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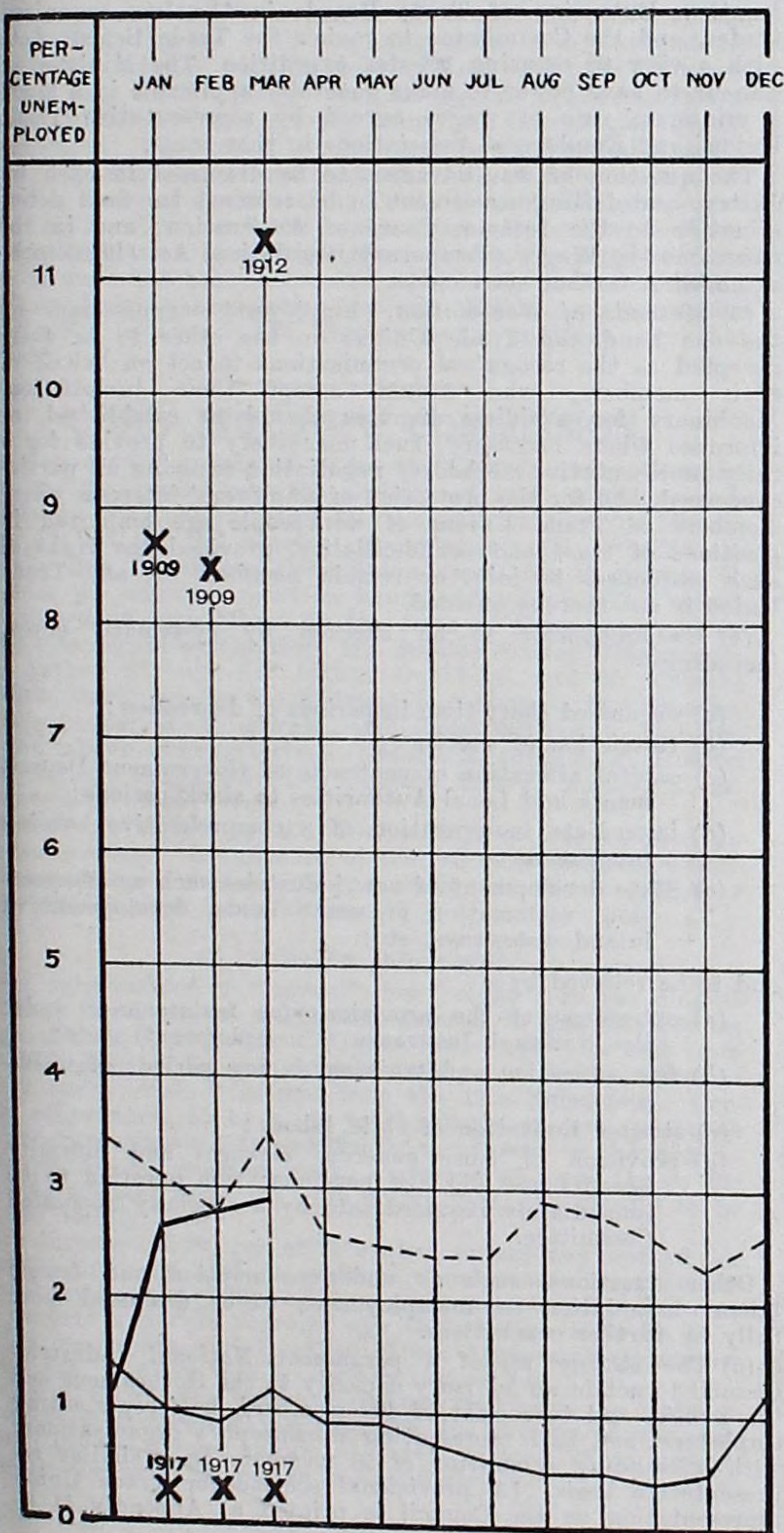
[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

EMPLOYMENT CHART.

SHOWING PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED OF MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.

— Thick Curve = 1919. — Thin Curve = 1918.
----- Dotted Curve = Mean of 1909-18.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1909-18.



NOTE TO CHART.

The above Chart is based solely on Returns furnished direct to the Department of Labour Statistics by various Trade Unions which pay unemployed benefit to their members. Persons on strike or locked out, sick or superannuated, are excluded from the figures.

EMPLOYMENT, WAGES, AND RETAIL PRICES.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

During March there was a further increase in the number of persons unemployed, but this increase is more than accounted for by the number of demobilised men included, there being a decrease in the number of civilians whose policies were lodged. Although the number of unemployed is large, the process of reabsorption into industry showed an improvement during March, the percentage of civilians reabsorbed rising from about 40 at the beginning of the month to about 50 per cent. at the end, while the percentage for demobilised men remained steady at about 80 per cent. Increases in wages which came into operation in March affected over 200,000 workpeople, while 830,000 workpeople benefited by reductions in hours of labour. Retail prices showed a further decline, with the result that the general index number of retail prices of food and other items entering into the cost of living decreased from 115 to 110 per cent. above the pre-war level.

Employment.—The total number of unemployed persons at 28th March, according to the Donation records, was 1,060,245, as compared with 948,620 a month earlier. The composition of the total at the end of March was as follows: (a) Civilians—Men 209,486, boys 26,461, women 488,655, girls 29,380; (b) Demobilised men 305,251, women 1,012. An analysis of 1,050,449 of the policies lodged at 28th March revealed that 23,666 of the unemployed persons were in receipt of the reduced donation which is paid to civilians after the expiry of the first period of 13 weeks unemployment; of this number nearly two-thirds were women.

The number of men on the live registers of the Employment Exchanges on 28th March was 565,368, and the number of women was 563,190. The corresponding figures for 28th February were 416,150 and 549,261. The number of vacancies unfilled on 28th March was 46,591 for men and 65,145 for women, the corresponding figures for 28th February being 51,369 and 63,698.

Trade Unions with a net membership of 1,206,899, excluding those serving with the Forces, reported 2.9 per cent. of their members as unemployed at the end of March, as compared with 2.8 per cent. at the end of February and 1.2 per cent. a year ago.

Employment at coal mines continued good in March. The number of workpeople employed at the collieries included in the Returns was 2.1 per cent. greater than in February and 9.8 per cent. greater than a year ago. At iron, shale and lead mines employment continued good, and at tin mines it was moderate. At quarries it was fairly good on the whole, but was much interrupted by bad weather.

In the pig iron industry employment was still good, but some furnaces were damped down, and the number of furnaces reported in blast at the works covered by the Returns was 10 per cent. less than a year ago. At iron and steel works employment continued good, and was better in the week ended 22nd March than a month earlier, though not so good as a year ago. In the engineering trades employment was about the same as a month ago; on the whole employment was better with the more skilled than with the less skilled occupations. In the shipbuilding trades it was good on the whole. With tinplate workers employment was good, better than in February, and much better than a year ago, the number of mills at work being greater than in March, 1918, by over 30 per cent. In most of the other metal trades employment was fairly good.

In the cotton, linen and jute trades and in the textile bleaching, dyeing, printing and finishing trades employment was bad, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. The lace trade was bad in the fancy and curtain sections and fair in the plain net section. In the woollen and worsted trades, on the other hand, employment continued good, and showed an improvement on the previous month, while about the same as a year ago. In the silk trade also it was good, and in the hosiery and carpet trades it was fairly good on the whole.

With leather workers employment was fairly good. In the boot and shoe trades it continued good. In the bespoke tailoring trade employment was good, and in the ready-made tailoring trade it was fairly good. Employment was fairly good with workers at shirt and collar and at corset factories, and fair with felt hat makers, dressmakers and milliners, and in the whole-sale mantle, costume and blouse trades.

In the brick and cement trades employment continued good, and in both trades there was an increase of 7 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed, compared with a month ago. In the pottery and glass trades it remained good. The building trade continued slack, work still being almost confined to maintenance, decoration and repairs. As regards the woodworking trades employment was good with coachbuilders and coopers; the furnishing trades also were well employed. In the paper trade employment was only moderate; in the printing and allied trades it declined to fair generally. With sugar refinery workers and in the cocoa, chocolate and sugar confectionery trades employment was good, showing a further improvement.

With fishermen and dock labourers employment continued fair. The supply of seamen was greater than the demand. Skilled agricultural labour remained generally insufficient, but unskilled labour was equal to requirements in some parts of the country.

Changes in Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour.—The changes in rates of wages (including war bonuses) reported to the Department as having come into operation in March resulted in an increase of about £40,000 in the weekly wages of over 200,000 workpeople. The principal change was that affecting boot and shoe operatives, whose wages were increased by the introduction of new minimum rates, which applied generally to the whole of Great Britain.

The changes during March in the number of hours constituting a full ordinary week's work, in the industries for which statistics are collected by the Department, affected over 830,000 workpeople, whose recognised hours were reduced by an average of about $7\frac{1}{2}$ hours per week.

Retail Prices.—During March there were important decreases in the prices of tea, margarine, cheese and eggs. On the basis of the pre-war standard of consumption, the net effect of all the changes recorded in the price of food was to reduce the average percentage increase on the prices of July, 1914, from 120 on 3rd March to 113 on 1st April. For all items ordinarily entering into working-class family expenditure before the war the average increase in retail prices (including rents) was about 110 per cent. on 1st April, compared with 115 per cent. on 3rd March.

THE INDUSTRIAL CONFERENCE.

THE Provisional Joint Committee appointed at the Industrial Conference on 27th February (see LABOUR GAZETTE for March, page 78) considered and agreed upon their draft Report on 26th March, and it was forthwith circulated to all delegates to the Conference of 27th February.

On the causes of industrial unrest and their suggested remedies the Trade Union representatives submitted a comprehensive memorandum, which is printed as Appendix I to the Report. Several questions referred to in the Memorandum are the subject of recommendations by the Committee; others could not be adequately examined in the time and were left over, the establishment of a National Industrial Council being proposed, as set out below, to carry on the functions of the Conference and the Joint Committee on a permanent basis.

The main recommendations in the Report, which was signed by Sir Thomas Munro, as Independent Chairman, Sir Allan Smith, representing the Employers, and Mr. Arthur Henderson, representing the Trade Unions, may be summarised as follows:—

(1) *Hours.*—The establishment of a statutory 48-hour week, subject to provisions for varying this (with adequate safeguards) in proper cases, and for giving statutory force, when required, to agreements between employers and employed, arranging different time bases. The discouragement of systematic overtime, and the regulation of necessary overtime.

(2) *Wages.*—The establishment of minimum time rates of wages, to be universally applicable, on the basis of recommendations of a Commission for the appointment of which provision is made, the Commission to report within three months. Extension of Trade Boards in the less organised trades, and the Commission to review the Trade Boards Acts with a view to securing greater expedition. The Minister of Labour to have power to make generally applicable in a trade a minimum rate of wages agreed by representative Trade Unions and Employers' Associations in that trade.

The question of war advances to be discussed in each industry, and failing agreement to be referred for final determination to the Interim Court of Arbitration; and in the meantime the Wages (Temporary Regulation) Act (1918) to be extended a further six months.

(3) *Methods of Negotiation.*—Employers' organisations on the one hand and Trade Unions on the other to be fully accepted as the recognised organisations to act on behalf of their members, who should accept their jurisdiction. Machinery for avoiding disputes should be established, or improved where necessary, such machinery to provide for a fully representative method of negotiation covering all parties concerned, and for the protection of employers' interests where members of Trade Unions of workpeople are employed in positions of trust and confidentiality, provided the right of such employees to join, or remain members of, any Trade Union is not thereby effected.

(4) *Unemployment* to be checked by systematic effort, including—

- (a) organised short time in periods of depression;
- (b) restriction of overtime;
- (c) careful allocation of contracts of Government Departments and Local Authorities to slack periods;
- (d) immediate inauguration of a comprehensive housing programme;
- (e) State development of new industries such as afforestation, reclamation of waste lands, development of inland waterways, etc;

and to be relieved by—

- (a) extensions of the provisions for maintenance under the National Insurance (Unemployment) Acts;
- (b) free education and training during periods of unemployment;
- (c) stricter limitation of child labour;
- (d) provision of more generous sickness and infirmity benefits and old age pensions; this question to be immediately inquired into by a specially appointed Committee.

Other questions, such as under-consumption and female labour in relation to unemployment, to be discussed more fully by further committees.

(5) The setting up of a permanent National Industrial Council to act in an advisory capacity to the Government and the public, and to consist of 400 members, half representing employers' and half representing workpeople's organisations; with a standing committee of 50 members on a similar representative basis. (A provisional scheme for Trade Union representation on the Council is printed as Appendix II to the Report.)

The Industrial Conference met again at 10.30 a.m. on Friday, 4th April, in the Central Hall, Westminster, under the chairmanship of the Minister of Labour, to consider the report of the Provisional Joint Committee. The chairman, in opening the proceedings, read a message from the Prime Minister welcoming the Report, and promising that if the recommendations of the committee were approved by the Conference, they would receive the immediate and sympathetic consideration of the Government.

After Sir Thomas Munro had presented the Report and addressed the Conference, the morning was occupied in answering questions asked by delegates on matters arising out of the Report, and at noon Mr. J. R. Clynes, M.P., moved that the Conference should divide in order to permit of separate discussion of the Report by the Trade Union and the Employers' representatives. The motion was seconded by Sir Allan Smith and carried. In response to an appeal in Mr. Clynes' speech, Mr. J. H. Thomas, M.P., intimated that the National Union of Railwaymen, the only member of the Triple Alliance for which he had authority to speak, had no desire to stand aloof from other Trade Unions in considering the Report.

On the resumption of the Joint Conference in the afternoon Mr. Henderson proposed the following resolution:—

"That this joint National Industrial Conference, representative of employers and trade unionists, welcomes the report of the Provisional Joint Committee, and agrees to submit it for the acceptance of its constituent organisations immediately the Government officially declare their readiness to proceed at once with the legislative and other steps necessary to carry the report into effect; and that the Provisional Joint Committee remain in being until the National Industrial Council and the Standing Committee have been brought into operation."

This was seconded by Sir Allan Smith, and was carried without dissent.

The Chairman said that he was not able to declare on the spot the adhesion of the Government to all the details of the Report, especially in the absence of the Prime Minister; but he believed that the principles of the Report would receive without delay the favour of the Government. It had always been their intention to endeavour to set up some permanent body to advise the Government on industrial matters, and they entirely agreed with the suggestion of a National Industrial Council and with its objects. Meanwhile, the Chairman pointed out, the following from among the recommendations of the Committee were already being put into motion by the Government: the proposals with regard to industrial negotiations, allocation of Government contracts, development of industries, housing construction, Trade Boards, the revision of Old Age Pensions, and the continuance of the Wages (Temporary Regulation) Act; while the fact that the proposal for a 48-hour week had been introduced in the International Commission on Labour Legislation by the British representative sufficiently indicated the Government's attitude on that subject.

COAL INDUSTRY COMMISSION.

THE Commission appointed under the Coal Industry Commission Act to inquire into the position of and conditions prevailing in the Coal Industry (see LABOUR GAZETTE for March, page 79) sat for the hearing of evidence until 17th March. On the 18th March the Commission assembled in private to consider its interim report on hours and wages. The report was issued on 20th March in the form of three separate reports, one signed by the Hon. Mr. Justice Sankey (Chairman), Mr. Arthur Balfour, Sir Arthur Duckham, and Sir Thomas Royden, Bart.; one by the coalowners' representatives (Messrs. R. W. Cooper, J. T. Forgie, and Evan Williams); and one by the labour representatives (Messrs. R. Smillie, F. Hodges and Herbert Smith, Sir Leo Chiozza Money, Messrs. R. H. Tawney and Sidney Webb).

The report signed by Mr. Justice Sankey was adopted by the Government. A summary of the recommendations, which, so far as wage increases are concerned, are to take effect as from 9th January, is as follows:—

AS TO HOURS AND WAGES.

The substitution of "seven" for "eight" in the clauses limiting the hours of work underground in the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1908 (the "Eight Hours Act") as and from the 16th July, 1919, and, subject to the economic position of the industry, "six" as and from the 13th July, 1921. Certain adjustments to be made in the hours of certain classes of underground workers specifically mentioned in the Act.

A 46½ hours' working week, exclusive of meal times, for surface workers from the 16th July, 1919, the details to be settled locally.

An increase of 2s. per shift worked or per day worked for underground and surface workers whose wages have in the past been regulated by colliery sliding scales. In the case of workers under 16 years of age the advance is to be 1s.

