

# Bombay Textile Labour Union

( *Registered under the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926.* )

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## THIRD ANNUAL REPORT.

( *From 1st January 1928 to 31st March 1929.* )

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The Bombay Textile Labour Union completed its third year of existence on 31st of December 1928. This report covers a period of 15 months and contains a brief statement of the activities of the Union from 1st of January 1928 to 31st of March 1929.

### MEMBERSHIP.

2. During the year under report the membership of the Union received a set back owing to various reasons. The largest amount of subscription collected in one month at the rate of four annas for men and two annas for women is Rs. 1270-12-0 and the lowest collection in another month amounted to only Rs. 459-6-0. The highest effective paying membership stood at 5,083 and the lowest was 1,881. The total collection or subscription during the year under report amounted to Rs. 8,344-14-0, which shows an average effective membership of about 3,816 of which 3,600 were men and 216 women members. It is, however, worth noting in this connection that the amount of the total subscription collected during the year under report fails to give a correct indication of the exact strength of

membership of the Union owing to the General Strike. During the period of the General Strike it was not possible and feasible for the Union to collect the subscription from the members of the Union.

3. The analysis of collections from various mills discloses interesting figures. During the period under report the Union received collections from 46 mills as against 41 mills of last year; but the largest number of mills from which subscriptions were collected in one single month was 26 and the lowest number in another was only 12. The average number of mills, however, from which collections came in was 19 during the year under report. Whereas the highest collection received by the Union from one single mill for the period under report was Rs. 3329-2-0 and the lowest figure from another mill for the same period was Rs. 0-8-0 only. From one mill the Union collected the highest amount of subscription of Rs. 597-14-0 for one single month and from another, the Union got only As. 4 for another month. 42 mills paid between Re. 1 and Rs. 500; 3 mills between Rs. 500 and Rs. 1500 and only 1 mill paid above Rs. 3000. This analysis excludes the amount of Rs. 176-4-0 of miscellaneous collections of subscriptions received from other than the 46 mills stated above, and neither their names nor their number could be ascertained from the books of the Union.

4. The fall in the membership of the Union was due to many causes. In the first place, the discontent in the minds of the operatives grew considerably with the accumulation of grievances which could not be redressed. Secondly, the treatment meted out to the Union by the Management had been uniformly of a character which could not but act adversely upon its strength. True, the Union succeeded in redressing some of the members' grievances; but the success was due to the justice of the cases and not to the sympathies of the employers. Thirdly, the prolongation of the strike for about six months

disturbed the normal propaganda activities of the Union as it had to concentrate its energies on the continuation of the strike. Fourthly, after the termination of the strike, the Union officials were engaged in placing the workers' case before the Strike Enquiry Committee appointed by Bombay Government in pursuance of the terms of the strike settlement. Lastly, the organisation of a rival union in the textile industry and a series of sectional strikes that took place between October 1928 and March 1929 could not but have an adverse effect on the organised strength of this Union.

#### UNION'S CENTRES.

5. The centres at Ghorupdeo, Fergusson Road and Dharavi which were opened immediately after the settlement of general strike had to be closed as there was not adequate response from the workers who worked in the neighbourhood of the centres. The work which used to be done at these centres was divided between the Delisle Road and Damodar Hall Centres. The other five centres at Madanpura, Damodar Hall, Delisle Road, Kurla and Chinchpookly are working as before.

#### COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

6. The Managing Committee of the Union, consisting of the Office-bearers and the representatives of the workers from different mills met 27 times during the year under report and passed 123 resolutions on the various subjects that came before it for consideration. The representatives of the workers in the Managing Committee took keen interest in the discussions and many of the meetings continued their deliberations late at night. Besides dealing with questions of internal administration and propaganda the Committee considered other important questions such as, the introduction of the two frame and three loom system, the desirability of a general strike in

sympathy with the workers of the Sassoon group when the new system was introduced, election of the Union's representatives to the Social Service Conference held in Bombay, the affiliation of A.I.T.U. Congress to the International Federation of Trade Unions, Amsterdam, the period of mid-day rest, affiliation to the Trades Council which was started as a rival body to the Bombay Provincial Committee of the A.I.T.U.C., election of textile workers' representative from India to the International Textile Workers' Conference held at Ghent, convening of a conference of the representatives of workers from all the mills for considering the systematic policy of wage reduction and reduction in the number of workers carried by the millowners, the situation created by the general strike and the terms on which the Union should agree to work in co-operation with those responsible for the strike, the necessity of starting a volunteer corps, the amendments in the Indian Penal Code moved by Mr. N. M. Joshi in the Assembly, the Maternity Benefit Bill of Mr. R. S. Asavale in Bombay Legislative Council, the Standardisation Scheme and the Standard Rules prepared by the Millowners' Association, starting a branch of the Union at Sholapur, the Trade Disputes Bill, the Bauria strike, restarting Marathi and Urdu newspapers, and the election of the Union's representative to the annual session of the All-India Trade Union Congress at Jharia. The Committee appointed Mr. M. U. Rajab as its organising Secretary to do propaganda work and to increase the strength of the Union after Mr. Syed Munawar had resigned. The Managing Committee appointed the following Sub-Committees to deal with the questions assigned to them:—(1) A strike committee to deal with the Strike in the E. D. Sassoon group. (2) Accounts Committee to check the accounts of the Union from month to month. (3) A committee to consider the delicate situation which arose when Mr. Jhabwalla, one of the Vice-presidents of the Union, started another rival union. (4) A Committee

to investigate the grievances of the workers and to collect all available and possible information. (5) A committee to consider the Trade Disputes Bill.

7. *Centre Committees*:—The Centre Committees were formed at Madanpura, Kurla, Delisle Road and Damodar Hall and did satisfactory and useful work during the period under report. The Madanpura Centre Committee met 10 times, the Kurla Centre Committee 5 times and the Delisle Road Centre Committee 3 times. That the meetings of the Centre Committees were less in number than those of the last year, was due to the last general strike when the Committees could not meet. The average attendance at Madanpura was 66·7 per cent, at Kurla 60·7 per cent, at Delisle Road 55·2.

8. *Mill Committees*:—Mill Committees were formed in about 29 mills that joined the Union, but it was not possible to form the Mill Committees in the case of the rest of the mills owing to either their collections being too low or to some of them joining the Union towards the close of the year. The Mill Committee meetings were held 35 times during the period under report, of which 10 were held at Madanpura, 10 at Kurla, 4 at Delisle Road, 8 at Damodar Hall and 3 at Chinchpokli. The average attendance was the highest at Kurla being about 87 per cent, and that at Madanpura, Delisle Road and Damodar Hall being 40,35,33 per cent., respectively. The most important work done by these Committees was that of hearing the general grievances of individual mills, devising steps to redress them and of discussing the question of increasing the membership of the Union.

