

THE SCOPE AND CHARACTER OF THE ENQUIRY

16. The actual number of cotton mills in Bombay City in 1926 was 83 which number included the Turkey Red Dye Works of the E. D. Sassoon United Mills. The Millowners' Association, Bombay, have recently excluded the Turkey Red Dye Works from their List of Mills in Bombay City which now stands at 82. Out of these 82 mills seven mills were not working in the month of July 1926. Two mills out of 59 mills in Ahmedabad City were not working in May 1926. All five mills in Sholapur City were working during the period of the Census for that centre. The following table shows the number of mills included in the Enquiry and the number of workers returned by the selected mills in comparison with the total number of working mills and the number of workers employed at each centre during the census month. The figures for the number of workers employed are based on information published by the Bombay Millowners' Association :—

Items of Information	Centres of Enquiry		
	Bombay Town and Island	Ahmedabad	Sholapur
Number of cotton mills working during the month selected for the Census ..	75	57	5
Number of hands employed in the working mills	1,45,653	54,592	18,093
Number of mills selected for the Census	19	16	2
Number of hands returned by the selected mills	50,421	16,392	4,763
Proportion of number of hands returned to number employed	Per cent. 34·62	Per cent. 30·03	Per cent. 26·33

A list of the mills that supplied information is given in Appendix A.

AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION OF THE WORKPEOPLE COVERED BY THE CENSUS

17. The 1921 and 1923 Enquiries covered "big lads" and children in addition to adult male and female operatives in all centres. For the purposes of the 1926 Enquiry no separate figures were called for for "big lads" not only because it was found that this term was a misnomer inasmuch as it covered all age groups but also because "big lads" work for the same number of hours as other adult operatives. With regard to children, no half-timers were employed in any of the nineteen mills selected for the 1926 Census in Bombay City. Figures for children were, however, returned for this Enquiry both from Ahmedabad and from Sholapur. The age and sex distribution of the number of operatives