The continuation of the Coal Mines Agreement (Confirmation) Act, 1918, subject to certain suggestions.

The result of these recommendations will mean, in addition to shortening the working day, the distribution of an additional £30,000,000 per annum as wages, without, it is thought, raising the price of coal to the consumer.

AS TO NATIONALISATION.

"Even upon the evidence already given, the present system of ownership and working in the coal industry stands condemned, and some other system must be substituted for it, either nationalisation or a method of unification by national purchase and/or by joint control."

The signatories do not make any recommendation as to which expedient should be adopted, but the Commission will be able to consider and report upon the various schemes or suggestions which may be put forward as a final solution of

this problem. They report, however, that it is in the interests of the country that the colliery worker shall in future have an effective voice in the direction of the mines.

AS TO HOUSING.

"It is a matter for careful consideration whether 1d. per ton should not be at once collected on coal raised and applied to improve the housing and amenities of each particular colliery district."

The signatories are of opinion that the Commission should continue to make interim reports with suggestions as to the different ways in which economies and improvements in the coal industry can be effected, and powers should be given under which these reports could be immediately acted upon.

The conclusions in the Report signed by the labour representatives were as follows:—

(1) An increase in wages of 30 per cent. (on earnings apart from War Wage), is not excessive.

(2) The substitution of "six" for "eight" in the clauses in the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1908, is justified, with a corresponding shortening in the working day of surface workers.

(3) Nationalisation ought to be, in principle, at once determined on.

(4) The cases of demobilised miners should be dealt with along with the cases of similar men in other industries.

In the Report signed by the Coal Owners' representatives it was recommended that:—

(1) an increase of 1s. 6d. per day worked should be made to persons 16 years of age and upwards, and of 9d. to persons under that age.

(2) "Seven" hours should be substituted for "eight" hours in the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1908; surface workers' hours to be fixed at eight per day.

As regards nationalisation or unification of ownership of collieries the evidence placed before them was insufficient to enable them to pronounce judgment.

A national ballot of miners was held on 9th and 10th April as to whether the recommendation in Mr. Justice Sankey's Report should be accepted. The ballot showed a very large majority in favour of acceptance, the exact figures being: For acceptance 693,084, against 76,992.

RAILWAY AGREEMENT.

THE negotiations which had been in progress for some time between the Government and the Railway Executive Committee on the one hand and the Negotiating Committees of the National Union of Railwaymen and the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen on the other upon the Societies' National Programmes, resulted, on 24th March, in the following Agreement which was ratified by the two societies on 27th March:—

1. **GUARANTEED WEEK.**—The standard week's work to consist of 48 hours. The standard week's wages, exclusive of any payment for overtime or Sunday duty, to be guaranteed to all employees who are available for duty throughout the week, but turns commencing on a Saturday and finishing on a Sunday shall form part of the guaranteed week, and all turns commencing on a Sunday shall be excluded from the operation of the guaranteed week.

In the event of a strike affecting the work of any grade, either generally or in any district, the question of suspending the operation of this article shall be referred to the Joint Committee to be set up under Article 7 of this Memorandum.

GUARANTEED DAY.—This to be further discussed.

2. **OVERTIME.**—All time worked on weekdays in excess of the standard hours to be paid for at the rate of time and a quarter, each day to stand by itself for overtime purposes.

3. **SUNDAY DUTY.**—(12 o'clock midnight Saturday to 12 midnight Sunday.) Time and a half, without addition to rate for overtime and/or night duty. The same to apply to Christmas Day and Good Friday. Hours worked on those days in excess of the standard number of hours shall not be computed as part of the hours of work of any other day.

4. **NIGHT DUTY (weekdays).**—(a) All ordinary time worked between 10 p.m. and 4 a.m. to be paid at the rate of time and a quarter.

(b) All overtime worked between 10 p.m. and 4 a.m. to be paid at an inclusive rate of time and a half.

5. **REST.**—In all regular duties a period of 12 hours' rest to be shown on the rosters at the home station, but in other cases a minimum of 9 hours.

6. **HOLIDAYS.**—One week's holiday with pay after 12 months' service, to include the casual employees who are regularly employed, without prejudice to those men who already have a longer holiday under their existing conditions of service.

7. **MANAGEMENT.**—The Negotiating Committees of the two Unions will be recognised as the medium for dealing with all questions affecting rates of pay and conditions of service while the present negotiations are proceeding.

A Committee shall be appointed to consider and report:

(1) as to the setting up of a Joint Committee, consisting of representatives of the Railway Executive Committee and of the two Unions, to deal with any questions that arise in regard to rates of pay and conditions of service of the men within the Conciliation Grades, as from the

date when these negotiations are concluded and the time until some final arrangement is arrived at in regard to the future position of railways.

(2) as to the continuance or discontinuance of the existing Conciliation Boards.

When the new Ministry of Ways and Communications is set up it is the intention of the Government to provide in the organisation for, and to avail itself fully of, the advantage of assistance, co-operation, and advice from the workers in the Transportation Industry.

8. WAGES AND RATES OF PAY.—The present wages to be stabilised till 31st December, 1919, and any reduction of the War Wage under the agreement of November, 1918, to be waived.

As regards standardisation of rates of pay and removal of present anomalies, this can only be dealt with in connection with a general revision of permanent wages, and therefore it is proposed that the present negotiations shall be continued for fixing new standard rates, so as to insure that all men throughout the country shall receive the same payment for the same work under the same conditions.

This will involve a transfer of a part of the War Wage to the permanent wage, but the Government agrees that up to 31st December, 1919, no man shall receive less in weekly rate of wage, plus War Wage, than he is receiving at present, while anyone to whom the new War Wage and new rate yield more than they are receiving at present shall receive the advantage as soon as an arrangement is arrived at.

At the end of the year the whole situation will be reviewed. The War Wage will have to be looked at in the light of the circumstances of the time generally, and it will be open to the men to ask for a revision of the new standard rates if they think a case can be made for it. But the anomalies of varying pay for similar work under similar conditions will have been removed, and future negotiations will be rendered much easier through there being only one set of figures to work upon.

9. OTHER ITEMS IN THE PROGRAMMES.—These to be discussed at further meetings.

The negotiations referred to in the Agreement have been resumed.

THE WHITLEY REPORT AND THE PUBLIC SERVICES.

I.—CIVIL SERVICE.

THE March issue of the LABOUR GAZETTE contained a report of a preliminary conference of representatives of Trade Unions having members directly employed in Government industrial establishments and officials of the Government Departments concerned, which was held at the Central Hall, Westminster, on 20th February to discuss a draft scheme for the application of the Whitley Report to industrial persons directly employed by the Government, which had been drawn up by an Inter-Departmental Committee presided over by the Rt. Hon. G. H. Roberts, M.P., and approved by the War Cabinet. The Provisional Committee, consisting of twenty members representing in equal proportions the engineering, shipbuilding, building, miscellaneous trades and general labour, which was appointed by the Conference to co-operate with representatives of Government Departments, namely, the Treasury, the Admiralty, the War Office, the Ministry of Munitions, the Air Ministry, the Office of Works, and the Ministry of Labour, in drafting the constitutions of the various Departmental and Trade Joint Councils which the report recommended should be set up, have now prepared draft constitutions for Departmental Joint Councils, Trade Joint Councils, and Shop, Department, Works or Yard, and Trade Committees. These draft constitutions are based upon the general requirements of all the Government Departments and Trade Unions concerned, and will require modifications in detail to meet the peculiar needs of each Department, Establishment and Trade. The Ministry of Labour is now taking the necessary steps, in conjunction with each Government Department concerned, to convene separate joint conferences of the representatives of each of these Departments and the Trade Unions having members in its establishments, for the purpose of adapting the scheme to the requirements of these establishments. The constitutions, when finally drafted for each Department, will be submitted to the Unions concerned for their approval, as agreed upon at the preliminary Conference on 20th February.

A conference of representatives of associations covering practically the whole of the administrative, clerical, manipulative and manual Civil Services and officials of the Government departments concerned was held at Caxton Hall, Westminster, on Tuesday, 8th April, to consider "a Report on the Application of the Whitley Report to the Administrative Departments of the Civil Service" which had been drawn up by a sub-committee of the inter-departmental committee on the application of the Whitley Report to Government establishments, and approved by the Main Committee and by the War Cabinet.

The Report provides, subject to necessary modifications, for the setting up for the Civil Service, the following kinds of

joint bodies: (1) A national council for the whole of the administrative departments. (2) One or more departmental joint committees for each department. (3) District or local office joint committees in suitable cases. (4) Sectional committees of the departmental committee.

The Report states that the main objects of establishing joint bodies for the administrative departments are to secure greater co-operation between the State, as employer, and the general body of civil servants so as to promote increased efficiency in the public service and the well-being of those employed, to provide machinery for the ventilation of grievances, and to enable all grades and classes to contribute their views and experience on many technical and difficult problems. It further indicates the following as suitable functions of the National Council:—

(1) "Provision of the best means for utilising the ideas and experience of the staff. (2) Means for securing to the staff a greater share in and responsibility for the determination and observance of the conditions under which their duties are carried out. (3) Consideration of the general principles governing conditions of service, e.g. recruitment, hours, promotion, salary and superannuation. (4) The encouragement of further education of civil servants and their training in higher administration and business organisation. (5) Improvement of office machinery and organisation and the provision of opportunities for the full consideration of suggestions by the staff on this subject. (6) Proposed legislation so far as it has a bearing upon the position of the Civil Service."

The conference was addressed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who presided, and by other speakers, and the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—

"That the portion of Section 45, setting up a National Joint Committee to consider a Whitley scheme for the clerical and administrative branches of the Civil Service, be accepted.

"That this report (and any other reports dealing with the matter) be remitted to it for information.

"That the Provisional National Joint Committee so set up report not later than 31st May, 1919."

It was agreed that the Provisional Joint Committee should consist of 30 members, representing in equal numbers the Government Departments and the Civil Service Associations. This Joint Committee was subsequently appointed.

II.—LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND PUBLIC UTILITIES.

Early in 1918 a Special Committee of the Association of Municipal Corporations was appointed to consider the Whitley Report, and at the annual meeting of the Association, held at the Guildhall, London, on 31st May, 1918, that Special Committee's report was adopted. The recommendations of the report were as follow:—

- (1) That the Association accept the general principles of the Whitley Reports in favour of appointing joint industrial councils, district councils and works committees in connection with industries carried on by Municipal Corporations;
- (2) That a separate industrial council should be established for each industry, but that, seeing that a decision given by one council would probably react on the others, in the constitution of the councils steps should be taken for keeping them in touch with one another and for co-ordinating their decisions;
- (3) That, inasmuch as separate councils are to be established for each industry, it follows almost necessarily that in the formation of the council for an industry carried on both by the local authorities and by companies, the employers' side must represent both of these classes.

Considerable progress has now been made in the establishment of the joint industrial councils for the industries in which local government authorities are concerned. The joint industrial council for the waterworks undertakings industry held its first meeting on 3rd April, and constitutions have been drafted for councils for the electricity supply, gas and tramway industries, and it is anticipated that each of these councils will hold its first meeting at an early date. On all of these councils both municipal and company-owned undertakings are represented.

In addition to these developments a joint industrial council for local government authorities' non-trading services (manual workers) has been set up, and the first meeting of the council was held on 11th April. A provisional committee has also been appointed to draft a constitution for a joint council for the administrative, technical and clerical staffs of local government authorities.

DEMOBILISATION.

THE total number of officers and men demobilised from H.M. forces (including the Navy, Army and Air Force) from the date of the armistice up to 10th April was: Officers 81,918, Other Ranks 2,396,109, making a total of 2,478,027. The total number demobilised in the week ended 10th April was 78,544.

COLLECTIVE LABOUR AGREEMENTS IN FRANCE: NEW LEGISLATION.*

THE French Labour Code has been amended in accordance with a law dated 25th March, 1919, by the insertion of provisions relating to collective labour agreements. Among the principal points dealt with are the following:

A collective labour agreement is defined as "a contract relating to conditions of labour concluded between the representatives of a vocational organisation of workpeople or of some other distinct group of employed persons on the one hand, and the representatives of a vocational organisation of employers or of some other distinct group of employers, or several employers contracting on their own account, or even a single employer, on the other hand."

Such an agreement determines the obligations of each party towards the other, and in particular certain conditions governing contracts of service with individuals or with groups of workers who are bound by the agreement.

In order to be valid the collective labour agreement must be in writing. The earliest date from which it can be made applicable is the day following that upon which it is deposited at the secretariat of the *conseil des prud'hommes* or at the office of the justice of the peace.

It is not necessary in a collective labour agreement to specify its duration. It may be concluded for a definite period (not exceeding five years), or for the duration of a specified undertaking; where the duration of an undertaking exceeds five years it will be necessary to renew the agreement after that period has elapsed.

Employers and employed who are signatories to a collective labour agreement are considered as bound by it, as also are those who have given them written authority to act on their behalf. Any group of employed persons or of employers, or any individual employer, who is a party to a collective labour agreement concluded or renewed for an indefinite period, can at any time withdraw from the agreement upon notifying all the other parties a month beforehand, and upon giving a month's notice also to the secretariat or office where the agreement has been deposited.

If a party to a collective labour agreement, which imposes obligations upon him in regard to third parties, shall have accepted with respect to the latter conditions contrary to the stipulations of the agreement, he can be proceeded against at law on account of the non-fulfilment of the obligations assumed by him.

Groups of employees or of employers bound by a collective labour agreement shall do nothing to impede the loyal carrying out of the agreement.

Groups which have legal personality and which are parties to a collective labour agreement can, on their own account, bring an action for damages against other groups which are also parties to the agreement, or against the members of these groups, or against their own members, or against any person bound by the agreement who shall break the conditions agreed upon.

Similarly, persons who are parties to a collective agreement can take action against other persons, or other groups, bound by the agreement, who break the conditions which concern them.

Those provisions of collective labour agreements are recognised as valid in accordance with which the parties submit to arbitrators the determination of all or some of the differences which may arise out of the agreements.

PROHIBITION OF NIGHT-WORK IN BAKERIES.

(a) France.†

A LAW dated March 28th, 1919 (which, however, is not to come into force until a year after a decree is issued fixing the date of the end of the war), prohibits the employment of workpeople in bakeries between 10 p.m. and 4 a.m. This prohibition applies to all workpeople who, either directly or indirectly, are concerned in the making of bread and pastry. In exceptional cases exemptions may be granted by the prefect, on the application of the employers or workpeople, or of both, and after the two parties have been consulted, and the municipal council has been notified, (a) on the occasion of fairs or holidays, (b) in the case of a temporary increase in the population or (c) if rendered absolutely necessary for the benefit of the public. These exemptions are not to hold good for more than a fortnight at a time.

(b) Spain.‡

By a Royal Decree dated April 3, 1919, work is forbidden in bakehouses, factories, and other places where bread is made for a period of six consecutive hours in each twenty-four, which period must fall between 8 p.m. and 5 a.m. This regulation applies also to bread-making in hotels, inns, and lodging-houses, and to the making of confectionery, pastry, etc. The actual length of the working day is to be fixed by agreement between employers and workpeople, but shall in no case comprise the six hours specified.

Exemptions from the provisions of the Decree are allowed (a) on a certain number of days not exceeding thirty per annum in connection with fairs, holidays, etc., but in no

case for more than six consecutive days at a time; (b) in case of accidents preventing day work; (c) for reasons of public interest or public necessity, and in the case of supplies for the army.

The Decree is to come into force two months after the publication of the regulations for its execution.

WORKING HOURS OF GERMAN RAILWAYMEN.

As regards the application of the eight-hour day for railway workers in Germany it is reported in *Correspondenzblatt* (the organ of the German social democratic trade union federation) for 25th January that the Minister of Labour has decided that the working hours of the station, permanent way and train staffs shall not exceed on the average 208 (i.e. 26×8) per month. Intervals exceeding 15 minutes are not to be included in the working hours.

REDUCTION OF HOURS IN GERMAN MINING INDUSTRY (RUHR DISTRICT).

THE *Frankfurter Zeitung* of 29th March reports that, as a result of negotiations between the Government and the miners' representatives, it has been decided to introduce a 7½-hour shift from bank to bank in the mining industry in the Ruhr district. Any further reduction of the hours has been declared to be impossible, on the grounds that the output of coal is of paramount importance for the payment of foreign countries for supplies of foodstuffs sent to Germany, and that, as it is impossible to raise the price of coal, any further reduction in the output must of necessity lead to a reduction in the miners' wages.