#### COMPLAINTS.

9. During the year under report which covers a period of fifteen months the Union dealt with 474 complaints, including the six which were pending from the last year,

out of which 219 were successful, 59 unsuccessful, 5 were compromised and 168 were dropped. The percentage of the successful and unsuccessful complaints to the total number of complaints dealt by the Union comes to 46.9 and 10.4 respectively. The fact, that the number of complaints which were dropped appears to be significantly large, can be explained on the ground that when the working of the Mills was greatly disorganised immediately after the settlement of the general strike, it was not possible for the Union to negotiate and redress the grievance of the workers within a very short length of time. But often it so happened that the workers who were anxious, after the termination of the strike, to be employed some where, could not be traced after they had lodged their complaints. The Union received these complaints from 69 mills out of 80 mills in Bombay. The largest number of the complaints received by the Union from one single mill was 68 and the lowest number was only one. It is, however, worth noticing in this connection that though the grievances were more or less common to all the mills, the number of complaints which were received by the Union varied in proportion to the number of members of the Union. The attitude and the treatment that was meted out to the Union by the authorities in those mills, where the Union had a fair following, was more sympathetic and courteous than the behaviour of the authorities of those mills in which the Union had a comparatively small membership. The total number of complaints received is given in the following table with their results:—

**A statement showing the complaints of the Mill Operatives received by the Union, their Nature and Results.**

Nature of complaints	Com-plaints pending from 1927	Com-plaints received	Total.	Success-ful.	Unsuc-cessful	Com-promised	Dropped or cancelled	Pending.
1. Dismissal ...	2	312	314	141	46	...	127	...
2. Reduction in Rates ...	1	13	14	8	...	...	2	... 4
3. Withholding of wages ...	...	36	36	25	2	...	9	...
4. Fines ...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	... 2
5. Strikes ...	...	14	14	6	3	5	...	...
6. Assault ...	...	16	16	7	1	...	3	... 5
7. Bribes ...	...	3	3	...	...	...	3	...
8. Accidents and Compensation ...	...	7	7	4	...	...	3	...
9. Gratuity and Provident Fund ...	1	5	6	1	3	...	1	... 1
10. Spoilt Cloth ...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...
11. Raw Material ...	...	4	4	1	...	...	...	... 3
12. Holidays ...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...
13. Miscellaneous ...	2	54	56	24	4	...	20	... 8
<b>Grand Total ...</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>468</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>23</b>

\* The amount of gratuity received to the worker from the management of the Mill was Rs. 1,075 14-0.

10. *Dismissals*:—The largest number of complaints, which the Union had the occasion to deal with during the period under report, can be classed under the head of dismissals. The Union during the year received 314 complaints of dismissals out of which 141 were successful, 46 unsuccessful and 127 were dropped. The absence of any legal protection against the dismissals of the workers, and the arbitrary power at the disposal of the mill management without adequate protection against its abuse, makes the task of getting even the most innocent dismissed worker reinstated, a difficult one for the Union. As the only means at the disposal of the Union to get such grievances redressed is that of persuasion and appeal, the worker has but to be at the entire mercy of the millowner. It is, however, true that at times it becomes possible for the Union to get a worker who has been unjustly dismissed reinstated, only in the mills where the Union has a sufficiently large number of members, as there is always a risk of a strike in case the just demand of the Union is not conceded. Workers have often complained to the Union that they are dismissed for mistakes which are very trivial and technical in nature, when some form of mild punishment might best meet the ends of justice, and at times for no mistake at all. Immediately after the strike was settled, the millowners who had become very impatient to reopen their mills, began to recruit new men without allowing sufficient time for those workers who had gone to their native places to return, in direct contravention of the obligations of the terms of settlement which allowed a period of one month for the workers to return from their villages. It was only when the worker who was refused to be engaged in his old job on the flimsy ground that he did not return from his native place sooner, approached through the Union that he had some chances of being re-instated. And even then as the Union was not able to redress their grievances immediately owing to the fact that the negotiations many a time



lasted a long period before the Union could succeed in persuading and appealing, 127 complaints had to be dropped. The poor, helpless workers, being unable to wait for a period longer than a week or so at the most, sought employment somewhere else.

11. *Reduction in Rates*:—During the year under report the Union handled fourteen complaints of reduction in wages and in eight out of these the Union's efforts to induce the millowners to drop the cut entirely or at least to restore it partially, were successful. Since the very beginning of the year, there had been a race going on among the millowners to cut down the wages of the workers directly or indirectly, with a view, as they put it down, to reduce their losses. There were, therefore, a series of short lived strikes, wherever there was any attempt on the part of the millowners to cut down their wages. The Union dealt with nine such strikes which had occurred and was many a time able to get the cut wholly or partially restored. Four of the complaints were of individual character. The management of the Simplex Mills effected an indirect cut in the wages of the jobbers by asking them to look after a larger number of looms, The Union intervened. But it found the management unsympathetic towards the grievances of the jobbers and was not able to get their grievance redressed.

12. *Withholding of Wages*:—The pernicious and the unjust practice of withholding earned wages of the workers, which is common to almost all the Bombay mills, is still very widely prevalent. The number of complaints received under this head by the Union was 36. The Union succeeded in securing the wages of the complainants by simple and amicable means of negotiations in 25 out of 36. Two cases were unsuccessful and nine cases had to be dropped as the complainants had left for their native places and could not be traced.

13. *Compensation for Accidents*:—As regards the cases of compensation for accidents, the Union discontinued the practice of handing over the cases to the Workmen's Compensation Committee of the Social Service League but dealt with them directly. The Union received seven complaints and was successful in getting compensation for two workers who had received injuries that had resulted in partial disablement. The Union had to drop the rest of the cases as the workers were not entitled to any compensation under the Act, owing to the fact that the workers whose injuries were of a nature of partial disablement, were fit for work before the expiry of the waiting period.

14. *Requisition for Gratuity*:—The employers are not under any legal obligation to pay any gratuity to their employees, even though the employee might have served them loyally and to their entire satisfaction for a considerably long period. It entirely depends on their sweet and good will to grant any request of a worker for gratuity or bonus at the end of long service. The Union, therefore, instead of dealing with such complaints directly continued its policy of asking the worker to send in his application in his own name. Out of the six applications for gratuity, the Union was successful only in the case of a worker, who was working in the Swadeshi Mills, Kurla, and who got Rs. 1,075 as gratuity for his long services. The Union is not aware of the result of the four other applications, as the applicants who might have left for their native places during the general strike, have not yet cared to inform the Union whether their request for gratuity was granted by their respective employers. One application is still pending.

15. *Assaults*:—The Union during the period under report dealt with sixteen complaints of assaults. The fact that a large number of them were from Swadeshi Mills, Kurla shows that it is customary with the management to assault helpless workers without the least compunction. The Union insisted that the assaulter should apologise to the

worker and should assure the Union that he would never in future commit the offence of outraging the inherent, sacred privileges of man, however mean and humble his position might be. The Manager was courteous enough to give an assurance to the Union that he would take all possible care to see that no worker was assaulted in future. He also warned those who were guilty of assaulting that they would be summarily dismissed if they happened to repeat the offence in future.

