Inside the Monthly Labor Review

107 Years of Historical Data
• Bureau of Labor Statistics: The Beginning
• The *Monthly Labor Review*
• 1915-1930: Wages, Women, and War
• 1930-1980: Depression, New Deal, and Civil Rights
• 1980-2022: Inflation, Recession, and Compensation
• Changes Through the Decades
• *Monthly Labor Review* Contributors
• The *Monthly Labor Review* on FRASER
Bureau of Labor Statistics: The Beginning
REPORT OF THE BUREAU OF STATISTICS OF LABOR, EMBRACING THE ACCOUNT OF ITS OPERATIONS AND INQUIRIES FROM AUGUST 2, 1868, TO MARCH 1, 1870, INCLUSIVE, BEING THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS SINCE ITS ORGANIZATION.

BOSTON:
WRIGHT & POTTER, STATE PREPRINTERS, No. 73 MILK STREET, (CORNER OF FEDERAL STREET.)
1870.

My own wages average about $15.00 per week.
The child of 20 years averages about 8.00.
" " 17 " " " 7.00
" " 15 " " " 3.00
Under full work $34.50
But my average monthly earnings, deducting loss of time, would be $50.00.
Those of the son, (20 years) would be 20.00.
" girl, (17 years) " 20.00
" girl, (15 years) " 8.00
$105.00
Giving for the year 81,250 for whole family.

TABLE OF WORK.—Day Set.
Beginning at 6:30 A. M., work till 9; stop 30 minutes.
" at 9:00 A. M. " 12; " 60
" at 1 P. M. " 3; " 30
" at 3:30 P. M. " 5:30; set stops.
On Saturday P. M., work from 1 to 4 o'clock.

Night Set.
Beginning at 6:30 P. M., work till 9; stop 30 minutes.
" at 9:00 P. M. " 12; " 60
" at 1 A. M. " 3; " 30
" at 3:30 A. M. " 5:30; set stops.

HEATING, LIGHTING, VENTILATING AND PROTECTION.
36. Do you heat the several rooms in which your employees labor, by stoves, furnaces, or by stoves?
37. Do you light these rooms for night-work, by gas, by oil, or by kerosene?
38. Have any accidents occurred from either methods of lighting, or of heating?
39. Have you any means of ventilating these rooms? and is such ventilation carefully attended to, and sufficient?
40. If yes, give a brief account of the system, on pages 7 and 8.
41. Have you ample and sufficient means of escape, both within and outside of your work-buildings, in case of fire?
42. If yes, give a brief account thereof, on pages 7 and 8.
43. Have you ample and sufficient stairways?
44. Have you ample and sufficient means both within and outside of your work-buildings, for extinguishing fires?
45. If yes, give a brief account thereof on pages 7 and 8.
46. Is your motive-power, and are your wheels and shaftings of all sorts, your hoisting, and all other means of communicating motion, so secured as to prevent accidents of any kind?
47. Are your elevators, hoisting and lowering apparatus, all so arranged as wholly to prevent accidents?
“The bureau is conducted, of course, as a scientific office, not as a bureau of agitation or propaganda, but I always take the opportunity to make such recommendations and draw such conclusions from our investigations as the facts warrant.”

—Carroll D. Wright, Report of the Committee of the Senate Upon the Relations Between Capital and Labor, Volume III (1883)
“...collect information upon the subject of labor, its relation to capital, the hours of labor and the earnings of laboring men and women, and the means of promoting their material, social, intellectual, and moral prosperity...”

- An Act to Establish a Bureau of Labor, 1884
The Monthly Labor Review
“...to publish the results of original investigations too brief for bulletin purposes, notices of labor legislation by the States or by Congress, and Federal court decisions affecting labor, which from their importance should be given attention before they could ordinarily appear in the bulletins devoted to these subjects.”
The Printing Budget:

- Shared with Women’s Bureau and Children’s Bureau

- Children’s Bureau pamphlets short, easy to reproduce, and frequently requested

- BLS already had a regular publication: Bulletins of the Bureau of Labor Statistics
"When a publication of the U.S. government takes a stand for or against the League of Nations or for or against the open shop, or for or against any other open, or debatable question, I contend that such statements are editorial and not a proper function of the government."

-Congressman William Stevenson of South Carolina, 67th Congress, 2nd Session, Congressional Record (7 December 1921), vol. 62, pt. 1, 118.
“If they continue to publish a magazine, especially a magazine that reviews books and prints commendations of Soviet literature and all that sort of thing, so far as I am concerned, and I think I speak for the Printing Committee of the House, we do not propose that it shall be further published at the expense of the voters of the U.S.”

