard, per dozen, New York	.875	.875	.875	.864	138.0	138.0	138.0	136.1
Peas, State and western, No. 5, per dozen, New York	1.350	1.350	1.350	1.350	155.8	155.8	155.8	155.8
Tomatoes, New Jersey, standard, No. 3, per dozen, New York	1.500	1.500	1.500	1.683	115.4	115.4	115.4	129.5
Vegetables, fresh. (See Farm products.)								
Vegetable oil—								
Coconut, crude, per pound, New York	.100	.101	.103	.102	74.3	75.3	76.2	75.7
Corn, crude, in barrels, per pound, New York	.106	.117	.118	.116	175.1	192.6	193.6	191.1
Cottonseed, prime, summer, yellow, per pound, New York	.120	.118	.110	.113	164.8	162.3	151.3	155.3
Olive oil, edible, in barrels, per gallon, New York	1.700	1.700	1.700	1.751	100.7	100.7	100.7	103.7
Peanut, crude, per pound, f. o. b. mill	.130	.125	.120	.131	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Soya bean, crude, in barrels, per pound, New York	.110	.110	.110	.117	179.7	179.7	179.7	190.4
Vinegar, cider, 40 grain, in barrels, per gallon, New York	.190	.190	.190	.205	170.2	170.2	170.2	183.7
Cloths and clothing.								
(a) Boots and shoes, per pair, factory:								
Children's—								
Little boy's, gun metal, blucher	1.615	1.615	1.615	1.615	166.5	166.5	166.5	166.5
Child's, gun metal, polish, high cut	1.568	1.568	1.568	1.568	181.7	181.7	181.7	181.7
Misses', black, vici, polish, high cut	1.853	1.853	1.853	1.853	173.2	173.2	173.2	173.2
Youths', gun metal, blucher	1.473	1.473	1.473	1.473	143.4	143.4	143.4	143.4
Men's—								
Black, calf, blucher	6.250	6.250	6.250	6.427	200.8	200.8	200.8	206.4
Black, calf, Goodyear welt, bal	4.850	4.850	4.850	4.850	153.2	153.2	153.2	153.2
Black, dress, Goodyear welt, side leather	3.150	3.150	3.150	3.150	140.8	140.8	140.8	140.8
Gun metal, Goodyear welt, blucher	4.350	4.350	4.350	4.397	222.5	222.5	222.5	224.9
Mahogany, chrome, side, Goodyear welt, bal	3.600	3.600	3.600	3.620	223.3	223.3	223.3	224.5
Tan, dress, Goodyear welt, calf	4.850	4.850	4.850	4.850	153.2	153.2	153.2	153.2
Tan, dress, Goodyear welt, side leather	3.350	3.350	3.350	3.350	149.7	149.7	149.7	149.7
Chocolate, elk, blucher	1.739	1.739	1.739	1.770	122.1	122.1	122.1	124.3
Vici kid, black, Goodyear welt	6.000	6.000	6.000	6.000	209.3	209.3	209.3	209.3
Women's—								
Black, kid, Goodyear welt, 8½-inch lace	4.250	4.250	4.250	4.250	141.7	141.7	141.7	141.7
Colored, calf, Goodyear welt, lace oxford	4.150	4.150	4.150	4.126	190.9	190.9	190.9	189.9
Kid, black, McKay sewed, lace oxford	3.500	3.500	3.500	3.476	235.0	235.0	235.0	233.4
Patent leather pump, McKay sewed	3.600	3.600	3.600	3.600	261.8	261.8	261.8	261.8
(b) Cotton goods, factory:								
Denims, Massachusetts, 2.20 yards to the pound, per yard	.250	.263	.274	.259	194.4	204.4	213.5	201.3
Drillings, brown, per yard—								
Massachusetts, D standard, 30-inch	.165	.182	.184	.171	199.4	219.6	222.1	207.3
Pepperell, 29-inch, 2.85 yards to the pound	.175	.186	.198	.178	212.6	226.4	240.2	215.7

[1] No 1913 base price.

WHOLESALE PRICES OF COMMODITIES, OCTOBER TO DECEMBER, 1923, AND YEAR 1923—Continued.

Commodity.	Average prices.				Index numbers (1913=100).			
	Oct., 1923.	Nov., 1923.	Dec., 1923.	Year 1923.	Oct., 1923.	Nov., 1923.	Dec., 1923.	Year 1923.
Cloths and clothing—Continued.								
(b) Cotton goods, factory—Concluded.								
Flannels, per yard—								
Colored, 2.75 yards to the pound	$0.218	$0.218	(2)	$0.215	214.7	214.7	.....	212.4
Unbleached, 3.80 yards to the pound	.171	.171	(2)	.169	230.7	230.7	.....	228.6
Ginghams, per yard—								
Amoskeag, 27-inch, 6.37 yards to the pound	.144	.144	$0.144	.143	221.5	221.5	221.5	220.5
Lancaster, 26½-inch, 6.50 yards to the pound	.144	.144	.144	.147	233.0	233.0	233.0	237.7
Hosiery, per dozen pairs—								
Men's half hose, combed yarn	1.800	1.873	1.900	1.778	223.7	232.8	236.2	221.0
Women's cotton, silk mercerized, mock seam	2.550	2.550	2.550	2.623	144.0	144.0	144.0	148.1
Women's combed yarn, 16-ounce	1.764	1.764	1.764	1.820	176.4	176.4	176.4	181.9
Muslin, bleached, 4/4, per yard—								
Fruit of the Loom	.176	.181	.181	.185	206.3	211.6	211.6	216.8
Lonsdale	.162	.166	.176	.166	200.1	205.8	217.7	205.8
Rough Rider	.152	.155	.155	.157	189.0	193.5	193.5	195.6
Print cloth, 27-inch, 7.60 yards to the pound, per yard	.075	.079	.081	.075	217.4	229.3	235.7	217.1
Wamsutta, nainsook	.235	.235	.235	.235	255.3	255.3	255.3	255.3
Sheeting, brown, 4/4, per yard—								
Indian Head, 2.85 yards to the pound	.160	.160	.175	.163	190.0	190.0	207.8	193.9
Pepperell, 3.75 yards to the pound	.150	.159	.165	152	204.6	216.5	225.1	207.4
Ware Shoals, 4 yards to the pound	.125	.128	.133	.123	203.6	207.8	217.3	199.8
Thread, 6-cord, J. & P. Coats, per spool	.058	.058	.058	.058	148.7	148.7	148.7	148.7
Underwear—								
Men's shirts and drawers, per dozen garments	7.000	7.067	7.250	7.200	195.7	197.7	202.8	201.4
Women's union suits, combed yarn, per dozen	12.500	13.000	14.500	12.625	182.4	189.7	211.6	184.3
Yarn, per pound—								
Carded, white, mulespun, northern, 10/1 cones	.461	.501	.533	.448	208.1	226.3	240.7	202.4
Carded, white, mulespun, northern, 22/1 cones	.494	.540	.564	.486	199.5	218.2	227.9	196.2
Twisted, ordinary, weaving, 20/2	.499	.541	.555	.488	214.8	232.7	238.7	210.0
Twisted, ordinary, weaving, 40/2	.604	.654	.682	.632	157.6	170.5	178.1	164.9
(c) Woolen and worsted goods, factory:								
Flannel, white, 4/4, Ballard Vale, No. 3, per yard	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.017	215.8	215.8	215.8	219.4
Overcoating, heavy, 30 to 31 ounce, black, per yard	2.900	2.900	2.900	2.900	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Suiting, per yard—								
Clay, worsted, diagonal, 16-ounce	3.263	3.263	3.263	3.240	236.1	236.1	236.1	234.5
Middlesex, wool-dyed, blue, 16-ounce	3.690	3.690	3.690	3.623	238.8	238.8	238.8	234.5
Serge, 11-ounce	2.588	2.588	2.588	2.604	228.9	228.9	228.9	230.3
Unfinished worsted, 13-ounce	2.183	2.183	(2)	2.168	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Trousering, cotton warp, 11/11½-ounce, per yard	1.700	1.700	1.700	1.708	150.2	150.2	150.2	150.9
Underwear—								
Merino, shirts and drawers, per dozen garments	33.000	33.000	33.000	33.000	168.5	168.5	168.5	168.5
Men's union suits, 33 per cent worsted, per dozen	29.400	29.400	29.400	29.400	299.5	299.5	299.5	299.5
Women's dress goods, per yard—								
Broadcloth, 9½-ounce, 54–56-inch	2.325	2.325	2.325	2.257	176.7	176.7	176.7	171.6
French serge, 35-inch	.775	.775	.775	.753	234.9	234.9	234.9	228.3
Poplar cloth, cotton warp	.365	.365	.365	.363	192.1	192.1	192.1	190.8
Sicilian cloth, cotton warp, 50-inch	.635	.635	.635	.633	196.3	196.3	196.3	195.6
Storm serge, double warp, 50-inch	1.035	1.035	1.035	1.024	184.0	184.0	184.0	182.1
Yarn, per pound—								
Crossbred stock, 2/32s, per pound	1.650	1.650	1.650	1.729	212.4	212.4	212.4	222.6
Half blood, 2/40s, per pound	2.200	2.150	2.150	2.250	197.1	192.6	192.6	201.5
Fine domestic, 2/50s, per pound	2.450	2.400	2.400	2.565	232.4	227.7	227.7	243.3
(d) Silk, etc.:								
Linen shoe thread, 10s, Barbour, per pound, New York	1.777	1.777	1.777	1.977	198.9	198.9	198.9	221.4
Silk, raw, per pound—								
China, Canton, filature, extra extra A, New York	9.041	7.909	7.536	8.157	258.4	226.0	215.4	233.1

[1] No 1913 base price.

[2] No quotation.

WHOLESALE PRICES OF COMMODITIES, OCTOBER TO DECEMBER, 1923, AND YEAR 1923—Continued.

Commodity.	Average prices.				Index numbers (1913=100).			
	Oct., 1923.	Nov., 1923.	Dec., 1923.	Year 1923.	Oct., 1923.	Nov., 1923.	Dec., 1923.	Year 1923.
Cloths and clothing—Concluded.								
(*d*) Silk, etc.—Concluded.								
Silk, raw, per pound—Concluded.								
Japan, Kansai, No. 1, New York	$7.840	$7.840	$7.742	$8.228	215.4	215.4	212.7	226.1
Japan, special, extra, extra, New York	8.330	8.232	8.036	8.653	204.4	202.1	197.2	212.4
Silk yarn, per pound, New York—								
Domestic, gray spun, 60/1	5.370	5.341	5.194	5.073	184.1	183.1	178.1	173.9
Domestic, gray spun, 60/2, No. 1	6.497	6.468	6.399	6.155	187.4	186.6	184.6	177.6
Fuel and lighting.								
(*a*) Anthracite coal, per gross ton, New York, tidewater:								
Broken	11.217	11.123	10.821	10.749	252.3	250.2	243.4	241.8
Chestnut	11.471	11.478	11.476	10.880	215.9	216.0	216.0	204.8
Egg	11.471	11.479	11.467	10.865	226.5	226.7	226.5	214.6
Stove	11.472	11.481	11.471	10.878	226.7	226.8	226.6	214.9
(*b*) Bituminous coal:								
Mine run, per net ton, Chicago	4.600	4.525	4.450	4.988	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Prepared sizes, per net ton, Chicago	5.963	5.888	5.140	6.126	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Screenings, per net ton, Chicago	2.600	2.738	3.260	3.153	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Mine run, Kanawha, per net ton, Cincinnati	3.890	3.890	3.390	4.307	176.8	176.8	154.1	195.8
Mine run, smokeless, New River, per net ton, Cincinnati	4.990	4.490	3.990	5.719	206.8	186.1	165.4	237.1
Mine run, Pocahontas, per gross ton, Norfolk, Va	4.750	4.750	4.750	5.833	158.3	158.3	158.3	194.4
Prepared sizes, per net ton, Pittsburgh	4.000	4.000	4.000	4.604	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
(*c*) Other fuel and lighting:								
Coke, Connellsville, furnace, per net ton, at ovens	3.850	3.813	4.000	5.356	157.8	156.3	164.0	219.5
Gasoline, motor, per gallon, New York	.185	.170	.155	.207	109.9	101.0	92.1	122.8
Matches, average of several brands, per gross, New York	1.540	1.540	1.540	1.540	189.7	189.7	189.7	189.7
Crude petroleum, per barrel, at wells—								
California, 20°	.610	.610	.610	.616	174.3	174.3	174.3	176.1
Kansas-Oklahoma	1.238	1.050	1.015	1.438	132.5	112.4	108.6	153.9
Pennsylvania	2.500	2.388	2.475	3.102	102.0	97.4	101.0	126.6
Refined petroleum, per gallon, New York—								
Standard white, 110° fire test	.130	.140	.140	.131	150.6	162.2	162.2	152.1
Water white, 150° fire test	.210	.220	.220	.214	170.3	178.4	178.4	173.2
Metals and metal products.								
(*a*) Iron and steel:								
Iron ore, per ton, lower lake ports—								
Mesabi, Bessemer, 55 per cent	6.200	6.200	6.200	6.085	149.4	149.4	149.4	146.6
Non-Bessemer, 51½ per cent	5.550	5.550	5.550	5.435	163.2	163.2	163.2	159.8
Pig iron, per gross ton—								
Basic, valley furnace	23.500	20.875	21.000	25.808	159.8	142.0	142.8	175.5
Bessemer, Pittsburgh	26.960	24.885	24.635	28.972	157.4	145.3	143.8	169.1
Foundry, No. 2, northern, Pittsburgh	25.370	23.645	23.760	28.164	158.5	147.7	148.4	175.9
Foundry, No. 2, Birmingham, Ala	20.300	19.625	21.000	23.827	173.6	167.9	179.6	203.8
Ferromanganese, per gross ton, seaboard	110.000	108.750	108.500	115.846	188.7	186.6	186.1	198.7
Spiegeleisen, 18 and 22 per cent, per gross ton, furnace	43.100	40.250	39.000	42.168	172.4	161.0	156.0	168.7
Bar iron, per pound—								
Best refined, Philadelphia	.033	.034	.034	.033	173.4	177.1	177.1	174.0
Common, Pittsburgh	.033	.031	.031	.031	197.0	189.7	189.7	188.5
Bars, reinforcing, per 100 pounds, Pittsburgh	2.400	2.400	2.400	2.285	174.4	174.4	174.4	166.1
Nails, wire, per 100 pounds, Pittsburgh	3.100	3.100	3.100	3.035	170.4	170.4	170.4	166.8
Pipe, cast-iron, 6-inch, per net ton, New York	63.600	62.975	62.600	60.314	272.1	269.5	267.9	258.1
Skelp, grooved, per 100 pounds, Pittsburgh	2.400	2.375	2.350	2.347	172.7	170.9	169.1	168.9
Steel billets, per gross ton, Pittsburgh—								
Bessemer	40.000	40.000	40.000	41.654	155.1	155.1	155.1	161.5
Open hearth	40.000	40.000	40.000	41.750	153.3	153.3	153.3	160.0
Steel, merchant bars, per 100 pounds, Pittsburgh	2.400	2.400	2.400	2.357	155.0	155.0	155.0	152.2

[1] No 1913 base price.

WHOLESALE PRICES OF COMMODITIES, OCTOBER TO DECEMBER, 1923, AND YEAR 1923—Continued.

Commodity.	Average prices.				Index numbers (1913=100).			
	Oct., 1923.	Nov., 1923.	Dec., 1923.	Year 1923.	Oct., 1923.	Nov., 1923.	Dec., 1923.	Year 1923.
Metals and metal products—Concluded.								
(*a*) Iron and steel—Concluded.								
Steel plate, tank, per pound, Pittsburgh	$0.025	$0.025	$0.025	$0.024	168.9	168.9	168.9	164.2
Steel rails, per gross ton, Pittsburgh—								
Bessemer, standard	43.000	43.000	43.000	43.000	153.6	153.6	153.6	153.6
Open hearth, standard	43.000	43.000	43.000	43.000	143.3	143.3	143.3	143.3
Steel sheets, black, per pound, Pittsburgh	.038	.038	.038	.037	171.2	171.2	171.2	168.9
Steel, structural shapes, per 100 pounds, Pittsburgh	2.500	2.500	2.500	2.423	165.5	165.5	165.5	160.4
Terneplate, 8 pounds I. C., per base box (200 pounds), Pittsburgh	11.300	11.300	11.300	10.848	162.9	162.9	162.9	156.4
Tin plate, domestic coke, per 100 pounds, Pittsburgh	5.500	5.500	5.500	5.411	154.6	154.6	154.6	152.1
Wire, per 100 pounds—								
Barbed, galvanized, Chicago	4.140	4.140	4.140	4.042	179.3	179.3	179.3	175.0
Plain, fence, annealed, Pittsburgh	2.900	2.900	2.900	2.739	191.7	191.7	191.7	181.1
(*b*) Nonferrous metals:								
Aluminum, per pound, New York	.250	.255	.263	.253	105.8	107.9	111.3	107.0
Copper, ingot, electrolytic, per pound, refinery	.126	.128	.129	.145	80.3	81.4	81.9	92.2
Copper, sheet, per pound, New York	.202	.197	.200	.222	95.4	93.0	94.4	104.6
Copper wire, bare, per pound, mill	.156	.156	.156	.175	93.4	93.4	93.4	104.4
Lead, pig, per pound, New York	.069	.069	.076	.074	155.9	156.6	173.2	168.0
Lead pipe, per 100 pounds, New York	8.820	8.820	9.136	8.922	173.6	173.6	179.8	175.6
Quicksilver, per pound, New York	.807	.807	.800	.873	142.8	142.8	141.6	154.6
Silver, bar, fine, per ounce, New York	.639	.641	.650	.652	104.4	104.7	106.2	106.5
Tin, pig, per pound, New York	.417	.444	.471	.426	92.9	98.9	104.9	95.0
Zinc, sheet, per 100 pounds, factory	8.510	8.510	8.510	8.549	117.5	117.5	117.5	118.0
Zinc, slab, per pound, New York	.067	.067	.066	.070	114.2	115.3	113.4	120.2
Building materials.								
(*a*) Lumber:								
Douglas fir, per 1,000 feet, mill—								
No. 1 common, boards	18.500	18.500	17.500	19.417	200.9	200.9	190.1	210.9
No. 2 and better, drop siding	39.000	39.000	31.000	40.917	225.0	225.0	178.8	236.1
Gum, sap, firsts and seconds, per 1,000 feet, St. Louis	52.100	52.125	52.125	53.192	251.9	251.9	251.9	257.1
Hemlock, northern, No. 1, per 1,000 feet, Chicago	38.100	37.500	37.500	38.539	180.6	177.8	177.8	182.7
Maple, hard, No. 1 common, 4/4, per 1,000 feet, Chicago	72.500	72.500	72.500	72.365	240.6	240.6	240.6	240.1
Oak, white, plain, No. 1 common, 4/4, per 1,000 feet, Cincinnati	65.000	65.000	65.000	71.558	175.6	175.6	175.6	193.4
Pine, white, No. 2 barn, per 1,000 feet, Buffalo, N. Y	67.000	67.000	67.000	67.923	229.3	229.3	229.3	232.4
Pine, yellow, southern, per 1,000 feet, mill—								
Boards, No. 2 common, 1 x 8	21.930	21.420	20.070	23.619	172.2	168.2	157.6	185.5
Flooring, B and better	44.170	42.270	42.210	47.699	191.7	183.5	183.2	207.1
Timbers, square edge and sound	26.320	26.760	25.310	29.923	179.9	182.9	173.0	204.5
Poplar, No. 1 common, 4/4, per 1,000 feet, Cincinnati	65.000	70.000	68.750	69.327	196.8	212.0	208.1	209.9
Spruce, eastern, random, per 1,000 feet, Boston	37.200	38.500	38.188	37.899	171.6	177.6	176.2	174.8
Lath, yellow pine, No. 1, per 1,000, mill	4.140	3.780	3.720	4.997	136.2	124.4	122.4	164.4
Shingles—								
Cypress, 16 inches long, per 1,000, mill	6.000	6.000	6.000	5.983	169.4	169.4	169.4	168.9
Red cedar, 16 inches long, per 1,000, mill	2.650	2.560	2.630	2.903	134.7	130.2	133.7	147.6
(*b*) Brick, common building, per 1,000:								
Simple average of 82 yard prices	14.752	14.746	14.684	14.506	217.2	217.0	216.2	213.5
Run of kiln, f. o. b. plant, Chicago	8.980	8.610	8.760	8.764	181.9	174.4	177.4	177.5
(*c*) Structural steel. (See Metals and metal products.)								
(*d*) Other building materials:								
Cement, Portland, per barrel, f. o. b. plant—								
Simple average of 6 plant prices in Pa., Ind., Minn., Tex., and Calif	1.893	1.842	1.817	1.881	182.2	177.2	174.9	181.0
Buffington, Ind	1.750	1.673	1.650	1.723	173.1	165.5	163.2	170.4
Northampton, Pa	1.900	1.780	1.750	1.878	213.5	200.0	196.6	211.0
Crushed stone, 1½", per cubic yard, New York	1.650	1.650	1.650	1.650	183.3	183.3	183.3	183.3

WHOLESALE PRICES OF COMMODITIES, OCTOBER TO DECEMBER, 1923, AND YEAR 1923—Continued.

Commodity.	Average prices.				Index numbers (1913=100).			
	Oct., 1923.	Nov., 1923.	Dec., 1923.	Year 1923.	Oct., 1923.	Nov., 1923.	Dec., 1923.	Year 1923.
Building materials—Concluded.								
(*d*) Other building materials—Concluded.								
Gravel, per ton, f. o. b. pit, average of 27 plant prices	$0.940	$0.942	$0.960	$0.951	190.2	190.6	194.0	192.3
Hollow tile, building, per block, Chicago	.072	.072	.072	.074	113.1	113.1	113.1	115.8
Lime, common, lump, per ton, f. o. b. plant, average of 15 plant prices	9.931	9.910	9.880	9.786	240.6	240.1	239.5	237.2
Roofing, prepared, per square, f. o. b. factory—								
Medium weight	1.561	1.561	1.561	1.555	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Shingles, individual	4.649	4.649	4.649	4.716	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Shingles, strip	4.388	4.501	4.501	4.631	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Slate surfaced	1.739	1.735	1.735	1.770	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Sand, building, per ton, f. o. b. pit, average of 31 plant prices	.608	.604	.610	.622	159.6	158.7	160.1	163.3
Slate, roofing, per 100 square feet, f. o. b. quarry	10.500	10.500	10.500	10.179	227.0	227.0	227.0	220.1
Glass, plate—								
3 to 5 square feet, per square foot, New York	.550	.550	.550	.523	232.4	232.4	232.4	220.7
5 to 10 square feet, per square foot, New York	.730	.730	.730	.700	229.3	229.3	229.3	219.7
Glass, window, American, f. o. b. works—								
Single A, per 50 square feet	4.275	4.275	4.275	4.275	188.0	188.0	188.0	188.0
Single B, per 50 square feet	3.612	3.612	3.612	3.612	162.7	162.7	162.7	162.7
Linseed oil, per gallon, New York	.943	.910	.918	.993	204.0	196.9	198.7	214.9
Putty, commercial, per pound, New York	.040	.040	.040	.041	150.9	150.9	150.9	156.2
Rosin, common to good (B), per barrel, New York	5.840	5.775	5.669	5.925	121.2	119.9	117.7	123.0
Turpentine, southern, barrels, per gallon, New York	1.007	.954	.938	1.171	235.3	222.9	219.1	273.7
White lead, American, in oil, per pound, New York	.119	.119	.119	.120	175.3	175.3	175.3	177.2
Zinc oxide (white zinc), per pound, New York	.071	.071	.070	.065	132.5	132.5	130.7	121.6
Pipe, cast-iron. (See Metals and metal products.)								
Copper, sheet. (See Metals and metal products.)								
Copper wire. (See Metals and metal products.)								
Lead pipe. (See Metals and metal products.)								
Nails. (See Metals and metal products).								
Reinforcing bars. (See Metals and metal products.)								
Roofing tin (terneplate). (See Metals and metal products.)								
Zinc, sheet. (See Metals and metal products.)								
Chemicals and drugs.								
(*a*) Chemicals:								
Acids, per pound, New York—								
Acetic, 28 per cent	.034	.034	.034	.033	174.2	174.2	174.2	171.1
Muriatic, 20°	.010	.010	.010	.010	76.9	76.9	76.9	76.9
Nitric, 42°	.053	.053	.053	.053	107.6	107.6	107.6	107.6
Stearic, triple pressed	.144	.143	.133	.147	108.3	107.5	100.5	110.6
Sulphuric, 66°	.008	.008	.008	.007	75.0	75.0	75.0	73.0
Alcohol, per gallon, New York—								
Denatured, No. 5, 188 proof	.460	.478	.515	.423	125.8	130.5	140.8	115.5
Wood, refined, 95 per cent	.933	.880	.880	1.058	195.0	184.0	184.0	221.1
Alum, lump, per pound, New York	.035	.035	.035	.035	200.0	200.0	200.0	200.0
Ammonia, anhydrous, per pound, New York	.300	.300	.300	.300	120.0	120.0	120.0	120.0
Bleaching powder, per 100 pounds, New York	1.438	1.313	1.250	1.820	121.7	111.2	105.9	154.2
Borax, crystals and granulated, per pound, New York	.055	.055	.055	.055	146.7	146.7	146.7	146.7
Copper, sulphate, 99 per cent crystals, per pound, New York	.049	.049	.048	.056	94.6	94.1	91.2	107.3
Copra, South Sea. (See Foods.)								
Formaldehyde, per pound, New York	.121	.110	.109	.141	143.7	130.3	129.3	166.9

[1] No 1913 base price.

WHOLESALE PRICES OF COMMODITIES, OCTOBER TO DECEMBER, 1923, AND YEAR 1923—Continued.

Commodity.	Average prices.				Index numbers (1913=100).			
	Oct., 1923.	Nov., 1923.	Dec., 1923.	Year 1923.	Oct., 1923.	Nov., 1923.	Dec., 1923.	Year 1923.
Chemicals and drugs—Concluded.								
(a) Chemicals—Concluded.								
Oil, vegetable—								
Coconut, crude. (See Foods.)								
Corn, crude. (See Foods.)								
Palm kernel, crude, per pound, New York	$0.088	$0.088	$0.091	$0.087	86.6	86.6	89.6	86.4
Soya bean, crude. (See Foods.)								
Potash, caustic, 88–92 per cent, per pound, New York	.071	.071	.066	.074	197.0	197.0	183.5	206.0
Sal soda, per 100 pounds, New York	1.150	1.150	1.100	1.124	191.7	191.7	183.3	187.3
Soda ash, 58 per cent, light, per 100 pounds, New York	2.035	2.290	2.290	2.015	348.9	392.6	392.6	345.5
Soda, bicarbonate, American, per pound, f. o. b. works	.018	.018	.018	.019	175.0	175.0	175.0	189.0
Soda, caustic, 76 per cent solid, per pound, New York	.034	.038	.038	.034	232.2	257.5	257.5	235.6
Soda, silicate of, 40°, per 100 pounds, New York	.800	.800	.800	.795	125.8	125.8	125.8	125.1
Sulphur, crude, per gross ton, New York	14.000	14.000	14.000	14.000	63.6	63.6	63.6	63.6
Tallow, inedible, packers' prime, per pound, Chicago	.084	.084	.080	.082	118.5	119.0	113.2	116.4
(b) Fertilizer materials:								
Acid phosphate, 16 per cent basis, bulk, per ton, New York	8.250	8.250	8.125	8.786	107.2	107.2	105.6	114.1
Ammonia, sulphate, double bags, per 100 pounds, New York	3.400	3.113	2.888	3.528	108.7	99.5	92.3	112.8
Ground bone, steamed, per ton, Chicago	21.000	21.000	21.200	22.846	104.4	104.4	105.3	113.6
Muriate of potash, 80–85 per cent, K. C. L. bags, per ton, New York	31.095	31.095	31.095	33.236	82.1	82.1	82.1	87.4
Phosphate rock, 68 per cent, per ton, f. o. b. mines	3.250	3.250	3.250	3.072	95.4	95.4	95.4	90.1
Soda, nitrate, 95 per cent, per 100 pounds, New York	2.444	2.413	2.492	2.510	99.0	97.7	100.9	101.7
Tankage, 9 and 20 per cent, crushed, per ton, f. o. b. Chicago	39.406	36.706	30.305	35.931	168.7	157.1	129.7	153.8
(c) Drugs and pharmaceuticals:								
Acid, citric, domestic, crystals, per pound, New York	.490	.490	.484	.490	112.6	112.6	111.2	112.6
Acid, tartaric, crystals, U. S. P., per pound, New York	.345	.325	.304	.344	113.1	106.7	99.7	112.9
Alcohol, grain, 190 proof, U. S. P., per gallon, New York	4.740	4.750	4.780	4.745	189.7	190.1	191.3	189.8
Cream of tartar, powdered, per pound, New York	.255	.255	.255	.262	106.9	106.9	106.9	109.9
Epsom salts, U. S. P., in barrels, per 100 pounds, New York	2.500	2.500	2.500	2.567	227.3	227.3	227.3	233.4
Glycerine, refined, per pound, New York	.170	.166	.164	.172	86.3	84.4	83.2	87.5
Opium, natural, U. S. P., per pound, New York	8.000	8.000	8.000	7.490	133.0	133.0	133.0	124.5
Peroxide of hydrogen, 4-oz. bottles, per gross, New York	8.000	8.000	8.000	7.952	200.0	200.0	200.0	198.8
Phenol, U. S. P. (carbolic acid), per pound, New York	.265	.255	.284	.370	241.1	232.1	258.6	336.4
Quinine, sulphate, manufacturers' quotations, per ounce, New York	.500	.500	.500	.500	227.7	227.7	227.7	227.7
House-furnishing goods.								
(a) Furniture:								
Bedroom—								
Bed, combination, per bed, factory	35.000	32.000	32.000	35.667	155.6	142.2	142.2	158.5
Chair, all gum, cane seat, per chair, factory	5.000	4.500	4.500	5.208	222.2	200.0	200.0	231.5
Chiffonette, combination, per chiffonette, factory	40.000	36.000	36.000	40.500	123.1	110.8	110.8	124.6
Dresser, combination, per dresser, factory	56.000	51.000	51.000	57.500	155.6	141.7	141.7	159.7
Rocker, quartered oak, per chair, Chicago	4.900	4.900	4.900	4.839	239.0	239.0	239.0	236.1
Set, 3 pieces, per set, Chicago	40.425	40.425	40.425	40.372	213.0	213.0	213.0	212.6
Dining room—								
Buffet, combination, per buffet, factory	56.000	50.000	50.000	55.438	130.1	216.3	116.3	128.9

WHOLESALE PRICES OF COMMODITIES, OCTOBER TO DECEMBER, 1923, AND YEAR 1923—Continued.

Commodity.	Average prices.				Index numbers (1913=100).			
	Oct., 1923.	Nov., 1923.	Dec., 1923.	Year 1923.	Oct., 1923.	Nov., 1923.	Dec., 1923.	Year 1923.
House-furnishing goods—Concluded.								
(*a*) Furniture—Concluded.								
Dining room—Concluded.								
Chair, all gum, leather slip seat, per 6, factory	$33.000	$33.000	$33.000	$33.000	220.0	220.0	220.0	220.0
Table, extension, combination, per table, factory	33.000	30.000	30.000	33.667	178.4	162.2	162.2	182.0
Living room—								
Davenport, standard pattern, per davenport, factory	63.000	63.000	63.000	63.875	182.6	182.6	182.6	185.1
Table, library, combination, per table, factory	34.000	32.000	32.000	34.542	170.0	160.0	160.0	172.7
Kitchen—								
Chair, hardwood, per dozen, Chicago	17.640	17.640	17.640	17.542	276.9	276.9	276.9	275.4
Refrigerator, lift-top type, each, factory	17.720	17.720	17.720	17.028	171.5	171.5	171.5	164.8
Table, with drawer, per table, Chicago	4.459	4.459	4.459	4.488	313.8	313.8	313.8	315.8
(*b*) Furnishings:								
Blankets, factory—								
Cotton, colored, 2 pounds to the pair, per pair	1.470	1.470	1.535	1.468	243.0	243.0	253.6	242.6
Wool, 4 to 5 pounds to the pair, per pound	1.387	1.387	1.387	1.352	181.2	181.2	181.2	176.7
Carpets, per yard, factory—								
Axminster, Bigelow	3.312	3.312	3.312	3.276	247.2	247.2	247.2	244.5
Brussels, Bigelow	3.024	3.024	3.024	2.988	234.1	234.1	234.1	231.3
Wilton, Bigelow	5.040	5.040	5.040	4.992	209.3	209.3	209.3	207.3
Cutlery—								
Carvers, 8-inch, per pair, factory	1.600	1.600	1.600	1.477	213.3	213.3	213.3	196.9
Knives and forks, per gross, factory	15.500	15.500	15.500	14.526	269.6	269.6	269.6	252.6
Pails, galvanized iron, 10-quart, per gross, factory	22.890	22.570	21.261	22.581	156.1	153.9	144.9	154.0
Sheeting, bleached, 10/4, factory—								
Pepperell, per yard	.502	.502	.518	.505	210.0	210.0	216.5	210.9
Wamsutta, per yard	.947	.947	[3]	.947	290.7	290.7	.....	290.7
Tableware—								
Glass nappies, 4-inch, per dozen, factory	.220	.220	.220	.243	200.0	200.0	200.0	220.5
Glass pitchers, ½-gallon, per dozen, factory	2.400	2.400	2.400	2.375	300.0	300.0	300.0	296.9
Glass tumblers, ½-pint, per dozen, factory	.220	.220	.220	.229	183.3	183.3	183.3	191.0
Plates, white granite, 7-inch, per dozen, factory	1.050	1.050	1.050	1.050	226.6	226.6	226.6	226.6
Teacups and saucers, white granite, per dozen, factory	1.350	1.350	1.350	1.350	236.8	236.8	236.8	236.8
Ticking, Amoskeag, A. C. A., 2.85 yards to the pound, per yard, factory	.270	.275	.300	.291	200.6	204.3	222.9	216.4
Tubs, galvanized iron, No. 3, per dozen, factory	7.135	7.034	6.624	7.041	173.7	171.3	161.2	171.5
Miscellaneous.								
(*a*) Cattle feed:								
Bran, per ton, Minneapolis	28.100	25.594	24.750	25.551	153.0	139.4	134.8	139.1
Cottonseed meal, prime, per ton, New York	[4] 45.500	[4] 49.750	[4] 48.250	47.643	143.9	157.4	150.7	152.6
Linseed meal, per ton, New York	45.250	43.000	45.000	43.308	159.2	151.3	158.4	152.4
Millfeed, middlings, standard, per ton, Minneapolis	28.100	25.094	23.688	26.565	144.5	129.0	121.8	136.6
(*b*) Leather:								
Calf, chrome, B grade, per square foot, Boston	.440	.440	.440	.443	163.2	163.2	163.2	164.4
Glazed kid, black, top grade, per square foot, Boston	.675	.675	.675	.688	269.6	269.6	269.6	274.6
Harness, California oak, No. 1, per pound, Chicago	.441	.451	.412	.457	109.9	112.4	102.6	113.8
Side, black, chrome, B grade, per square foot, Boston	.260	.255	.250	.260	101.6	99.7	97.7	101.6

[3] No quotation. [4] Estimated.

WHOLESALE PRICES OF COMMODITIES, OCTOBER TO DECEMBER, 1923, AND YEAR 1923—Concluded.

Commodity	Average prices.				Index numbers (1913=100).			
	Oct., 1923.	Nov., 1923.	Dec., 1923.	Year 1923.	Oct., 1923.	Nov., 1923.	Dec., 1923.	Year 1923.
Miscellaneous—Concluded.								
(*b*) Leather—Concluded.								
Sole, per pound—								
Oak, in sides, middle weight, tannery run, Boston	$0.370	$0.340	$0.340	$0.365	124.1	114.0	114.0	122.4
Oak, scoured backs, heavy, Boston	.465	.455	.425	.508	103.6	101.4	94.7	113.3
Union, middle weight, New York	.459	.435	.420	.492	114.4	108.4	104.7	122.6
(*c*) Paper and pulp:								
Paper—								
Newsprint, roll, per pound, f. o. b. mill	.039	.039	.039	.039	187.6	187.6	187.6	188.1
Wrapping, manila, No. 1, jute, per pound, New York	.094	.094	.094	.094	192.2	192.2	192.2	192.0
Wood pulp, sulphite, domestic, unbleached, per 100 pounds, New York	3.105	2.913	2.706	2.973	139.6	130.9	121.6	133.6
(*d*) Other miscellaneous:								
Hemp, manila, fair, current shipment, per pound, New York	.081	.092	.100	.088	87.4	99.0	108.0	95.0
Jute, raw, medium grade, per pound, New York	.048	.049	.060	.061	71.0	72.8	89.7	90.9
Lubricating oil, paraffin, 903 gravity, per gallon, New York	.190	.190	.190	.214	133.3	133.3	133.3	150.3
Rope, pure manila, best grade, per pound, New York	.201	.185	.180	.206	136.7	126.1	122.7	140.6
ubber, Para, island, fine, per pound, New York	.215	.204	.203	.248	26.6	25.3	25.2	30.8
Sisal, Mexican, current shipment, per pound, New York	.066	.066	.066	.066	153.5	153.3	153.5	153.5
Soap—								
Laundry, per 100 cakes, Cincinnati	4.015	4.015	4.015	4.015	130.2	130.2	130.2	130.2
Laundry, per 100 cakes, Philadelphia	4.851	4.851	4.851	4.945	137.5	137.5	137.5	140.2
Starch, laundry, bulk, per pound, New York	.051	.051	.051	.051	140.5	140.5	140.5	140.5
Tobacco—								
Plug, per pound, New York	.701	.701	.701	.701	180.2	180.2	180.2	180.2
Smoking, per gross, 1-ounce bags, New York	9.920	9.920	9.920	9.920	175.9	175.9	175.9	175.9

Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices, by Years, 1890 to 1923.

TO MEET the demand for index numbers of wholesale prices for years, which are comparable with the figures for months since 1913, computed by the United States Department of Labor through the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the table following is presented. While the results here shown for earlier years are necessarily based on a smaller number of commodities than the data for recent years, the figures are believed to furnish a reliable barometer of wholesale price changes in general over the period stated.

INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES, BY YEARS, 1890 TO 1923.

[1913=100.]

Year.	Farm products.	Foods.	Cloths and clothing.	Fuel and lighting.	Metals and metal products.	Building materials.	Chemicals and drugs.	House-furnishing goods.	Miscellaneous.	All commodities.
1890	70	86	95	62	116	82	91	88	99	81
1891	75	85	91	60	102	78	92	89	97	80
1892	68	79	91	57	92	74	93	85	91	75
1893	71	85	90	58	85	73	91	85	92	77
1894	61	75	79	56	72	70	82	80	88	69
1895	61	74	77	66	77	68	81	77	93	70
1896	55	69	76	65	78	68	81	77	92	67
1897	59	71	75	55	72	66	88	75	93	67
1898	63	74	77	56	72	70	97	78	96	70
1899	64	74	80	67	110	77	101	80	100	75
1900	70	79	88	76	108	81	102	87	104	81
1901	74	79	81	73	103	78	105	87	96	79
1902	81	83	82	84	100	80	108	87	93	84
1903	77	81	87	98	99	82	105	90	102	86
1904	81	84	88	87	88	79	105	89	110	86
1905	79	86	90	81	98	85	103	88	117	86
1906	80	83	98	85	113	95	96	91	116	89
1907	87	89	105	89	121	100	98	98	111	94
1908	86	91	94	88	95	92	99	92	101	90
1909	97	97	98	84	93	95	100	92	130	97
1910	103	101	100	78	94	98	102	96	151	104
1911	93	97	96	76	89	98	102	93	111	93
1912	101	104	97	84	99	99	101	94	110	99
1913	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1914	103	102	98	93	85	92	101	100	95	98
1915	104	105	98	88	99	94	134	100	95	101
1916	123	121	127	126	162	120	181	106	121	127
1917	190	167	175	169	231	157	202	125	148	177
1918	218	188	228	170	187	172	215	153	156	194
1919	231	207	253	181	162	201	169	184	175	206
1920	218	220	295	241	192	264	200	254	196	226
1921	124	144	180	199	129	165	136	195	128	147
1922	133	138	181	218	122	168	124	176	117	149
1923	141	144	200	185	144	189	131	183	123	154

Changes in Cost of Living in the United States.

THE Bureau of Labor Statistics has secured data on cost of living for December, 1923, the results of which are shown in the tables following. The information is based on actual prices secured from merchants and dealers for each of the periods named. The prices of food and of fuel and light (which include coal, wood, gas, electricity, and kerosene) are furnished the bureau in accordance with arrangements made with establishments through personal visits of the bureau's agents. In each city food prices are secured from 15 to 25 merchants and dealers, and fuel and light prices from 10 to 15 firms, including public utilities. All other data are secured by special agents of the bureau who visit the various merchants, dealers, and agents and secure the figures directly from their records. Four quotations are secured in each city (except in Greater New York, where five are obtained) on each of a large number of articles of clothing, furniture, and miscellaneous items. Rental figures are secured for from 375 to 2,000 houses and apartments in each city, according to its population.

Table 1 shows the changes in the total cost of living from June, 1920, December, 1922, and September, 1923, respectively, to December, 1923, in 32 cities, and in the United States as determined by a consolidation of the figures for the 32 cities.

TABLE 1.—CHANGES IN TOTAL COST OF LIVING IN SPECIFIED CITIES FROM JUNE, 1920, DECEMBER, 1922, AND SEPTEMBER, 1923, TO DECEMBER, 1923.

City.	Per cent of decrease from June, 1920, to December, 1923.	Per cent of increase from—		City.	Per cent of decrease from June, 1920, to December, 1923.	Per cent of increase from—	
		December, 1922, to December, 1923.	September, 1923, to December 1923.			December, 1922, to December, 1923.	September, 1923, to December, 1923.
Atlanta	20.9	0.8	0.1	Mobile	21.4	2.4	1.3
Baltimore	18.4	2.3	.1	New Orleans	15.3	1.3	.7
Birmingham	18.3	2.5	1.4	New York	19.1	1.8	1.1
Boston	19.6	2.6	.9	Norfolk	22.4	1.5	[1].6
Buffalo	19.4	2.7	.2	Philadelphia	18.2	2.3	.3
Chicago	19.1	3.4	.3	Pittsburgh	17.6	2.3	.5
Cincinnati	20.0	3.4	.8	Portland, Me.	19.6	1.7	.7
Cleveland	18.5	3.9	[1].2	Portland, Oreg.	21.3	1.1	.9
Denver	18.8	.4	.7	Richmond	18.6	2.4	.4
Detroit	21.7	3.0	[1].4	St. Louis	19.0	3.1	.6
Houston	19.6	1.3	1.1	San Francisco	17.3	2.1	1.1
Indianapolis	19.7	1.5	[1]1.3	Savannah	25.5	[1].6	[1].1
Jacksonville	20.6	2.4	1.2	Scranton	17.0	2.8	1.1
Kansas City	22.4	.9	1.5	Seattle	20.0	1.1	.1
Los Angeles	11.4	2.5	1.0	Washington	18.9	2.3	.2
Memphis	17.3	2.0	.3				
Minneapolis	17.2	.7	.8	Average, U.S.	20.0	2.2	.6

[1] Decrease.

Table 2 shows the changes in each of six groups of items in 19 cities from December, 1914, to December, 1923.

In studying this and the following tables it should be borne in mind that the figures for the 19 cities in Table 2 are based on the prices prevailing in December, 1914, the figures for the 13 cities in Table 3 are based on the prices prevailing in December, 1917, while the figures for the United States, shown in Table 4, are a summarization of the figures in Tables 2 and 3, computed on a 1913 base.

It will be noted that from the beginning of the studies to June, 1920, there was, with an occasional exception, a steady increase in prices, becoming much more decided during the latter part of that period. From June, 1920, to March, 1922, there was a decrease during each period covered by the tables. During the latter part of this time the decreases were very small. From March to June, 1922, and from June to September of the same year the changes were small, being increases in some cities and decreases in others. From September to December, 1922, an increase was shown in each of the 32 cities.

From December, 1922, to March, 1923, the changes ranged from a decrease of 2.9 per cent to an increase of 0.8 per cent, the average for the United States being a decrease of 0.4 per cent.

During the period from March to June, 1923, the changes ranged from a decrease of 0.9 per cent to an increase of 2.8 per cent, the average for the United States being an increase of 0.5 per cent. This brings the cost of living to within three-tenths of 1 per cent of what it was in December, 1922.

During the three months from March to June the price of food increased in 28 of the 32 cities, clothing increased in 22 of the cities, and furniture increased in all of the cities. Housing increased in 17 and decreased in 12 cities, miscellaneous items increased in 11 and decreased in 15 cities, while fuel and light increased in 2 cities and

decreased in 28 cities. In a few cities one or more of the groups of items remained the same in June as in March.

From June to September, 1923, there was an increase in every city, the range being from 0.2 per cent to 2.7 per cent. The average increase for the United States was 1.4 per cent. Food and clothing increased in every city, rents increased in 25 cities. The other groups of items increased in the majority of cities, but decreased in a few.

From September to December, 1923, the changes ranged from 1.3 per cent decrease to 1.4 per cent increase, the average for the United States being an increase of 0.6 per cent. There was an increase in all but 5 of the cities. In 23 cities there was an increase in the cost of food; in clothing there was an increase in 12 cities and a decrease in 13; in housing there was an increase in 27 cities; in fuel and light an increase in 24 cities; while in furniture and miscellaneous items the increases and decreases were fairly divided among the cities.

TABLE 2.—CHANGES IN COST OF LIVING IN 19 CITIES FROM DECEMBER, 1914, TO DECEMBER, 1923.

Baltimore, Md.

Item of expenditure.	Per cent of total expenditure.	Per cent of increase from December, 1914, to—																	
		Dec., 1915.	Dec., 1916.	Dec., 1917.	Dec., 1918.	June, 1919.	Dec., 1919.	June, 1920.	Dec., 1920.	May, 1921.	Sept., 1921.	Dec., 1921.	Mar., 1922.	June, 1922.	Sept., 1922.	Dec., 1922.	Mar., 1923.	June, 1923.	Sept., 1923.	Dec., 1923.
Food	42.0	[1] 4.1	20.9	64.4	96.4	91.1	92.5	110.9	75.6	43.4	48.6	46.9	38.3	39.9	39.4	46.1	42.6	46.5	52.0	50.6
Clothing	15.1	2.7	24.0	52.1	107.7	128.9	177.4	191.3	159.5	123.2	101.5	88.6	82.0	78.9	77.8	80.5	81.6	81.4	82.9	81.8
Housing	14.0	[1].2	.9	3.0	13.8	16.8	25.8	41.6	49.5	63.0	64.0	64.7	65.2	65.4	65.6	66.9	67.6	69.6	70.4	71.9
Fuel and light	5.0	.5	9.1	25.5	46.0	37.1	48.1	57.6	79.0	70.9	84.9	85.5	85.5	84.8	90.9	94.9	95.5	91.6	88.2	93.5
Furniture and furnishings	4.3	5.6	26.4	60.8	122.3	134.6	167.0	191.8	181.9	147.5	128.7	123.7	115.0	113.3	114.2	116.6	125.0	127.5	129.5	130.2
Miscellaneous	19.7	[1] 1.4	18.5	51.3	78.7	82.8	99.4	111.4	112.9	111.8	112.2	108.6	106.9	104.4	103.8	102.6	103.2	103.8	104.0	105.2
Total	100.0	[1] 1.4	18.5	51.3	84.7	84.0	98.4	114.3	96.8	77.4	76.5	73.2	67.9	67.6	67.2	70.9	70.2	72.0	74.7	74.8

Boston, Mass.

Food	44.5	[1] 0.3	18.0	45.8	74.9	67.9	80.8	105.0	74.4	41.9	52.1	50.4	34.3	32.5	37.4	44.9	41.2	39.7	47.9	48.8
Clothing	15.5	6.6	21.9	47.5	117.5	137.9	192.4	211.1	192.7	150.3	118.8	106.3	98.9	96.7	92.4	92.0	92.6	93.0	93.4	92.6
Housing	12.8	[1].1	.1	[1].1	2.8	5.1	12.2	16.2	25.8	29.8	31.6	33.8	33.9	34.4	34.9	36.7	37.2	40.2	44.3	47.0
Fuel and light	5.6	1.1	10.5	29.2	56.6	55.0	63.2	83.6	106.0	97.8	94.4	98.5	93.9	92.5	91.7	99.9	97.7	88.8	92.8	97.0
Furniture and furnishings	3.3	8.4	26.3	58.4	137.6	153.7	198.7	233.7	226.4	171.2	139.5	136.9	128.1	124.2	124.0	133.6	142.5	150.5	148.7	148.2
Miscellaneous	18.3	1.6	15.7	38.1	62.0	64.8	81.1	91.8	96.6	96.2	94.6	93.0	91.6	89.5	89.3	87.8	88.4	89.2	89.2	93.0
Total	100.0	1.6	15.7	38.1	70.6	72.8	92.3	110.7	97.4	74.4	72.8	70.2	61.2	59.6	60.9	65.1	63.9	63.5	67.9	69.4

Buffalo, N. Y.

Food	36.1	2.4	30.1	64.1	87.8	82.9	94.7	115.7	78.5	37.7	49.9	50.8	39.4	38.5	41.2	48.8	41.5	41.6	50.9	51.9
Clothing	17.5	8.9	29.6	58.5	123.1	140.7	190.8	210.6	168.7	131.6	102.4	96.5	87.7	83.6	79.4	81.4	83.0	83.4	84.9	83.8
Housing	15.4	1.2	4.7	9.4	20.7	28.0	29.0	46.6	48.5	61.1	61.7	61.7	61.9	64.7	64.7	64.9	64.9	70.0	70.9	71.8
Fuel and light	4.9	1.3	9.3	23.5	49.3	51.9	55.7	69.8	74.9	73.9	79.5	79.7	78.8	78.8	122.1	115.7	119.5	119.1	116.7	120.4
Furniture and furnishings	5.6	7.1	24.1	50.2	106.3	118.1	165.4	199.7	189.2	151.3	130.9	124.7	115.5	108.0	107.8	112.8	121.3	127.9	127.0	127.5
Miscellaneous	20.6	3.5	24.4	51.1	76.0	78.7	90.3	101.9	107.4	107.8	105.7	103.0	99.5	97.9	97.9	97.5	98.7	100.5	102.7	102.5
Total	100.0	3.5	24.4	51.1	80.9	84.2	102.7	121.5	101.7	80.3	78.4	76.8	69.9	68.6	71.0	73.9	72.5	74.1	78.2	78.6

[300]

Chicago, Ill.

Food	37.8	2.7	25.2	53.4	78.7	73.3	93.1	120.0	70.5	41.9	51.3	48.3	38.3	41.6	40.7	44.8	42.4	45.1	52.7	52.5
Clothing	16.0	7.5	24.2	50.6	138.9	157.1	224.0	205.3	158.6	122.7	86.0	74.3	66.8	63.0	65.8	67.5	71.2	72.2	76.0	76.0
Housing	14.9	1.1	.7	1.4	2.6	8.0	14.0	35.1	48.9	78.2	79.8	83.9	84.1	87.4	87.6	88.9	89.1	92.1	92.1	95.4
Fuel and light	6.0	1.9	6.6	19.3	37.1	35.7	40.1	62.4	83.5	65.3	67.1	69.4	54.8	55.4	64.3	65.6	62.4	54.9	57.1	59.3
Furniture and furnishings	4.4	5.9	20.0	47.5	108.9	126.9	176.0	215.9	205.8	162.4	138.0	133.7	114.5	108.5	107.5	120.4	127.2	133.1	133.8	132.9
Miscellaneous	20.6	3.0	19.5	41.8	58.7	61.7	84.3	87.5	96.5	98.5	97.5	94.5	92.7	87.9	87.3	86.7	87.3	87.7	88.1	88.1
Total	100.0	3.0	19.5	41.8	72.2	74.5	100.6	114.6	93.3	78.4	75.3	72.3	65.1	65.0	65.6	68.0	68.0	69.6	73.2	73.7

Cleveland, Ohio.

Food	35.6	1.4	26.4	54.3	79.4	79.7	92.9	118.7	71.7	37.4	47.7	40.9	29.8	34.6	32.3	41.1	37.1	42.1	47.0	43.6
Clothing	16.0	2.0	18.0	43.7	102.6	125.2	171.2	185.1	156.0	124.0	90.8	85.8	77.4	72.4	69.5	70.9	77.1	77.6	79.6	79.6
Housing	16.4	.1	.9	11.3	16.5	21.8	39.9	47.3	80.0	88.1	82.8	81.2	72.0	69.6	70.1	74.0	73.8	73.8	74.7	78.7
Fuel and light	4.1	.3	10.0	26.8	51.9	47.9	62.9	90.3	94.5	89.6	91.9	103.8	102.2	102.2	113.5	116.3	118.0	151.6	150.8	147.0
Furniture and furnishings	6.0	4.7	19.7	47.8	102.4	117.0	165.5	186.5	176.8	133.6	110.0	100.8	88.4	87.8	92.3	104.8	118.7	129.6	130.5	129.3
Miscellaneous	21.8	1.4	19.1	42.9	67.1	74.7	85.9	117.9	134.0	129.6	123.4	123.2	111.1	110.7	109.4	109.4	109.4	108.1	110.8	113.1
Total	100.0	1.4	19.1	42.9	71.4	77.2	98.2	120.3	107.3	87.5	82.4	78.8	68.5	68.9	68.1	72.9	73.3	77.1	79.9	79.6

Detroit, Mich.

Food	35.2	4.1	26.5	59.7	82.5	86.4	99.5	132.0	75.6	41.1	54.3	47.3	36.5	43.1	39.8	44.8	42.6	46.7	54.2	47.5
Clothing	16.6	2.3	18.9	46.7	113.8	125.2	181.8	208.8	176.1	134.1	99.9	92.5	82.7	81.4	81.2	79.9	83.1	84.0	84.2	85.3
Housing	17.5	2.1	17.5	32.6	39.0	45.2	60.2	68.8	108.1	101.4	96.6	91.1	88.0	86.9	87.6	92.1	92.3	96.9	99.1	107.5
Fuel and light	6.3	1.6	9.9	30.2	47.6	47.6	57.9	74.9	104.5	83.6	81.9	77.5	74.0	75.2	90.3	95.5	93.3	87.3	86.0	84.9
Furniture and furnishings	5.9	8.7	24.5	50.4	107.3	129.3	172.6	206.7	184.0	134.0	102.9	96.8	82.6	76.0	80.0	81.1	100.5	105.7	104.9	105.3
Miscellaneous	18.3	3.5	22.3	49.9	72.6	80.3	100.1	141.3	144.0	140.1	131.9	130.7	126.3	121.3	122.2	121.5	123.5	124.2	128.2	128.4
Total	100.0	3.5	22.3	49.9	78.0	84.4	107.9	136.0	118.6	93.3	88.0	82.4	74.6	75.3	75.6	79.4	79.4	81.7	85.5	84.7

[1] Decrease.

TABLE 2.—CHANGES IN COST OF LIVING IN 19 CITIES FROM DECEMBER, 1914, TO DECEMBER, 1923—Continued.

Houston, Tex.

Item of expenditure.	Per cent of total expenditure.	Per cent of increase from December, 1914, to—																	
		Dec., 1915.	Dec., 1916.	Dec., 1917.	Dec., 1918.	June, 1919.	Dec., 1919.	June, 1920.	Dec., 1920.	May, 1921.	Sept., 1921.	Dec., 1921.	Mar., 1922.	June, 1922.	Sept., 1922.	Dec., 1922.	Mar., 1923.	June, 1923.	Sept., 1923.	Dec., 1923.
Food	38.4	[1] 1.0	19.9	57.3	86.1	85.7	97.5	107.5	83.2	45.6	49.7	50.1	40.2	38.9	38.5	45.0	39.1	41.2	43.5	46.4
Clothing	15.2	2.7	25.0	51.5	117.3	134.8	192.0	211.3	187.0	143.4	111.5	104.9	98.8	98.4	97.8	98.2	100.4	100.4	102.6	102.6
Housing	13.2	[1] 2.3	[1] 7.3	[1] 7.7	[1] 1.7	1.9	13.4	25.3	35.1	39.4	39.4	39.8	39.5	38.5	38.1	37.3	37.0	36.7	36.7	36.4
Fuel and light	4.2	[1].9	8.3	22.7	47.5	37.6	60.0	55.1	74.2	46.0	39.0	39.4	34.4	32.9	35.7	39.2	33.6	36.5	40.2	55.8
Furniture and furnishings	5.6	6.1	29.6	62.3	119.9	144.5	181.8	213.9	208.2	173.7	156.7	148.2	137.5	133.7	131.8	140.4	146.7	150.2	149.2	148.2
Miscellaneous	23.4	[1].3	16.4	44.9	67.6	72.3	88.2	90.4	103.9	100.8	100.0	99.0	96.0	94.0	93.0	93.0	92.8	91.5	91.9	93.2
Total	100.0	[1].3	16.4	44.9	75.7	80.2	101.7	112.2	104.0	79.7	75.0	73.6	67.2	65.9	65.4	68.4	66.5	67.2	68.7	70.6

Jacksonville, Fla.

Food	34.6	[1] 0.3	17.6	50.8	76.2	74.2	80.9	90.1	65.6	32.6	43.1	40.6	30.0	30.6	28.9	34.8	31.0	32.0	35.1	39.9
Clothing	16.8	10.5	33.7	71.9	130.5	139.8	217.2	234.0	209.3	167.5	131.1	117.9	104.8	99.9	99.1	99.3	101.3	101.1	104.9	104.5
Housing	12.3	[1] 6.9	[1] 18.2	[1] 18.7	5.9	9.7	22.0	28.9	34.1	36.5	37.7	38.3	37.6	35.3	34.2	35.1	35.2	34.3	33.0	33.4
Fuel and light	4.6	(2)	2.3	15.1	55.2	49.2	64.1	72.6	92.6	80.7	68.1	68.9	61.6	58.9	58.9	65.7	65.9	63.6	62.1	75.1
Furniture and furnishings	5.4	15.1	43.4	73.7	126.5	140.0	186.2	224.2	222.3	182.7	140.9	134.9	122.0	115.3	117.7	127.1	134.6	137.9	139.6	139.4
Miscellaneous	26.3	1.3	14.7	41.6	60.5	65.9	80.9	102.8	105.6	107.5	100.9	99.3	98.7	95.5	95.5	94.7	95.3	95.3	97.8	96.6
Total	100.0	1.3	14.7	41.6	71.5	77.5	101.5	116.5	106.2	85.8	78.7	75.1	68.0	65.7	65.0	67.8	67.4	67.7	69.9	71.9

Los Angeles, Calif.

Food	35.8	[1] 4.1	0.4	33.4	61.8	60.7	71.0	90.8	62.7	33.2	39.3	38.4	27.5	30.6	34.0	39.4	29.9	36.2	40.5	42.1
Clothing	14.9	2.8	14.3	45.0	109.1	123.3	167.6	184.5	166.6	127.4	98.3	94.3	84.4	81.3	78.2	78.0	83.2	82.5	83.6	83.0
Housing	13.4	[1] 2.7	[1] 2.5	[1].6	4.4	8.7	26.8	42.6	71.4	85.3	86.0	90.1	96.0	95.6	94.4	94.8	97.1	97.7	99.3	100.9
Fuel and light	3.1	.4	2.3	10.4	18.3	18.6	35.3	53.5	53.5	52.7	52.7	52.7	48.4	39.1	35.9	35.6	34.5	33.7	33.8	34.1
Furniture and furnishings	5.1	6.3	23.1	56.4	118.5	134.2	175.5	202.2	202.2	156.6	148.4	143.2	133.7	128.8	128.1	138.1	148.6	153.6	152.3	152.0
Miscellaneous	27.7	[1] 1.9	7.7	28.9	52.0	59.1	76.9	86.6	100.6	96.8	98.8	99.6	104.0	103.8	102.2	101.2	101.4	100.8	101.0	104.2
Total	100.0	[1] 1.9	7.7	28.9	58.0	65.1	85.3	101.7	96.7	78.7	76.8	76.4	72.4	72.5	72.4	74.5	72.9	75.1	77.1	78.8

Mobile, Ala.

Food	39.1	[1] 1.0	19.9	57.3	80.6	83.6	98.4	110.5	73.5	39.1	43.7	42.4	32.3	33.2	32.9	39.1	36.2	37.7	41.3	44.7
Clothing	18.6	2.0	9.0	38.8	86.0	94.0	123.7	137.4	122.2	90.6	68.1	57.7	50.3	49.7	51.0	50.8	51.3	51.8	55.4	55.4
Housing	10.3	[1] 1.9	[1] 4.3	[1] 3.6	11.2	11.9	29.6	34.6	53.6	53.3	53.1	49.9	48.4	47.7	47.3	43.8	43.1	42.5	42.5	42.6
Fuel and light	5.1	[2]	8.8	27.1	57.1	66.6	75.6	86.3	122.3	102.1	97.2	98.2	86.1	84.4	90.9	96.4	95.6	93.3	91.0	98.1
Furniture and furnishings	4.3	4.1	15.3	42.8	108.3	113.9	163.3	177.9	175.4	140.7	124.3	116.9	98.2	97.8	93.1	97.9	108.6	114.0	114.2	114.8
Miscellaneous	22.5	[1] .4	13.8	43.2	72.4	75.3	87.0	100.3	100.7	96.9	96.1	94.3	89.6	87.5	87.3	91.0	90.4	89.8	89.8	91.3
Total	100.0	[1] .4	13.8	43.2	71.4	76.6	94.5	107.0	93.3	70.8	67.2	63.6	55.8	55.3	55.5	58.8	58.0	58.6	60.5	62.6

New York, N. Y.

Food	42.0	1.3	16.3	55.3	82.6	75.3	91.0	105.3	73.5	42.5	50.3	51.8	36.5	40.0	38.8	49.5	43.0	44.4	48.2	52.0
Clothing	16.6	4.8	22.3	54.2	131.3	151.6	219.7	241.4	201.8	159.5	131.5	117.8	107.1	103.0	98.1	98.3	100.9	100.7	102.5	102.7
Housing	14.3	[1] .1	[1] .1	2.6	6.5	13.4	23.4	32.4	38.1	42.2	44.0	53.7	54.5	55.7	56.2	56.7	58.4	59.4	60.8	62.4
Fuel and light	4.3	[1] .1	11.0	19.9	45.5	45.4	50.6	60.1	87.5	95.9	92.4	90.7	89.4	89.0	97.7	95.7	93.2	89.1	94.6	94.2
Furniture and furnishings	3.3	8.4	27.6	56.5	126.5	136.6	172.9	205.1	185.9	156.5	136.7	132.0	122.3	118.3	117.9	121.6	128.0	130.3	131.7	131.5
Miscellaneous	18.7	2.0	14.9	44.7	70.0	75.1	95.8	111.9	116.3	117.6	117.8	116.9	113.2	112.8	112.4	111.6	111.0	110.8	112.9	113.5
Total	100.0	2.0	14.9	44.7	77.3	79.2	103.8	119.2	101.4	81.7	79.7	79.3	69.9	70.7	69.7	74.2	72.2	72.6	75.4	77.3

Norfolk, Va.