NEW WAGE RATES FOR ESSEN COLLIERY WORKERS.*

As the result of negotiations which have taken place between the organisations of the miners, metal workers, enginemen and stokers on the one side and the Essen mine-owners' federation on the other, it has been agreed that rates of wages per shift for certain categories of colliery workers shall fall within the following limits:—*Skilled artisans*, over 21—13s. 9d. to 16s. 9d., 18 to 21—11s. 10d. to 13s. 9d., under 18—9s. 10d. to 11s. 10d.; *unskilled artisans*, over 21—12s. 4d. to 14s. 9d., 18 to 21—10s. 4d. to 12s. 4d., under 18—7s. 10d. to 10s. 4d.; *unskilled labourers*, over 21—11s. 4d. to 13s. 9d., 18 to 21—9s. 10d. to 11s. 4d.; *enginemen*—10s. 10d. to 15s. 9d.; *stokers*—12s. 4d. to 14s. 9d.; *coke-oven workers*—11s. 10d. to 14s. 9d. In fixing the actual rate consideration shall be given as heretofore to the rate previously paid, local conditions, &c.

EIGHT-HOUR DAY AND INCREASED WAGES IN THE BUILDING AND MINING INDUSTRIES IN SPAIN.†

As the outcome of a recent dispute in the building trades of Spain, and in accordance with the recommendations of a Joint Commission, composed of three employers, three workpeople and three architects, appointed to investigate the workpeople's demands, a Royal Decree was published on 23rd March. The Decree declares that wages exceeding 2 pesetas (1s. 7½d.) per day shall be increased by 1 peseta (9½d.), and those below this limit by ½ peseta (4½d.) per day. The increases are to take effect as from 23rd March.

It is also declared that a maximum day of eight hours (established for all workers in the building trades by a Royal Decree of 14th March) shall come into force on 23rd March.

As regards the mining industry, a Royal Decree, published on 28th March, states that similar increases to the above have been accepted by the mine-owners, and that a commission composed of three industrial engineers, three mine-owners and three workmen is to be appointed to report whether the above increases are possible under the present conditions ruling in the metallurgic industries.

STATE SUBSIDY FOR OUT-OF-WORK BENEFIT SOCIETIES IN SPAIN.

THE issue of *El Mundo* of March 19th contains the text of a Royal Decree under which the State is to grant an annual subsidy, equal in amount to the subscriptions collected from their members, by workmen's mutual unemployed benefit societies and similar institutions which have a separate organisation for dealing with unemployment. Societies claiming the State contribution must not pay unemployment benefits which exceed 60 per cent. of the daily wage, nor must such benefit be paid for more than 90 days in each year, and the societies must guarantee that such benefits shall not be utilised to build up strike funds. The total amount of the State subsidy is not to exceed £80,000.

* *Journal Officiel*, 28th March, 1919.

† *Journal Officiel*, 30th March, 1919.

‡ *El Mundo*, 4th April, 1919.

* *Börsen-Zeitung*, 15th March, 1919.

† Based on despatches from H. M. Ambassador at Madrid and on reports in the journal *El Mundo*.

THE ORGANISATION OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES IN ITALY.*

By a viceregal decree dated 17th Nov., 1918, provision is made for the organisation of a system of employment exchanges throughout Italy. A State grant amounting to two million lire (£80,000) is to be set aside for the purpose of subsidising lire (£80,000) is to be set aside for the purpose of subsidising employment exchanges which have been established, (a) by provincial or communal authorities, (b) jointly by associations of employers and workpeople, (c) by workers' organisations, and recognised definitely or in practice by the masters' organisations, or vice versa, or (d) by charitable associations. To entitle such exchanges to share in the State grant they must be registered with the Labour Department of the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Labour.

In districts where, in view of the condition of the labour market, the establishment of such institutions is found to be necessary, exchanges may be set up by the Government. Supervision of the activities of each exchange referred to in (a) (b) and (d) above, and of those established by the Government, is to be exercised by a commission composed of a president and of from four to eight persons, equal numbers of whom are to be elected by organisations of the employers and of the workpeople respectively. The president is to be nominated by mutual agreement between the representatives of the two classes. Refusal to accept nominations to these commissions or wilful absence from the sittings is punishable by fine up to £10.

Provision is also made for the establishment of employment exchanges in districts where there is no exchange set up by the Government or registered as described above. In such cases a commission is to be formed composed of a representative of the communal authority as neutral president, and of one or more representatives of employers and workpeople respectively. The duty of such commission is to supervise the work of the communal authority in the collection and registration of applications from employers and workpeople in the commune; to circulate such information to private applicants and public bodies and to employment exchanges; to place labour in its own area according to the instructions of exchanges; and to inform the provincial commission as to vacancies and applications for work which cannot be satisfied locally. In communes or provinces where municipal labour exchanges already exist the commissions and committees which direct such exchanges may be authorised to act as communal or provincial commissions for the placing of labour, provided that they include representatives of employers and employees in equal numbers, nominated by their respective organisations. If such organisations do not exist, the members are to be nominated by the municipal council, or, in the case of provincial commissions, by the prefect, with reservation of the right of appeal to the Standing Committee of the Higher Council of Labour.

The provincial commission referred to above is to be set up at the prefecture. It is to be presided over by the prefect or his deputy, and is to consist of representatives (a) of the provincial administration, (b) of the municipal administration of the chief commune of the province and (c) of employers and employed in equal numbers. The provincial commission is to supervise the performance by the prefecture of the work of a provincial exchange, and applications which cannot be filled locally are to be communicated to the central (National) exchange. The latter body is to be established at the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Labour, and its principal functions are (a) to collect and publish information as to the labour market in Italy and abroad, and to keep itself in touch with the employment exchanges, the communal and provincial commissions, and with offices already existing or to be opened later abroad for the supervision of the emigration of workers; (b) to co-ordinate the work of the various employment exchanges throughout the country, (c) to form a clearing house for applications sent in by such exchanges, and (d) to investigate and study the subjects of unemployment and the placing of labour. Attached to such central exchange there is to be appointed a central commission as a consultative and supervising body. Such commission is to consist of a president, six representatives of industrial concerns, and a similar number of representatives of workmen employed in such concerns, four representatives respectively of agriculturists and agricultural workers, together with representatives of various Government departments and public bodies. The representatives of employers and employed in industry are to be appointed by the Standing Committee of the Higher Council of Labour, and those members representing agriculture by the Technical Committee of Agriculture. The commission is to supervise the placing of labour throughout the kingdom, and is to formulate schemes for the development and improvement of the service, and to give opinions on questions submitted to it by the Minister. An executive board is also to be appointed from among the members of the central commission. The functions of such board are to be determined by regulations to be issued later.

The decree provides that when collective wage agreements are deposited with employment exchanges, the latter are not to recruit labour on conditions inferior to those fixed by such agreements.

The decree came into force on the day following publication, and is to be effective until the end of twelve months after the publication of the treaty of peace.

THE FORTY-EIGHT HOUR WEEK IN THE ITALIAN TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

I.—COTTON INDUSTRY.

At a meeting of Italian cotton manufacturers held in Milan on March 14th, and reported in the *Tribuna* of the following day, the employers in this industry agreed to concede the demands of their operatives for a working week of 48 hours.

After a prolonged debate the following resolution was passed:—

"At a special meeting of cotton manufacturers the report of their delegates who were present at the Conference with the representatives of the workers' organisations was read. It confirmed all the reasons of a technical and economic character, which have convinced the cotton manufacturers that the reduction, at a single stroke, of the working week to 48 hours would (1) increase the cost of production in Italy in comparison with that of countries more advanced industrially, especially Great Britain, (even if there, too, the hours be reduced to 48) so that it would become impossible for Italian goods to compete in foreign markets with British products; and (2) threaten seriously the Italian cotton export trade (which comprises 40 per cent. of the total output). An immediate contraction of manufacturing activity must therefore be regarded as probable.

"Consequently, the manufacturers, while declaring themselves ready to grant an immediate reduction of working time to 54 hours a week, maintain that further reductions could and should be made in Italy at a date subsequent to reductions in countries more advanced industrially, and only after a sufficient interval for experiment and preparation. In any case it would be absolutely unjustifiable, from the logical point of view, to adopt the 48-hour week before its adoption in Great Britain.

"On the other hand, in view of the declaration of the representatives of the textile Trade Unions that (while acknowledging the basis of the arguments advanced by the employers) it is their intention to obtain by any and every method (not excluding a strike) and not later than 1st May, the reduction of a working week to 48 hours for the textile trade throughout Italy: furthermore, in view of the declarations by the representatives of the General Federation of Italian Trade Unions, of its complete accord with the textile organisations and of its intention to support the demand for reduced hours by all means in its power (including even a general strike of all workpeople), the manufacturers consider it their duty, in the difficult and hazardous period through which the country is passing, not merely to avoid taking the responsibility of refusing (which, in any case, would fall on the other side) but even to avoid the giving of a pretext for disorders of incalculable extent and seriousness. Consequently, the manufacturers intend to reduce the working week, as from 1st May, to 48 hours; but they disclaim responsibility for the results of the decreased economic activity which, in their opinion, will follow this reduction in working hours, to the detriment of both parties and of the country.

"The manufacturers proceed to nominate the four delegates and three substitute delegates, who, acting in concert with delegates of other textile trades and representatives of the Trade Unions, are to construct a working time-table, the delegates being commissioned to make arrangements to ensure:

- (1) that the new 48-hour week shall be enforced throughout Italy on 1st May; (2) that the same reform shall become international as soon as possible; (3) that the new working hours shall be strictly enforced in practice so as to guarantee a yearly total of hours on which manufacturers may rely and to make these hours real working hours, without exceptions of any kind; and (4) that the other demands of the workmen shall be duly moderated because of the full concession made by the employers in the matter of hours of work."

II.—WOOLLEN INDUSTRY.

At a conference between textile manufacturers and representatives of the General Federation of Italian Trade Unions and of the Federation of Textile Workers, held at Milan on 14th February, and reported in *Il Giornale d'Italia* of 15th February, an agreement was reached to the effect that the 8-hour day should come into force not later than 1st May. A commission, including both employers and employed, is to decide upon the method by which the new working week shall be applied in practice.

III.—SILK INDUSTRY.

The journal *Avanti*, in its issue of 22nd March, reports a meeting of employers and workpeople in the silk industry, held at Como on 20th March. It was announced that the 48-hour week would be introduced in this trade as from 1st May next. On each of the first five days of the week the working time is to be 8 hours 45 minutes and on Saturdays 4 hours 15 minutes.

* *Bollettino dell'Ufficio del Lavoro*, 1st January, 1919.

WAGES OF DOMESTIC SERVANTS IN DENMARK.*

THE journal of the Statistical Department of Denmark gives the results of an investigation made by the Department in October last into the cash wages paid to female domestic servants (living in). Enquiry forms were sent to some 2,500 families employing servants in Copenhagen and to 2,000 in provincial towns. In order to get as complete data as possible forms were also sent to the servants themselves. About 3,550 of the schedules were returned by the employers and 3,300 by the servants.

The returns from the two sources confirm each other. They show that the average monthly cash wage for all classes of servants (living in) together was 34s. 2d. in Copenhagen and 27s. 3d. in provincial towns. For a general servant it was 31s. 8d. in the capital and 26s. 1d. in the provinces; for a housemaid 35s. and 25s. respectively; and for a cook 42s. 3d. and 31s. 1d. respectively. The average wage was somewhat higher in the case of housekeepers, while nursery maids on the whole received the same wage as housemaids in Copenhagen, and about 5s. 7d. less in provincial towns. It was found that the average wage increases slightly as the age of the domestic advances, but that after about 25 years of age there is no change in this respect. The wage paid likewise varies with the social position of the employer.

INTERNATIONAL SCANDINAVIAN CONVENTION ON WORKERS' INSURANCE.

ACCORDING to the Stockholm *Social-Demokraten* of 14th February, an agreement has been signed by the three Scandinavian countries with regard to reciprocal treatment of persons covered by the existing laws for the insurance of workpeople against industrial accidents. The journal states that for the benefit of subjects of the three countries or their survivors the agreement provides for the annulment of all restrictive provisions contained in the various laws with regard to compensation for accidents to foreigners or persons residing outside the country, so that in future the same rules as to compensation shall apply to subjects of the other two countries as apply to those of each one of the three countries. The agreement further provides that the Swedish Royal Insurance Institute, the Danish Workmen's Insurance Council, and the Norwegian Royal Insurance Institute, shall in certain cases assist each other in the liquidation and granting of compensation. Further, the three bodies above-mentioned will on request assist other insurance undertakings which, under the insurance laws of the three countries, are empowered to effect the statutory insurance against industrial accidents. The agreement came into force on the date when it was signed.

RETAIL PRICES:

SUMMARY TABLE SHOWING PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN THE RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES AT THE UNDER-MENTIONED DATES, AS COMPARED WITH JULY, 1914.†

Country.	Percentage Increase in Retail Food Prices since July, 1914.				Latest Figures Available.	
	July, 1915.	July, 1916.	July, 1917.	July, 1918.	Rise.	Date.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	
UNITED KINGDOM ...	32	61	104	110	113	Apr., 1919
ALLIED COUNTRIES.						
France (Paris) ...	22	32	83	106	148	Jan., 1919
„ (other Towns)	23	42	84	144	160	Dec., 1918
	(July-Sep)	(July-Sep)	(July-Sep)	(July-Sep)		
Italy	21	32	72	153	167	Sep., 1918
Portugal (Lisbon)	...	...	72	...	151	May, 1918
United States ...	24	9	43	64	77	Oct., 1918
BRITISH DOMINIONS.						
Canada ...	5	14	57	75	81	Feb., 1919
Australia ...	31	30	26	32 (June)	31	Oct., 1918
New Zealand ...	12	19	27	39	43	Nov., 1918
South Africa ...	...	...	...	32	35	Feb., 1919
India (Calcutta) ...	8	10	16	31	35	Nov., 1918
				(Aug.)		
NEUTRAL COUNTRIES.						
Norway ...	...	60	114 (Aug.)	179	175	Nov., 1918
Sweden ...	24	42	81	163	230	Dec., 1918
Denmark ...	28	46	66	87	86	Jan., 1919
Holland (Amsterdam)	...	...	42	76	103	Dec., 1918
Switzerland ...	19	41	78	122	133	Dec., 1918
Spain ...	6	13	27	51	...	...
	(Apr.-Sep)	(Apr.-Sep)	(Apr.-Sep)	(Apr.-Sep)		

* Statistiske Efterretninger, 9th December, 1918. Copenhagen.

† For qualifications affecting the above figures see monthly notes in THE LABOUR GAZETTE under Retail Prices, and especially the article on p. 439 of the issue for November, 1918.

‡ Decrease.

UNITED KINGDOM: PRICES AT 1st APRIL.

THERE was a further decline in the level of retail prices of the principal articles of food between 3rd March and 1st April, the average percentage increase on the prices of July, 1914, falling from 120 to 113. Important decreases were recorded during the month in the prices of tea, margarine and cheese. There was also a fall in the price of fresh eggs, which was largely seasonal.

The retail prices of *tea*, which had been controlled uniformly at 2s. 8d. per lb. since April, 1918, ranged from 2s. upwards on 1st April, 1919. The prices usually paid were 2s. 4d. and 2s. 8d., 2s. 6d. also being frequent; there were very few sales in the working-class trade over 2s. 8d., and there appears to be relatively little demand for 2s. tea at present, in connection with which it may be recalled that before the war the cheapest tea was not the grade in most demand. The average price of *margarine* fell from 10½d. to 9d. per lb. as compared with 1s. two months earlier. Prices ranged from 8d. to 1s. (with isolated instances below 8d.), 8d. being the predominant price except in the smallest towns and villages, where 8d. and 10d. were equally frequent. The price of Government *cheese* was reduced from 1s. 8d. to 1s. 6d. per lb. on 19th March. The average price per fresh *egg* fell from nearly 4½d. to nearly 3½d., the usual prices on 1st April being 3½d. and 4d. each (3d. and 3½d. in the smallest places). Smaller average decreases occurred in the prices of fish and bacon; meat, flour, bread, sugar, milk and butter showed but little change in price; potatoes showed a slight increase.