1915-1930: Wages, Women, and War
Organization of 
United States Department of Labor

Secretary of Labor
Assistant Secretary of Labor
2nd Asst. Secretary of Labor

Administrative Service
Library
Office of the Solicitor
Bureaus of Labor Standards

Bureau of Labor Statistics
Women's Bureau
United States Conciliation Service
Immigration & Naturalization Service

United States Employment Service
Children's Bureau

Women's Bureau
Children's Bureau

Immigration & Naturalization Service
The immigration act of February 20, 1907, created and defined the functions of a special division of information within the Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization (now two separate bureaus) in the terms following:

It shall be the duty of said division to promote a beneficial distribution of aliens admitted into the United States among the several States and Territories desiring immigration. Correspondence shall be had with the proper officials of the States and Territories, and said division shall gather from all available sources useful information regarding the resources, products, and physical characteristics of each State and Territory, and shall publish such information in different languages and distribute the publications among all admitted aliens who may ask for such information at the immigrant stations of the United States and to such other persons as may desire the same.
CONCILIATION WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

The Secretary of Labor is empowered to mediate in labor disputes, and in his discretion to appoint commissioners of conciliation, his authority coming from section 8 of the organic act of the department, the precise terms of which in this respect are as follows:

That the Secretary of Labor shall have power to act as mediator and to appoint commissioners of conciliation in labor disputes whenever in his judgment the interests of industrial peace may require it to be done.

Conciliation Work of the Department of Labor, Monthly Labor Review, July 1915
ANTHRAX AS AN OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE.

BY WM. H. RAND, M. D.

In man anthrax is almost exclusively of occupational origin. The newspapers occasionally chronicle the occurrence of the infection in workmen employed in tanneries or as packers, handlers and dressers of imported hides and hair, wool sorters, or as farm laborers. It is certain, however, that but a small percentage of the cases ever come to the knowledge of the general public.
PROVISION FOR DISABLED SOLDIERS.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO CARE FOR ITS DISABLED SOLDIERS.

Attention has been given in the Monthly Review to efforts being made by Canada, France, Germany, and Great Britain for the care of the disabled soldiers of the war. The United States Government, through the Office of the Surgeon General of the Army, is now preparing to undertake work along similar lines for the American soldiers who may be wounded or maimed on the battle fields of Europe. This work of rehabilitating injured soldiers and fitting them to become wage earners will be accomplished, according to a statement recently issued by the Surgeon General’s Office, through (1) the usual curative treatment, special and general; (2) additional measures for functional restoration; (3) occupational therapy of a vocational nature; (4) an actual induction into a school or plant for the final vocational training. During the entire period the patient is to remain under military control.
HOW the barriers against child labor were let down during the war is among the subjects dealt with in the seventh annual report of the Children's Bureau of the United States Department of Labor. Even before the entry of the United States into the war American children went to work in increasing numbers to help fill contracts placed with American manufacturers by the belligerent nations. After this country entered the war, "a mistaken sense of patriotism and the many opportunities for employment at an abnormally high wage combined to draw permanently into industry large numbers of boys and girls, many of whom under normal conditions would have continued in school for several years."

Child Labor and the War, Monthly Labor Review, February 1920
MINIMUM WAGE FOR WOMEN IN RETAIL STORES IN MASSACHUSETTS.

The Massachusetts Minimum Wage Commission, under date of September 15, 1915, published a decree fixing a minimum wage for female employees in retail stores, to be effective January 1, 1916. The decree is based upon the recommendations of the Retail Store Wage Board, which was appointed by the commission to investigate conditions and to make recommendations. The wage board consisted of six representatives of employers, six representatives of employees, and three representatives of the public.

The statement and decree of the Minimum Wage Commission are printed substantially in full below:

A report made to this commission by the Retail Store Wage Board recommends a minimum wage suitable for female employees of ordinary ability in retail stores and also suitable minimum wages for learners and apprentices, as follows:

August 5, 1915.
1930-1980: Depression, New Deal, and Civil Rights
Drought Refugee and Labor Migration to California, June-December 1935

By Paul S. Taylor and Tom Vasey

The drought which struck large sections of the United States from 1933 to early 1935 was particularly acute on the Great Plains. The great dust storms originating in that area scattered its topsoil over the Nation and dramatized the problems of human resettlement which center there. Following drought, and the depression which preceded drought, streams of stricken people began to seek refuge by migration to other regions. Undoubtedly, except for extensive assistance from government, these creeping lines of distress would have been vastly larger than they were.
Wartime Wages, Income, and Manpower in Farming

Summary

The outstanding developments in the field of farm labor during the war are the exceptional increases in the wage rates paid to hired farm labor, the even greater increases in the net income of farm operators, the rise in the average output of farm workers, and the transition from shortages to surpluses of manpower in farm employment.