Food	34.9	0.8	22.4	63.9	86.2	89.8	91.5	107.6	76.3	45.4	50.2	43.4	31.9	33.5	32.4	38.6	32.4	36.9	41.3	40.7
Clothing	21.1	.8	6.0	31.6	94.6	104.8	158.4	176.5	153.6	121.6	93.9	90.2	81.8	77.6	74.6	73.2	78.0	79.1	80.4	80.8
Housing	11.8	.1	[1] 1.7	[1] 1.7	39.0	46.5	63.3	70.8	90.8	94.6	94.6	93.4	91.7	88.1	82.5	77.2	74.7	73.0	70.1	67.0
Fuel and light	5.4	[2]	17.0	33.3	74.6	69.7	89.9	110.6	128.9	97.3	98.1	91.6	93.5	87.7	97.8	106.5	114.8	102.1	100.3	96.9
Furniture and furnishings	6.7	.6	8.7	39.0	105.5	110.7	143.6	165.0	160.5	129.0	110.5	106.1	95.0	88.4	86.7	89.1	96.3	101.0	104.4	103.8
Miscellaneous	20.2	.6	14.7	45.2	76.8	83.7	97.5	108.4	106.3	106.3	112.5	109.3	102.6	100.8	100.6	99.6	99.8	102.2	105.2	104.4
Total	100.0	.6	14.7	45.2	80.7	87.1	107.0	122.2	109.0	88.1	83.9	79.2	71.3	69.5	68.1	69.9	69.5	71.1	73.4	72.4

[1] Decrease.

[2] No change.

TABLE 2.—CHANGES IN COST OF LIVING IN 19 CITIES FROM DECEMBER, 1914, TO DECEMBER, 1923—Concluded.

Philadelphia, Pa.

Item of expenditure.	Per cent of total expenditure.	Per cent of increase from December, 1914, to—																	
		Dec., 1915.	Dec., 1916.	Dec., 1917.	Dec., 1918.	June, 1919.	Dec., 1919.	June, 1920.	Dec., 1920.	May, 1921.	Sept., 1921.	Dec., 1921.	Mar., 1922.	June, 1922.	Sept., 1922.	Dec., 1922.	Mar., 1923.	June, 1923.	Sept., 1923.	Dec., 1923.
Food	40.2	0.3	18.9	54.4	80.7	75.5	87.2	101.7	68.1	37.8	44.6	43.9	34.4	38.1	32.7	43.4	38.3	42.7	46.3	45.1
Clothing	16.3	3.6	16.0	51.3	111.2	135.9	190.3	219.6	183.5	144.7	112.2	104.6	96.2	89.5	87.4	87.6	88.0	88.0	88.4	88.2
Housing	13.2	[1] 1.3	[1] 1.7	2.6	8.0	11.3	16.7	28.6	38.0	44.2	47.1	48.1	48.7	49.6	51.1	52.9	54.7	58.1	62.4	66.9
Fuel and light	5.1	[1] .8	5.4	21.5	47.9	43.3	51.3	66.8	96.0	85.6	89.3	92.0	89.7	85.7	86.3	93.0	94.4	89.9	95.0	102.2
Furniture and furnishings	4.4	6.9	19.9	49.8	107.7	117.8	162.8	187.4	183.4	135.5	109.1	101.6	91.7	90.0	89.1	96.9	108.1	110.8	110.8	111.6
Miscellaneous	20.8	1.2	14.7	43.8	67.5	71.2	88.6	102.8	122.3	119.2	116.4	116.2	113.8	112.3	111.5	110.7	112.0	112.4	112.0	112.0
Total	100.0	1.2	14.7	43.8	73.9	76.2	96.5	113.5	100.7	79.8	76.0	74.3	68.2	68.2	65.5	70.7	69.8	72.1	74.2	74.7

Portland, Me.

Food	41.2	[1] 2.0	18.6	49.8	86.8	80.6	91.9	114.5	78.7	46.7	56.8	54.8	39.2	39.9	44.5	49.1	48.1	45.3	51.7	52.3
Clothing	17.4	2.1	9.7	32.8	85.8	103.8	148.5	165.9	147.8	116.3	96.6	88.1	81.0	76.7	74.8	74.8	76.2	77.3	77.8	76.7
Housing	12.4	.2	.6	2.4	2.5	5.7	10.7	14.5	20.0	23.1	23.3	26.6	27.0	24.8	26.3	30.7	31.1	27.3	27.4	31.7
Fuel and light	6.4	.4	11.4	28.9	67.7	58.4	69.8	83.9	113.5	96.8	90.9	94.0	93.8	96.1	96.7	94.7	94.9	94.9	94.9	100.0
Furniture and furnishings	4.1	6.2	20.9	43.5	110.8	126.4	163.7	190.3	191.2	152.2	139.1	123.6	110.6	108.1	106.4	114.2	122.6	129.7	130.4	130.2
Miscellaneous	18.5	[1] .4	13.8	38.0	65.6	72.1	83.2	89.4	94.3	94.1	94.1	91.2	89.5	88.2	88.0	88.0	88.0	88.0	87.6	89.3
Total	100.0	[1] .4	13.8	38.0	72.2	74.3	91.6	107.6	93.1	72.1	72.0	69.2	60.7	59.7	61.5	64.1	64.4	63.3	65.8	66.9

Portland, Oreg.

Food	34.3	[1] 3.8	9.8	42.2	70.6	67.1	81.6	107.1	60.9	26.0	35.9	33.1	24.6	26.5	30.1	34.3	26.5	29.5	34.1	35.1
Clothing	16.1	3.0	15.8	44.4	96.6	115.5	142.1	158.6	122.1	91.2	70.4	65.3	55.5	53.2	53.4	54.9	60.3	61.3	61.8	61.8
Housing	12.8	[1] 10.9	[1] 19.6	[1] 22.2	12.3	20.2	27.7	33.2	36.9	42.9	43.3	43.3	43.2	43.3	43.7	43.6	43.5	42.5	42.6	42.7
Fuel and light	4.9	[1] 1.0	3.4	20.2	30.9	31.3	42.3	46.9	65.9	67.1	58.9	59.4	56.2	50.3	59.0	65.7	70.2	61.3	62.1	67.1
Furniture and furnishings	6.1	2.9	18.0	54.5	109.0	122.1	145.1	183.9	179.9	148.0	126.9	121.9	104.6	101.9	100.3	102.9	109.4	109.8	109.6	109.0
Miscellaneous	25.7	[1] 3.1	6.1	31.2	57.9	62.3	71.6	79.7	81.1	81.1	80.9	80.0	78.9	78.5	80.5	79.4	78.1	75.8	76.3	79.6
Total	100.0	[1] 3.1	6.1	31.2	64.2	69.2	83.7	100.4	80.3	62.2	60.5	58.3	52.3	52.1	54.2	56.1	54.6	54.6	56.4	57.8

San Francisco and Oakland, Calif.

Food	37.9	[1] 4.3	9.6	35.9	66.2	63.3	74.2	93.9	64.9	33.3	40.6	40.4	29.6	31.1	34.6	38.8	29.0	34.2	40.5	42.3
Clothing	16.6	2.5	14.5	43.6	109.0	134.6	170.4	191.0	175.9	140.9	110.1	106.3	97.8	90.7	86.1	85.4	90.0	92.1	93.8	94.4
Housing	14.8	[1] .7	[1] 2.5	[1] 4.0	[1] 3.9	[1] 3.5	4.7	9.4	15.0	21.7	23.6	25.8	27.7	29.4	30.3	30.0	31.7	33.4	34.1	36.0
Fuel and light	4.1	[1] .1	4.6	14.4	30.1	28.9	41.3	47.2	66.3	63.3	65.3	65.3	65.3	59.5	52.0	52.5	48.4	42.6	46.2	48.8
Furniture and furnishings	4.2	6.0	21.7	48.2	103.4	116.6	143.8	180.1	175.6	143.9	121.7	113.9	105.6	104.4	103.8	105.4	116.5	116.7	117.1	116.9
Miscellaneous	22.4	[1] 1.7	8.3	28.6	50.5	61.0	74.7	79.6	84.8	84.4	87.4	86.8	84.4	83.7	83.5	84.2	84.8	79.4	79.2	81.2
Total	100.0	[1] 1.7	8.3	28.6	57.8	65.6	87.8	96.0	85.1	66.7	64.6	63.6	57.5	56.8	57.1	58.8	56.5	57.6	60.4	62.1

Savannah, Ga.

Food	34.3	[1] 0.3	17.6	50.8	76.2	74.2	80.9	91.7	63.5	28.7	36.8	33.7	16.7	22.7	13.4	20.8	17.4	16.1	17.7	18.4
Clothing	18.8	.8	24.1	56.6	133.6	146.3	195.9	212.1	171.5	133.2	101.3	84.2	74.1	71.7	77.4	76.2	81.7	81.2	82.4	80.9
Housing	12.9	[1] 1.4	[1] 3.0	[1] 4.3	5.9	10.2	22.0	33.5	58.6	61.9	60.6	60.9	58.8	57.8	56.5	52.7	51.5	49.5	48.2	47.5
Fuel and light	5.7	[1] 1.3	[1] 1.7	[1] 21.1	37.5	35.5	52.2	65.3	94.4	74.2	66.4	66.1	65.3	55.2	60.6	68.3	67.8	61.9	62.2	64.1
Furniture and furnishings	5.1	1.8	12.8	50.7	128.6	136.5	182.1	207.2	206.6	175.9	150.2	133.7	126.0	120.1	121.6	123.8	133.6	135.9	135.0	133.4
Miscellaneous	23.2	[1] .2	14.5	42.5	67.3	71.2	82.0	83.8	91.5	93.0	88.0	87.4	84.6	81.1	80.9	79.5	78.8	77.5	77.2	76.7
Total	100.0	[1] .2	14.6	42.5	75.0	79.8	98.7	109.4	98.7	77.6	71.3	66.2	56.9	56.8	55.0	56.8	57.0	55.6	56.1	55.9

Seattle, Wash.

Food	33.5	[1] 2.8	8.5	38.7	72.5	69.3	80.9	102.3	54.1	27.1	34.9	30.5	27.1	30.0	31.6	33.9	28.1	31.0	36.1	35.8
Clothing	15.8	1.2	11.3	36.4	88.0	110.2	154.5	173.9	160.5	128.7	93.5	88.7	79.8	78.0	73.9	74.2	75.6	76.7	77.6	77.6
Housing	15.4	[1] 2.4	[1] 5.4	[1] .6	44.3	51.5	71.5	74.8	76.7	74.8	71.3	69.2	67.0	64.7	63.4	63.1	62.8	62.3	62.6	62.9
Fuel and light	5.4	[1] .2	2.9	23.9	51.8	51.8	63.8	65.8	78.7	78.7	77.3	69.0	67.5	64.0	62.7	59.6	60.9	58.0	58.2	59.1
Furniture and furnishings	5.1	8.5	27.4	52.3	141.5	154.4	201.0	221.2	216.4	177.2	151.7	149.9	142.4	137.3	134.7	136.1	140.3	143.9	144.4	144.2
Miscellaneous	24.7	[1] 1.0	7.4	31.1	58.5	71.4	86.8	90.4	95.5	105.5	105.5	102.6	99.2	97.6	97.4	96.4	82.5	96.6	96.6	96.6
Total	100.0	[1] 1.0	7.4	31.1	69.9	76.9	97.7	110.5	94.1	80.2	75.5	71.5	67.4	67.0	66.5	66.7	61.9	66.4	68.4	68.5

Washington, D. C.

Food	38.2	0.6	15.7	61.1	90.9	[3] 84.6	[4] 93.3	108.4	79.0	47.4	59.1	51.1	40.8	44.3	42.5	49.2	43.0	48.8	52.7	52.3
Clothing	16.6	3.7	23.2	60.1	112.6	109.5	165.9	184.0	151.1	115.9	89.8	87.1	79.8	77.5	75.5	74.8	77.8	78.9	80.3	81.2
Housing	13.4	[1] 1.5	[1] 3.7	[1] 3.4	[1] 1.5	[1] 1.4	5.4	15.6	24.7	28.8	29.1	30.4	31.3	31.4	32.1	32.6	33.0	33.9	34.0	34.3
Fuel and light	5.3	[2]	7.3	24.9	40.9	41.8	42.8	53.7	68.0	57.1	57.6	49.9	47.1	44.5	49.0	55.1	53.2	51.2	49.4	46.4
Furniture and furnishings	5.1	6.3	30.5	72.1	127.4	126.0	159.3	196.4	194.0	149.0	132.1	122.4	110.4	108.1	109.3	112.6	123.4	129.0	130.4	128.8
Miscellaneous	21.3	.4	15.3	44.3	55.9	57.4	62.7	68.2	73.9	72.0	70.5	75.8	73.7	73.7	73.7	72.0	72.2	72.5	73.2	74.9
Total	100.0	1.0	14.6	47.3	73.8	71.2	87.6	101.3	87.8	67.1	66.2	63.0	56.8	57.6	56.9	59.5	58.2	60.9	62.9	63.2

[1] Decrease. [2] No change. [3] Figures in this column are for April, 1919. [4] Figures in this column are for November, 1919.

Table 3 shows the changes in the cost of living from December, 1917, to December, 1923, for 13 cities. The table is constructed in the same manner as the preceding one and differs from it only in the base period and in the length of time covered.

TABLE 3.—CHANGES IN COST OF LIVING IN 13 CITIES FROM DECEMBER, 1917, TO DECEMBER, 1923.

Atlanta, Ga.

Item of expenditure.	Per cent of total expenditure.	Per cent of increase from December, 1917, to—															
		Dec., 1918.	June, 1919.	Dec., 1919.	June, 1920.	Dec., 1920.	May, 1921.	Sept., 1921.	Dec., 1921.	Mar., 1922.	June., 1922.	Sept., 1922.	Dec., 1922.	Mar., 1923.	June, 1923.	Sept., 1923.	Dec., 1923.
Food	38.5	19.0	18.0	27.9	34.0	12.8	[1]8.9	[1]5.8	[1]7.2	[1]11.9	[1]10.5	[1]12.3	[1]8.9	[1]11.8	[1]10.3	[1]6.9	[1]6.3
Clothing	18.6	29.1	40.7	66.9	80.5	56.5	35.2	13.6	8.3	1.9	.4	3.1	2.8	5.4	5.9	6.7	6.9
Housing	10.4	14.0	14.5	32.6	40.4	73.1	78.8	77.0	75.4	72.2	68.1	63.2	62.7	61.9	61.4	62.5	62.2
Fuel and light	5.6	17.0	17.9	30.8	61.0	66.8	56.1	46.6	43.7	34.8	39.1	58.7	57.6	56.5	42.7	42.4	39.3
Furniture and furnishings	5.6	24.9	30.1	49.9	65.0	58.4	38.0	25.3	23.0	16.1	15.2	13.9	17.4	21.6	23.9	23.7	23.5
Miscellaneous	21.4	14.8	21.5	31.7	34.6	39.7	40.5	39.4	39.7	36.1	34.5	34.2	34.1	34.1	32.8	33.6	33.3
Total	100.0	19.7	23.3	37.9	46.7	38.5	25.2	20.7	18.7	13.8	13.7	13.9	15.1	14.6	14.2	15.9	16.0

Birmingham, Ala.

Food	38.1	17.7	18.3	26.5	36.4	11.9	[1]9.1	[1]6.2	[1]8.5	[1]14.0	[1]13.1	[1]14.5	[1]9.9	[1]12.5	[1]9.9	[1]8.3	[1]6.6
Clothing	16.5	23.9	29.8	57.6	66.4	45.1	24.8	6.7	1.4	[1]5.2	[1]6.1	[1]1.2	[1]1.7	1.5	1.8	3.7	3.8
Housing	12.2	8.1	12.8	34.9	40.3	68.5	77.4	76.5	70.9	67.5	67.0	66.0	62.3	62.6	63.1	64.6	67.9
Fuel and light	4.6	22.8	31.9	39.8	55.3	74.2	54.3	53.1	44.1	29.8	25.0	40.0	49.9	49.8	40.7	46.0	50.2
Furniture and furnishings	5.3	19.4	20.2	45.1	55.6	48.1	32.0	15.0	12.0	3.0	3.3	5.4	8.9	14.9	17.8	18.6	19.7
Miscellaneous	23.3	13.8	16.3	26.8	28.7	30.4	33.8	35.9	35.5	31.8	30.4	29.6	29.6	29.3	28.5	25.7	27.2
Total	100.0	17.0	19.8	34.3	41.9	33.3	22.1	19.6	16.2	11.0	10.7	11.4	31.2	12.9	13.6	14.4	16.0

Cincinnati, Ohio.

Food	40.6	15.3	18.1	22.9	38.7	10.3	[1]7.4	[1]2.2	[1]8.3	[1]12.4	[1]8.9	[1]12.7	[1]10.4	[1]11.9	[1]9.3	[1]7.1	[1]6.7
Clothing	15.2	33.8	48.3	84.2	96.7	73.5	49.0	22.6	13.9	6.7	4.9	5.5	5.5	8.7	8.8	9.2	9.2
Housing	14.4	.2	.8	12.8	13.6	25.0	27.6	28.2	28.5	30.3	31.0	33.6	35.2	38.3	40.7	42.2	45.6
Fuel and light	4.1	10.0	5.6	11.0	26.9	34.1	15.7	15.6	42.4	35.6	35.2	58.2	61.0	58.6	51.9	51.6	53.0
Furniture and furnishings	5.2	25.7	30.5	51.1	75.5	66.7	39.7	25.2	22.3	16.7	15.8	15.7	17.2	21.3	24.3	25.8	26.2
Miscellaneous	20.3	20.4	21.8	40.3	47.6	53.4	52.3	48.2	47.3	44.4	44.0	43.6	42.7	43.1	42.8	43.4	43.3
Total	100.0	17.3	21.1	35.2	47.1	34.7	21.7	18.3	15.3	11.8	12.7	12.5	13.8	14.2	15.5	16.8	17.7

Denver, Colo.

Food	38.3	20.0	20.7	26.0	41.5	7.9	[1] 13.1	[1] 7.8	[1] 8.8	[1] 17.6	[1] 14.2	[1] 17.2	[1] 9.0	[1] 14.6	[1] 11.5	[1] 10.4	[1] 8.7
Clothing	16.2	40.1	53.2	82.1	96.8	78.3	53.9	33.7	27.7	18.3	15.3	15.9	16.6	16.9	16.9	17.5	17.9
Housing	12.0	12.8	21.8	33.5	51.9	69.8	76.9	80.1	82.6	84.4	84.8	85.0	86.9	87.1	85.4	86.7	88.9
Fuel and light	5.7	8.1	8.4	19.6	22.3	47.1	37.5	40.0	39.7	33.1	32.8	41.4	40.7	38.0	30.4	37.6	37.2
Furniture and furnishings	5.5	22.6	31.3	46.3	60.2	58.9	42.5	32.5	27.9	21.1	20.4	20.0	21.2	24.7	26.1	26.7	27.0
Miscellaneous	22.4	14.8	17.7	32.3	35.4	38.8	42.8	44.1	43.1	40.2	38.1	37.7	37.6	37.9	37.1	37.5	36.8
Total	100.0	20.7	25.3	38.2	50.3	38.7	26.9	26.1	24.5	18.5	18.8	18.1	21.6	19.7	19.9	21.2	22.1

Indianapolis, Ind.

Food	37.0	17.8	16.4	28.2	49.0	11.0	[1] 10.1	[2] 1.1	[1] 8.4	[1] 13.4	[1] 9.9	[1] 13.2	[1] 11.1	[1] 10.3	[1] 8.0	[1] 4.2	[1] 6.5
Clothing	15.8	32.4	40.1	73.8	87.9	72.3	45.8	21.5	16.2	10.9	7.9	8.3	8.6	11.5	11.6	13.1	13.4
Housing	13.1	1.6	2.6	11.6	18.9	32.9	37.4	41.4	43.8	42.2	41.3	41.7	44.1	44.5	44.6	45.9	47.1
Fuel and light	5.9	19.8	16.7	27.3	45.6	60.3	49.4	47.5	42.5	34.8	44.9	71.3	73.4	69.1	54.9	54.3	41.5
Furniture and furnishings	5.9	18.9	24.8	48.4	67.5	63.0	35.3	25.0	22.5	13.9	13.7	14.2	16.7	21.5	23.2	23.6	24.0
Miscellaneous	22.2	21.9	26.8	38.2	40.5	47.5	47.4	46.5	46.2	45.8	45.4	46.0	46.7	47.1	46.1	49.9	49.2
Total	100.0	19.1	21.1	36.5	50.2	37.6	23.9	22.6	19.3	15.3	16.4	17.1	18.8	19.7	19.4	22.2	20.6

Kansas City, Mo.

Food	38.7	17.3	15.1	24.5	44.9	10.2	[1] 8.3	[1] 4.3	[1] 6.6	[1] 15.7	[1] 13.5	[1] 16.1	[1] 12.0	[1] 12.9	[1] 12.5	[1] 12.1	[1] 10.2
Clothing	15.2	40.7	44.7	89.9	104.5	76.3	52.3	27.9	24.1	17.4	15.9	14.7	14.6	14.5	14.5	15.3	15.2
Housing	13.6	5.4	6.7	26.0	29.4	63.9	65.0	66.2	69.7	64.8	59.4	57.8	61.4	61.1	53.7	53.9	56.8
Fuel and light	5.7	18.0	9.6	27.5	35.2	55.1	43.3	43.7	42.6	36.0	36.3	47.1	40.2	38.6	36.1	35.1	36.7
Furniture and furnishings	4.9	31.1	37.9	61.8	73.0	68.7	50.0	32.8	26.2	15.2	11.6	10.3	12.1	21.2	22.5	23.0	22.6
Miscellaneous	21.8	15.6	20.8	31.5	37.1	40.3	40.4	38.2	37.6	33.1	32.3	32.4	33.3	33.4	33.8	34.6	36.2
Total	100.0	19.6	20.6	38.2	51.0	39.5	27.3	23.9	22.5	15.3	15.0	14.2	16.2	16.0	15.3	15.5	17.2

Memphis, Tenn.

Food	36.2	20.3	22.7	28.4	38.8	7.0	[1] 14.2	[1] 9.2	[1] 11.2	[1] 16.1	[1] 15.1	[1] 17.7	[1] 14.9	[1] 15.3	[1] 13.9	[1] 11.7	[1] 11.2
Clothing	16.3	27.7	38.3	66.2	77.5	59.0	36.1	20.2	15.3	9.3	7.3	7.0	6.7	9.5	9.8	10.9	11.0
Housing	13.5	(2)	8.2	23.1	35.9	66.2	79.7	77.7	77.3	75.5	74.8	73.9	72.5	72.3	72.3	72.0	72.5
Fuel and light	5.1	26.8	23.4	34.1	49.7	105.4	64.5	66.1	67.1	61.8	56.3	70.4	69.2	70.5	62.8	62.1	65.0
Furniture and furnishings	4.5	25.4	30.7	53.2	67.1	53.9	29.9	19.2	14.7	8.9	6.8	7.8	12.2	20.3	23.2	22.1	23.4
Miscellaneous	24.4	16.1	20.9	28.3	38.8	43.2	42.9	42.2	42.3	39.9	37.8	37.8	37.4	38.2	38.1	37.3	37.3
Total	100.0	18.3	23.3	35.2	46.4	39.3	26.7	25.1	23.2	19.2	18.2	17.9	18.6	19.6	19.9	20.6	21.0

[1] Decrease.

[2] No change.

TABLE 3.—CHANGES IN COST OF LIVING IN 13 CITIES FROM DECEMBER, 1917, TO DECEMBER, 1923—Concluded.

Minneapolis, Minn.

Item of expenditure.	Per cent of total expenditure.	Per cent of increase from December, 1917, to—															
		Dec., 1918.	June, 1919.	Dec., 1919.	June, 1920.	Dec., 1920.	May, 1921.	Sept., 1921.	Dec., 1921.	Mar., 1922.	June., 1922.	Sept., 1922.	Dec., 1922.	Mar., 1923.	June, 1923.	Sept., 1923.	Dec., 1923.
Food	35.4	17.7	21.4	34.1	50.0	13.0	[1]7.9	[1]3.5	[1]4.9	[1]10.0	[1]6.0	[1]9.9	[1]5.3	[1]7.6	[1]6.4	[1]5.0	[1]4.7
Clothing	15.5	33.5	40.1	67.0	76.7	63.6	41.0	18.4	14.3	9.7	7.9	6.0	6.5	8.7	9.2	9.4	9.3
Housing	16.8	[1].1	[1]2.0	8.0	10.7	36.8	39.0	44.0	46.7	46.7	44.6	46.2	46.8	46.8	42.5	43.4	47.4
Fuel and light	6.8	14.7	13.4	22.4	36.9	60.3	52.8	50.5	50.2	43.7	43.7	44.8	47.0	48.0	44.9	43.0	45.6
Furniture and furnishings	4.8	18.1	23.6	45.6	65.5	65.8	43.3	30.5	27.9	21.9	21.4	21.3	22.5	26.7	29.7	27.8	28.2
Miscellaneous	20.5	12.3	15.9	25.4	31.3	37.6	37.9	37.3	37.4	34.5	32.6	32.5	32.6	32.5	32.8	32.3	32.0
Total	100.0	15.8	18.8	32.7	43.4	35.7	23.7	21.6	20.7	17.0	17.3	15.9	18.0	17.8	17.4	17.8	18.8

New Orleans, La.

Food	42.6	16.6	17.4	21.1	28.6	10.7	[1]10.7	[1]6.4	[1]9.3	[1]12.0	[1]12.8	[1]13.7	[1]10.5	[1]12.5	[1]13.2	[1]9.9	[1]8.7
Clothing	15.0	36.8	48.8	83.2	94.9	69.4	45.0	29.2	24.9	18.9	15.6	15.4	16.2	16.4	17.8	19.0	19.5
Housing	12.0	[2]	.1	10.8	12.9	39.7	46.7	49.5	57.9	58.2	58.5	58.7	54.7	54.7	55.5	55.8	57.4
Fuel and light	4.8	19.7	20.8	24.7	36.3	41.5	29.2	36.2	40.4	31.8	33.4	30.7	38.5	35.2	32.9	34.4	37.1
Furniture and furnishings	3.9	23.8	30.0	57.7	75.9	63.9	47.7	30.7	28.5	20.8	17.9	17.7	26.2	29.9	34.8	33.7	33.6
Miscellaneous	21.8	15.9	17.5	35.1	42.8	57.1	58.2	61.0	60.2	59.1	58.6	55.6	51.9	50.1	50.1	50.3	50.3
Total	100.0	17.9	20.7	33.9	41.9	36.7	23.8	23.8	22.7	19.9	18.9	17.8	18.6	17.6	17.7	19.4	20.2

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Food	40.2	18.8	16.2	25.1	36.5	14.3	[1]8.8	[1]3.0	[1]5.6	[1]14.4	[1]12.2	[1]11.7	[1]5.4	[1]8.1	[1]5.4	[1]4.2	[1]2.1
Clothing	17.8	35.9	45.3	82.8	91.3	75.4	50.7	27.2	23.6	19.3	17.3	14.0	13.1	13.9	14.8	15.9	14.9
Housing	14.5	7.6	13.5	15.5	34.9	35.0	55.5	55.5	55.3	55.3	56.7	56.7	56.7	56.9	60.4	60.7	60.7
Fuel and light	3.2	9.2	9.4	9.8	31.7	64.4	59.8	55.6	66.2	66.0	66.0	73.0	72.8	73.1	68.4	69.1	76.9
Furniture and furnishings	5.4	26.3	34.1	63.1	77.4	78.1	58.2	36.2	31.6	23.7	20.1	22.0	25.1	27.0	29.4	29.4	29.0
Miscellaneous	18.9	16.3	16.7	28.3	41.2	46.3	48.6	47.6	48.0	44.4	43.4	42.8	42.8	44.1	44.1	45.7	43.1
Total	100.0	19.8	21.8	36.2	49.1	39.3	27.7	24.4	22.8	17.4	17.8	17.6	20.1	19.6	21.3	22.3	22.9

Richmond, Va.

Food	41.6	20.5	20.6	23.1	36.1	11.9	[1] 7.4	[1] 1.0	[1] 2.9	[1] 10.2	[1] 7.8	[1] 10.8	[1] 6.3	[1] 9.0	[1] 7.2	[1] 5.1	[1] 4.8
Clothing	15.9	33.8	42.3	78.6	93.6	69.0	43.8	24.2	21.2	15.9	12.9	10.6	10.6	11.8	12.5	13.4	12.9
Housing	10.5	1.0	3.6	9.8	12.5	25.9	29.4	33.0	34.1	34.2	34.5	35.4	35.3	35.7	35.7	39.1	39.4
Fuel and light	5.6	11.8	11.4	18.7	36.1	62.2	47.1	46.7	46.8	36.7	33.4	44.5	54.2	59.9	52.7	54.7	61.2
Furniture and furnishings	4.8	26.3	28.6	55.9	75.4	70.0	48.8	36.0	33.0	28.1	27.6	27.5	29.4	34.7	40.0	40.4	40.5
Miscellaneous	21.5	9.0	13.5	24.0	32.4	36.0	38.7	38.4	38.4	35.5	34.7	34.6	33.5	33.9	33.9	34.7	35.4
Total	100.0	17.9	20.6	32.0	43.8	33.3	20.2	19.5	18.3	12.9	13.2	12.1	14.4	14.3	14.9	16.6	17.1

St. Louis, Mo.

Food	38.5	18.0	16.1	26.2	46.2	8.8	[1] 10.1	[1] 4.5	[1] 11.6	[1] 14.0	[1] 12.1	[1] 13.8	[1] 9.5	[1] 12.7	[1] 11.5	[1] 8.6	[1] 7.5
Clothing	15.0	32.4	39.3	78.1	89.7	70.0	43.8	21.2	17.2	9.1	7.9	6.2	6.3	9.0	9.0	9.5	9.6
Housing	13.4	2.7	3.8	16.8	29.8	42.4	52.5	61.2	63.8	64.1	65.7	67.0	68.0	70.2	74.6	77.4	79.5
Fuel and light	4.9	4.8	3.7	8.2	19.6	42.6	30.9	29.5	33.4	30.9	32.3	44.3	48.9	47.5	30.8	31.7	32.1
Furniture and furnishings	5.6	21.8	32.5	52.9	73.1	70.2	43.5	25.1	19.2	14.3	12.8	12.3	14.9	27.5	29.8	51.0	30.5
Miscellaneous	22.6	14.5	15.7	30.3	37.6	43.2	42.1	42.0	40.6	34.7	33.2	33.1	33.4	33.5	33.4	35.8	35.8
Total	100.0	16.7	17.9	34.2	48.9	35.4	23.1	22.0	18.5	14.7	15.1	15.0	17.0	17.3	17.7	19.9	20.6

Scranton, Pa.

Food	42.6	21.3	18.1	26.9	41.4	17.8	[1] 4.0	2.8	4.1	[1] 6.8	[1] 6.7	[1] 9.0	[1] 2.1	[1] 5.5	[1] 5.1	[1] 1.3	0.2
Clothing	18.4	34.4	49.6	82.1	97.7	76.5	54.3	31.3	29.1	25.2	24.2	21.1	20.7	21.5	21.7	23.3	23.2
Housing	10.9	.5	6.2	2.4	17.2	18.5	41.5	42.2	44.6	46.6	52.8	53.1	53.6	53.6	59.0	59.5	60.8
Fuel and light	4.6	24.7	25.7	31.5	43.5	67.3	62.8	64.8	67.1	65.8	68.0	69.3	68.6	65.2	65.2	65.4	75.3
Furniture and furnishings	4.9	27.0	35.6	48.9	62.8	62.0	48.6	34.6	30.7	25.7	24.2	25.4	28.5	31.8	34.7	34.4	34.9
Miscellaneous	18.5	21.4	24.9	34.7	47.9	50.4	54.6	53.8	52.4	50.1	49.9	49.3	49.3	51.4	51.4	51.4	51.7
Total	100.0	21.9	25.0	37.1	51.5	39.1	28.2	26.3	26.3	20.4	20.9	19.4	22.4	21.6	22.4	24.4	25.8

[1] Decrease. [2] No change.

The following table shows the increase in the cost of living in the United States from 1913 to December, 1923. These figures are a summarization of the figures for the 32 cities, the results of which appear in the preceding tables, computed on a 1913 base.

TABLE 4.—CHANGES IN COST OF LIVING IN THE UNITED STATES, 1913 TO DECEMBER, 1923.

Item of expenditure.	Per cent of total expenditure.	Per cent of increase from 1913 (average) to—																			
		Dec., 1914.	Dec., 1915.	Dec., 1916.	Dec., 1917.	Dec., 1918.	June, 1919.	Dec., 1919.	June, 1920.	Dec., 1920.	May, 1921.	Sept., 1921.	Dec., 1921.	Mar., 1922.	June, 1922.	Sept., 1922.	Dec., 1922.	Mar., 1923.	June, 1923.	Sept., 1923.	Dec., 1923.
Food	38.2	5.0	5.0	26.0	57.0	87.0	84.0	97.0	119.0	78.0	44.7	53.1	49.9	38.7	41.0	39.8	46.6	42.0	44.3	49.3	50.3
Clothing	16.6	1.0	4.7	20.0	49.1	105.3	114.5	168.7	187.5	158.5	122.6	92.1	84.4	75.5	72.3	71.3	71.5	74.4	74.9	76.5	76.3
Housing	13.4	(1)	1.5	2.3	.1	9.2	14.2	25.3	34.9	51.1	59.0	60.0	61.4	60.9	60.9	61.1	61.9	62.4	63.4	64.4	66.5
Fuel and light	5.3	1.0	1.0	8.4	24.1	47.9	45.6	56.8	71.9	94.9	81.6	80.7	81.1	75.8	74.2	83.6	86.4	86.2	80.6	81.3	84.0
Furniture and furnishings	5.1	4.0	10.6	27.8	50.6	113.6	125.1	163.5	192.7	185.4	147.7	124.7	118.0	106.2	102.9	102.9	108.2	117.4	122.2	122.4	122.1
Miscellaneous	21.3	3.0	7.4	13.3	40.5	65.8	73.2	90.2	101.4	108.2	108.8	107.8	106.8	103.3	101.5	101.1	100.5	100.3	100.3	101.1	101.7
Total	100.0	3.0	5.1	18.3	42.4	74.4	77.3	99.3	116.5	100.4	80.4	77.3	74.3	66.9	66.6	66.3	69.5	68.8	69.7	72.1	73.2
Electricity [2]	.....	.....	2.6	5.1	7.7	2.6	2.6	3.9	3.9	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	2.6	2.6	3.9	3.9	3.9	5.1	5.1

[1] No change.

[2] This line shows the per cent of *decrease* in the price of electricity on the dates named as compared with the price in December, 1914. These figures are based on the weighted averages of consumption at the various rates charged.

Decline in Standard of Living of Hungarian Working Classes.[1]

DURING the past four or five years, travelers, newspaper correspondents, bankers, and others, who have visited Europe, have had occasion to observe the difficulties and hardships to which the various social classes have been subjected as a result of conditions growing out of the war. The fact that the "rentier" class, the class that lives on the income from investments (real estate, bonds, mortgages, etc.), has practically disappeared in all European countries having a greatly depreciated currency is generally known. And, that the "intelligentsia" and employee classes, employees of the State and communes, of the banks, and of commercial firms—in a word, all persons working at a fixed rate of compensation on an annual or monthly basis—are engaged in a life and death struggle for a bare existence, is likewise a fact to which much publicity has been given. But there have been few who have undertaken to champion the cause of the manual workers. Apparently social observers have been led to believe that the working classes through the power of their labor organizations or the sheer dint of circumstances, have been able to secure increases in their wages of sufficient proportion to enable them to maintain their pre-war standard of living. In fact, the statement is frequently made that the workmen have been able to better their lot in the economic turmoil and shift of proportions which the war and its aftermath have caused. Whatever the relative position of the manual workers may be, as compared with the other social classes, there can be no doubt that in Hungary the low pre-war standard of living has been greatly reduced during the past 10 years.

The purpose of the present article is not to institute any comparisons with the other social classes, but rather to trace briefly the stages by which the standard of living of the Hungarian laboring classes has become so poor as to give cause for serious apprehension.

Lack of Official Statistics.

UNTIL quite recently, Hungary had no statistical bureau for the observation of facts and the compilation of data concerning employment conditions, wages, cost of living, etc., or the study of the economic and sociological problems connected therewith. During the past year several Hungarian newspapers have periodically published rather elaborate tables giving index numbers of prices, but these fail to picture clearly the differences in the quality of the commodities which are compared and these differences are of the utmost importance in instituting comparisons as to the standard of living. These tables likewise include many articles which might be dispensed with without seriously affecting a workman's efficiency or comfort.

In the preparation of the consular report on which the present article is based, recourse has been had largely to the facts and figures presented by Mr. Benjamin Cál, secretary of the Trade-Union Council, who has occupied himself considerably with the cost of living problem of Hungarian workers. His figures have been checked with other available sources as far as possible for the purpose of determining their reliability.

[1] From a report of the American consulate at Budapest, dated Nov. 16, 1923.

Basis for Comparison of Standard of Living.

THE pre-war standard of living of the Hungarian workman is said to have been 24.6 per cent below the "world standard." This world standard was arrived at by taking an average of the recognized standards of all the leading countries of the world. A family of five persons consisting of husband and wife and three children (12, 7, and 1½ years of age) was taken as the standard workman's family. The standard budget of the typical workman's family used was a theoretical budget, made up of six groups of items: Foodstuffs, heat and light, household necessaries, clothing, rent, and sundries.

The following quantities of the various foodstuffs were taken as the weekly minimum (71,400 calories) necessary to maintain vitality and efficiency of a workman and of his family:

	Kilograms.[1]		Kilograms.[1]
Beef	1	Sauerkraut	3
Pork	1	Beans	2
Smoked bacon	1	Salt	½
Lard	½	Sugar	¾
Bread	13	Eggs	[2] 4
Flour	1	Milk	[3] 7
Potatoes	10		

The weekly consumption of heat and light has been assumed to be: Firewood, 20 kilograms; coal, 40 kilograms; kerosene, 1 liter; matches, 4 boxes. The group of household necessaries consists of soap, washing soda, shoe polish, kitchen cleaners, and expenditure for baths. The clothing group is made up of the average weekly expenditure for 24 items (clothing, underwear, shoes, etc.). The rent item consists of rent for one room and kitchen, janitor's fee, and the cost of water and of the removal of garbage. The group of sundries is made up of school supplies, sickness insurance, life insurance, union dues, newspaper, barber, tobacco, and taxes.

From the foregoing itemized list it will be seen that the budget makes no allowance for mental diversion or recreation, transportation (car fares), or for medical attendance other than that provided by the workmen's sick funds. The weekly expenditure required to purchase or pay for the various items of the above budget on July 31, 1914, December 31, 1922, and September 30, 1923, is shown in the following table:

WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD BUDGET OF A TYPICAL HUNGARIAN WORKMAN'S FAMILY JULY 31, 1914, DECEMBER 31, 1922, AND SEPTEMBER 30, 1923.

Item.	Expenditure.			Index numbers (July 31, 1914=100).	
	July 31, 1914.	Dec. 31, 1922.	Sept. 30, 1923.	Dec. 31, 1922.	Sept. 30, 1923.
	Crowns.	*Crowns.*	*Crowns.*		
Food	16.75	5,820.00	86,372.00	34,746	515,654
Heat and light	2.76	646.00	16,016.00	23,406	580,290
Household necessaries	1.80	590.00	10,850.00	32,778	602,778
Clothing	7.00	3,658.84	52,265.38	52,269	746,648
Rent	10.40	65.50	567.30	630	5,455
Sundries	3.97	1,006.29	18,605.22	25,347	468,645
Total	42.68	11,786.63	184,675.90	27,616	432,699

[1] Kilogram=2.2046 pounds. [2] 4 eggs. [3] Liter=1.057 quarts.

From the preceding table it will be seen that compared with July, 1914, the cost of living of a workman's family in Hungary was 276 times as high in December, 1922, and 4,327 times as high in September, 1923. The only item of the household budget that had remained at a relatively low level was rent, which in September, 1923, was only 54½ times as high as in July, 1914. The expenditure for rent in September, 1923, formed less than one-third of 1 per cent of the total household budget, as against 24.4 per cent in July, 1914. Severe restrictive rent legislation is responsible for the low level of rents.

Wages of Hungarian Workers.

IN THE preceding table it has been shown how greatly the cost of living has increased in Hungary since 1914. The question now arises: Have wage rates kept step with the rise in the cost of living so as to enable the Hungarian worker to maintain a world standard or at least his own pre-war standard of living? The following table in conjunction with cost of living data given above will answer this question. It shows the average weekly wage rates paid to workers in the principal industry and occupational groups for the week ending July 31, 1914, and December 31, 1922, and the standard of living maintainable with these wage rates, expressed in per cent of the world standard, and computed by comparing the weekly wage rates and the weekly household budget of the same period.

WEEKLY WAGE RATES OF HUNGARIAN WORKERS IN VARIOUS INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS, JULY 31, 1914, AND DECEMBER 31, 1922, AND STANDARD OF LIVING MAINTAINABLE WITH THESE RATES.

Industry or occupational group.	Weekly wage rates.		Standard of living (in per cent of world standard).	
	July 31, 1914.	Dec. 31, 1922.	July 31, 1914.	Dec. 31, 1922.
	Crowns.	*Crowns.*		
Food products	30.09	3,597.20	70.5	30.5
Building	35.37	6,788.18	82.9	57.6
Wood and furniture	39.32	7,751.28	92.1	65.8
Printing	29.50	5,067.66	69.1	43.0
Clothing	34.00	5,855.29	79.7	49.7
Transportation	30.00	4,700.00	70.3	39.9
Iron and steel	39.85	5,252.40	93.4	44.6
Miscellaneous	32.37	5,787.12	75.8	49.1
Woman workers	18.96	2,916.92	44.4	24.7
Public employees	58.33	4,040.76	136.7	34.3
General average	32.16	5,301.78	75.4	45.0

According to the preceding table the average weekly wage of Hungarian workmen was 32.16 crowns for the week ending July 31, 1914. Since the household budget of a workman's family called for an expenditure of 42.68 crowns for the same week it becomes evident that even before the war the average Hungarian worker's standard of living was below the normal world standard. Public employees were the only class of workers in Hungary which in pre-war times could maintain a higher standard of living than the world standard. At the end of 1922 the weekly household budget required an expenditure of 11,786.63 crowns, while the average weekly earnings of a

worker amounted to only 5,301.78 crowns. This discrepancy between wages and cost of living lowered the standard of living still further, to 45 per cent of the world standard.

Wage data by industry groups are not yet available for the year 1923. The average weekly earnings of Hungarian workers at the end of September, 1923, have, however, been estimated at 70,000 crowns. The rise of the cost of living in 1923 was phenomenal. At the end of September, 1923, the weekly household budget based on the world standard of living would have required an outlay of 184,675.90 crowns, but since the average worker earned only 70,000 crowns per week only 38 per cent of the accepted world standard of living could be maintained by him.

Total Number of Persons Affected.

ACCURATE statistics as to the number of persons in Hungary who might properly be classified as belonging to the working classes are not available. Reliable estimates indicate, however, that the total number of workmen, organized and unorganized, together with their families, and inclusive of public employees engaged in manual pursuits, forms about 44.2 per cent of the total population of Hungary. On this basis the standard of living of approximately three and one-half million Hungarians has been lowered as outlined above.

It should, however, be kept in mind that the figures given here are based upon the conditions of organized workers. There exists in Hungary a vast army of unorganized agricultural laborers whose condition has been but little improved since the days of serfdom, which theoretically terminated about 70 years ago. Statistics tending to illustrate their standard of living would undoubtedly offer a much darker picture, if they could be obtained.

Effects of the Lower Standard of Living on Prices.

IT WOULD naturally be presumed that the low standard of living of Hungarian workmen would result in a low labor charge in the cost of production of articles manufactured in this country and consequently put the Hungarian industry in a position to undersell its foreign competitors. The fact is, however, that any advantage which may accrue to Hungarian industry in this respect is offset by other factors. The prices demanded for Hungarian products both in the local markets and in export fields are not materially below world market prices. The purchasing power of the public has been so greatly reduced that the turnover has been materially decreased, and manufacturers and merchants have greatly increased their percentage of profit in order to offset the loss in turnover resulting from the decline in consumption.

Indirect taxes, luxury taxes, and turnover taxes have been imposed on practically every form of merchandise and the sum total of these taxes represents a considerable item in the price to the ultimate consumer.

WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOR.

Schedule of Wages for Civil Employees under the Naval Establishment.

THE Navy Department, under date of December 8, 1923, issued a revised schedule of wages covering all civilian employees in the Naval Establishment and Marine Corps, the schedule to become effective January 1, 1924, and to remain in force to December 31, 1924.

The following tables give the rates of pay for certain occupations in the clothing workers' service and in the laborer, helper, and mechanical service, at specified stations:

RATES OF PAY PER HOUR OF CLOTHING WORKERS AT SPECIFIED STATIONS, JANUARY 1, 1924, TO DECEMBER 31, 1924, INCLUSIVE.[1]

Navy supply depot, South Brooklyn, N. Y.

Occupation.	Rate per hour.	Occupation.	Rate per hour.
Assistant custom cutter	$0.85	Double-needle operator	$0.70
Baster	.85	Dress-coat maker	.95
Bushelman	.80	Finisher	.55
Canvas maker	.65	Finish presser	.95
Chopper	.75	Fitter	.85
Cloth sponger	.75	General tailor	.85
Clothing examiner	.75	Head buttonhole maker	.80
Coat maker	.90	Head custom cutter	1.35
Coat operator	1.00	Pocket maker	1.00
Collar maker	.90	Trimmer	.60
Custom cutter	1.25	Trouser maker	.80
Cutter and marker	.85	Trouser operator	.90
Cutting-machine operator	.90	Underpresser	.80
Die-machine operator	.75	Vest maker	.75

Depot of supplies, United States Marine Corps, Philadelphia, Pa.

Coat fitter	$0.83	Examiner (female)	$0.48
Custom cutter	1.20	Inspectress	.51
Cutter	.83	Operator (female)	.51
Cutter and marker	.83	Sponger	.51
Designer, embroideress	.65	Tailor, first class	.83
Embroideress	.48	Tailor, second class	.73

[1] Rates of pay given are the maximum. Intermediate rate is 5 cents per hour less than maximum and minimum rate is 5 cents per hour less than intermediate.

RATES OF PAY PER HOUR OF EMPLOYEES IN THE LABORER, HELPER, AND MECHANICAL SERVICE, AT SPECIFIED STATIONS, JANUARY 1, 1924, TO DECEMBER 31, 1924, INCLUSIVE.[1]

[P. S. following the name of an occupation refers to printing service.]

Occupation.	Boston.	New York.	Philadelphia.	Washington.	Norfolk.	Charleston.	New Orleans.	Mare Island.	Puget Sound.	Great Lakes.
Group I.										
Laborer, common	$0.52	$0.52	$0.50	$0.50	$0.40	$0.31	[2]$0.34	$0.52	$0.52	$0.52
Group II.										
Coxswain	.56	.56	.54	.54	.48	.48	.48	.56	.56	.56
Hammer runner:										
Heavy	.64	.64	.62	.62	.56	.56	.56	.64	.64	.64
Others	.59	.59	.57	.57	.51	.51	.51	.59	.59	.59
Helper:										
Blacksmith's—										
Heavy fires	.61	.61	.59	.59	.56	.53	.53	.62	.62	.61
Other fires	.56	.56	.54	.54	.51	.48	.48	.57	.57	.56
Boilermaker's	.56	.56	.54	.54	.51	.48	.48	.57	.57	.56
Forger's, heavy	.61	.61	.59	.59	.56	.53	.53	.62	.62	.61
General	.56	.56	.54	.54	.51	.48	.48	.57	.57	.56
Machinist's	.56	.56	.54	.54	.51	.48	.48	.57	.57	.56
Molder's	.56	.56	.54	.54	.51	.48	.48	.57	.57	.56
Pipe fitter's	.56	.56	.54	.54	.51	.48	.48	.57	.57	.56
Sheet-metal worker's	.56	.56	.54	.54	.51	.48	.48	.57	.57	.56
Ship fitter's	.56	.56	.54	.54	.51	.48	.48	.57	.57	.56
Woodworker's	.56	.56	.54	.54	.51	.48	.48	.57	.57	.56
Hod carrier	.61	.61	.59	.59	.53	.53	.53	.61	.61	.61
Holder-on	.56	.56	.56	.53	.53	.53	.53	.60	.60	.60
Laborer, classified	.52	.52	.50	.50	.40	.31	.34	.52	.52	.52
Oiler	.70	.73	.68	.68	.66	.66	.65	.76	.76	.71
Press feeder, folder, sticher, etc. (P. S.)	.56	.56	.54	.54	.48	.48	.48	.57	.57	.56
Rivet heater	.52	.52	.50	.50	.40	.31	.34	.52	.52	.52
Sand blaster	.66	.66	.64	.64	.58	.58	.58	.66	.66	.66
Stevedore	.61	.65	.59	.59	.49	.50	.50	.61	.61	.61
Teamster	.54	.60	.52	.52	.45	.45	.45	.60	.60	.54
Group III.										
Aircraft mechanic:										
General	.82	.85	.80	.80	.78	.78	.77	.88	.88	.83
Motor	.82	.85	.80	.80	.78	.78	.77	.88	.88	.83
Anglesmith:										
Heavy fires	.92	.95	.90	.90	.88	.88	.87	.98	.98	.93
Other fires	.82	.85	.80	.80	.78	.78	.77	.88	.88	.83
Blacksmith:										
Heavy fires	.92	.95	.90	.90	.88	.88	.87	.98	.98	.93
Other fires	.82	.85	.80	.80	.78	.78	.77	.88	.88	.83
Boiler maker	.82	.85	.80	.80	.78	.78	.77	.88	.88	.83
Bolter	.58	.58	.58	.58	.58	.58	.58	.58	.58	.58
Bookbinder (P. S.)	.82	.85	.80	.80	.78	.78	.77	.88	.88	.83
Buffer and polisher	.77	.80	.75	.75	.73	.73	.72	.83	.83	.78
Calker, wood	.82	.85	.80	.80	.78	.78	.77	.88	.88	.83
Calker and chipper, iron	.82	.85	.80	.80	.78	.78	.77	.88	.88	.83
Canvas worker	.70	.70	.70	.70	.70	.70	.70	.70	.70	.70
Cement finisher	.87	.90	.85	.85	.83	.83	.82	.93	.93	.88
Cement worker	.60	.60	.58	.58	.48	.39	.42	.58	.58	.58
Cooper	.72	.75	.70	.70	.68	.68	.67	.78	.78	.73
Coppersmith	.87	.90	.85	.85	.83	.83	.82	.93	.93	.88
Craneman, electric (under 20 tons)[3]	.72	.75	.70	.70	.75	.68	.67	.78	.78	.73
Cupola tender	.77	.80	.75	.75	.73	.73	.72	.83	.83	.78
Diesinker	.92	.95	.90	.90	.88	.88	.87	.98	.98	.93
Diver	1.86	1.86	1.86	1.86	1.86	1.86	1.86	1.86	1.86	1.86
Driller:										
Pneumatic	.67	.70	.65	.65	.63	.63	.62	.73	.73	.68
Press	.62	.65	.60	.60	.58	.58	.57	.68	.68	.63
Electrician	.87	.90	.85	.85	.83	.83	.82	.93	.93	.88
Electroplater	.82	.85	.80	.80	.78	.78	.77	.88	.88	.83

[1] Rates of pay given are maximum. Intermediate rate is 5 cents per hour less than maximum, and minimum rate is 5 cents per hour less than intermediate

[2] Rate for laborers, common, at helium production plant, Fort Worth, Tex., 41 cents per hour.

[3] Cranemen, electric, when actually operating cranes of 20 tons capacity or more shall receive while, so employed an additional allowance per hour above the schedule rate as follows: 20 tons and over, handling cold metal, 15 cents; 20 tons and over, handling hot metal, 15 cents; hammerhead cranes of building slips any capacity, 5 cents; cantilever cranes of building slips, any capacity, 5 cents; electrically operated floating derricks, under 75 tons capacity, 10 cents; electrically operated floating derricks, 75 tons and over, 15 cents. This note does not apply to Norfolk Navy Yard.

RATES OF PAY PER HOUR OF EMPLOYEES IN THE LABORER, HELPER, AND MECHANICAL SERVICE, AT SPECIFIED STATIONS, JANUARY 1, 1924, TO DECEMBER 31, 1924, INCLUSIVE—Continued.

Occupation.	Boston.	New York.	Philadelphia.	Washington.	Norfolk.	Charleston.	New Orleans.	Mare Island.	Puget Sound.	Great Lakes.
Group III—Continued.										
Engineman [4]	$0.82	$0.85	$0.80	$0.80	$0.78	$0.78	$0.77	$0.88	$0.88	$0.83
Locomotive	.82	.85	.80	.80	.78	.78	.77	.88	.88	.83
Donkeys and winches	.82	.85	.80	.80	.78	.78	.77	.88	.88	.83
Pile driver	.82	.85	.80	.80	.78	.78	.77	.88	.88	.83
Steam shovel	.97	1.00	.95	.95	.93	.93	.92	1.03	1.03	.98
Fireman	.70	.73	.68	.68	.66	.66	.65	.76	.76	.71
Flange turner	.87	.90	.85	.85	.83	.83	.82	.93	.93	.88
Forger: [5]										
Drop	.82	.85	.80	.80	.78	.78	.77	.88	.88	.83
Heavy	1.32	1.35	1.30	1.30	1.28	1.28	1.27	1.38	1.38	1.33
Foundry chipper	.61	.61	.59	.59	.53	.53	.53	.61	.61	.61
Frame bender	.87	.90	.85	.85	.83	.83	.82	.93	.93	.88
Furnaceman:										
Anglework	.62	.65	.60	.60	.58	.58	.57	.68	.68	.63
Foundry	.62	.65	.60	.60	.58	.58	.57	.68	.68	.63
Heater	.62	.65	.60	.60	.58	.58	.57	.68	.68	.63
Heavy forge, heater	.72	.75	.70	.70	.68	.68	.67	.78	.78	.73
Other forge	.62	.65	.60	.60	.58	.58	.57	68	.68	.63
Open-hearth, heater	.62	.65	.60	.60	.58	.58	.57	.68	.68	.63
Galvanizer	.62	.65	.60	.60	.58	.58	.57	.68	.68	.63
Instrument assembler				.70						
Instrument maker	.87	.90	.85	.85	.83	.83	.82	.93	.93	.88
Job compositor (P. S.)	.82	.85	.80	.80	.78	.78	.77	.88	.88	.83
Job printer (P. S.)	.82	.85	.80	.80	.78	.78	.77	.88	.88	.83
Joiner	.82	.85	.80	.80	.78	.78	.77	.88	.88	.83
Joiner, ship	.82	.85	.80	.80	.78	.78	.77	.88	.88	.83
Ladleman, foundry	.62	.65	.60	.60	.58	.58	.57	.68	.68	.63
Lead burner	1.02	1.05	1.00	1.00	.98	.98	.97	1.08	1.08	1.03
Leather worker	.72	.75	.70	.70	.68	.68	.67	.78	.78	.73
Letterer and grainer	.87	.90	.85	.85	.83	.83	.82	.93	.93	.88
Lineman	.67	.70	.65	.65	.63	.63	.62	.73	.73	.68
Linotype and monotype operator (P. S.)	.82	.85	.80	.80	.78	.78	.77	.88	.88	.83
Loftsman	.87	.90	.85	.85	.83	.83	.82	.93	.93	.88
Machine operator	.67	.70	.65	.65	.63	.63	.62	.73	.73	.68
Machinist	.82	.85	.80	.80	.78	.78	.77	.88	.88	.83
Machinist, operator (P. S.)	.87	.90	.85	.85	.83	.83	.82	.93	.93	.88
Mason, brick or stone	1.12	1.12	1.12	1.12	1.12	1.12	1.12	1.15	1.15	1.12
Melter	.77	.80	.75	.75	.73	.73	.72	.83	.83	.78
Electric	1.05	1.05	1.05	1.05	1.05	1.05	1.05	1.05	1.05	1.05
Open-hearth	1.01	1.01	1.01	1.01	1.01	1.01	1.01	1.01	1.01	1.01
Metallic cartridge casemaker				.60						
Millman	.82	.85	.80	.80	.78	.78	.77	.88	.88	.83
Model maker, wood	.92	.95	.90	.90	.88	.88	.87	.98	.98	.93
Molder	.92	.95	.90	.90	.88	.88	.87	.98	.98	.93
Ordnance man	.72	.75	.70	.70	.68	.68	.67	.78	.83	.73
Packer	.67	.70	.65	.65	.63	.63	.62	.73	.73	.68
Painter	.82	.85	.80	.80	.78	.78	.77	.88	.88	.83
Pattern maker	.92	.95	.90	.90	.88	.88	.87	1.00	1.00	.93
Pipe coverer and insulator	.82	.85	.80	.80	.78	.78	.77	.88	.88	.83
Pipe fitter	.87	.90	.85	.85	.83	.83	.82	.93	.93	.88
Plasterer	1.12	1.12	1.12	1.12	1.12	1.12	1.12	1.15	1.15	1.12
Plumber	.87	.90	.85	.85	.83	.83	.82	.93	.93	.88
Pressman (P. S.)	.72	.75	.70	.70	.68	.68	.67	.79	.78	.73
Puncher and shearer	.62	.65	.60	.60	.58	.58	.57	.68	.68	.63
Pyrometer man	.82	.85	.80	.80	.78	.78	.77	.88	.88	.83
Rigger	.82	.85	.80	.80	.78	.78	.77	.88	.88	.83
Riveter	.82	.85	.80	.80	.78	.78	.77	.88	.88	.83
Rodman	.60	.60	.60	.60	.60	.60	.60	.60	.60	.60
Sailmaker	.82	.85	.80	.80	.78	.78	.77	.88	.88	.83
Saw filer	.87	.95	.85	.85	.83	.83	.82	.93	.93	.88
Sewer	.53	.53	.51	.51	.41	.41	.41	.53	.53	.53
Sheet-metal worker	.87	.90	.85	.85	.83	.83	.82	.93	.93	.88
Ship fitter	.82	.85	.80	.80	.78	.78	.77	.88	.88	.83
Shipwright	.82	.85	.80	.80	.78	.78	.77	.88	.88	.83
Steel worker, structural	.87	.90	.85	.85	.83	.83	.82	.93	.93	.88
Stonecutter	.97	1.00	.95	.95	.93	.93	.92	1.03	1.03	.98

[4] Enginemen, when actually operating floating derricks of 75 tons and over, shall receive additional allowance of 5 cents per hour.

[5] For each day during any portion of which employees engaged in forging material 4 inches square or more and less than 6 inches square shall receive the blacksmith, heavy fires, schedule rate of pay. For each day during any portion of which they are engaged in forging material 6 inches square or larger they shall be paid the heavy forger schedule rate of pay. Helpers working on the classes of heavy forging work stated above shall receive the corresponding pay for helpers, blacksmith's heavy fires, or helpers, heavy forger's.

RATES OF PAY PER HOUR OF EMPLOYEES IN THE LABORER, HELPER, AND MECHANICAL SERVICE, AT SPECIFIED STATIONS, JANUARY 1, 1924, TO DECEMBER 31, 1924, INCLUSIVE—Concluded.

Occupation.	Boston.	New York.	Philadelphia.	Washington.	Norfolk.	Charleston.	New Orleans.	Mare Island.	Puget Sound.	Great Lakes.
Group III—Concluded.										
Temperer	$0.82	$0.85	$0.80	$0.80	$0.78	$0.78	$0.77	$0.88	$0.88	$0.83
Tile and plate setter	.82	.85	.80	.80	.78	.78	.77	.88	.88	.83
Toolmaker	.87	.90	.85	.85	.83	.83	.82	.93	.93	.88
Trackman	.62	.62	.60	.60	.50	.41	.44	.62	.62	.62
Water tender	.72	.75	.70	.70	.68	.68	.67	.78	.78	.73
Welder:										
Electric	.87	.90	.85	.85	.83	.83	.82	.93	.93	.88
Gas	.82	.85	.80	.80	.78	.78	.77	.88	.88	.83
Wharf builder	.82	.85	.80	.80	.78	.78	.77	.88	.88	.83

Wage Increases for Farm Labor in 1923.

FARMERS in the United States had to pay higher wages for male farm labor in 1923 than they did in 1922 and 1921, according to the December, 1923, number of Weather, Crops, and Markets, issued by the Federal Department of Agriculture. The following tables from that publication show the course of the average wages of male farm labor for the country as a whole from 1913 to 1923, inclusive, and by States and geographical divisions in 1910, 1922, and 1923:

AVERAGE WAGES OF MALE FARM LABOR IN THE UNITED STATES, 1913 TO 1923.

Year.	Per month.		Per day at harvest.		Per day other than at harvest.	
	With board.	Without board.	With board.	Without board.	With board.	Without board.
1913	$21.38	$30.31	$1.57	$1.94	$1.16	$1.50
1914	21.05	29.88	1.55	1.91	1.13	1.45
1915	21.26	30.15	1.56	1.92	1.13	1.47
1916	23.25	32.83	1.69	2.07	1.26	1.62
1917	28.87	40.43	2.08	2.54	1.56	2.02
1918	34.92	48.80	2.65	3.22	2.07	2.63
1919	39.82	56.29	3.15	3.83	2.45	3.12
1920	46.89	64.95	3.60	4.36	2.86	3.59
1921	30.14	43.32	2.24	2.79	1.68	2.18
1922	29.17	41.79	2.20	2.72	1.65	2.15
1923	33.18	46.91	2.45	3.03	1.93	2.47

AVERAGE WAGES OF MALE FARM LABOR, BY STATES, 1910, 1922, AND 1923.