Below is given a comparison of average prices in July, 1914, and at the beginning of April, 1919. The prices are per lb., except where otherwise indicated:—

Article.	Average Price.			Article.	Average Price.		
	July, 1914.	1 April, 1919.	Increase.		July, 1914.	1 April, 1919.	Increase.
Beef, British—	d.	s. d.	s. d.	Flour ... per 7 lb.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ribs ...	9½	1 6	0 8½	Bread ... per 4 lb.	0 5½	0 9	0 3½
Thin Flank ...	6½	1 1	0 6½	Tea ...	1 6½	2 6½	1 0
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—				Sugar (granulated)	0 2	0 7	0 5
Ribs ...	7½	1 6	0 10½	Milk per quart	0 3½	0 8½	0 5½
Thin Flank ...	4½	1 0½	0 8	Butter—			
Mutton, British—				Fresh ...	1 2½	2 6	1 3½
Legs ...	10½	1 7	0 8½	Salt ...	1 2	2 6	1 4
Breast ...	6½	0 11½	0 5	Cheese (Canadian or U.S.)*	0 8½	1 6	0 9½
Mutton, Frozen—				Margarine ...	0 7½	0 9	0 1½
Legs ...	6½	1 7	1 0½	Eggs (fresh) each	0 1½	0 3½	0 2½
Breast ...	4	0 11	0 7	Potatoes per 7 lb.	0 4½	0 8	0 3½
Bacon (streaky)* ...	11½	2 2½	1 3½				

The following Table gives a percentage comparison of the level of prices at 1st April in relation to the prices of July, 1914:—

Article.	Percentage Increase from July, 1914, to 1st April, 1919.		
	Large Towns (populations over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	United Kingdom.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Beef, British—			
Ribs ...	80	87	84
Thin Flank ...	102	94	98
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—			
Ribs ...	150	146	148
Thin Flank ...	172	158	165
Mutton, British—			
Legs ...	84	85	85
Breast ...	85	71	78
Mutton, Frozen—			
Legs ...	186	167	177
Breast ...	174	163	169
Bacon (streaky)	143	133	138
Fish ...	172	135	151
Flour ...	60	54	52
Bread ...	68	52	55
Tea ...	67	63	65
Sugar (granulated)	262	231	242
Milk ...	156	157	156
Butter—			
Fresh ...	103	111	107
Salt ...	111	114	113
Cheese ...	109	105	107
Margarine ...	80	25	27
Eggs (fresh)	223	190	207
Potatoes	84	49	66

The foregoing Table shows the average percentage rise in the price of each article. In order to obtain the combined effect of all these increases it is necessary to assign a certain relative importance to each of the articles in accordance with the quantities consumed, and for the purpose of the present record of the movement of prices it is assumed that this relative importance has been the same throughout the whole period since July, 1914. The quantities consumed of several articles have, however, undergone important changes, and when allowance is made for such changes in dietary as are estimated by the Ministry of Food to have taken place,

* If this kind is seldom dealt with in a locality the Returns quote prices for another kind locally representative.

the increase in the average expenditure on the above articles is about three-quarters the rise in prices. This is brought out in the following Table, which compares the general percentage increase in (1) prices and (2) expenditure. The prices percentages (1) are based on the same quantities now as in July, 1914, a basis which affords a measure of the increased cost of maintaining a pre-war standard of living, so far as the articles included in the statistics are concerned. The expenditure percentages (2) are based on the estimated consumption of the same articles in March, 1919, in comparison with pre-war consumption. They are, therefore, subject to the fluctuations in the quantities of food available, and this point should be borne in mind when comparing the course of prices and the course of expenditure. The recent improvement in the supplies of some commodities has led to an increase in expenditure concurrently with a fall in prices.

	Average Percentage Increase since July, 1914.		
	Large Towns.	Small Towns and Villages.	United Kingdom.
(1) Level of retail prices of foregoing articles of food, assuming same quantities at both dates	117	109	113
(2) Expenditure on such articles of food, allowing for estimated changes in consumption	91	83	87

The average level of rents has only increased slightly (as a result of increases in local rates), but the prices of other items have advanced so substantially, prices of clothing especially having increased proportionately much more than those of food, that the general increase in the prices of all the items ordinarily entering into the working-class family budget (including food, rent, clothing, fuel, and light, &c.) between July, 1914, and 1st April, 1919, is estimated at about 110 per cent., taking for this calculation the same quantities and, as far as possible, the same qualities of the various items in April, 1919, as in July, 1914. If the amount of increased taxation of commodities is deducted the increase is about 7 per cent. less.

It is not possible to supplement this comparison of the level of prices generally by a comparison of expenditure similar to that given above with regard to food, but combination of the average increase in expenditure on the specified principal articles of food with the average increase in retail prices of other items (including rents) yields a resultant increase of approximately 95 per cent.

FRANCE.*

The index number representing the general level of retail prices of food in French towns with over 10,000 inhabitants (but not including Paris) during the fourth quarter of 1918, showed a rise of 5.6 per cent., as compared with the preceding quarter, and of 160 per cent. as compared with the third quarter of 1914. As regards Paris, the latest data refer to January, 1919, when the level of retail food prices was 4.3 per cent. higher than at the time of the preceding computation (October, 1918) and 148 per cent. higher than in July, 1914. In both cases the computation of the change in the general prices level is based on the pre-war budget of a typical Parisian family of the working-class, and it is assumed that the standard of dietary has been identical at all three periods.

SWEDEN.†

At the prices prevailing in December the cost of maintaining the standard pre-war budget of a typical Swedish household in the matter of food, fuel and lighting represents an increase of about 3.1 per cent. upon the cost at the prices prevailing in the preceding month, and of 230 per cent. in comparison with July, 1914. The "typical family" is one consisting of a man and wife and two children, and having a pre-war expenditure of about £111 per annum.

The above figures relate to the principal towns of Sweden, but if the same budget be taken to apply to Stockholm alone, December shows an increase of 2.4 per cent. as against November, 1918, and of 247 per cent. as against July, 1914.

PORTUGAL.‡

The issue of the journal of the Portuguese Ministry of Labour for May to September, 1918, contains index numbers showing the rise in the retail prices of articles of prime necessity (food, lighting, fuel and washing materials) consumed by working-class families in Lisbon during the 5 months January to May, 1918, inclusive. The general level of prices in the capital in the year 1913 being taken as 100,

the level prevailing in each of the months indicated was as follows: January, 223; February, 233; March, 239; April, 254; May, 251.

In computing the general index numbers the relative importance of the various articles in working-class dietary before the war is allowed for, and it is assumed that no changes have since occurred in this respect.

ITALY.

(a) Principal Cities.

The general level of retail food prices in Italy in September, 1918, was 42.3 per cent. above that of the corresponding month of 1917, and 167.1 per cent. above that of July, 1914. (The data available do not permit the usual comparison with the preceding month to be made.) These percentages are computed from index numbers published in the issue of the *Bollettino dell' Ufficio del Lavoro* (the journal of the Italian Labour Department) for 16th March, 1919, and are based on returns from about forty towns in Italy.

The Table below shows the increase of price for each of the seven important articles of food, the prices of which are taken as the basis for the foregoing calculations:—

Article.	Increase in September, 1918, as compared with	
	September, 1917.	July, 1914.
	Per cent.	Per cent.
Wheat bread	12.8	64.9
Wheat flour	10.0	61.0
Macaroni, &c.	11.8	84.5
Beef	110.2	399.0
Bacon	43.7	239.5
Olive oil	20.8	133.2
Milk	60.6	142.3
ALL ABOVE ARTICLES (PERCENTAGE INCREASE)	42.3	167.1

(b) Rome.*

The general level of food prices in Rome showed a rise of 1.8 per cent. in January, 1919, as compared with the preceding month and of 159 per cent. as compared with the first half of 1914. If the prices of other household necessities (clothing, fuel, lighting, rent, &c.) be also taken into account, the general level of prices in January was 1.4 per cent. above that of December, and 141 per cent. above the pre-war level.

The basis of the foregoing computation is the cost of satisfying the requirements of a family of the working class consisting of two adults and three children, and it is assumed that the standard of consumption was identical throughout.

(c) Milan.†

According to statistics published in the monthly journal of the Milan municipality, the cost of maintaining the pre-war standard of living in that city for one week in the case of a family consisting of five persons, at the prices current in February, 1919, was about 253 per cent. greater than in the pre-war period (i.e. the first half of 1914). The cost of food alone showed an increase of 298 per cent., clothing of 274 per cent., and heating and lighting of 115 per cent., while rent remained unchanged.

If allowance be made for the reduced scale of consumption in consequence of the introduction of rationing, the general increase in actual expenditure as compared with the early part of 1914 is computed at the lower figure of 160 per cent., the expenditure on food alone showing an increase of 149 per cent.

CANADA.‡

The estimated weekly expenditure upon food alone by a family of five in February, 1919, as computed from returns of retail prices prevailing in sixty towns in the Dominion, shows a decrease of 2.7 per cent. as compared with the previous month, and an increase of 80.7 per cent. as compared with July, 1914. If the total expenditure on food, fuel, lighting and rent be taken, the January figures show a decrease of 1.8 per cent. as compared with the previous month, and an increase of 50.7 per cent. as compared with those of July, 1914. The difference in the extent of rise since July, 1914, between food on the one hand and the total family expenditure on the other, is due to the fact that while food, fuel and lighting have become considerably dearer, house rent in February, according to the Canadian statistics, was only 0.4 per cent. higher than in the period immediately before the war.

* Bulletin de la Statistique Générale de la France, January, 1919.

† Sociala Meddelanden, No. 1 of 1919. Department for Social Affairs, Stockholm.

‡ Boletim da Previdência Social, May-September, 1918. Lisbon, 1918.

* Bollettino Mensile dell' Ufficio Municipale del Lavoro di Roma. March, 1919.

† Bollettino Municipale Mensile della Città di Milano, February, 1919.

‡ The Labour Gazette, March, 1919. Issued by the Canadian Department of Labour, Ottawa.

SOUTH AFRICA.*

According to data furnished by the Office of Census and Statistics of the Union of South Africa, the estimated cost of maintaining the pre-war standard of consumption in the matter of food, fuel, lighting, clothing and rent for the typical family of five persons in Cape Town in February, 1919, was 0.6 per cent. higher than in January, and about 40 per cent. higher than during the period immediately before the war. At other principal centres the increase during the war in February amounted approximately to 26 per cent. at Kimberley, 30 per cent. at Pretoria, 31 per cent. at Johannesburg and Bloemfontein, 43 per cent. at Port Elizabeth, 39 per cent. at East London, 40 per cent. at Pietermaritzburg, and 41 per cent. at Durban. The average increase for the Union as a whole is 35 per cent.

NEW ZEALAND.†

The index number of retail prices of food in November, 1918, based on returns relating to twenty-five representative towns in New Zealand, shows an increase of 1.3 per cent. when compared with the corresponding figure for the previous month.

As compared with July, 1914, all three groups of articles were dearer, the combined index number for November being 43.5 per cent. above the pre-war level. In the computation of the general index numbers regard is had to the relative importance of the various groups of commodities in household consumption before the war, and it is assumed that in this respect no change has taken place.

Group of Articles.	Increase in November, 1918, as compared with	
	October, 1918.	July, 1914.
	Per cent.	Per cent.
Groceries	2.4	53.6
Dairy produce	0.8	32.7
Meat	0.3	38.3
ALL GROUPS COMBINED (WEIGHTED PERCENTAGE INCREASE)	1.3	43.5

UNITED STATES.‡

The general level of retail food prices in the United States on 15th October, 1918, showed a rise of 2 per cent. when compared with the preceding month. For computing the rise during the war period the average prices prevailing at the latest date are compared with those of the corresponding month of 1913. On this basis the food prices level on 15th October, 1918, was 75 per cent. above that of 15th October, 1913. In the computation of the general level the various articles of food are "weighted" according to their respective importance in household consumption, and it is assumed that no change has taken place in the standard of living throughout the period under review.

In the following Table the percentage price changes are exhibited for each of the articles of food covered by the official Returns:—

Article.	Increase(+) or Decrease(−) in Average Retail Price on 15th Oct., 1918, as compared with		Article.	Increase(+) or Decrease(−) in Average Retail Price on 15th Oct., 1918, as compared with	
	15th Sept., 1918.	15th Oct., 1913.		15th Sept., 1918.	15th Oct., 1913.
	Per cent.	Per cent.		Per cent.	Per cent.
Sirloin steak ...	− 2	+ 60	Bread	− 1	+ 75
Round steak ...	− 2	+ 67	Flour	− 2	+ 103
Rib roast ...	− 1	+ 62	Maize meal ...	− 1	+ 119
Chuck roast ...	− 2	\$	Rice	+ 2	\$
Plate beef ...	− 2	\$	Potatoes ...	− 10	+ 91
Pork chops ...	− 2	+ 102	Onions ...	− 10	\$
Bacon	+ 3	+ 108	Beans, navy ...	− 1	\$
Ham	No change	+ 88	Prunes ...	+ 5	\$
Lard	+ 2	+ 115	Raisins, seeded	+ 1	\$
Lamb	− 5	+ 91	Sugar	+ 10	+ 93
Hens	− 1	+ 81	Coffee	+ 1	\$
Salmon, tinned	+ 1	\$	Tea	− 1	\$
Eggs	+ 9	+ 54			
Butter	+ 10	+ 70			
Cheese	+ 7	\$			
Milk	+ 3	+ 64	General (weighted) per-centage.	+ 2	+ 75

As compared with the previous month, the greatest rises in price in October, 1918, are shown by butter (which increased by 10 per cent.), sugar (10 per cent.), eggs (9 per cent.), and cheese (7 per cent.). The greatest decrease in price was shown by potatoes and onions, both of which declined by 10 per cent.

As compared with October, 1913, every article for which prices have been secured for this period shows an increase of 54 per cent. or over. Increases of over 100 per cent. are shown in the prices of maize meal (119 per cent.), lard (115 per cent.), bacon (108 per cent.), flour (103 per cent.) and pork chops (102 per cent.).

* Statistics of Cost of Living, 1914 to February, 1919. Pretoria.

† Monthly Abstract of Statistics, December, 1918. Wellington, New Zealand.

‡ Monthly Labour Review, December, 1918. United States Bureau of Labour Statistics, Washington.

§ Not included in the official statistics at this date.

EMPLOYMENT IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

GERMANY.

Employment in February.—The *Deutscher Reichsanzeiger* of 31st March publishes the following statement prepared by the German Department of Labour Statistics concerning employment in February:—

"The reports which have been received by the National Statistical Department show that the economic condition during February was just as unfavourable as in the previous month, although the number of persons out of work, in consequence of a slight improvement in employment in various places, somewhat decreased during the later half of the month. While at the beginning of February the number of unemployed amounted to 999,369, and increased on the 19th February to 1,100,889, it decreased, during the first days of March, to 1,076,368. In Greater Berlin there was at the end of February an increase of unemployed persons over the number (260,917) at the beginning of the month, but the number on the 26th February (276,582) had decreased to 274,835 on the 28th of the month.

"The productivity of all establishments was further reduced by the deficiency of raw materials, the growing transport difficulties (lack of trucks, frequent closing of important sections of railways, and also irregularities in the goods traffic), the wholly insufficient supply of coal (the result of the disturbances in Silesia and the Ruhr district), the extraordinarily high wages combined with reduced hours, and the reduction in output resulting from the increased disinclination for work. Many of the factories were no longer in a position even to provide relief work for their staffs; and still more establishments were compelled to dismiss their workpeople and to close down. The effects of the cessation of traffic with Rhenish-Westphalia and the Saar region became more and more evident. The artificial separation of these regions which are so intimately connected will ultimately lead to economic injury of the gravest character. The possibilities of sales at home and abroad were considered to be not unfavourable on the whole; at home, however, they were prejudiced by the extremely acute difficulties in transport, just as the restoration of foreign connections was injured by the continuance of the economic blockade. The increase in the cost of manufacture, by reason of the reduction of working hours, conjoined with the simultaneous increase of wages and the high prices of raw materials, is so considerable that for this reason alone any possibility of being able to compete on the world-market is for the time being quite out of the question. The chief branches of industry are still in the same unfavourable condition as they were during the previous month, although a slight improvement is to be noted here and there. The situation in the metal industry, in especial, has become so critical that in consequence of the deficient supply of iron-ore—a deficiency which has become greater during the last few months—a complete collapse must be anticipated. In the paper, leather, wood, chocolate, and tobacco industries the situation was also particularly unfavourable."