16. *Bribes and Curruption* :—The Union received, in all, three complaints about bribery and curruption during the year. The Union had to drop the complaints as the complainants did not turn up to the Union to give detailed information about their complaints. All the three complaints were received by the Union after the termination of the general strike. And the indifference of the complaints can only be explained on the assumption that the workers who had become very eager for work, being employed some where, did not think it safe to proceed with their complaints.

#### STRIKES.

17. *Strike in the Spring Mills* :—The management of the Spring Mills told the operatives of the Beaming and Drawing Departments that the rates of wages for 100 ends would be reduced from 25 pies to 20 pies from the first of February 1928 in order to bring the rate on a level with that in the Textile Mills, which is also under the same management. As a protest against the refusal of the management to comply with the request of the workers to be paid the old rates, 1000 workers struck work. The Bombay Textile Labour Union intervened and opened negotiations with Sir Nesa Wadia on behalf of the workers. The strike continued for about a week, but the workers had to resume work unconditionally, as the workers were afraid that the attempt of the management to recruit new men might succeed.

18. *Strike in the Madhavji Dharamsey Mills:*—Weavers numbering about 600 resented the attempt of the management to reduce the rates of wages as a result of the revision of rates with a view to bringing them into line with those in other mills, and struck work on 20th February, demanding the continuance of the old rate. The Bombay Textile Labour Union intervened and tried to bring about a settlement but was not successful. The workers, however, decided to hold out until the notice regarding the reduction was withdrawn. After the strike had lasted for a few days the Union succeeded in persuading the management to restore the cut partially. The rates of wages of the weaving department were revised in consultation with the jobbers of the department and the representatives of the Union. The workers then resumed work.

19. *Strike in the Morarji Gokuldas Mills:*—On receipt of the pay tickets for the month of February the weavers found out that their wages were very low, and struck work alleging that the rates had been reduced. The Union intervened and tried to bring about a settlement. The Management explained that the low wages were due to a smaller number of working days in February and also agreed to put up boards showing the rates of wages in each department. The workers resumed work on 19th March.

20. *Strike in the Simplex Mills:*—As the weavers' wages had gone down for several months past, they on the 26th March approached the Manager for an explanation as to the cause of the low wages. As no satisfactory explanation was given, the mill closed down on the 28th as a result of the workers declaring a strike. On the 30th a deputation of 15 workers headed by the Secretary of the Union waited on the management. As a result of these negotiations, the management agreed to increase the rates of wages on 6 varieties of cloth, but expressed their inability to make any alterations in the rates which had been in

force for the past few years. The Management also promised to look into all the other minor grievances of the workers. The workers then resumed work and the strike thus ended on the 10th of April 1928.

21. *The Strike in the E. D. Sassoon Group and Spring Mills:*—Early in the beginning of January 1928 the Managements of the E. D. Sassoon group and the Wadia group of mills decided to increase the output per mill operative and to increase his efficiency by introducing the three loom system instead of the two loom system which was generally prevalent in Bombay mills, and the double frame system in the spinning department, with a view to put into force those recommendations of the Tariff Board which they found to be in their interest and to their advantage. Consistent with the past traditions, the millowners failed to realise the necessity of consulting the workers and their representatives even in a matter of such vital importance, which involved a radical change of this nature. They did not think it worth their while to take the representatives of the Union into their confidence, perhaps on the flimsy and trivial ground that the Unions which were then existing in the textile industry were not strong or representative enough to negotiate with the employees on behalf of the textile workers in Bombay. But it may be truthfully and confidently asserted, that if the millowners and the representatives of the Union had sat together and exchanged views, some common understanding might have been arrived at and the consequent strike might have been possibly averted. In consequence of a notice put up by the Management of the Sassoon group to the effect, that the working of the new system would be put into force from the 1st of February 1928, the workers of the Jacob Sassoon Mill struck work on 2nd of January 1928 and they were subsequently joined by the workers of the other mills of the E. D. Sassoon group. But of the three mills belonging to the Wadias where the workers were given the option to

work the new system or continue the old one, the workers of the Spring Mills alone struck work on 2nd January. The workers objected to the introduction of the new system mainly on two grounds. They were unwilling to work the new system as they thought that it was physically impossible for them to work on three looms or two frames. And their second objection to the introduction of the new system was that it would result in the reduction of a large number of men employed in the textile industry in Bombay.

22. The attitude that was taken by the Bombay Textile Labour Union towards the question of introduction of the new system, was that it might not be impossible to work the new system under suitable conditions. If the quality of the cotton were improved in order to avoid constant breakages and ensure smooth working, if the predominant share in the savings that were effected by the introduction of the new system were given to the workers, if the hours of work were reduced in order to enable the workers to do intensive work and lastly if the present location of the machinery were altered, the Union felt that there might be no opposition to the introduction of the new system. There was the grave possibility of this strike developing into a general one, as some men were eager to utilise this opportunity to declare a general strike immediately. Fortunately the critical moment passed away without leading the textile workers on to a general strike and the situation was saved by the efforts of the members of the Strike Committee of the Bombay Textile Labour Union which played a predominant part in averting the danger. The members of the Union thought it prudent to avoid the general strike at that stage of the struggle, when in the absence of its adoption in all the mills, concerted action was not possible. The fact that all the workers were not affected by the new system and the unhappy lack of class consciousness and class solidarity

among the workers made it absolutely clear that the prospects of terminating a general strike successfully were dim. The Union, therefore, endeavoured to end the strike with an honourable compromise in order to prepare the ground for a big fight which would have become necessary if the employers would not have arrived at honourable settlement.

23. The Managing Committee which was convened on the 10th of January appointed a Strike Committee consisting of the Office-Bearers of the Union and 13 representatives of the workers, to watch the development of the strike, to negotiate with the employers and to help the strikers financially or otherwise, when such help was found to be absolutely necessary. The members of the Strike Committee held several meetings of the strikers, issued handbills and went round the mill area explaining to the workers the situation and the danger of the general strike at that stage. A meeting of the strikers was held in the Damodar Thackersey Hall, Parel, on the 15th January when the result of the negotiations with Sir Ness Wadia, who consented to allow the workers the option either to work half a frame as before without any reduction in wages or to work full frame with an increase of 50 per cent. in wages, was explained and they were advised to resume work the next day. The result was that the Spring Mill began its work on 16th with a full complement of the workers. In the case of Sassoons, however, the strike continued till 25th February as they refused to allow the workers the option to work the new system in their mills. The Bombay Textile Labour Union raised a special Relief Fund and organised relief in the form of rice and dal from the 6th of February when the strikers, who had not left for their native villages, had begun to feel the pinch of starvation. Subsequently, however, the strike fizzled out and ended in favour of the employers.

24. *Fines* :—The Union received only two complaints of fines during the year under report. The complainants were fined for breach of discipline and the Union failed to secure the redress the grievance.