State and geographic division.	Per month.						Per day at harvest.						Per day other than at harvest.					
	With board.			Without board.			With board.			Without board.			With board.			Without board.		
	1910	1922	1923	1910	1922	1923	1910	1922	1923	1910	1922	1923	1910	1922	1923	1910	1922	1923
Maine	$23.50	$38.00	$41.00	$34.50	$53.50	$61.00	$1.50	$2.45	$2.90	$1.95	$3.07	$3.50	$1.23	$2.08	$2.50	$1.60	$2.70	$3.10
New Hampshire	23.50	38.60	46.50	35.50	60.00	69.00	1.35	2.46	3.00	1.84	3.20	3.90	1.18	2.11	2.70	1.65	2.84	3.60
Vermont	25.00	35.00	40.60	35.50	52.00	60.30	1.75	2.35	2.90	2.25	3.00	3.60	1.21	1.96	2.55	1.60	2.53	3.20
Massachusetts	22.75	41.00	50.00	37.20	68.00	80.00	1.42	2.56	3.20	1.92	3.45	4.15	1.22	2.31	2.95	1.66	3.18	3.90
Rhode Island	21.00	40.00	50.00	34.00	65.00	80.00	1.35	2.75	3.00	2.05	3.60	4.00	1.12	2.37	2.65	1.56	3.20	3.65
Connecticut	21.00	40.00	52.00	36.00	67.00	75.00	1.55	2.50	3.10	2.00	3.40	4.10	1.07	2.05	2.80	1.55	2.95	3.75
New York	23.50	39.70	45.50	35.00	56.50	64.00	1.80	3.00	3.55	2.22	3.65	4.30	1.28	2.46	3.00	1.66	3.15	3.70
New Jersey	19.50	40.00	44.50	31.50	62.00	67.00	1.70	3.05	3.40	2.15	3.80	4.40	1.11	2.25	2.55	1.46	3.00	3.55
Pennsylvania	18.75	33.00	38.00	29.00	50.90	55.50	1.50	2.50	2.90	1.96	3.20	3.60	1.04	2.10	2.48	1.49	2.70	3.15
North Atlantic	21.65	37.14	43.42	33.19	55.82	63.31	1.63	2.70	3.21	2.08	3.40	3.99	1.17	2.24	2.73	1.58	2.91	3.48
Delaware	16.00	27.10	32.80	24.75	40.00	51.00	1.35	2.33	2.85	1.55	2.85	3.50	.98	1.60	2.25	1.22	2.07	2.75
Maryland	13.50	28.50	32.00	21.50	42.00	48.00	1.26	2.17	2.70	1.64	2.77	3.30	.88	1.54	1.95	1.18	2.11	2.50
Virginia	14.00	24.80	28.00	19.50	35.50	40.00	1.15	1.90	2.10	1.44	2.32	2.60	.78	1.31	1.61	1.01	1.76	2.08
West Virginia	19.40	33.20	35.50	29.00	47.90	50.50	1.28	2.20	2.48	1.65	2.80	3.08	.94	1.55	1.90	1.27	2.10	2.50
North Carolina	13.60	24.00	28.00	19.50	33.00	39.00	1.03	1.85	1.95	1.28	2.25	2.45	.73	1.35	1.55	.97	1.75	1.95
South Carolina	12.00	16.20	20.00	16.50	23.20	27.50	.96	1.24	1.35	1.12	1.56	1.75	.70	.85	1.12	.90	1.08	1.42
Georgia	13.00	15.60	17.30	18.00	23.00	24.50	.98	1.05	1.16	1.23	1.35	1.40	.73	.88	1.00	.95	1.12	1.30
Florida	15.00	23.40	26.00	25.00	35.50	40.00	1.10	1.30	1.57	1.46	1.80	2.15	.96	1.15	1.44	1.32	1.60	2.00
South Atlantic	13.77	22.12	24.93	19.75	31.72	35.55	1.07	1.61	1.76	1.33	2.01	2.21	.77	1.18	1.41	1.01	1.55	1.82
Ohio	21.00	32.60	36.80	29.00	46.50	50.40	1.67	2.70	3.05	2.07	3.28	3.70	1.20	2.00	2.18	1.57	2.60	2.92
Indiana	20.50	30.20	35.40	28.40	42.70	48.60	1.70	2.58	3.10	2.07	3.15	3.75	1.14	1.80	2.25	1.45	2.32	2.83
Illinois	24.50	33.90	40.20	32.90	45.00	52.50	1.90	2.75	3.38	2.30	3.30	4.00	1.31	1.95	2.40	1.63	2.48	2.96
Michigan	23.00	33.60	40.00	33.00	47.30	55.00	1.64	2.60	3.19	2.10	3.29	3.88	1.22	2.10	2.58	1.66	2.70	3.23
Wisconsin	26.00	37.00	45.00	37.25	54.00	63.00	1.76	2.65	2.96	2.20	3.32	3.70	1.35	2.20	2.45	1.78	2.90	3.15
East North Central	22.94	33.35	39.41	31.81	46.71	53.59	1.75	2.67	3.14	2.16	3.27	3.82	1.24	2.00	2.36	1.61	2.58	3.01
Minnesota	26.00	35.00	37.00	38.00	50.00	55.50	2.23	2.90	3.27	2.65	3.60	4.03	1.48	2.20	2.55	1.90	2.95	3.29
Iowa	28.00	36.80	43.30	39.00	49.70	56.60	2.12	2.70	3.16	2.51	3.35	3.80	1.57	2.11	2.52	1.98	2.67	3.12
Missouri	21.50	28.70	31.00	29.50	39.50	42.50	1.55	2.25	2.50	1.93	2.73	3.05	1.02	1.46	1.62	1.32	1.90	2.10
North Dakota	29.00	38.70	40.30	42.00	55.50	58.80	2.40	3.90	3.72	3.03	4.85	4.77	1.60	2.50	2.50	2.20	3.40	3.50
South Dakota	27.00	36.40	43.20	39.00	53.00	61.70	2.35	3.05	3.50	2.95	3.75	4.20	1.54	2.25	2.65	2.00	3.10	3.45
Nebraska	26.50	34.50	40.00	38.00	48.50	54.00	2.14	3.00	3.30	2.60	3.65	4.10	1.57	2.15	2.42	1.96	2.85	3.00
Kansas	24.00	32.50	35.90	34.00	46.70	50.60	2.18	3.50	3.65	2.57	4.10	4.30	1.42	2.19	2.32	1.84	2.75	2.90
West North Central	25.10	33.63	37.54	35.45	47.14	52.33	2.01	2.88	3.17	2.43	3.51	3.86	1.38	2.01	2.27	1.77	2.63	2.91

AVERAGE WAGES OF MALE FARM LABOR, BY STATES, 1910, 1922, AND 1923—Concluded.

State and geographic division.	Per month.						Per day at harvest.						Per day other than at harvest.					
	With board.			Without board.			With board.			Without board.			With board.			Without board.		
	1910	1922	1923	1910	1922	1923	1910	1922	1923	1910	1922	1923	1910	1922	1923	1910	1922	1923
Kentucky	$16.00	$25.90	$28.10	$23.10	$36.30	$38.60	$1.36	$1.95	$2.16	$1.71	$2.46	$2.67	$0.85	$1.23	$1.51	$1.12	$1.63	$1.97
Tennessee	14.00	22.30	24.60	20.00	30.75	35.00	1.14	1.58	1.75	1.44	1.90	2.20	.77	1.07	1.28	1.02	1.40	1.64
Alabama	13.00	17.60	19.90	18.50	25.80	28.20	.98	1.18	1.26	1.26	1.48	1.58	.85	1.00	1.20	1.05	1.30	1.50
Mississippi	13.30	18.20	20.00	19.50	25.90	29.40	.93	1.14	1.20	1.22	1.50	1.57	.83	1.10	1.29	1.10	1.45	1.68
Louisiana	13.50	22.40	21.00	20.25	32.60	33.00	.90	1.30	1.45	1.25	1.60	1.85	.77	1.26	1.45	1.02	1.60	1.75
Texas	18.00	24.20	28.30	24.50	35.40	39.70	1.22	1.72	1.90	1.57	2.10	2.40	1.04	1.30	1.45	1.32	1.66	1.88
Oklahoma	19.10	26.00	27.40	28.10	37.00	38.30	1.60	2.35	2.50	1.97	2.75	2.90	1.11	1.52	1.60	1.47	1.96	2.00
Arkansas	16.25	21.35	23.00	24.00	31.60	33.90	1.20	1.56	1.64	1.55	2.00	2.06	.90	1.15	1.30	1.20	1.52	1.66
South Central	15.28	22.33	24.13	21.90	32.09	34.55	1.14	1.61	1.71	1.47	1.98	2.14	.89	1.20	1.38	1.15	1.56	1.76
Montana	38.00	42.20	48.00	50.00	63.00	65.50	2.05	3.60	3.60	2.80	4.40	4.52	1.77	2.40	2.70	2.36	3.20	3.55
Wyoming	35.00	39.50	44.50	49.00	60.00	62.50	1.90	2.40	2.90	2.50	3.25	3.78	1.73	1.95	2.50	2.29	2.75	3.40
Colorado	29.50	35.00	40.00	44.50	54.00	58.30	1.95	2.52	2.80	2.47	3.27	3.50	1.47	1.90	2.20	2.00	2.60	2.90
New Mexico	24.50	31.00	32.50	34.25	46.00	48.00	1.46	1.60	2.10	1.88	2.10	2.30	1.12	1.30	1.58	1.58	1.80	2.10
Arizona	30.00	40.00	54.00	40.00	58.00	66.00	1.72	2.40	2.35	2.24	3.00	2.65	1.34	1.75	2.10	2.04	2.50	2.70
Utah	35.00	47.00	54.00	47.50	64.00	73.70	1.78	2.40	2.70	2.20	2.95	3.31	1.55	2.16	2.47	2.00	2.81	3.05
Nevada	37.00	48.00	58.00	54.00	65.00	86.00	1.82	3.00	2.90	2.38	3.85	3.80	1.39	2.40	2.45	1.96	3.40	3.58
Idaho	35.00	46.00	53.00	49.50	66.00	72.70	2.20	2.75	3.57	2.80	3.40	4.25	1.70	2.22	2.85	2.27	3.00	3.45
Washington	33.00	45.00	54.30	50.00	65.00	77.00	2.42	3.25	3.90	2.78	3.90	4.50	1.72	2.38	2.95	2.26	3.15	3.75
Oregon	32.00	43.50	52.50	44.50	63.00	70.00	2.12	2.85	3.30	2.60	3.50	4.15	1.51	2.25	2.80	2.07	2.95	3.48
California	33.00	55.00	56.00	47.00	79.00	82.00	1.98	3.20	3.25	2.48	3.90	4.10	1.44	2.53	2.80	2.02	3.40	3.70
Far Western	32.69	45.57	51.25	46.48	66.03	72.79	2.02	2.89	3.22	2.52	3.56	3.95	1.51	2.23	2.64	2.06	3.00	3.42
United States	19.21	29.17	33.18	27.50	41.79	46.91	1.45	2.20	2.45	1.82	2.72	3.03	1.06	1.65	1.93	1.38	2.15	2.47

Average Weekly Earnings of Shop Employees in New York, October, 1923.

THE average weekly earnings of shop employees in the manufacturing industries of New York State and New York City in October, 1923, are shown in the following table, which is a summary of a statement published in the December, 1923, issue of the Industrial Bulletin of the New York State Department of Labor:

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS IN REPRESENTATIVE NEW YORK STATE FACTORIES IN OCTOBER, 1923.[1]

Industry.	The State.			New York City.		
	All employees.	Shop employees.		All employees.	Shop employees.	
		Men.	Women.		Men.	Women.
Stone, clay, and glass products	$28.80	$30.92	$13.49	$32.16	$32.46	$13.43
Metals, machinery, and conveyances	30.59	32.17	16.75	27.64	29.44	17.89
Wood manufactures	27.71	29.55	16.21	28.75	32.13	18.55
Furs, leather, and rubber goods	24.78	28.70	16.79	29.46	35.80	18.53
Chemicals, oils, paints, etc	27.57	30.95	16.44	26.17	28.73	14.34
Paper	27.89	27.68	13.61	.....	.....	.....
Printing and paper goods	31.88	35.33	16.98	33.73	36.65	16.63
Textiles	22.65	26.14	15.57	23.02	28.21	17.25
Clothing, millinery, laundering, etc	25.03	33.53	18.09	29.65	37.68	21.37
Food, beverages, and tobacco	24.58	29.49	15.18	24.18	30.32	16.82
Water, light, and power	34.07	34.31	.....	33.73	33.53	.....
Total	27.72	31.50	16.88	28.46	32.00	19.20

[1] These average earnings represent actual, not full-time earnings. They are computed by dividing the total weekly pay roll by the number of employees on the pay roll.

Average Daily Wages of French Coal Miners.

THE average daily wages of coal miners in the principal coal-mining sections of France for the years 1913, 1919 to 1921, each quarter of 1922, and the first half of 1923 are given in the Bulletin de la Statistique Générale de la France, October, 1923 (p. 43). The following table shows, for these periods, the average wages of underground and surface workers separately and combined:

AVERAGE DAILY WAGES OF FRENCH COAL MINERS, 1913 AND 1919 TO 1923.

[1 franc at par=19.3 cents.]

Class of workers and year.	Mining sections.								
	Douai.	Arras.	Strassburg.	Saint-Étienne.	Chalon-sur-Saône.	Calais.	Toulouse.	Clermont.	Entire country.
Underground workers:	*Frs.*	*Frs.*	*Frs.*	*Frs.*	*Frs.*	*Frs.*	*Frs.*	*Frs.*	*Frs.*
1913	6.09	6.25	.....	5.51	6.27	5.57	5.64	4.96	5.96
1919	.....	16.63	.....	15.97	13.86	15.59	.....	.....	15.71
1920	.....	21.55	.....	22.13	21.22	21.30	20.36	19.27	20.99
1921	.....	22.77	.....	18.65	20.32	19.38	18.89	17.88	20.49
1922—									
First quarter	.....	20.77	.....	19.49	19.16	17.98	16.66	13.62	18.96
Second quarter	.....	19.59	.....	19.53	18.85	17.61	16.41	16.48	18.90
Third quarter	.....	19.49	.....	19.56	19.14	16.82	16.78	16.54	18.66
Fourth quarter	.....	19.75	.....	19.55	19.18	16.85	16.70	16.68	18.57
1923—									
First quarter	21.20	20.40	19.37	20.95	20.50	18.88	19.18	17.94	20.19
Second quarter	22.27	21.55	20.30	22.62	21.92	20.39	20.55	19.37	21.23

AVERAGE DAILY WAGES OF FRENCH COAL MINERS, 1913 AND 1919 TO 1923—Concluded.

Class of workers and year.	Mining sections.								
	Douai.	Arras.	Strassburg.	Saint-Étienne.	Chalon-sur-Saône.	Calais.	Toulouse.	Clermont.	Entire country.
Surface workers:	*Frs.*	*Frs.*	*Frs.*	*Frs.*	*Frs.*	*Frs.*	*Frs.*	*Frs.*	*Frs.*
1913	.....	4.11	.....	4.06	4.09	3.69	3.93	3.66	4.02
1919	.....	.....	.....	13.12	11.96	12.22	.....	.....	12.51
1920	.....	16.58	.....	18.08	16.32	15.25	15.20	14.95	15.90
1921	.....	17.12	.....	16.09	15.73	14.82	14.74	13.67	15.82
1922—									
First quarter	.....	15.54	.....	14.61	14.21	13.20	12.52	12.74	14.29
Second quarter	.....	14.04	.....	14.60	14.29	13.16	12.43	12.89	13.91
Third quarter	.....	14.30	.....	14.59	14.25	12.54	12.40	12.74	14.02
Fourth quarter	.....	14.39	.....	14.52	14.15	12.44	12.45	12.73	13.96
1923—									
First quarter	15.78	15.30	14.33	15.84	15.24	13.95	13.98	13.86	15.03
Second quarter	16.93	16.90	14.55	17.16	16.57	15.22	14.00	15.25	16.22
Total (underground and surface):									
1913	5.57	5.72	.....	5.07	5.27	4.98	4.96	4.61	5.40
1919	.....	15.62	.....	13.12	13.19	14.29	.....	.....	13.44
1920	.....	20.12	.....	20.67	19.16	18.80	18.37	17.71	19.45
1921	.....	21.11	.....	17.78	18.43	17.57	17.22	16.36	18.84
1922—									
First quarter	.....	19.29	.....	17.72	17.01	15.98	15.30	13.32	17.35
Second quarter	.....	17.98	.....	17.75	17.01	15.75	15.22	15.22	17.21
Third quarter	.....	17.95	.....	17.78	17.15	14.98	15.31	15.18	17.09
Fourth quarter	.....	18.17	.....	17.77	17.16	14.89	15.31	15.28	17.06
1923—									
First quarter	19.85	19.04	17.67	19.09	18.41	16.77	17.44	16.52	18.55
Second quarter	20.78	20.27	18.67	20.75	19.81	18.18	18.40	17.92	19.62

Wages of Workers in the Building Trades in Paris, France, in July, 1923.

A REPORT has recently been received from the commercial attaché in Paris showing the wage rates in force on July 1, 1923, for workers in the building trades in the Paris region.

WAGES OF BUILDING WORKERS IN PARIS, FRANCE, JULY 1, 1923.

[1 franc at par=19.3 cents.]

Occupations.	Hourly wages.	Occupations.	Hourly wages.
Public and private works:	*Francs.*	Tiling, revetment, mosaics, etc.:	*Francs.*
Excavator	3.25	Master workman	3.50
Well sinker	3.50	Helper	2.75
Mason	3.50	Others:	
Mason's helper	2.75	Carpenter	3.50
Pavement layer	3.50	Ironsmith	3.50
Helper	2.75	Locksmith	3.25
Carter, 1 horse	[1] 22.00	Helper	2.90
Carter, 2 horses	[1] 24.00	Electrician	3.25
Masonry:		Chimney builder	3.25
Master workman	3.50	Chimney builder's, helper	2.50
Helper	2.75	Roofer and plumber	3.25
		Granite and marble cutters	3.50

[1] Daily rate.

Resumption of Eight-Hour Shift in Ruhr Mines.[1]

THE employers of the Ruhr district have recently concluded an agreement with the Allied Mine and Industrial Commission as to resumption of operation of their industrial establishments. The agreement is to remain in force until April 15, 1924, and covers 80 per cent of the industrial establishments and mines in the district. Briefly summarized its provisions are the following: (1) The mines shall pay a coal tax of $15,000,000 for the period July 1 to November 1, 1923. (2) Thereafter they shall pay a tax of 10 francs ($1.93, par) for each ton of coal sold. (3) They shall deliver free of charge to the Allies 18 per cent of their net production. (4) The stocks of coal on hand on October 1, 1923, become the property of the Allies. (5) The system of export licenses is to be continued. The available stock of metal goods may be exported only on payment of the taxes in arrears and only in proportion to the quantities exported in 1922. (6) The deliveries of coal by-products shall form the subject of a new agreement. Several appendixes to the agreement determine the quantity of reparation coal to be delivered by each mine.

The mine workers recognized that the industrialists of the Ruhr had shrunk from no sacrifice in order to resume operation of their own mines and industrial establishments, and by doing so to assist at the same time the unoccupied territories of Germany in restoring increased industrial activity and abating the existing extensive unemployment. When it became apparent, however, that the industrialists wanted to shift the larger part of the burden of these sacrifices to the shoulders of the mine workers, the latter assumed a decidedly hostile attitude.

Even before the conclusion of the agreement with the Allied Mine and Industrial Commission the mine owners of the Ruhr district had entered into negotiations with the miners' unions as to the conditions under which work should be resumed. The employers offered the following conditions:

1. Reintroduction of the pre-war hours of labor [8½ hours per day "bank to bank"] [2] for work above and below ground.
2. In order to encourage greater production by tonnage miners, the difference between the minimum wage rate and the average wage of hewers shall be increased. The basic wage rate is to be abolished.
3. In order to achieve the same result in the case of company men a minimum and maximum rate shall be fixed for each class and the management shall on the basis of the output of each worker determine what wage rate between these limits he shall receive.
4. The difference between the wage rates of unskilled and skilled workers shall be increased.
5. The difference between the wage rates of juvenile and adult workers shall be increased by increased deductions for tonnage haulers (*Schlepper*) and the reintroduction of deductions for apprentice hewers.

The miners' unions flatly declined to accept these conditions. They declared themselves willing to conclude collective agreements providing for temporary overtime work with a view to overcoming the present shortage of coal and to dispensing with the import of

[1] Korrespondenzblatt des Allgemeinen Deutschen Gewerkschaftsbundes, Berlin, Dec. 15, 1923, pp. 478-480.

[2] See MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW February, 1921, pp. 200 to 213. "Production and labor conditions in German hard coal fields."

coal which greatly enhances the costs of production. They opposed, however, any attempt to lengthen the hours of labor permanently.

The mine owners then attempted to force the miners into submission. Immediately after the conclusion of the agreement with the allied commission they ordered that at least 30 per cent of the working staffs be dismissed. These orders were issued in disregard of the provisions of the works councils law and of the law regulating the discharge of workers. The matter would have come to a deadlock if the Federal Ministry of Labor had not intervened in bringing about an agreement. In the last days of November, 1923, negotiations were begun by the Ministry with the largest mine owners and with representatives of the miners', metal workers', and engineers' unions which led to a compromise agreement providing for overtime work during a limited period and regular pay for the extra time worked. The following is a translation of the agreement:

The Agreement.

IN VIEW of the distressful economic condition of Germany, the extensive unemployment connected with it, and the especially heavy burdens borne by the Ruhr mining industry, the contracting parties have come to an agreement on the following points:

1. The quickest possible achievement of pre-war production of coal mines is an absolute necessity.

2. The contracting parties, employers and workers, obligate themselves to do everything in their power in order to achieve as soon as possible the result outlined under section 1. The employers shall take all possible technical and administrative measures for this purpose and in particular shall increase the number of pick miners. The workers below ground shall work overtime at the close of their regular shift in such a measure that the total shift, beginning with the descent into the mine and ending with the ascent, shall have a duration of eight hours. The workers above ground shall, in so far as they are employed in hoisting the coal, work one hour overtime. The overtime work of all other workers above ground shall at the earliest possible date be regulated in common with the iron and steel industry of the Ruhr district. The additional remuneration for overtime work provided for in the general agreement (*Manteltarif*) shall not be applicable to the overtime work provided for in the present agreement. Assuming that the lengthened shift will result in corresponding increased production the wage rates of company men employed above and below ground who perform overtime work shall be increased by one-seventh beginning with the date of the effectiveness of the present agreement.

3. Representatives of the contracting parties shall on February 1, 1924, meet with representatives of the Federal Ministries of Economy and Labor and determine whether pre-war production has been or may be reached within the near future. If this should not be the case they shall determine the general causes that have prevented the reaching of the aim set up under section 1 and discuss means for the removal of these causes. The comparison of the performances of workers employed above ground shall be effected by comparing the performance per worker and shift with that of the months December, 1923, and January, 1924.

4. When operation of the mines is being resumed and workers are being hired, consideration shall be given to the conjugal condition and domicile of the applicants for work and members of the works council shall be consulted.

5. This agreement shall come into force on December 5, 1923, and expire on May 1, 1924.

The undersigned representatives of the employers' and workers' organizations obligate themselves to support the enforcement of this agreement by their respective organizations.

PRODUCTION AND EFFICIENCY OF LABOR.

Longshore Labor Efficiency.

QUITE a fund of information is always available as to wage rates and hours of labor in the various trades and occupations of wage earners in the United States. Such information is continually being collected by public and private agencies. While cost of living, standards of living, and wage rates have received much attention, little emphasis has been placed on the question of what the employer of labor receives in return for the wages paid. Charges of lessened efficiency were general both during and following the war. However, to what extent efficiency has increased or declined is and will be a disputed question until sufficient reliable data is obtained.

Labor efficiency is but one element of industrial efficiency. Much depends upon the employee, and employees vary in their worth to the employer, but beyond the employee much depends on the machinery or tools with which he works, the working conditions, and the managements. Thus, a slow or low-skilled worker with high-class shop equipment may be able to produce more and better product than a rapid, skilled man can produce with poor equipment.

The field of industrial efficiency (including labor efficiency) is large and most interesting, yet much of it is unexplored. Industrial concerns have made efficiency studies on their own account, and there are firms doing professional work in this line for industrial clients. The material made public, however, is very limited.

National Adjustment Commission Study.

IN 1919 and 1920 an investigation into hours, earnings, labor cost, and output in the longshore industry at the port of New York was conducted for the National Adjustment Commission by Mr. B. M. Squires. Information was obtained from one of the largest and most representative companies operating at the port for sailings during the first six months of each year. This study was limited to the loading of cargoes and does not include any figures covering discharging operations. While records for identical ships were not available, ships similar in size and kind were selected for each year. The report [1] of this investigation was completed in the fall of 1920 and the figures dealing with the efficiency of labor—labor cost and output—were presented for 1914, 1919, and 1920.

According to Mr. Squires' report, labor efficiency decreased rapidly during the period 1914 to 1919 and costs increased tremendously during the same period. In 1914 longshoremen loaded an average

[1] National Adjustment Commission: Longshore labor—an investigation into hours, earnings, labor cost, and output in the longshore industry at the port of New York, by B. M. Squires. New York, 1920. (Mimeographed.)

of 0.91 ton per man-hour at a cost of 40.8 cents per ton, but by 1919 they were loading only 0.44 ton per man-hour at a cost of $1.956 per ton. A slight increase in efficiency is noticed in 1920, however, the output amounting to an average of 0.52 ton per man-hour and the cost $1.74 per ton.

COMPARISON OF LONGSHORE LABOR COST AND OUTPUT IN THE YEARS 1914, 1919, AND 1920, PORT OF NEW YORK.

Steamer No.	Tons[1] loaded.	Labor cost.		Man-hours.	Tons[1] per man-hour.
		Total.	Per ton.[1]		
1914.					
1	3,622	$1,466.75	$0.405	4,007.5	0.90
2	7,520	3,121.05	.415	8,482.5	.89
3	3,741	1,371.85	.367	3,576.0	1.05
4	6,085	3,050.15	.501	8,483.0	.72
5	4,401	1,867.39	.424	4,664.0	.94
6	7,507	2,546.39	.339	6,821.5	1.10
Total	32,876	13,423.58	.408	36,034.5	.91
1919.					
7	7,156	13,607.80	1.902	16,174.0	.44
8	4,605	9,471.50	2.057	10,962.5	.42
9	6,945	10,802.30	1.555	13,813.5	.50
10	9,216	20,211.30	2.193	24,435.0	.38
11	7,026	14,259.40	2.030	14,379.0	.49
Total	34,948	68,352.30	1.956	79,764.0	.44
1920					
12	5,909	8,262.15	1.398	8,859.0	.67
13	5,841	11,428.70	1.957	12,941.0	.45
14	6,447	11,190.60	1.736	11,340.5	.57
15	3,136	6,175.70	1.969	6,453.0	.49
16[2]	6,411	10,343.10	1.613	12,084.5	.53
17	6,293	11,821.25	1.878	13,232.5	.48
Total	34,037	59,221.50	1.740	64,910.5	.52

[1] Long ton of 2,240 pounds.

[2] Same ship as No. 10 on different voyages.

In comparing the efficiency of labor from year to year, a study of the cargo handled is of extreme importance, as differences in the figures may be caused wholly or in part by differences in the cargoer. A percentage classification of commodities making up the cargoes fos all vessels reported for 1914, 1919, and 1920 has therefore been included in Mr. Squires' report and is presented herewith. The percentage that each commodity forms of the entire cargo loaded is shown for each of the three years.

PERCENTAGE CLASSIFICATION OF COMMODITIES MAKING UP THE COMBINED CARGOES OF ALL VESSELS FOR YEARS 1914, 1919, AND 1920, PORT OF NEW YORK.

Character of cargo.	1914 6 vessels. Combined tonnage, 32,876.	1919 5 vessels. Combined tonnage, 34,948.	1920 6 vessels. Combined tonnage, 34,037.
Steel:	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*
Bars, beams, angle, etc	4.0	7.5	11.4
Sheets, galvanized iron, etc	6.9	8.9	5.0
Tubes, pipe	4.9	8.0	2.4
Rails	6.1	13.1	9.3
Pig iron, pigs, zinc	.1	.4	
Car wheels, materials	1.0	6.2	1.9
Wire and cables	1.1	4.0	.5
Cased machinery, automobile	3.9	3.2	8.6
Cases:			
Hardware			1.1
Oil, gasoline	40.3	11.5	12.4
Wax, soap, starch, etc	1.8	.1	1.8
Domestics	.9	.2	.5
Cigarettes	.6		.4
Barrels:			
Oil, grease, liquids	4.3	4.4	9.6
Wax, oleo, soda	3.2	2.1	1.2
Kegs:			
Spikes, nails, fittings	2.0	6.2	1.4
Dyes, resin	.9	.1	1.1
Hogsheads:			
Tobacco			
Bags:	.1		
Ammonia, cement, carbide			3.6
Flour, soda, borax	8.9		8.2
Oilcake, beans, wax, etc	.2		
Bales:			
Cotton			.1
Paper, strawboard	.4	4.6	2.4
Leather		1.9	
Ties, poles, lumber	.6		.1
Deck, special cargo	.1	.6	.7
General cargo	7.7	17.0	16.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Bureau of Labor Statistics Study.

THE Bureau of Labor Statistics has recently made a limited study of the efficiency of labor—labor cost and output—in the longshore industry in seven of the more important ports of the United States. Loading and unloading operations of representative vessels of the Emergency Fleet Corporation alone have been considered. The data were furnished to the bureau by the United States Shipping Board.

While the study is thus limited to a small number of vessels, the figures presented below may be accepted as typical of conditions as they exist. Care should be exercised, however, in comparing the figures port by port, as in many instances the dock facilities for handling cargoes vary so widely as to seriously affect any comparison made without a thorough knowledge of the physical qualities of the docks themselves. These may or may not be conducive to the efficient handling of cargoes.

Separate tables have been prepared for the loading and the unloading of cargoes. Figures are shown for each vessel and totals are given for each port and for all ports combined. The basis used in the computation of labor cost and output was the number of hours of longshore labor paid for and, in all ports except the port of

Seattle, the number of long tons of cargo handled. The short, or 2,000-pound ton, is the customary unit of measurement in all shipping on the Pacific coast. Clerical labor and supervision have been excluded in each instance, although gang foremen have been included. The production or output has been reduced to tons per man hour and the labor cost is shown in dollars and cents per ton.

The more important facts shown by the two tables have been summarized by ports and are presented in the table following. The total cargo handled and the labor cost and output are shown for each port and all ports combined. The loading and unloading figures are brought together in the table, although no attempt has been made in this study to make any comparison of the efficiency of labor in loading and unloading operations. The small tonnages reported for all ports both for loading and discharging cargoes show that the figures are merely indicative of the efficiency of longshoremen although they are typical of conditions. However, some of the ports shown are known as ports of call and vessels seldom load or discharge large amounts of cargo at such places.

CARGO HANDLED, LABOR COST PER TON, AND TONS HANDLED PER MAN-HOUR, BY PORTS.

Port.	Cargo.		Labor cost per ton.		Tons per man-hour.	
	Loading.	Unloading.	Loading.	Unloading.	Loading.	Unloading.
	Tons.	*Tons.*				
New York	8,161.00	19,364.06	$0.79	$0.99	0.92	0.76
Baltimore [1]	7,039.00	2,643.11	.89	1.02	.90	.69
New Orleans	12,898.00	17,366.00	.71	.68	.....	.....
	[2] 7,773	*17,366.00*	.....	.....	.72	*1.01*
Seattle	[3] 14,970.70	[3] 7,614.50	.55	1.61	1.70	.71
Norfolk	2,291.00	13,502.25	.80	.77	.94	1.14
Boston	1,951.00	2,673.00	1.37	.90	.60	.73
Galveston	.....	1,741.25	.....	.81	.....	.81
Grand total	[4] 52,685.70	[4] 64,088.37	.67	.94	1.23	.87

[1] Figures "not including grain" have been used.
[2] Hours not reported for 5,125 tons of grain and flour loaded on S. S. No. 10, although cost does include all cargo.
[3] Tonnage for Seattle reported in short tons (2,000 pounds).
[4] Seattle tonnage reduced to long tons (2,240 pounds) in grand total.

As conclusions drawn without an inspection of the character of the cargo handled are very apt to be misleading, an itemized list of the cargo of each vessel considered has been included in the detailed tables shown below. Some commodities can be handled much more rapidly than others and full cargoes are usually handled at a lower unit cost than part cargoes.

While an effort was made to limit this study to general cargo operations only, the data for some vessels include the handling of grain as well. However, labor cost and output is shown separately for grain and general cargo wherever possible. The total man hours consumed in handling the cargo have been divided into straight time and overtime for all vessels where such information was available.

AVERAGE COST PER TON AND AVERAGE TONS PER MAN-HOUR OF LONGSHORE LABOR IN CERTAIN EMERGENCY FLEET CORPORATION VESSELS IN VARIOUS PORTS OF THE UNITED STATES, 1922.

[M=Measurement tonnage.]

LOADING.

Port and vessel No.	Character and tons of cargo loaded.	Total tons handled.	Cost of labor.		Man-hours.	Straight time.	Over time.	Tons per man-hour.
			Total.	Per ton.				
New York.								
1	Oil cake in bags, 1,296; flour, 85; barbed wire, 40; lubricating oil, 20; alcohol, 12; general, 11.	1,464	$856.90	$0.59	1,224	1,117	107	1.20
2	Oil in barrels, 823; sisal, 285; oil cake in bags, 226; copper, 125; coffee, 25; lard, 10; cotton, 9.	1,503	1,485.45	.99	1,974	1,511	463	.76
3	Flour in bags, 1,702; sugar in bags, 412; boring tubes for wells, 1,289; rice, 421; oil in barrels, 266; evaporated milk, 225; vegetable compound, 281; cocoa powder, 123; oleo oil, 40; cotton piece goods, 20.	4,779	3,573.98	.75	4,951	4,084	867	.97
4	Flour, 215; canned fish, 95; soap, 30; dry goods, 25; telephone equipment, 25; automobiles and parts, 15; general, 10.	415	501.93	1.21	736	736	.....	.56
	Total cargo, New York	8,161	6,418.26	.79	8,885	7,448	1,437	.92
Baltimore.								
5	Wheat in bulk, 2,393; corn in bulk, 428.	2,821	283.56	.10	327	.....	.....	8.63
	Malt, 325 flour in bags, 88; ground mica, 1.	414	360.88	.87	490	.....	.....	.84
6	Fresh shelled corn, 1,500; rye, 1,480; wheat, 1,178.	4,158	403.55	.10	380	.....	.....	10.94
	Copper, 136; tobacco, 100; flour, 85; oil, 50; rolled oats, 30; evaporated milk, 8; cotton duck, 2; railroad frogs, 2.	413	458.85	1.11	684	.....	.....	.60
7	Copper, 921; lubricating oil, 61; ochre, 24.	1,006	469.80	.47	720	.....	.....	1.40
8	Flour, 2,916; steel skelp, 596; starch, 81; canned goods, 61; pipe-iron, 32; lumber, 27 (15,175 feet of oak); rolled oats, 25; oyster shells, 20; hog hair, 15; oil, 19; syrup, 16; clover seed, 6; fruit pudding, 1.	3,815	3,656.50	.96	4,413	2,479	1,934	.86
9	Flour, 1,256; corn cones, 62; lumber, 29; flooring, 17; oyster shells, 10; hair, 10; brooms, 3; roofing paper, 2; cultivators and parts, 1; books, etc., 1.	1,391	1,330.05	.96	1,540	741	799	.90
	Total cargo, Baltimore	14,018	6,963.19	.50	8,554	.....	.....	1.64
	Total, not including grain	*7,089*	*6,276.08*	*.89*	7,847	.....	.....	*.90*
New Orleans.								
10	Wheat, 3,000; corn, 1,071; flour, 1,054; lumber, 474; plant products, 100; acetate of lime, 67; paraffin wax, 25; cotton, 23; tobacco, 23.	5,837 *1712*	2,086.50	.36	.....	.....	.....	.....
			.....	.....	[1] *321*	[1] *321*	.....	[1] *2.22*
11	Pitch pine lumber, 799; agricultural machinery, 551; coil wire, 232; rosin, 125; barbed wire, 108; sisal, 40; turpentine in cases, 29; plate glass, 25; ash lumber, 20; burnside supplies, 3.	1,932	2,422.21	1.25	3,726	3,726	.....	.52
12	Staves, 1,345; tobacco, 176; gum lumber, 114; pine lumber, 66; wax, 50.	1,751	1,716.37	.98	2,437	2,437	.....	.72

[1] Not including grain and flour.

AVERAGE COST PER TON AND AVERAGE TONS PER MAN-HOUR OF LONGSHORE LABOR IN CERTAIN EMERGENCY FLEET CORPORATION VESSELS IN VARIOUS PORTS OF THE UNITED STATES, 1922—Continued.

LOADING—Continued.

Port and vessel No.	Character and tons of cargo loaded.	Total tons handled.	Cost of labor.		Man-hours.	Straight time.	Over time.	Tons per man-hour.
			Total.	Per ton.				
New Orleans—Concluded.								
13	Flour, 2,045; lumber, 466; timber, 263; sewing machines' veneer, 233; rosin, 121; paraffin wax in barrels, 98; staves, 58; bags cottonseed meal, 49; bitumen in barrels, 22; rice screenings, 10; pockets rice 8; canned goods, 3; golf clubs, 2.	3,378	$2,940.57	$0.87	4,332	.....	.....	0.78
	Total cargo, New Orleans...	12,898	9,165.65	.71	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Total, not including grain and flour in steamship No. 10.	*7,773*	.....	.....	*10,816*	.....	.....	*.72*
Seattle.								
14	Flour, 361; canned goods, M261..	[2] 622	334.16	.54	316	316	.....	1.97
15	Wheat and flour, 4,032; ammonia, 130; cattle hoofs, 28; fresh vegetables, 25; fresh meats and fish, 25; powdered milk, 15; miscellaneous general 165; copper, 336; steel, 55; sulphur, ammonia, etc. 39; lumber, M931; tobacco, cigarettes and leather, M527; paper, M217; canned goods, M157; sulphate ammonia, etc., M125; railroad material, M111; automobiles and glue, M73; heavy lifts, M6; wire, M2.	[2] 6,999	2,973.69	.42	3,476.3	3,156.5	319.8	2.01
16	Wheat and flour 3,865.7; tin plates 46; tobacco and cigatettes, M770; canned salmon, M389; canned goods, M347; paper, M189; lumber, M874; canned meats, M107; steel, M56; leather, M5; old paper, M63; canned milk, M50; vegetables, M38; thread, M21; general, M19; butter, M10; candy, M10.	[2] 6,859.7	4,671.77	.68	4,716	2,942	1,774	1.45
17	Flour, 203; lumber, 146; dynamite, 35; general, 24; box shooks, M47; canned goods, M35.	[2] 490	326.75	.67	292	261	31	1.68
	Total cargo, Seattle.....	[2] 14,970.7	8,306.37	.55	8,800.3	6,675.5	2,124.8	1.70
Norfolk.								
18	Tobacco, leaf, in hogsheads, 236; oat feed in bags, 126; vegetable shortening in barrels, 67; pencil slate, 50; tobacco stems in hogsheads, 27.	506	445.59	.88	559	559	.....	.91
19	Tobacco in hogsheads, 52; oak squares, 33; fullers earth in bags, 23; cotton waste in bales, 18; ground mica in bags, 5.	131	131.30	1.00	153	153	.....	.86
20	Corn starch in bags, 648; lumber, 92; pig iron in barrels, 42; plug tobacco in cases, 24.	806	606.30	.75	868	868	.....	.93
21	Tobacco in hogsheads, 523; flour bags, 187; lumber, 138.	848	655.91	.77	849	744	105	1.00
	Total cargo, Norfolk.....	2,291	1,839.10	.80	2,429	2,324	105	.94
Boston.								
22	Lumber, 502; general, 24; canned goods, 4.	530	417.96	.79	610.5	553.5	57	.87

[2] Tonnage for Seattle reported in short tons (2,000 pounds).

AVERAGE COST PER TON AND AVERAGE TONS PER MAN-HOUR OF LONGSHORE LABOR IN CERTAIN EMERGENCY FLEET CORPORATION VESSELS IN VARIOUS PORTS OF THE UNITED STATES, 1922—Continued.

LOADING—Concluded.

Port and vessel No.	Character and tons of cargo loaded.	Total tons handled.	Cost of labor.		Man-hours.	Straight time.	Over time.	Tons per man-hour.
			Total.	Per ton.				
Boston—Concluded.								
23	Miscellaneous general, 346; drugs, 80; chains, 50; infants' food, 45; machinery, 42; paper products, 30; powder, 25; clothes pins, 16; quilts, 15; paint, 15.	664	$1,346.05	$2.03	1,460	880	580	0.45
24	Lumber, 410; paper, 138; general cargo, 30; automobiles, 2.	580	678.45	1.17	965.5	827.5	138	.60
25	Cotton waste, 163; general cargo, 14.	177	220.69	1.25	242	.....	242	.73
	Total cargo, Boston	1,951	2,663.15	1.37	3,278	2,261	1,017	.60
	Grand total	[3]2,685.7	35,355.72	.67	42,762.3	.....	.....	1.23

[3] Seattle tonnage reduced to long tons (2,240 pounds) in grand total.

AVERAGE COST PER TON AND AVERAGE TONS PER MAN-HOUR OF LONGSHORE LABOR IN CERTAIN EMERGENCY FLEET CORPORATION VESSELS IN VARIOUS PORTS OF THE UNITED STATES, 1923.

UNLOADING.

[M=Measurement tonnage.]

Port and vessel No.	Character and tons of cargo unloaded.	Total tons handled.	Cost of labor.		Total man-hours.	Straight time.	Over-time.	Tons per man-hour.
			Total.	Per ton.				
Boston.								
1	Pig iron, 495; cotton waste, 406; machinery, 75; paper, 75; wool, 41; rags, 38; leather, 27; creosote, oil, 15; mohair, 5; steel, 25; paper stock, 21.	1,223	$1,085.00	$0.89	1,550	.....	.....	0.79
2	Cotton waste, 55; pipe, 49; wool, 41; paper, 23; general, 3.	171	154.00	.90	220	.....	.....	.78
3	Cotton waste, 360; rags, 216; paper 83; manganese, 50; leather, 52; wool, 45; machinery, 31; mohair, 1; paper stock, 20; general, 34.	892	816.20	.92	1,166	.....	.....	.77
4	Cotton waste, 302; paper, 31; wool, 26; leather, 14; soda oil, 9; wood oil, 5.	387	350.70	.91	501	.....	.....	.77
	Total cargo, Boston	2,673	2,405.90	.90	3,437	.....	.....	.78
New York.								
5	Corkwood, 1,700; wool, 250; sardines, 50; nuts, 13.	2,013	2,714.60	1.35	3,878	.....	.....	.52
6	Rice, 1,215; wood oil, 1,414; camphor oil, 31; nuts, 26; white peas, M500; tea, M285; oxide antimony, M119; cowhides, M58; cotton yarn waste, M46; bristles, M25; human hair, M25.	3,744	3,338.30	.89	4,544	4,094	450	.82
7	Nut oil, 288; mustard seed, 225; sheep's wool, M25; general, M74.	612	420.70	.69	588	562	26	1.04
8	Light case goods, 1,515; epsom salts, 500; rags, 211; burlap, 150; potash, 100; light case goods, M472.	2,948	3,535.70	1.20	4,411	3,131	1,280	.67

AVERAGE COST PER TON AND AVERAGE TONS PER MAN-HOUR OF LONGSHORE LABOR IN CERTAIN EMERGENCY FLEET CORPORATION VESSELS IN VARIOUS PORTS OF THE UNITED STATES, 1923—Continued.

UNLOADING—Continued.

Port and vessel No.	Character and tons of cargo unloaded.	Total tons handled.	Cost of labor.		Total man-hours.	Straight time.	Over-time.	Tons per man-hour.
			Total.	Per ton.				
New York—Concluded.								
9	Myrobalans, 1,408; chrome ore, 1,345; castor seed, 966; Hessian cloth, 681; cotton waste, 110; jute, M705; gunnies, M959; dates, M577; goat skins, M364; carpets, M137; gum, M75; shellac, M45; rice, M25; skins, M17.	7,414	$3,978.80	$0.54	5,267	$4,433	$834	1.41
10	Paper, 168; general, 117; rags, 46; hides, 24.	355	344.40	.97	492	.....	.....	.72
11	Canned salmon, 266; zinc, 250; miscellaneous general, 200; hides, 100; peas, 71.77; garage doors, 56; lumber, 287.98; canned goods, 180.84; dried fruits, M100; hemp, M55.97.	1,568.56	3,563.77	2.27	3,598	.....	.....	.44
12	Rags, 472; marble, 129; hides, 108.5.	709.5	1,340.88	1.89	1,768	.....	.....	.40
	Total cargo, New York	19,364.06	19,237.15	.99	24,546	.....	.....	.79
Baltimore.								
13	Fertilizer, 882; newsprint paper, 191; bone meal, 136; glass, 97; bagged potash, 56; bagging, 14.	1,376	1,442.70	1.05	2,055	2,043	12	.67
14	Fertilizer, 95.68; earthenware, 35; oakum, 15; general, 15.	160.68	161.00	1.00	230	.....	.....	.70
15	Glassware, 169; chalk, 59; steel beams, 50; clover seed, 30.	308	422.10	1.37	603	.....	.....	.51
16	Window glass, 189; rags, 57; Dutch blue peas, 50; stone, 30; general, 1.	327	278.95	.85	398.5	.....	.....	.82
17	Rags, 150; clay, 63.60; general, 35.5.	249.10	212.80	.85	304	.....	.....	.82
18	Rags, 104.33; earthenware, 118	222.33	166.25	.75	237.5	.....	.....	.94
	Total cargo, Baltimore	2,643.11	2,683.80	1.02	3,828	.....	.....	.69
Norfolk.								
19	Wood pulp, 1,769.9	1,769.9	1,415.65	.80	1,248	.....	.....	1.42
20	Wood pulp, 4,154.94	4,154.94	3,795.91	.91	4,126	.....	.....	1.01
21	Fertilizer salts, 1,218.51; ballast, 176.9; copper ore, 120.	1,515.41	1,145.83	.76	900	.....	.....	1.68
22	Nitrate, 5,743	5,743	3,733.07	.65	5,211	.....	.....	1.10
23	Nitrogenous fertilizer, 264; tobacco in bales, 29; dried blood, 22.5; linoleum, 3; household goods, 0.5.	319	271.25	.85	335	.....	.....	.95
	Total cargo, Norfolk	13,502.25	10,361.71	.77	11,820	.....	.....	1.14
New Orleans.								
24	Coffee, 4,169	4,169	2,889.90	.69	4,446	.....	.....	.94
25	Wood pulp, 510; bagging, 223; paper, 191; general, 59; oil, 31; tobacco, 29.	1,043	1,213.18	1.16	1,156	.....	1,156	.90
26	Old bagging, 72; locust beans, 51; waste samples, 36; surats, 15; earthenware, 12; cotton waste, 6.	192	130.98	.68	201.5	.....	.....	.95
27	Spiegel ore, 400; ferro manganese ore, 200; paper stock, 133; jute bagging, 92; jute waste, 72; earthenware, 36; cotton waste, 51; jute bags, 16.	1,000	673.73	.67	1,036.5	.....	.....	.96
28	Rags in bales, 133; jute cloth, 7; general, 4.	144	84.50	.59	130	.....	.....	1.11

AVERAGE COST PER TON AND AVERAGE TONS PER MAN-HOUR OF LONGSHORE LABOR IN CERTAIN EMERGENCY FLEET CORPORATION VESSELS IN VARIOUS PORTS OF THE UNITED STATES, 1923—Concluded.

UNLOADING—Concluded.

Port and vessel No.	Character and tons of cargo unloaded.	Total tons handled.	Cost of labor.		Total man-hours.	Straight time.	Over-time.	Tons per man-hour.
			Total.	Per ton.				
New Orleans—Concluded.								
29	Spiegeleisen, 335; spiegel ore, 150; old bagging, 53; emery files, 20; cotton waste O. T., 301; cotton waste D. T., 20.5; canvass and earthenware, 22.5.	902	$553.01	$0.61	837	.....	.....	1.08
30	Tin plates, 349	349	148.80	.43	224	.....	.....	1.56
31	Spiegel ore, 902; cotton waste, 301; palm oil, earthenware, etc., 95.	1,298	733.10	.56	1,118	1,102	16	1.16
32	Old gunnies, 235; mineral water, 3.	238	151.95	.64	227	216	11	1.04
33	Coffee, 5,201	5,201	3,706.50	.71	5,642	5,544	98	.92
34	Coffee, 2,830	2,830	1,454.45	.51	2,205	2,152	53	1.28
	Total cargo, New Orleans	17,366	11,740.10	.68	17,223	.....	.....	1.01
Galveston.								
35	Paper, 82; beet seed, 70; toys, 19; general, 5.	176	181.68	1.03	279.5	.....	.....	.63
36	Beet seed, 250.25	250.25	180.68	.72	278.25	.....	.....	.90
37	Paper, 81; beet seed, 76; toys, 21; crockery, 12; canned fish, 8.	198	175.82	.89	270.5	.....	.....	.73
38	Steel rods, 10	10	19.50	1.95	30	.....	.....	.33
39	Rails, 125; railroad material, 65; iron ware, 50; fish plates, 50; beet seed, 40; paintings, 35; garden seed, 25; stove ware, 25; toys and crockery, 20; merchandise, 11; cotton rags, 10; books, 10; chemicals, 5; porcelain, 5.	476	339.30	.71	522	.....	.....	.91
40	Sugar beet seed, 420; paper, 182; miscellaneous, 29.	631	518.40	.82	768	720	48	.82
	Total cargo, Galveston	1,741.25	1,415.38	.81	2,148.25	.....	.....	.81
Seattle.								
41	Hemp, 485.9; beans, 407.5; silk and silk goods, 208.3; lumber, 190.3; millet seed, 263.7; general, 140.4; cigars, 110.5; cotton waste, 100.3; rice, 84.3; camphor, 57.7; linseed cake, 55.7; matting, 28.8; sugar, 65; bamboo poles, 37.8; feathers, 20.2; arsenic, 20; intestines, 17.7; hemp braid, 15.8.	[1]2,309.9	3,483.17	1.51	2,915	1,360	1,555	.79
42	Silk and silk goods, 493.1; general, 332.8; cotton waste, 178.5; gunnies, 166.2; matting, 117.2; hemp, 70; cotton goods, 62.5; dried peas, 57; bamboo poles, 56.3; frozen eggs, 37.5; cigars, 35; sausage casings, 31; rice, 20.5; wool in bales, 19.9; camphor, 16; desiccated cocoanut, 14.9; frozen pheasants, 13.4.	[1]1,721.8	3,927.78	2.28	3,554	1,235	2,319	.48
43	Hemp, 262.6; silk and silk goods, 206.6; gunnies, 192; general, 160.7; matting, 90.9; cigars, 60.1; feathers, 59.7; bamboo poles, 53; pyrethrum flowers, 43.7; peanuts, 28.3; teakwood, 21.3; rice fiber, 26; cotton waste, 106.4; cotton goods, 15.5.	[1]1,326.8	3,826.59	2.88	3,158	9	3,149	.42
44	Copra cake, 1,205.1; hemp, 1,043.5; general, 7.4.	[1]2,256	1,008.58	.45	1,044	675	369	2.16
	Total cargo, Seattle	[1]7,614.5	12,246.12	1.61	10,671	3,279	7,392	.71
	Grand total	[2]64,088.37	60,090.16	.94	73,673.25	.....	.....	.87

[1] Tonnage for Seattle reported in short tons (2,000 pounds).
[2] Seattle tonnage converted to long tons (2,240 pounds) in grand total.

Increased Production Through Improved Management.

AN ARTICLE entitled "What we did to double production," by Owen Earhart, published in the April, 1923, number of Management Engineering, shows in a striking manner the results obtained through plant reorganization and the adoption of improved records and methods of handling material. The article of which the following is a digest has been supplemented by information furnished by the management of the company and the industrial engineer in charge of the reorganization.

In the summer of 1922 the machinery and equipment of a company manufacturing tin cans was consolidated with a plant engaged in the manufacture of fiber containers made with metal tops and bottoms. Bringing together the personnel and the equipment of these two companies resulted naturally in a certain amount of disruption and disorganization of the work of the latter company, and, with an unprecedented increase in orders in October, it became necessary to secure the full use of the combined capacity of the plant. The services of an industrial engineer were secured and the system adopted for the control of operations is said to have resulted in an almost immediate conversion of the working force and the plant into a smooth-running organization with a decided increase in daily production.

Following the appointment of a production manager responsibility was centralized by having all persons not directly employed in the shops take up with him all matters regarding the expediting of orders. The reorganization was started in the assembly department in which the machinery which forms the bodies of the fiber containers and fastens on the tops and bottoms was regrouped into "lines." A marker of heavy tinplate on which was painted a letter designating the department, and a number denoting the machine group or "line" was suspended directly over each group of machines. Stations for supplies of materials were then marked off in convenient locations so that a container of parts required for each group of machinery could be located without loss of time and any depletion in reserve stock could be readily seen.

The limitations of each group of equipment both in regard to the sizes which could be made and the standard rates of production were then determined and recorded. With the possibilities of each line fixed it was possible to plan the work properly and a daily comparison could be made between actual and standard production.

A Gantt-type idle machine record chart was installed which showed the idle time for each machine group for each hour in the day. The chart is divided into hourly periods and these into quarter hours. A heavy black line ruled through spaces representing the working hours shows the time during which each unit of equipment is in operation. If the line is broken or omitted, a letter indicating the cause of idleness is entered in the space. At the foot of the page is an explanation of each symbol. A daily record of this kind is kept of each department, making it possible to reduce future idleness by getting at the actual cause of each idle condition.

Another Gantt-type chart is used for the shop schedule which is considered to be perhaps the most important form used in the instal-

lation of production control. This chart has vertical lines ruled to indicate the working hours of a two-week period, and horizontal spaces for the different machine units. The dates are entered at the top of the page and the machine units at the left-hand margin. The jobs or orders are then scheduled according to the time which has been fixed as the standard operating time and a heavy black line is ruled through the spaces representing time. The order number is typed above the ruled line and a short vertical bar shows where one order ends and the next order commences. The sequence followed in laying out the orders is that in which production is desired.

The actual performance is shown by a heavy line ruled above the line showing the standard production and is entered daily. A short vertical bar also shows the time at which the order was completed and comparison between the estimated time and the actual time of performance is readily made.

Another important chart is the monthly load chart which shows graphically a comparison of orders on hand with the shop capacity. The orders on hand are plotted for a period of six months against the capacity of the equipment. "This graph is of particular value in coordinating the efforts of the sales department with the work of the manufacturing departments, the objective being to secure orders in such a manner that they may be spread evenly over all the equipment and not overload one line of equipment while another line is idle."

An analysis is also made of production orders by grouping all the orders for a particular size of can on an assembly sheet so that many sales orders may be converted into a few large production orders. Through this grouping the press department has the advantage of larger quantities and longer runs which results in a reduction of the number of changes in die and machine settings.

Other improvements included the provision of special trucks for moving materials of a size and height fitting the requirements in each case. An analysis of parts to be carried in stock in the stores department was made, showing how many of each size and style should be carried, as well as the minimum stock quantities and the standard manufacturing lots.

There was no tedious and lengthy interval of time before practical results were in evidence, as improvement was shown early in the installation of these methods. In regard to the use of the system of charts it is said that—

> * * * Improvements were obtained in large measure by the use of these few simple and easily readable forms, which were adapted from similar ones used by the late H. L. Gantt. During the period of increasing production, everyone entered into the spirit of the game, and the daily production reports were watched with much interest.
>
> Coincident with the installation of these methods, a concise manual of duties was prepared, outlining the responsibilities of each department head, and including much valuable data which had heretofore not been classified or recorded at all, many of the items being only in the personal knowledge of individual foremen. Accompanying the statement of the duties of each department head is an analysis of the standard equipment of his department, the standard organization or crew to man the equipment, and the standard production to be expected as well as parts lists, die lists, operation analyses, and the like.
>
> Contingent recommendations were prepared regarding future additional equipment and machine parts, and gauges for the use of inspectors and machine setters.

The following table shows the production and manufacturing costs of one week prior to and one week after the reorganization:

PRODUCTION AND COSTS IN A FACTORY MANUFACTURING FIBER CONTAINERS FOR THE WEEKS ENDING NOVEMBER 4, 1922, AND NOVEMBER 25, 1922.

Item.	Week ending—	
	Nov. 4, 1922.	Nov. 25, 1922.
Total production of fiber containers for week	248,000	470,353
Largest single day's production	50,902	97,540
Number of employees (clock hours divided by 50)	216.5	262.4
Containers produced per employee	1,145.5	1,792.5
Total labor cost for week	$4,405.87	$5,376.58
Labor cost per employee	$20.35	$20.49
Labor cost per 100,000 containers	$1,776.50	$1,143.09

Although the gross production for these two weeks was in the ratio of almost 2 in the second to 1 in the first week, when the factor of number of employees is considered the increase in per capita production is found not to be so great. During the first week there were 1,145.5 containers produced per employee and during the second week 1,792.5, or an increase of 56.5 per cent. This increase in production per unit of the labor force is, however, a notable one. Prior to the reorganization of the plant all direct labor had been on a piecework basis, although the piecework rates were supported by an hourly base rate upon which many if not most of the workers depended. With the introduction of improved methods, however, the workers were put on straight piecework rates.

The items which had a bearing in bringing about the increase in production may be summarized as follows:

1. The employment of a consulting engineer. It is becoming increasingly evident that such specialists in business organizations are a necessity for plants not large enough to require continuous service.

2. The physical reorganization of the plant. Machines were so placed as to form definite working groups or "lines." Provision was made for convenient storage of material for the supply of these lines and provision was made for ready inspection so that a constant supply could be maintained.

3. A system of shop records and charts was adopted, such as an idle machine record, a shop schedule, a monthly load chart. By means of this system the management had at hand for ready reference a complete picture of the activities of the plant and was able to detect promptly weak places in the scheme and supply the needed remedy.

4. The creation of the position of production manager. In this official were centered various responsibilities for production which had before been scattered. This particularly enabled the foreman to concentrate upon the immediate problems of production under his charge.

5. An extension of the "piecework" plan of payment.

There can be no question that the same sort of reorganization can be applied in many other industrial establishments with similar results in increased output.

WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN INDUSTRY.

Annual Report of the United States Women's Bureau.

THE fifth annual report of the United States Women's Bureau, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1923, reviews the work of the bureau for that period and outlines the work contemplated for the year just beginning. The Women's Industrial Conference,[1] which was called by the bureau for a three-day session in Washington early in January, is regarded as the outstanding activity of the year covered in the report. It was largely attended, and was very successful in developing an understanding and common purpose among various groups which had previously been working singly. The sentiment of the meeting crystallized in a resolution urging a program which should provide "real opportunity for women workers through schooling, a free choice of occupation, training for that occupation, adequate wages without prejudice because of sex, and safe working conditions."

From the legislative point of view, the most important feature of the year was the decision of the Supreme Court pronouncing unconstitutional the minimum wage law for women in the District of Columbia. Although this decision throws doubt on the validity of minimum wage legislation throughout the Union, the States having such laws "seem to be unanimous in their intention to continue to enforce their respective laws as in the past." Some States have gone further and declared their willingness to support constitutional changes which would permit minimum wage laws for women. A number of national organizations have called conferences to consider what action could be taken effectively, and in some States the employers themselves have declared in favor of supporting minimum wage awards, whether or not the law under which such awards were made is sustained.

Very little legislation concerning women in industry was passed, although the legislatures of 42 States were in session during the year. South Dakota limited working hours for women, except telegraph and telephone operators, to 10 a day and 54 a week. Wisconsin reduced legal hours for women from 10 to 9 a day, while Minnesota extended the 9-hour day to 9½ hours. In New Jersey a law was passed prohibiting night work for women, to become effective in December, 1924.

A number of interesting studies in prospect or under way are outlined. One of special importance is "a study of the employment records of certain States where adequate statistics are compiled, with a view to determining whether or not the unemployment problem among women presents any unusual aspects which should make it a subject to be considered separately from that of men."

[1] A summary of the proceedings of this conference was published in the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW for February, 1923 (pp. 50–57).

Work Permits for Children in Iowa, Two Years Ending June 30, 1922.[1]

AN analysis of children's work permits issued during the biennium ending June 30, 1922, published by the Iowa Bureau of Labor Statistics, gives a summary of the Iowa child-labor law, with data as to the work permits issued, and the age, weight, height, and school grade of the children to whom they were granted. Permits to the number of 3,825 were given out in the biennium 1920–1922, which was a decrease of 48.8 per cent from the number issued in the preceding biennium, and was 22.1 per cent lower than the number for 1916–1918.

Attention is called to the age of the children receiving permits. The Iowa law allows children to begin work at 14, but a permit is necessary for all under 16. During the period 1920–1922, the age grouping of the children to whom permits were issued was as follows:

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
14 and under 15 years	1,006	584	1,590
15 and under 16 years	1,254	981	2,235
Total	2,260	1,565	3,825

Up to the biennium under consideration, the number of permits for boys aged 14 has always been larger than for those aged 15, but the above figures show a decided preponderance in the 15-year-old group. For girls, there has usually been a slight excess in the 15-year-old group, but in this period the excess is marked. This change is ascribed partly to the operation of the Federal child-labor law.

These figures for both boys and girls plainly indicate the trend of employment of children to be lessening, and this especially with relation to those of the earlier permissible age. While part of this trend may be due to lesser demand for labor during the last biennium, there is no doubt the greater part is due to the Federal act, which has since been declared unconstitutional, but was in effect long enough to convince employers that they could get along with less child labor, and the experience has also convinced them that the younger children were not profitable, bringing about a changed sentiment and viewpoint with relation to all child employment.

Retardation was found to be considerably more common among the children taking out work permits than in the school population as a whole. Among the children going to work, 77.41 per cent were retarded, while in the schools as a whole the percentage of retardation was 49.22 per cent.

Minors in Automobile and Metal Manufacturing Industries in Michigan.

IN THE spring of 1920 the United States Children's Bureau made a study of minors in automobile and metal manufacturing industries in Michigan, the results of which are shown in publication No. 126 of that bureau. The survey covered about 20 establishments in different cities of Michigan, in which workers under 21 formed 11

[1] Iowa. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Child labor. Analysis of work permits issued during biennium ending June 30, 1922. Des Moines [1922]. 43 pp. Bulletin No. 9.

per cent of all employees. Of the 2,840 minors studied, only 25, or 0.9 per cent, were under 16, and only 11.9 per cent were under 18. Girls were relatively few, forming less than 11 per cent of the group studied, and the industry held smaller promise for them than for boys. "Wages were lower for girls than for boys, even in the same occupations, and opportunities for promotion were fewer." For boys wages were good and in most occupations there were opportunities for advancement. Technical training, apart from that obtained in the factory, is desirable for those who wish to succeed, but in many cases is not essential. Technical or trade training of some kind, however, was available for those who wished it in the public schools of the cities visited. Apprenticeship as a means of training skilled workers was not common and for the most part the young workers were apparently assigned to jobs without much consideration of their future possibilities. "Most of the occupations in which minors were working were relatively unskilled jobs for which a few weeks' experience in the factory afforded all the training actually needed."

Appendixes contain a descriptive analysis of common occupations of minors in metal manufacturing establishments, and a brief bibliography of publications dealing with subjects treated in the report.

Child Labor in North Dakota.

A STUDY of child labor in North Dakota has just been issued as bureau publication No. 129 of the United States Children's Bureau.

A considerable portion of this report is devoted to the work of children on farms. Of 1,992 children between the ages of 6 and 17 who were interviewed by the investigators, 845, or 42.4 per cent, had done farm work during the preceding year. About 69 per cent of these were boys. The work done ranged from chores and herding cattle to all forms of field work, even young boys and girls reporting that they had been employed at plowing, cultivating, and similar work. One-fifth of the children had worked away from home, most of them having been employed to help in harvesting. Of 590 children who reported the duration of their field work, 22 per cent had worked four months or over during the year. This necessarily involved an interference with school attendance. A study of the school records of 3,465 children in the six counties covered by the survey showed that farm or home work was responsible for more lost time than any other cause. "Among children 10 years of age and over, 41 per cent of the boys and 17 per cent of the girls had lost one school month or more. * * * Two-fifths of the 2,541 children who were between the ages of 8 and 17 were retarded one or more years. * * * Boys left school at an earlier age than girls and in greater numbers and were more retarded in their school work, but the percentage of retardation for girls reporting farm work was the same as for boys reporting such work."

A study of work done by children attending the public schools of Fargo, Grand Forks, and Minot was made in the spring of 1922. Of 3,100 children questioned, 1,730 reported that they had worked

for 12 days or more since the close of school in 1921. The boys had been employed most numerously in street trades, while among girls domestic work and the care of children were the principal employments. For the most part the work had been of relatively brief duration, only about one-fourth having been employed as long as 13 weeks. Violations of the child-labor law had been numerous.