Returns relating to unemployment were furnished by 29 Trade Unions, the membership covered being 2,616,732. Of these 157,558, or 6.0 per cent., were out of work at the end of February, as compared with 6.6 per cent. in the preceding month and with 0.8 per cent. in February, 1918.

Returns furnished by Sickness Insurance Societies show that members of these societies on 1st March, 1919, were greater in number by 158,408 (or 2.1 per cent.) than on 1st February. (Unemployed workpeople are excused from contributing to the Sickness Insurance Societies, and the membership figures of these societies therefore furnish a measure of employment.) Women members declined in numbers by 2.0 per cent., and male members increased by 5.0 per cent.

Returns relating to the operations of employment exchanges during February show that the applications for employment per 100 situations were, in the case of men, 205, as against 188 in the preceding month and 58 in February, 1918, and in the case of women, 203, as against 217 in the preceding month and 93 in February, 1918.

SWEDEN.

Employment during December.—The January issue of *Sociala Meddelanden* (the journal of the Swedish Department for Social Affairs) publishes the following statement with regard to employment in Sweden in December.

"The unfavourable conditions of employment which became apparent in November continued during December, while also in comparison with the corresponding month of the previous year employment was appreciably less. In most districts employment was reported to be unfavourable; in Norbotten county alone was the situation considered to be unusually good, having regard to the time of year, the supply of work being evenly distributed and constant.

"In agriculture there was small demand for labour, especially in the later half of the month. In certain parts of Småland, however, employment could be found for those seeking work, and in Gotland both the supply of work and the demand were greater than during the corresponding month of 1917. In lumbering, where during the previous winter season employment was plentiful, especially by reason of the requirements of the Fuel Commission, employment was scanty.

"In the manufacturing industry no noteworthy improvement in the supply of raw materials was reported, and as

a rule the supply of factory hands and labourers was in excess of the demand. With regard to the textile industry unemployment among women workers in Norrköping increased, while in Älvsborg county it somewhat diminished as the result of some of the factories being restarted. On the other hand, unemployment increased in the ready-made clothing and home industry in this county. The beet harvest having come to an end, a larger number of workpeople in the sugar factories of Skåne were thrown out of work. In the baking trade employment was also poor.

"The building trade was depressed, with labour in excess of the demand; the decrease of employment was especially emphasised among bricklayers and painters. In Malmö the situation was reported as relatively good, but towards the end of the month it became worse.

"In the transport trades many districts reported an excess in the supply of seamen, firemen and dock labourers. In Gothenburg employment was stated to be good, but a number of seamen and firemen were without employment; on the other hand, the necessary supply of dock labour could not be obtained on several occasions."

NORWAY.*

Employment in January.—The following Table shows the percentage of members reported unemployed at the end of January in certain Trade Unions making Returns to the Statistical Office of the Norwegian Department of Labour, comparative figures being added for the previous month and for January, 1918:—

Group of Trades.	Membership.			Percentage Unemployed.		
	Jan. 31st, 1919.	Dec. 31st, 1918.	Jan. 31st, 1918.	Jan. 31st, 1919.	Dec. 31st, 1918.	Jan. 31st, 1918.
Bricklayers and masons (Christiania)	829	828	781	10.9	37.4	11.7
Carpenters, &c. ...	1,508	1,502	1,464	3.4	1.7	2.0
Painters (Christiania) ...	450	526	460	6.9	5.1	12.9
Metal workers ...	9,212	9,106	9,990	4.8	3.4	1.6
Boot and shoe makers ...	1,067	1,084	981	0.5	0.4	0.7
Bookbinders (Christiania) ...	879	871	790	1.0	1.8	2.3
Cabinetmakers ...	680	670	650	4.3	0.9	...
Bakers (Christiania) ...	450	420	465	4.2	6.9	22.8
Printers ...	2,333	2,366	2,249	0.6	0.9	0.8
TOTAL ...	17,408	17,373	17,830	4.0	4.3	2.7

CANADA.†

Employment in December.—Returns relating to unemployment at the end of December were received by the Canadian Department of Labour from 1,485 labour organisations, having a total membership of 178,671, or nearly 88 per cent. of the entire trade union membership of the country. For all occupations represented 2.8 per cent. of the members were out of work at the close of December, as compared with 0.7 per cent. in September, 1918 (the returns are quarterly), and 2.4 per cent. in December, 1917. Members unemployed on account of trade disputes or disability are not included in these figures. That the percentage unemployed at the end of December is larger than in the previous quarter and also than in the same period of 1917 is due to a general slackness in practically all the groups of industries.

The following Table gives the percentages unemployed in the principal groups of trades for each of the periods:—

Group of Trades.	Membership reporting in Dec., 1918.	Percentage unemployed at end of month.		
		Dec., 1918.	Sept., 1918.	Dec., 1917.
All Trades reporting ...	178,671	2.8	0.7	2.4
Building and construction ...	22,871	8.68	1.31	9.58
Mining, quarrying and refining of ores ...	14,699	1.24	0.35	2.09
Metals, machinery and conveyances ...	24,653	3.53	1.24	0.76
Clothing and laundering ...	4,818	3.42	0.00	11.21
Steam railways ...	51,917	0.35	0.16	0.76
Street and electric railway employees ...	5,437	0.06	0.00	0.17
Navigation ...	9,629	7.80	1.76	0.64
Teamsters and chauffeurs ...	4,754	2.57	0.27	0.00
Pulp, paper and fibre ...	3,693	0.43	1.75	0.34
Printing, publishing and paper goods ...	7,797	0.26	0.83	0.67
Food, tobacco and liquors ...	2,539	8.63	1.47	3.29

UNITED STATES.‡

Employment in October, 1918.—The following tabular statements showing the volume of employment in representative manufacturing establishments in thirteen selected industries in the United States in October, 1918, as compared with (a) the preceding month, and (b) October, 1917, are compiled from reports received by the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics:—

* Information supplied by the Statistical Office of the Norwegian Department of Labour.

† *The Labour Gazette*, February, 1919. The Canadian Department of Labour, Ottawa.

‡ *Monthly Labour Review*, December, 1918. United States Bureau of Labour Statistics, Washington.

(a) OCTOBER, 1918, AS COMPARED WITH SEPTEMBER, 1918.

Industry.	Number of Establishments Reporting.	Number of Workpeople			Earnings.*		
		Sept., 1918.	Oct., 1918.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—). Per cent.	Sept., 1918. £	Oct., 1918. £	Increase (+) or Decrease (—). Per cent.
Iron and steel ...	96	177,341	177,843	+ 0.3	2,399,240	2,720,653	+ 13.4
Railway and tramway car building and repairing	35	37,407	39,372	+ 5.3	438,062	490,546	+ 12.0
Automobiles ...	48	122,611	124,373	+ 1.4	684,413	721,094	+ 5.4
Cotton manufacturing	57	52,197	47,701	- 8.6	183,040	154,459	- 15.6
Cotton finishing	17	13,887	13,253	- 4.6	56,725	52,324	- 7.8
Hosiery & underwear	56	28,106	25,362	- 9.8	89,333	79,269	- 11.3
Woollen ...	50	48,416	44,580	- 7.9	199,151	169,471	- 14.9
Silk ...	38	11,561	11,589	+ 0.2	76,569	76,997	+ 0.6
Men's ready-made clothing	37	19,363	17,717	- 8.5	78,077	74,064	- 5.1
Boots and shoes	69	47,910	44,818	- 6.5	188,952	176,658	- 6.5
Cigar manufacturing	56	18,750	17,474	- 6.8	58,384	53,974	- 7.6
Leather manufg.	35	15,273	14,640	- 4.1	67,155	63,481	- 5.5
Paper making ...	50	24,201	22,692	- 6.6	106,851	102,035	- 4.5

The figures of the above Table show that in four industries there was an increase in the number of persons employed in October as compared with September, and in nine cases a decrease. An increase of 5.3 per cent. is shown in railway and tramway car building and repairing. The largest decreases were in hosiery and underwear (9.8 per cent.), cotton manufacturing (8.6 per cent.), and men's ready-made clothing (8.5 per cent.). The decreases are largely due to the epidemic of influenza during this period.

Increases in the total amount of the pay-roll are shown by the same four industries, and decreases by the same nine industries. The greatest increase is 13.4 per cent. in the iron and steel industry. Decreases of 15.6 per cent. and 14.9 per cent. are shown in cotton manufacturing and woollen, respectively.

(b) OCTOBER, 1918, AS COMPARED WITH OCTOBER, 1917.

Industry.	Number of Establishments Reporting.	Number of Workpeople			Earnings.†		
		Oct., 1917.	Oct., 1918.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—). Per cent.	Oct., 1917. £	Oct., 1918. £	Increase (+) or Decrease (—). Per cent.
Iron and steel ...	100	183,787	180,000	- 2.1	2,055,843	2,749,815	+ 33.8
Railway and tramway car building and repairing	33	33,575	39,078	+ 1.3	307,220	485,767	+ 58.1
Automobiles ...	52	136,589	135,313	- 0.9	675,231	786,820	+ 16.5
Cotton manufacturing	57	54,912	48,101	- 12.4	133,344	155,243	+ 16.4
Cotton finishing	17	14,201	13,253	- 6.7	44,685	52,324	+ 17.1
Hosiery & underwear	60	31,857	29,198	- 8.3	77,171	88,831	+ 15.1
Woollen ...	51	50,202	44,716	- 10.9	163,131	169,918	+ 4.2
Silk ...	37	12,586	11,289	- 10.3	62,981	75,190	+ 19.4
Men's ready-made clothing	35	19,946	17,414	- 12.7	66,401	72,833	+ 9.7
Boots and shoes	70	47,946	46,002	- 4.1	144,568	181,346	+ 25.4
Cigar manufg. ...	60	20,889	18,203	- 12.9	56,291	56,949	+ 1.2
Leather manufg.	34	16,455	16,686	+ 1.3	58,863	73,913	+ 25.6
Paper making ...	50	23,332	22,247	- 4.7	78,908	100,308	+ 27.1

When the figures for October, 1918, are compared with those of identical establishments for October, 1917, increases of 1.3 per cent. are shown in the number of people employed in two industries—railway and tramway car building and repairing, and leather manufacturing—and decreases in eleven. The largest percentage decreases are shown in cigar manufacturing (12.9 per cent.), men's ready-made clothing (12.7 per cent.) and cotton manufacturing (12.4 per cent.). The reports from all the industries show an increase in the total amount of the pay-roll. Railway and tramway car building and repairing and iron and steel show the greatest increases—viz., 58.1 and 33.8 per cent. respectively.

New York State.†

Employment in New York State Factories in January, 1919.—"January was a month in which the industries of New York State underwent considerable readjustment. The cancellations of Government contracts were numerous and were especially potent in the metal industries. Labour troubles as well as the cancellation of Government contracts were of considerable weight in the clothing group, while various lines of manufacture were affected by a lack of orders which were withheld primarily because of the belief that the present high cost of material and labour would soon give way to conditions that would be more favourable to the buyer. Despite these various factors tending to reduce employment, the decline in the number of workers for the State as a whole was only about 5 per cent. from the middle of December to the middle of January.

The above conclusions are preliminary and are based upon data from 1,375 firms (with 447,000 employees), out of a possible 1,648 (with 600,000 employees).

* The figures represent the aggregate wages bill for two weeks in the case of the iron and steel, railway and tramway car building and repairing and silk industries, and for one week in other cases.

† *The Bulletin*, February, 1919. Issued by the New York State Industrial Commission, Albany, N.Y.

STATISTICS OF EMPLOYMENT IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

OUT OF WORK DONATION.

THE total number of unemployed persons whose out of work donation policies remained lodged at Employment Exchanges on 28th March and had been signed within the preceding six days was 1,060,245. Of these 753,982 were for civilians and 306,263 were for demobilised members of H.M. Forces. Of the civilians more than two-thirds were women and girls.

The following Table shows the number of policies remaining lodged at the end of each week in 1919:—

Week ending	Civilians.					Demobilised Mem- bers of H.M. Forces			Grand Total.
	Men.	Boys.	Wo- men.	Girls.	Total.	Men.	Wo- men.	Total.	
Jan. 3rd ...	101,390	16,988	224,955	13,374	356,707	23,938	50	23,988	380,695
" 10th ...	119,315	16,462	265,479	16,365	411,621	31,543	88	31,631	449,252
" 17th ...	139,113	18,131	303,813	18,018	479,075	40,400	131	40,531	519,606
" 24th ...	156,671	20,543	343,742	22,259	543,215	47,209	170	47,379	590,594
" 31st ...	177,361	22,562	399,864	25,362	625,149	53,316	238	53,554	678,703
Feb. 7th ...	191,371	24,538	427,734	26,790	670,433	63,277	330	63,607	734,040
" 14th ...	212,205	26,752	452,810	28,183	719,950	84,298	394	84,692	804,642
" 21st ...	218,278	28,195	470,294	31,544	748,311	132,471	841	133,312	881,623
" 28th ...	227,836	28,019	494,471	32,037	782,363	165,429	828	166,257	948,620
Mar. 7th ...	234,402	27,356	491,335	34,398	790,521	200,686	1,025	201,711	992,232
" 14th ...	208,510	26,32	485,784	31,070	751,721	235,737	1,161	237,898	988,619
" 21st ...	207,973	27,561	474,452	28,082	738,074	264,257	995	265,252	1,003,326
" 28th ...	209,486	28,461	483,655	29,880	753,982	305,251	1,012	306,263	1,060,245

As regards civilians, it will be observed that the number of policies lodged by men showed a notable decrease between 7th and 14th March, and remained almost stationary thereafter, while the number of policies lodged by women declined substantially between 7th and 21st March, though it rose subsequently. The decreases are attributable to (a) alteration of the civilian donation scheme in Ireland; (b) the elimination of many civilian policies which had run for the first 78-day period and delay in the decision of applications for extension of such policies; and (c) suspensions pending ration book inspection. The rise at the end of March in the number of women's policies lodged is largely due to conditions in the cotton and jute trades.

An analysis of 1,050,449 of the 1,060,245 policies lodged at 28th March yields the following indication of the periods for which payments had been made:—

Duration of Payments.	Civilians.					Demobilised Members of H.M. Forces.			Grand Total.
	Men.	Boys.	Women	Girls	Total.	Men.	Wo- men.	Total.	
79-120 days ...	8,083	424	14,636	523	23,666	30,785	91	30,876	193,722
61-78 " ...	27,917	2,730	104,643	3,890	139,180	227,291	823	228,114	739,077
40-60 " ...	25,608	2,693	70,273	3,022	101,596	47,175	98	47,273	117,650
1-48 " ...	124,617	16,633	250,351	17,766	409,367	305,251	1,012	306,263	1,050,449
Policies lodged but no payment	21,990	3,693	41,193	3,501	70,377				
Total ...	203,215	26,173	481,096	28,702	744,186				

The number of policies on which reduced donation was being paid after the expiry of the first period of 13 weeks was thus 23,666. Nearly two-thirds of the extended policies are held by women, a large proportion which is attributable to the fact that discharge of women from munition works took place more rapidly after the armistice than discharge of men.

The Percentage of persons recorded as unemployed who have been reabsorbed in employment is indicated in the following Table:—

Date.	Civilians (Great Britain only).					Demobilised Members of H.M. Forces (Great Britain and Ireland).		
	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.
January 3rd ...	41.0	27.2	30.7	42.4	34.0	25.5	96.4	28.4
" 10th ...	43.0	43.2	31.4	42.8	36.0	32.0	94.1	33.8
" 17th ...	45.5	48.8	29.9	47.6	36.1	50.7	91.8	51.2
" 24th ...	44.5	49.8	27.8	42.6	34.2	66.0	90.7	68.3
" 31st ...	44.9	51.5	25.1	45.2	33.5	66.0	88.1	66.0
February 7th ...	46.8	53.0	26.9	47.2	35.4	74.0	83.0	74.1
" 14th ...	46.2	53.5	24.2	48.7	33.0	78.5	83.9	78.5
" 21st ...	49.1	54.7	30.0	46.2	38.2	77.5	68.1	77.5
" 28th ...	49.6	57.9	30.3	49.6	39.0	79.4	70.6	79.5
March 7th ...	50.2	62.1	32.9	45.7	40.8	80.5	65.9	80.5
" 14th ...	54.0	64.6	35.8	52.7	44.2	80.6	64.5	80.6
" 21st ...	55.8	64.6	40.1	59.4	47.6	81.1	71.0	81.0
" 28th ...	57.7	68.3	44.3	60.5	49.2	...	...	...