25. *Spoilt Cloth* :—The Union dealt with only two complaints for spoilt cloth during the period under report. The Union had to drop one of the complaints as the management refused to do anything in the matter. The other case is still pending.

26. *General Complaints* :—Besides the 474 complaints dealt with above, the Union received in its Committee meetings many complaints of a general character, such as bad raw material, constant breakages, latrine accommodation, Mohamedan holidays etc. The officials of the Union dealt with them by personally interviewing the mill authorities and succeeded in removing most of them.

#### THE GENERAL STRIKE.

27. To understand fully a strike of such magnitude as involved more than 130 thousand workers and which lasted for nearly six months, a short history of the strike and the enumeration of the factors, the accumulation of which brought about the catastrophe on the workers, will not be out of place. Since the beginning of the year there was industrial unrest and it was gradually assuming serious and critical aspect. The discontent among the workers and their bitterness against the millowners had been very acute. Their attempt of protest against the introduction of the new system which was forced upon them by the Sassoons had unfortunately ended in a failure with the only result that the workers in general were embarrassed and afraid that the new system which would throw a large number of workers out of employment would be gradually introduced in all the mills. The policy of the millowners to cut down the wages of the workers with a view to cutting their expenses, augmented the uneasiness which had al-



ready taken deep root in the minds of the workers. Where the millowners did not effect a direct reduction in wages, they skilfully contrived to gain their end by indirect methods. The discontent caused by unemployment was not of a negligible character. Some of the millowners increased the hours of work of the mechanics and declared that it was their general intention to level up the hours of work for all mill operatives in all mills to 10 hours per day, without allowing any proportionate increment in their pay. There was, in short, a general tendency on the part of the millowners to attempt to exact more work for less wages. In addition to these, there were several minor grievances of the workers in connection with heavy fines, dismissals, handing over spoilt cloth and the general treatment accorded to the worker which materially added to the growing discontent amongst the workers.

28. About the middle of April, 1928, the workers of the Textile Mills belonging to the Wadia group, struck work as the mill introduced the "Ticket" system for the weavers and as they were asked to clean and oil the machinery twice a day. They were joined by the workers of the Kastoorchand Mills of the Currimbhoys who reduced the rates of the blanket workers. Thinking that there was no possibility of their grievances being redressed by means of negotiations, the strikers under the guidance and advice of some extremists decided to bring about a general strike. Several meetings of the workers were held, processions of strikers were led in the mill area, exhorting the other workers to join their comrades in the struggle, with the result that the number of strikers began gradually to swell. On the 23rd of April the police, by indiscreetly opening fire on the workers who were on strike, were responsible for the spread of strike which developed into a general strike immediately afterwards.

29. The fact that the Bombay Textile Labour Union did not take active part in bringing about the general strike should not be construed as indicating that it could not justify a general strike for getting the grievances of the workers redressed. It felt that the general strike was inevitable. It was convinced that the grievances of the workers were genuine. But the Union thought that there were better chances of success if the real and genuine grievances of the workers were first ascertained, formulated and placed before the employers for immediate redress. Secondly, the Union could not see eye to eye with the promoters of the strike on the question of declaring the general strike at that particular juncture. The Union was of opinion that it would be imprudent to declare a strike at a time when the millowners would welcome it heartily. For it is a fact proved beyond doubt that the millowners were feeling the depression of trade and were not able to sell off their stocks of cloth. The very fact that the workers had to prolong the strike for a period of six months in order to avoid a wage cut is a clear proof that the millowners felt the sting of the strike only after it had continued for a considerable length of time. The workers by declaring the strike at that particular juncture undoubtedly played themselves into the snare of the millowners. But for their admirable tenacity, courage, vigour and patience which they established during the struggle in the face of starvation, hardship and dire conditions, the strike would have been a failure.

30. On the 19th of April the Bombay Textile Labour Union appointed a strike committee consisting of eleven members to enquire into and formulate the grievances of the workers. Owing to wide differences in views between the strike committee of the Bombay Textile Labour Union and the one which was formed by the promoters of the strike, regarding the advisability of the general strike at that particular juncture, the two committees failed

to combine and work together. Though negotiations for amalgamating the two strike committees were in progress, the gulf of difference of opinion on the question of the composition of the Joint Mill Strike Committee could not be bridged. The Bombay Textile Labour Union proposed that the committee should be constituted on proportionate basis in accordance with the average paying membership of each organisation. Eventually, however, a compromise was effected on the basis of an equal representation to both sides and a Joint Mill Strike Committee consisting of 30 members was formed on the 2nd of May. Before, however, the Joint Strike Committee was formed, the Bombay Textile Labour Union organised a corps of volunteers. In response to an invitation from His Excellency the Governor of Bombay who came down from Mahabaleshwar when he heard of the general strike, Messrs. Joshi, Ginnwalla, Bakhale, Syed Munawar and Mahomed Ummar Rajab went to see him and explained to him the strike situation. Any attempt to give even a rough idea of the predominant part which the Bombay Textile Labour Union played in conducting the strike and bringing it to a successful termination, would require the narration of the whole history of the work of Joint Strike Committee, which actively functioned for nearly six months. But it may be very truthfully remarked that but for the financial assistance which the Union could render to the Joint Strike Committee from the very commencement of the strike to the last moment of its termination, and in the absence of able guidance, whole-some advice and benevolent control over the situation of the strike, of the President of the Bombay Textile Labour Union, Mr. N. M. Joshi, the strike might not have ended in the way it actually did.

31. When the strike had lasted for a month, the Union decided to distribute doles to its members as they had

begun to feel the pinch of starvation. After, however, spending Rs. 1500 in giving relief to the needy workers, for a fortnight the Union stopped distributing doles as the joint Strike Committee decided to give relief to the workers from its own funds. The Union had, however, to distribute doles to its own members a week prior to the final settlement of the strike as the Strike Committee was no longer able to give any relief to the strikers. Besides giving a donation of Rs. 1,500 to the Strike Committee from its funds, the Union gave financial help to the Strike Committee from time to time out of funds which were at its disposal. It gave 25,405-5-8, the amount that was sent by the International Federation of Textile Workers' Association, London, through the Rt. Hon. Thomas Shaw, in the name of Mr. N. M. Joshi, the President of the Union, to the Strike Committee for the purpose of giving relief to the strikers. It also handed over to the Strike Committee by instalments a sum of Rs. 20,916-12-9 which the President of the Union received for the strike from the textile workers of Russia. It also arranged to send a deputation of the members of the Bombay Textile Labour Union to Ahmedabad for collecting money for the Bombay workers on strike. The deputation, by dint of hard labour and even at the cost of great inconvenience and troubles was able to collect a sum of Rs. 5,863-6-3 from the fellow workers of Ahmedabad which was also handed over to the Strike Committee. In short, if we throw a cursory glance over the statement of financial help which the Union was able to give to the Strike Committee, from the very beginning of the strike to the end of it, one will not fail to be convinced about the truthfulness of the statement that but for the financial help which the Union could give to the strikers, the strike would have been kept up so successfully as was actually done and ended in the manner it did.