Of the 1,396 children under 14 years of age, 117, or 8 per cent, reported their principal employment in occupations specifically prohibited for children under 14. Of the 327 who were 14 or over, 67 were engaged in occupations for which employment certificates were required, but none had a certificate. In fact, up to the time of the survey no employment certificates had been issued in any of the three cities. Contrary to law, also, 15 children under 14 years of age had worked at their principal occupation during school hours.

A number of other violations are listed, including serious cases of night work. Attention is called to the fact that the new child-labor law, passed in 1923, contains more adequate administrative provisions than the law it supersedes, and that under it the number of violations may be expected to diminish.

LABOR AGREEMENTS, AWARDS, AND DECISIONS.

Trade Agreement in the Silk-Ribbon Industry of New York City.[1]

THE operation of the collective agreement which was effective in the New York silk-ribbon industry for more than three years is the subject of Bulletin No. 341, recently issued by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics. The contract was concluded in April, 1920, between a small group of so-called conservative employers and a union which is called one of the most radical. The experiment is the more significant because of this variety in economic opinion and attitude toward industrial relations. The plan was an experiment and so far as is known the only collective experiment providing formal machinery for collective bargaining which has been attempted in the textile industry. The contract terminated a four weeks' strike and affected approximately 500 silk-ribbon weavers and four of the largest ribbon manufacturing shops in Greater New York. It was abrogated in June, 1923, by the union at a time when strikes to force recognition of the union and to establish collective bargaining relations were frequent.

Perhaps the most notable provisions of the agreement were those prohibiting the restriction of output, those providing for the maintenance of peace by the operation of permanent arbitration machinery, and those relative to production. (It was provided that production should be increased and that each wage scale should be accompanied by a scale of production.)

The machinery set up by the agreement included the shop committees, price committees, apprenticeship committees, the trade council, and the impartial chairman. The structure and functioning of this machinery together with the cost of its operation form an essential part of the bulletin. The most important cases settled by arbitration were those relative to wages and the plural-loom system. Significant cases involving the classification of weavers, hiring, discharge, and discipline, division of work, discrimination, and apprenticeship were also disposed of. The decisions of the impartial chairman are reproduced in the appendix of the bulletin.

Such essentials in the process of silk-ribbon weaving are described in the bulletin as are necessary to an appreciation of the weavers' job and of the problems involved in setting the piece rates.

The development, details, and shortcomings of the wage-payment plan, effective under the agreement, are discussed in detail. The plan was a combination of the time and piece rate systems, assuring the worker a fixed minimum income with opportunity to earn more. Neither employers nor weavers were entirely satisfied with the plan, however, the weavers demanding week work and the employers, of course, preferring piecework.

[1] U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Bul. No. 341: Trade agreement in the silk-ribbon industry of New York City, by Margaret Gadsby.

The agreement operated with apparent success, though not without friction, for more than three years. Its abrogation in June, 1923, was unexpected. The discussion of the causes of this action forms perhaps the most significant part of the study. The immediate occasion for its abrogation was a constitutional defect in the agreement, i. e., the failure to make specific arrangements with reference to its possible abrogation. The causes of the dissatisfaction which impelled 24 per cent of the workers to abrogate it were in some part due to circumstances beyond the control of either party, such as the smallness of the group and the fact that the period during which it operated was one of serious business depression for the industry, and, in part, to inadequate leadership. In general, both parties lived up to the agreement, those who favored its abrogation as well as those favoring its continuation.

There were numerous advantageous results of the agreement, including elimination of strikes, increase of production, education in industrial relations, the cooperation of employers and employees for the betterment of the industry, stabilization of wages, and the elimination of waste. One of the most worth while results was the joint working out of an apprenticeship plan which would insure an adequate supply of skilled weavers and at the same time protect the interests of those already in the industry.

Industrial Council in the Electrical Construction Industry.

IN THE August, 1923, number of the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW (pp. 26–43) was given an account of the Industrial Council in the Electrical Construction Industry, its history, purpose, method of adjustment of disputes, and an outline of the 11 decisions made in the course of the two years of its existence.

Its twelfth decision appeared October 13, 1923, and was unanimously agreed to by the members of the council engaged in its preparation.

The council met in Washington, October 9, to consider matters in dispute between electrical workers Local No. 130, and the Louisiana Branch Association of Electragists, International, both of New Orleans. Each side had submitted briefs of its contentions. The employees desired practically a new agreement. The employers, however, wished to confine consideration to the wage scale alone, and this was done.

Extracts from the decision follow:

> It appears that employees desire $1.25 per hour, whereas the employers contend for a continuance of the rate now paid, viz, 90 cents. Both parties to the controversy agree that the average number of days worked per year is 300. The rate of wages paid in 1914 ($4 per day) would yield the worker $1,200 per year. The value of money is taken as 100 cents in 1914, hence the yield in real wages in 1914 would be $1,200. The workers' real wages as distinguished from money wages during the years 1914 to 1923 are as follows:

NOMINAL AND REAL WAGES IN ELECTRICAL CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY, 1914 TO 1923.

Year.	Rate per day.	Yearly income.	Value of dollar.	Corrected yearly income.	Year.	Rate per day.	Yearly income.	Value of dollar.	Corrected yearly income.
1914	$4.00	$1,200.00	100.0	$1,200.00	1919	$6.40	$1,920.00	58.1	$1,115.52
1915	4.00	1,200.00	99.5	1,194.00	1920	8.00	2,400.00	48.9	1,173.60
1916	4.00	1,200.00	92.0	1,104.00	1921	7.20	2,260.00	61.3	1,385.38
1917	4.52	1,360.00	76.2	843.20	1922	7.20	2,160.00	64.6	1,395.36
1918	5.60	1,680.00	65.7	1,103.76	1923 [1]	7.20	1,080.00	63.8	689.04

[1] 6 months.

It will be noted that the sum total of real wages received from January 1, 1914, to June 30, 1923, nine and one-half years, is $11,203.86 per man working 300 days in the year at the various rates of wages received. The average per year is therefore $1,179, or $21 per annum less than the 1914 rate. This means that each worker has lost in purchasing power of wages during the past nine and one-half year period $199.50. It is only fair in reckoning the new wage to take this fact into account. Under the terms of the decision, the rate of wages as established herein runs from November 1 to May 31, or 175 days. If the wage is to be equalized to the 1914 rate, then there must be added to the present rate of $7.20 per day an amount which running for 175 days will equal $199.50. That amount is $199.50 divided by 175, or $1.14. $7.20 plus $1.14 equals $8.34, or $1.04¼ per hour.

For simplicity in computation, and to equalize the rate with steam fitters and plumbers, the council decides that beginning with November 1, 8 a. m., the wages of journeymen electricians shall be $1.05 per hour and shall continue at that rate throughout the life of the present agreement.

The council also decides that the rate of pay for foremen, beginning November 1, 8 a. m., shall be $1.35 per hour and shall continue at that rate throughout the life of the agreement.

It is the decision of the council that the existing agreement expires May 31, 1924.

The council, however, takes the liberty of recommending to the parties in dispute a form of agreement hereto attached, which runs indefinitely, but which adequately provides for the settlement of all disputes which may arise between the parties, whether the disputes concern wages or conditions or anything else. This agreement consists of two parts, the first of which is attached;[1] the second part should include the substance of the agreement between the parties to this dispute which forms a part of the briefs submitted and upon which both briefs are based, but cast in the form and under the caption of "working rules."

The council is the more convinced that this form of agreement is reasonable, just, and fitting and serves the public interest, because the industry can not exist unless both of the component parts, the employer and employee, function normally. This being so, continuous cooperation is merely an application of common sense, and the more nearly our industry realizes continuous cooperation the more clearly it will exhibit common sense.

The council further recommends that overtime work be discouraged to the utmost possible extent, because work performed under such circumstances is uneconomic, it tends to destroy the individual workman's efficiency and it provides opportunities for foremen to exercise undue favoritism, which may easily become a disruptic force in any organization.

[1] An outline of the agreement was given in the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW, August, 1923, p. 43, the principles in full on p. 27.

Fancy Leather Goods Industry—New York City.

A DECISION by the chairman of the arbitration committee in the fancy leather goods industry of New York (case No. 95) was made November 28, 1923, relative to the right of an employer to discharge a man for incompetency in performing work other than that for which he was specifically hired. The employee had worked in the fancy leather goods trade for about nine years and as a cutter for this particular firm nine months. Extracts from the decision follow:

In this shop four or five cutters are employed and most of the chopping is done by the parer. It has been the custom that when the parer is busy each cutter does his own chopping. Mr. S—— was never required to do any chopping until about three weeks ago when he did some chopping on split shark. About two weeks later he did another job of chopping on split shark. On November 22 he was given his third job on chopping, this time on chamois, a more difficult leather. He worked on this job part of that day and was engaged on it Friday morning when the management discovered that he was having too much wastage and he was given notice of discharge.

It was shown that no complaint had been made about Mr. S——'s work either as a chopper or cutter up until this time. The firm contends that a worker who has so much wastage as this worker had on this chopping job could not be a good cutter, and it was for this reason that the discharge was made.

The union contends that it is not the practice in this market for a cutter to do his own chopping. That it is permitted as a matter of convenience but that a cutter's failure to do good chopping does not mean that he is disqualified as a cutter. It is claimed in this case that if this worker did not do good chopping on chamois, it should be a warning to the firm not to ask him (a cutter) to do chopping again.

There was a dispute as to the number of skins which Mr. S—— had cut. The firm claimed that he must have cut about four dozen, while the worker stated that he cut only a little over two dozen skins. Samples of the waste skins were shown and these seemed to indicate that there had been more wastage in the chopping than was necessary.

The chairman, after the hearing, made a personal investigation which disclosed that chopping and cutting in this market are considered as two separate branches of the work. A cutter may, to save time, do a certain amount of chopping, but the fact that a man could not do good chopping would not condemn him as a cutter.

In consideration of all the evidence, the chairman can not find any reason for this man's peremptory discharge. It is therefore decided that Mr. S—— is to be reinstated in his position as cutter on Friday, November 30, with pay for time lost.

In regard to the excess wastage, it is ruled that the chief clerk ascertain the amount lost by the firm through bad chopping and this amount is to be paid by Mr. S—— to the firm.

Longshoremen—Atlantic and Gulf Ports.

THE Shipping Board has announced agreements effecting changes in scales for longshoremen at Portland, Me., Boston, New York City, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Hampton Roads, New Orleans, and several Texas points. The form and content of these agreements are practically unchanged from the agreements they have superseded, except that the 44-hour week is to be observed during June, July, August, and September. In Texas, however, the 48-hour week, and in Philadelphia, the 9-hour day and 50-hour week continue to prevail. The Philadelphia agreement was not made by the Shipping Board, but is observed by it.

The old and new scales at the various ports are as follows:

OLD AND NEW WAGE RATES FOR LONGSHOREMEN.

Portland, Me.

Kind of cargo handled.	Rate per hour.			
	Old scale (Apr. 1 to Sept. 30, 1923).		New scale (Oct. 1, 1923, to Sept. 30, 1924).	
	Straight time.	Overtime.	Straight time.	Overtime.[1]
General cargo	$0.70	[2] $1.07	$0.80	[2] $1.20
Wet hides	.85	[2] 1.22	.95	[2] 1.35
Bulk cargo and nitrate	.75	[2] 1.12	.85	[2] 1.25
Sulphur in bulk			.90	[2] 1.30
Grain in bulk	.90	[2] 1.37	1.00	[2] 1.50
Refrigerated cargo (20° or lower) [3]	.80	1.17	.90	[2] 1.30
Wrecked or stranded vessels and fire jobs	1.40	[4] 2.14	1.60	[5] 2.40

Boston, Mass.

General cargo	$0.70	[2] $1.07	$0.80	[2] $1.20
Bulk cargo	.75	[2] 1.12	.85	[2] 1.25
Sugar, molasses, and refrigerator cargoes (20° or lower) [6]	.80	1.17	.90	1.30
Grain in bulk	.90	[2] 1.37	1.00	[2] 1.50
Wet hides	.85	1.22	.95	1.35
Coffee	.75	[2] 1.12	.85	[2] 1.25
Wrecked or stranded vessels and fire jobs	1.40	[4] 2.14	1.60	[5] 2.40
Checkers and tallymen [7]	[8] 5.40	[2] 1.07	[8] 6.00	[2] 1.20
Checkers and tallymen on fruiters	[8] 6.40	[2] 1.07	[8] 7.00	[2] 1.20

New York, N. Y.

General cargo	$0.70	[9] $1.07	$0.80	[10] $1.20
Bulk cargo, ballast, and coal	.75	1.12	.85	1.25
Wet hides	.85	1.22	.95	1.35
Kerosene, gasoline, and naphtha, in cases, when loaded by case oil gangs and with a fly	.90	1.37	1.00	1.50
Explosives	1.40	2.14	1.60	2.40
Checkers	[8] 5.40	[9] 1.07	[8] 6.00	[10] 1.20
Cargo repair men	.80	1.37	.90	1.50

Philadelphia, Pa.

General cargo (in city)	$0.70	$1.07	$0.80	$1.20
Grain in bulk	.80	1.12	.90	1.30
Oil, etc. (in city)	.82	1.22	[11] 9.95	1.40
Wet hides	.95	1.42	1.10	1.50
Damaged or salvaged cargo	.95	1.42	1.10	1.50
General cargo (out of town)	[11] 7.50	1.12	[11] 8.90	1.25
Explosives	[11] 10.10	1.42	[11] 11.40	1.50

[1] In the new scale overtime includes Saturday afternoon during June, July, August, and September, in all ports given here save Philadelphia and those in the State of Texas.
[2] For meal hours double time.
[3] Does not include cargo loaded in refrigerator boxes which have normal temperature.
[4] For meal hours $2.80.
[5] For meal hours $3.
[6] Does not include cargo loaded in refrigerator boxes which have temperature of over 20°.
[7] For handling explosives and on fire jobs, double time.
[8] For day of 8 hours.
[9] Including meal hours, 12 noon to 1 p. m.; and 6 to 7 p. m.; $2.14, 12 midnight to 1 p. m., and from 6 to 7 a. m.
[10] Including meal hours 12 noon to 1 p. m., and 6 to 7 p. m.; $2.40, 12 midnight to 1 a. m., and from 6 to 7 a. m.
[11] Per day.

OLD AND NEW WAGE RATES FOR LONGSHOREMEN—Continued.

Baltimore, Md.

Kind of cargo handled.	Rate per hour.			
	Old scale (Apr. 1 to Sept. 30, 1923).		New scale (Oct. 1, 1923, to Sept. 30, 1924).	
	Straight time.	Overtime.	Straight time.	Overtime.
General and bulk cargo: [12]				
Winch men, deck men, and leaders	$0.75	[13] $1.12	$0.85	[14] $1.25
Hold men	.70	[13] 1.07	.80	[14] 1.20
Truckers	.70	[13] 1.07	.80	[14] 1.20
Handling explosives down the bay:				
Winch men, deck men, and leaders	1.40	2.10	1.65	2.45
Hold men	1.30	2.00	1.60	2.40
Truckers	1.30	2.00	1.60	2.40
Grain handlers:				
Foremen	.90	[15] 1.35	1.05	[16] 1.50
Deck men	.85	[15] 1.30	1.00	[16] 1.50
Trimming	.85	[15] 1.30	1.00	[16] 1.50
Carrying bags	.65	[15] 1.30	1.00	[16] 1.50
Fillers and stowers	.85	.....	1.00	.....
Sewers and inholders	[17]	.....	[18]	.....

Hampton Roads, Va., and vicinity.

General cargo	$0.60	[19] $0.90	$0.75	[19] $1.10
Sulphur and steel dust in bulk or bags	.65	[19] .95	.80	[19] 1.15
Wet hides	.75	[19] 1.05	.90	[19] 1.25
Screwing cotton and tobacco aboard ship	.80	[19] 1.10	.95	[19] 1.30
Frozen meats and other cargo under refrigeration	.80	[19] 1.10	.95	[19] 1.30
Explosives in stream	1.20	[19] 1.80	1.50	[19] 2.20

[12] Refrigerator cargo rates, all 20 cents extra.
[13] $1.50 for meal hours, 6 to 7 p. m., 11 p. m. to midnight, 6 to 7 a. m.
[14] $1.80 for the periods mentioned in note 13.
[15] $1.75 for the periods mentioned in note 13.
[16] $3 for the periods mentioned in note 13.
[17] $1 per 100 bushels for grain bagged at spouts; 50 cents per hour extra when grain is dumped into the hold.
[18] $1.10 per 100 bushels for grain bagged at spouts; 70 cents per hour extra when grain is dumped into the hold.
[19] Including day-meal hours; midnight and breakfast hours, double time.

New Orleans, La.

Kind of cargo handled.	Rate per hour.			
	Old scale (Oct. 1, 1922, to Aug. 31, 1923).		New scale (Oct. 23, 1923, to Sept. 30, 1924).	
	Straight time.	Overtime.	Straight time.	Overtime.
General cargo	$0.65	[20] $1.00	$0.80	[21] $1.20

[20] Meal hours and Sunday, $1.25.
[21] Meal hours and Sunday, $1.60.

Grain not sacked, 20 cents per hour extra.
Sundays and holidays, meal hours and overtime, $1.25, 1922; $1.60, 1923.
Certain enumerated commodities, 10 cents per hour extra.

The scales for handling cotton and tobacco are the same as at Texas ports.

OLD AND NEW WAGE RATES FOR LONGSHOREMEN—Concluded.

Galveston, Houston, and other Texas ports.

Kind of cargo handled.	Rate per hour.			
	Old scale (Oct. 1, 1922, to Sept. 30, 1923).		New scale (Oct. 1, 1923, to Sept. 30, 1924).	
	Straight time.	Overtime.	Straight time.	Overtime.
General cargo	$0.65	$1.00	$0.80	$1.20

Grain trimming, spout tending, sacking, sewing, stowing, and shifting grain aboard ship, 20 cents per hour extra.

Loading, shifting, and trimming coal, 5 cents extra.

Many enumerated articles, 10 cents per hour extra.

Sundays and meal hours, double time.

The scales for handling cotton and tobacco remained unchanged in the agreement of September 1, 1923, as follows:

	Per bale.
Stowing cotton by hand	$0.20
When headed through doorways	.25
Cotton stowed on top of other cargo or piled (hand stowed)	.24
Stowing cotton in peaks or rooms	.40
Stowing round bales	.10
Stowing cotton with tools	.40
Stowing round bales in conjunction with screwed cotton	.40
Flat or uncompressed cotton	.26
Undamaged cotton on deck	.26
Stowing cotton on top of tobacco, where there is less than 4 feet on top of tobacco	.40
	Per day.
Loading damaged cotton, unloading cotton, stowing tobacco where no cotton is used, stowing tobacco with tools, per gang	$41.00

Overtime, holidays, and work between 7 and 8 a. m., time and a half; Sundays and meal hours except 7 to 8 a. m., double time.

Cotton piled on barge for delivery direct to ship gangs to be paid a differential of 2 cents per bale extra.

See the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW for other longshoremen's agreements: Portland, February, 1922, pp. 98, 99, and July, 1923, p. 120; New York City, May, 1921, p. 72, January, 1922, pp. 152, 153, and May, 1923, p. 159; Baltimore, May, 1921, p. 72, February, 1922, pp. 97, 98, and May, 1923, p. 160; Boston, May, 1921, p. 72, March, 1922, p. 105, and July, 1923, p. 121; Hampton Roads, May, 1921, p 72, April, 1922, p. 129, and July, 1923, p. 120; and Philadelphia, May, 1923, p. 159.

Meat Cutters—Westchester County, N. Y.

THE meat cutters connected with locals Nos. 489, 631, and 254, of the Amalgamated Meatcutters and Butcher Workmen working in the local butcher shops in Yonkers, Mount Vernon, New Rochelle, and White Plains, N. Y., made a working agreement with their employers November 1, 1923, of which the following excerpts are of interest:

First. Only members in good standing with these locals shall be employed.

Second. Employers shall first request help through the labor bureau of the unions. If competent help can not be furnished from the bureau, it will be optional with the employer to secure help from any other source, but such employee must join our union immediately on going to work.

Third. The working hours for the first five days of the week shall commence at 7 a. m. and cease at 6 p. m. with one (1) hour for dinner. On Saturday the working hours shall commence at 7 a. m. and cease at 9 p. m. with one (1) hour for dinner and one-half (½) hour for supper.

Fourth. No work shall be permitted on the following holidays: Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, Decoration Day, Fourth of July, and Labor Day. Washington's Birthday, Lincoln's Birthday, and Election Day, work to commence at 7 a. m. and cease at 12 o'clock noon.

Thursdays previous to Decoration Day and Fourth of July, working hours 7 a. m. to 9. p m. Saturdays after Decoration Day and Fourth of July, working hours from 6 a. m. to 9 p. m.

Fifth. The days previous to Lincoln's Birthday, Washington's Birthday, and Election Day, work to commence at 7 a. m. and cease at 6 p. m.

Sixth. Days previous to the following holidays: Thanksgiving Day, Tuesday and Wednesday, work to commence at 7 a. m. and cease at 9 p. m. with one (1) hour for dinner and one-half (½) hour for supper.

Seventh. Under no circumstances shall any Sunday work be permitted except the Sunday previous to Christmas.

Eighth. The minimum scale of wages shall be $45 per week. The representative for the locals, the employer, and the man concerned to be a committee to adjudge the qualifications of the man concerned, whether he be an apprentice or an elderly man, as to the salary he should obtain.

Ninth. Extra help for Friday shall receive eight dollars ($8) and ten dollars ($10) for Saturday. Also ten dollars ($10) for a day previous to a holiday.

Tenth. Any member working any hours other than in this agreement shall be paid as per ratio of wages.

Eleventh. All men shall receive one week's vacation with pay or the equivalent; optional in each territory on the Wednesday half-day closing.

Twelfth. Any firm operating a shop or market under the above conditions is recognized as a strict union shop and is entitled to the use of the international market card free of charge where help is employed. The market card should be placed in a conspicuous place in the market. The market card shall at all times remain the property of locals 489, 631, and 254.

Thirteenth. A rental of the shop card is required where no help is employed. The amount of rental for the same shall be six dollars ($6) per year and payable in advance for one year.

Fourteenth. The market card will be removed from any market not complying with this agreement.

Sixteenth. Any difference that may arise between the employer and the employee which can not be settled satisfactorily shall be brought to the attention of the arbitration board for adjustment. Said board to consist of members of the executive boards of the Westchester County locals.

Seventeenth. Any union man may be discharged for reasons, but not for service rendered to his organization, but such employee must be paid off at the time of being discharged with a full week's salary when discharged for services rendered his organization.

Eighteenth. This agreement can not be changed in any way by either the local or their representative before being sanctioned by the Westchester County executive boards.

Railroad Adjustment Board—New Haven System.

A COPY of the agreement of the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad Co., and the Central New England Railway Co., with their employees connected with the Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, Freight Handlers, Express and Station Employees to settle disputes which fail to be adjusted by the division or shop superintendent, master mechanic, division engineer, car-service assistant, or freight-claim agent, was signed June 28, 1923. It is here given in full.

1. That all disputes growing out of personal grievances or out of the interpretation or application of the schedules, agreements, or practices now or hereafter

established on these railroads which can not be adjusted as provided for by section 11 shall be disposed of in the following manner:

2. There shall be created as soon as practicable, a railroad board of adjustment to be known as "station service board of adjustment for the operating department of the New York, New Haven and Hartford System" (hereinafter referred to as "the board"), to consist of six members: Three to be selected by the railroad and three by the organization of employees hereinbefore named.

3. The board shall meet in the city of New Haven, Conn., within 10 days after the selection of its members, and elect a chairman and vice chairman who shall be members of the board; the chairman or vice chairman will preside at meetings of the board and each shall have a vote upon the adoption of all decisions of the board.

The office of the chairman shall be filled, alternately, from the representatives of the management and the representatives of the employees.

While the office of the chairman is being filled by a representative of the management, the office of the vice chairman shall be filled by a representative of the employees; likewise when the office of the chairman is being filled by a representative of the employees, the office of the vice chairman shall be filled by a representative of the management.

4. The board shall meet regularly at stated dates each month and continue in session until all matters before it are considered.

5. Unless otherwise mutually agreed, all meetings of the board shall be held in the city of New Haven, Conn.

6. Should a vacancy occur in the board for any cause, such vacancy shall be immediately filled by the same appointive authority as made the original selection.

7. The board shall render decision on all matters in dispute as provided in sections 1 and 11 hereof, and when properly submitted to the board. All decisions of the board shall be approved by majority vote of the full membership of the board and shall be binding and final on the parties to the dispute.

8. The board shall keep an accurate record of all matters submitted for its consideration and of all decisions made.

9. A copy of each decision of the board shall be furnished to the representative of the railroad and the representative of the employees covered by this agreement.

10. If a dispute has been considered by the board but majority vote, as above provided, can not be obtained, then, upon request of either one of the parties to the dispute, the board shall certify such dispute to the United States Railroad Labor Board for final decision, accompanied by all supporting papers.

11. Disputes arising between these companies and their employees covered by this agreement, will be handled in the usual manner by local committee of the employees up to and including the division or shop superintendent, master mechanic, division engineer, car-service assistant, freight-claim agent, or some one officially designated by them.

If agreement is not reached and appeal is taken in accordance with the laws of the organization, the case will be submitted to the board by the general chairman. The board shall promptly hear and decide the case, giving due notice to the proper officer of the railroad interested and to the general chairman of the organization of the date and time set for the hearing.

On a written petition signed by not less than 100 unorganized employees of the respective classes covered by this agreement, directly interested in the dispute, the board shall hear and decide any dispute covered by this agreement.

12. No matter shall be considered by the board unless referred to it in the manner herein prescribed.

13. In hearings before the board, in matters properly submitted for its consideration, the railroad may be represented by such person or persons as may be designated by it, and the employees may be represented by such person or persons as may be designated by them.

14. The railroad shall pay the compensation of the members of the board appointed by them and the employees shall do likewise for their appointees.

15. In each case an effort should be made to present a concrete statement of facts as to any dispute, but the board is fully authorized to require information in addition to the concrete statement of facts and may call for additional evidence, either oral or written, from either side.

16. No disputes shall be considered by the board except those with respect to matters covered by section 1 of this agreement, and which have arisen out of occurrences subsequent to January 1, 1923, and are now pending or may hereafter arise.

No dispute or interpretation of an existing agreement, rule, or practice which has been agreed to or accepted by the management and duly constituted committee representing the employees, parties thereto, should be considered as a dispute under this agreement.

All disputes arising out of proposed changes in rules, working conditions, or rates of pay are specifically excluded from the jurisdiction of the board.

17. If an employee is discharged, disciplined, or considered incompetent and his grievance is brought before the board and the man is found guilty as charged, the board may limit or modify the discipline if the circumstances seem to warrant. After the board has rendered its decision, it is final and conclusive and employee having such a grievance will have no authority or right to apply to the Labor Board.

In the case of an employee whose personal grievance is before the board for decision and the board finds the employee innocent of the charge, the board may order the reinstatement of the man and remission of any penalty which may have been inflicted by the management.

18. Time limits of appeals from decisions of subordinate officers to the board will be limited to 90 days from date of last decision of subordinate officer, unless the board by a majority vote decide to hear any appeals submitted to it after the time limit as above fixed has expired.

19. On and after the effective date of this agreement rules in existing schedules providing for appeals up to and including certain designated officers of the company are modified to the extent that all such rules will be deemed to have been complied with by the officers and employees when disputes are formally filed with this board.

20. This agreement shall become effective upon its execution and shall remain in full force and effect for a period of one year from the date of organization of the board, and thereafter for successive periods of one year; provided that either party signatory hereto may withdraw at the end of any year upon serving written notice of its intention to withdraw not less than 90 days prior to the expiration of such period, such notices to be given either party signatory hereto; and provided further, that in the event that either party signatory hereto shall serve notice of intention to withdraw at the end of any year the other party hereto shall then have 30 days during which it may serve notice of its intention also to withdraw.

This agreement may be modified only with the consent of the parties signatory hereto.

Street Railways—Cincinnati.

AN ARBITRATION award in the case of a dispute between the Cincinnati Traction Co. and its employees, members of the Street Railway Union, Division 627, was rendered August 11, 1923. The following modifications were made in the old agreement:

WAGE SCALES UNDER OLD AND NEW AGREEMENTS, CINCINNATI STREET RAILWAYS.

Occupation.	Old wage scale (July 1, 1922, to June 30, 1923).	New wage scale (July 1, 1923, to June 30, 1924).	Occupation.	Old wage scale (July 1, 1922, to June 30, 1923).	New wage scale (July 1, 1923, to June 30, 1924).
	Per hour.	*Per hour.*		*Per hour.*	*Per hour.*
Motormen and conductors:			Barn men (except car tenders and watchmen)	.....	[2] $0.05
First three months	$0.43	$0.48	Car tenders	$0.32	.40
Next nine months	.46	.51	Watchmen	.30	.40
Thereafter	.48	.53	Incline gatemen	.35	.45
One-man-car operators	[1] .05	[1] .07	Curve cleaners	.32	.40
Electric shovel operators	.50	.65			

[1] In addition to regular rate.
[2] Increase over old scale.

The following modifications of the old contract were made:

Section 10 was amended to read as follows:

Clerks at car barns will count money and tickets in the presence of conductors and receipt day cards for those who may desire it. Five minutes' pay shall be allowed conductors making turn in and will be considered as part of the regular run. [Last sentence new.]

All employees required to make out accident reports shall be allowed 10 minutes' (6 minutes, old scale) pay according to their rate per hour.

Section 15 was amended to read as follows:

The company shall provide in all schedules not less than three minutes' layover on each trip at the outer terminal of each route for employees to answer the calls of nature, except when this may conflict with orders from court or from competent municipal authority; and proper toilets shall be provided for the protection of employees when reasonable arrangements can be made for the same. [All but the last clause new.]

Section 20 was amended to read as follows:

All substitutes shall be guaranteed a minimum wage of five and one-half hours' pay per day if and when called upon to report for duty [new clause], and in no event shall they be paid less than $90 [old scale $75] per month (to be divided $45 [old scale $37.50] each pay in the month); provided, however, that any man missing shall forfeit one day's proportion of said $90 for the day on which the miss shall occur, and any man absent on account of illness, leave of absence, or under suspension shall lose one day's proportion of said guaranty for each day of such absence or suspension. Men earning more than the guaranteed minimum shall receive in full the amount they earn.

Section 29 was amended to read as follows:

A day man after completing a day's run shall not be compelled to run two or three trip p. m. extras consuming more than 90 minutes to the scheduled round trip. Nor shall any regular run man be compelled to run more than 10 [old scale 15] extras per calendar month except in case of emergency due to an unusual number of men off duty on account of sickness.

The division superintendent shall determine the days of the week that men shall run these extras. Should a day or regular late-run man desire to run extras of more than one trip or more than 10 [old scale 15] extras per month he shall have the right to do so. It is to be understood that these men shall run the same extra on the same days of each week whenever possible.

Trainmen operating any part of a regular scheduled run or any extra run taken out of the barn or relieved on the road shall be paid not less than one hour's time [old scale one-half hour].

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

Employment in Selected Industries in December, 1923.

EMPLOYMENT in the United States decreased 1.5 per cent in December, as shown by the figures presented herewith. These figures are based on reports from 7,408 establishments in 52 manufacturing industries, covering 2,448,370 employees whose total earnings during one week in December were $65,417,065. The same establishments in November reported 2,484,503 employees and total pay rolls of $66,540,656. Therefore, in addition to the decrease in employment, there was a decrease of 1.7 per cent in pay-roll totals and a decrease of 0.2 per cent in average weekly earnings.

An unweighted chain index of employment for the last seven months reads: June, 100; July, 98.2; August, 98; September, 98; October, 97.8; November, 97.3; and December, 95.8.

Comparing total figures from identical establishments for November and December, increases in employment in December are shown in 18 of the 52 industries and increases in total pay rolls in 25 industries.

The automobile-tire industry led in increased employment with 7.2 per cent, followed by the cotton-goods industry with 2.2 per cent. Pottery, dyeing and finishing textiles, millinery and lace goods, agricultural implements, book and job printing, and slaughtering and meat packing all increased in employment between 1 and 2 per cent.

There were two very large decreases in employment—sugar refining, 24.7 per cent, and confectionery, 12.2 per cent. Steam-railroad car building and repairing decreased 5.8 per cent, and chewing and smoking tobacco 5.5 per cent. Brick and tile, flour, fertilizer, and 5 of the 7 iron and steel industries also had considerable losses in employment.

The cotton-goods and automobile-tire industries show over 8 per cent increases in pay-roll totals, while sugar refining shows a decrease of 18.1 per cent, steel shipbuilding a decrease of 10.8 per cent, confectionery a decrease of 8.6 per cent, and steam-railroad car building and repairing a decrease of 7.8 per cent in amount paid in wages.

Considering the industries by groups, small increases in employment are shown in the textile, paper, stamped ware, and miscellaneous industries groups, with decreases in employment of from 1 to over 3 per cent in the remaining 8 groups. The greatest decrease, 3.3 per cent, was in the iron and steel group.

Thirty-four of the 52 industries show increased per capita earnings in December as compared with November.

For convenient reference the latest figures available relating to all employees on Class I railroads, excluding executives and officials, drawn from Interstate Commerce reports, are given at the foot of the first and second tables.

COMPARISON OF EMPLOYMENT IN IDENTICAL ESTABLISHMENTS DURING ONE WEEK IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER, 1923.

Industry.	Establishments.	Number on pay roll.		Per cent of change.	Amount of pay roll.		Per cent of change.
		November, 1923.	December, 1923.		November, 1923.	December, 1923.	
Food and kindred products:							
Slaughtering and meat packing	78	86,796	87,940	+1.3	$2,190,187	$2,212,430	+1.0
Confectionery	105	17,261	15,157	−12.2	324,459	296,537	−8.6
Ice cream	40	2,288	2,256	−1.4	69,870	68,892	−1.4
Flour	280	15,467	14,893	−3.7	404,180	393,409	−2.7
Baking	259	39,218	38,856	−0.9	1,006,493	991,056	−1.5
Sugar refining, not including beet sugar	12	9,642	7,260	−24.7	289,799	237,234	−18.1
Textiles and their products:							
Cotton goods	260	161,129	164,608	+2.2	2,706,322	2,948,535	+8.9
Hosiery and knit goods	227	72,153	71,543	−0.8	1,203,760	1,222,484	+1.6
Silk goods	214	53,445	53,328	−0.2	1,098,552	1,093,491	−0.5
Woolen goods	156	59,844	59,338	−0.8	1,385,254	1,403,027	+1.3
Carpets	20	19,632	19,599	−0.2	546,294	513,129	−6.1
Dyeing and finishing textiles	69	26,098	26,567	+1.8	590,585	623,437	+5.6
Clothing, men's	187	49,891	50,200	+0.6	1,221,441	1,235,788	+1.2
Shirts and collars	89	25,337	25,195	−0.6	373,975	380,789	+1.8
Clothing, women's	137	12,735	12,440	−2.3	320,960	300,864	−6.3
Millinery and lace goods	73	11,374	11,566	+1.7	240,691	253,571	+5.4
Iron and steel and their products:							
Iron and steel	197	243,187	233,704	−3.9	7,302,682	6,945,174	−4.9
Structural ironwork	132	16,749	16,160	−3.5	451,489	438,399	−2.9
Foundry and machine-shop products	576	178,932	172,909	−3.4	5,345,311	5,312,957	−0.6
Hardware	36	27,445	27,515	+0.3	685,883	686,463	+0.1
Machine tools	153	22,239	22,246	(1)	628,933	646,319	+2.8
Steam fittings and steam and hot-water heating apparatus	99	27,703	26,785	−3.3	800,076	798,478	−0.2
Stoves	79	16,602	15,936	−4.0	462,768	460,516	−0.5
Lumber and its remanufactures:							
Lumber, sawmills	402	104,349	101,251	−3.0	2,248,994	2,184,189	−2.9
Lumber, millwork	206	28,866	29,038	+0.6	716,600	721,573	+0.7
Furniture	292	45,619	44,938	−1.5	1,089,862	1,067,391	−2.1
Leather and its finished products:							
Leather	124	26,197	25,517	−2.6	658,979	654,203	−0.7
Boots and shoes, not including rubber	155	78,524	77,497	−1.3	1,673,749	1,738,187	+3.8
Paper and printing:							
Paper and pulp	175	50,026	50,324	+0.6	1,293,453	1,313,149	+1.5
Paper boxes	146	16,219	15,796	−2.6	330,627	331,669	+0.3
Printing, book and job	198	25,844	26,255	+1.6	841,163	865,738	+2.9
Printing, newspapers	196	43,477	43,659	+0.4	1,627,643	1,670,486	+2.6
Chemicals and allied products:							
Chemicals	85	18,176	18,223	+0.3	490,039	487,550	−0.5
Fertilizers	113	8,232	7,946	−3.5	151,869	155,618	+2.5
Petroleum refining	64	44,413	43,395	−2.3	1,447,978	1,437,140	−0.7
Stone, clay, and glass products:							
Cement	73	23,278	22,919	−1.5	679,259	663,463	−2.3
Brick and tile	268	23,607	22,562	−4.4	628,699	591,837	−5.9
Pottery	48	11,729	11,954	+1.9	322,491	328,345	+1.8
Glass	127	33,272	33,079	−0.6	865,294	847,764	−2.0
Metal products, other than iron and steel:							
Stamped and enameled ware	42	13,932	13,968	+0.3	312,193	315,028	+0.9
Tobacco manufactures:							
Tobacco, chewing and smoking	34	4,274	4,039	−5.5	66,955	65,874	−1.6
Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes	153	32,047	31,895	−0.5	603,603	620,791	+2.8
Vehicles for land transportation:							
Automobiles	213	289,215	287,550	−0.6	10,104,386	9,462,666	−6.4
Carriages and wagons	36	2,471	2,492	+0.8	57,048	59,841	+4.9
Car building and repairing, electric-railroad	168	15,634	15,238	−2.5	461,281	450,693	−2.3
Car building and repairing, steam-railroad	291	154,674	145,069	−5.8	4,621,701	4,259,041	−7.8
Miscellaneous industries:							
Agricultural implements	64	18,594	18,893	+1.6	510,503	531,563	+4.1
Electrical machinery, apparatus, and supplies	121	85,344	84,918	−0.5	2,446,232	2,479,185	+1.3
Pianos and organs	26	7,302	7,338	+0.5	223,593	227,356	+1.7
Rubber boots and shoes	10	19,925	19,704	−1.1	510,837	502,990	−1.5
Automobile tires	69	39,666	42,529	+7.2	1,165,359	1,260,754	+8.2
Shipbuilding, steel	31	25,030	24,383	−2.6	740,302	660,002	−10.8
Railroads, Class I.—Oct. 15, 1923		1,920,057			[2] $263,953,990		
Railroads, Class I.—Nov. 15, 1923		1,883,081		−1.9	[2] 242,626,817		−8.1

[1] Increase less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

[2] Amount of pay roll for one month.

Reports are available from 3,579 establishments in 43 industries for a comparison between December, 1922, and December, 1923. These reports, from identical establishments in the two years, show an increase in the 12 months of 3.1 per cent in the number of employees, an increase of 10.6 per cent in total wages, and an increase of 7.3 per cent in average weekly earnings.

There were gains in employment in 20 of the 43 industries and increases in pay-roll totals in 31 industries.

The pottery industry again was far in the lead in increased employment and earnings, although the strike conditions were subsiding in December, 1922. The automobile industry had 23.1 per cent more employees in December, 1923, than in 1922, and paid out 30.1 per cent more in wages. The fertilizer, electrical machinery, piano, baking, chewing tobacco, and sawmill industries also exhibited marked gains in December, 1923, over the corresponding period in 1922.

Three industries—automobile tires, steel shipbuilding, and carriages and wagons—showed considerable loss both in employment and earnings.

Considering the industries by groups, 6 of the 12 groups gained in employment, while 11 gained in pay-roll totals. The largest gain in employment was 15.3 per cent in the vehicles group, entirely due to the automobile industry. The food group gained 5.8 per cent, the stone, clay and glass products group 6.8 per cent, and the lumber group 5.2 per cent. These four groups also had the largest increases in pay-roll totals, ranging from 22.5 per cent in the vehicles group to 14.5 per cent in the food group. The iron and steel group increased 2.9 per cent in employment and 11.7 per cent in wages in the 12-month period, while the textiles group decreased 2.7 per cent in employment and increased 1.1 per cent in wages.

COMPARISON OF EMPLOYMENT IN IDENTICAL ESTABLISHMENTS DURING ONE WEEK IN DECEMBER, 1922, AND DECEMBER, 1923.

Industry.	Establishments.	Number on pay roll.		Per cent of change.	Amount of pay roll.		Per cent of change.
		December, 1922.	December, 1923.		December, 1922.	December, 1923.	
Food and kindred products:							
Slaughtering and meat packing	71	78,597	82,861	+5.4	$1,789,320	$2,069,620	+15.7
Flour	87	7,708	7,328	−4.9	202,470	198,362	− 2.0
Baking	132	24,196	26,694	+10.3	595,404	693,645	+16.5
Textiles and their products:							
Cotton goods	124	100,580	98,618	−2.0	1,755,556	1,832,040	+4.4
Hosiery and knit goods	128	45,867	43,887	−4.3	772,708	798,427	+3.3
Silk goods	102	35,804	34,415	−3.9	703,352	723,599	+2.9
Woolen goods	95	48,652	48,270	−0.8	1,109,448	1,159,960	+4.6
Carpets	19	17,846	18,597	+4.2	488,801	487,574	−0.3
Dyeing and finishing textiles	31	17,654	17,219	−2.5	399,729	409,280	+2.4
Clothing, men's	143	44,333	41,606	−6.2	1,142,273	1,055,055	−7.6
Shirts and collars	70	22,952	21,674	−5.6	339,731	316,965	−6.7
Clothing, women's	85	8,725	8,818	+1.1	230,092	228,084	−0.9
Millinery and lace goods	35	6,176	6,163	−0.2	127,369	136,628	+7.3
Iron and steel and their products:							
Iron and steel	155	190,037	199,336	+4.9	5,306,728	5,895,726	+11.1
Foundry and machine-shop products	200	97,648	97,848	+0.2	2,789,818	3,154,370	+13.1
Hardware	28	19,106	19,535	+2.2	425,502	503,919	+18.4
Stoves	41	9,957	9,191	−7.7	280,575	276,880	−1.3
Lumber and its remanufactures:							
Lumber, sawmills	163	48,155	51,494	+6.9	887,397	1,092,359	+23.1
Lumber, millwork	109	16,046	16,896	+5.3	376,548	429,024	+13.9
Furniture	140	24,723	25,199	+1.9	578,352	614,958	+6.3

COMPARISON OF EMPLOYMENT IN IDENTICAL ESTABLISHMENTS DURING ONE WEEK IN DECEMBER, 1922, AND DECEMBER, 1923—Concluded.

Industry.	Establishments.	Number on pay roll.		Per cent of change.	Amount of pay roll.		Per cent of change.
		December, 1922.	December, 1923.		December, 1922.	December, 1923.	
Leather and its finished products:							
Leather	117	26,689	24,474	−8.3	$626,877	$629,439	+0.4
Boots and shoes, not including rubber	117	68,750	65,438	−4.8	1,594,910	1,493,050	−6.4
Paper and printing:							
Paper and pulp	128	40,898	40,702	−0.5	1,014,776	1,072,945	+5.7
Paper boxes	69	10,856	10,856	(1)	233,841	246,650	+5.5
Printing, book and job	97	16,855	17,763	+5.4	564,601	605,254	+7.2
Printing, newspapers	97	26,557	28,481	+7.2	975,909	1,094,699	+12.2
Chemicals and allied products:							
Chemicals	53	11,103	11,192	+0.8	278,866	303,893	+9.0
Fertilizers	46	2,979	3,399	+14.1	48,228	63,426	+31.5
Petroleum refining	32	37,082	35,580	−4.1	1,181,840	1,188,376	+0.6
Stone, clay, and glass products:							
Brick and tile	152	12,967	13,423	+3.5	308,848	360,980	+16.9
Pottery	27	5,452	8,428	+54.6	116,635	234,945	+101.4
Glass	85	24,692	24,187	−2.0	632,959	648,477	+2.5
Metal products other than iron and steel:							
Stamped and enameled ware	29	9,616	9,493	−1.3	210,096	219,830	+4.6
Tobacco manufactures:							
Tobacco, chewing and smoking	8	1,308	1,403	+7.3	22,902	25,891	+13.1
Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes	98	23,889	22,908	−4.1	441,465	440,278	−0.3
Vehicles for land transportation:							
Automobiles	121	207,413	255,421	+23.1	6,528,327	8,494,782	+30.1
Carriages and wagons	30	2,321	2,031	−12.5	51,727	46,758	−9.6
Car building and repairing, steam-railroad	97	73,356	69,001	−5.9	2,048,322	2,027,975	−1.0
Miscellaneous industries:							
Agricultural implements	48	17,048	16,716	−1.9	441,925	479,301	+8.5
Electrical machinery, apparatus, and supplies	80	51,872	57,658	+11.2	1,347,695	1,703,908	+26.4
Pianos and organs	15	55,445	6,013	+10.4	154,122	189,444	+22.9
Automobile tires	57	39,992	33,906	−15.2	1,129,205	987,652	−12.5
Shipbuilding, steel	18	18,441	15,951	−13.5	495,310	450,784	−9.0
Railroads, Class I.... {Nov. 15, 1922	.....	1,804.493		.....	[2] $242,620,006		.....
{Nov. 15, 1823	.....	1,883,081		+4.4	[2] $242,626,817		(3)

[1] No change. [2] Amount of pay roll for one month. [3] Increase less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

Per capita earnings increased in December as compared with November in 34 of the 51 industries here considered, sugar refining leading with 8.7 per cent, followed by cotton goods, 6.6 per cent, fertilizers, 6.1 per cent, and boots and shoes, 5.2 per cent. The greatest decreases were 8.5 per cent in steel shipbuilding, 5.9 per cent in the carpet industry, 5.8 per cent in the automobile industry, and 4 per cent in the women's clothing industry.

Comparing per capita earnings in December, 1923, with those in December, 1922, increases are shown in 38 of the 43 industries for which data are available. The largest increases in the 1923 period were 30.3 per cent in the pottery industry, 15.9 per cent in hardware, 15.3 per cent in fertilizers, 15.1 per cent in sawmills, 13.7 per cent in electrical machinery, 12.9 per cent in brick and tile, and 12.8 per cent in foundries and machine shops. The decreases, all comparatively small, were in the following industries: Boots and shoes, shirts and collars, men's clothing, women's clothing, and carpets.

COMPARISON OF PER CAPITA EARNINGS: DECEMBER, 1923, WITH NOVEMBER, 1923, AND DECEMBER, 1922.

Industry.	Per cent of change, December, 1923, compared with—	
	Nov., 1923.	Dec., 1922.
Sugar refining, not including beet sugar	+8.7	.....
Cotton goods	+6.6	+6.5
Fertilizers	+6.1	+15.3
Boots and shoes, not including rubber	+5.2	−1.6
Tobacco: Chewing and smoking	+4.1	+5.4
Carriages and wagons	+4.0	+3.3
Confectionery	+4.0	.....
Dyeing and finishing textiles	+3.7	+5.0
Stoves	+3.7	+6.4
Millinery and lace goods	+3.6	+7.5
Tobacco: Cigars and cigarettes	+3.3	+4.0
Steam fittings and steam and hot-water heating apparatus	+3.2	.....
Paper boxes	+3.0	+5.5
Foundry and machine-shop products	+2.9	+12.8
Machine tools	+2.7	.....
Agricultural implements	+2.5	+10.6
Hosiery and knit goods	+2.5	+8.0
Shirts and collars	+2.4	−1.2
Printing, newspapers	+2.2	+4.6
Woolen goods	+2.1	+5.4
Electrical machinery, apparatus, and supplies	+1.9	+13.7
Leather	+1.9	+9.5
Petroleum refining	+1.6	+4.8
Printing, book and job	+1.3	+1.7
Pianos and organs	+1.2	+11.3
Flour	+1.1	+3.0
Automobile tires	+0.9	+3.2
Paper and pulp	+0.9	+6.2
Clothing, men's	+0.6	−1.6
Stamped and enameled ware	+0.6	+6.0
Structural ironwork	+0.6	.....
Car building and repairing, electric-railroad	+0.3	.....
Lumber, millwork	+0.1	+8.2
Lumber, sawmill	+0.1	+15.1
Ice cream	(1)	.....
Pottery	−0.1	+30.3
Hardware	−0.2	+15.9
Silk goods	−0.2	+7.1
Slaughtering and meat packing	−0.3	+9.7
Boots and shoes, rubber	−0.4	.....
Baking	−0.6	+5.6
Furniture	−0.6	+4.3
Cement	−0.8	.....
Chemicals	−0.8	+8.1
Iron and steel	−1.0	+5.9
Brick and tile	−1.5	+12.9
Glass	−1.5	+4.6
Car building and repairing, steam-railroad	−2.1	+5.3
Clothing, women's	−4.0	−1.9
Automobiles	−5.8	+5.7
Carpets	−5.9	−4.3
Shipbuilding, steel	−8.5	+5.2

[1] No change.

A total of 6,207 establishments in the 52 industries reported as to their operating time in December. Of these, 74 per cent were on a full-time schedule, 23 per cent on a part-time schedule, and 2 per cent were idle. This is a decrease of 4 per cent in full-time operation as compared with November and of 7.5 per cent as compared with October.

As in November, more than one-half of the establishments working full time also reported full-capacity operation, 30 per cent reported part-capacity operation, and the remainder failed to report as to capacity operation.

The iron and steel industry shows a further decrease of full-time operation from 58 per cent in November to 57 per cent in December.

Further analyzing the reports of establishments in this industry reporting full time, we find that only 31 per cent of the 57 per cent which so reported in December also reported full capacity, as compared with 39 per cent of 58 per cent in November, and 46 per cent of 68 per cent in October.

FULL AND PART TIME OPERATION IN MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS IN DECEMBER, 1923.

Industry.	Establishments reporting.			
	Total.	Per cent operating full time.	Per cent operating part time.	Per cent idle.
Food and kindred products:				
Slaughtering and meat packing	62	93	6	.....
Confectionery	77	84	14	1
Ice cream	34	74	18	9
Flour	272	42	57	1
Baking	194	89	11	1
Sugar refining, not including beet sugar.	8	38	25	38
Textiles and their products:				
Cotton goods	245	82	18	(1)
Hosiery and knit goods	153	73	26	2
Silk goods	192	62	38	1
Woolen goods	143	73	27	1
Carpets	14	93	7	.....
Dyeing and finishing textiles	66	58	43	.....
Clothing, men's	139	65	30	5
Shirts and collars	56	88	11	2
Clothing, women's	79	66	33	1
Millinery and lace goods	51	71	27	2
Iron and steel and their products:				
Iron and steel	169	57	32	11
Structural ironwork	113	87	13	.....
Foundry and machine-shop products	495	73	26	1
Hardware	35	80	20	.....
Machine tools	139	85	14	1
Steam fittings and steam and hot-water heating apparatus	90	76	24	.....
Stoves	70	66	34	.....
Lumber and its remanufactures:				
Lumber, sawmills	358	78	20	2
Lumber, millwork	167	88	11	1
Furniture	250	81	18	(1)
Leather and its finished products:				
Leather	93	84	13	3
Boots and shoes, not including rubber	132	67	33	.....
Paper and printing:				
Paper and pulp	135	56	41	3
Paper boxes	119	90	10	.....
Paper and printing—Concluded.				
Printing, book and job	172	92	8	.....
Printing, newspapers	150	100	.....	.....
Chemicals and allied products:				
Chemicals	58	88	10	2
Fertilizers	107	42	54	4
Petroleum refining	39	82	18	.....
Stone, clay, and glass products:				
Cement	66	91	8	2
Brick and tile	241	65	22	12
Pottery	44	98	2	.....
Glass	123	71	14	15
Metal products other than iron and steel:				
Stamped and enameled ware	35	86	14	.....
Tobacco manufactures:				
Tobacco: chewing and smoking	32	72	25	3
Tobacco: cigars and cigarettes	113	85	14	1
Vehicles for land transportation:				
Automobiles	177	80	20	1
Carriages and wagons	34	68	32	.....
Car building and repairing, electric-railroad	158	94	6	.....
Car building and repairing, steam-railroad	251	72	28	(1)
Miscellaneous industries:				
Agricultural implements	56	77	20	4
Electrical machinery, apparatus, and supplies	98	93	7	.....
Pianos and organs	22	100	.....	.....
Rubber boots and shoes	5	80	20	.....
Automobile tires	54	55	41	4
Shipbuilding, steel	22	91	5	5

[1] Less than one-half of 1 per cent.

The following table expands the full-time reports of one-half of the industries:

Industry.	Establishments reporting full time—				Industry.	Establishments reporting full time—			
	And full capacity.	And part capacity.	But not capacity.	Total.		And full capacity.	And part capacity.	But not capacity.	Total.
Flour	48	29	38	115	Paper and pulp	54	10	12	76
Cotton goods	144	25	30	199	Paper boxes	60	27	20	107
Hosiery and knit goods	69	29	13	111	Book and job printing	62	55	42	159
Silk goods	49	65	5	119	Fertilizers	14	29	2	45
Woolen goods	60	36	8	104	Cement	41	13	6	60
Men's clothing	44	31	16	91	Brick and tile	111	17	29	157
Women's clothing	17	17	18	52	Pottery	22	10	11	43
Iron and steel	31	51	15	97	Glass	37	30	20	87
Foundry and machine-shop products	137	172	54	363	Cigars and cigarettes	37	32	27	96
Machine tools	26	72	20	118	Automobiles	83	38	20	141
Sawmills	210	26	43	279	Steam-railroad car building and repairing	124	37	19	180
Furniture	104	40	59	203	Agricultural implements	5	21	17	43
Leather	18	47	13	78	Electrical machinery, apparatus, and supplies	32	32	27	91
Boots and shoes	35	27	27	89					

During the preceding 11 months of 1923 wage increases have been reported by a total of 4,373 establishments, ranging from 1,279 in May to 113 in November, and wage decreases have been reported by 65 establishments. But during the month ending December 15 wage-rate increases were reported by only 23 establishments in 11 industries while decreases were reported by 17 establishments in 7 industries.

The increases averaged 15 per cent and affected 2,792 employees, or 25 per cent of the employees in the establishments concerned, while the decreases averaged 8 per cent and affected 3,407 employees, or 57 per cent of the employees in the establishments concerned. The total number of employees affected by either the increases or decreases was only one-quarter of 1 per cent of the total number of employees reported in December by all establishments in the 52 industries.

WAGE ADJUSTMENTS OCCURRING BETWEEN NOVEMBER 15 AND DECEMBER 15, 1923.

Industry.[1]	Establishments.		Amount of increase.		Employees affected.		
	Total number reporting.	Number reporting increases.	Range.	Average.	Total number.	Per cent of employees.	
						In establishments reporting increases.	In all establishments reporting.
Food and kindred products:			*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*			
Slaughtering and meat packing	78	1	6	6.0	229	12.1	0.3
Ice cream	40	(2)					
Textiles and their products:							
Hosiery and knit goods	227	1	10	10.0	264	99.0	.4
Millinery and lace goods	73	1	10	10.0	25	13.2	.2
Iron and steel and their products:							
Iron and steel	197	[3] 4	10–25	18.3	962	17.0	.4
Foundry and machine-shop products	576	[4] 2	10	10.0	83	65.9	(5)
Lumber and its remanufactures:							
Lumber, sawmills	402	(6)					
Lumber, millwork	206	(7)					
Paper and printing:							
Printing, book and job	198	4	5–12	5.5	202	14.0	.8
Printing, newspapers	196	5	5–16	8.6	200	24.3	.5
Chemicals and allied products:							
Fertilizers	113	1	5.5	5.5	20	100.0	.3
Stone, clay, and glass products:							
Brick and tile	268	[8] 1	17	17.0	67	70.0	.3
Tobacco manufactures:							
Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes	153	[9] 1	3	3.0	716	100.0	2.2
Miscellaneous industries:							
Agricultural implements	64	2	6.3–19	14.9	24	14.5	.1

[1] The 38 industries which reported no wage changes are omitted from this table.
[2] One establishment decreased the rates of 9 of its 46 employees 3 per cent.
[3] Also, 4 establishments decreased the rates of 1,324 of their 1,770 employees 4 per cent.
[4] Also, 1 establishment decreased the rates of 135 of its 328 employees 10 per cent.
[5] Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.
[6] Four establishments decreased the rates of 846 of their 2,483 employees 11.4 per cent.
[7] One establishment decreased the rates of its 238 employees 7.5 per cent.
[8] Also, 5 establishments decreased the rates of 757 of their 947 employees 10.5 per cent.
[9] Also, 1 establishment decreased the rates of 98 o its 144 employees 10 per cent.

Employment and Earnings of Railroad Employees, November, 1922, and October and November, 1923.

THE following tables show the number of employees and the earnings in various occupations among railroad employees in November, 1923, in comparison with employment and earnings in October, 1923, and November, 1922.

The figures are for Class I roads—that is, all roads having operating revenues of $1,000,000 a year and over.

COMPARISON OF EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS OF RAILROAD EMPLOYEES IN NOVEMBER, 1923, WITH THOSE OF NOVEMBER, 1922, AND OCTOBER, 1923.

[From monthly reports of Interstate Commerce Commission. As data for only the more important occupations are shown separately, the group totals are not the sum of the items under the respective groups.]

Month and year.	Professional, clerical, and general.			Maintenance of way and structures.		
	Clerks.	Stenographers and typists.	Total for group.	Laborers (extra gang and work train).	Track and roadway section laborers.	Total for group.
	Number of employees at middle of month.					
November, 1922	167,821	24,465	283,373	46,311	206,749	383,145
October, 1923	175,914	25,609	291,287	68,124	228,215	436,865
November, 1923	174,480	25,649	289,967	62,056	210,071	409,819
	Total earnings.					
November, 1922	$20,715,625	$2,841,202	$36,926,054	$3,287,372	$14,040,614	$32,977,516
October, 1923	22,738,837	3,103,484	39,429,403	6,015,073	18,211,912	42,864,033
November, 1923	22,093,359	3,055,590	38,601,688	4,626,250	14,551,181	36,157,078

Month and year.	Maintenance of equipment and stores.					
	Carmen.	Machinists.	Skilled trade helpers.	Laborers (shops, engine houses, power plants, and stores).	Common laborers (shops, engine houses, power plants, and stores).	Total for group.
	Number of employees at middle of month.					
November, 1922	134,100	62,502	133,004	49,203	59,993	561,606
October, 1923	138,559	68,902	133,302	49,696	66,503	593,569
November, 1923	135,974	68,552	132,269	49,992	66,480	590,229
	Total earnings.					
November, 1922	$19,832,254	$11,515,825	$15,918,304	$4,826,561	$4,853,183	$77,292,979
October, 1923	20,935,821	11,502,523	15,326,916	4,961,730	5,822,654	80,400,878
November, 1923	18,631,758	10,344,390	13,664,377	4,744,959	5,225,699	73,130,059

COMPARISON OF EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS OF RAILROAD EMPLOYEES IN NOVEMBER, 1923, WITH THOSE OF NOVEMBER, 1922, AND OCTOBER, 1923—Concluded.

Month and year.	Transportation other than train and yard.					Transportation (yard masters, switch tenders, and hostlers).
	Station agents.	Telegraphers, telephoners, and towermen.	Truckers (stations, warehouses, and platforms).	Crossing and bridge flagmen and gatemen.	Total for group.	
	Number of employees at middle of month.					
November, 1922	31,537	27,560	42,278	21,842	214,490	25,405
October, 1923	31,602	27,815	43,792	23,126	220,437	26,493
November, 1923	31,579	27,842	43,095	23,012	218,074	26,486
	Total earnings.					
November, 1922	$4,657,620	$3,952,043	$3,723,942	$1,557,293	$24,904,924	$4,463,985
October, 1923	4,821,707	4,073,195	4,292,380	1,736,764	26,855,991	4,703,169
November, 1923	4,657,447	3,932,521	3,927,228	1,713,905	25,575,485	4,582,708
	Transportation, train and engine.					
	Road conductors.	Road brakemen and flagmen.	Yard brakemen and yard helpers.	Road engineers and motormen.	Road firemen and helpers.	Total for group.
	Number of employees at middle of month.					
November, 1922	37,767	79,367	53,686	46,326	48,552	336,474
October, 1923	39,761	82,744	56,502	48,166	50,344	351,406
November, 1923	39,261	81,831	56,555	47,245	49,549	348,506
	Total earnings.					
November, 1922	$9,002,673	$13,824,788	$8,907,057	$12,331,141	$9,137,109	$66,054,548
October, 1923	9,465,028	14,446,810	9,615,411	12,874,683	9,516,936	69,700,516
November, 1923	8,710,561	13,209,052	9,060,787	11,836,922	8,733,261	64,579,799

Extent of Operation of Bituminous Coal Mines, November 24 to December 22, 1923.

CONTINUING a series of tables which have appeared in previous numbers of the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW, the accompanying table shows for a large number of coal mines in the bituminous fields the number of mines closed the entire week and the number working certain classified hours per week from November 24 to December 22, 1923. The number of mines reporting varied each week, and the figures are not given as being a complete presentation of all mines but are believed fairly to represent the conditions as to regularity of work in the bituminous mines of the country. The mines included in this report ordinarily represent from 55 to 60 per cent of the total output of bituminous coal. The week ending December 1 included Thanksgiving Day, when many mines usually working full time were closed. This accounts for the low figures for that week in the full-time column. The figures are based on data furnished the Bureau of Labor Statistics by the United States Geological Survey.

WORKING TIME IN THE BITUMINOUS COAL MINES IN THE UNITED STATES, BY WEEKS, NOVEMBER 24 TO DECEMBER 22, 1923.

[The mines included ordinarily represent from 55 to 60 per cent of the total output. Prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics from data furnished by the United States Geological Survey.]

Week ending—	Number of mines reporting.	Mines—															
		Closed entire week.		Working less than 8 hours.		Working 8 and less than 16 hours.		Working 16 and less than 24 hours.		Working 24 and less than 32 hours.		Working 32 and less than 40 hours.		Working 40 and less than 48 hours.		Working full time of 48 hours or more.	
		No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.
1923.																	
Nov. 24	2,410	735	30.5	54	2.2	228	9.5	403	16.7	329	13.7	245	10.2	218	9.0	198	8.2
Dec. 1	2,318	760	32.8	70	3.0	242	10.4	386	16.7	333	14.4	258	11.1	231	10.0	[1] 38	[1] 1.6
Dec. 8	2,318	785	33.9	49	2.1	216	9.3	300	12.9	314	13.5	259	11.2	217	9.4	178	7.7
Dec. 15	2,293	761	33.2	51	2.2	202	8.8	310	13.5	322	14.0	279	12.2	191	8.3	177	7.7
Dec. 22	2,250	740	32.9	38	1.7	155	6.9	272	12.1	331	14.7	289	12.8	235	10.4	190	8.4

[1] Low figures due to Thanksgiving Day, when many mines were closed.

Effect of Unemployment on Child Welfare.