The weighted average farm wage rate for the country as a whole more than doubled, rising 123 percent from October 1939 to October 1943; the increase between October 1942 and October 1943 was 27 percent. The extent of the increase after October 1939 was uneven, ranging from 227 percent in North Dakota to 73 percent in New Hampshire. The amount of wages per hired farm worker in 1943 was about 121 percent larger than in 1939, as compared with an increase of 191 percent in the net income of farm operators from current operations per farm family worker. The estimated increase in output per farm worker between 1939 and 1943 was 26 percent. The total amount yielded rose sharply after 1939, but the enlarged volume of output was produced by a smaller number of workers, the average number for 1939 being 10,740,000 in contrast to an average of about 10,263,000 in 1943. The maintenance of the farm labor supply and the more efficient utilization of farm labor were facilitated by various public policies designed to aid farmers during the wartime emergency.

Wartime Wages, Income, and Manpower in Farming, Monthly Labor Review, January 1944
Developments in Industrial Relations

Leading developments during February and early March included the peaceful conclusion of a collective bargaining agreement by the Nation's railroads and 15 nonoperating railroad unions, a widespread strike in the woolen and worsted industry, and organized labor's withdrawal of its representatives from various Government defense agencies as an expression of its dissatisfaction with wage stabilization, price, and other defense mobilization policies.
### Table 1. Estimated Civilian Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment, April 1940–August 1941

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month and Year</th>
<th>Estimated Number (millions of persons)</th>
<th>Month and Year</th>
<th>Estimated Number (millions of persons)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Labor</td>
<td>Employed</td>
<td>Unemployed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 1940</td>
<td>53.9</td>
<td>45.1</td>
<td>8.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>54.7</td>
<td>46.3</td>
<td>8.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>55.3</td>
<td>47.2</td>
<td>8.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>55.0</td>
<td>47.7</td>
<td>9.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>56.7</td>
<td>47.8</td>
<td>9.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>55.2</td>
<td>48.1</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>54.8</td>
<td>47.8</td>
<td>7.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>53.9</td>
<td>46.0</td>
<td>7.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>53.2</td>
<td>46.1</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Includes persons on public emergency work projects, including NYA student work projects.
1980-2022: Employment, Benefits, and Occupation
Job growth in the 1990s: a retrospect

The long economic expansion fueled job growth during the period, while new technology had mixed effects; the employment divide between the goods- and service-producing sectors of the economy continued to widen.

Compensation inequality: evidence from the National Compensation Survey

Using data from the National Compensation Survey, this article examines compensation inequality measures and trends over the 2007–2014 period. The analysis suggests that inequality measures based on total compensation (i.e., wages plus costs of employer-provided benefits) are higher than measures based solely on wages. It also points to an increase in inequality over the study period—an increase largely driven by a growing compensation gap between high- and low-earning occupations—and considerable intraoccupational inequality.
Changes Through the Decades

“[The Monthly Labor Review] changed from a staid, sober, reliable journal to an innovative, exciting, sober, reliable journal.”

-Lawrence Klein, Editor in Chief, 1946-1968
Recollections of a Former Editor, Monthly Labor Review, June 1990
The development and growth of employer-provided health insurance

Various BLS surveys track the development of health insurance plans provided by employers—from the first plan covering only hospital services in 1798 to the emergence of managed-care plans today.

The Development and Growth of Employer-Provided Health Insurance, Monthly Labor Review, March 1994

Workplace-Based Insurance:

- Brief for Health Insurance, October 1916
- Health Insurance in Resolutions of American Public Health Association, February 1920
- Care of the Sick Under the German Salaried Employees’ Insurance System, 1913 to 1925, August 1926
- Amount of Life Insurance in the United States, June 1932
- The Development of Health Insurance Plans, May 1959
- Labor’s Interests in Medical Care Plans, February 1960
- Changes in Negotiated Health Insurance Plans, November 1966
- Changes in Health and Insurance Plans for Salaried Employees, February 1970
- Age-Related Reductions in Life Insurance Benefits, February 1991
Medical Costs and Expenditures:

- Ability of Patients to Pay for Medical Care, December 1928
- Cost of Medical Care, September 1930
- Costs of Medical Care Among Different Types of Families, January 1931
- Cost of Medical Care Among Farm Families, February 1939
- Family Expenditures for Medical Care, Personal Care, and Miscellaneous Items, May 1940
- Medical Care in the Consumer Price Index, 1936-1956, September 1957
- Medical Expenses and Choice of Plans: A Case Study, November 1961
- A Closer Look at Rising Medical Costs, November 1968
- Comparing Medical Care Expenditures, March 1987
Industrial Poisons and Diseases: Radium Poisoning

- [Necrosis of the Jaw Among Workers Applying Luminous Paint on Watch Dials](#), November 1925
- [Effects of Use of Radioactive Substances on the Health of Workers](#), May 1926
- [Death of Industrial Chemist from Radium Poisoning](#), December 1928
- [Industrial Poisoning from Radioactive Substances](#), June 1929
- [Recent Death from Radium Poisoning](#), January 1930
Food Control During Wartime:

- Government Control of Food Supplies in European Countries, March 1917
- Food Control in France, July 1918
- Control of Sale and Distribution of Sugar in the District of Columbia, September 1918
- Food Control in the United States, August, September, October, and December 1918
- Food Conditions in Europe, March 1919
Child Labor and Eugenics

EUGENICS AS VIEWED BY A SOCIALIST.

Eugenics as Viewed by a Sociologist.

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 aim 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.
Untitled [Post-Rome] red, 1964
Chapala Drawing 20, 1956
Monthly Labor Review, July 1947
The *Monthly Labor Review* and its importance in libraries
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Vols</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ind Arts M</td>
<td>Industrial Arts Magazine</td>
<td>Milwaukee</td>
<td>Jan. 1919-Nov. 1921</td>
<td>8-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lit Digest</td>
<td>Literary Digest</td>
<td>New York</td>
<td>Jan. 1919-Oct. 1921</td>
<td>60-70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liv Age</td>
<td>Living Age</td>
<td>Boston</td>
<td>Jan. 1919-Nov. 5 '21</td>
<td>300-311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mentor</td>
<td>The Mentor</td>
<td>New York</td>
<td>Jan. 1919-Nov. 1921</td>
<td>6-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mis R</td>
<td>Missionary Review of the World</td>
<td>New York</td>
<td>Jan. 1919-Nov. 1921</td>
<td>42-44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mus Q</td>
<td>Musical Quarterly</td>
<td>New York</td>
<td>Jan. 1919-Oct. 1921</td>
<td>5-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nation</td>
<td>The Nation</td>
<td>New York</td>
<td>Jan. 1919-Nov. 2 '21</td>
<td>108-113</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Monthly Labor Review was also indexed in:

- Industrial Arts Index
- Agricultural Index
- Engineering Index
- Accountant's Index
- P.A.I.S. indexes
- Index to Business Magazines
- Index to Current Medical Literature
- More
Quality and clarity of data
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sirloin steak...pound..</td>
<td>36.3</td>
<td>40.1</td>
<td>41.5</td>
<td>46.5</td>
<td>49.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Round steak...do...</td>
<td>32.1</td>
<td>35.7</td>
<td>37.5</td>
<td>44.9</td>
<td>47.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rib roast...do...</td>
<td>30.8</td>
<td>33.7</td>
<td>34.6</td>
<td>39.6</td>
<td>42.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chuck roast...do...</td>
<td>21.5</td>
<td>24.5</td>
<td>24.3</td>
<td>25.5</td>
<td>28.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plate beef...do...</td>
<td>17.5</td>
<td>18.9</td>
<td>18.9</td>
<td>20.1</td>
<td>23.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pork chops...do...</td>
<td>34.5</td>
<td>35.9</td>
<td>34.5</td>
<td>38.8</td>
<td>38.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bacon, sliced...do...</td>
<td>48.0</td>
<td>43.1</td>
<td>41.1</td>
<td>47.7</td>
<td>44.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ham, sliced...do...</td>
<td>51.8</td>
<td>48.3</td>
<td>48.0</td>
<td>59.9</td>
<td>54.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lamb, leg of...do...</td>
<td>40.4</td>
<td>42.0</td>
<td>40.2</td>
<td>40.9</td>
<td>41.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ham...do...</td>
<td>35.3</td>
<td>35.1</td>
<td>34.6</td>
<td>39.0</td>
<td>40.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salmon, canned, red...</td>
<td>36.9</td>
<td>35.7</td>
<td>35.3</td>
<td>30.4</td>
<td>34.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milk, fresh...quart...</td>
<td>14.0</td>
<td>14.0</td>
<td>14.0</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>15.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milk, evaporated...</td>
<td>11.3</td>
<td>10.7</td>
<td>10.7</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>10.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Butter...pound</td>
<td>51.9</td>
<td>56.3</td>
<td>54.7</td>
<td>53.0</td>
<td>55.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oleomargarine (all...</td>
<td>28.7</td>
<td>28.2</td>
<td>28.3</td>
<td>28.7</td>
<td>27.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheese...ct</td>
<td>37.4</td>
<td>37.7</td>
<td>38.9</td>
<td>38.6</td>
<td>40.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 2.—Distribution of Monthly Expenditures of 1,469 Families of Wage Earners in Bombay City, 1932-33