*Amount secured through the Union for the General Strike  
and spent through the Joint Strike Committee.*

	Rs.	as.	p.	Rs.	as.	p.
International Federation of Textile Workers' Association. Through Rt. Hon. Thomas Shaw, M. P. ...	27,849	14	8			
<i>Less</i> :—Spent for Sholapur Textile Strike ...	2,444	9	0			
				25,405	5	8
Workers' Welfare League, through Mr. Joshi, handed over by Mr. Bharucha ...				653	3	0
Russian Contribution ...				20,916	12	9
Bombay Labour Organisation Fund No. 1 & 2 out of the balance of the 1925 strike ...				17,660	11	0.
Collection sent by British Trades Union Congress, General Council, London ...				7	0	0
Amount collected by the deputation of the Bombay Textile Labour Union sent to Ahmedabad ...				5,863	6	3
				70,506	6	8
<b>TOTAL Rs. ...</b>				70,506	6	8

32. *Strike Enquiry Committee* :—After the settlement of the strike the case of the workers was to be presented before the Strike Enquiry Committee appointed by the Government of Bombay and on behalf of the Joint Strike Committee the workers' case was lead by Mr. N. M. Joshi, the President of the Union. Almost all the written statements submitted before the Enquiry Committee were prepared by him after a thorough and deep study of the matter which involved great pains and severe strain, with the help of Mr. M. U. Rajab, one of the Vice-Presidents of the Union and some other members of the Union. When Mr. N. M. Joshi was confined to bed on account of indifferant health, Mr. Bakhale, who had returned from Europe

just then, acted as the spokesman of the Strike Committee and conducted its work to the end. Mr. M. U. Rajab all along took active part in the proceedings before the Enquiry Committee. The Union produced seventeen witnesses before the Enquiry Committee. Even an attempt to give the outline of the part played by the Bombay Textile Labour Union before the Committee would be an immense task. Even the superficial bird's-eye-view of the proceedings and the report of the Strike Enquiry Committee will convince anybody of the work done in the cause of the workers by the representatives of the Bombay Textile Labour Union before the Enquiry Committee.

33. Before leaving this part of the report, it may be useful to summarise the part played by the Union in the gigantic struggle which, thanks to the solidarity of the workers, ended so well. In the first place, some of the Union officials issued, in the beginning of the strike, a statement on the industrial situation which gave for the first time a clear idea to the public as to the genesis of the strike. In the second place, the Union took considerable part in formulating the now famous "Seventeen Demands" on behalf of the Joint Strike Committee. Thirdly, the representatives of the Union on the Joint Strike Committee, particularly Mr. Mohamad Umar Rajab, a weaver, who knows the technique of the industry as much as is possible for a weaver to know, prepared a Standardization Scheme as a counter-move to that of the Millowners' Association who had already prepared their Standardization scheme containing a heavy cut in the workers' wages and a reduction in the number of operatives. The workers' Scheme immediately created a stir among the millowners who were forced to level up their Scheme very considerably. This is the first time in the history of the Trade Union Movement in India when a trade union could produce its own scheme of wages and prove that it could stand comparison with the employers in the knowledge of the industry. This

Union could well congratulate itself on this achievement. Fourthly, the very delicate work of conducting negotiations with the Government and the millowners was, as a matter of fact, done by the President of the Union although other members of the Joint Strike Committee used to be present on such occasions. It was this Union more than any body else which kept the original demands of the workers on their original level when a few outside it were showing weakness to yield. Fifthly, the vital part of the work of financing the strike was done almost exclusively by the Union. Its prestige, and particularly that of its President, in the international world, not excluding Russia, was mostly responsible for the flow of the large sums of money from Europe which alone could maintain the strike for such a long period without any demoralisation in the rank and file. Sixthly, it was the Union representatives more than other members of the Joint Strike Committee who prepared the memoranda submitted to the Strike Enquiry Committee, attended the Committee sittings from day to day and firmly and resolutely advocated the workers' cause in respect of the Standardization Scheme, Standing Orders, Seventeen Demands and the so called Efficiency Scheme, wrung from the Millowners Association many improvements of a material character in each one of these items and persuaded the Committee to grant many points in favour of the workers. If the Union's representatives had not taken the part they actually did in the work of the Committee, it is difficult to imagine the condition the workers would have been thrown into, at any rate it is safe to say that they might not have got all the improvements they got to-day. Seventhly and lastly, the Union gained a point of first rate importance in securing the assent of the Strike Enquiry Committee to the most important principle that in any scheme of rationalisation or efficiency which results in the reduction in the number of workers, such unemployed workers should be provided for by instituting an "Out of Work Donation" fund. The Union

has no doubt that the acceptance of this principle by a Government Committee will not fail to pave the way for the introduction of the system of unemployment insurance.

#### UNION'S REPRESENTATIONS.

34. *Industrial Housing Scheme*:—Government opened negotiations with the Bombay Textile Labour Union with regard to the letting of Development Department Chawls in pursuance of the recommendations made by the Special Advisory Committee on the Industrial Housing Scheme of the Development Department of the Government of Bombay. The Director of Information requested the Bombay Textile Labour Union to express its views on the subject. The Managing Committee of the Union after thoroughly considering the matter made a proposal to the Government that it would take up one chawl if the aggregate amount of the rent of the Block was reduced by at least Ra. 1,200, provided the Development Department was willing to accept the following conditions. (1) The arrangement for electric connection be made by the Development Department at its own cost and (2) Each room be given a separate water tap at the cost of the Development Department. It is gratifying to note that very recently the Government of Bombay have accepted some of our suggestions, particularly in respect of the chawls.

35. *Trade Disputes Bill*:—In accordance with the decision of the Legislative Assembly that the Trade Disputes Bill should be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinions thereon, the Bombay Government invited the views of the Bombay Textile Labour Union on the provisions of the Bill. The Union submitted its opinion on the provisions of the Bill. The Union, while approving of the principle underlying the legislation in respect of the settlement of the disputes, could not but raise objections to some mischievous and pernicious



provisions in the Bill, which, in its opinion, would adversely affect the legitimate activities of Trade Unions and retard their growth on a sound basis. The Union welcomed the principle of the setting up of Courts of Enquiry and Boards of Conciliation as these might minimise the number of avoidable strikes but it could not approve of sections 15 and 16 which declared the inherent right of a worker to stop work, when satisfactory conditions did not obtain and to get them changed by going on strike, illegal and which deprived the worker of the only weapon which he could wield. The provision, which required the employee to give a month's notice without the corresponding obligations on the employer to give the workers the same amount of time to find work elsewhere, was a one sided contract and justice demanded that worker should also be free to give up work without notice whenever he pleased. The Union could not agree to clauses 19 and 20 which enunciated dangerous principles and aimed a severe blow at the solidarity of Unionism. In its opinion, it is a reactionary principle to give legal protection to blacklegs. The Union also took objections to those provisions of the Bill which gave absolute and arbitrary power to the Government to declare any industry a public utility service. The question as to what may be regarded as public utility services, being a difficult and thorny one, the Union insisted that only those services should be included which may be regarded as essential services for the health and safety of the public. The Union could accept the principle that there might be some provisions in the Bill to see that public is not much inconvenienced by a lightning strike but it thought it absolutely necessary that conditions in those works should be such as to keep the workers contented by a provision of extra facilities, if extra burdens were to be imposed. There ought to be some provisions for smoothening the conditions of work by means of instituting old-age pensions, sickness insurance, maternity benefits and other social legislation. Otherwise a worker would be committing a

veritable sin in accepting a job in public utility services. The Union made many other suggestions with a view to improve the Bill. The Union, in short, could not accept the latter part of the Bill from clauses 15 onwards, as those clauses were drafted more in the interests of the employers and seriously endangered the legitimate activities of the Trade Unions. The Union urged that the Bill should be radically amended and the reactionary principles must be eliminated from the Bill before it could be acceptable to Labour in general.