There are noteworthy improvements in the reabsorption percentages for civilians in March, while the percentage for demobilised men remains steady at about 80 per cent.

The distribution of unemployment in the various industries is shown in the following Tables. The classification of workpeople, which formerly was solely according to the industry in which they were last employed is, in the case of recent applicants, according to the industry in which they seek employment or for which they are suitable. It is important to bear this in mind, because many workpeople who have recently been employed in war industries will necessarily obtain their next employment in a different industry.

Industry.	Unemployed.		Industry.	Number Unem- ployed.
	Number.	Per cent. of Total Work- people.		
I. INSURED INDUSTRIES:			II. UNINSURED INDUSTRIES:	
Buildings and Works of Construction	63,875	10.76	Agriculture	9,547
Shipbuilding	16,699	6.27	Conveyance of Men, Goods and Messages	95,485
Engineering and Ironfounding	180,399	12.77	Mines and Quarries	17,344
Construction of Vehicles	13,852	8.26	Cotton	91,543
Sawmilling, Packing-Case Making, &c.	8,155	9.10	Woollen and Worsted	7,631
Ammunition and Explosives	19,251	7.58	Other Textiles, including Printing, Dyeing, &c.	51,740
Chemicals, &c.	6,114	5.83	Commercial	47,791
Iron and Steel Production	7,875	4.81	Food, Drink and Tobacco	23,179
Metal Manufactures	22,896	7.06	Dress	36,280
Bricks, Tiles, &c.	1,640	5.21	Domestic Offices and Services	86,715
Other Insured Industries	7,878	5.13	General Labourers, Factory Workers, &c.	153,809
Total ...	348,634	9.77	Other Uninsured Industries	88,574
			Total ...	88,547

Total—Insured and Uninsured Industries, 1,060,245.

A further analysis of these figures and comparison with earlier dates is given below. The first of the following Tables relates to unemployment among males in the insured industries, and shows that the number of males out of work at the end of March was somewhat greater than a month earlier—viz., 8.80 per cent. instead of 8.05 per cent., these percentages resulting from an increase of 19,613 in the number of insured males employed. As explained above, however, the comparison is affected by changes in classification.

Unemployment in Insured Industries: Males.

Trade.	Number Insured.*	Number Unem- ployed.	Per- centage Unem- ployed at 28th March, 1919.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) as compared with a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Building	486,949	54,545	11.20	+ 0.30	+10.67
Construction of Works	98,733	7,586	7.68	+ 0.23	+ 7.31
Shipbuilding	257,378	15,865	6.16	+ 0.28	+ 5.95
Engineering & Ironfounding	993,169	113,723	11.45	+ 1.28	+11.07
Construction of Vehicles	150,083	8,856	5.90	+ 0.18	+ 5.55
Sawmilling	10,040	2,712	27.01	+ 8.33	+26.56
Other Insured Workpeople	39,633	161	0.41	- 0.43	+ 0.33
Total Insured under Act of 1911	2,035,985	203,453	9.99	+ 0.79	+ 9.61
Iron and Steel Manufacture	150,845	7,023	4.65	+ 1.61	+ 4.57
Tinplate Manufacture	11,123	216	2.03	+ 0.54	+ 1.99
Wire Manufacture	15,478	642	4.15	+ 0.76	+ 4.02
Anchor, Chains, Nails, Bolts, Nuts, Rivets, &c.	10,820	551	5.09	+ 1.55	+ 4.95
Brass	17,865	855	4.79	+ 0.05	+ 4.34
Copper, Tin, Lead, Zinc, &c.	19,173	782	4.08	+ 0.74	+ 3.89
Hardware and Hollow-ware	52,339	1,536	2.93	+ 0.40	+ 2.59
Tools, Files, Saws, Implements, Cutlery	13,852	355	2.56	+ 0.46	+ 2.47
Clocks, Plate, Jewellery	5,443	485	8.91	+ 3.44	+ 8.77
Needles, Pins, Typefound- ing, Dies, &c.	3,453	346	10.02	+ 0.35	+ 9.76
Electrical, Scientific, &c., Appliances and Apparatus	27,131	1,452	5.35	+ 1.09	+ 4.98
Miscellaneous Metal	1,904	440	23.11	+ 5.25	+22.52
Ammunition and Explosives	56,785	4,147	7.30	- 1.28	+ 5.50
Chemicals	70,844	2,691	3.80	+ 0.59	+ 3.92
Leather and Leather Goods	27,712	1,365	4.93	+ 1.15	+ 4.48
Brick, Tile, and Artificial Building Materials	21,646	815	3.77	- 1.88	+ 3.54
Sawmilling, Machined Wood- work and Wooden Cases	48,555	1,637	3.37	- 0.17	+ 2.55
Rubber and Manufactures thereof	19,554	903	4.62	+ 0.83	+ 4.15
Total Insured under Act of 1916	574,522	26,251	4.57	+ 0.61	+ 4.11
GRAND TOTAL	2,610,507	229,704	8.80	+ 0.75	+ 4.40

* Exclusive of those serving with H.M. Forces.

† Excluding workpeople insured under the National Insurance Act, 1911.

Unemployment in Insured Industries: Females.

The next Table relates to the number of policies lodged by females in insured trades and records a heavy fall in the percentage—viz., from 18.0 at the end of February to 12.5 per cent. at the end of March, these percentages resulting from a reduction in the number of policies lodged by insured females from 171,194 to 118,930. This large fall is partly due to the change in classification, previously referred to, and partly to women having removed themselves from the category "unemployed" on the expiry of the first thirteen weeks of donation benefit, after which period the qualifying conditions are stricter and the amount of the donation is lower.

Trade.	Number of Women and Girls Insured.	Number of Women and Girls unemployed.	Percentage Unemployed at 28th March, 1919.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) as compared with a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Building	6,152	1,577	25.63	—20.82	+22.73
Construction of Works ...	1,825	167	9.15	—7.67	+6.35
Shipbuilding	8,810	834	9.47	—2.13	+7.13
Engineering & Ironfounding	419,524	66,671	15.89	—7.81	+13.49
Construction of Vehicles ...	17,577	4,996	28.42	+10.65	+26.81
Sawmilling	812	480	59.11	—12.69	+56.79
Other Insured Workpeople	171	6	3.51	—11.69	+3.51
Total Insured under Act of 1911	454,871	74,731	16.43	—7.16	+14.05
Iron and Steel Manufacture	12,805	825	6.85	—4.52	+2.19
Tinplate Manufacture ...	3,559	121	3.41	+0.34	+3.00
Wire Manufacture	9,431	832	8.81	—3.13	+6.14
Anchors, Chains, Nails, Bolts, Nuts, Rivets, &c.	12,690	2,362	18.61	+8.52	+17.62
Brass	8,413	370	4.40	—1.29	+3.06
Copper, Tin, Lead, Zinc, &c.	10,561	1,812	17.16	—1.96	+16.23
Hardware and Hollow-ware	49,749	5,011	10.08	+0.41	+8.30
Tools, Files, Saws, Implements, Cutlery	6,432	811	12.61	+1.38	+11.71
Clocks, Plate, Jewellery ...	6,175	340	5.51	+0.42	+5.37
Needles, Pins, Typefoundry, Dies, &c.	6,661	271	4.07	—0.55	+3.79
Electrical, Scientific, &c., Appliances and Apparatus	26,866	2,199	8.19	—3.03	+6.97
Miscellaneous Metal	5,185	1,064	20.52	+2.63	+19.78
Ammunition and Explosives	197,128	15,104	7.66	—8.79	+4.49
Chemicals	34,071	3,423	10.05	—1.81	+7.60
Leather and Leather Goods	31,313	2,901	9.26	+0.61	+8.05
Brick, Tile, and Artificial Building Materials	9,804	825	8.41	—0.83	+7.62
Sawmilling, Machined Wood-work and Wooden Cases *	30,176	3,326	11.02	—3.71	+6.17
Rubber and Manufactures thereof	35,319	2,542	7.20	—0.74	+5.84
Total Insured under Act of 1916	496,832	44,199	8.91	—3.97	+6.47
GRAND TOTAL ...	951,203	118,930	12.50	—5.50	+10.09

In considering these figures, the changes in classification, referred to on page 133, should be borne in mind; and it may be observed that the decrease recorded above in the insured industries is more than counterbalanced by the increase in unemployment in the uninsured industries. It is not possible to give a percentage comparison, but the total number of unemployed persons, male and female, in the uninsured industries at the end of February and at the end of March is summarised in the following Table:—

Unemployment in Uninsured Industries.

Industry.	Number of Policies remaining lodged.					
	Males.		Females.		TOTAL.	
	28th Feb., 1919.	28th Mar., 1919.	28th Feb., 1919.	28th Mar., 1919.	28th Feb., 1919.	28th Mar., 1919.
	1919.	1919.	1919.	1919.	1919.	1919.
Agriculture	7,643	7,554	4,232	1,993	11,875	9,547
Conveyance of Men, Goods and Messages	49,435	79,220	17,434	16,265	66,869	95,485
Mines and Quarries	13,196	16,672	666	672	13,862	17,344
Cotton	12,842	22,703	50,575	68,840	63,417	91,543
Woollen and Worsted	1,438	2,854	4,187	4,777	5,625	7,631
Other Textiles, incl. Printing, Dyeing, &c.	11,443	16,649	21,157	38,091	32,600	54,740
Commercial	14,455	24,795	18,886	22,996	33,341	47,791
Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	2,632	5,558	14,984	17,621	17,616	23,179
Dress	4,726	7,046	29,172	29,234	33,898	36,280
Domestic Offices and Services	8,839	15,166	65,826	70,549	74,665	85,715
General Labourers, Factory Workers, etc.	52,906	74,447	73,760	79,362	126,666	153,809
Other uninsured Industries	31,638	38,830	55,263	49,717	86,901	88,547
TOTAL UNINSURED INDUSTRIES	211,193	311,494	356,142	400,117	567,335	711,611

The increase in the number of policies lodged by males is mainly in respect of demobilised men; in the case of females it is chiefly due to unemployment in the textile trades.

UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG TRADE UNION MEMBERS.

Trade Unions with a membership of 1,206,899 (excluding those serving with H.M. Forces) reported 34,864 or 2.9 per cent. of their members as unemployed at the end of March,

* Excluding workpeople insured under the National Insurance Act, 1911.

as compared with 2.8 per cent. at the end of February and 1.2 per cent. at the end of March, 1918. Particulars for the various trades covered by the Returns are given in the following Table:—

Trade.	Membership at end of Mar., 1919, exclusive of those serving with H.M. Forces	Unemployed at end of Mar., 1919.*		Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) in percentage Unemployed as compared with a	
		Num. ber.	Per-centage.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Building†	20,139	2,216	2.5	...	+2.3
Coal Mining	148,108	240	0.2	+0.1	+0.2
Engineering and Shipbuilding	429,674	13,103	3.0	—0.4	+2.9
Miscellaneous Metal	63,337	1,531	2.4	—0.6	+2.3
Textiles ‡:—					
Cotton	84,414	4,980	5.9	+0.1	—6.9
Woollen and Worsted ...	9,561	197	2.1	+0.5	—0.3
Other	79,638	5,033	6.4	+1.5	+6.0
Printing, Bookbinding and Paper	62,903	1,942	3.1	+1.2	+2.8
Furnishing	22,891	318	1.4	—1.0	+1.0
Woodworking	43,961	1,149	2.6	—0.5	+2.2
Clothing:—					
Boot and Shoe	59,042	382	0.6	...	+0.5
Other Clothing	66,702	2,420	3.6	—0.1	+3.6
Leather	9,261	191	2.1	+0.2	—0.3
Glass	953	1	0.0	+0.0	—0.3
Pottery	32,460	1,106	3.4	+3.2	+3.4
Tobacco	3,825	5	0.1	...	...
Total	1,206,899	34,864	2.9	+0.1	+1.7

RETURNS RECEIVED FROM EMPLOYERS.

Information as to the state of employment in March is also derived from Returns furnished by employers, which are summarised in the Tables given below.

MINING AND METAL TRADES.

Trade.	Workpeople included in the Returns for Mar., 1919.	March, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) as compared with a	
			Month ago.	Year ago.
		Days worked per week by Mines.	Days.	Days.
Coal Mining	591,879	5.64	—0.09	...
Iron "	17,425	5.82	—0.06	—0.11
Shale "	5,154	6.05	+0.13	+0.05
		Furnaces in Blast.	No.	No.
Pig Iron	31,000	267	—9	—28
		Mills Working		
Tinplate and Steel Sheet ...	23,500	413	+22	+98
		Shifts Worked (one week).	Per cent.	Per cent.
Iron and Steel	111,053	620,542	+2.8	—4.7

TEXTILE AND OTHER TRADES.

Trade.	Number employed.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 22nd Mar., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a		Week ended 22nd Mar., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Textiles:—						
Cotton	100,049	+ 0·2	— 3·9	210,639	— 0·3	+ 41·4
Woollen	17,531	+ 1·1	— 0·4	36,105	+ 7·4	+ 30·3
Worsted	29,332	+ 2·4	+ 1·2	53,612	+ 7·1	+ 35·8
Linen	28,999	— 3·5	— 8·7	36,502	— 13·6	+ 1·8
Jute	10,058	— 3·9	— 4·4	16,946	— 0·2	+ 21·4
Hosiery	18,442	+ 1·7	— 0·1	27,568	+ 1·2	+ 13·9
Lace	7,031	— 0·3	— 8·9	11,095	— 0·8	— 1·7
Other Textiles	12,709	+ 0·6	+ 0·1	19,384	+ 2·0	+ 25·4
Bleaching, &c.	22,460	+ 2·0	— 4·1	60,302	+ 6·3	+ 19·2
Total Textiles	246,614	+ 0·2	— 3·4	472,154	+ 0·8	+ 28·5
Boot and Shoe	51,538	+ 2·4	+ 2·6	103,514	+ 5·1	+ 19·8
Shirt and Collar	14,049	+ 1·1	+ 0·0	18,073	+ 1·8	+ 17·3
Ready-made Tailoring	26,543	— 1·2	— 5·0	41,783	+ 2·8	+ 6·1
Paper Printing and Bookbinding	25,945	+ 2·5	+ 6·5	57,772	+ 3·6	+ 35·5
Pottery	14,622	+ 0·2	— 1·2	25,232	+ 0·3	+ 12·2
Glass	7,831	+ 3·1	+ 0·3	20,024	+ 6·8	+ 19·5
Brick	4,710	+ 7·0	+ 7·3	11,037	+ 8·2	+ 24·7
Cement	5,869	+ 7·4	+ 23·6	16,341	+ 8·7	+ 41·2
Food Preparation	52,936	+ 6·0	+ 12·6	102,111	+ 8·8	+ 39·9
Grand Total	450,657	+ 1·4	+ 0·0	868,041	+ 2·9	+ 26·9

* In the case of certain Trade Unions, especially some of those in the cotton trade, this number excludes members receiving Government out-of-work donation.

† This percentage is based mainly on Returns relating to carpenters and plumbers and in part the returns relate to the end of February.

‡ In some of the textile trades, especially cotton, linen, and jute, there was also a considerable amount of short time and broken time, which is not reflected in the figures.

§ Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

[NOTE.—The numbers given in the following Tables represent the numbers of workpeople covered by the Returns received and not the total numbers employed in the various industries.]

COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT continued good during March. There was an increase of 11,926 (or 2·1 per cent.) in the number of workpeople employed at the collieries making Returns as compared with the previous month, and of 52,686 (or 9·8 per cent.) on a year ago.

Of the 591,879 workpeople included in the Returns for March, 309,864 (or 52·4 per cent.) were employed at pits working twelve days* during the fortnight to which the Returns relate, and a further 211,990 (or 35·8 per cent.) were employed at pits working eleven days or more, but less than twelve days. The average number of days worked per week in the United Kingdom as a whole was 5·64, as compared with 5·73 in February; the reduction is, however, attributable to the time lost by disputes in Nottinghamshire (where large numbers of miners were on strike in the latter part of the month), apart from which there was practically no change compared with a month earlier.