[Average rate of exchange of rupee, June 1933=31.1 cents; anna=⅛ of a rupee; 1 pie=½ of an anna]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item of expenditure</th>
<th>Expenditure of all families (average monthly income Rs. 60 la. 7 p.)</th>
<th>Percentage distribution of families—</th>
<th>Expenditure of monthly income of—</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Amount</td>
<td>Percent</td>
<td>Under Rs. 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total monthly expedi-</td>
<td>Rs. a. p.</td>
<td></td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ture.</td>
<td>45 15 0</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>21 6 10</td>
<td>46.60</td>
<td>45.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuel and light</td>
<td>3 4 4</td>
<td>7.11</td>
<td>8.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clothing</td>
<td>3 9 0</td>
<td>7.75</td>
<td>8.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Household necessaries</td>
<td>0 1 0</td>
<td>.13</td>
<td>.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent</td>
<td>5 14 3</td>
<td>12.81</td>
<td>16.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>11 12 4</td>
<td>25.60</td>
<td>20.68</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: “Family Budgets in City of Bombay, India, 1932-33,” Monthly Labor Review, Feb 1936 issue
**Table 9—Expenditure of 232 families for certain purposes—Concluded.**

**MISCELLANEOUS PURPOSES (ALL EXPENDITURES EXCEPT FOR FOOD, CLOTHING, RENT, LIGHTING, AND FUEL).**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Per family</th>
<th>Proportion of 2,270*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taxes</td>
<td>$1,936.07</td>
<td>8.34</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>2,546.74</td>
<td>10.98</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organizations</td>
<td>1,118.59</td>
<td>4.82</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religion</td>
<td>1,556.20</td>
<td>6.71</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charity</td>
<td>411.72</td>
<td>1.77</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture and utensils</td>
<td>4,258.27</td>
<td>18.36</td>
<td>233</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books and newspapers</td>
<td>1,686.90</td>
<td>7.27</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amusements</td>
<td>1,550.20</td>
<td>6.68</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intoxicating liquors</td>
<td>2,816.15</td>
<td>12.14</td>
<td>168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco</td>
<td>1,789.77</td>
<td>7.71</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illness and death</td>
<td>5,650.56</td>
<td>24.36</td>
<td>333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other purposes</td>
<td>12,908.90</td>
<td>55.64</td>
<td>767</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>38,230.07</strong></td>
<td><strong>164.78</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,270</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*This is the proportion of this class of expenditure in the total of 10,000.*

- Date of data collection?
- Family locations?
- Representative sample?
- Family size?
Salaries of School-Teachers in Colonial America

Schools in Massachusetts

Woburn also paid at the rate of £30 a year for a number of years after its school began really to function; but the town seems to have had a struggle to establish one. The first effort was made in 1685, when a teacher was employed at £5 ($16.70) per annum to teach all the children who applied. None applied, and the schoolmaster received only £1.10 ($5). Fifteen years later a school was run for four months, and the teacher was paid £9 ($30) for his services.

Source: Monthly Labor Review, April 1929
Using the Monthly Labor Review on FRASER
Questions?
Thank You!

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• Joseph P. Goldberg and William T. Moye. The First Hundred Years of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, September 1985

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• United States. Congress. Congressional Record, 48th Cong., 1st sess., Apr. 19, 1884

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• United States. Congress. An Act to Create a Department of Labor, 62nd Cong., 1st Sess., March 4, 1913

• United States. Congress. An Act to Establish a Bureau of Labor, 48th Cong., 1st Sess., June 27, 1884

• United States. Congress. An Act to Establish a Department of Labor, 50th Cong., 1st Sess., June 13, 1888

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