36. It is a matter of great pride and gratification that the Municipal Amendment Bill which aimed at securing the right of the workers to send their representatives on the Corporation was introduced in the provincial Legislative Council by Mr. Syed Munawar, the Organising Secretary of the Bombay Textile Labour Union. This may be described without being found guilty of the charge of exaggerating its significance and importance, to be the epoch-making event in the history of the struggle of the workers for their economic, social and political well-being in India, as it implies a great principle which recognises the right of the workers to elect their own representatives. It would be, however, erroneous to suppose that the ambition and aspiration of the Union are fulfilled by the Bill which concedes to the workers the right of electing only four representatives to the Corporation as it would be satisfied with nothing less than adult franchise. But it must be at the same time recognised that the Bill was a great advance over the past practice which gave the Government the right of nominating the representatives of Labour on the Corporation. The Union feels proud to record that one, out of the four seats, was captured by Mr. Mahomed Umar Rajab who works as a weaver in one of the Mills in Bombay, besides being one of the Vice-Presidents of the Bombay Textile Labour Union. The Bombay Textile Labour Union nominated two candidates Messrs. Mahomed Ummar Rajab and Abdul

Hamid Janmahomed to contest two of the four labour seats but the Union had to withdraw Mr. Abdul Hamid Janmahomed at the very last moment. Mr. R. S. Asavale, one of the four successful candidates, who was the representative of the Seamen's Union, Bombay, is also one of the Vice-Presidents of the Bombay Textile Labour Union.

37. It is a matter of great satisfaction to note that the Maternity Benefit Bill which was introduced in the Legislative Council by Mr. Asavale was finally passed. The Bill was a necessary measure of legislation for the welfare of women workers. For it would be no exaggeration to say that the passing of such legislation will not only help the workers but will facilitate the well-being of the industries generally by helping to preserve the health of the women workers and their progeny who will be the future industrial population of the Presidency. The Union arranged to issue appeals to all the members of the Legislative Council requesting them to support the Bill. And Mr. Asavale succeeded in getting it through, in spite of strong opposition from capitalist members of the Legislative Council.

#### PROPAGANDA.

38. In addition to the 29 meetings of the members of the Union held for electing their representatives to the Mill, Centre and Managing Committees, the Union, during the period under report, held 76 general meetings of the textile workers for the purpose of general propaganda. Twenty five meetings were held at Kurla, fifteen at Madanpura, 10 at Delisle Road, 12 at Damodar Hall, 7 at Chinchpookly, 4 at Ghodepdeo and 3 at Dharavi.

#### UNIONS' NEWSPAPERS.

39. In accordance with the decision of the Managing Committee, the two vernacular weekly papers, one in Urdu and the other in Marathi, were restarted during the General

Strike with a view to acquaint the workers with the information about the strike situation, the work that was being done by the Union and its activities during the strike. After the termination of the strike it was, however, decided to stop the Urdu paper.

#### ORGANISATION OF THE SHOLAPUR BRANCH.

40. On the 21st of May, the weavers in the Sholapur Spinning and Weaving Mills struck work on the ground that their pay for the preceding three months was very low owing to the reduction in rates and that they were fined heavily for spoilt cloth. Mr. G. N. Sabasrabudhe, a life worker of the Social Service League, was specially deputed by Mr. N. M. Joshi, on behalf of the Bombay Textile Labour Union, to help the strikers. Mr. Sabasrabudhe held a number of meetings of the workers, explained to them the importance of a trade union and impressed on their mind the necessity of starting a union immediately, which would be a branch of the Bombay Textile Labour Union. A Sholapur branch of the Bombay Textile Labour Union was formed, which immediately formulated the demands of the strikers for communicating them to the mill Management and opened negotiations with the object of bringing about an amicable settlement of the strike. Mr. N. M. Joshi went to Sholapur after the strike had lasted for a fortnight and owing to his intervention the strained relations between the management and the office-bearers of the newly formed Branch became smooth and the management agreed to negotiate with the office-bearers of the Union. An amicable settlement was reached between the newly formed Branch of the Union, as a result of many interviews and long discussions between the office-bearers and the employers and the strike came to an end on the 22nd of May. Mr. Mohamad Umar Rajab and Mr. Yusuf Fensy of the Union paid a visit to Sholapur during the period of the strike and, by their first hand knowledge of

the working conditions, enlisted the sympathies of the Sholapur workers for joining the Union. Mr. Bakhale, the General Secretary, after he returned from Europe, paid a short visit to Sholapur, addressed meetings of the workers exhorting them to join the Union and interviewed the management of a few mills.

41. In the beginning, the workers showed signs of great enthusiasm and ardour about the Branch and two thousand workers joined it. But after some time the millowners as usual adopted a policy of victimisation and dismissed some of the workers who took active interest and prominent part in the activities of the Union, with the natural result that the effective paying membership has now dwindled down to 1000. During the period under report the Branch Managing Committee met 23 times. A strike has also been organised. The Branch during the year under report, dealt with 74 complaints, out of which 42 were successful, 21 unsuccessful, 6 dropped, one compromised and 4 are pending. An analysis of the grievances of the workers which the Branch tried to redress during the period under report shows that the millowners indulged in the practice of dismissing old hands without justifiable reasons, that the practice of withholding of wages was prevalent in all the mills at Sholapur, that the unjust practice of deducting two days wages for a day's absence was popular with the mill management and that assaults were not uncommon. The wages are pitifully low, the fines inflicted on the workers were exorbitant and other conditions of service such as recruitment, leave, etc. are bad. The Branch tried to carry on vigorous propaganda during the year under report among the textile workers by holding several meetings of the workers in labour localities, by organising a corps of volunteers to sing labour songs in labour localities. A reading room has also been opened for the use of the workers. A meeting to protest against the passage of the Trade Disputes Bill was also arranged.

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## GENERAL SECRETARY'S ACTIVITIES IN EUROPE.