Districts.	Work-people employed in Mar., 1919, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the Collieries in Fortnight ended			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Mar., 1919, on a	
		22nd Mar., 1919.	22nd Feb. 1919.	23rd Mar., 1918.	Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
Northumberland ...	40,506	5·50	5·48	5·38	- 0·02	+ 0·12
Durham ...	105,980	5·59	5·58	5·24	+ 0·01	+ 0·35
Cumberland ...	5,839	5·78	5·73	5·61	+ 0·05	+ 0·17
South Yorkshire ...	64,524	5·90	5·86	5·89	+ 0·01	+ 0·01
West Yorkshire ...	24,618	5·92	5·92	5·86	...	+ 0·06
Lancashire and Cheshire ...	55,649	5·97	5·94	5·96	+ 0·03	+ 0·04
Derbyshire... ..	34,518	5·73	5·85	5·85	- 0·12	- 0·12
Nottingham and Leicester ...	37,592	3·96†	5·49	5·71	- 1·53	- 1·76
Staffordshire ...	29,509	5·82	5·85	5·92	- 0·03	- 0·10
Warwick, Worcester, and Salop ...	9,200	5·78	5·88	5·88	- 0·10	- 0·10
Gloucester and Somerset ...	6,142	5·97	5·91	5·97	+ 0·07	...
North Wales ...	4,982	5·90	5·93	5·96	- 0·03	- 0·06
South Wales and Mon. ...	117,340	5·92	5·85	5·62	+ 0·07	+ 0·30
ENGLAND AND WALES...	536,409	5·67†	5·76	5·66	- 0·09	+ 0·01
SCOTLAND.						
West Scotland ...	21,976	5·18	5·25	5·42	- 0·07	- 0·24
The Lothians ...	2,411	5·42	5·19	5·12	+ 0·23	+ 0·31
Fife ...	30,574	5·56	5·59	5·16	- 0·03	+ 0·10
SCOTLAND ...	54,991	5·40	5·42	5·43	- 0·02	- 0·03
IRELAND ...	479	4·94	5·34	5·40	- 0·40	- 0·46
UNITED KINGDOM ...	591,879	5·64†	5·73	5·64	- 0·09	...

The following Table gives similar particulars, re-classified according to the principal kind of coal raised at the pits:—

Description of Coal.	No. of Work- people employed in Mar., 1919, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the Collieries in Fortnight ended			Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) in Mar., 1919 on a	
		22nd Mar., 1919.	22nd Feb., 1919.	23rd Mar., 1918.	Month ago.	Year ago.
		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Anthracite	8 387	5·69	5·91	5·05	— 0·22	+ 0·64
Coking	31,984	5·77	5·75	5·74	+ 0·02	+ 0·03
Gas ...	41,832	5·57	5·58	4·98	— 0·01	+ 0·59
House	55,871	5·59	5·76	5·68	— 0·17	— 0·09
Steam	185,983	5·77	5·74	5·73	+ 0·03	+ 0·04
Mixed	267,724	5·56	5·73	5·67	— 0·17	— 0·11
ALL DESCRIPTIONS ...	591,879	5·64†	5·73	5·64	— 0·09	...

The exports of coal, coke, and manufactured fuel during March, 1919, amounted to 4,131,037 tons, or 1,185,011 tons more than in February, 1919, but 2,339,682 tons less than in March, 1914.

The principal countries of destination of coal (similar particulars cannot be given for coke and manufactured fuel) were as follows:—

* The figures in this and the following article only show the number of days (allowance being made in all the calculations for short days) on which coal, iron ore or shale was got and drawn from the mines or open works included in the Returns. It is not necessarily implied that all the persons employed worked every day that the mines or works were open.

† Time was lost on account of disputes.

	March, 1919 (Thousands of Tons)	February, 1919 (Thousands of Tons)	March, 1914 (Thousands of Tons)
Russia ...	24	14	175
Sweden, Norway, Denmark ...	350	307	744
Germany ...	...	...	737
Netherlands and Belgium ...	84	35	291
France ...	1,619	1,399	1,235
Spain and Canaries ...	16	65	320
Italy ...	565	463	737
Austria-Hungary, Greece, Roumania, Turkey ...	9	2	230
Egypt ...	255	105	303
Brazil ...	23	10	113
Argentina ...	31	38	331
Other Countries ...	775	301	694
Total ...	3,331	2,709	5,910

IRON, SHALE, AND OTHER MINING, AND QUARRYING.

EMPLOYMENT at iron, shale and lead mines continued good; at tin mines it was again moderate; at quarries it was fairly good on the whole, but was much interrupted by unfavourable weather.

MINING.

Iron.—Returns received, relating to the same mines and open works, show that 17,425 workpeople were employed in March, 1919, an increase of 0·2 per cent. on the previous month, but a decrease of 5·7 per cent. on a year ago.

District.	Work-people employed in Mar., 1919, at Mines included in the Returns.	Average number of days* worked per week by Mines in Fortnight ended			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Mar., 1919, on a	
		22nd Mar., 1919.	22nd Feb., 1919.	23rd Mar., 1918.	Month ago.	Year ago.
		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Cleveland	6,932	5·92	6·00	5·97	- 0·08	- 0·05
Cumberland and Lancashire	6,380	5·97	5·96	5·90	+ 0·01	+ 0·07
Scotland	725	5·47	5·39	5·51	+ 0·08	- 0·04
Other Districts	3,388	5·88	5·68	5·66	+ 0·30	- 0·08
TOTAL	17,425	5·82	5·83	5·83	- 0·06	- 0·11

Shale.—The Returns received show that in the fortnight ended 22nd March, 1919, the average number of days per week worked by the mines was 6·05, compared with 5·92 in February, 1919, and 6·00 in March, 1918.

Tin.—Employment continued moderate on the whole.

Lead.—Employment was good in the Weardale district and in Flintshire.

QUARRYING.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

	Work-people employed in Mar., 1919, in the Quarries included in the Returns.	Average number of days worked per week by the Quarries in fortnight ended			Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) in Mar., 1919, on a	
		22nd Mar., 1919.	22nd Feb., 1919.	23rd Mar., 1918.	Month ago.	Year ago.
		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Limestone	4,809	4·60	5·44	5·89	— 0·84	— 1·29
Sandstone	914	4·48	4·78	5·75	— 0·30	— 1·27
Granite	2,060	5·13	5·36	5·67	— 0·23	— 0·54
Slate	1,542	5·92	5·97	5·94	— 0·05	— 0·02
Basalt	663	4·31	4·6	5·63	— 0·22	— 1·29
Whinstone	501	3·73	5·33	5·81	— 1·60	— 2·11
TOTAL	10,489	4·83	5·40	5·83	— 0·57	— 1·00

Limestone.—Employment was again good with limestone quarries, except at quarries for road-making material, where it was fairly good only, and there was some shortage of labour. Bad weather hindered work to a considerable extent.

Sandstone.—Employment was good in other sandstone quarries. Bad weather caused stoppages in most districts.

Granite (Road Material, Setts, &c.).—Employment was good at quarries for road-making material and fair at quarries for paving setts, &c. Some time was lost through bad weather. Although more demobilised men were at work there was still a demand for labour of all kinds.

Slate.—Employment in the North Wales quarries was good.

* See note in previous column.

Basalt and Whinstone (Road Material).—Employment was fairly good, but was much affected by unfavourable weather.

China Clay.—Employment continued good at Lee Moor and moderate at St. Austell, where there was some unemployment.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT continued good during March, and a shortage of labour was again reported in some cases; there was also a shortage of fuel, limestone and ironstone. At the works covered by the Returns received 267 furnaces were in blast at the end of March, 1919, as compared with 276 in the previous month and 295 in March, 1918. The corresponding number in March, 1914, was 277. During March nine furnaces were either damped down or blown out, five in South Wales and one each in West Yorkshire, Staffordshire, Derbyshire and Cleveland. The five furnaces in South Wales were damped down, not blown out. It is understood that this was a precautionary measure, and was taken owing to the uncertainty which existed at the end of March as to the prospects in the coal mining and in the railway industries.

District.	Number of Furnaces, included in the Returns, in Blast at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) in March, 1919, on a	
	March, 1919.	Feb., 1919.	March, 1918.	Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND AND WALES.					
Cleveland ...	70	71	75	— 1	— 5
Cumberland and Lancs. ...	34	34	34	...	...
S. and S.W. Yorks. ...	10	11	12	— 1	— 2
Derby and Nottingham ...	31	32	33	— 1	— 2
Leicester, Lincoln and Northampton ...	25	25	29	...	— 4
Staffs. and Worcester ...	26	27	30	— 1	— 4
S. Wales and Monmouth... ..	6	11	13	— 5	— 7
Other districts ...	4	4	4	...	...
ENGLAND AND WALES	203	215	230	— 9	— 24
SCOTLAND	61	61	65	...	— 4
TOTAL	267	276	295	— 9	— 28

The imports of iron ore in March, 1919, amounted to 413,245 tons, or 3,635 tons more than in February, 1919, but 103,875 tons less than in March, 1914.

The exports of pig iron in March, 1919, amounted to 21,317 tons, or 487 tons less than in February, 1919, and 71,047 tons less than in March, 1914.

IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works continued good on the whole, and showed a slight improvement in the number of workpeople employed as compared with the previous month. There was a decline as compared with a year ago. A difficulty in obtaining adequate supplies of fuel and raw material was frequently reported.

According to Returns relating to 111,053 workpeople the aggregate number of shifts worked during the week ended 22nd March was 620,542, showing an increase of 16,823 (or 2·8 per cent.) on the previous month, but a decrease of 30,550 (or 4·7 per cent.) on a year ago. The average number of shifts worked was 5·59, as compared with 5·65 in the previous month and with 5·74 a year ago.

	No. of Workpeople employed by firms making returns.			Aggregate number of Shifts worked.		
	Week ended 22nd Mar., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) as compared with a		Week ended 22nd Mar., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) as compared with a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
DEPARTMENTS.						
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces	11,931	+ 1·4	+ 1·1	68,794	+ 0·9	— 1·6
Crucible Furnaces ...	578	— 0·9	— 9·7	2,701	— 4·7	— 26·5
Bessemer Converters ...	1,628	+ 5·0	+ 4·3	9,053	+ 3·7	+ 3·9
Puddling Forges ...	6,773	+ 1·8	— 3·3	31,788	+ 2·0	— 6·4
Rolling Mills ...	32,039	+ 7·7	+ 3·9	166,797	+ 4·6	— 0·4
Forging and Pressing ...	5,189	+ 0·6	— 8·8	28,107	— 1·7	— 14·0
Founding ...	13,151	— 0·1	— 21·9	76,943	+ 0·0	— 23·5
Other Departments...	13,310	— 0·2	+ 0·5	77,003	— 1·7	— 0·4
Mechanics, Labourers ...	26,454	+ 6·0	+ 2·7	156,356	+ 6·6	+ 1·8
TOTAL ...	111,053	+ 4·0	— 2·0	620,542	+ 2·8	— 4·7
DISTRICTS.						
Northumberland & Durham	13,912	+ 1·1	— 0·7	74,233	— 4·0	— 6·8
Cleveland ...	10,920	+ 8·6	— 2·2	61,984	+ 8·3	— 5·0
Sheffield and Rotherham ...	27,377	+ 0·1	— 13·6	153,211	— 1·3	— 17·7
Leeds, Bradford, &c. ...	9,918	+ 2·2	— 0·8	21,785	+ 3·9	— 0·9
Cumberland, Lancashire & Cheshire	10,025	+ 6·1	+ 6·8	55,192	+ 5·4	+ 6·8
Staffordshire...	9,417	+ 10·5	+ 10·6	52,135	+ 11·9	+ 9·3
Other Midland Counties ...	5,040	+ 8·0	— 0·5	28,545	+ 9·0	+ 1·3
Wales and Monmouth ...	9,325	+ 3·5	+ 5·0	51,278	+ 0·9	+ 2·9
England & Wales ...	90,004	+ 3·8	— 3·2	500,638	+ 2·4	— 6·0
Scotland ...	21,049	+ 4·6	+ 3·3	119,904	+ 4·4	+ 1·3
TOTAL ...	111,053	+ 4·0	— 2·0	620,542	+ 2·8	— 4·7

ENGINEERING TRADES.

THE state of employment in these trades during March was very similar to that in the previous month. Very little overtime was worked, but on the other hand there was very little short time.

Employment with members of Trade Unions in the engineering trades, who are mostly skilled men, was usually reported as fair or good. Reports describing employment as very good, on the one hand, or as bad, on the other, were exceptional. On the whole employment was better in the more skilled than in the less skilled occupations.

The following Table relates to workpeople (skilled and unskilled) who were insured against unemployment under Part II. of the National Insurance Act.

Division	Number Insured.	Percentage of Out-of-Work Donation Policies lodged at			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) as compared with a	
		28th Mar., 1919.	28th Feb., 1919.	29th Mar., 1918.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London ...	191,104	13·81	12·87	1·57	+ 0·94	+ 12·24
Northern Counties ...	111,599	10·24	12·30	0·41	— 2·06	+ 9·83
North-Western ...	244,743	10·51	11·06	1·55	— 3·52	+ 8·99
Yorkshire ...	164,115	9·16	10·56	0·65	— 1·40	+ 8·51
East Midlands ...	67,823	6·59	5·95	0·75	+ 0·64	+ 5·84
West Midlands ...	187,701	29·48	32·08	0·54	— 2·60	+ 28·94
S. Midlands and Eastern ...	85,077	9·70	11·07	1·10	— 1·37	+ 8·60
S.E. Counties ...	48,231	8·40	6·95	0·96	+ 1·45	+ 7·44
South-Western ...	61,331	8·85	8·62	0·65	+ 0·23	+ 8·20
Wales ...	31,068	8·53	10·38	1·20	— 1·85	+ 7·33
Scotland ...	192,470	9·17	11·07	0·61	— 1·90	+ 8·56
Ireland ...	27,431	14·22	16·77	2·28	— 2·55	+ 11·94
UNITED KINGDOM	1,412,693	12·77	14·18	0·97	— 1·41	+ 11·80
UNITED KINGDOM—Males ...	993,169	11·45	10·17	0·38	+ 1·28	+ 11·07
Females...	419,524	15·89	23·69	2·40	— 7·80	+ 13·49

On the Tyne a large number of skilled men were unemployed, but on the Wear few men were out of employment. On the Tees employment was good. At Manchester it was only moderate, and the number unemployed was stated to be increasing. At Liverpool employment was fair with engineers and very good with ironfounders. At Oldham it was fairly good except with machine workers and labourers, with whom it is described as moderate. At Leeds employment with engineers was fair, and better than in the previous month; with several branches it was good, and it is stated that boiler-makers, patternmakers and ironfounders have not yet experienced any serious falling off in employment; while with spindle and flyer makers employment was good, and better than a year ago. In the Birmingham district it was fair with engineers and toolmakers, good with ironfounders, and very good with patternmakers. At Colchester it was moderate, but better than in February. At Erith it was slack, at Devonport and Bristol good, at Swindon moderate. In South Wales it was fair, and better than in the previous month, owing to the termination of a shipyard workers' dispute. At Glasgow a slight decline was reported.

SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT was good on the whole during March. The following Table relates to workpeople (skilled and unskilled) who were insured under Part II. of the National Insurance Act:—

Division.	Number Insured.	Percentage of Out-of-Work Donation Policies lodged at			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) as compared with a	
		28th Mar., 1919.	28th Feb., 1919.	29th Mar., 1918.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London ...	10,366	9·73	10·95	0·78	— 1·22	+ 8·95
Northern Counties ...	60,326	4·74	6·07	0·20	— 1·33	+ 4·54
North-Western ...	37,366	4·49	4·03	0·15	+ 0·46	+ 4·34
Yorkshire ...	7,171	4·87	8·05	0·24	— 3·18	+ 4·63
East Midlands ...	2,536	4·30	2·84	0·34	+ 1·46	+ 3·96
West Midlands ...	834	20·50	14·87	0·27	+ 5·63	+ 20·23
S. Midlands and Eastern ...	3,039	4·64	4·05	0·36	+ 0·59	+ 4·28
S.E. Counties ...	5,210	3·40	2·42	0·27	+ 0·98	+ 3·13
South-Western ...	25,278	5·87	4·80	0·15	+ 1·07	+ 5·72
Wales ...	11,706	15·95	9·05	0·62	+ 6·90	+ 15·33
Scotland ...	78,880	5·55	4·92	0·09	+ 0·63	+ 5·46
Ireland ...	23,476	10·55	11·38	1·08	— 0·83	+ 9·47
UNITED KINGDOM	266,188	6·27	6·07	0·28	+ 0·20	+ 5·99
UNITED KINGDOM—Males ...	257,572	6·16	5·88	0·21	+ 0·28	+ 5·95
Females...	8,810	9·47	11·60	2·34	— 2·13	+ 7·13

Employment was good generally on the Tyne, and better than in February, but it was only fair for ship joiners and moderate for ship plumbers. On the Wear employment was good, the same as in February. It was good or very good at Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Stockton and Hull; on repair work, however, in those districts employment was only fair. On the Thames employment was only moderate. It was fair

on the south coast generally. It was good at Bristol, but showed a slight decline on the previous month. At the South Wales ports it was good with shipbuilders and fair with shipwrights and labourers. For shipwrights on the Mersey employment was very fair. At Barrow a scarcity of shipwrights and semi-skilled men was reported.