THE Children's Bureau has recently published a study of the effect of the unemployment of the father upon the welfare of children, based upon a survey conducted between the beginning of December, 1921, and the end of February, 1922.[1] The study covered two cities, Racine, Wis., and Springfield, Mass. In each, names were taken from the lists of men registered with the local employment offices, the names being selected with a view to securing "a cross section of families of unemployed men in which there were two or more children under 18 years of age." In Racine, 231, and in Springfield, 135 families were studied, these having a total of 1,315 children, of whom only 59 had reached the age of 16, while 868 were under 10 years old. Only 7 of the fathers studied in Racine, and 13 of those in Springfield had been out of work for less than 6 months, while of the total group 223 had been unemployed for 12 months and over. The great majority of the fathers had been skilled workers; prior to their loss of employment, more than one-third of the families in Racine and over one-fourth of those in Springfield had had a monthly income of $150 or over from the earnings of the chief breadwinner.

Naturally whatever affects a family's prosperity tends to affect the welfare of the children, so the effect of unemployment on the family income and standard of living is studied in much detail. Some significant figures are given showing the relation, after the father's loss of work, between the family's actual income and the cost of a standard budget. One of the large manufacturing companies in Racine had for a year and a half prior to the date of the study been compiling data relating to the cost of living, and on these data it had based a standard budget for a family of five, as of December 27, 1921, which showed that an expenditure of $122.96 monthly was needed. Using these figures as a basis and computing the amount required for each family according to the number, ages, and sex of its members, it was possible to make a comparison between the actual income of 186 families for whom full information was secured and the amount which that family would have required, according to the budget of the manufacturing company. Nine families still retained, in spite of the father's unemployment, average monthly incomes running up to or beyond the amount called for by the standard budget; for the others, there was a wide discrepancy between the amount required and the amount available.

Under the scheme worked out by the industrial plant the monthly budgets for 5 families would be estimated at between $75 and $99; only one of them had resources during the unemployment period which fell within the same group. Of the 87 families whose budgets should have been between $100 and $124, 62 had average monthly resources of less than $75, 3 of them having an average of less than $25 a month. In the next group, 50 of the 61 families for whom the budgets were figured at $125 to $149 a month had actual resources of less than $100, 15 of them averaging less than $50 a month.

While there were 94 families for whom the estimated budgets exceeded $125 a month, only 8 of the scheduled families had resources of $125 or over. Conversely, 49 per cent of the budget estimates were for monthly averages of less than $125, while the actual resources of 96 per cent of the families were under this amount.

[1] U. S. Children's Bureau publication No. 125: Unemployment and child welfare, by Emma Octavia Lundberg. Washington, 1923. 173 pp.

The exhaustion of family savings was another result which would probably affect the children unfortunately for a long period after employment was regained. On this point, reports were obtained from 158 families, which had used up savings to the amount of $51,635 during the unemployment period. The amount used per family ranged from less than $100 to over $2,000. In some cases it was definitely stated that the family had been saving in order to give the children a better chance educationally, and the use of the savings for maintenance meant that the children would have to go to work as soon as the law permitted and jobs could be obtained. In a number of cases even the savings had not been sufficient to tide over the period of unemployment.

One of the most disheartening facts brought out in the study is that 42 per cent of the 158 families reporting savings at the time the father was thrown out of work had been compelled to seek charitable aid. And in this connection it must be remembered that the families were still suffering from unemployment, and many of those who had not asked for relief might have to apply for it before the father was again regularly at work.

Generally speaking, a family does not seek charitable aid until it has exhausted its credit as well as its savings, so the number of those in debt much exceeded the number receiving charity.

Of the 366 families 83 per cent (303) had incurred debts because of the father's loss of work, or were unable to continue payments for which they had obligated themselves while the father was working. In Racine the proportion was higher than in Springfield—91 per cent as against 69 per cent. The largest number of families—240, or 66 per cent of the total visited—were in debt for food supplies. The next largest proportion (43 per cent) were in arrears with rent or the periodic payments on their homes. Medical attendance had burdened with debt over a third of the families, and almost an equal number had been obliged to borrow money.

One feature of the abnormal situation seemed temporarily, at least, helpful to the children. Employment was so scarce that there was little opportunity to take them from school and put them to work. Some had even been sent back to school because they, like their fathers, were out of work, and others who would have been sent to work remained in school because employment could not be found for them. But it is pointed out that this did not insure a permanent educational gain. The savings which would have been used for further education had in many instances been spent, and the families who were burdened with debt would almost certainly send the children to work as soon as a place could be found for them.

Summing up the results of the study, the report points out the numerous ways in which a family is adversely affected by the unemployment of its chief breadwinner, and stresses the fact that the children must suffer as the family does.

Unemployment, then, because it means lowered family standards, anxiety and dread, the loss of savings, and the mortgaging of the future, has a direct and disastrous effect upon the welfare of children. While communities are usually able to organize their resources so that children are not removed from their own homes because of poverty caused by an industrial crisis, these resources have not been sufficient to prevent very real suffering in family groups stricken with the misfortune of loss of work by the father.

Recent Employment Statistics.

Connecticut.

THE report of the Connecticut Bureau of Labor for the month of November, 1923, on the activities of the five public employment offices is here summarized:

OPERATION OF CONNECTICUT PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT OFFICES, NOVEMBER, 1923.

Item.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Applications for employment	2,082	1,555	3,637
Applications for help	1,805	1,505	3,310
Situations secured	1,624	1,383	3,007
Per cent of applicants supplied with positions:			
November, 1923	78.1	88.9	82.6
October, 1923	80.7	87.9	83.7

Nearly 91 per cent of the persons requesting workers in November, 1923, were furnished with help as compared with 84.3 per cent in the previous month.

Illinois.[1]

BEGINNING with the October, 1923, issue of the Labor Bulletin of the Illinois Department of Labor, data on employment and earnings have been printed in "greater detail than has been ever before attempted" by any State currently publishing pay-roll statistics. The Illinois reports now indicate the trend of employment by industries and by different-sized establishments, the monthly changes in the relative employment of men and women, and the average weekly wages of men compared with those of women in various industries. It would not, of course, be possible to reproduce these statistics in the same detail in the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW. The following table, however, gives the percentage changes in the numbers on the pay rolls in the State during specified periods:

[1] Illinois. Department of Labor. The Labor Bulletin, Chicago, October, 1923, and November, 1923.

COURSE OF EMPLOYMENT IN INDUSTRIES IN ILLINOIS, NOVEMBER, 1923, COMPARED WITH OCTOBER, 1923, AND NOVEMBER, 1922.

Industry.	November, 1923.		Per cent of increase (+) or decrease (−) in number of employees, November, 1923, compared with—	
	Number of concerns.	Number of employees.	October, 1923.	November, 1922.
Stone, clay, and glass products	72	11,263	−1.0	−1.7
Metal, machinery, and conveyances	387	158,410	+.3	−1.1
Wood products	119	15,623	+.6	+2.5
Furs and leather goods	53	12,125	−2.6	−0.5
Chemicals, oils, paints, etc	59	12,186	−2.7	+16.8
Printing and paper goods	146	16,770	+.1	+5.6
Textiles	24	4,222	[2]	+8.1
Clothing, millinery, and laundering	114	19,612	−4.5	−10.4
Food, beverages, and tobacco	208	48,770	[2]	+6.1
Trade, wholesale and retail	44	17,968	+5.8	[3]
Public utilities	65	79,257	+.6	+6.5
Coal mining	61	18,662	+3.6	−1.2
Building and contracting	166	10,507	−5.2	+30.9
All industries	1,518	[1] 425,398	+1.0	+7.5

[1] As printed in Illinois Labor Bulletins. Actual addition of items here presented is 425,375.
[2] No change.
[3] Not comparable.

The rise and fall in volume of employment and average weekly earnings in Illinois manufacturing industries in recent years are shown below by index numbers based on reports from various establishments:

INDEX NUMBERS OF EMPLOYMENT AND AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN ILLINOIS AS SHOWN IN REPORTS FROM EMPLOYERS.

Item.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Employment: [1]												
1921	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	93.1	100.5	97.0	95.6	91.8
1922	94.4	94.3	96.2	96.8	99.9	.....	99.1	100.6	102.3	103.6	105.3	107.4
1923	106.5	108.8	111.1	111.7	111.9	112.3	110.4	109.3	108.3	108.3	107.9	.....
Average weekly earnings: [2]												
1922	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	96.0	92.0	102.8	100.4	100.9	102.9
1923	102.2	103.9	104.6	108.5	113.4	114.7	108.8	108.3	112.3	114.2	110.1	.....

[1] Average for 1922=100; previous to July, 1922, based upon number at work on last day of month; commencing with July, 1922, based upon the number on pay roll nearest 15th of month.
[2] Average for last half of 1922=100.

Maryland.

THE volume of employment and the amounts of pay rolls in specified industries in Maryland in November and December, 1923, are shown in the following figures secured from the commissioner of labor and statistics of that State:

COMPARISON OF EMPLOYMENT IN IDENTICAL ESTABLISHMENTS IN MARYLAND DURING ONE WEEK IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER, 1923.

Industry.	Establishments.	Number on pay roll.		Per cent of increase (+) or decrease (−).	Amount of pay roll.		Per cent of increase (+) or decrease (−).
		November, 1923.	December, 1923.		November, 1923.	December, 1923.	
Baking	7	903	878	−2.8	$22,257	$21,512	−3.3
Beverages and soft drinks	4	160	162	+1.3	4,466	4,511	+1.0
Boots and shoes	8	1,644	1,472	−10.5	28,626	25,342	−11.5
Boxes, fancy and paper	11	559	550	−1.6	7,731	8,327	+7.7
Boxes, wooden	8	499	493	−1.2	8,860	8,755	−1.2
Brass and bronze	4	2,408	2,486	+3.2	54,970	60,138	+9.4
Brick, tile, etc	6	831	816	−1.8	18,249	19,973	+9.4
Brushes	5	623	655	+5.1	10,206	11,688	+14.5
Canning and preserving	3	289	318	+10.0	5,527	5,098	−7.8
Chemicals and drugs	7	1,310	1,440	+9.9	33,643	38,566	+14.6
Clothing, men's outer garments	5	3,559	3,587	+.8	68,589	75,978	+10.8
Clothing, women's outer garments	10	1,291	1,311	+1.5	17,649	18,200	+3.1
Confectionery	10	1,353	1,225	−9.5	21,437	21,601	+.8
Cotton goods	9	2,580	2,831	+9.7	40,426	46,104	+14.0
Fertilizer	9	918	973	+6.0	20,898	21,299	+1.9
Foundry	10	1,298	1,235	−4.9	33,682	32,790	−2.6
Furniture	9	717	732	+2.1	17,860	18,804	+5.3
Furnishing goods, men's	7	2,964	3,105	+4.8	37,774	40,478	+7.2
Glass	3	958	1,033	+7.8	22,783	25,741	+13.0
Hats, straw	3	1,297	1,267	−2.3	22,565	22,321	−1.1
Laether goods	5	602	564	−6.3	11,201	11,439	+2.1
Lithographing	4	461	471	+2.2	11,942	13,565	+13.6
Lumber and planing	8	835	708	−15.2	19,929	17,033	−14.5
Matresses and spring beds	4	139	140	+.7	2,835	3,018	+6.5
Patent medicines and druggists' preparations	4	894	852	−4.7	13,628	13,190	−3.2
Manos	3	829	866	+4.5	30,348	32,141	+5.9
Plumber's supplies	3	1,028	969	−5.7	24,852	28,019	+12.7
Printing	10	1,437	1,466	+2.0	47,390	50,123	+5.8
Shipbuilding	4	654	667	+2.0	17,806	20,941	+17.6
Shirts	9	1,793	1,860	+3.7	28,591	28,843	+.9
Slaughtering and meat packing	4	1,562	1,521	−2.6	42,978	42,994	(1).1
Stamping and enameling	4	1,223	914	−25.3	22,164	17,268	−22.
Stoves	3	532	548	+3.0	12,908	15,317	+18.7
Tinware	5	3,514	3,248	−7.6	67,958	65,823	−3.1
Tobacco	9	1,510	1,515	+.3	23,868	25,144	+5.3
Umbrellas and canes	4	620	591	−4.7	9,817	9,712	−1.1
Miscellaneous	18	9,635	9,534	−1.0	273,119	259,268	−5.1
Total	239	53,429	53,003	−.8	1,159,532	1,181,064	+1.9

[1] Increase of less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

Massachusetts.

THE statistical statement given below on volume of employment and average weekly earnings, October and November, 1923, in Massachusetts, was furnished by the department of labor and industries of that State:

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES AND AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS IN MASSACHUSETTS MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS, WEEK INCLUDING OR ENDING NEAREST TO OCTOBER 15 AND NOVEMBER 15, 1923.

Industry.	Number of establishments.	Number of employees on pay roll.		Average weekly earnings.	
		October, 1923.	November, 1923.	October, 1923.	November, 1923.
Automobiles, including bodies and parts	12	2,542	2,263	$33.22	$26.47
Boot and shoe cut stock and findings	49	2,033	1,871	22.05	22.54
Boots and shoes	79	29,505	28,372	25.14	23.25
Boxes, paper	24	2,458	2,405	20.41	20.24
Boxes, wooden packing	10	995	929	23.80	25.04
Bread and other bakery products	35	1,591	1,552	27.89	27.58
Cars and general shop construction and repairs, steam railroad companies	4	3,557	3,829	32.65	32.39
Clothing, men's	28	2,531	2,403	23.61	23.93
Clothing, women's	26	1,130	1,126	18.28	17.42
Confectionery	13	3,898	3,851	18.50	17.96
Copper, tin, and sheet iron, etc	13	843	818	25.17	27.22
Cotton goods	44	40,994	40,539	20.47	19.73
Cutlery and tools	22	4,864	4,884	24.44	23.96
Dyeing and finishing, textiles	6	6,594	6,622	23.70	23.86
Electrical machinery, apparatus, and supplies	9	10,067	9,888	26.32	26.50
Foundry and machine-shop products	61	8,108	8,013	29.15	29.69
Furniture	26	2,426	2,458	25.58	25.92
Hosiery and knit goods	10	3,953	3,973	18.89	18.16
Jewelry	31	3,112	3,122	23.40	23.64
Leather, tanned, curried and finished	24	4,592	4,607	25.21	26.18
Machine tools	24	3,563	3,207	24.99	27.29
Musical instruments	7	754	771	26.84	26.70
Paper and wood pulp	21	6,022	5,305	25.35	28.27
Printing and publishing, book and job	32	2,756	2,771	30.76	31.55
Printing and publishing, newspaper	20	1,939	1,957	39.00	39.48
Rubber tires and goods	10	3,130	3,329	25.88	25.30
Silk goods	13	2,563	2,508	20.34	20.83
Slaughtering and meat packing	4	1,526	1,688	25.87	25.74
Stationery goods	8	1,373	1,331	19.00	18.97
Steam fittings and steam and hot-water heating apparatus	5	1,561	1,557	27.06	27.29
Textile machinery and parts	13	7,168	6,895	28.51	26.65
Tobacco	7	1,325	1,320	25.76	24.91
Woolen and worsted goods	41	20,188	19,826	22.65	22.55
All other industries	106	43,063	43,134	25.42	25.82
Total	837	232,724	229,124	24.38	24.14

As will be noted from the above table there were decreases in the total volume of employment and in the average weekly earnings of employees in the manufacturing industries in November, 1923, as compared with the previous month. None of the decreases in the different industrial groups was important. Few of the changes in volume of employment or average earnings in any individual industry were over 10 per cent. While many of the operating schedules in November could not be regarded as normal, yet the average weekly earnings of factory employees in November, 1923, were similar to those of the preceding six months and were higher than those for November, 1922. It would seem, therefore, that although the indus-

trial situation in Massachusetts is not the best, yet the industries on the whole, in the State are not in a depressed condition.

The situation of the Massachusetts labor market was less favorable in November, 1923, than it was in the previous month, or in November, 1922, according to the reports from the four State public employment offices. The total number of persons placed in November, 1923, was 2,843, or 16 per cent less than the number placed in October, 1923.

The number of persons requested by employers in November, 1923, was 3,235, 20.5 per cent below the number requested in the preceding month.

In the 11 months in 1923 the four offices together placed 38,108, 7.1 per cent above the record for the first 11 months of 1922, while employers called for 47,920 persons in the first 11 months of 1923—an increase of 2.4 per cent over the number requested for the corresponding months of 1922.

New York.[1]

THE statistics given below show the fluctuations in the number of employees and amount of pay rolls in New York State factories from August to September, 1923, from September to October, 1923, and from October, 1922, to October, 1923, together with the October, 1923, index numbers compared with those of June, 1914:

COURSE OF EMPLOYMENT IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN NEW YORK STATE.

Industry.	Percentage of increase (+) or decrease (−) in—						Index numbers in October (June, 1914=100).	
	Number of employees.			Amount of pay roll.				
	September, 1923, to October, 1923.	August, 1923, to September, 1923.	October, 1922, to October, 1923.	September, 1923, to October, 1923.	August, 1923, to September, 1923.	October, 1922, to October, 1923.	Employees.	Pay roll.
Stone, clay, and glass products	+0.8	−1.6	+7.0	−2.0	+2.8	+19.3	108	244
Metals, machinery, and conveyances	+1.3	−1.3	+10.6	+2.0	−.1	+22.7	133	284
Wood manufactures	+.6	−1.0	+8.5	+2.8	+5.4	+18.7	106	245
Furs, leather, and rubber goods	+.2	−1.3	+2.4	+.6	−2.4	+2.8	119	252
Chemicals, oils, paints, etc	+.5	+.7	+6.4	+1.4	+1.8	+14.0	110	225
Paper	−2.1	−2.0	−2.6	−4.1	+.3	+3.4	102	224
Printing and paper goods	+1.4	+.4	+.5	−.1	+5.3	+5.2	100	211
Textiles	+.6	+3.8	+.1	+2.2	+6.1	+8.9	95	221
Clothing, millinery, laundering, etc	+2.7	+2.7	+2.3	+11.4	−2.6	+7.8	89	204
Food, beverages, and tobacco	+3.0	+3.3	+2.1	+.9	+7.8	+9.5	103	216
Water, light, and power	+2.7	+2.0	+7.2	+4.8	−.1	+14.1	124	266
Total	+1.3	+.4	+5.4	+2.4	+1.5	+14.1	110	243

According to a recent press release from the industrial commissioner of New York, volume of employment declined about 1 per cent from November to December, 1923, following a similar decrease from October to November of the same year. In the first part of 1923 there was a rise in the number on the pay roll followed by a very gradual decrease during the remainder of that year. The

[1] New York. Industrial Commission. Industrial Bulletin, Albany, December, 1923.

December, 1923, level is just about the same as that for the corresponding month in 1922.

A slight decline is to be expected at the close of the year due to the curtailing of production after the work for Christmas is over and also because numerous plants reduce the number of their employees at the time inventories are taken. During December, 1923, there was a strong tendency to make such reductions. So far as this "represents a plan to keep stocks on hand as low as possible and to keep production closely related to demand, it indicates a good foundation for next year."

A heavy seasonal decrease was shown in December, 1923, in the food manufactures and less decline in establishments making building materials. There was also a downward trend in the clothing, shoe, and other apparel industries, although numerous establishments had begun to increase their activities. The metal industries showed a slight reduction but the December, 1923, level is considerably above that of 1922.

The records of the New York State employment offices for October, 1923, are here summarized:

ACTIVITIES OF NEW YORK STATE EMPLOYMENT OFFICES FOR OCTOBER, 1923.[1]

Item.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Registrations and renewals	15,394	10,230	25,624
Workers called for by employers	14,301	9,492	23,793
Places reported filled	11,049	7,364	18,413
Number of workers registered for each 100 places open:			
October, 1923			107.7
September, 1923			93.6
October, 1922			96.2

[1] Five weeks, October 1 to November 3, inclusive.

Ohio.

THE following figures from the State-City Employment Service of Ohio show the operation of the offices of that service for December, 1923:

ACTIVITIES OF PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT OFFICES IN OHIO, DECEMBER, 1923.

Sex and type of labor.	Total number of applicants.	Help wanted.	Persons referred to positions.	Persons reported placed.
Males, unskilled, clerical and professional	30,982	8,085	8,050	7,132
Females, domestic, industrial, clerical, and professional	12,169	7,427	6,838	6,043
Farm and dairy	332	220	214	170
Total	43,483	15,732	15,102	13,345

Pennsylvania.

REPORTS on employment and wages in the manufacturing industries of Pennsylvania are collected and compiled by the Department of Labor and Industry of that State in cooperation with the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia. The following table, from the December, 1923. issue of Labor and Industry, the depart-

ment's monthly, shows the percentage changes in volume of employment and average weekly earnings from September 15 to October 15, 1923:

EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS IN PENNSYLVANIA, OCTOBER, 1923.

Industry.	Number of plants reporting.	Number of wage earners reported.		Total pay roll.		Average wage.	
		Week ended Oct. 15, 1923.	Per cent of increase (+) or decrease (−), Sept. 15 to Oct. 15, 1923.	Week ended Oct. 15, 1923.	Per cent of increase (+) or decrease (−), Sept. 15 to Oct. 15, 1923.	Week ended Oct. 15, 1923.	Per cent of increase (+) or decrease (−), Sept. 15 to Oct. 15, 1923.
Metal manufactures	246	162,983	−0.04	$4,703,532	+1.3	$28.86	+1.7
Textile products	169	52,246	+.60	1,115,195	+6.4	21.35	+5.7
Foods and tobacco	73	19,086	−.60	406,457	+5.9	21.28	+6.5
Building materials	55	15,732	+3.50	448,259	+4.4	28.49	+.8
Chemicals and allied products	30	9,747	+3.20	284,331	+7.3	29.17	+4.1
Miscellaneous industries	113	24,074	(1)	602,956	+2.0	25.05	+2.0
All industries	686	283,878	+.1	7,560,730	+2.7	26.63	+2.6

[1] Increase of less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

The following is a summary of the report of the Pennsylvania Bureau of Employment for October, 1923: [a]

OPERATIONS OF STATE EMPLOYMENT OFFICES, OCTOBER, 1923, COMPARED WITH FIVE OTHER MONTHS.

Men.

Period.	Persons applying for positions.	Persons asked for by employers.	Persons sent to positions.	Persons receiving positions.
October, 1923 (5 weeks)	17,854	15,136	13,606	12,588
September, 1923 (4 weeks)	14,164	12,884	10,508	9,715
August, 1923 (4 weeks)	12,680	12,423	9,910	9,145
July, 1923 (5 weeks)	16,863	18,200	14,271	13,288
October, 1922 (4 weeks)	18,242	19,196	15,026	13,829
October, 1921 (4 weeks)	29,762	6,498	5,924	5,321

Women.

October, 1923 (5 weeks)	3,945	3,192	2,127	1,898
September, 1923 (4 weeks)	2,939	2,904	1,838	1,649
August, 1923 (4 weeks)	2,581	2,189	1,627	1,395
July, 1923 (5 weeks)	3,540	2,740	1,973	1,750
October, 1922 (4 weeks)	3,380	2,783	1,896	1,611
October, 1921 (4 weeks)	4,105	1,691	1,328	1,176

The figures for October, 1923, show about the same amount of business as the September report, the totals for October, however, being somewhat higher, as it was a five-week month.

The outlook for the "less remote future" is regarded as encouraging because Japanese orders to repair the earthquake's damages have

[a] Pennsylvania. Department of Labor and Industry. Labor and Industry, Harrisburg, December, 1923, pp. 15, 16.

begun to come in and "because orders from Europe will increase since the Federal Government has revealed its policy of sympathy and assistance in the settlement of the prolonged distressing industrial conditions in Europe."

Wisconsin.

THE activities of the public employment offices of Wisconsin for October 29 to November 24, 1923, compared with the record for November, 1922, are shown in the following figures furnished by the statistical department of the Industrial Commission of Wisconsin:

OPERATIONS OF PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT OFFICES IN WISCONSIN, NOVEMBER, 1922, AND OCTOBER 29 TO NOVEMBER 24, 1923.

Period and sex.	Applications for work.	Help wanted.	Referred to positions.	Positions secured.
November, 1922:				
Males	10,543	11,353	9,771	8,488
Females	2,915	2,641	2,725	1,075
Total	13,458	13,994	12,496	[1] 10,463
Oct. 29 to Nov. 24, 1923:				
Males	9,314	9,207	8,457	7,377
Females	3,410	2,796	3,059	2,212
Total	12,724	12,003	11,516	9,589

[1] As given in report. Actual sum of items is 9,563.

Unemployment in Foreign Countries.[1]

SINCE the last publication in the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW (November, 1923, pp. 155–164) of data on unemployment in foreign countries, no change in the general situation as regards the state of employment has occurred except in Germany. In some countries, however, seasonal unemployment is beginning to set in. In Germany, in contrast to other European countries, unemployment has reached proportions hitherto unknown in that country. In Switzerland, the figures for October showed, for the first time since December, 1922, a definite upward trend in the number of workers unemployed, and in November this trend became still more marked. In France, Great Britain, and the Scandinavian countries the situation remains unchanged. In Czechoslovakia and Austria the decrease in unemployment which has been in progress since the beginning of the year continued during recent months. A small contraction in employment is reflected by the most recent unemployment statistics for Canada.

Briefly summarized, the situation in the individual countries at the latest date for which data are available is as follows:

Great Britain.—According to a cable of the American commercial attaché at London (Commerce Reports, December 10, 1923, p. 661), reports of the condition of the principal British industries indicate a continuation of the slight improvement from October. Commodity

[1] Except where otherwise noted, the sources from which this article is compiled are shown in the table on pp. 165 and 166.

prices are firm, and unemployment has decreased, contrary to predictions. The total number of registered unemployed for the week ending November 17, 1923, was 1,235,000, a decrease of 19,000 from October 15. It is said that the tariff talk has already resulted in the placing of a good many orders in the domestic market instead of with continental manufacturers. The resumption of work by the boiler makers after a seven-month lockout greatly improves the outlook for the winter in shipbuilding centers. Organized short-time work ceased on December 1 in the Lancashire cotton mills. The outlook for the coal and iron and steel trades is better, as strong continental demand for fuel continues, full colliery order books foreshadow a future loading pressure, and the iron and steel industry is better employed than during the previous six months.

In summarizing the employment situation in November, the Ministry of Labor Gazette states that—

> Employment showed a slight improvement in November. The principal industries showing an improvement were pig-iron manufacture, iron and steel manufacture, and the cotton industry. Employment was good in the coal-mining industry and in the tin plate, steel sheet, and carpet trades; it was fairly good with skilled workmen (except painters) in the building trades, with coach builders, and in certain sections of the metal industry; and fair in the brickmaking, furnishing and woodworking, printing, jute, and leather trades. In most of the other large industries it was slack or bad.
>
> Among members of trade-unions from which returns were received, the percentage of unemployed was 10.5 at the end of November, compared with 10.9 at the end of October, and with 14.2 at the end of November, 1922. Among workpeople covered by the unemployment insurance acts, numbering approximately 11,500,000 and working in practically every industry except agriculture and private domestic service the percentage unemployed on November 26 was 11.5, compared with 11.7 on October 22 and 12.7 at the end of November, 1922. * * * The number of workpeople on the live registers of employment exchanges on November 26 was approximately 1,257,000, of whom men numbered 945,000 and women 240,000, the remainder being boys and girls. The corresponding total for October 29 was 1,296,000, of whom 970,000 were men and 246,000 were women.

Germany.—Beginning with August, the employment situation became more serious from month to month. By the middle of November practically half the working population of Germany was either totally unemployed or working short time. The Reichsarbeitsblatt, the official bulletin of the Federal Ministry of Labor, in its issue of December 16, 1923, summarizes the situation as follows:

> At the end of November and during the first days of December a slowing down of the general economic breakdown became apparent. To be sure, the number of unemployed continued to increase, but this was rather a consequence of the economic situation in the preceding months than a symptom of the present economic development. The most recent development is a slight increase in new orders and a corresponding decrease in short-time work and better demand for labor. These symptoms of a more favorable development could, however, be observed only in individual districts and in individual industry and occupational groups. In so far as there has been any improvement, it has, of course, in some measure been due to the approaching Christmas holidays, in spite of the fact that the purchasing capacity of the population has been greatly diminished. Of greater importance is the influence of the stablization of the mark through the issuance of the Rentenmark. The confidence which the new currency policy of the Government inspires in the population should sooner or later be reflected in the economic situation. It has already led to a gradual discontinuance in the fixing of prices of the high surcharges made by manufacturers and merchants for risks incurred owing to violent fluctuations in the exchange value of the mark and has tended to encourage production. In the occupied territories economic life was still at a standstill during the second half of November. It is, however, expected

that the labor market will improve there in the near future, as otherwise the extraordinary sacrifices made in the treaties concluded by the German industrialists with the allied commission would be in vain.

The most recent available employment statistics are those published in the issue of December 1, 1923, of the Reichsarbeitsblatt, covering the month of October. They show that the decline in employment reported in the preceding month continued during October.

Trade-unions reported a heavy increase in unemployment among their members. In some unions the number of members working full time forms only a small fraction of the total membership. On October 27, of 4,811,945 trade-union members covered by the returns relating to unemployment, 917,384, or 19.1 per cent, were unemployed, as against 9.9 per cent at the end of the previous month and 1.4 per cent in October, 1922. The preceding figures relate to members wholly unemployed. In addition, returns from trade-unions show that of 4,250,000 members covered by returns, about 2,000,000, or 47.3 per cent, were working short time.

On November 15, 1,249,855 totally unemployed persons (993,964 males and 255,891 females) were in receipt of unemployment doles, a further 1,772,108 being similarly assisted owing to short-time work. The Reischarbeitsblatt states that some overlapping is possible in these figures, so that the actual number of persons in receipt of unemployment and short-time doles may be somewhat lower than the figures given here.

Returns made by the public employment exchanges show that in the month under review the number of applicants for work was 1,660,000, as against 1,380,000 in September, while the number of vacancies was 276,885, as against 343,084 in September. On an average the employment exchanges received 787 applications for each 100 vacant situations for men, and 356 for each 100 for women, the corresponding figures in September being 555 and 235.

According to the monthly returns by sick funds the number of members paying contributions (and therefore assumed to be working) showed a further reduction. The 3,419 sick funds reporting had a total paying membership of 9,163,355 on October 1, and of 8,755,511 on November 1, a decline of 4.5 per cent.

While about half the German wage earners were either unemployed or working short time, the Federal Government promulgated the decree of October 13, which canceled the provisions of the decree of February 12, 1920, relating to the employment and discharge of workers during the period of economic demobilization and modified the decree of November 3, 1920, relating to the closing down of industrial establishments.

According to the decree of February 12, 1920, an employer, who for any good reason (lack of orders, introduction of labor-saving methods of production, etc.) wished to reduce his staff, could dismiss his workers only on certain conditions and after giving notice. He had to resort first to short-time work before he could dismiss workers. Only when it became impossible without serious hardships to reduce the hours of work further, particularly when the working week had already been reduced to less than 24 hours, was the employer allowed to dismiss workers. The decree of October 13, 1923, does away with

these provisions and substitutes the following system: An employer may, if he thinks it necessary, dismiss some of his workers. This right may, however, be exercised only when the employer intends to close down his whole establishment or a part of it. Under the decree of November 3, 1920, an employer who desired to close down his establishment completely or in part was obliged, before dismissing any of his workers, to make a declaration to the demobilization office and then allow four weeks to elapse. This obligation of the employer existed only in the case of wholesale dismissals of workers. Establishments employing less than 20 workers were not affected by the decree.

The decree of October 13, 1923, amends these provisions to some extent. It provides that if an employer is unable to employ his staff at full time during the four weeks fixed by the decree of November 3, 1920, he may obtain from the demobilization office authority to introduce short-time work. As a concession to labor the decree provides, however, that dismissals effected by the employer before the end of the regulation four weeks' notice shall not be valid in civil law unless the authorization of the demobilization office has been obtained; that is, the worker dismissed in violation of the decree may claim pay up to the expiration of the period of notice.

It is impossible as yet to form an exact idea of the effect which this decree has had on the labor market, but there is no doubt that since its issuance the number of unemployed and of establishments that have closed down has increased considerably.

France.—Unemployment in France continues to be negligible. The latest returns as to the state of employment show that on December 13, 1923, only 358 persons were in receipt of unemployment benefits from departmental and municipal unemployment funds. It should be noted that in March, 1921, when France was in the throes of an economic crisis, the number of persons in receipt of unemployment benefit was 91,225. By January, 1922, this number had fallen to 10,071 and by January, 1923, to 2,674, and since then has continued to fall from month to month until it has dropped to 358, the present figure.

The reports of public employment exchanges indicate a slight increase in the number of applicants for work. During the week ending December 8, 1923, their number was 11,207, as against 10,828 during the preceding week.

According to a report of the American commercial attaché at Paris, dated November 23, 1923 (Commerce Reports, December 31, 1923, p. 914), the causes of the rise in industrial activity in France are diverse. Contributing factors of importance are the great prosperity of the automobile industry, the increase in the production of coal, iron, and steel, and the increase in exports of textiles. The stimulus to industry, however, must be taken with reservations, since it is due largely to temporary disadvantages which are being felt in other producing countries, and to a factitious stimulus given to foreign trade by the decline of the franc.

Belgium.—Unemployment in Belgium increased slightly in October, due to the seasonal slackening in the building trades. The latest figures available relate to November 3, 1923, but are provisional only. Returns made on that date by 1,586 unemployment funds,

with a total membership of 656,247, indicate that 12,691 of these, or 1.9 per cent, were either wholly or partially unemployed on that date, as against 1.5 per cent at the end of September, 1923, and 3.9 per cent at the end of October, 1922.

A cable from the acting commercial attaché at Brussels, dated December 15, 1923 (Commerce Reports, December 24, 1923, p. 799), states that the Belgian metal market has been unfavorably affected by active competition from Lorraine. Nail and wire plants are prosperous, but sheet and plate mills report a decreased volume of new business. Flemish textiles are enjoying record prosperity. Numerous spinners, with orders booked for more than six months ahead, have retired from the market. The favorable situation of the plate and window-glass industry is unchanged.

The Netherlands.—A cable from the American commercial attaché at the Hague, dated November 20, 1923 (Commerce Reports, December 3, 1923, p. 647), states that on account of the increasing seasonal inactivity in the building industries, unemployment figures continue to show a slight advance, totaling 81,340 on November 1, as compared with 80,115 on October 1 and 78,063 on September 1. Slight improvement is shown in the wood, metal-working, textile, and clothing industries. The plate-glass industry is the only branch of the glass industry which is now in a prosperous situation.

A more recent cable dated December 15, 1923 (Commerce Reports, December 24, 1923, p. 801), reports that owing to trade-union resistance to the proposed wage cut in the cotton-textile industry, a progressive lockout has been declared by the employers, and unless the unions yield the entire industry will shut down on December 20. The cocoa and chocolate factories report a seasonal improvement in demand, but the foodstuffs industries in general, especially the preserve and milk-product factories, are suffering from decreased home consumption and limited opportunities for export to low-exchange countries.

Switzerland.—The number of unemployed in Switzerland, which by the end of September, 1923, had gradually fallen to 22,830 from the high level of 99,541 in February, 1922, increased again to 24,013 at the end of October, 1923, and to 27,029 at the end of November, 1923. The industry and occupational groups that showed an increase in unemployment of more than 100 persons at the end of November were: Unskilled workers (856); building trades, manufacture of building materials, and painting (833); metal-working, machinery, and electrical industries (500); agriculture and gardening (185); clothing and leather (169); chemical industry (127); textile industry (126); and foodstuff industry (123). A decrease in unemployment took place in the watch industry (144) and in domestic service.

The number of short-time workers decreased in November from 14,662 to 14,368. The greatest decrease in the number of short-time workers took place in the textile industry (911). A considerable increase in short-time work was reported by the metal-working, machinery, and electrical industry group (785).

A total of 7,330 unemployed persons were given temporary employment on emergency relief works in November. Since these were counted as totally unemployed, the number of actually unemployed was only 19,699. Of this number, 3,713 received unemployment donations.

Italy.—Although Italian industry suffers from the general European crisis, unemployment continues to decrease in Italy. The latest available unemployment statistics relate to the month of July, the Ministry of National Economy being somewhat tardy in publishing such statistical data. These statistics show that on July 31 the number of totally unemployed was 183,144 and that of short-time workers 65,374, as against 216,287 and 39,288, respectively, on June 30. Of the totally unemployed, 49,133 received unemployment benefits from the Government in July, as against 61,547 in June. As in preceding months the districts of Lombardy, Piedmont, Liguria, Emilia, Venice, Campania, and Toscana, all northern or central districts, account for the great majority of the unemployed (148,497, or 81.13 per cent).

The industry groups chiefly affected by unemployment were mining, building, and construction (37,459); metal-working industries (34,504); agriculture (22,664); and the textile industry (21,014).

A cable from the American commercial attaché at Rome, dated December 1, 1923 (Commerce Reports, December 10, 1923, p. 662), placed the number of unemployed on October 31 at about 200,000.

Denmark.—The American commercial attaché at Copenhagen, in a cable dated December 13, 1923 (Commerce Reports, December 24, 1923, p. 800), reports that the Danish economic situation, which was disturbed and uncertain a month ago, has shown considerable improvement owing to the stabilization of the crown, which, after declining throughout the current year, about the middle of November showed definite improvement due to the establishment of the foreign loan and domestic measures. Practically all industries are moderately active, with the exception of the building and textile industries. The former is affected by seasonal slackening, and the latter is still hampered by high prices demanded for raw cotton, and by keen foreign competition. Labor disturbances have ceased entirely, but unemployment increased from 22,000 on November 1 to 32,300 at the beginning of December. While this is a rapid increase, it is due to the usual reductions in unskilled labor in seasonal occupations, and the 1923 increase is almost 6,000 less than that recorded one year ago. Shipping has improved slightly and there is very little idle tonnage. The shipbuilding industry is also fairly busy. The economic position of the farmer is reported to be generally strong and his purchasing power high.

Norway.—Business conditions were uncertain in Norway in November and the industries were adversely affected by strikes and lockouts. A cable from the American commercial attaché at Copenhagen, dated December 13, 1923 (Commerce Reports, December 24, 1923, p. 801), states, however, that the situation has slightly improved and that all labor disputes, with the exception of one strike in the iron and metal industry affecting approximately 5,000 workers, have been settled. The paper, wood-pulp, and lumber industries are moderately active, but demand is reported as rather slack. The textile industry is hampered by high prices for raw materials. The shipbuilding industry is inactive, but shipping is slightly improved, due to firmer freight rates.

The American consulate at Christiania, in a report dated November 15, gave the number of totally unemployed as 15,550 on October 31, as compared with 13,400 at the end of September, 1923, and 23,700 at the end of October, 1922.

Sweden.—The Swedish unemployment problem has dwindled to one of minor importance, the last published figure of November 1 showing only 11,900, which is normal for this season of the year. Of this number 6,000 were in the cities and 5,900 in rural districts. Among the unemployed were only 72 women. The industries in which there were the largest number of unemployed were: Metal and machinery industry, 2,441; mining, 1,445; stone and glass industry, 1,444; handicrafts and specialty industries, 778; woodworking industry, 778; building construction work, 532; and agriculture, 595.

According to the report of the unemployment commission, State aid has not been found necessary for unemployed workmen during the past three months, except in the form of employment on relief works, which on November 1 was provided for only 4,820 unemployed as compared with 6,911 on October 1 and 9,918 on September 1, 1923. Relief work was also provided by communes and municipalities, the number of unemployed given such work on November 1 being 1,222 as compared with 1,165 on October 1 and 1,527 on September 1. During the first 10 months of 1923 the total cost to the Government for unemployment doles and relief work was 27,194,427 crowns ($7,288,106.44, par).

Finland.—Reports received from the American trade commissioner at Riga, Latvia, and from the American consul at Helsingfors (Commerce Reports, December 24, 1923, p. 802), state that the condition of the labor market in Finalnd is satisfactory, unemployment being light. Industrial conditions are described as "spotty." Mechanical and engineering works have been fairly busy, but foreign competition has made it difficult for the iron industries to profit by increased demand for their products, notably in the case of nail-making establishments. A similar situation prevails in the paper industry, where the cost of production is higher than in competitor countries. Prices were forced down to the point of actual loss, and the mills were obliged to reduce production. Favorable developments in building activities have created a demand for glass goods, especially window glass. The shoe factories complain of foreign competition, and it is reported that operations will be curtailed to four days a week.

The Bank of Finland Monthly Bulletin gives the number of registered unemployed as 886 on October 31, as compared with 676 on September 30 and 1,122 at the end of October, 1922.

Austria.—The official Austrian unemployment statistics for the month of October show a decrease of 3,000 in the number of totally unemployed persons receiving Government subsidies, their total number being 75,775, as against 78,801 at the end of September. This decrease is, above all, due to an improved labor market for building-trades workers, metal workers, and shoemakers.

A cable from the American trade commissioner at Vienna, dated December 3, 1923 (Commerce Reports, December 17, 1923, p. 738), states that the Austrian iron and steel industry continues to benefit from the failure of the Ruhr industries to resume active competition. The decreasing competitive ability of German goods in the Austrian market gives a stimulus to many other lines of Austrian industry which were somewhat depressed during the summer of 1923.

Czechoslovakia.—According to a cable from the American commercial attaché at Prague, dated November 29, 1923 (Commerce Reports, December 10, 1923, p. 662), unemployment in Czechoslovakia amounted to 210,000 on October 1, an increase of 30,000 over the figure for September 1, which was 180,000. This increase in unemployment is attributed to the declining agricultural and building activity.

That business has recently somewhat improved in the cotton and wool textile trades, porcelain, glassware, shoe, and cement industries is shown by recent trade reports. These lines are little affected by the situation in Germany, which is normally the most important market for Czech goods, and their increased activity reflects a satisfactory demand from the home market as well as from foreign countries. Decreased operations of the iron and steel mills and reduced exports of unsawed lumber are attributed to the reduced buying power of Germany.

The official statistics of the Czechoslovak Ministry of Social Welfare show that 56,900 unemployed persons, with 51,300 family dependents, received unemployment doles directly from the Government during the period September 15 to October 15, 1923. These figures show practically no increase when compared with the corresponding figures for the preceding month. During October the number of workers on short time who received subsidies from the enterprises employing them was 35,200, with 21,000 dependents, as compared with 41,700 workers, with 24,000 dependents, for September 15, 1923. During the same period of 1922 73,260 totally unemployed persons received direct subsidies from the Government and 88,000 partially employed persons received aid from their employers.

While these official statistics indicate a steady decrease in unemployment since February, 1923, these figures do not, of course, include all of the totally unemployed persons or short-time workers, but refer only to those persons who have applied for unemployment relief.

Canada.—The Dominion Bureau of Statistics reviews the November employment situation as follows:

> The trend of employment at the beginning of November was again slightly downward, largely on account of continued seasonal curtailment in construction, sawmills, and canneries. According to employment returns tabulated by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, there were contractions affecting over 7,500 persons and causing the index number to decline from 99.5 on October 1 to 98.8 on November 1. At the commencement of November, 1922, when employment had shown a slightly upward movement, this index had stood at 95.8 and in 1921 it was 90.2. [These figures] reflect the slightly downward tendency that employment has evidenced during the last three months, although it may be seen that the situation continues to be more favorable than at the same period in the past two years.
>
> Statements were received from 5,890 employers, with an aggregate working force of 812,201 persons, as compared with 819,831 on October 1. The construction industries continued to release large numbers of workers, and manufacturing, as a whole, afforded less employment. On the other hand, considerable seasonal expansion was reported in logging, and water transportation absorbed a large number of additional workers.
>
> All Provinces shared to some extent in the downward movement; the declines in Quebec and the Prairie Provinces were the largest, while those in Ontario were nominal. In the Maritime District the greatest contractions were indicated in sawmills, on highway and railway construction, and in coal mining. On the other hand, substantial recovery was shown in cotton factories; logging camps

were decidedly busier, and shipping and stevedoring also afforded more employment. In Quebec improvement in textiles, logging, shipping, and stevedoring and building construction was insufficient to offset reductions in personnel in sawmills, railway and highway construction, railway transportation, asbestos mines, quarries, and locomotive works. Varying tendencies in Ontario resulted in a slightly unfavorable balance of employment. Textile, automobile, and some other manufactures were considerably busier than at the beginning of October, while substantial increases in activity were indicated in logging camps. On the other hand, sawmills, fruit and vegetable canneries, building, highway and railway construction suffered heavy seasonal losses, and employment in communication also showed a falling off. The most important factor contributing to the decrease in the Prairie District was the continued curtailment recorded in railway construction and maintenance; this was supplemented by losses in sawmills, railway car works, building construction, and summer hotels. Coal mines, logging, transportation, biscuit and electric current factories in the Prairie Provinces reported improvement. In British Columbia logging camps, coal and metallic ore mining were busier, but sawmills, fruit canneries, building, highway and railway construction released fairly large numbers of workers.

A review of the returns by industries shows that conflicting tendencies were evidenced within the manufacturing division. The completion of the season's work in many mills caused heavy declines in the lumber group. Fruit, vegetable, and fish canneries also recorded seasonal declines, while pulp, paper, and rubber factories were slacker. On the other hand, fur, boot, shoe, cotton, and other fabric, knitting, tobacco, electric current, automobile, machinery and photographic appliance works showed decided improvement. Logging camps absorbed over 4,600 additional workers; coal and metallic ore mines, shipping and stevedoring, and retail trade reported increases in the employment afforded. Asbestos mines, quarries, communication, railway transportation, all branches of construction, summer hotels, and wholesale trade showed considerable curtailment. With very few exceptions, employment in these industries was on a higher level than at the beginning of November, 1922, and, without exception, conditions were more favorable than at the same period of 1921.

A summary of the latest statistical reports on unemployment is given in the table following:

Operation of English Unemployment Insurance Act.

THE English Government has recently published a report upon the working of the unemployment insurance scheme,[1] bringing the data down to July, 1923, and including a short account of the out-of-work donation scheme which was adopted at the close of the war and continued until March, 1921. Compulsory insurance against unemployment was introduced by an act passed in 1911, under which contributions from the unemployed first became payable in July, 1912, and benefits in January, 1913. There had been much opposition to such insurance on the ground that the bad risks would exhaust the benefit fund. The act of 1911 met this difficulty by making the periods through which benefit would be paid proportionate to the number of contributions paid by the beneficiary, and by linking up the payment of benefit with machinery for testing the genuineness of claims by the offer of employment through a national system of employment exchanges or through trade-unions. The scheme was at first of limited scope, covering only about two and a quarter million work people aged 16 or over. In 1916 it was extended to cover a number of additional trades, mostly those connected with war activities, in which it was supposed that unemployment would be severe as soon as the war closed. The peace trades were omitted, because it was thought that owing to the depletion of their stocks during the war, these trades would be particularly busy for some time after hostilities ceased.

Under the acts of 1911 and 1916, the weekly contributions to the insurance fund were 6⅔d. (13.52 cents, par) for each employed person in the insurable trades, of which the Government contributed 25 per cent, and the employer and employee each 37.5 per cent. Benefits were 7s. ($1.7033, par) per week for a person over 18, and half that for one between 17 and 18. Applicants for benefit were required to show that they had paid at least 10 unemployment insurance contributions, and there was a waiting period during which no benefit was payable. The benefit period was limited to one week for every contribution paid into the fund, and in addition it was provided that benefits could not be drawn for more than 15 weeks during any one insurance year. The applicant must prove that he was wholly unemployed, that he was capable of work, and that he was unable to secure suitable employment. No benefits were payable to those who were unemployed on account of a strike or lockout at the premises where they worked, who had lost their work through their misconduct, or who had voluntarily left their employment without just cause.

Under this plan the number insured rose from 2,326,000 for the year ending July 18, 1914, to 4,197,000 for the year ending July 17, 1920. For the year ending July 18, 1914, the first complete year of the working of the scheme, the amount paid in benefits was £530,593 ($2,582,131, par). Thereafter the sum paid out in benefits fell off for several years, amounting, for the year ending July 14, 1917, to £34,308 ($166,960, par). Then it began to rise, and for the year 1919–20 it amounted to £1,009,126 ($4,910,912, par). At

[1] Great Britain. Ministry of Labor. Report on national unemployment insurance to July, 1923 London, 1923.

the end of this year the fund showed a balance on hand of £21,287,647 ($103,596,334, par).

At the close of the war the normal working of the unemployment insurance scheme was interfered with by the "donation" plan.

At an early stage of the war the Government had decided and announced (December 14, 1915) that ex-service men who were unemployed in the period immediately following their discharge from the forces would have a free grant of "out-of-work donation," i. e., unemployment benefit not dependent on payment of contributions. Shortly before the armistice it was decided that, as the unemployment insurance scheme covered only a small porportion of civilian workers (3¾ out of 15 millions), out-of-work donation should be granted to civilian workers also in the change-over from war to peace.

In the result, out-of-work donation was paid during unemployment both to ex-service men and women and to civilian workers from November 25, 1918, to November 24, 1919; for ex-service men and women (and certain classes of merchant seamen) it continued up to March 31, 1921, and in a few cases even later.

The weekly donation payment during the first period was 29s. ($7.06, par) for men and 25s. ($6.08, par) for women, and thereafter 20s. ($4.87, par) and 15s. ($3.65, par), respectively. Practically all unemployed workpeople belonging to the insurable trades were entitled to the donation during the year ending November 24, 1919, but they might not draw both insurance benefit and donation. The donation being much the larger, they naturally chose that, so the insurance fund escaped some of the payments which might legitimately have been charged against it. The total amount paid out under the donation scheme was approximately £61,659,000 ($300,063,524, par), and the largest number of persons receiving the donation at any one time was 1,093,000 in May, 1919.

With the collapse of the post-war boom in 1920 it became evident that existing provisions for the unemployed were wholly inadequate, and the unemployment insurance act of 1920 was passed, becoming effective in November.

The unemployment insurance scheme, as thus extended, applies to all persons of the age of 16 and upwards who are employed under a contract of service or apprenticeship (except apprentices without money payments) and, if nonmanual workers, receive remuneration not exceeding £250 [$1,217, par] a year, save persons in certain excepted employments, the chief of which are agriculture and private domestic service.

This act at once brought an additional 8,000,000 persons under insurance, making the total number close to 12,000,000. The contributions to be paid and the benefits which might be claimed have been changed once or twice, but now stand at the following figures:

CONTRIBUTIONS AND BENEFITS PAYABLE UNDER BRITISH UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SCHEME.

[Shilling at par=24.3 cents; penny=2.03 cents.]

Class of insured.	Contributions, rate per week.			Benefits, rate per week.
	Employer.	Employee.	State.	
	d.	*d.*	*d.*	*s. d.*
Men	10	9	6¾	15 0
Women	8	7	5¼	12 0
Boys from 16 to 18 years of age	5	4½	3⅜	7 6
Girls from 16 to 18 years of age	4½	4	3⅜	6 0

From November, 1921, in addition to the benefit rates given above, grants for dependents have been allowed, 5s. ($1.22, par) per week being given for a dependent wife or invalid husband and 1s. (24.3 cents, par) for each dependent child under 14 (or under 16, if in full-time attendance at a day school).

The cost of administering the insurance scheme is borne by the insurance fund, up to an amount equal to one-eighth of its annual income; beyond that, it is to be met by the Government. The cost of administration is held to cover everything connected with the scheme.

The administrative expenses of the unemployment insurance scheme for the purposes of this ratio cover not merely the organization required for collecting contributions and assessing and paying benefit, but also the whole cost of the employment exchanges as placing agencies so far as they deal with insured persons; in other words, 95 per cent of the whole cost of the exchanges is at present paid for out of the unemployment fund. It should be clearly understood also that all expenses are included, whether incurred by the Ministry of Labor direct, or by other departments, such as the office of works, stationery office, and post office, on behalf of the ministry.

In 1922–23 the ratio of administrative expenses to the income of the fund was 10.3 per cent, and it is estimated that for 1923–24 it will be 8.3 per cent.

The main principles of the earlier acts were included in the act of 1920. Periods of benefit were to be proportionate to contributions paid, and the number of weeks for which benefit might be paid in any one year was strictly limited. In practice it was found impossible to adhere to these conditions. From the beginning of 1921 up to the present time the number of wholly unemployed in the insured trades has never been less than a million and has run as high as two million. "These figures are without parallel in the worst years of pre-war unemployment of which there is a record." Many of the workers had had no opportunity to make the requisite number of contributions to the insurance fund before they found themselves in the ranks of the unemployed. Others, who had made the contributions, remained unemployed for a much longer period than the fund had been intended to cover. Some modifications became imperative.

The remedy adopted was to graft onto the original scheme of what may be called "covenanted" benefit (i. e., benefit drawn as of right by virtue of contributions) a system of "uncovenanted" benefit. Uncovenanted benefit was allowed as a diseretionary grant to unemployed persons who were normally wage earners in insured trades and were genuinely seeking whole-time employment, but who had exhausted their rights derived from payment of contributions, or who even, in exceptional cases, had paid no contributions at all. The history of the unemployment insurance scheme from 1921 onwards is largely that of the passing of one act after another granting further extensions of uncovenanted benefit on account of the very large numbers who remained unemployed.

In general the arrangement made for paying these "uncovenanted" benefits has been to divide the year into so-called "special periods," and to allow uncovenanted benefit for so many weeks in each special period. There is always a "gap" or part of the special period for which benefit can not be claimed. For the year ending October 15, 1924, the maximum number of weeks for which benefit, covenanted or uncovenanted or partly one and partly the other, may be drawn is 26, with a gap of three weeks after 12 weeks of uncovenanted benefit.

The contributions of employer and employee to the fund are collected by means of stamps which must be affixed to a so-called unemployment book. These books are issued direct to insured persons on request, and must be handed by the worker to his employer, who keeps it as long as the worker remains in his employ. At specified intervals the employer puts in the required number of stamps, deducting from the employee's wages the amount which represents his share of the contribution. When the worker leaves, the employer must return the book to him, and he is expected to deposit it at the local employment exchange, unless he immediately enters on some other job, in which case he again hands the book to his employer. If the worker expects to claim benefit, depositing his book at the exchange is the first step in the process of application. The official statistics as to the number of wholly unemployed persons in the insured trades are derived from the number of books thus lodged with the exchanges.

The claims for benefit filed at an exchange are passed upon in the first instance by a local insurance officer, whose authority is limited mainly to approving straightforward claims. If there is any question as to the admissibility of a claim it is forwarded to the chief insurance officer for decision. If he disallows it, the applicant may, if he chooses, carry the matter to a court of referees, whose decision is final. At present there are in Great Britain 78 court areas, in each of which courts of referees are available.

The work and cost of the insurance scheme have been much increased by the various modifications made in the original plan on account of the unprecedented amount of unemployment. The total amount paid out in benefits and allowances for dependents from November 8, 1920, to June 30, 1923, is given as about £128,304,000 ($624,391,416, par).

> This sum * * * has been paid in separate weekly amounts, ranging ordinarily from 12s. to 22s. [$2.92 to $5.35, par] each, and it is estimated that something like 170 million separate payments have been made. Since March, 1921, there have never been fewer than 1,122,845 persons on the registers in Great Britain in a particular week, and when it is remembered that each claim to benefit has to be carefully scrutinized when first made and watched subsequently week by week, the amount of labor thrown on the employment exchanges and the other parts of the administrative organization can be realized.

In discussing the finances of the scheme, the report emphasizes the fact that it is a contributory insurance plan, to which employers and employees contribute far more than the Government, that therefore the benefits can not be looked upon as charitable relief, and that the epithet so commonly used, "the dole," is misleading and objectionable.

> In truth—and the fact can not be too strongly emphasized—one-fourth, and no more, of the sums now being paid in benefit and of the cost of administration falls upon the taxpayer, and this represents at the present time the whole of the exchequer contribution to the unemployment insurance scheme; three-fourths of the benefit and administrative costs fall upon the insured workpeople and their employers.

From the inception of the scheme in 1912 up to the beginning of July, 1923, the contributions to the insurance fund from employers, workers, and the Government amounted to £124,100,000 ($603,932,650, par), of which employers have contributed £48,000,000 ($233,-

592,000, par), the workers £44,600,000 ($217,045,900, par), and the Government £31,500,000 ($153,294,750, par).

In July, 1921, the fund proved inadequate to the demands made upon it, and power was given it to borrow from the Treasury up to £30,000,000 ($145,995,000, par). It has never used this power up to the limit set, the highest amount of its debt at any one time being something over £17,000,000 ($82,730,500, par); at the latest date covered by the report (June 30, 1923), it amounted to £15,600,000 ($75,917,400, par). At that date the fund had an annual revenue of over £47,000,000 ($228,725,500, par), which is sufficient to meet all claims, to defray all administrative expenses, and to pay off small amounts of the debt from time to time.

In order to judge an unemployment insurance scheme fairly, it is pointed out, its operation should be observed throughout a complete business cycle. This scheme, in its extended form, came into operation at the beginning of the worst depression England has known, and as yet has had no experience of prosperous times. Under the circumstances, it is felt, the plan has proved eminently workable.

Experience has shown that compulsory insurance against unemployment is entirely practicable. The extended scheme of insurance has passed successfully through the crucial test imposed by an immense volume of unemployment, unprecedented both in intensity and duration, which threw an almost intolerable strain on newly fashioned machinery and has continued with little abatement for the past two and a half years. The unemployment fund has provided benefits vastly greater than those originally contemplated. It has done so, it is true, at the expense of largely increased contributions and of a considerable debt; but the debt is not so large that it can not be paid off in a comparatively short space of time as soon as trade revives, and the financial stability of the scheme is not open to serious question.

HOUSING.

Preventable Causes of Expense in Housing.

THE program of the ninth annual conference of the National Housing Association, held in Philadelphia December 5 to 7, inclusive, 1923, gave first place to the possibility of reducing the present cost of housing. For the most part, little time was spent in recriminations. One or two speakers charged labor with taking an unfair advantage of the present situation, and one or two charged that the lending institutions and the producers and handlers of materials were profiteering, but for the most part the attitude taken was that quite apart from the obligation resting on each branch of the industry to clean house and get rid of its own objectionable elements, intelligence and good will applied to the problem might do much in bringing the cost of housing down to a more reasonable figure. As means of doing this, emphasis was laid on reducing waste, increasing efficiency, and eliminating unnecessary factors of cost. Practically, these all resolved themselves into means of increasing efficiency, since waste and unnecessary expenditures are markedly inefficient, but each speaker tended to emphasize a different aspect of the general question. Three main lines of unnecessary costs were indicated, arising from wasteful and inefficient methods of handling the labor supply, wasteful and inefficient methods of producing and distributing building materials, and wasteful and inefficient methods of building, due in part to unwise and oppressive building regulations and in part to mere custom and convention.

An unnecessary degree of irregularity in employment was the chief form of inefficiency charged against methods of handling the labor supply, and several speakers dwelt upon the waste this involved. Mr. William Stanley Parker, of Boston, premising that conditions vary according to locality and that the data for one part of the country would not necessarily hold true for another, pointed out that according to studies made by the Boston building congress about three years ago, each craft has a slack period of several months' duration, and that roughly it might be said that the building crafts are employed on an average to about 75 per cent of their capacity. This leads directly to a demand for higher wages than would be required if the workers could count on continuous employment, and indirectly, by concentrating building into a limited period, increases other costs.

Reasonably quick turnover of capital is sought by manufacturers, who therefore dislike to anticipate too far the future demands, and while manufacturing for stock in dull periods is not neglected, the seasonal demand by owners for the product of the industry is reflected all along the line of the material producers, and creates in varying degrees an element of waste due to carrying charges on idle equipment and overhead, increased wage scales due to their own fluctuations in employment, and excess costs of transportation due to concentrated demand on common carriers and delays resulting therefrom.

This situation is by no means inevitable. It has developed rather accidentally, among the causes leading to it being weather conditions, local customs related to weather but not necessarily controlled by it, and mere lack of consideration of the problem by owners who add to the normal and necessary peak demand the burden of repair work which could be done equally well at some other season. It can be remedied, but only by concerted and continued effort.

A steady program of public information in each community is required to drive home to owners and users of buildings the actual local facts. But first there must be a careful study of local conditions to determine just what the actual facts are, what they mean, and what can be done to improve the conditions. This work is the legitimate work of the building industry. It can only be adequately done by the cooperative effort of the various elements immediately involved.

General Marshall, general manager of the Associated General Contractors of America, called attention to other indirect effects of irregular employment. At present, he pointed out, there is no standard of production in the different crafts, and no allowance in the wage scale for excellence of work; if a man is engaged at all, he receives the standard wage, no matter how far above or below the average his performance may be. Far better results would be obtained if a standard of production were established, a standard wage provided for this, and variations in wages permitted to correspond to the worker's efficiency. The objection of the workers to such a grading of the wage scale, he thought, was due to their conviction that, if it were permitted, the employer, as soon as work grew slack, would tend to discharge his higher-priced men, who would thereby be penalized for their excellence. Of course, if work did not grow slack or, in other words, if employment were regularized, this objection would lose its force.

Waste in the production and distribution of building materials was charged by several speakers. According to Sullivan W. Jones, State architect of New York, this waste is inherent in the present system. Economy, he pointed out, demands standardization and the maintenance of a balance between supply and demand. These could be secured by the organization of the industry for standardization, for allocation of production, for pooling the product, and by price fixing, but at present such practices are illegal, and because they are prohibited, the wastes due to unrestricted competition prevail throughout the industry. To illustrate the economies which might be made the speaker cited the way in which, in a well-managed factory, every part is related to the rest. The number of units which the plant is to produce per day or week or month is known, and each part of the finished product is produced in the quantity needed and in the form which has been decided upon as most effective. Raw material is purchased in such quantities and at such intervals as will insure a steady supply. Power is provided according to the needs of the plant, and each process is so related to the others that no part shall be produced in excess, none shall be wanting, and no operation shall be held up because a preliminary one has not been completed. The plant is considered as a unit, and each part is fitted to the known demands of the rest. In housing, the situation is wholly different.

If we examine the conditions under which housing is constructed, we find that instead of having a machine or set of machines producing the exact number of bricks, of tile, of gallons of paint, of square feet of sheet metal, of the exact type

and quality required, we have anywhere from 2 to 200 individual plants making each of these and the other parts of buildings, and each trying to convince the assembler of the house that his particular product is the best.

To make the matter worse the prospective buyer really does not know which of the different products is best suited to his needs, or, if he does happen to know exactly what he wants, does not know how to describe it in terms which will mean the same thing to the manufacturer as to himself. There is no common or standard terminology. Under the circumstances, the initiative comes from the seller, not from the buyer. Each of the handlers of the 200 kinds of products must do his best to get first to the buyer and to persuade him that this particular product is the precise and only one which meets his needs, and the cost of doing this is added to the charge for the material. Moreover, the extra charge includes not only normal costs of selling, but numerous unnecessary costs of distribution, arising from competition wholly unregulated.

We find paint manufactured in Japan shipped into the American market, and paint of the same kind and for the same purpose made in America and shipped into the Orient. Who pays the freight? We find lumber grown and cut on the Pacific coast shipped east and south, and lumber grown in the East and South shipped to the coast, frequently passing through the hands of several merchandizing middlemen who in many instances never see the product they buy and sell. We find brick made in New York and New Jersey shipped west, and brick made in the West shipped east, and sometimes back again. Again, who pays the freight and the profit to the middleman? * * *

Millions of dollars are spent annually in selling building materials. On an average, not less than 25 cents in every dollar the consumer pays for building material goes to meet the cost of selling him. The expenditure of these millions on competitive sales effort has not increased consumption by one pound of nails, a foot of lumber, or a gallon of paint beyond the consuming capacity of the public. The net result of these enormous expenditures is in general the substitution of one product for another. This substitution is perfectly satisfactory to the proprietor of the substituted product, but serves only to spur the loser to greater selling effort and greater expenditure.