42. Mr. Bakhale sailed for Europe on May 4 and returned to Bombay on November 16, 1928, after attending the international and national trade union and labour conferences. He first attended, on behalf of the textile workers of India, the International Textile Workers' Congress at Ghent in Belgium. In his fraternal speech he, after conveying the fraternal greetings of the textile workers of India, described the conditions of the Indian textile workers, drew pointed attention of the Congress to the Bombay strike and appealed to the delegates to give both moral and financial support to the Bombay workers. This appeal and the tremendous personal influence of Mr. Joshi that he wields in the European labour movement, had their effect and the General Council of the Congress sanctioned from its funds £ 1000 for the Bombay strike. In addition they sanctioned £ 500 for the purposes of organisation. The Congress also passed a resolution sympathising with the strike and wishing it every success. On the invitation of the British cotton textile workers' central organisation, viz., the United Textile Factory Workers' Association, Mr. Bakhale attended their annual congress at Blackpool and made a speech similar to the one he made at Ghent.

43. After these conferences were over, Mr. Bakhale spent about two months in Lancashire, a fortnight each in Germany and Russia, studied the structure, the organisation and administration of the textile trade unions, the working and housing conditions of the workers and tried to understand the technique of the industry from the point of view of a trade union official and their Price List which is similar to the Standardization Scheme of Bombay. The programme of his tour was prepared by the Rt. Hon. T. Shaw, M. P., Secretary of the International Federation of Textile Workers' Association owing to whose good offices his work was considerably facilitated. In Lancashire,



Mr. Bakhale was the guest of the cotton workers whose organisations and officials spared no pains in giving every help that he was in need of. Social functions were arranged at every place Mr. Bakhale visited where he spoke on the labour conditions in India and also, at a few places, on the political condition as well. He also appealed to the Lancashire workers to give more financial help for the Bombay strike, as a result of which appeal and also owing to the keen interest Mr. Shaw had taken in the Bombay workers, another £ 1000 were cabled to Bombay.

44. In Germany, Messrs. Schrader and Furtwangler, who had been to India as members of the Shaw Delegation, arranged Mr. Bakhale's tour throughout the country and the former with his two colleagues accompanied him in the tour. In addition to seeing the textile factories and unions and studying their centralised system of administration, Mr. Bakhale visited many other trade union organisations and the German Socialist Party and met their leaders. He made some speeches also.

45. Mr. Melnitchansky, President of the U. S. S. R. Textile Workers' Union, invited Mr. Bakhale to visit Russia and see for himself the condition of the Russian workers. The invitation was accepted and Mr. Bakhale went to Russia and stayed there for about a fortnight during which period he was the guest of the U. S. S. R. Textile Workers' Union. He had been to Moscow, Leningrad and one or two others textile centres where he was shown the factories, the housing and explained the structure and administration of the unions and factories. He visited some welfare centres and a number of workers' institutions catering for their education, health, recreation, culture etc. He was also taken to other labour organisations such as the All-Russia Trade Union Congress, Red International of Labour Unions and the Communist International and had

talks with their leaders on the Russian and Indian conditions. He met a few Russian politicians such as Messrs. Kalinin, President of the Russian Republic, Rykoff, President of the Peoples' Commissar, and Stalin, General Secretary of the Communist Party. One or two officials of the textile union accompanied Mr. Bakhale throughout his tour.

46. In addition to these activities, Mr. Bakhale attended, on behalf of the All-India Trade Union Congress, a few other labour conferences, such as the Geneva International Labour Conference, British Commonwealth Labour Conference, British Trades Union Congress annual session and the Labour and Socialist International Congress. In Germany and England, the firm of Messrs. E. D. Sassoon & Co. gave Mr. Bakhale facilities to see some of the non-textile factories and acquaint him with the working conditions there.

#### AFFILIATION WITH THE A. I. T. U. CONGRESS.

47. The Union maintained its affiliation to the All-India Trade Union Congress and its Bombay Provincial Committee and took part in their activities. It sent its representatives to the annual session of the Congress at Jhansi and to the third conference of the Bombay Provincial Committee.

#### FINANCIAL POSITION.

48. An audited statement of accounts of the receipts and expenditure of the Union during the period under report is enclosed. A comparison of this year's statement and subscription collections with that of the last year's will show that the subscription collections have gone down. But it would not be proper to take a comparative view of the statements of accounts for this year and of the last year because of the fact, that during the 15 months the Union

could collect its subscription only for nine months and that during the year the Union had to face a general strike which lasted for six months. Though considerable savings were effected in the expenses on stationery, conveyance etc., owing to abnormal condition and exceptional circumstances, the Union was forced to spend much more than it was able to collect during the period under report. During the strike the Union distributed doles to its members worth Rs. 3,780-13-0. It also gave a donation of Rs. 2200 to the Joint Strike Committee for distributing relief to the workers. The Union also incurred a loss of Rs. 928-13-0 on the newspapers. The Union had to draw upon the savings of the last year which stood at Rs. 13,515-12-5. The year closed with a balance of Rs. 6,301-3-10.

49. The Union continued to take the assistance of its Accounts Committee for checking the accounts and suggesting economy in expenditure. This Committee was appointed by the Managing Committee with its personnel changing from time to time, and consisted of three or four workers. The report submitted by it always testified to the satisfactory system and method of keeping the accounts of the Union.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

50. The Union desires to acknowledge the service of those who helped it. Messrs. S. C. Joshi and P. S. Bakhale showed admirable promptness and disinterestedness in giving free legal advice to the Union whenever it was in need of it. We can mention with deep sense of obligation the services of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, for disinterested and earnest efforts to strengthen the Bombay Textile Labour Union and his keen interest in the cause of the workers. The Secretaries of the Centre Committees, the Superintendents

of the Mill Committees who are workers in mills and many other members of the Union not holding any office, gave very valuable assistance in all possible ways to the officers of the Union in carrying on their work. The subscription collectors of the Union in the mills showed uncommon and commendable courage by collecting the subscription inspite of opposition from the mill authorities, and keeping the flag of the Union flying. In short, the Union feels indebted to all those persons and organisations for the direct and indirect help they would give to the Union.

51. The Union takes this opportunity to acknowledge the courtesy shown by those of the Agents and the Managers with whom it had to deal during the period under report. The Union feels great satisfaction to find that some at least of the Agents and Mill Managers were convinced of the Union's '*bona fide*' character and of its sincerity for the cause for which it was organised.