Another element of waste resulting from this situation is the overdevelopment of productive capacity to satisfy temporary demand which, taking the form of buildings and plants, becomes an investment on which interest must be paid and constitutes a permanent charge on the building industry. Again, bad management, due to the uncertainty growing out of the competition for markets, increases carrying charges and adds to the price of materials. "The building industry as a whole is operating upon a 50 per cent efficiency basis. We are paying 100 per cent more for building materials than we need to. That avoidable 100 per cent is the price we pay for competition."

But competition adds also to other costs than those of materials. Contractors are selected through price competition, a practice which increases the cost of building somewhere between 4 and 10 per cent. For more important projects the architects are selected through competition.

A competition held recently for an important building in the Middle West cost the competitors certainly not less than $150,000, and while the owner of this particular building did not pay that loss, the owners of other buildings on which the unsuccessful architects were employed must divide it up between them.

The first step toward eliminating such wastes is to establish standards, both for dimensions and for performance characteristics or qualities. This would at once interfere with competitive selling.

If there is no difference between competitive products the producers are robbed of their selling arguments and the products will be bought upon a price basis pure and simple. This inevitably leads to disappearing profits, and to monopoly in the interest of maintaining profits and price.

In the future we shall have either standards with price fixing to insure reasonable profits, or we shall have destandardization in the interest of profits.

The wastes charged against present building customs were varied. Building codes were held responsible for much unnecessary cost. The margin of safety required in walls, roofs, and flooring differs widely from place to place; if the lower margins are sufficient, obviously the higher involve a wholly needless expense. Moreover, the codes work directly against standardization, since there is no uniformity in their requirements in the way of material and devices. An instance was cited of two contiguous cities where on one side of a street it is against the law to omit the running trap in a house drain, while on the other side of the same street it is against the law to put one in, and in a neighboring city its use is optional. Conventional ideas of what a house requires account for many avoidable costs. So-called ornamental excrescenses found no defenders, and even some features usually considered essential were assailed. Cellars are wholly unnecessary in many cases, the conference was assured, and ceilings are of more than doubtful utility, except when they serve as the floors of upper stories. Standard units of structural material were described, which could be made in quantity and put together with a minimum of labor cost. A unit type of house was recommended, sufficient in size to accommodate a young couple, and so designed that as their needs increased more room could be added without interfering either with architectural unity or structural convenience. Even zoning, enthusiastically advocated on other grounds, was urged also as a means of decreasing the cost of financing, since it safeguarded housing investments.

On the whole, the conference advanced no revolutionary ideas, but it did bring together a considerable body of testimony to the effect that housing costs are at present needlessly high, that there are numerous wastes which might well be eliminated, and that by concerted effort and intelligent study the industry itself might do much to improve the present situation, without invoking outside aid or legal intervention.

Proposed Repeal of Restrictive Rent Regulation in Germany.

ACCORDING to a cable from the American commercial attaché in Berlin dated December 13, 1923 (Commerce Reports, December 24, 1923), the new German cabinet, acting under the special powers conferred upon it by the law of October 13, 1923 (*Ermächtigungsgesetz*), has decided to repeal the maximum rent law on January 1, 1924. This drastic action is a necessary part of the attempt to reform conditions in Germany. Private building is at an absolute standstill and as a consequence the housing shortage is daily becoming more acute. It has long been evident that no permanent improvement in housing conditions could be achieved until the law limiting a landlord's return from rented property was changed.

The amendment of the rent law some months ago whereby cost of repairs was shifted from the landlords to the tenants was recognized as a mere palliative.

It is now proposed to raise rents gradually. In January, 1924, when the new decree becomes effective, rents will be raised to 25 per cent of the pre-war gold rate, to 30 per cent in February, 35 per cent in March, 40 per cent in April, and then by increments of 10 per cent each month, until in October, 1924, rents equal 100 per cent of the pre-war gold rates.

A special clause in the decree requires that a part of the rents collected on the new basis, ranging from one-tenth in February, 1924, to one-half in November, 1924, shall be paid by the landlords to the commune and the State, as a tax collected at the source.

An immediate result of this measure will be an advance in the cost of living, since the rent item, which has been recently as low as 1 per cent of the workmen's budget, will gradually rise until it reaches the pre-war proportion of 20 per cent. Obviously, manufacturing costs will increase in proportion to the higher wages that will be demanded by the workers to cover the rent item, which was hitherto negligible.

LAND SETTLEMENT.

Land Settlement in Canada and in Australia.[1]

Canada.

SOME important aspects of land settlement are discussed by Maj. E. A. Ashton, commissioner of the Canadian Soldier Settlement Board, in the December, 1923, issue of the Canadian (Trades and Labor) Congress Journal.

He reports that in the five and one-half years of the board's operation 23,213 ex-service men have been placed on the land and granted loans from the Dominion Government. In addition, 6,343 have secured soldier grant entries without further financial aid, making a total of 29,556. The aggregate loans approximate $90,000,000, $34,500,000 of this being expended for stock and equipment and the remainder for land and permanent improvements. At the beginning of 1923 these settlers had 77,594 horses, 63,717 cows, 88,949 other cattle, 13,732 brood sows, 32,375 pigs, 11,225 sheep, and 807,491 domestic fowls. These figures cover increases, but the great majority of the original stock was bought after inspection by the board's field agents. In 1922 the value of the field crops of about 18,000 of these settlers was $15,966,202.

There have, of course, been a number of failures, adjustments having been made on over 16 per cent of the loans at the time the report was written. As indicative of the care exercised in the board's purchase of land, it may be cited that in 1,469 completed sales of land, chiefly to civilians, the total price received was approximately the same as the total investment of the Government.

The period of the board's operations covers some bad agricultural years. "Last year, however, including prepayments, soldier settlers returned to the Government about 60 per cent of the collections asked for." Loan officials, Major Ashton suggests, would regard this percentage as a favorable one in view of conditions in that year.

In Ontario, the Province which ranks first in collections, the board has settled on the land 1,833 returned soldiers. Including prepayments Ontario exceeded 100 per cent in collections in two out of three years in which large amounts were due and in the third year made a record of 98 per cent. Ontario is below the average in salvage, its record being 14.7 per cent as compared to 16.2 per cent for Canada as a whole. In more than 100 completed cases of salvage the sale price has allowed almost enough surplus over the Government investment to make up for equipment and stock losses which in Ontario as well as in the other Provinces have been heavy because of price deflations and the character of the security. The present Canadian land-settlement problem is a national one and faces every

[1] For previous articles on the Canadian Land Settlement Board, see MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW, June, 1919, pp. 52–58, and January 1921, p. 231.

Province. The pioneer settlers of upper and lower Canada took possession of timber-covered lands where homes had to be hewn laboriously out of the primeval forest. In the latter part of the nineteenth century and the early part of the present century the opening of the Prairie Provinces to settlers shifted the problem. Extensive tracts of rich lands were made available which required comparatively little cultivation to make them productive. In addition to the offer of 160 acres of free land in the fertile Prairie Provinces, the settlers at that period had the advantage of an unprecedented railroad expansion for which Canada is paying to-day. Indeed the connecting up of remote settlements is considered responsible for many of the Dominion railroads' financial problems. The country, Major Ashton thinks, is agreed that it can not afford to intensify its transportation difficulties by adding to the number of its scattered settlements.

The soldier settlement board's investigation of 1918 disclosed the fact that easily cultivated free lands adjacent to railways are no longer available in the Dominion. The Crown lands of agricultural value near railways, which are now open to settlers are for the most part covered with timber and brush, can only be slowly developed, and call for hardy settlers who must cope with pioneer conditions possibly somewhat less difficult than those of a century ago.

There are also vacant areas on land already taken up, but such areas would have to be bought from corporate or private owners. These vacant tracts in existing settlements are found in various parts of the Dominion. To settle the timberlands, pioneers are needed who must be able to tide over a period of nonproduction. To settle the lands which must be purchased, men with substantial capital are needed—men drawn from the present farm population or newcomers able to finance themselves.

The Dominion and Provincial Governments should, the writer feels, endeavor to increase the agricultural prosperity of the country in order that at least 8,000, or 1 per cent, may be added annually to the 800,000 farmers already established. It has taken the Dominion 250 years to establish 800,000 farmers. Although from 1901 to 1911 there was an approximate increase of 170,000 in their number—an average of 17,000 per annum. Under the changed conditions it would be aiming high to try to secure this many each year. It is also pointed out that in previous years shiploads of settlers were sometimes transported free to Canada by the British and French Governments. Provisions and tools were also furnished without charge.

In the latter part of his article the writer again emphasizes that the Canadians' aim "must be prosperous agricultural settlement, as prosperous agriculture will give the biggest boost to colonization." The best settler, he declares, is the one who can establish himself without assistance and develop into a successful farmer. These men are, however, exceptional. As a rule, if settlers are left entirely to their own resources, many will be disappointed in the results of their efforts.

In his opinion, Canada's broad problem is to decide whether it is more advisable squarely to face this slow increase of its farming population, or to stimulate immigration and adopt a State-assisted land-settlement policy which will bring new men to the Dominion

and help to transform quickly the National Railway deficits into profits.

As supplementary to the above summary of Major Ashton's article, it is noted that the Canadian National Railways have adopted an important policy to be carried out by their department of immigration and colonization, which is outlined by the vice president of the company as follows:[2]

1. To influence the immigration and satisfactory settlement of Canada of the largest possible number of people of productive capacity that the country can absorb and assimilate.
2. To contribute to the dissemination of information concerning the vast and extensive natural resources of the Dominion and the widespread opportunities for industrial development, so that capital may be attracted from other countries and invested where enterprise will be legitimately rewarded.
3. To promote the land settlement of new Canadians under conditions that will insure the maximum possibility of success in their farming operations and enable them to enjoy such social and religious institutions as are necessary to individual happiness and contentment.
4. To so encourage improvement in agriculture that more diversified methods may be used in farming and that crop, livestock, and dairy production may be increased in accordance with market demands and prospects.
5. To assist, by organized effort, in the immigration of young people of desirable type and character, especially from Great Britain, and in their placement in respectable rural homes where they may become qualified to participate in constructive activities and acquire citizenship of distinct value to Canada.
6. To aid in the development of new opportunities for service and to facilitate every effective means of selecting immigrants physically fit and anxious for work.
7. To cooperate with the Federal and Provincial Governments and business organizations throughout the Dominion in promoting all measures calculated to contribute toward an increase in immigration of adaptable people and in their settlement under the most favorable conditions possible.

Australia.

WESTERN Australia, Major Ashton states, has entered into an agreement with the British Government to place on the land within the next few years 75,000 men, women, and children. The State takes care of the board of these newcomers for a few days after their arrival, and places them in suitable employment in rural sections. From these 75,000 immigrants it is proposed to select, in groups of 20 or 30, 6,000 of the more suitably equipped men to be settled, with Government aid, on new farms in the southwest sections of the State. The State is raising a loan of £6,000,000 ($29,199,000, par) to carry out this scheme, the British Government agreeing to contribute one-third of the interest on that amount for five years and the Australian Government another third.

Victoria is planning for 6,000 settlers at the rate of 2,000 per annum and will assist them by substantial loans. The British Government will lend £300 ($1,459.95, par) to each settler.

New South Wales has provisions of a somewhat similar character.

South Australia and Queensland are attempting to make up for the men they lost in the war by bringing in each month 500 boy immigrants between 14 and 18 years of age, who are placed with farmers. It is hoped that later on these youths will themselves become owners of farms.

[2] Journal of Commerce and Commercial Bulletin, New York, Dec. 17, 1923, p. 3.

Under the assisted-passage agreements between the British Government and the various Australian States a free grant of one-third of the cost of passage at the minimum Government rate is made for single persons who would not have over £250 ($1,216.63, par) or married persons who would not have over £500 ($2,433.25, par) after meeting the requisite cost, if any, of initial settlement. There are also provisions for lending the remaining one-third of the cost of passage and for making a small loan to meet the first expenses of immigrants whose capital does not exceed "the amount of such further assistance."

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS AND HYGIENE.

Industrial Accidents in Pennsylvania.

ACCORDING to reports received by the department of labor and industry for the first eight months of 1923, there was an increasing number of eyes lost through accidents, as the result of infection or injury. In the majority of cases the eye loss is attributable to inadequate screen protection or to failure to wear goggles. The law requires that when employees are doing work involving danger to their eyes from flying fragments, goggles be provided by employers and worn by employees. In the department's decade of experience in preventing accidents there is no record of any case of loss of sight from flying particles when goggles were worn, even though the goggles themselves were broken by the impact. In the past the department has not been willing to resort to severe measures in enforcing this statute regarding goggles, but in view of the recent increase in blindness it may become imperative to prosecute employees who do not wear goggles as required by law.

The department has become greatly concerned over the steady rise in the number of industrial accidents in Pennsylvania. During 1921, 140,197 accidents were reported to the department; in 1922, 146,255; and in the first 9 months of 1923, 152,735. In certain industries also the percentage of accidents resulting in infection has increased steadily. This is especially marked in the manufacture of clothing. The percentage of such accidents in this industry was 13.7 in 1921, 15.2 in 1922, and 19 from January 1 to September 30, 1923.

The department has decided to investigate the causes of these infections with a view to cutting down their frequency. The results of a preliminary study of 50 cases of infection after accidents clearly shows that in the majority of these cases the injuries were not reported promptly and therefore were not accorded early treatment. Facing these facts the department declares that "the cooperation of the management of all industries with the workers in an effort to have all cases of infection, however slight, reported promptly can not be too strongly emphasized."

In October, 1923, 45 disabled registrants of the bureau of rehabilitation were being assisted financially from the bureau's funds in training courses to fit them to follow suitable occupations despite their handicaps. During the same month 61 disabled persons were reported to the bureau, making the total number of such persons on the bureau's rolls 3,861. Of this number, 2,893 registered with the bureau, 50 of whom registered in October, 1923. Of these 50 registrants, 45 were victims of accidents occurring during employment, 3 were injured in public accidents, and 2 were disabled by disease. In 22 cases leg injuries were sustained; in 14, hand injuries; and in 7, arm injuries.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION AND SOCIAL INSURANCE.

An English View of Superannuation.

THE English magazine, Industrial Welfare, in its issue for December, 1923, reports that a conference on superannuation in industry and commerce was held on November 14, 1923, at which Mr. Duncan Fraser, a recognized authority on the subject, gave an address dealing with the general principles which should underlie any retirement plan. Two circumstances, he stated, have combined to bring this subject into prominence in England just now. In August, 1922, an act came into force empowering local authorities, at their option, to adopt schemes for the superannuation of officials and employees.

As a result hundreds of local authorities all over the Kingdom are at the present time considering the question; many have already put schemes into operation, and within a short period of time every important municipality and local authority in the country will have in operation a completely worked out scheme, arranged on sound financial principles, for the superannuation of its employees, not only the salaried employees but the wage-earning workers as well, the plans being so comprehensive in some cases as to include road sweepers and charwomen.

The second circumstance which has brought the subject before the public is that in 1921 special concessions were made in regard to income-tax payments giving relief to contributors to superannuation funds, whether the contributors were employers or workers.

A superannuation fund, Mr. Duncan holds, is essential to the proper conduct of any business, since no matter how valuable officials and employees may have been a time comes when they are hindrances to the efficient functioning of the business. Opinions differ as to the age at which a worker may be regarded as having reached this point. In England for three-quarters of a century, 65 has been looked upon as the standard age for retirement. For 20 years past there has been a tendency to set an earlier age, 60 being fixed upon in some cases, provision being sometimes made for the retention after that age of officials of exceptional value. The age decided upon affects materially the provision that must be made for pensions.

If pensions on the breakdown of health are excluded from consideration, the same rates of contribution will produce at 65 pensions which are 50 per cent higher than could be given at 60. If full effect be given to the charge for pensions on account of breakdown of health, the fund which makes 65 the predominant age of retirement will be able to give pensions about one-third higher than the fund which pensions all its members at 60.

Pensions are usually calculated on length of service. It is a generally accepted principle in England that after a service of 40 years or over the pension should be two-thirds of the average annual salary received during the last five years of service. For shorter periods of service it is a common rule that the pension "shall be one-sixtieth

of the salary multiplied by the number of years of service up to 40 years as a maximum." The position is taken that no pension should be allowed, however, for a period of service shorter than 10 years, because the fund would soon be burdened with a multitude of small pensions, very troublesome to handle and of little benefit to the recipients.

The cost of pensions is affected by a number of circumstances, but some general principles can be laid down.

It is nowadays understood that under a wide range of conditions, contributions of 10 per cent on the salaries are necessary in order to provide pensions such as I have been speaking of with the usual incidental benefits of a pension scheme. The contributions provide only for future service, and for every year for which 10 per cent is paid a pension of one-sixtieth of the ultimate salary can be granted.

Who should pay this contribution is a debatable question, but Mr. Duncan states that in his experience he has found the employees so anxious to establish a satisfactory system that they are ready to contribute half, provided the plan is so arranged that each may be sure of getting his money back, in case he does not qualify for a pension. Generally death or withdrawal from the service is the only cause which will prevent him from qualifying. In case of withdrawal, the employee should get back his full contributions with interest. In case of death, if it occurs while the man is still actively employed, it is suggested that should his own contributions, plus accrued interest, fall short of a year's salary, the amount paid over to his family should be made up to that figure. If it occurs after superannuation, "if the pension payments should fall short of the amount that would have been paid had death occurred in the service, then the rules would provide that the difference should go to the family."

These arrangements secure that in every possible event the individual obtains at least the benefit of his own contributions and interest, and under these conditions the scheme would not only be in the interests of the business, but would be likely to secure the warm concurrence of the staff, and their ready acquiescence in the payment of as much as five per cent of their salaries.

Providing funds for the payment of pensions due in whole or in part to past service is the most difficult part of the whole business, since it involves establishing a capital sum proportioned to the average period of past service.

Supposing the average period of past service to be about 10 years, then the capital sum required would be about equivalent to 10 years' contributions at 10 per cent, or an amount equal to one year's salary and wages. If the average period of past service is more than 10 years, more would be required. I have seen cases where a fund of as much as two years' salaries was required to start the scheme on a solvent basis.

The simplest solution of this difficulty is found when the employing agency is able and willing to supply the fund outright, as a means of getting the plan started. Sometimes the company will pay the pensions for past service without calling upon the fund; sometimes such pensions are paid half from the fund and half by the company; or other modifications may be worked out.

British Workmen's Compensation Act of 1923.

THE British Parliament at its recent brief session in November, 1923, passed an amendment to the workmen's compensation act of 1906; this amendment received royal assent on November 16. Important changes were made in the law, increasing benefits and otherwise liberalizing its provisions. The act of 1906 had been the subject of amendments in 1917 and 1919 which undertook to relieve the situation produced by changes in the value of currency and in the cost of living. The amendment of 1917 added 25 per cent to the benefits payable under the act of 1906 on account of total incapacity. This act was limited to the duration of the war and six months thereafter, but an insurance journal of current issue made the forecast that the provisions of increase would be permanent. This was borne out by an act of 1919, which continued the period of increase but advanced the amount of increase to 75 per cent, and made this increase available to beneficiaries under the workmen's compensation acts of 1897 and 1900, as well as to those under the present principal act of 1906. The first section of the amendatory act of 1923 repeals both these "war addition acts" as of December 31, 1923, but provides that the addition provided for in the said acts shall continue with respect to total incapacity due to accidents occurring on or prior to that date, as long as the workman remains totally incapacitated.

Under the terms of the old law, death benefits were to be three years' earnings of the deceased or the sum of £150 ($729.98, par), whichever was larger, but not exceeding £300 ($1,459.95, par). Under the present law the minimum is £200 ($973.30, par) and the maximum £600 ($2,919.90, par). Provision is made for variation in the amount on the basis of the age and number of dependent children under the age of 15 by adding to the basic benefit a sum equal to 15 per cent of the amount arrived at by multiplying the average weekly earnings of the workman, or where such earnings are less than £1 ($4.87, par), then by multiplying £1, or where such earnings exceed £2 ($9.73, par), then by multiplying £2 by the number of weeks in the period between the death of the workman and the date when each such child will attain the age of 15. Total disability benefits may amount to 30s. ($7.30, par) instead of £1 ($4.87, par) as a maximum.

The waiting time is reduced from seven days to three, for which payment may be made if incapacity lasts four weeks or more. The wage limitation is raised from £250 ($1,216.63, par) to £350 ($1,703.28, par), thus permitting nonmanual employees up to the higher range of salaries to receive the benefits of the law. Employments of a casual nature, if for the purposes of any game or recreation and engaged or paid for through a club, are brought within the act. The scope of the act is further increased by a provision construing the clause "out of and in the course of the employment" to include accidents resulting in death or serious and permanent disablement "notwithstanding that the workman was at the time when the accident happened acting in contravention of any statutory or other regulation applicable to his employment, or of any orders given by or on behalf of his employer, or that he was acting without instructions from his employer, if such act was done by the workman for the purposes of and in connection with his employer's trade or business."

Various amendments are made as to procedure, the law as to posting a summary of the act being extended to ships, as well as to mines, factories, etc. The keeping of an accident book is also prescribed, in which entries are to be made as soon as practicable after the happening of an accident, setting forth the necessary particulars under the law. Such entry made by the injured workman or some one in his behalf is to be sufficient notice of the accident for the purpose of making claims. The circumstances under which an employer may end or diminish weekly compensation are restricted, and provision is made for the adjustment of compensation benefits to fluctuations in the rates of earnings that would have been experienced if the workman had been able to continue in service. Limitations are placed upon the right of the employer or insurer to deduct from the death benefits the amounts paid to the injured man prior to his death. First-aid boxes or cupboards must be provided in every factory, and if more than 150 persons are employed an additional box or cupboard for every additional 150 persons; if an ambulance room is provided, the chief inspector may exempt the factory from such obligations under this section as he may specify. If the Secretary of State finds, from the number and nature of accidents in any factory or class of factories, that special safety provisions should be made, he may by order require such equipment or supervision as he may specify.

The act came into effect January 1, 1924, and is to be cited with the principal act as "workmen's compensation acts 1906 to 1923." Reciprocity with foreign countries may be provided for by orders in council instead of by statute as formerly.

The American consulate general, in transmitting a copy of this act, sent also a copy of a circular issued by the accident insurance companies of Great Britain to their policyholders pointing out the considerable increases in benefits provided by the new act, and also the enlarged scope with regard to salaried persons not engaged in manual labor. The office further reports that existing policyholders are having their coverage continued without extra premium until the next ensuing renewal date of the policy.

Serious consideration was given by the commission of inquiry as to the present system of compensation insurance, and, in view of the fact that the liability to pay compensation is imposed by act of Parliament, whether or not a more economical system of insurance could be established. "As the outcome of long negotiations between the Government and representatives of accident insurance companies, an agreement has been come to by which there will be no interference with the carrying on of the business by insurance offices. This agreement, however, has been obtained only by an undertaking on the part of the offices, which renders it necessary to reduce materially the cost of acquiring and managing the business."

In pursuance of this agreement the companies have notified their agents that a reduced scale of commission will be operative under the new act, the commission on premiums on domestic servants' policies, rated per capita and on "combined and/or comprehensive policies" will be limited to 15 per cent; while on all other policies the rate will be 10 per cent on the first £100 ($486.65, par) premium, 7½ per cent on the second £100, 5 per cent on the third £100, and 2½ per cent on any premium payment in excess of £300 ($1,459.95, par).

LABOR LAWS AND COURT DECISIONS.

Status of Maritime Workers Injured in the Course of Employment.

By LINDLEY D. CLARK, of the U. S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS.

Stevedores.

THE anomalous and confusing situation of the stevedore under the law, a local fixed worker, is again brought to view in a case recently decided by the United States Circuit Court of Appeals of the Ninth Circuit. (*The Kongosan Maru*, 292 Fed. 801.) Though never leaving port, nor working on a vessel while under steam, the stevedore has yet come to be classed as a maritime worker with rights determinable under admiralty law. The efforts of Congress to establish a status for such workers under the compensation laws of the States in which the ports are situated have not yet achieved success, one law having been declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court of the United States (Knickerbocker Ice Co. *v.* Stewart, 253 U. S. 149, 40 Sup. Ct. 438), while a second attempt has been likewise declared void by the United States District Courts of Alabama, California, and Massachusetts, and the Supreme Court of California.

The accident in the present case occurred in the interim between the finding of unconstitutionality of the earlier law and the enactment of the later, so that no question of the construction of the latter was involved. George Young, the injured workman, was employed by a stevedoring company which had the contract for loading, fumigating, reloading, and coaling the *Kongosan Maru*. The hatches were open for coaling the vessel and the work entered upon, but on account of the wet condition of the coal the job was left uncompleted, the hatches remaining open. Young had gone aboard to close the main hatches after fumigation had been completed, and while attempting to leave the vessel, about 11 o'clock at night, he fell into an open coaling hatch.

He sought damages in admiralty against the vessel and the stevedoring company. In the court below (282 Fed. 666), the ship was found not liable, and Young was found guilty of contributory negligence, so that while the stevedoring company was held liable, the amount of damages was reduced one-half. The company appealed, disclaiming any liability, while Young and his wife filed a cross appeal, seeking full damages. The court of appeals, one judge dissenting, upheld the nonliability of the ship, since Young was in no sense its employee, the only negligence charged against it being the alleged absence of proper lights and the knowledge on the part of its officers that the hatch in question was left uncovered. The ship was at the time entirely in the hands of the stevedoring company. There was a passageway 7 feet wide between the hatch and the deckhouse, the space between the coaming and the rail of the vessel being about

20 inches. There was a ladder reaching from the rail to the dock, and it was in his effort to reach this ladder that Young fell into the hatch. His failure to use the wider passageway instead of seeking to go more directly to the ladder was said by the court below to have been contributory negligence. His claim of lack of light was unsupported, the court finding that, except for a shadow over the coal hatch into which Young fell, "it clearly appears from the evidence the ship was well lighted." The court of appeals found that this fact, coupled with the opportunity of Young to see the situation while on board in the afternoon, and while returning in the evening, were such as to give him full warning of the opening. Furthermore, under maritime law, the principle of fellow service might be referred to; but in view of the method of work used and the fact that the coaling operation had been begun, it was not negligence to leave the hatches uncovered. As Young had "carelessly, as the court below rightly found from the evidence, walked into open hatch No. 3," no right of recovery existed, and the partial judgment in his favor was reversed.

Judge Gilbert dissented, maintaining that the majority opinion was based on authorities "which I submit have no relation to the facts in the case." Young was not a part of the coaling gang, but was connected with the cargo operations. His own testimony was that he had last seen the hatches covered, and as he had nothing to do with that work, he had no occasion to make further examination. Judge Gilbert further said that there was failure to prove custom; and if any doubt existed as to the correctness of the judgment of the lower court it was with regard to its dividing the damages on the ground that Young had contributed to his injury by his negligence.

The least that can be said with regard to this decision is that it illustrates anew the necessity of clear and specific legislation determining the rights of injured employees on board vessels no less than in factories and other employments. The difficulty of modifying ancient customs and doctrines that took form long before the more modern and humane conceptions of compensation can not be permitted to make the final determination, and an early authoritative interpretation of existing law is desirable in order that the way may be clear for such action as may be necessary to furnish the desired protection.

The lack of finality at present is further shown by a case recently decided by the United States District Court for the Southern District of California. (Bloom *v.* Furness-Withy & Co., 293 Fed. 98.) Here a widow sued in a State court for the death of her husband, due, it was alleged, to the negligence of the defendant owner of a vessel on which he was employed. The case was removed from the State to the Federal court on the ground of diversity of citizenship, the owner being a foreign corporation. An authorization for the suit was said to appear in section 377 of the Code of Civil Procedure of the State, which gives the heirs or personal representatives of a decedent the right to sue for damages the party causing his death by wrongful act. The defense offered by the company was that the Federal court was without jurisdiction by reason of the provisions of the State compensation law, which made that law the exclusive remedy in cases within its scope; also by reason of the amendment to sections 24 and 256 of the Judicial Code, approved June 10, 1922, which undertook to give per-

sons other than the crew of a vessel compensation rights under State laws as an exclusive remedy.

As to this amendment, the court said that in so far as it attempted to deprive the district courts of their admiralty jurisdiction, it was without validity, citing its recent decision in *The Canadian Farmer*, 290 Fed. 601. It was there said that while Congress concededly might change the form of remedies and define and declare the maritime law as it shall be administered in the United States, it has never been admitted that it could divide that jurisdiction, leaving open a portion of the field to be occupied by the States. The amendment was therefore void as an attempt to take the case out of admiralty jurisdiction. (See in this connection Farrel *v.* Waterman S. S. Co., 286 Fed. 284, noted on p. 206 of the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW for July, 1923, where the same conclusion was reached.)

The next point considered was the fact that the general maritime law allows no recovery for the death of a person; but admiralty courts have recognized State laws giving the right to sue in case of death from wrongful act, sharing jurisdiction with the State courts under the provision of the judiciary act (sec. 11) allowing recourse to the common law where it is competent to give a remedy. The court then ruled that the purported right given by section 377 of the Code of Civil Procedure could not avail because of the declaration of the compensation law of the State as to the exclusiveness of its application and the consequent abrogation of the right to sue, being "in lieu of any other liability whatsoever." A California decision was then cited, to the effect that no right of action is given by the Code of Civil Procedure to sue for damages in view of the provisions of the compensation law. (McLain *v.* Llewellyn Iron Works, 56 Calif. App. 58, 204 Pac. 869.)[1] The court then stated that it could enforce in admiralty only a right that could be enforced in a court of justice; and as compensation was administered by a board and not by a court, there was no jurisdiction.

The case therefore resolves itself into a denial of maritime recovery on the ground that the State has abrogated suits for damages in employment cases, ousting them from the courts, while at the same time it denies compensation status to a maritime injury. The suggestion seems in order that the compensation law does not abolish suits for damages in *all* cases, but only in cases in which it itself offers a remedy.[2] The question also arises as to the doctrine laid down by the Supreme Court in the case of Western Fuel Co. *v.* Garcia (1921), 257 U. S. 233, 42 Sup. Ct. 89. This was a California case, in which a stevedore was instantly killed while at work in the hold of a vessel in San Francisco Bay. The United States District Court for the Northern District of California allowed recovery under the "death act" of the State, accepting jurisdiction, and also denying the effect of the limitation of one year from the date of the accident. The Supreme Court reversed the judgment on the ground that the limitation barred action, but upheld the right to proceed in personam in admiralty for the damages sustained, as provided by the laws of the State, saying that "the district court rightly assumed jurisdiction of

[1] There, however, there was a right to recover under the terms of the compensation act.

[2] The first condition prescribed for the exclusive operation of the act is that "at the time of the injury both the employer and the employee are subject to the compensation provisions of this act."

the proceedings, but erred in holding the right of action was not barred under the statute of limitations."

The judge for the southern district does not refer to this case from the northern district of the same State, though it appears to be exactly in point. He admits jurisdiction except for the provision of the compensation act, but by his construction of the laws seems to leave the widow without redress from any source.

In this connection may be noted a decision by the Supreme Court of Washington (State *v.* W. C. Dawson & Co., 212 Pac. 1059), which affirms the maritime rights of a stevedore employed on board ship, saying that he "does not have a common-law right of action which may be withdrawn, and he be permitted or required to take under a compensation act." The Supreme Court of California quotes this case with approval in James Rolph Co. *v.* Industrial Accident Commission, 220 Pac. 669, thus taking away the support claimed from that court in the Bloom case. Both these State courts distinguish the cases in hand from that of State Industrial Commission of New York *v.* Nordenholt Corp., 259 U. S. 263, 42 Sup. Ct. 473, in which a stevedore working on a dock was held properly included under the compensation law of New York, and this although the employer is also the employer of the stevedore on the vessel who is under a maritime rule, the "uniformity and consistency" of which must not be disturbed.

In the California case last cited the amendment of 1922 to the Judicial Code was said to be subject to the same objections as that of 1917, and similarly unconstitutional. This case has been appealed to the Supreme Court of the United States by the industrial commission, together with other maritime cases.

A similar decision as to the constitutionality of the amendment to the Judicial Code was arrived at by Judge Lowell of the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts, but without like disastrous results to the claimant. (*The Mercedes de Larrinaga*, 293 Fed. 251.) Here a longshoreman was employed by a stevedore company, and was injured while at work on a vessel. For this injury the employee proceeded in admiralty against the vessel. No facts in the case are given, but from the discussion of the principles involved it would appear that the injury was due to the negligence of the owners rather than that of the stevedore company, his direct employer. The owner offered as a defense that the stevedore company was insured under the provisions of the workmen's compensation act of Massachusetts, bringing the injured man under the terms of that act and correspondingly removing him from the jurisdiction of an admiralty court under the terms of the amendment of 1922 to the Judicial Code.

Judge Lowell discussed at considerable length various decisions by the Supreme Court and other courts as to maritime jurisdiction, including the Knickerbocker case, in which the amendment of 1917 to the Judicial Code had been declared void. An historical review of the power of Congress over interstate commerce led to a conclusion in favor of the uniformity rule laid down by the Supreme Court and "that Congress has exceeded its power by trying to give to the State part of its admiralty jurisdiction."

Unlike the situation in California, in Massachusetts the employee might choose his remedy. This he had done in the present case,

electing a libel in admiralty rather than a claim under compensation. "As the case at bar is one where compensation is provided for the injuries of the longshoreman, the district court would not have jurisdiction over the action against the vessel given by the maritime law," if the provision of the amendment were valid, since it denies such jurisdiction in cases provided for by the workmen's compensation law of any State. Regarding this attempted restriction on jurisdiction as invalid, the proceeding in admiralty must be regarded as proper.

Repair Workers.

CARPENTERS and similar workmen engaged in the repair of vessels in port or in dry docks are within the terms of the amendment to the Judicial Code, being maritime workers "other than the master or members of the crew of a vessel." The Court of Appeals of New York had before it a case which involved injury to a worker employed as a "burner," his duty being to burn bolts and metal plates of a vessel undergoing repairs in his employer's dry dock. While so employed he was injured by reason, as the jury found, of the company's negligence and a judgment was given in his favor in a proceeding in admiralty. (Danielsen *v.* Morse Dry Dock & Repair Co., 139 N. E. 567.) The case was brought from the lower courts to the court of appeals on the contention that the nature of his employment and the place of the accident were such that the workmen's compensation law of the State was applicable, and being applicable, was exclusive. The court held that the contract, being for the repair of a ship, as distinguished from one for its construction, was maritime. Furthermore, the locus, being in a dry dock afloat in navigable waters, met the test of locality. Both these elements establish the nature of the proceeding, and a compulsory workmen's compensation statute, such as that of New York, "will not displace the rights and remedies established by the law of the sea. * * * The supremacy of that law, overriding the local statute," was therefore relied upon, and the court upheld that position.

In this case, as in that of the *Kongosan Maru*, the injury occurred in the interim between the two acts of Congress undertaking amendment to the Judicial Code. The court of appeals did not act until after the passage of the law, but declined to consider whether the new attempt had obviated the difficulties found by the Supreme Court in the Knickerbocker case.

On the same day with the above the same court passed upon a case of fatal injury to a workman engaged in the repair of a vessel in the dry dock of the same employer. (Warren *v.* Morse Dry Dock & Repair Co., 139 N. E. 569.) The defendant undertook to distinguish between death cases and others. The court recognized the lack of a remedy in fatal cases under the general maritime law, right to recovery being dependent in such cases on the statute of the State supplementing the maritime law in respect of torts upon the local waters. Continuing, the court declared that the maritime law permits its rules to be supplemented to a limited extent by local statutes, but that the workmen's compensation act "does not lend itself to enforcement in the maritime courts. It does not lend itself to enforcement in the common-law courts according to common-law remedies. For

these reasons it is inoperative to supplement or modify the maritime law." However, the New York court refused to take the position adopted in the Bloom case above, saying that the legislature, in passing a compensation act did not intend "to abolish every remedy, but to substitute one remedy for another. * * * To the extent that the substitution of a new remedy is ineffective, the old one survives." This construction was said to conform to the court's understanding of the doctrines laid down by the Supreme Court of the United States, and the judgment in favor of the plaintiff in the court below was affirmed.

A third case recently reported, that may be noted in this connection, was one decided by the United States Circuit Court of Appeals of the Second Circuit, considering a case that came up from the District Court for the Eastern District of New York. (O'Brien *v.* Luckenbach S. S. Co., 293 Fed. 170.) This involved the death of a workman engaged in installing new bulkheads in a vessel preparatory to taking on a cargo of grain. The widow sued in admiralty, joining both the steamship company and the decedent's immediate employer, the Union Transport Co., as defendants. The two companies put in separate answers, both denying negligence and asserting that the assumption of risks was a complete defense, joined with the alleged fault and negligence of the deceased. The district court had found for the defendants and denied any redress. The widow, administratrix of the estate, thereupon appealed, securing a reversal as against the transport company, the steamship company being found not responsible.

The injury had resulted from the negligent placing of timbers over the hatches through which material had to be passed into the hold below, and the defective condition of the hatch cover, which gave way when O'Brien stepped on it, letting him fall to the bottom of the hold, with immediately fatal results. Reference was made by the court to the dependence upon State law for recovery for death from wrongful act, though Congress by an act of March 30, 1920, gave a right of action in such cases occurring on the high seas beyond one maritime league from shore. The defendants contended that the State statute giving a right of action in death cases was not in force at the time because the liability of the employer was to be determined exclusively by the New York workmen's compensation act. The act in terms includes construction and repair of vessels, covering the employment of the deceased, and if effective to repeal the act covering death it must be conceded that the maritime law would give no relief. However, the court of appeals adopted the construction of the New York courts in the Danielsen and Warren cases as to the operative effect of the workmen's compensation act on the situation. This action made the compensation act inoperative in the present case, and left the question open as to the status of the claim under the New York act covering death. For nonfatal injuries, the maritime law would give relief, with but a modification of the award due to contributory negligence, while in fatal cases the only relief possible would be in accord with the State law, which permitted no recovery if there was any degree of contributory negligence. Accepting the State law as giving a status to the case, it was found that no contributory negligence had been

proved, and that the employee could not be regarded as having assumed risks not normally incident to his employment. Reasonable safety could be presumed by him to have been provided by the employer, and the failure to make such provision was negligence entailing liability. Therefore, besides dismissing the case against the steamship company, damages were assessed against the transport company on the basis of the earnings and expectancy of the deceased, an award of $16,500 with legal interest from the date of his death, together with costs, being adjudged a proper award.

This case was based on an injury occurring during the interim between the two amendments already frequently referred to, so that no Federal statute could be offered in support of the trial court's dismissal of the case; but it did fairly present the question of the effect of a compulsory compensation law, exclusive in terms where applicable, in view of the rather numerous recent decisions by the Supreme Court in this field. Reference has already been made to the fact that the first attempt to give stevedores, longshoremen, and like localized maritime workers compensation status was ineffective by reason of the adverse ruling of the Supreme Court. This decision, together with the dissenting opinion in which four justices united, was reviewed in the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW for June, 1920 (pp. 171–175). This strong dissent reflects the complexity of the situation. The Supreme Court considered the status of the stevedore at some length in Atlantic Transport *v.* Imbrovek (1914), 234 U. S. 52, 34 Sup. Ct. 733, saying that the work of stowing the cargo is essentially maritime in its nature, the men who do this work being "as clearly identified with maritime affairs as are the mariners." Here a man injured on board ship was allowed to recover against the employing stevedore company, the ship being relieved of liability as not being the employer, but since stevedoring is maritime, the recovery for the negligent injury was in admiralty. But if the employee doing his part of the same loading or unloading contract is on the dock or wharf, "no general maritime rule prescribes the liability, and the local law has always applied." (Industrial Commission *v.* Nordenholt Corp. (1922), 259 U. S. 263, 42 Sup. Ct. 473.) Despite this broad statement, it must be recorded that the very opinion in which it was made was in reversal of a judgment of the New York courts by which the contrary was held. The presumption is, of course, that a doctrine laid down by the Supreme Court will be followed, and particularly by the Federal courts of lower rank, even though some of the principles laid down "have been severely criticised by members of the admiralty bar" (*The Mercedes de Larrinaga*, supra); in fact, the Bloom case, the Nordenholt case, and the O'Brien case as well, indicate the uncertainty of conformity with doctrines apparently established, and again lead to the suggestion that well-considered and thorough legislation will be necessary before the matter is finally disposed of.[3]

[3] The subject of recovery for injuries to maritime workers has been discussed in earlier issues of the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW as follows: February, 1919, pp. 253–256; November, 1919, pp. 308–310; June, 1920, pp. 171–175; October, 1921, pp. 192–195; February, 1922, pp. 131–133; March, 1922, pp. 151–153; July, 1922, pp. 152–154; August, 1922, pp. 176–179; July, 1923, p. 206.

Enforcement of Findings of Railroad Labor Board.

THE District Court of the United States for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania recently had before it a case involving the enforceability of the determinations of the Railroad Labor Board. The action was brought by representatives of certain classes of employees under the term "Pennsylvania System Board of Adjustment of the Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, Freight Handlers, Express and Station Employees," the defendant being the Pennsylvania Railroad Co.

The opinion of Judge Dickinson (available in typewritten form) discusses the facts in the case and the principles involved, recognizing the cause as "of the greatest importance because it has part in the relation of employer and employees, and questions are raised, the answers to which may carry the greatest consequences because they affect not merely the relations of large and important classes, but also because everyone has an interest in those relations being harmonious." The facts, merely as such, were not in dispute, but there was a controversy "over the inference to be drawn from those facts, or, in other words, over the ultimate fact findings."

The plaintiffs, representing the employees, charged a conspiracy, raising the question of whether the company had attempted an unlawful thing or used unlawful means in the attainment of lawful ends. "The cause had its beginning as litigation in proceedings before the Labor Board. That tribunal gave the plaintiff all which it was within its power to give." However, the court recognized that the Labor Board had no power itself to enforce its findings, as has been "authoritatively ruled." The question is therefore suggested as to whether the plaintiffs are seeking the aid of the court to enforce the board's findings. This plaintiffs' counsel disclaims, but sets up the proposition that Congress has provided the machinery for the settlement of labor disputes in interstate commerce by the Labor Board, and that the defendant company has conspired to thwart this declared purpose of Congress. In other words, Congress, by a series of enactments, "has declared a policy of the law, the carrying out of which the defendants have conspired together to obstruct, and the code pronounces any conspiracy to obstruct a policy of the law to be unlawful."

Judge Dickinson then discussed the nature of the Labor Board as a tribunal. "It exercises in a measure judicial functions, and yet the questions with which it concerns itself are not justiciable as the courts define such questions." It may consider demands of right and justice in a popular sense which are yet far beyond legal rights enforceable by the courts. While the efforts are made to keep the two phases of right in consonance, they are not always successful. Courts can grant no more than the legal rights, while the Labor Board may take into "consideration everything, whether of a legal, ethical, economic, social, civic, humanitarian, or altruistic value. In other words it does not give to the parties before it merely that to which they have a legal right, nor require of them only what they are legally bound to do, but it calls upon each to yield to the other all which, with everything taken into consideration, ought to be yielded regardless of the strict legal rights of either." While the

duty of doing all that could reasonably be asked to end a dispute is generally recognized, there may be honest differences in opinion; and because such differences will arise between employers and employees, Congress has undertaken, because of the interest of the public, to give to the Labor Board a power of adjustment on such bases as the board deems fair and reasonable. While such action far transcends the power of the court, the board has far less power than the court in regard to the execution of its findings. "If the parties refuse acquiescence, all that the board can then do is to give publicity to its ruling, leaving the parties to their willingness to adjust the dispute under the guidance and perhaps the stress of public opinion, influenced, or it may be aroused, by the opinion of the board."

The railroad sets forth its position as desiring harmony and seeking the cooperation of its employees in securing a proper readjustment of wages and working rules, an election having been provided for by which representatives of the employees might participate in the consideration of these matters. It claims that there was no dispute, and therefore no matter to come before the board. The plaintiffs claim a wage dispute, which should be adjusted by the board, and contend that the asserted settlement was such only in form, as the employees were not actually represented, and the election provided for by the company "was a mere pretense to hide the real purpose," which was to avoid arbitration by the Labor Board.

Previous decisions have determined that the board can rule as to the existence of the jurisdictional facts upon which its right to act rests, and that when it has thus decided, no court can review its findings made within the powers conferred by Congress. However, "Congress did not exact obedience to the rulings but left all parties in the full enjoyment of all their legal rights, including the right to accept or reject." Inasmuch as the rejection is the basis of the charge of conspiracy, "it follows that there was no conspiracy to do an unlawful thing." The plaintiffs' only legal right is one to an expression of the opinion of the Labor Board, which right "has already been given them by the award of the Labor Board, and no court can grant them more than their legal rights." The court was unable to recognize the element of unlawfulness, otherwise than in a negative form, in the course of conduct of the defendant; but "we do recognize that there is the broader question of whether (regardless of its legal rights or obligations) the defendant company was right or wrong. The Labor Board has passed upon this and, if the analogue is helpful, there has been an appeal taken to another tribunal, the court of public opinion. All which concerns us is that an appeal to this court is not the legal right of either party."

The case was therefore dismissed.

Collective Agreements as to Production as Restraint of Trade.

THE generally accepted doctrine of personal liberty to engage in industrial or other pursuits not held harmful by law becomes a subject of qualification in the face of shifting circumstances. The necessities arising from war-time conditions were reflected in countless interferences with private enterprises, as well as those of

a public and quasi-public nature. Direct consequences of such regulation are to be found in the field of interstate commerce, where war-time legislation and war-time practices have left an impress that promises to be permanent. An illustration in this connection is the provision found in the transportation act of 1920, amending section 1 of the interstate commerce act by giving to the Interstate Commerce Commission power to grant or withhold a certificate of public convenience and necessity in connection with the extension of railroad lines, the construction of new lines, or the acquisition or operation of any line of railroad or extension thereof. (41 Stat. L., pp. 477, 478.) The same authority extends to the abandonment of all or any portion of a line or of the operation thereof. During the year ending June 30, 1923, 116 applications for certificates of public convenience and necessity were filed, of which 50 were for the construction or extension of railway lines, 36 for authority to abandon mileage, and 28 for authority to operate or to acquire and operate existing lines. There were 66 certificates issued during the year, some relating to prior applications, while 5 were denied and 16 withdrawn. These details are given simply to show the workings of this act, which is a direct interference with the investment of private funds and the disposition of property in private ownership.

Somewhat similar to the above is the power of regulation exerted by the Comptroller of the Currency with regard to the organization of national banks. No such bank may be organized and launched in business without a certificate approved by him, or, in certain cases, by the Secretary of the Treasury. The law does not prescribe the exact conditions under which these certificates are to be issued, the discretion of the officials concerned being exercised on the basis of the facts that come to their knowledge as to local conditions, the directorate, the condition of the association for the transaction of business, etc.

The basis of the supervision of railroads and of banks is easily seen in the nature of the service and responsibilities involved. Where purely social and economic causes operate to influence the parties interested in industrial activities not affected with a public interest, as the above may be said to be, the question of the freedom of action assumes a different aspect. This question arose in a case which was recently before the Supreme Court of the United States, involving the right of employers and workmen, through their respective organizations, to determine the extent and mode of operations in a manufacturing industry of primary importance as a whole, but in the branch affected apparently not an essential. The case is that of the National Association of Window Glass Manufacturers, National Window Glass Workers, et al. *v.* The United States of America, 44 Sup. Ct. 148. The title in this case discloses the unusual circumstance of an organization of manufacturers and a labor union being joined as parties in a common effort to reverse a decision of a lower court to which they were both opposed. The decision from which the appeal was taken was given by District Judge Westenhaver in the District Court of the United States for the Northern District of Ohio, Eastern Division. This decision was rendered February 2, 1923, and appears in volume 287 of the Federal Reporter (pp. 228–239). A brief account

was given of this decision in the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW for April, 1923 (pp. 146–148).

The circumstances of the parties, defendants in the court below, were an aftermath of war-time regulations, which enforced limitations upon the manufacture of glass as not being an essential war-time industry, restrictions being imposed for the conservation of fuel and labor. The restrictive order was issued in the latter part of 1917, limiting the production of hand-blown window glass during 1918 to one-half the product of the preceding year. There was an association of window-glass manufacturers to which practically all makers and producers of hand-blown window glass belonged. Their factories were located in several States, including Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kansas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Louisiana, the location depending largely on the availability of fuel, either coal or gas. There was also an association of window-glass workers comprising all the skilled workmen in the hand-blown window-glass industry. "It is undisputed that there are no skilled workmen other than members of this organization, and that no manufacturer who can not obtain a wage scale from this association can operate his factory or produce hand-blown window glass."

With a limitation on output prescribed by the Government order, it was necessary to compute a quota of production for each shop or pot. Factories which at the time were idle on account of lack of fuel or other causes refrained from operation until the running factories had produced their respective quotas. They were then able to open up and offer employment to the glass blowers who had been engaged in the active plants. The workers at least took the position that this two-period system of operation was "beneficial and advantageous, and the industry has ever since been operated in this way," under an agreement entered into by the two associations. In September, 1922, the agreement was renewed, allowing a certain number of manufacturers to open up in the fall and run for 16 weeks. This was group A. The remainder, called group B, might open up on the 29th of January, 1923, for 18 weeks, but no factory in group B could work from September 25 to January 27, and no factory which had operated during that period could continue after its expiration. Any manufacturer who owned two places might operate one in group A and the other in group B; otherwise his production was entirely restricted to the period for the group in which his factory was placed.

A rather extensive discussion of the situation by the court below led to the conclusion that the facts represented a case of interference with interstate commerce in violation of the Federal antitrust law, and an injunction was authorized, to become effective after a short adjustment period, setting aside the provisions of the agreement. However, when the case came to the Supreme Court, that body was unanimous in reversing the decree for an injunction, and leaving the parties to the collective agreement free to carry on the industry according to the regulations formulated by themselves and without interference by the courts. It was pointed out that the agreement did not "concern sales or distributions; it is directed only to the way in which union labor, the only labor obtainable it is true, shall be employed in production." Conceding that such an agreement might be

within the antitrust act, the question of legality turned on the consideration of particular facts.

It was developed in the case at its first hearing that the hand-blown glass industry is in competition with the manufacture of glass by machine process, and that "the hand-blown glass industry is not capable normally of meeting this competition." There were 65 plants in existence at the time of the September, 1922, proposals, of which but 56 expressed an intention to operate during the ensuing year. The number of workmen necessary to man all the plants was said to be about 2,000, while the membership of the union was said to be less than 1,000, with no prospect of increase through accession of new workers. As stated by Mr. Justice Holmes, who delivered the opinion of the Supreme Court, "The dominant fact in this case is that in the last quarter of a century machines have been brought into use that dispense with the employment of the highly trained blowers and the trained gatherers needed for the handmade glass and in that and other ways have enabled the factories using machines to produce window glass at half the cost of the handmade." The price for the two products is the same, the result being that the machine manufacturers fix the price, and as they make by far the larger part of the glass, it follows that the hand-blown glass industry exists apparently on sufferance only. The effect of this agreement, therefore, on the price of glass would be nil, since the manufacturers in the hand-blown glass industry "obviously are not able to do more than struggle to survive a little longer before they disappear, as human effort always disappears when it is not needed to direct the force that can be got more cheaply from water or coal."

The Supreme Court regarded the alleged dying condition of the industry not to be due to the union, as claimed by the Government in its prosecution, but to "the inevitable coming to pass." There were not men enough to permit continuous operations, while to work with factories undermanned would involve wasteful use of fuel and overhead expenses. Under this agreement factories would run at normal capacity, and the men would be secure in their employment during the whole of the two seasons by shifting from the one group to the other as the seasons of operation alternate. The court, therefore, found no combination in unreasonable restraint of trade in the arrangements entered into by the two organizations to meet the short supply of men.

Apart from the legal aspects of the case, it is obvious that the manufacturers of hand-blown glass are unnecessarily numerous, and the number of establishments maintained is far in excess of the requirements of the industry. Although overhead expenses are reduced when operations cease, the invested capital is none the less idle and unremunerative. By their absolute control over the situation, the machine blowers can obviously, at will, reduce prices to the consumer to such a degree that the more expensive hand-blown glass industry must cease altogether. However, the fact that the agreement above passed upon has not been influential in making or maintaining high prices is easily deducible from an examination of the prices quoted on the grade of glass most commonly used for the past few years. Taking the price in 1913, $2.221 per 50 square feet, as 100, it appears from the average wholesale prices of commodities published by the

Bureau of Labor Statistics that in 1917, when the order for restriction was issued, the price had advanced to $3.325 per 50 square feet, or a relative price, as compared with 1913, of 149.7. In 1918, prices advanced to $5.689, or a relative of 256.2, reaching a maximum in 1920 of $6.555, or a relative of 295.2. This maximum was retained for a few months in 1921, but in January, 1922, the price had fallen to $4.275 and in February to $3.420, which figure prevailed through most of the year, a relative of 154. Some increases appeared late in the year, bringing the prices up to $3.612, or a relative of 162.7.

A comparison may be made between this industry, in which the court below discovered the effects of an admittedly complete organization, so far as hand blowing is concerned, and an industry in the same general class which is only partially organized. Window glass and brick are both essential for building operations, but the manufacture of the latter is widely distributed, and there is not the extent of organization that appears in the case above. Prices of common brick for building averaged in 1913, $6.20 per thousand, and in 1917, $8.17, or a relative of 131.8, as compared with 1913. In 1918 prices had advanced to $10.90, or a relative of 175.8. The highest point, reached in 1920, was an average based on 82 yards reporting, the price being $18.946 per thousand, or a relative price of 278.9. This shows a somewhat lower ratio than for glass, and does not reappear in 1921 or 1922. However, the relative price in 1921 ranged from 271.9 to 203.8, and during 1922 from 204.6 to 199.1, showing a stronger inclination to maintain advanced prices than was evidenced in the glass industry.

Priority, in Bankruptcy, of Workmen's Compensation Insurance Premiums.

A NUMBER of State legislatures, in enacting workmen's compensation laws, included a provision that unpaid awards or judgments and unpaid insurance premiums should be given preference over other debts, in case of bankruptcy, the same as claims for labor as established by either State or Federal legislation. Such a provision is found in the compensation law of Wisconsin, and two cases were before the United States district court involving a construction of this provision and of the Federal bankruptcy act. This act gives priority to wages due to workmen, etc., next after the cost of preserving the estate, filing fees, and costs of administration. Following wages in rank are "debts owing any person who by the laws of the States or the United States is entitled to priority."

There was no dispute as to the facts, the question turning solely on the construction of the law. Two cases were joined, involving the Inglis Manufacturing Co. and the Michie Construction Co. (292 Fed. 907). The question was submitted to a referee, who held that the claims for insurance premiums could be given no preferential status whatever, but should fall in the general classification of contract debts. The insurance companies asked for a review of this ruling, and it was reversed by the court on this hearing. The court found that the phrasing of the Federal law as to wages was specific, and could mean

only what was contemplated by Congress in enacting the law; so that "the Legislature of Wisconsin could not by the act above mentioned introduce into category 4—dealing with labor claims—a claim not essentially within the definition of the terms used by Congress." However, the contention that because this was true the whole effort to secure preference fails was rejected by the court, since there was a clear purpose on the part of the legislature to give priority to compensation awards and insurance premiums. This would bring such debts within the fifth category indicated by the Federal bankruptcy act, and ahead of general contract obligations.

New Emigrant Agent Act of Alabama.

WHILE various opinions have been expressed as to the desirability from economic and other standpoints of the migration of negro labor from the South, there is little room for doubt as to the point of view of the Alabama Legislature as indicated by an act approved August 25, 1923, regulating "the business of labor and emigrant agents within the State of Alabama." In common with a number of other Southern States, Alabama has for a number of years levied a high license tax on the business of recruiting labor for employment outside the State. The business has usually been subjected to none of the requirements of employment agencies with the single exception of the provision for a tax on the privilege of conducting the agency, such sums being charged as $100, $500, or even $1,000 for each county in which the business is carried on. It is well known that despite these restrictions on the business, negro labor has in large amounts moved out of the Southern States, either because of the activities of local agents or by reason of other influences and sources of information.

The Alabama statute (No. 181) prescribes the payment of a State and county license tax of $5,000 for each county in which an emigrant agent engages in business or undertakes to do business or operate; the same amount must be paid for each county through which laborers are transported or pass, by whatever means of transportation, "provided such agent or his representative or person placed in charge of such laborers by him shall travel on the same train or conveyance on which any laborer recruited or engaged by such agent is transported." The State receives three-fifths and the county two-fifths of the license fee. The act applies to every person engaging in the business of hiring or soliciting laborers to go outside the State for employment or arranging for or providing for their transportation, or soliciting by word of mouth or advertising by publication, circulars, cards, posters, or otherwise, however distributed; also to any intermediary or messenger for another in procuring or delivering tickets, passes, or any other transporation; also sending advertising matter, posting letters of solicitation, distributing circulars, and the like. Assistants, subagents, partners, associates, and employees "shall be subject to the license hereby levied and liable for the payment thereof, whether such license shall be paid by his or their employer, principal partner, associate or not; and he or they shall be subject to the

provisions of the act in any event." Licenses may not be issued to corporations, associations, or other than individual persons, except in cases of a corporation or partnership engaged in the publication of a newspaper or the transmission of telegrams or messages for hire.

A bond of $5,000 must be executed conditioned on the payment of damages sustained by reason of false representations or advertisements as to the nature of work, wages, duration, etc. The bond is also available to any employer damaged "by reason of his servant or employee having been enticed away or caused to leave the employment by said agent, his representative, or employee or by reason of his advertising matter, circulars, letters, and the like." Applicants for license must submit the recommendation of 20 householders and freeholders, who state their personal acquaintanceship with the applicant, and certify to his character and residence. The applicant must state that he has never been guilty or convicted of violating the criminal laws of the State, and has never solicited laborers to go outside the State without first having paid the license tax. He must name his associates in the business, and give the name of the employer to whom labor is to be supplied, the name of the place of employment, the class of work, scale of wages, living accommodations, cost of board and lodging, provisions as to transportation and of return in case of dissatisfaction or discharge within three months after services have begun; also of the amount of the agent's fee. This statement is to be sworn to and any false statement knowingly made is punishable as for perjury. A detailed affidavit must also be made, pledging observance of the provisions of this law, agreeing not to enter into partnership with or employ any assistant unless such person has procured a license, nor to accept gratuitous assistance; and that no one will be solicited to leave employment and only those will be solicited and advertised for as are not at the time employed within the State of Alabama.

The judge of probate of the county may revoke the license if the agent has been convicted of crime, or on information under oath that false statements have been made by him or that he has violated his oath or any provisions of the affidavit. Acting without a license or bond or otherwise violating the law is punishable by a fine of not less than $500 nor more than $5,000, or imprisonment for not less than four months or not more than one year. All inferior courts, or courts established in lieu of justice of the peace courts, having criminal jurisdiction are given authority to enforce the fines and penalties herein provided for, pleas as to territorial jurisdiction not being permissible. The license inspector or other enforcing officer shall receive 15 per cent of all fines and forfeitures imposed under the act in cases instituted at his instance or on information furnished by him.

The novelty of this drastic legislation naturally raises a question as to its constitutionality. Its wide departure from previous legislation makes it impossible to cite precedents, the nearest approach being found in two cases in which the Supreme Court passed upon a license law of Georgia and a law abolishing fees in the State of Washington. In the former case (Williams *v.* Fears (1919), 179 U. S. 270, 21 Sup. Ct. 128), the court held that a tax of $500 for each county was not presumptively of prohibitive intent. The contention that

the act was class legislation without reasonable basis was also disallowed, the business of employment agencies for employment within the State not being developed to such an extent as to be regarded as a business, so that the act under consideration could not be classed as discriminatory.

However, it is difficult to avoid the conclusion that the Alabama act of 1923 is prohibitive in its intent, and if the business under consideration is to be regarded as legitimate and useful, the decision as to constitutionality might be suggested by the finding of the Supreme Court in the Washington case above referred to. (Adams *v.* Tanner (1917), 244 U. S. 590, 37 Sup. Ct. 662.) In this case a law forbidding the collection of fees, for services in placement, from persons seeking employment was held unconstitutional by a majority of one. While the law was not prohibitive in form, its implications were so definite that it was construed as a prohibitive law; and on the ground that the business of an employment agency was useful and legitimate, the statute was declared void.

It is plain that the latter case is not on all fours with the provisions of the Alabama statute, while the fact that the decision was there arrived at by a majority of but one adds to the uncertainty of a forecast. On the other hand, is the obviously restrictive burden of a license fee for transportation and individual licenses for employees, both features being essential to the prosecution of the business for which the license would be procured by the principal. In other words, there is the grant of a license, and then the addition of burdens practically destructive to its value.

LABOR OFFICES AND CONVENTIONS.

Fifth International Labor Conference.[1]

THE fifth session of the International Labor Conference was held in Geneva from October 22 to October 29, 1923, with representatives present from 42 of the 57 Governments which are members of the international labor organization. There were 192 delegates and technical advisers in attendance at the sessions, of whom 74 were Government delegates, and 24 each representatives of employers' and labor organizations. Mr. Adatci, Japanese Government delegate on the governing body of the International Labor Office, was elected president of the conference.

By a decision of the governing body, the regular time of meeting of the conference was changed from October to June, beginning with the year 1924. Since this change shortened the interval between the 1923 and 1924 conferences, it was decided to limit the agenda of the fifth conference to a single item, and to submit only a short director's report, leaving the general survey of the activity of the International Labor Office to be presented to the session of June, 1924, together with the other items already placed on the agenda.

Report of the Director.

THE director's report dealt mainly with the ratification of conventions and the measures taken for their application in the various States. During 1923, 42 ratifications were secured and 103 new legislative measures were "adopted, introduced, or prepared with a view to the application of conventions." Altogether a total of 109 ratifications have either been communicated to the secretary-general of the League of Nations, or authorized by the different Governments, 42 of which were secured since the previous session.

Dissatisfaction at the rate of progress of ratification was expressed by the workers' delegates of several countries in the debate upon the director's report. In his reply the director pointed out the fact that the International Labor Office is unable to intervene in the matter of ratification of conventions by the different Governments, since ratification depends entirely upon the initiative of the countries themselves. Much of the delay complained of he considered to be due to present world conditions in which each State is becoming increasingly concerned for its individual rights so that before satisfactory progress can be made the political situation must be cleared up. In spite of this fact, however, he did not believe the situation gave ground for pessimism. In regard to the question of the 8-hour day in particular, he stated that the principle "for most part is

[1] This article is based on the provisional record of the conference published daily by the International Labor Office, Geneva, during the session of the conference; Industrial and Labor Information, Oct. 19-26 and Nov. 2, 1923; the report of the director of the International Labor Office; and International Labor Review, December, 1923, pp. 789-804.

respected, and is indeed unassailable." Even in those countries such as Italy, Spain, and Germany, in which great political changes have taken place, the principle of the 8-hour day continues to be recognized.

Verification of Credentials.

ACCORDING to the treaty of Versailles each national delegation to the conference shall consist of four persons—two representatives of the Government and one representative each, appointed by the Government, from the most representative employers' and workers' organizations where such organizations exist. This division makes for balanced representation if the delegations are complete and is of importance since the principal decisions of the conference require a two-thirds majority. In the present conference 17 delegations consisted of Government representatives only. In two other cases, that of a workers' delegate in Norway and an employers' delegate in Bulgaria, the "most representative organization" failed to come to an agreement as to a delegate, thus depriving the other non-Government delegate from these countries of a vote, since, according to the treaty, the failure of any country to nominate one non-Government delegate results in the exclusion of the other from voting, although he may sit and speak in the conference.

In each session of the conference the method of the appointment of non-Government representatives has led to contests over the seating of certain delegates. In general the credentials of delegates have been challenged on the ground that the organization consulted by the Government when making the appointment was not the "most representative." In this conference the question was raised as to the representative character of the Spanish employers' delegate and of the Indian, Japanese, and Italian workers' delegates. While the credentials of these four delegates were ultimately approved by the credentials committee and accepted by the conference as a whole, the acceptance of the Indian, Japanese, and Italian delegates, particularly the last, was contested by the workers.

Recent changes in Italy were responsible for protests against seating the Italian workers' delegate, it being contended that the new Fascist unions from which the delegate was appointed are joint organizations of employers and workers and therefore not truly representative of labor. The problem raised by the protests against the admission of the Italian workers' delegate, therefore, was of a different nature, as it was not a question whether the organization was the "most representative" workers' organization, but whether it was the workers' organization in the sense of article 389 of the treaty of peace. A formal denial that the organizations consulted in the appointment of the workers' delegate were joint organizations of employers and workers was made by the Italian Government and by the delegate himself. The majority of the committee, considering that it was impossible to cast doubt upon the word of a Government, accepted this statement as essential evidence, and since there appeared to be no question that the Fascist federation of unions had a much greater membership than that of other organizations, it was recommended that the Fascist delegate should be admitted. The final vote on the question showed 17 delegates against the validation of the credentials of the Italian workers' delegate and 63 in favor of seating him.

In regard to the workers' delegate from Japan also the decision of the committee was not unanimous. The protests received by the conference were based on the method of selection adopted by the Japanese Government, which had taken a ballot of workers' organizations having at least a thousand members, as well as of unorganized workers in undertakings employing at least a thousand workers. The committee, while recommending by a vote of two to one the validation of the credentials of the delegate, inserted a statement in their report expressing the hope that "as the trade-union movement develops in Japan it will be taken into account and that when the organizations are truly representative agreement will be reached with them."

Report on Factory Inspection.

THE single item to which the agenda were reduced through the decision to shorten the fifth session of the conference was a consideration of the general principles of factory inspection. Although the subject was apparently a simple and noncontroversial one, the preliminary examination of this question, carried out according to the practice established by the International Labor Office, had shown that it was decidedly complex. The replies to the questionnaires sent to the different Governments which were collected and analyzed in a report issued before the opening of the session revealed a diversity of view and of practice which, while not sufficient to prevent agreement upon general principles, led to the adoption of a recommendation, instead of the less elastic convention.

The subject was divided into four principal sections for consideration, as follows: (1) Sphere of inspection; (2) nature of the functions and powers of factory inspectors; (3) organization of factory inspection; and (4) inspectors' reports. The conference in taking up the subject for consideration accepted the outline prepared by the office but divided the second section relating to the functions and powers of factory inspectors so as to give special consideration to the relation of inspection services to safety problems. The draft recommendation drawn up by the International Labor Office was examined in detail by five committees, composed of equal numbers from the three groups of delegates, and with some changes and amendments was submitted to the conference for approval.

Sphere of Inspection.

THE scope of factory inspection as outlined in the draft recommendation agrees with the principle and practice in those States in which the principal functions of such a service are to secure the enforcement of the laws and regulations relating to the conditions of work and the protection of the workers while engaged in their work. It is considered that factory inspectors may be intrusted with additional duties varying according to the needs and customs of each particular State, provided such additional duties do not in any way interfere with the inspectors' principal duties, that they are closely allied to the primary object of insuring the protection of the health and safety of the workers, and that they shall not prejudice the authority and impartiality of the inspectors.

Nature of Functions and Powers of Inspectors.

THE recommendation relating to the general functions and powers of inspectors provides that inspectors should be empowered by law to enter any establishment to question the staff, without witnesses, and examine registers or other documents; to bring breaches of the laws directly before the competent judicial authorities; and to order carried out within a fixed time any installations or alterations in work places which are necessary for the enforcement of the laws concerning the hygiene and safety of the workers. It also provides that legal penalties or suitable disciplinary measures should be imposed upon inspectors who disclose manufacturing secrets and working processes which come to their knowledge in the course of their duties.

The only highly controversial points in the deliberations of the conference were involved in the provisions that inspectors should be empowered to bring breaches of the laws directly before the competent judicial authorities and to issue orders which should be obeyed as such. The divergence between the Anglo-Saxon legal system and the continental systems was brought out in these two provisions. Under most of the continental systems the burden of proof rests upon the defendant when the prosecutor is a public official, so that documents addressed to the courts by the inspector are considered to establish the facts unless proof is given to the contrary, while under the British system the burden of proof rests upon the inspector, since a defendant is considered innocent until his guilt is established. The Anglo-Saxon system also provides for the complete separation of the administrative and judicial functions of government.

The conference, after discussion of these points, provided in the recommendation that due regard in the enforcement of this provision should be had to the administrative and judicial systems of each country.

Safety.

ESPECIAL consideration was given to this subject under the general head of the functions and powers of inspectors. The relation of inspection service to safety problems was held to cover not only accident prevention but the maintenance of health and prevention of fatigue. It was recommended that there should be compulsory reporting of accidents, and that it should be one of the essential duties of inspectors to investigate accidents, particularly those of a serious or recurring character. It was also recommended that inspectors should advise employers as to the best standards of health and safety and should promote safety activities generally through the cooperation of employers, managing staff, and workers. This provision was inspired by the marked success of the "safety-first movement" of the United States and Great Britain in which cooperation of all concerned has been a prominent feature.

Organization of Inspection.

THE recommendation provides that inspection services should be so arranged that as much as possible of the inspectors' time may be devoted to the actual visiting of establishments, and in coun-

tries where the inspection service is divided into districts the inspectors should be under the general supervision of one or more supervising inspectors of high qualifications and experience, while the inspectorate in general should be under the direct and exclusive control of a central State authority. In view of the difficult scientific and technical problems connected with processes involving the use of dangerous materials, the removal of dust and gases, and the use of electricity, etc., it is considered essential that experts having competent medical, engineering, electrical, or other scientific training should be employed by the State.

It is also recommended that women should be included in the inspection service and that in general they should have the same powers and duties and exercise the same authority as the men holding these positions.

A high standard of technical training and experience and a good general education are considered essential qualifications of inspectors. Members of the conference considered that this provision would prevent the employment of men and women with industrial experience which might qualify them to act as inspectors but who could not meet the other requirements. An amendment designed to admit the employment of such persons was rejected by the conference, however, on the statement of the chairman of the committee that experiments in Great Britain over a period of 30 years had not shown such persons to be satisfactory either to the authorities or to the assistant inspectors themselves.

Under the subject of methods of inspection, rules are laid down for periodical inspections. The right of workers or their representatives to complain of abuses and the necessity for treating such complaints in a confidential manner are emphasized, as is also the desirability of cooperation between employers and workers and their respective organizations with the inspectorate in order to promote a high standard in regard to the conditions affecting the health and safety of the workers.

Inspectors' Reports.

AN IMPORTANT feature of the recommendation was the effort to arrive at some system of standardization of inspectors' reports. It was agreed that regular reports should be submitted by inspectors to their central authority, that annual reports for the calendar year should be issued summarizing the inspectors' reports and that this report should contain a list of the laws and regulations relating to conditions of work established during the year. This annual report should also give statistical tables showing the number and organization of the staff of the inspectorate; the number of establishments included, classified by industries, and showing the number of workers employed, by sex; the number of inspections for each class of establishments and the number of workers in these establishments; the number of establishments inspected more than once during the year; the number, nature, and cause of accidents and occupational diseases reported and the number and nature of breaches of the laws and regulations reported to the competent authorities and number and nature of the convictions.

The drafting committee assembled and coordinated the reports of the five committees and submitted them to the conference in the form of a recommendation. According to the treaty such a recommendation must be agreed upon by a two-thirds majority, and the record vote showed 105 delegates voting for the recommendations and none against.

Other Resolutions Adopted by the Conference.

FOUR other resolutions relating to different phases of the general subject of factory inspection were passed by the conference. A resolution was unanimously adopted authorizing the International Labor Office to publish annually a general report based upon the annual national reports. It was also resolved that in view of the importance of safety work the International Labor Office should be instructed to proceed to a survey of measures already in force in certain countries which through the reduction of insurance premiums for accident compensation, and similar means, tend to encourage improvement of health conditions and the reduction of the number of accidents.

In view of the large number of accidents on railways it was recommended that the International Labor Office should investigate the need for an international agreement upon the use of automatic couplings adaptable to all railway rolling stock. A fourth resolution requests the governing body to consider the possibility of placing on the agenda of the forthcoming session of the conference the institution of a special inspection system for the mercantile marine distinct from the industrial inspection system.

Annual Report of the Department of Labor of Canada, 1922–23.

THERE was a substantial improvement in industrial conditions in Canada in the fiscal year ended March 31, 1923, compared with those in the preceding year according to the latest annual report of the Dominion Labor Department. The general increase in industrial activity practically put an end to "abnormal unemployment" and Federal aid was considered requisite for unemployed and distressed ex-service men only in a few localities. Prices which had been somewhat slowly decreasing from July, 1920, continued to decline until June, 1922, then rose slightly and at the end of the year were a little above what they were at the beginning of the year. According to the department's index the price level in March, 1923, was 55 per cent above that of 1913. Wages showed a somewhat similar trend and at the close of the fiscal year 1922–23 seemed about "to stiffen."

In the year covered by the report the administration of the Government annuities act was put under the department of labor, the officials of which made special efforts to extend the operation of that legislation. The receipts of the fiscal year for the purchase of annuities aggregated $1,028,353.07—a considerable advance over any preceding year.

The strike statistics in the report are for the calendar year 1922, the actual number of disputes for that period being 85 against 145 for 1921. The number of workers, however, involved in the strikes of 1922 was 41,050 as compared to 22,930 in the strikes of 1921. The time lost as a result of strikes of 1922 was 1,975,276 working-days, more than double that lost through the strikes of the preceding year—956,461 working-days. While the time loss recorded in 1922 is the third highest in a period of 23 years, 50 per cent of this loss is chargeable to one strike—that in the coal mines of southern Alberta and southeastern British Columbia, district No. 18 of the United Mine Workers of America. This strike began April 1, 1922, and continued for five months. Another strike in Nova Scotia continued three weeks and involved 15,000 coal miners. The other controversies presented no special features to be reported.

There were 45 applications under the provisions of the industrial disputes investigation act in the fiscal year ending March 31, 1923, but only 27 boards of conciliation and investigation were created. Only two strikes took place in cases in which boards had been established, both of these controversies being in the coal industry.

The act was subjected to a drastic test in the last fiscal year as a result of certain questions with reference to the interpretation of section 57. Several boards had been appointed to handle controversies between a number of railroads and their shopcraft employees. These roads were attempting to reduce wages and, the case of the principal roads being before a conciliation board, the employees claimed that "section 57 operated to prevent a change in wages or hours until the board had rendered its decision." The Minister of Labor upheld this viewpoint which was also supported by a ruling of the department of justice. The railways finally agreed, under protest, not to change the wage rates pending the board's inquiry.

Partly as a result of the difficulty over the interpretation of section 57 and partly to clarify the apparent intent of the law in certain other respects, a bill was introduced in Parliament which passed the House but was opposed in the Senate. As the amendments were not accepted in the House and the two Chambers were unable to adjust their differences, the bill was dropped.

At the close of the fiscal year 1922–23 there were 78 local employment offices under the administration of the Dominion employment offices coordination act. During that year the vacancies reported numbered 489,816; the placements, 412,527.

The total disbursements for 1922–23 under the technical education act amounted to $648,227.03, divided among the various Provinces as follows: Alberta, $71,019.91; British Columbia, $34,932.38; Manitoba, $25,121.14; New Brunswick, $17,476.06; Nova Scotia, $33,166; Ontario, $314,206.97; Prince Edward Island, $5,858.46; Quebec, $128,182.27, and Saskatchewan, $18,263.84.

STRIKES AND LOCKOUTS.

Strikes and Lockouts in the United States, July to September, 1923.

ACCORDING to information received by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, 371 labor disputes resulting in strikes and lockouts occurred in this country during the third quarter of 1923. As in some instances the reports do not reach the bureau until some time after the strikes occur, the number of strikes occurring during the quarter was perhaps somewhat larger than the above figure. Complete data relative to many of these strikes have not been received by the bureau, and it has not been possible to verify all that have been received. The figures in the following tables should therefore be regared as preliminary, and should not be accepted as final.

The following table shows the number of disputes beginning in the third quarter of 1922 and 1923, by months:

DISPUTES BEGINNING IN EACH MONTH, JULY TO SEPTEMBER, 1922 AND 1923.

Year.	July.	August.	September.	Month not stated.	Total.
1922	88	93	80	20	281
1923	141	100	88	42	371

The strike of anthracite miners in Pennsylvania, beginning September 1, and involving 155,000 workers, was the most important labor disturbance during the quarter. The miners demanded the check-off and a wage increase of 20 per cent. They won the wage increase, and the strike terminated after running for nearly three weeks.

Other strikes of less importance were the following: That of about 5,000 cigar makers at Tampa, Fla., in September, on account of working hours and conditions; that of 4,000 cigar makers in northern New England, beginning July 28, for an increase in wages; that of 3,725 coal miners of the Pennsylvania Coal Co., near Scranton, Pa., on July 6, because of a disagreement between a miner and the grievance committee of the colliery, the men returning after being out about a week; the strike of 3,300 furniture workers in about 36 factories in New York City, during September, for a wage increase and reduction of hours; that of about 3,200 longshoremen and screwmen in New Orleans, beginning in September, for increased wages and improved working conditions; and the "illegal" strike of 2,500 pressmen in New York City, beginning September 18, for increase in wages and improved working conditions, which for nearly two weeks practically suspended the publication of all the principal daily newspapers of the city.

The strike of 3,734 street-railway employees of the Public Service Corporation in New Jersey, beginning August 1, for a 30 per cent wage increase and better working conditions, attracted a good deal of attention, as it involved about 145 municipalities of the State, including Newark, Camden, etc. The company offered a wage increase of 20 per cent, which the men accepted on August 23, but service was not resumed until September 21 because of delays due to the desire of the company to take over competing bus lines and charge a 7-cent fare for both bus and street car service, with interchangeable transfers at 1 cent each.

The data in the following tables relate to the 371 disputes reported to have occurred in the three months under consideration. The strikes that occurred during the quarter but in which the exact month was not stated appear in a group by themselves.

STATES IN WHICH TWO OR MORE DISPUTES WERE REPORTED AS OCCURRING IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1923, BY MONTHS.

State.	Number of disputes.					State.	Number of disputes.				
	July.	August.	September.	Month not stated.	Total.		July.	August.	September.	Month not stated.	Total.
New York	37	41	20	21	119	Florida	1	1	1	.....	3
Massachusetts	20	14	8	6	48	Iowa	2	1	.....	.....	3
Pennsylvania	21	5	18	4	48	Kansas	1	1	1	.....	3
Illinois	6	5	9	1	21	Minnesota	1	1	1	.....	3
New Jersey	9	6	2	2	19	Rhode Island	.....	.....	1	2	3
Ohio	7	5	5	.....	17	Tennessee	1	1	1	.....	3
California	5	5	3	1	14	Wisconsin	1	.....	.....	2	3
West Virginia	4	1	3	1	9	Alabama	2	.....	.....	.....	2
Louisiana	3	1	4	.....	8	Maryland	.....	1	1	.....	2
Missouri	6	1	.....	1	8	7 other States	2	3	2	.....	7
Michigan	4	.....	2	1	7	Interstate	3	1	1	.....	5
Connecticut	3	2	1	.....	6						
Indiana	1	2	3	.....	6	Total	141	100	88	42	371
Texas	1	2	1	.....	4						

Of these 371 disputes 300 occurred east of the Mississippi River and north of the Ohio and Potomac Rivers, 48 occurred west of the Mississippi; and 18 occurred south of the Ohio and Potomac Rivers and east of the Mississippi River.

Of the 5 interstate strikes, 4, including the cigar makers' strike in northern New England, already alluded to, occurred east of the Mississippi River, and 1 occurred west of it.

About 58 per cent of the disputes occurred in the industrial States of New York, Massachusetts, and Pennsylvania.

As to cities, New York City leads with 103 strikes, followed by Boston with 14, Chicago with 11, New Orleans and St. Louis with 7 each, Detroit, San Francisco, and Elizabeth, N. J., with 6 each, and Toledo with 5.

As to sex of strikers involved, the distribution was as follows: Males only were involved in 225 disputes; females only in 7; both males and females in 117; and in 22 strikes the sex of strikers was not reported.

The following table shows the number of disputes reported as occurring in the industries specified. About 52 per cent of them occurred in the clothing, coal mining, and building trades.

NUMBER OF DISPUTES IN SPECIFIED INDUSTRIES REPORTED AS OCCURRING DURING THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1923, BY MONTHS.

Occupation.	Number of disputes.				
	July.	August.	September.	Month not stated.	Total.
Clothing workers	40	38	17	16	111
Coal miners	13	6	19	3	41
Building trades	17	10	7	6	40
Textile workers	11	6	2	1	20
Metal trades employees	6	5	3	1	15
Chauffeurs and teamsters	7	4	2	1	14
Furniture employees	3	2	3	.....	8
Street and electric railway employees	2	3	2	1	8
Coopers	3	1	.....	3	7
Longshoremen and freight handlers	3	.....	4	.....	7
Motion picture and theatrical employees	1	1	5	.....	7
Street, sewer, and park employees	3	1	2	1	7
Barbers	1	3	1	1	6
Tobacco workers	3	2	1	.....	6
Bakers	1	1	2	1	5
Iron and steel workers	3	2	.....	.....	5
Steamboat men	.....	.....	1	4	5
Food workers	1	2	1	.....	4
Hotel and restaurant workers	2	.....	2	.....	4
Light, heat, and power employees	4	.....	.....	.....	4
Printing and publishing employees	2	.....	2	.....	4
Glass workers	.....	1	2	.....	3
Stone workers	1	1	1	.....	3
Auto, carriage, and wagon workers	.....	.....	2	.....	2
Lumber and timber workers	.....	2	.....	.....	2
Paper and paper goods workers	1	.....	.....	1	2
Railroad employees	2	.....	.....	.....	2
Rubber workers	2	.....	.....	.....	2
Stationary engineers and firemen	1	1	.....	.....	2
Telegraph and telephone workers	.....	1	1	.....	2
Miscellaneous	8	7	6	2	23
Total	141	100	88	42	371

In 290 disputes the employees were reported as connected with unions; in 20 disputes they were not so connected; in 8 disputes both union and nonunion employees were involved; in 3 disputes they were unionized after the strikes began; in 48 disputes the question of union affiliation was not reported; and in 2 disputes involving both union and nonunion employees the nonunion employees became unionized after the strikes began.

In 271 disputes only 1 employer was concerned in each disturbance; in 9 disputes, 2 employers; in 9 disputes, 3 employers; in 2 disputes, 4 employers; in 1 dispute, 5 employers; in 21 disputes, more than 5 employers; and in 58 disputes the number of employers was not reported.

In the 231 disputes for which the number of persons was reported there were 245,410 employees directly involved, or an average of 1,062.

In 29 disputes in which the number involved was 1,000 or more, the strikers numbered 212,541, thus leaving 32,869 involved in the remaining 202 disputes, or an average of 163 each.

By months the figures are as follows: July, 33,038 persons in 91 disputes, average 363, of whom 11,091 were in 80 disputes of less than 1,000 persons each, average 139; August, 26,467 persons in 71 disputes, average 373, of whom 11,545 were in 63 disputes of less than 1,000 persons each, average 183; September, 185,234 persons in 61 disputes, average 3,037, of whom 9,562 were in 51 disputes of less

than 1,000 persons each, average 187. In 8 disputes, involving 671 persons, the month in which the strikes began was not reported.

The following table shows the principal causes of the disputes in so far as reported. In about 42 per cent of them the question of wages entered more or less prominently, being followed in importance by agreements, general conditions, discharge of employees, and union recognition.

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DISPUTES REPORTED AS OCCURRING IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1923, BY MONTHS.

Cause.	Number of disputes.				
	July.	August.	September.	Month not stated.	Total.
Increase of wages	43	29	11	11	94
Decrease of wages	4	2	2	2	10
Wages not otherwise specified	6	5	4	4	19
Increase of hours	1				1
Decrease of hours	1	1			2
Increase of wages and decrease of hours	4	2	5	1	12
Recognition of union	9	5	6	2	22
Recognition and wages	2	2	1		5
Recognition and hours			1		1
Recognition, wages and hours	1	1	1		3
General conditions	6	8	13	1	28
Conditions and wages	3	3	5		11
Conditions and hours		1	1		2
Conditions, wages and hours	1				1
Conditions and recognition		1			1
Discharge of foreman demanded	1				1
Discharge of employees	10	4	5	3	22
Employment of nonunion men		1	2	2	5
Objectionable persons hired	1				1
Discrimination	1	1	2		4
Open or closed shop	7	2	2	1	12
Unfair products	1	3	2	6	12
In regard to agreement	22	20	6	2	50
New agreement	4	1	2		7
Sympathy	1	1	4	2	8
Jurisdiction	1	1	1		3
Miscellaneous	4	3	6	3	16
Not reported	7	3	6	2	18
Total	141	100	88	42	371

It is often difficult to determine exactly when a strike terminates, since many strikes end without any formal vote on the part of the strikers. The bureau has information of the ending of 238 disputes during the quarter, including about 18 which were either of short duration or in which the positions of the employees were filled, or they returned to work with probably little or no interruption of the work.

The following table shows the number of disputes ending in the third quarter of 1922 and 1923, by months:

DISPUTES ENDING IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1922 AND 1923, BY MONTHS.

Year.	July.	August.	September.	Month not stated.	Total.
1922	49	64	67	22	202
1923	79	71	75	13	238

The table following shows the results of disputes ending in the third quarter of 1923:

DISPUTES ENDING IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1923, BY MONTHS AND RESULTS.

Result.	Number of disputes.				
	July.	August.	September.	Month not stated.	Total.
In favor of employers	23	22	22	11	78
In favor of employees	38	29	36	.....	103
Compromised	4	7	7	2	20
Employees returned pending arbitration	2	3	4	.....	9
Not reported	12	10	6	.....	28
Total	79	71	75	13	238

The next table gives the duration of disputes ending in the third quarter of 1923, by classified periods of duration:

DISPUTES ENDING IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1923, BY MONTHS AND CLASSIFIED DURATION.

Classified duration.	Number of disputes.				
	July.	August.	September.	Month not stated.	Total.
1 day or less	8	5	8	.....	21
2 days	8	5	2	.....	15
3 days	6	4	4	.....	14
4 days	2	6	3	.....	11
5 to 7 days	13	6	9	.....	28
8 to 14 days	18	16	5	.....	39
15 to 21 days	3	4	6	.....	13
22 to 29 days	.....	8	2	.....	10
30 to 90 days	.....	4	12	.....	16
Over 90 days	1	.....	1	.....	2
Not reported	21	12	23	13	69
Total	80	70	75	13	238

The number of days lost in the industrial disputes ending in the quarter for the 169 reporting was approximately 2,874. The average duration of these disputes was 17 days. The average duration of the disputes lasting less than 90 days was 12 days.

By months the record is as follows: July, 899 days lost, average 15 days; August, 723 days lost, average 12 days; September, 1,252 days lost, average 24 days.

Of the 238 disputes ending during the quarter, 169 reported duration, and of this number 142 reported the number of employees involved, aggregating 223,449, an average of 1,574 employees.

Of the 238 disputes reported as ending during the quarter, 165 reported the number of employees involved, aggregating 225,449, an average of 1,366 employees.

Strikes in Buenos Aires First Half of 1923.

ACCORDING to an official report[1] on strikes in the Federal capital of Argentina there were in the first six months of 1923 46 strikes affecting 11,456 workers and causing a loss of 741,616 working-days and an estimated loss of wages amounting to 4,431,241.50 pesos ($4,275,261.80, par).

The following table shows the number of strikes and strikers and the average number involved in each strike according to industries:

NUMBER OF STRIKES AND STRIKERS IN BUENOS AIRES DURING THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1923, BY INDUSTRY.

Industry.	Number of strikes.	Strikers.		Industry.	Number of strikes.	Strikers.	
		Number.	Average per strike.			Number.	Average per strike.
Food	4	35	9	Construction	2	2,510	1,255
Textile	4	782	196	Transportation	5	83	17
Clothing	12	904	75	Paper and pasteboard	1	25	25
Lumber	7	179	26				
Polygraphy	1	26	26	Total	46	11,456	249
Metallurgy	10	6,912	691				

Of the 11,456 strikers, 10,104 were men, 669 were women, and 683 were minors.

The following table shows the causes of the strikes, the number of working-days lost, and the estimated wages lost:

NUMBER OF STRIKES, DAYS LOST, AND ESTIMATED WAGES LOST, BY CAUSE OF STRIKE.

[Peso at par=96.48 cents.]

Cause of strike.	Number of strikes.	Number of working-days lost.	Estimated wages lost.
			Pesos.
Wages	12	5,296	31,064.50
Hours	8	706,484	4,213,830.40
Organization	26	29,836	186,346.60
Total	46	741,616	4,431,241.50

In general the strikes were unsuccessful from the standpoint of the workers, only 4 being won while 4 were partly successful, and 38 were lost.

[1] Argentina. Departamento Nacional del Trabajo. Cronica Mensual, Buenos Aires, October, 1923, pp. 1132, 1133.

COOPERATION.

Labor Banks in the United States.

IN VIEW of the general interest in the subject of labor banking in the United States, the following table has been compiled, showing the available information concerning those banks which are now in operation:

LABOR BANKS IN THE UNITED STATES.[1]

Location.	Year of establishment.	Name of bank.	Organizing or controlling body.	Capital stock.	Surplus and reserve.
Washington, D. C.	1920	Mount Vernon Savings Bank.	International Association of Machinists.	$160,000	$2,689,182
Cleveland, Ohio	1920	Engineers' Cooperative National Bank.	Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers.	1,000,000	[2]15,547,402
Hammond, Ind.	1921	Peoples' Cooperative State Bank.	do	50,000	250,000
New York City		Empire Trust Co.[3]	do[3]		
Chicago, Ill.	1922	Amalgamated Trust & Savings Bank.	Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.	200,000	1,291,411
Philadelphia, Pa.	1922	Producers & Consumers' Bank.	Members of Central Labor Union.	155,831	(4)
San Bernardino, Calif.	1922	Brotherhood Trust & Savings Bank.	Railroad workers.	200,000	770,000
Tucson, Ariz.	1922	Cooperative Bank & Trust Co.	Various labor groups.	70,000	262,000
Birmingham, Ala.	1922	Federated Bank & Trust Co.	State Federation of Labor and locals of Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers.	125,000	(4)
Three Forks, Mont.	1922	Labor National Bank.	Various labor groups.	(4)	(4)
Spokane, Wash.	1923	Brotherhoood Cooperative National Bank of Spokane.	Railroad unions.	200,000	40,000
St. Louis, Mo.	1923	Telegraphers' National Bank.	Order of Railway Telegraphers.	500,000	
Harrisburg, Pa.	1923	Fraternity Trust Co.	Railroad brotherhood and other unions.	200,000	
Buffalo, N. Y.	1923		Central Labor Union.		
Cincinnati, Ohio.	1923	Brotherhood of Railway Clerks' National Bank of Cincinnati.	Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, etc.	200,000	
Minneapolis, Minn.	1923	Transportation Brotherhood National Bank.	Railroad workers.		
Pittsburgh, Pa.	1923	Brotherhood Savings & Trust Co.	"Labor leaders"	125,000	12,500
Los Angeles, Calif.	1923	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)
Port Huron, Mich.	1923	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)
New York City.	1923	Locomotive Engineers' Cooperative Trust Co.	(4)	(4)	(4)
Do.	1923	Federation Trust Co.	Central Trades and Labor Council, New York State Federation of Labor.	1,000,000	
Do.	1923	Amalgamated Bank of New York.	Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.	200,000	100,000
Potomac, Va.	1923	Potomac Trust Co.	Railroad unions.	25,000	(4)
New York City.	1924	International Union Bank.	International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.	250,000	250,000
Tacoma, Wash.	1924	Cooperative National Bank of Tacoma.	Railroad brotherhoods.	240,000	(4)
Indianapolis.			United Mine Workers of America.		

[1] Compiled from Facts for Workers (Labor Bureau Economic News Letter), December, 1922, No. 3; Journal of Commerce (New York), April 14, 1923; and news releases of The Cooperative League and the All American Cooperative Commission.

[2] Total resources.

[3] Not organized by labor but Brotherhood has purchased an interest in this bank.

[4] No information available.

Cooperative Banking in Foreign Countries.

THE December, 1923, issue of the International Cooperative Bulletin contains (pp. 305–308) information gathered by the international cooperative banking committee of the International Cooperative Alliance. The following table, taken from this source, shows the available information for 44 banks in 24 countries:

STATISTICS OF COOPERATIVE BANKS, BY COUNTRIES.

Country, name of bank, and location.	Year of establishment.	Date to which figures relate.	Total resources.	Profit and loss.	Rate of discount.
					Per cent.
Austria:					
Austrian Workingmen's Bank, Vienna	1922				
Belgium:					
Deposits and Loan Bank, Ghent	1921	Dec. 31, 1922	$468,908	$2,819	4.71
Bulgaria:					
Central Cooperative Bank, Sofia	1910				
Agricultural Cooperative Bank, Sofia	1920	Oct. 31, 1922	399,527	19,254	7.00
Central Cooperative Distributive Society, "Napred," Sofia	1919	Dec. 31, 1922	110,336	42,707	
Czechoslovakia:					
Central Union of Agricultural Cooperative Societies, Prague	1896	do	32,470,227	1,844,910	5.29
General Cooperative Bank, Prague	1920	do	2,205,713	139,658	
Czechoslovak Cooperative Bank, Prague	1920	Dec. 31, 1921	297,072	26,901	5.79
Denmark:					
Danish Cooperative Bank, Copenhagen	1914	do	35,094,140	3,042,892	6.33
Esthonia:					
Central Bank of Cooperative Banks, Reval	1920	May 1, 1923	345,546		8.00
Finland:					
Central Credit Institute of Rural Banks, Helsingfors	1902	Dec. 31, 1922	2,259,816	46,938	8.75
France:					
Cooperative Bank of Workers' Productive Associations, Paris	1893	do	1,313,960	42,983	5.08
Bank of Cooperative Societies, Paris	1922	do	6,475,358	206,204	5.08
Germany:					
Central Bank of Agricultural Credit, Berlin	1876	do	1,553,577	31,183	6.58
Central Cooperative Prussian Bank, Berlin	1895	Mar. 31, 1922	7,407,540	92,815	5.00
Wholesale Society of German Consumers' Societies, Hamburg	1894				
Great Britain:					
Banking department of Cooperative Wholesale Society, Manchester	1876	Dec. 24, 1921	[1]	[2] 1,543,305	5.50
Banking department of Scottish Cooperative Wholesale Society, Glasgow	1868	July 1, 1922	[1]	[2] 757,265	4.25
Hungary:					
Savings Bank, Budapest	1921				
Central Bank of Cooperative Credit Societies, Budapest	1898				
India:					
Federal Cooperative Bank of Province of Bengal, Calcutta	1918	Mar. 31, 1922	740,199		6.00
Cooperative Bank of Province of Biharand Orissa Bankpur	1914	do	488,370		6.00
Cooperative Bank of Province of Bombay, Bombay	1911	do	1,906,076	109,223	6.00
Cooperative Bank of Province of Burma, Rangoon		do	2,972,689	255,815	
Cooperative Bank of Central Provinces and Province of Berar, Nagpur		do	1,472,283		
Cooperative Bank of Province of Madras, Madras		do	2,233,002	129,304	
Cooperative Bank of Province of Mysore, Mysore		do	164,644		
Irish Free State:					
National Agricultural Bank, Dublin	1920	Dec. 31, 1921	5,362,896		
Italy:					
Cooperative Credit Institute, Milan	1904	Nov. 30, 1922	2,258,567	262,323	5.80
National Cooperative Credit Institute, Rome	1913	Dec. 31, 1922	34,413,271	1,373,317	5.75
Latvia:					
Central Bank of Cooperative Societies and of Municipalities of Latvia, Riga	1920	do	73,496	5,781	

[1] Figures not available; included in general balance sheet of society.
[2] 6 months.

STATISTICS OF COOPERATIVE BANKS, BY COUNTRIES—Concluded.

Country, name of bank, and location.	Year of establishment.	Date to which figures relate.	Total resources.	Profit and loss.	Rate of discount.
					Per cent.
Lithuania:					
Lithuanian Cooperative Bank, Kovno	1920	Dec. 31, 1922	$62,550	.....	.....
Netherlands:					
Peasants' Cooperative Credit Bank, Eindhoven	1898	Dec. 31, 1921	22,681,183	$523,963	4.50
Central Cooperative Bank of Raiffeisen Societies, Utrecht	1898	.....do.....	22,802,847	163,691	4.50
Norway:					
Cooperative Farmers' Bank, Christiania	1918	.....do.....	11,364,694	310,766	6.75
Palestine:					
Workers' Bank of Palestine, Jaffa	1921	.....	.....	.....	.....
Poland:					
Central Bank of Agricultural Cooperative Societies, Cracow	1909	.....	.....	.....	.....
Bank of Cooperative Societies, Warsaw	1910	Dec. 31, 1921	536,405	74,698	6.33
Bank of Union of Cooperative Societies, Poznan	1886	Dec. 31, 1922	2,105,832	358,807	7.00
Rumania:					
Central Bank of Peoples' Rural Banks, Bucharest	1918	Dec. 31, 1920	5,094,268	72,908	5.33
Russia:					
Moscow Narodny Bank, London	.....	Dec. 31, 1922	1,985,702	.....	.....
All-Russian Cooperative Bank, "Wsekobank," Moscow	1923	July 1, 1923	6,004,438	.....	.....
Spain:					
Cooperative Bank of Northern Spain	1922	Dec. 31, 1922	32,102	[2] 1,112	5.67
Sweden:					
Cooperative Union and Wholesale, Stockholm	1899	.....	.....	.....	.....

[2] 6 months.

Farmers' Cooperative Business Organizations in the United States.

THE November 19, 1923, issue of Agricultural Cooperation states that the United States Department of Agriculture has received reports from 8,135 farmers' business organizations, located in 48 States. Of these associations 83 per cent may be considered as "commodity" marketing associations, that is, they are chiefly interested in the marketing of one commodity or, at most, a few commodities. On the other hand, it often happens that a single association conducts several different enterprises.

The table below shows the associations classified by type:

FARMERS' COOPERATIVE BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS, CLASSIFIED BY TYPE.

Kind of association.	Number of associations.	Per cent of total.	Kind of association.	Number of associations.	Per cent of total.
Associations handling or marketing—			Associations handling or marketing—Concluded.		
Grain and dry beans	2,554	31.4	Forage crops	18	0.2
Dairy products	1,709	21.0	Tobacco	13	.2
Livestock	1,177	14.5	Miscellaneous products [1]	58	.7
Fruits and vegetables	970	11.8	Miscellaneous selling associations [2]	524	6.5
Wool	93	1.2	Consumers' associations [3]	850	10.5
Cotton and cotton products	80	.9			
Nuts	47	.6	Total	8,135	100.0
Poultry and poultry products	42	.5			

[1] Maple sirup, cane sirup, honey, broomcorn, forest products, seeds.
[2] Small quantities of a large number of products.
[3] Purchasing associations, cooperative stores, lumber yards, fuel yards, etc.

Farmer-Controlled Creameries.

THE United States Bureau of Agricultural Economics has just issued a short report [1] covering 1,273 cooperative creameries in the United States. The following table shows the statistics of these associations:

STATISTICS OF OPERATION OF COOPERATIVE CREAMERIES, BY GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS.

Geographic division.	Number of associations reporting.	Per cent of total.	Estimated membership, 1923.[1]	Per cent of total.	Estimated volume of business, 1922.[2]	Per cent of total.
New England	52	4.1	4,742	2.5	$5,868,876	4.1
Middle Atlantic	56	4.4	4,138	2.2	4,658,920	3.3
East North Central	299	23.5	48,139	25.0	39,474,578	27.5
West North Central	778	61.1	122,146	58.4	72,518,936	50.6
South Atlantic	8	.6	1,006	.5	543,000	.4
East South Central	19	1.5	4,104	2.1	2,136,930	1.5
West South Central	2	.1	68	.1	147,000	.1
Mountain	21	1.7	6,102	3.2	3,204,348	2.2
Pacific	38	3.0	11,457	6.0	14,799,784	10.3
United States	1,273	100.0	[3] 201,515	100.0	[3] 142,727,487	100.0

[1] Average number of members for associations reporting membership in each geographic division multiplied by total number of associations credited to geographic division.
[2] Average amount of business for associations reporting volume of business in each geographic division multiplied by total number of associations credited to geographic division.
[3] Not the exact sum of the items, but is as given in the report.

The table below gives figures of membership and volume of business for the five States having the largest number of cooperative creameries:

MEMBERSHIP AND BUSINESS OF COOPERATIVE CREAMERIES IN THE 5 LEADING STATES.

State.	Number of associations reporting.	Estimated membership, 1923.	Estimated volume of business, 1922.
Minnesota	510	67,371	$45,466,500
Iowa	216	31,492	21,163,464
Wisconsin	212	30,803	30,356,492
Michigan	65	15,294	7,069,530
Vermont	35	3,643	4,723,810

Court Decision as to Contract with Cooperative Marketing Association, Texas.

THE September, 1923, issue of the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW contained (pp. 182, 183) an account of the case, Texas Farm Bureau Association *v.* Stovall (248 S. W. 1109), in which the Court of Appeals of Texas upheld a decision of the lower court denying an injunction against Stovall to restrain him from disposing of his crop otherwise than to the association of which he was a member and to compel specific performance of his contract with it.

[1] U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Development and present status of the farmer-controlled creamery, by R. H. Elsworth. (Mimeographed.)

The Farm Bureau Association carried the case to the Supreme Court of Texas which has recently handed down its decision (253 S. W. 1101). It held, in part, as follows:

What has been said necessarily disposes of all objections raised to the contract sued on. For the various reasons assigned, we have concluded that none of the propositions urged against the enforcement of this contract are tenable; that the trial court erred in sustaining the exceptions to the plaintiff in error's petition, in holding that the contract was unilateral, uncertain in its terms, not susceptible of specific performance, and in dismissing the petition; and that the Court of Civil Appeals erred in affirming the judgment of the trial court.

The judgments of the Court of Civil Appeals and the district court are both reversed, and the case remanded to the district court with instructions to be governed by this opinion in any further proceedings in this cause.

Cooperation in Foreign Countries.

Great Britain.

Consumers' Societies.

THE following table, taken from a statistical summary from the 1922 annual report of the British Registry of Friendly Societies, shows the statistics of operation for that year of cooperative consumers' societies registered under the industrial and provident societies acts:

OPERATIONS OF REGISTERED COOPERATIVE CONSUMERS' SOCIETIES IN GREAT BRITAIN IN 1922.

[£ at par=$4.8665.]

Type of society.	Number of societies.	Number of members.	Share capital.	Amount of business.	Surplus on year's business.	Amount returned in dividends on purchases.
General supply societies	1,313	4,428,442	£72,987,992	£169,642,628	£14,253,832	£10,907,297
Coal supply societies	38	24,903	74,737	306,333	13,873	11,439
Refreshment societies	44	10,735	242,489	575,164	16,349	25
Miscellaneous societies	33	7,510	209,659	558,165	[1] 670	1,761
Total: 1922	1,428	4,471,590	73,514,877	171,082,290	14,283,384	10,920,522
1921	1,489	4,531,577	75,504,973	220,968,127	18,265,213	17,474,888

[1] Loss.

Figures of the Cooperative Union, published in the November, 1923, issue of the International Cooperative Bulletin (p. 280), show the sales of the three wholesale societies for 1921 and 1922 to have been as follows:

	1921.	1922.
English Cooperative Wholesale Society	£81,941,682	£65,904,812
Scottish Cooperative Wholesale Society	22,041,158	17,009,251
Irish Cooperative Wholesale Society	1,118,718	686,486

Industrial Cooperative Societies.

The Ministry of Labor Gazette (London) for October, 1923, contains (pp. 359, 360) data on the work of "industrial" cooperative societies during 1922. There were in that year 1,146 cooperative

societies of various types engaged in production; these included 1,000 retail societies, 2 wholesale societies, 1 corn-milling society, 51 bread-making and other consumers' societies, and 92 associations of workers. The value of the product of each type of society since 1913 is shown in the following table:

VALUE OF GOODS PRODUCED BY COOPERATIVE SOCIETIES, 1913 TO 1922.

[£ at par=$4.8665.]

Year.	Associations of consumers.				Associations of workers.	Total, all societies.
	Productive departments of consumers' societies.		Productive societies.			
	Retail societies.	Wholesale societies.	Corn-milling societies.	Baking and other consumers' societies.		
1913	£14,692,632	£11,376,511	£1,003,579	£1,270,579	£1,732,337	£30,075,638
1914	15,705,339	12,790,390	1,035,044	1,291,950	1,778,664	32,601,387
1915	19,310,204	17,596,639	304,616	1,508,872	2,399,930	41,120,261
1916	22,855,734	22,120,357	241,894	1,764,125	2,592,210	49,574,320
1917	25,408,072	25,868,097	310,991	1,938,854	3,253,846	56,779,860
1918	23,883,206	24,900,938	264,653	1,871,021	3,687,060	54,606,878
1919	28,465,060	36,321,546	528,288	2,498,552	4,496,935	72,310,381
1920[1]	38,376,634	48,072,892	354,301	2,988,323	5,403,814	95,195,964
1921[1]	38,123,374	37,925,115	341,114	2,671,585	3,435,150	82,496,338
1922[1]	29,980,520	27,619,886	239,080	2,098,326	2,671,345	62,609,157

[1] Up to and including the year 1920 the figures given relate to Great Britain and Ireland; subsequent figures are exclusive of societies registered in Ireland.

The following table shows the number and wages of employees and the value of product of consumers' and workers' societies in each industry:

NUMBER AND WAGES OF EMPLOYEES OF COOPERATIVE SOCIETIES AND VALUE OF GOODS PRODUCED, BY TYPE OF SOCIETY AND INDUSTRY GROUP, 1922.

[£ at par=$4.8665.]

Industry group.	Associations of consumers.			Associations of workers.		
	Number of employees.[1]	Wages.	Value of product.	Number of employees.	Wages.	Value of product.
Food and tobacco[2]	26,228	£4,107,310	£45,965,871	212	£25,236	£150,632
Clothing	19,653	2,180,420	5,292,163	4,401	455,664	1,502,874
Soap, candles, and starch	1,892	259,669	2,410,030	.....	.....	.....
Textiles	3,257	304,873	1,368,143	876	92,561	461,447
Mining and quarrying	488	48,577	95,343	13	1,373	2,676
Building and woodworking	7,074	1,192,965	2,614,865	531	64,691	129,585
Printing	2,641	372,929	1,044,932	958	163,671	320,308
Metal, engineering and shipbuilding	1,375	208,600	570,693	367	36,378	74,035
Other industries	949	101,323	575,772	178	13,563	29,788
Total: 1922	63,557	8,776,666	59,937,812	7,536	853,137	2,671,345
1921	64,897	10,171,656	79,061,188	8,750	1,130,512	3,435,150
Per cent of decrease from 1921	2.1	13.7	24.2	13.9	24.5	22.2

[1] Exclusive of coolie labor employed in the English and Scottish Wholesale Societies' joint tea, etc., departments.

[2] Includes farm and dairy produce valued at £1,512,000 in respect of which there were 3,089 employees with wages of £344,000 for 1922; also figures for English and Scottish Wholesale Societies' joint tea, coffee, and cocoa departments.

Ireland.[1]

THE July–September, 1923, issue of the International Review of Agricultural Economics contains a review of the report of the Irish Agricultural Organization Society for the year ending March 31, 1921. The following table shows the status of the different types of societies affiliated to the central society:

OPERATIONS OF SOCIETIES AFFILIATED TO IRISH AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATION SOCIETY, 1920, BY TYPE OF SOCIETY.

[£ at par=$4.8665.]

Type of society.	Number of societies.	Number of members.	Paid-in share capital.	Loan capital.	Amount of business.
Creameries	336	50,122	£193,208	£500,719	£8,247,836
Auxiliary creameries [1]	102				
Agricultural societies	387	65,954	229,522	375,677	2,474,339
Credit and agricultural banks	124	15,263		64,600	30,362
Poultry societies	10	3,240	1,806	6,407	253,462
Flax societies	37	3,504	36,433	34,723	34,126
Miscellaneous societies	52	18,292	316,652	37,366	790,222
Farming societies	64	732	339	243,290	
Federations	2	659	31,212	201,117	2,774,505
Total: 1920	1,114	157,766	809,172	1,463,899	14,604,852
1919	1,028	135,369			11,158,593

[1] Not registered separately.

Japan.

A RECENT book [2] on the cooperative movement in Japan places the number of societies at present existing in that country at 13,700 and the combined membership at nearly 2,600,000. Altogether, about one family in every four is reached by the cooperative movement; among the agriculturists nearly half are members of a cooperative society. The following table shows such figures as are given for each type of society. In reading the table it should be borne in mind that with the exception of column 2 the figures are not mutually exclusive. For instance, in 1918 there were 290 societies whose function was exclusively that of marketing their members' produce and 5,695 others which had other functions besides that. Thus, a society which combined credit, marketing, and purchasing might appear under each of these classes.

[1] For figures concerning agricultural societies in Great Britain see MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW, April, 1923, pp. 165, 166.

[2] Ogata, Kiyoshi: The Cooperative Movement in Japan. London, P. S. King & Son (Ltd.), 1923.

STATISTICS OF OPERATION OF COOPERATIVE SOCIETIES IN JAPAN, BY TYPE OF SOCIETY.

[Yen at par=49.85 cents.]

Type of society.	Year.	Number of societies—		Number of societies reporting.	Number of members.	Paid-in share capital.	Amount of business.
		Exclusively of type indicated.	Also having other functions.				
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
						Yen.	*Yen.*
Credit societies	1920	[1] 2,535	[1] 9,654	12,187	2,286,685	55,284,481	.....
Marketing societies	1918	290	5,695	5,216	829,487	14,318,923	116,800,007
Purchasing societies	1918	419	7,944	7,452	1,113,321	18,493,227	77,940,316
Consumers' societies	1919	85	.....	49	47,000	.....	6,500,000
Other types	1918	127	1,857	1,758	275,454	5,137,465	.....

[1] Figure for 1921.

The class in the above table, "other types," consists of what the author calls "machinery societies," meaning thereby societies which either themselves undertake manufacture from raw materials, of whatever sort, furnished by the members, or provide premises, plant, or appliances for the common use of members. The writer points out that there are in Japan no societies corresponding to the workers' productive societies or self-governing workshops found in other countries; the Japanese societies often classified in reports as "productive" societies [3] are not workers' productive societies but producers' societies, such as those which undertake the drying of cocoons or re-reeling of silk furnished by the members, i. e., societies termed in the present work, "machinery societies." The term "purchasing societies" as used by the author includes not only consumers' societies proper but also a type of society not generally accepted as cooperative, i. e., associations of producers (including small handicraftsmen) which supply their members with raw materials and other goods necessary for the carrying on of the members' private business or industry. [4] As the writer points out, these societies "are, after all, only associations of small capitalists, and they have always primarily in view how to increase the profits of the members individually."

As is seen, credit societies form the largest proportion of the whole number of cooperative societies in Japan. The author attributes this to the peculiar economic conditions of Japan and to the fact that for centuries the people have been accustomed to the idea of mutual finance through the ancient Mujin system and, later, the Hōtokusha societies.

Consumers' cooperation is little developed and has in most cases been organized by Government employees, salaried employees of joint stock companies, and clerks. This is attributed to several causes: The laboring classes do not understand the benefits to be derived from cooperative effort. The author cites also "the concerted opposition of retail dealers, who, from fear of losing their

[3] See, for instance, Twenty-second Financial and Economic Annual of Japan, quoted in MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW for August, 1923 (p. 232).

[4] Analagous to the German Erwerbs-und Wirtschaftsgenossenschaften.

trade, have retarded the movement by every possible means." Again, he states that although the Government has actively fostered other types of societies, it has done nothing in the line of organizing the consumers. The author classifies existing consumers' societies, from the standpoint of membership, as follows: (1) Societies open to all classes, (2) societies open to Government employees only, (3) societies attached to factories, (4) societies for manual laborers, and (5) societies organized on the basis of common religious or social ties.

* * * These Japanese stores were, in most cases, not started with any idea of eliminating "profit," or the eventual realization of the cooperative commonwealth, which is the final goal and driving force of the consumers' cooperative movement in Great Britain. In Japan members simply join the society because they can get their household requirements cheaper than from retail dealers. They naturally look upon their society exactly as they did upon their retail dealers, who formerly supplied their needs. * * * For in Japan the cooperative movement was imposed from above, as a part of a vast program of the paternal Government. This lack of an ideal is one of the weaknesses of the modern cooperative movement in Japan, whereas we find that even in so comparatively primitive an institution as the Hōtokusha it is just this ideal which is its life-giving factor.

Cooperative societies in Japan have certain privileges, such as exemption from income and business taxes, reduction of registration fee, loans from the Government at a low rate of interest; direct Government subsidies (in the case of agricultural warehousing societies); and preferential treatment in the awarding of State contracts for Army supplies, etc.

The Japanese Cooperative Union was formed in 1905. Its headquarters are in Tokio and it has 46 branch offices throughout Japan. In 1920 it had in membership 2,114 individuals and 9,494 societies and federations. The union accepts into membership all types of societies.

Mauritius.

ACCORDING to a recent official report,[5] there were on the island of Mauritius, at the end of 1922, 36 cooperative credit societies whose total membership on June 30 of the same year numbered 3,641 and whose working capital amounted to Rs. 494,896 ($240,816, par).

Netherlands.

THE June, 1920, issue of the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW contained a short history and general account of the cooperative movement in the Netherlands. Previous to 1920 the consumers' movement had been divided along religious and political lines, there being a Catholic, a Socialist, and a "neutral" movement. In that year, however, the Socialist League of Dutch Workingmen's Cooperative Societies amalgamated with the neutral Dutch Cooperative Union to form the Central Union of Dutch Consumers' Societies, a neutral organization. According to an article in The Irish Economist (Dublin) for October, 1923 (pp. 354–359), there are in affiliation with the Central Union 141 societies with a combined membership of 137,264. There are still 30 neutral societies unaffiliated with the union, among which is the Vooruitgang in Rotterdam, with 44,000

[5] Great Britain. [Colonial Office.] Colonial reports—annual No. 1179: Mauritius, report for 1922. London, 1923.

members. Since the Catholic Cooperative Union publishes no statistics of membership the number of affiliated societies is not known; the individual membership of the Catholic cooperative movement is believed to be about 50,000.

The Dutch Wholesale Society, Handelskamer, though organized as a department of the Dutch Cooperative Union, has been an independent society since 1914. It now has in affiliation 383 societies, with a combined membership of 173,635, among which are some 200 Catholic societies.

Most of the local consumers' societies, it is stated, run bakeries and grocery stores, though there are also cooperative butcher shops, creameries, shoe stores, dry-goods stores, coal yards, and laundries. One society at the Hague, the Volharding, has a life and health insurance department with 50,000 members. This department employs 31 physicians, several specialists, nurses, and druggists, and has a clinic with chemists, X-ray and orthopedic divisions, and an operating room.

The cooperative movement in the Netherlands has suffered materially of late years from the general economic depression, and about 20 societies have failed, while others are in financial difficulties.

Agricultural Cooperation.

There is stated to have been a remarkable development in agricultural cooperation, particularly in the field of agricultural credit. There are now 4 central Raiffeisen banks in Holland, to which are affiliated 1,214 local cooperative credit societies.

Cooperation among dairy farmers has been equally successful. In 1922 the 445 cooperative creameries in membership with the Dutch Dairy Union handled 40 per cent of the total milk production of the Netherlands. The union has an office for the purchase of agricultural supplies with an annual business of 2,750,000 florins ($1,105,500, par); it has also its own banking department and technical office.

Societies have been established among the farmers for the export of farm products, cheese, fruits, vegetables, etc. Mutual insurance is a special branch of the agricultural movement, more than 200,000 members being thus insured.

Russia.[6]

THE cooperative movement in Russia has developed on an enormous scale. Although the movement is more than 50 years old the greatest development has taken place since 1905. By 1912 there were in Russia 18,083 cooperative societies of all kinds, with a membership of 5,760,000 householders, and by the beginning of 1919 the number of societies had increased to 80,000, with a membership of 20,000,000 householders.[7]

[6] Except where otherwise noted, the data on which this section is based are from the Cooperative Movement in Russia (Bulletin of All-Russian Central Union of Consumers' Societies, Centrosoyus), London, Nos. 1–14. For more extended accounts of the general condition of the movement in Russia see MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW, June, 1920. (pp. 122–130), and February, 1921 (pp. 113, 114).

[7] U. S. Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce Bul. No. 101: The Russian cooperative movement, by Frederic E. Lee, p. 8.

Consumers' Societies.

The war gave a tremendous stimulus to the development of consumers' cooperation. There was a shortage of food, the cost of living rose, and the ordinary machinery of distribution broke down. In this situation the cooperative system was the only agency capable of meeting the huge task of supplying the people with food and other necessaries, and membership in cooperative societies grew enormously.

The following table shows the growth of the consumers' cooperative movement between 1914 and 1919:

DEVELOPMENT OF RUSSIAN CONSUMERS' COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT, 1914 TO 1919.

[Gold ruble at par= 51.5 cents.]

Year.	Number of consumers' societies.	Membership.	Share capital.	Amount of business.
			G. rubles.	*G. rubles.*
1914	11,400	1,650,000	32,175,000	290,000,000
1915	14,500	2,610,000	39,150,000	483,333,000
1916	23,500	6,815,000	64,117,647	1,036,470,588
1917	35,000	11,550,000	34,468,085	1,243,617,021
1918	47,000	17,000,000	.....	1,000,000,000
1919 [1]	53,000	18,500,000	.....	.....

[1] Complete figures not available, as this was the year of civil war.

In 1914 the business done by consumers' cooperative societies in such commodities as foods, footwear, textiles, and household goods constituted 7 per cent of the total internal trade of Russia in these articles. In the next year this percentage had risen to 33, a proportion which, with certain fluctuations, has been maintained ever since.

The importance of the consumers' cooperative movement as a channel of distribution was recognized by the Bolshevists after their accession to power, and steps were taken to secure control of the consumers' movement. By the decree of March 20, 1919, "consumers' communes" were created to take the place of the old consumers' cooperative societies and every inhabitant was required to become a member of the local commune.[8] The 53,000 consumers' societies in existence at the beginning of 1919 were reorganized into 25,000 societies, federated into 98 provincial unions, final control of each society remaining in the hands of the representative of the Ministry of Food on the society's board of directors.[9]

This action aroused a storm of protest not only from the Russian cooperators but from the cooperators in other countries, since it is one of the cardinal principles of cooperation that membership must be absolutely voluntary, and after two years the consumers' cooperatives were, by the decree of April 7, 1921, and by subsequent decrees, freed from State control, though the Government reserved the right (never as yet exercised) to appoint a representative on the

[8] The old name was later restored because of the unpopularity of the word "commune."
[9] Russian Cooperator, London, November, 1920.

board of directors of the All-Russian Central Union of Consumers' Societies, the Centrosoyus.[10]

The Russian cooperative movement, which during this time was refused representation in the International Cooperative Alliance on the ground that the delegates sent represented not cooperators but the Russian Government, has now been readmitted, as the Alliance seems satisfied that Russian cooperation is once more a free, voluntary movement.

The cooperative societies enjoy, under the Soviet Government, certain privileges not accorded to any other organizations. Among these are a 25 per cent reduction in all taxes levied for the State; preference on State contracts for goods; grants of State credits "so far as the national means permit"; and the right to trade in foreign markets.

At the beginning of 1923 there were 3,192 urban consumers' societies of various types, 22,302 rural consumers' societies, 332 transport workers' consumers' societies, and 180 soldiers' consumers' societies, making a total of 26,006 organizations. The business of these local societies during 1922 amounted to 215,649,000 gold rubles ($111,059,235, par).

The consumers' associations have undertaken production along certain lines and now operate a total of 1,878 creameries, 41 oil mills, 239 flour mills, 31 potato-crushing and starch factories, 45 fruit-drying and vegetable-canning factories, 29 grain-sorting stations, 150 depots from which machinery is rented to peasant members, 89 cattle-breeding farms, and a number of smaller establishments.

The societies not only supply the peasants with agricultural machinery but endeavor to further the introduction of modern and improved methods of cultivation. Their activities along this line began in October, 1917, when some of the estates which came under the control of the local departments of the Commissariat for Agriculture were turned over to various organizations, including agricultural and consumers' societies. These estates have been converted into model farms. Some 270 of these estates, covering an area of 120,000 acres, are now being run by consumers' societies.

These local consumers' societies are federated into 87 provincial and regional unions, and these in turn into a central union, the All-Russian Central Union of Consumers' Societies, the Centrosoyus. The Centrosoyus performs the functions of cooperative wholesale society as well as those of cooperative union of all Russia. The Centrosoyus was founded in 1917 from the Moscow Union of Consumers' Societies which had been in existence since 1898. It now has branches and offices not only in Russia but in many foreign countries. The following table shows the progress of the union since 1898:

[10] International Cooperative Bulletin, London, February, 1922.

DEVELOPMENT OF RUSSIAN CENTROSOYUS, 1898 TO 1922.

[Gold ruble at par=51.5 cents.]

Year.	Membership of affiliated societies.	Amount of business.	Capital.	Value of goods produced.	Year.	Membership of affiliated societies.	Amount of business.	Capital.	Value of goods produced.
		G. rubles.	*G. rubles.*	*G. rubles.*			*G. rubles.*	*G. rubles.*	*G. rubles.*
1898	21,409	31,340	.....	.....	1911	179,601	3,611,709	103,414	.....
1899	26,973	139,322	800	.....	1912	225,776	5,953,787	169,801	.....
1900	40,868	109,302	5,200	.....	1913	284,530	7,834,777	234,418	39,770
1901	40,670	177,567	7,900	.....	1914	426,968	10,263,544	319,479	76,645
1902	50,652	260,420	9,650	.....	1915	474,062	10,026,000	756,000	250,515
1903	71,657	347,304	11,750	.....	1916	733,502	50,960,000	1,486,000	2,750,081
1904	65,107	439,700	12,400	.....	1917	1,084,000	46,791,000	3,429,000	4,847,039
1905	65,520	290,759	17,656	.....	1918	[1]	30,347,000	5,677,000	4,684,594
1906	97,148	399,978	19,132	.....	1919	[1]	44,179,000	6,697,000	2,458,168
1907	123,025	605,842	27,558	.....	1920	[1]	94,752,000	7,282,000	2,644,399
1908	135,000	1,174,556	38,568	.....	1921	[1]	66,422,048	8,688,000	[2] 745,530
1909	149,058	1,953,415	47,822	.....	1922	[3]	66,500,000	[4] 26,584,961	[1]
1910	.....	.....	72,735	.....					

[1] Not reported. [2] 4 months. [3] Entire population. [4] July, 1923.

The Centrosoyus began productive operations in 1913. It now operates 4 flour mills, 3 soap factories, 3 coffee grinding and roasting works, 12 starch and molasses factories, 4 jam factories, 3 fruit-drying and preserving factories, 2 oil mills, 1 confectionery works, 1 sausage and canned-meat factory, 2 boot and shoe factories, 2 printing establishments, and a number of mechanical workshops, brick kilns, etc. The Centrosoyus also has an insurance section which writes every kind of insurance for the consumers' societies of the country.

The Centrosoyus has its own river fleet, which consists of 8 steamships, 2 motor boats, and 37 sailing vessels; on June 18, 1923, a new steamship, *Cooperator*, was launched which will be used in trade with Siberia.

As already stated, the cooperative movement, through the Centrosoyus, is permitted by the Government to engage in trade in foreign markets; up to the present all the foreign trade of Russia has been carried on by the Centrosoyus. During the first six months of 1923 the foreign trade of the Centrosoyus amounted to £1,758,500 ($8,557,840, par), of which £1,578,500 ($7,681,770, par) represented its export business, and £180,000 ($875,970, par) its import business. The articles of export include flax, hemp, tow, furs, wool, bristle, horsehair, down, feathers, hides and skins, rags, medicinal herbs, seeds, potash, tobacco, oil cake, fish and caviar, eggs, timber, staves, cement, etc. Articles imported include sugar, tea, coffee, pepper, iron and steel and their manufactures, tools, agricultural implements and machines, engines, automobiles and auto trucks, factory equipment of every kind, electrical machinery and appliances, tanning extracts, leather, caustic soda, acids, resin, textiles, yarns, clothing, footwear, sewing machines, fishing tackle, paper, typewriters, etc.

From 1918 up to the end of 1921, the Centrosoyus was the financial and credit center of the consumers' cooperative movement in Russia. In December, 1921, the Consumers' Cooperative Bank (Pokobank) was organized to take over these functions. A year later this bank was reorganized as the All-Russian Cooperative Bank (Wsekobank). The Wsekobank now has 176 branches throughout Russia.

In addition to its commercial activities the Centrosoyus has certain noncommercial functions, such as: "(1) The education and training of cooperative workers; (2) the study of questions and problems connected with the organization of the movement, such as the establishment of Federal institutions, associations, and unions, which entails instruction in the methods of organization and direction of the work of local cooperatives; (3) the study of statistics and economics in relation to consumers' cooperation, and the general supervision and direction of the corresponding work of the unions; (4) the defense and representation, both nationally and internationally, of the interests of consumers' cooperation; and finally (5) the dissemination of cooperative knowledge by the publication of cooperative journals and general literature. These tasks are performed, respectively, by the educational, organization and instruction, statistico-economic, legal and publishing departments."

The Centrosoyus has taken "particular interest" in the welfare of its employees. The welfare work has been conducted by a joint committee of representatives of the employees and the board of directors of the Centrosoyus. The measures instituted are described as follows:

> Alongside the welfare measures prescribed by law, for the carrying out of which Centrosoyus contributes a sum equal to 12 per cent of the total amount of wages received by its employees, a special organization, controlled by the medical bureau of Centrosoyus, has also been established for the purpose of rendering medical aid to the employees.
>
> At the present time the institutions serving this purpose are as follows: (1) A hospital with a staff of 6 medical specialists and 34 assistants and employees. The hospital is equipped with 40 beds, a surgical and a gynecological ward, and a physicotherapeutic laboratory; (2) an analytical laboratory; (3) a Roentgen laboratory; (4) an out-patient surgery; and (5) a dental surgery.
>
> In addition to this, doctors visit employees at their homes when seriously ill, while other patients are attended to by a number of specialists at their own surgeries.
>
> For the purpose of providing its employees with facilities for rest, Centrosoyus has two country houses with accommodation for 57 persons in the neighborhood of Moscow. In the Crimea also there are rest homes and sanatoria for consumptive employees; at present 150 beds are provided, for which only a small charge is made.
>
> The educational institutions for the employees are various and well equipped.
>
> The large, excellently furnished club of the Centrosoyus staff has a hall with seating accommodation for 600 persons and contains a library, a reading room, a dramatic studio and school, a music school, classes for tuition in the English and German languages, a primary school for workmen, a school for dress designing, and an excursion circle. Another club with a library and reading room is situated in the locality in which the warehouses and industrial undertakings of Centrosoyus are established. There is also a special club for the younger members of the staff.
>
> The confectionery works of Centrosoyus in Moscow has its own club, a library, a kindergarten, and a crèche.
>
> Special attention has been given to the education of the employees' children. For this purpose four kindergartens, accommodating 150 children, have been opened, as well as a primary and secondary school for 400 pupils. All these establishments are in the charge of the educational commission attached to the Centrosoyus staff committee. The cost of their maintenance is covered by a 2 per cent levy on the wages of the staff, and by a 6 per cent contribution from Centrosoyus.