52. Lastly, a reference <sup>1</sup>deserves to be made to the foreign organisations which helped the Bombay strike by their financial and moral support. Mr. Shaw's International Federation of Textile Workers' Associations and national centres affiliated to it, the U. S. S. R. Textile Workers' Union, the British Trades Union Congress and the Workers' Welfare League of India deserve special mention for their generous and prompt financial help without which The Bombay strike would not have continued so long as it did and ended so well. The Ahmedabad workers too deserve our sincere thanks for the ready response they made to our deputation and the help they gave us. The Union's thanks are also due to all the trade unions and labour organisations and their leaders and officials who so splendidly and ungrudgingly gave every help to Mr. Bakhale in his European tour. Mr. Shaw of the Textile Federation, Messrs. G. Bell of the United Textile Factory Workers' Association,

England, A. Naesmith of the Weavers' Amalgamation, England, Mr. Boothman of the Operative Cotton spinners' Association, England, Mr. M. Brothers of Blackpool ( who was a member of the Shaw Delegation and with whom Mr. Bakhale stayed for over a month ), Messrs. Schrader and Furtwangler of Germany, Mr. Melnitchansky of Russia, Mr. Sassenbach of the Amsterdam International, Mr. Edo Fimmin of the International Transport Workers' Federation, Messrs. Ben Turner, Citrine and Lee of the British Trades Union Congress, Mr. W. Gilies of the British Labour Party and Mr. V. Chattopadhyaya of Berlin, —all these gentlemen gave every possible help to the Union's General secretary for which the Union is indebted to them.

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Statement.

**THE BOMBAY TEXTILE***Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for fifteen months***RECEIPTS**

		Rs	a	p	Rs	a	p
Subscription Account —							
Collection during the year	...	8,344	14	0			
Interest Account:—							
On Current and Fixed Deposits	...	578	10	0			
Newspaper sale received during the year	... ..	512	3	3			
Legal Assistance, Returned	...	25	0	0			
Strike Relief Fund Received during the year	... ..	1,216	8	0			
					10,677	3	3
Excess Expenditure transferred to the Surplus Account as per statement of Affairs	... ..				7,214	8	7

Grand Total ... 17,891 11 10

No. 1.

**LABOUR UNION.***ending from 1st of January 1928 to 31st March 1929.***EXPENDITURE (PAYMENTS)**

	Rs	a.	p.	Rs	a.	p.
Management Expenses --						
Salaries	4,496	3	9			
Commission for Subscription Collection...	411	5	0			
Committee Expenses	189	15	6			
Conveyance Charges	894	0	9			
Annual General Meeting Expenses	5	0	0			
Rents	1,096	8	0			
Printing Charges	589	2	7			
Stationery Expenses	84	1	6			
Postage and Telegrams	190	3	9			
Propaganda Expenses	363	13	3			
Library Expenses	27	5	6			
Reception Expenses	101	2	6			
Miscellaneous Expenses	77	2	6			
				8,526	0	7
Auditor's Honorarium				75	0	0
Affiliation fees to A. I. T. U. Congress and Provincial Committee of A. I. T. U. C.				75	0	0
Gratuity to Office Clerk				50	0	0
Legal Assistance				20	0	0
News paper Expenses incurred for Urdu and Marathi papers during the year				1,441	0	3
Union's Delegates to All-India Trade Union Congress Sessions (Expenses)				189	6	0
Donation to Mr R B. Bakhale for his European Trip (For Textile Congress)				1,000	0	0
Help to Textile Workers for Unemployment etc				9	8	0
Strike Relief distributed to the members during the General Strike				3,708	13	0
Strike Expenses incurred during the year				497	0	0
Donation to the Joint Strike Committee for distributing relief Rs. 2,000 and Rs. 200 for the Strike Enquiry Committee				2,200	0	0
Help to Baurea Jute Workers' Strike				100	0	0
Total Expenditure Rs.				17,891	11	10

Statement  
*Statement of Receipts and Expenditure of the Textile  
 International Federation of Textile Workers' Asso-  
 Upto 31st*

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RECEIPTS.

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	Rs.	a	p.
Received for Textile Workers' Organisation, through Rt Hon Thomas Shaw, M. P           ...           ...           ...	6,666	10	8
Interest received during the year   .           ...           ...	97	9	3

Grand Total Rs. ... 6,764 3 11

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Statement  
*Statement of Receipts and Expenditure of the Strika Contribution*

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RECEIPTS.

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	Rs.	a	p.
Received from Vounof Moscow (from the Russian Textile Workers) ...           ...           ..           ..           ...	20,916	12	9

Grand Total Rs. ... 20,916 12 9

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## No. 2.

*Labour Organisation Fund, London Contribution of the  
 equalisation sent through Rt. Hon. Thomas Shaw, M. P.  
 March 1929.*

## EXPENDITURE (PAYMENTS).

	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
To Bombay Textile Labour Union for Organising Textile Workers in Bombay—						
Conveyance Charges ...	423	11	0			
Furniture, Boards and Typewriter ...	392	8	0			
Rents ...	248	0	0			
Salaries ...	1,520	9	7			
Printing Charges ...	308	5	5			
Miscellaneous ...	44	11	6			
				2,937	13	6
To Other Trade Unions for Organising Textile Workers:—						
„ Ramanand Sanyasi for Delhi Textile Organisation Work ...				300	0	0
„ Mr. R S Runkar for Nagpur ...				100	0	0
„ Mr. S V Lalit for Khandesh ...				50	0	0
„ Mr. B. Shiv Rao for Madras ...				100	0	0
„ D. V. Ramswami for Vizagapatnam ...				200	0	0
				3,687	13	6
Balance carried to Statement of Affairs ...				3,076	6	5
Grand Total Rs. ...				6,764	3	11

## No. 3.

*received from Vounof Moscow for 1928 General Strike.*

## EXPENDITURE (PAYMENTS).

	Rs.	a.	p.
Paid to the Joint Strike Committee for Strike Relief Work in the General Strike in Bombay ...	20,416	12	9
Paid to Sholepur Textile Workers' Strike ...	500	0	0
Grand Total Rs. ...	20,916	12	9

# THE BOMBAY TEXTILE LABOUR UNION.

*Statement of Affairs as on 31st of March 1929.*

	Rs.	a	p.	Rs.	a	p.
Surplus as per statement of affairs for 1927 ...	13,515	12	5			
<i>Less</i> —Spent as per Income and Expenditure statement ...	7,214	8	7			
	6,301	3	10			
Textile Organisation Fund balance as per attached statement No. 2 ...	3,076	6	5			
<b>Grand Total Rs.</b> ...	9,377	10	3			
				Rs.	a	p.
Dead Stock—						
Office Furniture and Equipment ...	512	5	0			
Sundry Advances ...	194	6	10			
Cash and Bank Balances in Bombay	Rs	a	p.			
Provincial Co operative Bank—						
In Fixed Deposits .	5,000	0	0			
In the Current Account	457	5	0			
Cash on hand ..	137	3	0			
	5,591	8	0			
Textile Organisation Fund Account—						
Savings Bank Deposit with the Bombay Provincial Co-operative Bank ...	3,076	6	5			
<b>G and Total Rs</b> ...	9,377	10	3			

**Auditor's Report:—**

I have examined the above statement of affairs and the statements of Income and Expenditure with the Books, Accounts and Vouchers of the Bombay Textile Labour Union. In my opinion these statements including those of the Textile Labour Organisation Fund and the Moscow Strike Contribution fully and correctly represent the true position of the Union.

Bombay, 12th July 1929.

K. T DIXIT,  
Certified Auditor.