Agricultural Societies.

On July 1, 1922, there were in Russia (except Ukrainia) 16,647 agricultural societies, of which 9,224 were cooperative societies of "purely agricultural type," 1,753 were societies manufacturing butter

and cheese, 616 were credit societies, and the remaining 5,054 were societies of various types.

These societies are federated into 288 unions, which are in turn associated in a central union, the All-Russian Union of Agricultural Cooperative Societies, or Selskosoyus. The Selskosoyus was organized August 25, 1921. It now includes in its membership 300 unions of cooperative societies, representing some 2,500,000 peasant families, or 18½ per cent of the peasant families in Russia. Only 10 per cent of the agricultural societies are still unaffiliated to the central union.

During 1922 the business of the central union amounted to 7,000,000 gold rubles ($3,605,000, par). During the first quarter of 1923 its sales amounted to 5,000,000 gold rubles ($2,575,000, par), while goods purchased for its members amounted to 1,600,000 gold rubles ($824,000, par).

In the middle of 1922 the flax and potato societies affiliated to the central union had so grown that it was found advisable to federate them into separate central bodies. An important activity of the Potato Union is the organization of societies for the joint cultivation of land. In March, 1923, there were in existence some 3,120 societies of this type.

Most of the unions in membership with the Selskosoyus and some of the local societies conduct certain productive enterprises of their own, such as flour mills, workshops, breeding farms, experiment farms, electric plants, etc.

According to the decree of August 16, 1921, five or more peasants may form an agricultural cooperative association or "artel" for joint agricultural production, for the joint purchase of agricultural supplies, or for the marketing of their produce. Three or more such associations may unite to form a union. Both associations and unions are recognized as legal entities and their enterprises and premises are specifically stated in the decree not to be liable "either to nationalization or municipalization."

These agricultural societies are, by the decree, to be given preferential treatment in the awarding of State contracts and in the securing of supplies, and are not to be "subject to the preliminary control of the Workers' and Peasants' Inspection."

Workers' Productive Societies.

On January 1, 1923, there were 188 unions of workers' cooperative productive societies composed of 4,818 local societies or artels, with a membership of 210,818. These unions are in turn federated into a central body, founded in 1922, the All-Russian Union of Producers' Cooperative Societies, or Vsekopromisoyus.

The importance of these "home industry" societies in the economy of Russia is shown by the fact that in 1922 their products formed 36 per cent of all manufactures in Russia.

The legal status of these associations is fixed by the decree of July 7, 1921, whose provisions are identical with those of the decree of August 16, 1921, just noted.

South Africa.[11]

FOR some years past there has been a tendency among farmers in South Africa toward organization into cooperative societies, through which they are able collectively to dispose of their produce and to purchase their requirements direct from the manufacturers. In 1922 a comprehensive cooperative act was passed, which consolidated the various provincial laws on the subject. In consequence, the same facilities for the formation and registration of limited liability cooperative associations are now provided as previously were available to societies of unlimited liability. This act removes all obstacles to the expansion of the cooperative agricultural movement, and it is believed that there will be more united effort during the next few years.

In 1922 there was also evident a further development of central agencies, or exchanges, formed by the combination of societies and companies handling like products. Their chief object is to market their produce through one single organization, advertise and develop their industry, and purchase the requirements of their members collectively and through one single channel. The Fruit Growers' Exchange and the Cotton Growers' Exchange were established during the year under review.

An interesting phase of the growth of these central cooperative agencies is the tendency to look for capital through a levy on export produce rather than by direct capital subscriptions. The Fruit Growers' Exchange has practically no capital, and it makes no direct charge to its members for services rendered. However, it enjoys a revenue of about £9,000 per year, which will increase with an expansion in exports. This revenue is derived from the levy of 5s. a ton on export fruit, and is collected by the Minister of Agriculture, under the provisions of the agricultural products grading act, and he, in turn, pays it over to the exchange. This system of levy on the exports of certain agricultural products, to be used in encouraging the particular industries, will be extended to the cotton and the maize growers. The latter are now organizing along the lines of the fruit and cotton growers, and hope to be able to handle the 1923 crop cooperatively.

[11] Extract from Supplement to Commerce Reports, Trade and economic review for 1922 No. 28: Union of South Africa.

CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION.

Conciliation Work of the Department of Labor in December, 1923.

By Hugh L. Kerwin, Director of Conciliation.

THE Secretary of Labor, through the Division of Conciliation, exercised his good offices in connection with 23 labor disputes during December, 1923. These disputes affected a total of 13,642 employees. The table following shows the name and location of the establishment or industry in which the dispute occurred, the nature of the dispute (whether strike or lockout or controversy not having reached strike or lockout stage), the craft or trade concerned, the cause of the dispute, its present status, the terms of settlement, the date of beginning and ending, and the number of workmen directly and indirectly affected.

On January 1, 1924, there were 50 strikes before the department for settlement and, in addition, 16 controversies which had not reached the strike stage. Total number of cases pending, 66.

LABOR DISPUTES HANDLED BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR THROUGH ITS DIVISION OF CONCILIATION, DECEMBER, 1923.

Company or industry and location.	Nature of controversy.	Craft concerned.	Cause of dispute.	Present status.	Terms of settlement.	Duration.		Men involved.	
						Beginning.	Ending.	Directly.	Indirectly.
						1923.	1923.		
Textiles, Pawtucket, R. I.	Strike.	Textile.	Working conditions; loom fixer.	Adjusted.	Strikers returned; conditions improved.	Sept. 28	Dec. 14	60	.....
West End Coal Co., Moconaqua, Pa.	....do....	Miners.	Wages and discrimination.	....do....	To officials for settlement.	Nov. 28	Dec. 6	1,200	.....
Springmeyer & Pattberg Co., Hoboken, N. J.	....do....	Leather workers.	Union activity, violence, etc.	Pending.		Oct. 23	.....	50	.....
Lehigh Coal & Navigation Co., Nesquehoning, Pa.	....do....	Miners.	Working conditions.	Adjusted.	Company granted demands.	Nov. 21	Nov. 26	4	1,296
Armour Leather Co., Williamsport, Pa.	....do....	Leather cutters.	Wage increase and union recognition.	....do....	Company refused; men returned, no discrimination.	Oct. 12	Nov. 15	112	157
Lehigh Valley Coal Co., Wilkes-Barre, Pa.	....do....	Anthracite miners.	Wages and working conditions.	....do....	To regular channels for adjustment.	Dec. 7	Dec. 14	7,000	.....
American Woolen Co., Dover, N. H.	....do....	Textile.	....do....	Pending.		Dec. 1	.....	30	200
Goff's Mill, Pawtucket, R. I.	Controversy.	Textile workers.	Working conditions.	....do....		(1)	.....	(1)	.....
Bureau of Engraving (Inc.) and Twin City Engraving Co., Minneapolis, and St. Paul, Minn.	Strike.	Photo-engravers.	Ask new agreement.	Unable to adjust.		Nov. 19	.....	50	.....
Taxicabs, New Orleans, La.	....do....	Taxi drivers.	Working conditions.	Adjusted.	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	.....
United Parlor Furniture Co., Chelsea, Mass.	....do....	Furniture workers	Recognition of union.	Unable to adjust.		Sept. 7	.....	25	8
Miners, Mount Ash, Ky.	Controversy	Miners.	Report of proposed evictions.	Pending.		(1)	.....	(1)	.....
Miners, two collieries, Shamokin, Pa.	Strike.	....do....	Change in time.	Adjusted.	Company rescinded order.	Dec. 7	Dec. 22	30	670
Lehigh Coal Co., No. 5 colliery, Girardsville, Pa.	....do....	....do....	Two men discharged.	....do....	Company agreed to reinstate miners.	Dec. 13	Dec. 14	528	2
Philadelphia & Reading Coal and Iron Co., Shamokin, Pa.	....do....	....do....	Change in time of night shift.	....do....	Company rescinded order.	Dec. 6	Dec. 22	60	690
Kosher Butchers, 450 shops, New York City.	Controversy	Butchers.	Renewal of agreement	Pending.		Dec. 7	.....	480	.....
Schuylkill Railway, Philadelphia, Pa.	....do....	Railway workers.	Wages and working conditions.	....do....		(1)	.....	(1)	.....
Regent Silk Mill, Paterson, N. J.	Strike.	Weavers.	Three or four loom system.	....do....		(1)	.....	(1)	.....
Philadelphia, Reading Coal and Iron Co., Shamokin, Pa.	....do....	Miners.	Change in time.	Adjusted.	Company rescinded order.	Dec. 6	Dec. 12	(1)	.....
Lightner Bros., Cedar Rapids, Iowa.	Controversy	Building trades.	Pay for Sunday work.	....do....	Compromised on number of hours and pay.	Dec. 10	Dec. 24	14	100
Duval Silk Mill, Paterson, N. J.	Strike.	Silk weavers.	Number of looms used.	Pending.		(1)	.....	120	.....
Supton Sash Co., Columbus, Ohio.	Lockout.	Iron workers.	(1)	....do....		(1)	.....	6	.....
Lehigh Coal Co., Plains, Pa.	Strike.	Miners.	Men discharged; conditions.	Adjusted.	To conciliation board.	Dec. 19	Dec. 22	6	744
								9,775	3,867

[1] Not reported.

Provisional Revision of German Conciliation and Arbitration Laws.[1]

UNTIL recently the settling of industrial disputes in Germany was regulated by the decree of December 23, 1918, on collective agreements, workers' and salaried employees' committees and the settlement of labor disputes, and by the demobilization decree of February 12, 1920.[2] This regulation was, however, intended as merely temporary. In order to make permanent legal provision for the settlement of industrial disputes, the Federal Government drafted a conciliation and arbitration law which was submitted to the national economic council (*Reichswirtschaftsrat*) for approval. After several amendments had been made by this body the bill was passed in March, 1922, by the Federal council (*Reichsrat*) and passed on to the Reichstag, where it has advanced to a first reading and discussion, and has been referred to the committee on social legislation. Since this committee has so far not taken up the discussion of the bill, considerable time will elapse before its enactment.

However, the present difficult economic situation in Germany requires immediately an efficient and speedy system of conciliation and arbitration of labor disputes. Acting under the special powers conferred upon it by the law of October 13, 1923 (*Ermachtigungsgesetz*), the German Federal Government therefore issued a decree on October 30, 1923, which drastically amends the existing legislation on the settling of labor disputes. The preamble to the decree explicitly states, however, that the decree is intended only as a provisional measure and is to be replaced later on by the bill now pending in the Reichsrat.

The new decree endeavors in the first place to relieve the conciliation committees (*Schlichtungsausschüsse*) of a number of tedious tasks that had been assigned to them in the years subsequent to 1918, tasks that had no connection with the principal purpose for which these committees were created, that of assisting in the conclusion of collective wage and working agreements. All individual disputes arising from the application of the works councils law (especially those relating to dismissals of workers or salaried employees) are in the future to be settled exclusively by the labor courts (*Arbeitsgerichte*). But as the bill providing for the creation of labor courts is still awaiting enactment by the Reichstag, and consequently these courts are not yet in existence, the existing industrial and commercial courts (*Gewerbe-und Kaufmannsgerichte*) are for the present designated to take the place of the labor courts and to handle all individual labor disputes. The conciliation committee will settle individual labor disputes only in those districts in which industrial or commercial courts do not exist. For this purpose the committee is to form an arbitration board (*Schlichtungskammer*) composed of the nonpartisan chairman of the committee and of one representative each of the employer and workman members of the committee.

The decree abolishes the entire existing system of legal conciliation and arbitration of labor disputes. It provides that the highest State authorities and the Federal Minister of Labor shall appoint new

[1] Germany. Reichsarbeitsverwaltung. Reichsarbeitsblatt, Berlin, Dec. 1, 1923, p. 736.
[2] See MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW, April, 1919, pp. 160-167, and September, 1923, pp. 8-17.

conciliation committees to replace the existing committees. Their headquarters and district of jurisdiction shall be determined with due consideration for local economic circumstances. The formation of conciliation committees for several States in common or for parts of several States is permissible. The committees are to consist of one or several nonpartisan chairmen (alternates) and of an equal number of representatives of employers and employees. The nonpartisan chairmen are to be appointed by the highest State authorities after a hearing of the organizations of employers and employees. These authorities are also to appoint the employer and employee members of the committees on proposal of their respective organizations.

For large economic districts the Federal Minister of Labor shall appoint conciliation commissioners (*Schlichter*). It is the intention of the Government that these commissioners shall act as arbitrators only in the more important labor disputes. The Minister of Labor may also appoint a special conciliation commissioner to settle a single dispute of national importance. It is expected that the conciliation commissioners will in the course of time through continuous practice in settling large labor disputes become rather adroit conciliators and arbitrators.

The present decree, like all former legislation on the subject, establishes as the principal task of conciliation committees and conciliation commissioners that they shall cooperate with employers and workers in bringing about the conclusion of collective agreements. Conciliation committees and conciliation commissioners may intervene in labor disputes either on request of one of the parties to the dispute or on their own initiative. When intervening in disputes, the nonpartisan chairman of the conciliation committee or the conciliation commissioner shall, first, attempt to bring about the conclusion of a collective agreement. If this attempt fails, the dispute is to be discussed before an arbitration board (*Schlichtungskammer*). This board is to be composed either of the nonpartisan chairman of the conciliation committee and two representatives each of the employer and employee members of the committee, or of the conciliation commissioner and an equal number of employers' and employees' representatives appointed by him.

If an agreement still can not be reached, the board shall make an award in the form of a collective agreement. If the award is accepted by both parties it shall have the character and effect of a collective agreement concluded in writing. The same shall be the case if the award becomes legally binding in pursuance of a legal provision or of a previous voluntary agreement of the parties. If the award of the board is not accepted by both parties it may be declared legally binding upon them if the regulation made by the award has equitably considered the interests of the parties and if the application of the award is required for economic and social reasons. The decree does not state who is to be the judge of the equity of the award; it merely provides that the declaration proclaiming the award legally binding is to be made by the conciliation commissioner in whose district the award is to become applicable. If the award covers several districts or States the declaration is to be made by the Federal Minister of Labor.

The Federal Minister of Labor may issue general rules for the guidance of the conciliation committees and conciliation commissioners. In their individual decisions, however, the conciliation committees and commissioners may act independently and are in no way bound to adhere to these general rules.

The conciliation commissioners are subject to the direct supervision of the Federal Minister of Labor and the conciliation committees to that of the highest State authorities. The Federal Minister of Labor may, however, with the consent of the highest State authorities, investigate the activities of the conciliation committees and request the submission by them of documents.

The German Federal Government (*Reich*) is to defray the expenses of the conciliation commissioners, and until a new demarcation of the revenues of the Federal Government and of the States has been made also that of the conciliation committees. The decree became effective on January 1, 1924.

IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION.

Statistics of Immigration for November, 1923.

By W. W. Husband, Commissioner General of Immigration.

THE following tables show the total number of immigrant aliens admitted into the United States and emigrant aliens departed from the United States from July to November, 1923. The tabulations are presented according to the countries of last permanent or future permanent residence, races or peoples, occupations, and States, of future permanent or last permanent residence. The last table (Table 6) shows the number of aliens admitted under the per cent limit act of May 19, 1921, from July 1, 1923, to January 16, 1924.

TABLE 1.—INWARD AND OUTWARD PASSENGER MOVEMENT, JULY TO NOVEMBER, 1923.

Period.	Arrivals.					Departures.			
	Immigrant aliens admitted.	Non-immigrant aliens admitted.	United States citizens arrived.	Aliens debarred.	Total arrivals.	Emigrant aliens.	Non-emigrant aliens.	United States citizens.	Total departures.
1923.									
July	85,542	13,039	20,637	2,899	122,117	8,041	14,213	39,898	62,152
August	88,286	13,688	33,510	2,804	138,288	6,489	12,267	27,744	46,500
September	89,431	18,221	51,894	2,331	161,877	6,073	10,245	16,025	32,343
October	88,028	15,490	27,553	3,094	134,165	7,291	18,356	18,104	43,751
November	92,782	12,611	21,942	2,933	130,268	6,925	11,607	14,901	33,433
Total	444,069	73,049	155,536	14,061	686,715	34,819	66,688	116,672	218,179

TABLE 2.—LAST PERMANENT RESIDENCE OF IMMIGRANT ALIENS ADMITTED AND FUTURE PERMANENT RESIDENCE OF EMIGRANT ALIENS DEPARTED DURING NOVEMBER, 1923, AND FROM JULY TO NOVEMBER, 1923, BY COUNTRIES.

Countries.	Immigrant.		Emigrant.	
	November, 1923.	July to November, 1923.	November, 1923.	July to November, 1923.
Albania	23	217	34	103
Austria	964	5,212	16	99
Belgium	350	1,667	48	266
Bulgaria	80	472	55	116
Czechoslovakia	2,371	11,416	67	694
Denmark	511	2,927	55	247
Esthonia	40	244	.....	3
Finland	617	3,522	19	157
France, including Corsica	773	4,464	76	567
Germany	14,324	53,452	23	438
Great Britain and Ireland:				
England	5,048	23,113	290	2,316
Ireland	3,220	16,796	87	705
Scotland	7,915	33,140	42	435
Wales	354	1,494	4	28
Greece	782	4,054	1,044	3,354
Hungary	957	4,208	24	243
Italy (including Sicily and Sardinia)	7,770	37,225	1,619	9,360
Latvia	233	1,198	5	54
Lithuania	463	2,087	17	206
Netherlands	743	3,439	24	171
Norway	1,426	9,118	88	384
Poland	5,892	24,554	149	1,390
Portugal (including Azores and Cape Verde Islands)	447	2,505	527	1,855
Rumania	2,603	10,160	75	507
Russia	1,701	11,507	38	345
Spain (including Canary and Balearic Islands)	55	543	303	1,219
Sweden	1,457	15,159	62	371
Switzerland	693	3,474	22	149
Turkey in Europe	119	1,276	1	48
Yugoslavia	1,036	3,165	179	859
Other Europe	42	223	.....	15
Total Europe	63,009	292,031	4,993	26,705
China	307	3,923	510	1,524
Japan	420	2,150	353	1,051
India	22	105	30	82
Syria, Palestine, and Mesopotamia	399	2,292	38	261
Turkey in Asia	637	2,628	12	129
Other Asia	30	186	9	41
Total Asia	1,815	11,284	952	3,088
Africa	40	745	8	56
Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand	67	472	39	214
Pacific Islands (not specified)	8	36	2	10
Canada and Newfoundland	20,962	86,057	164	1,159
Central America	131	1,022	55	269
Mexico	4,925	37,585	209	1,036
South America	711	4,987	116	546
West Indies	1,108	9,822	387	1,736
Other countries	6	28	.....	.....
Grand total	92,782	444,069	6,925	34,819
Male	54,297	266,414	5,468	24,549
Female	38,485	177,655	1,457	10,270

TABLE 3.—IMMIGRANT ALIENS ADMITTED TO AND EMIGRANT ALIENS DEPARTED FROM THE UNITED STATES DURING NOVEMBER, 1923, AND FROM JULY TO NOVEMBER, 1923, BY RACES OR PEOPLES.

Race or people.	Immigrant.		Emigrant.	
	November, 1923.	July to November, 1923.	November, 1923.	July to November, 1923.
African (black)	876	6,674	106	536
Armenian	270	2,362	----------	16
Bohemian and Moravian (Czech)	1,596	5,388	65	678
Bulgarian, Serbian, and Montenegrin	503	1,562	236	933
Chinese	278	2,107	488	1,476
Croatian and Slovenian	677	2,521	----------	14
Cuban	69	805	71	391
Dalmatian, Bosnian, and Herzegovinian	33	197	17	100
Dutch and Flemish	1,319	5,800	84	475
East Indian	15	70	31	87
English	11,877	52,547	530	3,462
Finnish	618	3,251	30	185
French	5,294	20,246	73	579
German	17,134	66,558	63	698
Greek	808	4,250	1,046	3,361
Hebrew	8,936	39,730	21	91
Irish	6,354	29,598	95	794
Italian (north)	1,738	8,288	30	354
Italian (south)	6,210	30,327	1,613	9,079
Japanese	381	1,895	338	1,028
Korean	6	33	6	16
Lithuanian	343	1,646	18	240
Magyar	1,230	5,596	26	250
Mexican	4,795	36,596	203	1,000
Pacific Islander	3	9	----------	----------
Polish	3,161	15,867	154	1,422
Portuguese	509	3,052	546	1,927
Rumanian	255	1,170	76	504
Russian	1,005	7,328	41	413
Ruthenian (Russniak)	308	1,187	----------	2
Scandinavian (Norwegians, Danes, and Swedes)	3,911	29,815	219	1,148
Scotch	10,485	44,146	72	594
Slovak	571	4,843	----------	72
Spanish	201	2,209	345	1,539
Spanish American	172	1,426	86	417
Syrian	170	1,141	36	251
Turkish	19	276	12	160
Welsh	393	1,832	7	41
West Indian (except Cuban)	175	1,172	91	317
Other peoples	84	549	50	169
Total	92,782	444,069	6,925	34,819

TABLE 4.—IMMIGRANT ALIENS ADMITTED TO AND EMIGRANT ALIENS DEPARTED FROM THE UNITED SRARES DURING NOVEMBER, 1923, AND FROM JULY TO NOVEMBER, 1923, BY STATES OR TERRITORIES.

State.	Immigrant.		Emigrant.	
	November, 1923.	July to November, 1923.	November, 1923.	July to November, 1923.
Alabama	58	319	4	26
Alaska	23	131	8	37
Arizona	945	6,935	25	162
Arkansas	18	106	3	9
California	5,674	29,877	674	2,736
Colorado	221	1,015	11	75
Connecticut	1,916	9,093	131	704
Delaware	62	376	.....	3
District of Columbia	232	1,058	18	161
Florida	446	2,201	102	607
Georgia	66	313	1	33
Hawaii	205	963	126	204
Idaho	107	592	5	47
Illinois	7,071	33,722	429	1,808
Indiana	810	3,929	65	306
Iowa	568	2,652	21	115
Kansas	209	1,050	3	50
Kensucky	111	379	3	15
Louisiana	122	663	40	204
Maine	1,074	4,510	10	43
Maryland	517	2,224	14	145
Massachusetts	8,525	36,374	682	3,375
Michigan	7,818	36,046	269	1,202
Minnesota	1,375	7,147	54	293
Mississippi	78	370	10	27
Missouri	739	3,131	47	192
Montana	171	1,044	21	82
Nebraska	399	1,789	14	73
Nevada	13	159	5	23
New Hampshire	666	3,066	11	34
New Jersey	5,345	23,941	230	1,317
New Mexico	85	513	5	27
New York	25,466	116,129	2,313	12,876
North Carolina	35	209	1	37
North Dakota	171	1,246	7	51
Ohio	3,793	18,218	375	1,569
Oklahoma	74	348	4	25
Oregon	636	3,137	33	148
Pennsylvania	8,345	37,515	458	2,966
Philippine Islands	1	1	.....	.....
Porto Rico	9	119	2	83
Rhode Island	1,242	5,123	221	702
South Carolina	24	121	2	8
South Dakota	99	710	4	32
Tennessee	50	275	1	19
Texas	2,770	23,037	151	665
Utah	184	811	41	124
Vermont	422	1,458	.....	27
Vriginia	317	1,346	9	95
Virgin Islands	3	6	.....	.....
Washington	1,526	9,800	158	620
West Virginia	324	1,507	55	311
Wisconsin	1,523	6,850	42	288
Wyoming	99	415	7	38
Total	92,782	444,069	6,925	34,819

TABLE 5.—IMMIGRANT ALIENS ADMITTED TO AND EMIGRANT ALIENS DEPARTED FROM THE UNITED STATES DURING NOVEMBER, 1923, AND FROM JULY TO NOVEMBER, 1923, BY OCCUPATIONS.

Occupation.	Immigrant.		Emigrant.	
	November, 1923.	July to November, 1923.	November, 1923.	July to November, 1923.
PROFESSIONAL.				
Actors	84	580	14	36
Architects	62	265	1	8
Clergy	264	1,136	28	199
Editors	3	24	1	4
Electricians	552	2,600	5	30
Engineers (professional)	671	3,302	25	143
Lawyers	27	130	1	19
Literary and scientific persons	94	470	3	25
Musicians	168	967	4	39
Officials (Government)	45	266	12	69
Physicians	122	646	6	42
Sculptors and artists	47	226	7	22
Teachers	336	2,058	16	153
Other professional	490	2,386	8	169
Total	2,965	15,056	131	958
SKILLED.				
Bakers	590	2,494	16	84
Barbers and hairdressers	415	1,817	10	77
Blacksmiths	475	2,368	4	35
Bookbinders	43	195		1
Brewers	5	26		
Butchers	491	1,929	7	41
Cabinetmakers	81	352	2	24
Carpenters and joiners	2,099	10,537	38	243
Cigarette makers	6	36		1
Cigar makers	38	183	22	92
Cigar packers	3	17		1
Clerks and accountants	3,566	15,420	68	462
Dressmakers	634	2,808	8	60
Engineers (locomotive, marine, and stationary)	567	2,690	9	35
Furriers and fur workers	36	224		4
Gardeners	204	812	8	43
Hat and cap makers	51	235	1	2
Iron and steel workers	1,324	6,285	5	35
Jewelers	57	285	2	10
Locksmiths	681	2,675		1
Machinists	1,190	4,562	21	112
Mariners	927	5,150	31	133
Masons	746	3,791	10	45
Mechanics (not specified)	1,187	5,538	13	93
Metal workers (other than iron, steel, and tin)	154	820	1	6
Millers	93	406	16	67
Milliners	98	483	1	1
Miners	1,229	5,428	45	364
Painters and glaziers	565	2,516	12	43
Pattern makers	50	275		1
Photographers	67	311	1	5
Plasterers	72	435	5	14
Plumbers	295	1,385	4	37
Printers	261	1,068	1	19
Saddlers and harness makers	60	233		
Seamstresses	336	1,692		9
Shoemakers	718	3,628	14	142
Stokers	147	575		2
Stonecutters	54	402	4	10
Tailors	1,017	5,156	18	166
Tanners and curriers	21	147		4
Textile workers (not specified)	84	355		1
Tinners	105	506	1	3
Tobacco workers	4	24		
Upholsterers	63	258		3
Watch and clock makers	74	412		3
Weavers and spinners	521	2,247	42	210
Wheelwrights	19	98		
Woodworkers (not specified)	51	375		
Other skilled	579	3,675	4	66
Total	22,153	103,339	444	2,807

TABLE 5.—IMMIGRANT ALIENS ADMITTED TO AND EMIGRANT ALIENS DEPARTED FROM THE UNITED STATES DURING NOVEMBER, 1923, AND FROM JULY TO NOVEMBER, 1923, BY OCCUPATIONS—Concluded.

Occupation.	Immigrant.		Emigrant.	
	November, 1923.	July to November, 1923.	November, 1923.	July to November, 1923.
MISCELLANEOUS.				
Agents	233	1,265	5	47
Bankers	20	109	10	45
Draymen, hackmen, and teamsters	294	1,207	2	18
Farm laborers	4,004	19,452	24	120
Farmers	2,938	12,066	156	754
Fishermen	436	1,426	6	22
Hotel keepers	28	110	5	15
Laborers	10,756	62,144	3,834	15,546
Manufacturers	59	384	5	30
Merchants and dealers	1,550	7,017	386	1,122
Servants	8,635	38,281	309	989
Other miscellaneous	3,653	17,117	324	2,071
Total	32,606	160,578	5,066	20,779
No occupation (including women and children)	35,058	165,096	1,284	10,275
Grand total	92,782	444,069	6,925	34,819

TABLE 6.—STATUS OF THE IMMIGRATION OF ALIENS INTO THE UNITED STATES UNDER THE PER CENTUM LIMIT ACT OF MAY 19, 1921, AS EXTENDED BY PUBLIC RESOLUTION NO. 55, SIXTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS, APPROVED MAY 11, 1922, JULY 1, 1923, TO JANUARY 16, 1924.

Country or region of birth.	Maximum monthly quota.	Admitted Jan. 1–16, 1924.	Annual quota.	Admitted July 1 to Jan. 16.	Balance for year.[1]
Albania	58	5	288	282	6
Armenia (Russian)	46	7	230	117	98
Austria	1,468	448	7,342	6,436	823
Belgium	313	.....	1,563	1,563	(2)
Bulgaria	61	.....	302	302	(2)
Czechoslovakia	2,871	115	14,357	14,037	298
Danzig	60	.....	301	301	(2)
Denmark	1,124	52	5,619	3,643	1,961
Esthonia	270	33	1,348	473	863
Finland	784	.....	3,921	3,921	(2)
Fiume	14	.....	71	59	10
France	1,146	215	5,729	4,259	1,420
Germany	13,521	4,739	67,607	66,150	845
Great Britain, Ireland	15,468	.....	77,342	77,342	(2)
Greece	613	.....	3,063	3,063	(2)
Hungary	1,149	172	5,747	5,253	480
Iceland	15	.....	75	19	56
Italy	8,411	.....	42,057	42,057	(2)
Latvia	308	20	1,540	1,457	44
Lithuania	526	.....	2,629	2,629	(2)
Luxemburg	19	.....	92	92	(2)
Netherlands	721	.....	3,607	3,607	(2)
Norway	2,440	93	12,202	10,215	1,952
Poland	6,195	220	30,977	30,959	(2)
Portugal	493	.....	2,465	2,465	(2)
Rumania	1,484	66	7,419	7,406	(2)
Russia	4,881	.....	24,405	24,405	(2)
Spain	182	.....	912	912	(2)
Sweden	4,008	236	20,042	18,007	1,761
Switzerland	750	.....	3,752	3,752	(2)
Yugoslavia	1,285	632	6,426	5,374	944
Other Europe	17	.....	86	86	(2)
Palestine	12	.....	57	57	(2)
Syria	177	.....	882	882	(2)
Turkey	531	83	2,654	2,516	132
Other Asia	19	.....	92	92	(2)
Africa	21	.....	104	104	(2)
Egypt	4	.....	18	18	(2)
Atlantic Islands	24	2	121	108	13
Australia	56	4	279	278	(2)
New Zealand and Pacific Islands	16	.....	80	80	(2)
Total	71,561	7,142	357,803	344,778	11,706

[1] After all pending cases for which quotas have been granted, and admissions under the act during the current fiscal year, have been deducted from the annual quota.
[2] Annual quota exhausted.

Annual Report of United States Commissioner of Naturalization, 1923.

THE outstanding achievement of the United States Bureau of Naturalization in the fiscal year 1922–23, according to the annual report of the commissioner for that period, "pertains to the reform or reorganization measures instituted by the commissioner with the approval of the department." These measures were devised to simplify the administrative machinery and establish a plan of administration to improve the service to alien candidates for naturalization.

The program calls for contact between the field examiner and the applicant for naturalization before instead of after such applicant files his petition for citizenship, the revision and consolidation of the different forms used in the process of naturalization, and the doing away with superfluous forms and reports from clerks of courts. A great deal has already been done toward furthering these measures. The task, however, is a heavy one which involves the coordination of the work of the field force with that of over 2,000 clerks of courts who have been handling naturalization cases for some years according to the old methods. Under the new system there will be a preliminary examination of each case, before the filing of the petition, to insure its freedom from legal defects. The commissioner declares that "the saving of time, fees, and expenses to petitioners, not to speak of removal of causes for dissatisfaction, will be immeasurable."

Certificates of arrival which were formerly sent from the ports of entry to the United States Bureau of Immigration and then to the clerk of the court are now sent direct to the proper naturalization officer in the field, who calls the applicant and his witness to the office of the clerk of the court where defects in the case for petitioning are eliminated. Under the new system an examiner receiving the preliminary-facts form is in a position to determine whether a certificate of arrival is required and, if so, can at once take steps to secure it. Previously, the certificate of arrival was issued and the petition filed before the case reached the attention of the field examiner. Progress is also reported in the matter of checking the congestion at Ellis Island in connection with the issuance of certificates of arrival.

The following totals are taken from certain tables of more detailed naturalization statistics for the year ended June 30, 1923:

Declarations of intention filed	296, 636
Civilian petitions for naturalization filed	158, 059
Civilian certificates of naturalization issued	137, 975
Military certificates of naturalization issued	7, 109

The Cable Act.

UNDER the so-called Cable Act of September 22, 1922, marriage does not naturalize an alien woman whose husband at the time he married her was a citizen or who afterwards becomes a citizen. Neither does a woman citizen forfeit her citizenship by marrying an alien unless he is ineligible for naturalization. A woman's citizenship lost through marriage to an alien before the enactment of this law

may be restored by simplified naturalization proceedings. Moreover, a woman married to an alien may become naturalized by separate proceedings, provided her husband is eligible for naturalization.

In the year ended June 30, 1923, 22,209 women filed declarations of intention and 11,378 women filed petitions for naturalization. During the same period the number of certificates of naturalization issued to women was 6,011. The figures for the married and single women were not kept separately for 1922–23, but from the fact that in previous years few papers were filed by single women and also from the actual contact of naturalization officials with declarants and petitioners, it may be safely concluded, according to the report, that a large majority of the women who filed naturalization papers were married.

Citizenship Training.

IN 1922–23 the United States Bureau of Naturalization cooperated in citizenship training with the public schools of 2,461 communities all over the country and in addition students from 355 outlying localities came to classes in neighboring towns and cities. Provision is also being made for such training for candidates for naturalization who live on farms.

More than 126,000 copies of Part I of the Federal citizenship textbook have been distributed since the opening of the 1922–23 school year. During 1922–23, 52,623 copies of Part III of the textbook, containing the simplified Declaration of Independence and the Constitution were issued to the public schools. To supplement the textbook 29,521 Federal Government charts, 25,556 sets of penmanship sheets, and nearly 6,000 special vocational vocabularies were supplied. The United States Bureau of Naturalization also distributes posters printed in 10 different languages, announcing the public school citizenship classes carried on in cooperation with the bureau. Thousands of leaflets relative to citizenship training have been disseminated. Various women's organizations have manifested a special willingness in the matter of helping their foreign-born sisters assume the responsibilities of citizenship. Reports regarding the extension of classes for women are being received at the bureau from all parts of the country.

The bureau will continue to urge that a part of July 4 be devoted to welcoming new citizens—those who have recently reached 21 years of age as well as the "newly naturalized."

The prospect of securing a certificate of graduation from the United States Bureau of Naturalization conduces to regular attendance at citizenship classes. Over 12,200 of these certificates were presented in 1922–23.

In some cities the entire expenses of citizenship training are met locally through appropriations in connection with appropriations for other educational purposes. Some States make appropriations for all Americanization work, while other States only assist local communities in such work. Half the required funds for Americanization activities is furnished in at least one State through the extension division of the State university, the other half being supplied by

tuition fees from the pupils. In some localities where there are no public school appropriations for Americanization work, contributions are made for this purpose by civic, patriotic, or philanthropic associations or even by the members of the citizenship classes. It is stated that many of the teachers of such classes give their services without charge, from patriotic motives.

The United States Bureau of Naturalization maintains six field representatives whose whole time is devoted to matters connected with citizenship training.

In 1922–23 the bureau had an educational representative in West Virginia and at the end of the same year had a consulting specialist on immigrant education conducting a course for teachers at San Jose, Calif.

The bureau has also been promoting the organization of English and citizenship classes in Federal penal institutions.

The Federal Council of Citizenship Training, created by Executive order January 12, 1923, consists of one representative and one alternate from each executive department, the Federal Board for Vocational Education, and the United States Veterans' Bureau. The United States Commissioner of Naturalization is the representative of the Department of Labor.

The number of names and addresses of applicants for citizenship furnished to public school officials by the bureau and the number of invitations sent out by the bureau to attend classes substantially increased in 1922–23, 738 communities being supplied with the names and addresses of 264,199 applicants and 25,534 wives, making a total of 289,733. In addition, 62,216 record cards and 1,071 invitations were furnished in blank to the schools.

The bureau's citizenship training activities among foreign-born workers in industrial establishments in the various parts of the country show gratifying progress, the number of plants cooperating with this Federal bureau having greatly increased and the results secured surpassing the bureau's highest expectations. To the 2,306 industrial establishments asking for citizenship status cards, 78,687 cards were furnished in 1922–23. Within that year numerous plants organized citizenship training classes, the majority of which, in conformity with the bureau's suggestion, have been placed under the supervision of public school officials and have been sent the Federal textbook on citizenship, and other printed aids. Some classes are carried on during the workday on the companies' time; others are conducted on a half-and-half basis; and the remainder, after working hours.

Among the recommendations made in the report is that for legislation enlarging the jurisdiction of the United States Bureau of Naturalization and making such amendments to the existing law "as will authorize the naturalization of aliens throughout the United States by commissioners of the Naturalization Bureau with the present direction and control of the Secretary of Labor."

"The right of appeal should be provided for the alien applicant to the Commissioner of Naturalization or a naturalization commission which should be created, with an appeal to the appellate court of the United States in whose jurisdiction the alien petitioner

resides." The judicial relationship would thus be perpetuated in all cases requiring judicial determinations on disputed points of law. The courts will in this way be relieved of an enormous task which at present actually adds nothing substantial to the process of naturalization as the duty of the courts in this connection is mainly a formal one in nine-tenths of the cases. In instances demanding judicial action recourse could be had, as stated above, to an appellate court of the United States.

WHAT STATE LABOR BUREAUS ARE DOING.

Massachusetts.[1]

DURING November, 1923, the Department of Labor and Industries of Massachusetts made 3,984 inspections, 1,817 reinspections, and 361 visits on complaint. In this same period the following orders were issued: 833 on general labor matters, 293 regarding industrial health, and 461 with reference to industrial safety. Wages aggregating $2,325.24 were paid in November by employers after employees had complained to the department.

New York.[2]

INCREASED activities in October and November, 1923, are reported by the division of industrial hygiene of the New York State Department of Labor. Since the reorganization of this division under four sections additional work has been undertaken.

The section of expert inspection has been more than ordinarily active partly because of more work in connection with the inspection of plans for devices for removing dust, fumes, and gases, and partly because of experiments in illumination preliminary to undertaking a study of minimum standards for lighting for needle-trade workshops.

The section of special research has three studies under way upon which progress reports will be made in later issues of the Industrial Bulletin.

The section on accident prevention, through the assignment of two additional accident inspectors, has had its scope and functions considerably broadened.

The section of education not only replies to employers and employees regarding matters concerning their welfare and occupations but also gives lectures and radio talks on the subject of industrial hygiene.

[1] Massachusetts. Department of Labor and Industries. Typewritten report forwarded in letter of Jan. 4, 1924.
[2] New York. Industrial commissioner. Industrial Bulletin, New York, December, 1923.

Among the activities reported by the bureau of inspection of the State labor department for October, 1923, are the following:

Factories:	
Regular inspections	8,466
Building surveys	6,190
Special inspections	1,534
Complaints investigated	78
Special investigations	253
Compliance visits	5,920
Department office calls	338
Information calls [3]	4,933
Mercantile establishments:	
Regular inspections	7,511
Special inspections	523
Complaints investigated	95
Compliance visits	4,385
Tenements:	
Inspections of apartments	20,248
Inspections, licensed buildings	2,036
Inspections, unlicensed buildings	295
Complaints investigated	29
Compliance visits	499
Department office calls	15
Licenses—	
Issued	200
Canceled or revoked	41
Factory permits, canceled or revoked	135
Mines, quarries, magazines, tunnels, and caissons:	
Mine inspections	6
Quarry inspections	27
Magazine inspections	191
Special inspections	7
Special investigations	1
Compliance visits	29
Information and office calls	47
Boilers:	
Regular inspections	463
Compliance visits	55
Boiler certificates issued	500
Information and office calls	255
Industrial hygiene:	
Physical examinations	[4] 69
Special investigations	274
Research investigations	100
Special details	110
Information and office calls	142
Building construction:	
Regular inspections	296
Special inspections	40
Compliance visits	248

A summary of the orders and compliances reported by the bureau for October, 1923, are given below:

	Orders.	Compliances.
Factory	18,615	[5] 16,199
Mercantile	10,297	10,771
Mine, quarry, and magazine	130	19
Licensed tenement	52	28
Boiler	250	204
Building construction	887	697
Total	30,231	27,918

During the same period there were 123 prosecutions begun in the case of factories and 42 relative to mercantile establishments.

Pennsylvania.[6]

LABOR and Industry, the monthly publication of the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry, has been reestablished "on a revised and more comprehensive plan," after having been suspended since March, 1923, because of the reorganization of the department and a necessary curtailment of expenses. All other periodical publications of the department, including the industrial board's Bulletin of Information, are merged in this new series of

[3] Includes visits to nonmanufacturing establishments found in buildings apparently used for factory purposes.
[4] Number of employees.
[5] Including 265 waivers.
[6] Pennsylvania. Department of Labor and Industry. Labor and Industry, Harrisburg, November and December, 1923.

Labor and Industry, which begins with the issue for November, 1923. It is proposed to cover in this single monthly the latest available statistical and other information on the inspection work of the department, fatal and nonfatal industrial accidents in Pennsylvania, digests of important decisions of the workmen's compensation board and of the courts in compensation cases, results of rehabilitation work, insurance under the State workmen's compensation fund, employment and earnings, placements by the employment bureau, industrial relations, activities of the industrial board, and all other interesting and important matters included in the department's work.

The department is compiling manuals of all laws, rules, and standards regarding industrial health and safety. These handbooks are chiefly for the use of the department's inspectors, but will, no doubt, prove of value to industrial employers and also to others interested in the activities of the department.

The following is a report of the division of records of the bureau of inspection for the period January 1 to October 1, 1923:

Inspections	66, 846
Special inspections	15, 773
Visits	12, 701
Violations	8, 173
Prosecutions	270
Orders	5, 609
Compliances	4, 919

A revision committee is being organized for the improvement of polishing and grinding standards, the final draft of the revised crane standards will be submitted for approval at the next meeting of the Industrial Board, and the boiler safety standards are to be revised to conform to the revised standards of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

For an account of industrial accidents in Pennsylvania during the first eight months of 1923, see page 181 of this issue of the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW.

CURRENT NOTES OF INTEREST TO LABOR.

Investigation of Migration and the Labor Supply.[1]

A STUDY of migration and labor supply has been undertaken by the National Bureau of Economic Research at the request of the National Research Council committee on scientific problems of human migration.

Among the questions upon which this important investigation is expected to cast light are the following:

To what extent and how quickly is immigration affected by an industrial boom and emigration by an industrial depression?

Have migration fluctuations been so timed that they have heightened or diminished the intensity of the business cycle's "upward swing"?

Has increased immigration during industrial activity tended to protract such activity by modifying "the increase of labor costs per unit of output"?

What effect has migration had upon unemployment in business depressions?

Has heavy emigration substantially decreased unemployment, or has migration been so slow in its reflexes to varying conditions that it has had a tendency to sharpen wage declines and increase unemployment?

In brief, an attempt will be made in this study to measure with as much accuracy as possible the importance of the relative forces influencing the tides of immigration and emigration as well as the effect of the labor supply upon industry.

Reappointment of Labor Member of Oregon Industrial Accident Commission.

THE Governor of Oregon has reappointed Hon. William A. Marshall as the labor representative on the industrial accident commission of that State. Mr. Marshall served as the labor member when the commission was first organized. In his long experience in the administration of the law under which the commission operates he has become thoroughly acquainted with industrial insurance science and its latest methods. He has been a strong defender of the State's workmen's compensation system, which has been subjected to repeated attacks.

[1] Manufacturers' News, Chicago, Dec. 15, 1923, p. 10.

PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO LABOR.

Official—United States.

IOWA.—*Bureau of Labor Statistics. Child labor. Analysis of work permits issued during biennium ending June 30, 1922. Des Moines [1922]. 43 pp. Bulletin No. 9.*

Data from this report are given on page 122 of this issue of the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW.

—— —— *Labor organizations. Trade-union statistics for biennium ending December 31, 1921. Des Moines [1922]. 74 pp. Bulletin No. 10.*

UNITED STATES.—*Bureau of Efficiency. Report for the period from November 1, 1922, to October 31, 1923. Washington, 1923. v, 6 pp.*

—— *Civil Service Commission. Fortieth annual report, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1923. Washington, 1923. C, 206 pp .*

—— *Department of Commerce. Bureau of Navigation. Annual report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1923. Washington, 1923. v, 166 pp.*

—— *Department of the Interior. Bureau of Pensions. Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1923. Washington, 1923. 33 pp.*

This report includes a statement on the administration of the civil service retirement and disability fund. On June 30, 1923, there was a surplus in the fund of $25,510,288.97, and the total disbursements for the fiscal year, including annuities, refunds, allowances, and Treasury settlements were $7,779,584.22. The aggregate annual deductions from employees' salaries amount to about $14,400,000.

—— *Department of Labor. Bureau of Immigration. Annual report, fiscal year ended June 30, 1923. Washington, 1923. vi, 159 pp.*

Certain data in this report have already been published in the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW under the title "Immigration during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1923" (see issue of August, 1923, pp. 237–240, and issue of October, 1923, pp. 196–199); in the summary of the eleventh annual report of the United States Secretary of Labor, and in "A century of immigration" (see issue of January, 1924, pp. 1–19 and pp. 30–32).

—— —— *Bureau of Labor Statistics. Building permits in the principal cities of the United States in 1922. Washington, 1923. iii, 120 pp. Bulletin No. 347. Miscellaneous series.*

Advance data from this report were published in the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW for July, 1923 (pp. 164–173).

—— —— —— *Safety code for the construction, care, and use of ladders. Washington, 1923. 16 pp. Bulletin No. 351. Safety code series.*

—— —— —— *Trade agreement in the silk-ribbon industry of New York City, by Margaret Gadsby. Washington, 1923. iii, 95 pp. Bulletin No. 341. Conciliation and arbitration series.*

A summary of this report is given on pages 125 and 126 of this issue of the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW.

UNITED STATES.—*Department of Labor. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Wages and hours of labor in the automobile industry, 1922. Washington, 1923. iii, 70 pp. Bulletin No. 348. Wages and hours of labor series.*

Advance data from this report were published in the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW for April, 1923 (pp. 56–58).

—— —— *Bureau of Naturalization. Annual report, fiscal year ended June 30, 1923. Washington, 1923. 31 pp.*

A résumé of this report is given on pages 233 to 246 of this issue of the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW.

—— —— *Children's Bureau. Child labor in North Dakota. Washington, 1923. v, 67 pp. Bureau publication No. 129. Illustrated.*

A digest of this report is given on page 123 of this issue of the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW.

—— —— —— *Child welfare in the insular possessions of the United States. Part I: Porto Rico, by Helen V. Bary. Washington, 1923. v. 75 pp. Bureau publication No. 127.*

A review of this study will be found on pages 26 to 28 of this issue of the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW.

—— —— —— *Eleventh annual report, fiscal year ended June 30, 1923. Washington, 1923. iii, 38 pp.*

Gives a review of the work done by the bureau during the year under consideration, discusses the trend of legislation and the development of public opinion concerning child welfare, and outlines work under way or soon to be undertaken.

—— —— —— *Minors in automobile and metal-manufacturing industries in Michigan. Washington, 1923. vii, 131 pp. Bureau publication No. 126.*

A brief review of this study is given on page 122 of this issue of the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW.

—— —— —— *Unemployment and child welfare. A study made in a middle-western and an eastern city during the industrial depression of 1921 and 1922, by Emma Octavia Lundberg. Washington, 1923. ix, 173 pp. Bureau publication No. 125.*

A summary of the findings of this report is published on pages 147 and 148 of this issue of the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW.

—— —— *Women's Bureau. Fifth annual report, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1923. Washington, 1923. 20 pp.*

A review of this report is given on page 121 of this issue of the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW.

—— —— —— *Proceedings of the women's industrial conference called by the Women's Bureau of the United States Department of Labor, Washington, D. C., January 11, 12, and 13, 1923. Washington, 1923. xvii, 190 pp. Bulletin No. 33.*

Gives a full report of the proceedings of the conference, of which a summary was published in the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW for February, 1923 (pp. 50–57).

—— *Navy Department. Schedule of wages for civil employees under the Naval Establishment within continental limits of the United States and Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, for the calendar year 1924. Washington, 1923. 26 pp.*

Wages of certain classes of employees, in selected localities, taken from this report, are published on pages 99 to 102 of this issue of the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW.

—— *Railroad Labor Board. Organization and general rules of procedure in proceedings under Title III of the transportation act, 1920, with approved form, adopted August 26, 1920, revised March 26, 1923. Washington, 1923. 14 pp.*

Official—Foreign Countries.

AUSTRALIA (NEW SOUTH WALES).—*Department of Labor and Industry. Report on the working of the factories and shops act, 1912, during the year 1922. Sydney, 1923. 41 pp.*

—— (QUEENSLAND).—*Registrar of Friendly Societies, Building Societies, and Industrial and Provident Societies. Thirty-eighth report. Brisbane, 1923. 19 pp.*

The total membership of the benefit friendly societies at the end of 1922 was 57,616, an increase of 1.8 per cent during the year. The benefits paid to members during 1922 amounted to £162,780 ($792,169, par), the highest amount on record. Of this, one-third was paid out in sickness benefits, one-half was for medical attendance and medicine, and approximately 16 per cent was for funeral benefits. "The medical charges per member have shown a marked increase continuously since 1917, and last year amounted to over 26 per cent more than at the commencement of the decennial period." During the last 10 years the position of the societies has improved noticeably, the financial membership (persons entitled to benefits) having risen from 49,119 to 56,569, capital from £902,282 to £1,162,674 ($4,390,955 to $5,658,153, par), and annual income from members from £166,002 to £204,716 ($807,849 to $996,250, par).

—— (VICTORIA).—*Registrar of Friendly Societies. Report for the year 1922. Melbourne, 1923. 4 pp.*

BELGIUM.—*Ministère de l'Industrie et du Travail. Office du Travail. Annuaire de la législation du travail. Années 1914 à 1919. Brussels, 1923. xii, 547 pp. Tome premier.*

This is the first volume of a collection of the labor laws of various countries from 1914 to 1919. It includes the laws of Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, Germany, Spain, and certain of the States of the United States.

CANADA.—*Department of Labor. Report for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1923. Ottawa, 1923. 135 pp.*

Information from this publication is given on page 207 of this issue of the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW.

—— (QUEBEC).—*Minister of Public Works and Labor. General report for the year ending June 30, 1923. Quebec, 1923. vi, 136 pp. Illustrated.*

FRANCE.—*Ministère du Travail. Direction du Travail. Bulletin de l'inspection du travail et de l'hygiène industrielle. Trentième année, 1922. Numéros 1 à 6. Paris, 1922. 264 pp.*

The texts of laws, decrees, and circulars promulgated in France during 1922 on questions relating to labor and industrial hygiene are published in this volume, and various legal decisions and cases are given. The volume also contains a number of inspectors' reports upon industrial processes, hazards, and working conditions, and there are analyses of several studies of occupational diseases.

GERMANY (PRUSSIA).—*Statistisches Landesamt. Statistisches Jahrbuch. Berlin, 1923. 16*, 509 pp. 19. Band.*

The nineteenth issue of the statistical yearbook of the State of Prussia, covering the year 1922 and preceding years. The present volume contains essentially the same kind of statistics as previous issues. Of special interest to labor are the data on factory inspection, strikes and lockouts, miners' wages, cooperative societies, trade and continuation schools, and housing of workers' families.

GREAT BRITAIN.—[*India Office.*] *Statement exhibiting the moral and material progress and condition of India during the year 1922–23. London, 1923. xvi, 358 pp. Cmd. 1961.*

Reviews the position of India during the year, treating of international relations, the "burden of citizenship," the economic structure, problems of progress,

and the political record. The chapter on problems of progress contains matter of interest to labor, on cost of living, labor legislation, trade-unions, strikes, and the cooperative movement. The report also gives, in appendixes, various documents and records bearing upon the text.

GREAT BRITAIN.—*Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Committee on distribution and prices of agricultural produce. Interim report on cereals, flour, and bread. London, 1923. 100 pp. Cmd. 1971.*

Traces cereals from the grower to the consumer, studying costs involved in each process or transfer. Contains suggestions for several changes in methods or charges. Does not advise any radical alterations, but recommends greater production of wheat specially adapted to bread making, and an increased use of the "all-English" loaf.

—— *Ministry of Labor. Report on national unemployment insurance to July, 1923, with a short account of the out-of-work donation scheme (November, 1918, to March, 1921) and appendices. London, 1923. 231 pp.*

A summary of this report appears on pages 167 to 171 of this issue of the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW.

—— —— *Committee appointed to consider the position of outworkers in relation to unemployment insurance. Report. London, 1923. 14 pp.*

A committee was appointed in 1922 to consider whether the unemployment insurance scheme should be extended to cover outworkers "not employed under a contract of service," i. e., the class usually known in this country as home workers. The main obstacle in the way of such an extension, they find, is the difficulty of securing proof of continuous unemployment, and this they regard as almost insuperable. Even were this otherwise, the administration of the scheme in regard to outworkers would be so difficult and expensive that the extension could not be recommended.

We do not regard the inclusion of outworkers in the present scheme of unemployment insurance as a practicable business proposition; such workers are not, in our opinion, an insurable risk. There is no evidence to the contrary; and there would appear to be no justification for undertaking further inquiries. * * * Even supposing a workable scheme for whole-time outworkers could be devised, the smallness of their numbers would in itself rule out all possibility of administration at a reasonable cost.

—— *Registry of Friendly Societies. Reports for the year 1921. Part B.—Industrial and provident societies. London, 1923. iii, 168 pp.*

Gives annual returns and statistical summaries of agricultural and fishing societies, distributive societies, productive societies, societies maintaining businesses of various kinds, land and housing societies, and general cooperative development societies. Contains also a directory of industrial and provident societies. "Practically all those organizations which may be considered as making up the 'cooperative movement' " have registered under the industrial and provident societies act and are included in the figures given in this report.

—— —— *Reports for the year ending December 31, 1922. Part A.—General report. London, 1923. viii, 130 pp.*

Devoted largely to legal proceedings and the settlement of disputes in the various societies.

Unofficial.

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF POLITICAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCE. *The Annals, Vol. CX, No. 199. Psychology in business. Philadelphia, November, 1923. viii, 232 pp.*

The main subjects of the three parts of this volume are: I—Psychology and the worker; II—Psychology and the consumer; and III—Agencies for psychological research in business. Among the articles included in Part I, which is of

special interest from a labor viewpoint, are: Job analysis for employment purposes; Psychological tests in industry; Methods of rating human qualities; Factors affecting human efficiency; and The irrational factor in human behavior—the "night-mind" in industry. In the last-mentioned contribution the author, at present a research associate in the Wharton School of Finance and Commerce and formerly professor of psychology at the University of Queensland, declares that "it would seem that no wage rate, however high, can possibly bring content to the worker until the relevant physiological and psychological facts are made the basis of the industrial plan."

AMERICAN BANKERS' ASSOCIATION. *Commission on Commerce and Marine. Economic problems of western Europe.* [*New York*] *1923. 48 pp.*

A survey of economic and industrial conditions in western Europe in the latter part of 1923, prepared by the chief of the western European division of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce.

AMERICAN RAILWAY ASSOCIATION. *Program of the railroads to provide adequate transportation service in 1923–24, including report of progress made to October 1, 1923. New York, 1923. 15 pp., mimeographed. Charts.*

CHATEAU, NIOX. *Les conseils d'entreprise et le contrôle ouvrier en Autriche. Paris, Presses Universitaires de France, 1923. 185 pp.*

A critical study of the operation of the works councils and workers' control in Austria. The author, after first explaining the meaning of the term workers' control, discusses the problem of workers' control in countries other than Austria (Great Britain, Germany, Czechoslovakia, Norway, Russia, and Luxemburg) and gives a historical review of the workers' committees in Austria, the precursors of the works councils. These introductory chapters are followed by a translation of the bill on works councils as submitted to the Austrian Parliament and of the preamble to the bill; digests of the report on the bill by the Austrian Socialization Commission and of the proceedings of the session of parliament of May 15, 1919, in which passage of the works councils bill was voted; and finally a translation of the full text of the enacted law, with commentaries. The volume then quotes the opinions of the Austrian factory inspection service, the employers' association of Lower Austria, and of the Chamber of Labor of Vienna on the operation of the works councils law, and gives an account of the first works councils' congress of the metal-working industries. In the last part of the volume the author, after discussing the economic situation of Austria, presents his own views as to the significance and importance of the law, its present effect, and its probable effect in the future. A bibliography on works councils in Austria and other countries concludes the volume.

EDDY, SHERWOOD. *The new world of labor. New York, George H. Doran Co., 1923. 216 pp.*

The author studied labor conditions in 10 principal industrial countries during the course of a 14 months' tour around the world in 1922 and 1923, and in this book he reviews the industrial situation in China, Japan, India, Germany and the Ruhr, France, Italy, Great Britain, Russia, and the United States, from the standpoint of working conditions, earnings, living conditions, and labor organization.

FOSTER, WILLIAM TRUFANT, and CATCHINGS, WADDILL. *Money. Boston, Houghton Mifflin Co., 1923. xi 409 pp.*

This study was published by the Pollak Foundation for Economic Research. It is issued because "money, which is our best measure of the strength of economic motives, should be made the core of economic theory, and because more of the world's difficulties are due to monetary policies than to any other economic cause." The subject is discussed from the standpoint of the facts that the

world can consume in the long run no more than it produces; that production can not be sustained at a high level without a medium of exchange, and that gold is the most satisfactory medium; that central banks should not be subjected to political pressure; that monetary reforms are impossible so long as governments meet their deficits by printing money; and that prices and production should be controlled by competition among consumers rather than between governments.

LANSBURGH, RICHARD H. *Industrial management. New York, John Wiley & Sons (Inc.), 1923. vi, 488 pp.*

The varying factors involved in industrial management are considered in great detail in this volume, the subjects including plant organization; the physical side of the plant, such as location, layout, lighting, air conditioning, and factory power; standardization of products and operation; job study; various systems of wage payment; personnel relations; and controlling operations which cover such questions as budgeting for administrative control, inventories, routing, etc. A bibliography is appended.

MACDONALD, WILLIAM. *The intellectual worker and his work. London, Jonathan Cape, 1923. 351 pp.*

The position of intellectual workers from an economic standpoint forms the theme of this book in which there is a discussion of the actual conditions of intellectual work in various branches, administrative control of intellectual work, extent of organization among intellectual workers, and an account of typical organizations and of federation and international organization.

NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL CONFERENCE BOARD. *Experience with mutual benefit associations in the United States. New York, 1923. viii, 155 pp. Research report No. 65.*

The investigation of employees' benefit associations covered 382 such associations, and a conservative estimate of the total number in the country is said to be between 700 and 800. The present study of the organization, operation, and experience of these associations was for the purpose of determining the general purposes which employers or workers have had in mind in forming them, the features which have been most successful or most unsatisfactory, and the effect of the associations on the attitude of the employees as regards efficiency, morale, loyalty, and other aspects of industrial relations. It is said that while the older associations were in general organized on the initiative of the employees the more recent ones have been formed at the suggestion of the management, a condition which has resulted largely from the growth in the size of industrial establishments.

OGATA, KIYOSHI. *The cooperative movement in Japan. London, P. S. King & Son (Ltd.), 1923. xv, 362 pp.*

Contains a history and detailed description of the development of the various types of cooperative societies in Japan. Certain information, taken from this study, is given on pages 221 to 223 of this issue of the MONTHLY LABOR REVIEW.

SHEPHERD, E. COLSTON. *The fixing of wages in Government employment. London, Methuen & Co. (Ltd.), 1923. xx, 207 pp.*

Taking up in succession the different divisions of the English Government, the writer discusses the development of the wage or salary scale in each. For a long time the feeling prevailed that it was inconsistent with the dignity of the Government to permit any bargaining over wages; it was for the authorities to fix them, and the employees might take or leave them as they saw fit. Collective bargaining on the part of the employees was out of the question, and it required the upheaval of the World War to reconcile the Government to the idea of permitting it, in even a modified form.

In fixing wages, the Government faces several difficulties. In general, its activities are carried on mainly with the idea of rendering a service, and the ordinary business tests of what expenses are justifiable, i. e., what expenses pay for themselves and return a profit, are inapplicable. Again, there is an insistent public demand for economy in Government departments, often coupled with other demands which involve heavy expenditures along unproductive lines, and keeping down the wage scale is one of the most obvious ways of preventing outlay. Therefore, there is a constant tendency to keep wages and salaries down to the lowest possible point.

In general, the process of adjusting the wage scale has been much the same in all the departments, and is apt to result from one of two causes. A wage scale is in existence. Circumstances change, but it does not, and it finally becomes so inadequate that the department or office concerned can not secure and hold the kind of workers it needs, so that a recasting of the scale can not be avoided. This process, which is merely the normal working of supply and demand, is hampered by the fact that Government service often does not correspond to any particular line of outside work, and after an employee has been in the service for some years it is not easy for him to secure an outside position. He is therefore rather compelled to keep on; and adverse conditions operate only to diminish the number, or to change the character of those entering, so that the effect of the low scale is very slow in becoming apparent. This is less the case with manual workers, whose employments in the Government service do not differ so markedly from those outside, and it is mainly in their case that the process has operated. In the case of clerical workers, a second force has been called into play, the power of public opinion, exerted generally through Parliament. Complaints of wages and conditions become insistent, members of Parliament are approached by letter and petition, agitation leads to the appointment of a committee to investigate and report, and this may result in an improvement. It is, however, a slow method, and has some obvious disadvantages.

During the war, the principle of collective bargaining was admitted even in the Government service, and Whitley councils were set up, which, in connection with an arbitration board which might be invoked in case the councils failed of complete agreement, gave the employees a considerable chance for presenting their side. Unfortunately, the Government was by no means "sold" on the idea of collective bargaining, and when the post-war depression set in the demand for economy afforded an opportunity for abolishing the arbitration board. This has left matters in a very unsatisfactory condition, since, if the Whitley council fails to reach complete agreement, there is now no method provided for dealing with the resultant deadlock.

TSIANG, TINGFU F. *Labor and empire. New York, Longmans, Green & Co., 1923. 220 pp. Columbia University studies in history, economics, and public law, Vol. CVI, No. 1.*

A study of the attitude of British labor, in its capacity as a growing political factor in Great Britain, to British imperialism during the last 40 years. The purpose of the study was to determine the policies which the Labor Party, if it came into power, might be expected to pursue toward the dependencies of the empire.

UNIVERSITY DEBATERS' ANNUAL. *Edited by Edith M. Phelps, and Julia E. Johnsen. New York, H. W. Wilson Co., 1923. ix, 425 pp.*

A collection of speeches on current questions delivered in debates in American colleges and universities in 1922–23. Among the subjects treated are unemployment insurance and organized labor in politics.