Employment on the Clyde was good for joiners and painters and fair for shipbuilders, shipwrights, blacksmiths and labourers. It was good for shipwrights at Aberdeen, and fair generally at Dundee. Shipwrights at Belfast described employment as very good, ship joiners as good, and shipbuilders and drillers as slack. At Cork employment was good for shipwrights and labourers.

TINPLATE AND STEEL AND GALVANISED SHEET TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades was good. It showed an improvement compared with February, and a marked improvement as compared with March of last year. A shortage of millmen and other classes of men was reported in many cases, although a large number of tinplate workers have now been demobilised, and it is stated that most of those who transferred to other trades during the war have returned to their former employment. Difficulty in obtaining an adequate supply of coal was reported in a few cases.

Works.	Number of Works open.			Number of Mills in operation.		
	At end of March, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		At end of March, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Tinplate ...	78	+ 1	+ 5	337	+21	+ 83
Steel Sheet ...	12	...	+ 1	76	+ 2	+ 15
TOTAL ...	90	+ 1	+ 6	413	+22	+ 98

The number of tinplate mills working at the end of March showed an increase of 20 on the previous month, and of 83 on a year ago. The number of mills making steel and galvanised sheets working at the end of March showed an increase of 2 as compared with the previous month, and of 15 compared with a year ago.

The exports of tinned and galvanised plates and sheets in March, 1919, amounted to 27,930 tons, or 12,164 tons more than in February, but 81,581 tons less than in March, 1914.

MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT was again fairly good on the whole with men in the trades included under this heading. A little short time was worked owing chiefly to shortage of material. Trade Unions with 63,337 members had 2·4 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of March, compared with 3·0 per cent. in the previous month and 0·1 per cent. in March, 1918.

Brasswork.—Employment at Birmingham was good, and showed an improvement compared with February. At other centres conditions were not quite so satisfactory.

Nuts, Bolts, Nails, &c.—Employment continued good at Blackheath and Halesowen, fairly good at Darlaston, and fair at Birmingham and Smethwick. With shoe rivet and wire nail makers at Birmingham it had improved to good.

Cutlery, Tools, Bits, Stirrups, &c.—In the cutlery trades at Sheffield employment continued good generally, conditions being similar to those of the previous month. In the file trades at Sheffield and with edge tool makers at Birmingham and Wednesbury it was fairly good. At Walsall employment with bit and stirrup makers was good and showed an improvement, but saddle and harness furniture makers were only fairly well employed owing to continued shortage of materials.

Tubes.—At Wednesbury employment was fairly good during March, but it was reported that works employing between eight and nine hundred men were closing down. At Birmingham and in South Wales and Monmouthshire employment continued fair.

Chains, Anchors, &c.—At Cradley employment was fair with anchor smiths; with cable chain makers it was bad owing to shortage of materials; with block chainmakers also it was bad. Employment was good with anvil and vice makers at Dudley. With axle and spring makers at Wednesbury it was good, and showed an improvement compared with the previous month.

Sheet Metal Workers.—Employment continued fairly good on the whole. There was less unemployment than in February, but a little short time was worked owing to lack of material.

Wire.—Employment continued fairly good on the whole; some short time was worked at Birmingham.

Locks, Hollow-ware, &c.—Employment continued good in the Wolverhampton and Willenhall lock and latch trade, and was better than a year ago. In the Midlands galvanised hollow-ware trade employment was again fairly good, and in the cast-iron hollow-ware trade it had improved to good. In the tin and enamelled hollow-ware trade it was again reported as quiet.

Stoves, Grates, &c.—Employment continued moderate, a little short time being worked. A scarcity of moulders was reported, causing some unemployment among fitters.

Exports.—The exports of cutlery during March, 1919, amounted to 1,542 cwts., or 233 cwts. less than in February, 1919, and 2,638 cwts. less than in March, 1914.

The exports of hardware during March, 1919, amounted to 18,698 cwts., or 1,917 cwts. more than in February, 1919, but 67,942 cwts. less than in March, 1914.

COTTON TRADE.

THE position in the cotton trade became worse during March, and employment in both spinning and weaving departments was bad and worse than a year ago, with much short time and slackness in various forms in both sections. The decline in the spinning section was the inevitable result of stocks of yarn being much in excess of the demand from the weaving section. Some mills using American cotton have closed down entirely during the month, whilst others were partially closed. It has therefore been decided by the employers' and operatives' organisations to close down American cotton spinning mills for a full fortnight from 10th to 28th April; it is hoped by this means to obviate the need for irregular stoppages and a further discharge of workpeople. In the weaving section many looms were idle and others only partially employed.

The following Table summarising returns received from employers shows that in the week ended 22nd March the number of workpeople employed and the wages paid were about the same as in the week ended 22nd February. In view, however, of the fluctuating conditions in the cotton trade in recent weeks the figures cannot be regarded as typifying the movement of employment in other weeks than that stated.

DEPARTMENTS.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 22nd Mar., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 22nd Mar., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Preparing ...	13,207	+ 0·6	+ 5·6	27,215	+ 2·6	+ 62·6
Spinning ...	25,793	+ 1·8	+ 7·2	54,865	+ 0·4	+ 59·3
Weaving ...	43,284	- 0·8	- 10·9	85,033	- 2·1	+ 27·9
Other ...	9,588	- 0·8	- 2·1	24,911	- 1·9	+ 39·4
Not specified ...	8,177	+ 2·0	- 10·6	18,615	+ 4·6	+ 38·3
TOTAL ...	100,049	+ 0·2	- 3·9	210,639	- 0·3	+ 41·4

DISTRICTS.						
Ashton ...	4,775	- 0·9	+ 6·5	10,289	- 0·5	+ 64·4
Stockport, Glossop and Hyde ...	7,510	+ 7·3	+ 2·8	16,040	+ 4·4	+ 61·3
Oldham ...	9,749	+ 1·0	+ 5·5	23,432	+ 1·3	+ 64·9
Bolton and Leigh ...	15,555	- 0·0	+ 1·9	32,973	+ 3·1	+ 60·4
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden and Todmorden ...	8,789	+ 1·1	+ 0·8	18,582	+ 0·9	+ 43·2
Manchester ...	5,934	+ 0·3	- 8·6	10,869	- 1·4	+ 29·6
Preston and Chorley ...	9,533	- 0·1	+ 3·7	20,633	+ 1·5	+ 59·8
Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen ...	14,021	- 7·4	- 13·7	29,413	- 12·5	+ 17·7
Burnley, Padiham, Colne and Nelson ...	10,109	+ 5·6	- 22·0	23,908	+ 9·8	+ 15·8
Other Lancashire Towns ...	3,107	+ 1·1	- 7·1	5,849	+ 0·4	+ 47·3
Yorkshire Towns ...	4,922	+ 2·1	+ 2·2	8,543	- 6·9	+ 20·3
Other Districts ...	6,045	+ 0·6	+ 0·4	10,008	- 1·8	+ 33·5
TOTAL ...	100,049	+ 0·2	- 3·9	210,639	- 0·3	+ 41·4

In the Oldham district employment in the spinning section was reported as bad, and as much worse than a year ago; in the weaving section employment was slack. In the Bolton district employment was reported as slack in all the principal departments; 15 per cent. of the spinning machinery was standing owing to slack trade; in the weaving section many looms were idle and others only partially employed.

In the weaving districts of Preston, Blackburn and Burnley employment was reported as bad, owing largely to lack of orders.

Imports and Exports.

The quantities of raw cotton imported and of manufactured goods exported in March, 1919, in comparison with the quantities for February, 1919, and March 1914, are given in the following Table:—

Description.	Mar., 1919.	Feb., 1919.	Mar., 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Mar., 1919, on a	
				Month ago.	Mar., 1914.
Imports of raw cotton (100 lbs.)	1,015,640	1,776,543	2,458,264	-760,903	-1,442,624
Exports:—					
Cotton yarn (1,000 lbs.)	12,994	9,167	19,824	+ 3,827	- 6,830
Cotton thread for sewing (1,000 lbs.)	1,294	1,375	1,872	- 81	- 578
Cotton piece goods (1,000 yds.)	195,863	232,012	590,375	- 36,149	- 394,512

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war bonuses.

WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

DURING March the 48-hour week came generally into force in England and Wales in the woollen and worsted trades. In Scotland the change of hours takes place in April, but for some time past 49½ hours or less has been the normal full time week in that country in a large number of cases.

WOOLLEN TRADE.

Employment in the woollen trade continued good, and was better than in the previous month. A few firms reported a shortage of coal. In the Huddersfield and Dewsbury and Batley areas some overtime and night work were reported, and employment generally was good. In the Leeds district employment was described as fairly good; manufacturers were said to be waiting for a fall in the price of raw materials, though orders were not lacking. In the Stockport and Rochdale districts employment was reported as good, while in Scotland it was also good and some overtime was reported.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 22nd Mar., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 22nd Mar., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year* ago.
DEPARTMENTS.		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Wool Sorting ...	531	- 0.6	- 1.7	1,194	+ 4.4	+ 27.8
Spinning ...	4,522	+ 1.5	+ 2.4	9,650	+ 6.8	+ 31.5
Weaving ...	6,972	+ 0.5	- 0.2	13,092	+ 8.2	+ 31.3
Other Departments ...	4,712	+ 2.0	- 2.6	10,429	+ 7.9	+ 28.8
Not specified ...	797	- 0.1	- 2.4	1,740	+ 4.3	+ 28.0
TOTAL ...	17,534	+ 1.1	- 0.4	36,105	+ 7.4	+ 30.3
DISTRICTS.						
Huddersfield District ...	2,111	+ 0.5	- 1.3	5,610	+ 11.2	+ 37.1
Leeds District ...	2,019	- 0.6	+ 4.7	4,657	+ 7.0	+ 41.0
Dewsbury & Batley District ...	1,832	- 0.8	- 1.8	4,285	+ 6.7	+ 33.4
Other Parts of West Riding ...	1,845	+ 1.4	+ 1.2	4,345	+ 9.7	+ 41.8
TOTAL, WEST RIDING ...	7,807	+ 0.1	+ 0.6	18,897	+ 8.7	+ 39.0
Scotland ...	4,275	+ 2.2	- 0.8	7,699	+ 3.6	+ 19.6
Other Districts ...	5,452	+ 1.6	- 1.4	9,509	+ 8.0	+ 24.0
TOTAL ...	17,534	+ 1.1	- 0.4	36,105	+ 7.4	+ 30.3

WORSTED TRADE.

In the worsted trade employment on the whole was good during March, and better than in February. A shortage of coal and of wool was reported.

In the Bradford, Keighley, Halifax and Huddersfield districts employment was better than in the previous month, and on the whole better than a year ago. Some shortage of labour was reported, especially in the Bradford district.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

	Workpeople.				Earnings.			
	Week ended 22nd Mar., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 22nd Mar., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a			
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year* ago.		
				£	Per cent.	Per cent.		
DEPARTMENTS.								
Wool Sorting and Combing	3,512	+ 2.1	- 0.5	8,331	+ 3.5	+ 27.7		
Spinning	14,580	+ 2.0	+ 4.6	21,716	+ 4.8	+ 43.2		
Weaving	5,817	+ 2.5	- 0.8	12,197	+ 12.9	+ 35.5		
Other Departments	2,932	+ 3.9	- 1.1	6,814	+ 9.4	+ 27.9		
Not specified	2,441	+ 3.3	- 7.4	4,551	+ 7.0	+ 31.8		
TOTAL	29,332	+ 2.4	+ 1.2	53,612	+ 7.1	+ 35.8		
DISTRICTS.								
Bradford District	14,016	+ 3.2	+ 0.4	27,141	+ 7.6	+ 34.3		
Keighley District	4,545	- 0.2	- 0.7	8,075	+ 3.8	+ 58.7		
Halifax District	3,116	+ 2.4	+ 6.8	4,946	+ 7.6	+ 47.1		
Huddersfield District	2,940	+ 3.8	- 3.3	5,633	+ 9.0	+ 25.1		
Other Parts of West Riding	2,516	+ 3.9	+ 10.0	4,291	+ 5.7	+ 45.9		
TOTAL, WEST RIDING...	27,163	+ 2.6	+ 1.3	50,089	+ 7.0	+ 33.0		
Other Districts	2,169	- 0.4	+ 0.1	3,523	+ 9.4	+ 33.4		
TOTAL	29,332	+ 2.4	+ 1.2	53,612	+ 7.1	+ 35.8		

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war bonuses.

Imports and Exports.

Description.	Mar., 1919.	Feb., 1919.	Mar., 1914.	Inc. (+) or dec. (-) in Mar., 1919, on a	
				Month ago.	Mar., 1914.
Raw Wool (Sheep or Lambs):					
Imports ... 1,000 lbs.	42,667	46,974	90,393	- 4,307	- 47,726
Exports and Re-Exports ... 1,000 lbs.	814	476	41,218	+ 233	- 40,404
Exports of British Manufactures:					
Wool Tops ... 1,000 lbs.	1,335	773	4,857	+ 562	- 3,522
Woollen Yarn...	172	232	329	- 60	- 157
Worsted Yarn...	2,245	1,585	4,491	+ 660	- 2,246
Woollen Tissues 1,000 yds.	10,033	9,287	6,615	+ 746	+ 3,418
Worsted Tissues ...	2,067	2,647	6,193	- 580	- 4,126
Flannel & Delaines ...	242	202	594	+ 40	- 352

JUTE TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT in Dundee and district during March was bad and worse than in February and a year ago, especially in the weaving department, owing to the poor demand for jute goods at the existing high prices. At the end of March a large proportion of the workers were on short time, the majority of the mills being closed in alternate weeks.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

DEPARTMENTS.	Workpeople.			Wages paid.		
	Week ended 22nd March, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a		Week ended 22nd March, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year* ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Preparing	2,281	— 2·0	— 1·9	3,724	+ 2·3	+ 32·1
Spinning	2,729	+ 0·3	+ 3·5	4,010	+ 2·7	+ 29·7
Weaving	3,173	— 10·3	— 12·9	5,160	— 4·9	+ 7·2
Other	1,875	— 0·1	— 1·8	4,052	+ 1·1	+ 25·2
TOTAL	10,058	— 3·9	— 4·4	16,946	— 0·2	+ 21·4

Imports and Exports.

Description.	March, 1919.	Feb., 1919.	March, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
				Month ago.	March, 1914.
Imports of Jute ... tons	21,974	6,868	20,956	+ 15,106	+ 1,018
Exports:					
Jute Yarn ... lbs.	1,591,400	851,400	4,084,100	+ 737,000	- 2,472,700
Jute Piece Goods 100 yds.	83,986	49,085	141,380	+ 34,901	- 57,394

SILK TRADE.

DURING March employment in this trade continued good, and on the whole was better than a year ago. About a quarter of the Returns reported a shortage of labour, and employment in the West Riding was hampered by insufficiency of coal.

In the Macclesfield and Leek district and in the West Riding employment continued good. In the Eastern Counties it was reported as fair at Sudbury, Halstead and Braintree, and as good at Norwich and Great Yarmouth.

The following Table summarises the information from those employers who furnished Returns:—

	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 22nd Mar., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 22nd Mar., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year* ago.
BRANCHES.	*	Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Throwing	927	- 0.6	- 8.9	864	+ 1.1	+ 19.8
Spinning	2,243	+ 1.2	- 0.1	3,741	+ 2.6	+ 23.8
Weaving	2,379	+ 0.0	+ 0.0	3,062	+ 2.3	+ 25.5
Other ...	1,306	- 0.2	+ 2.0	2,055	+ 2.6	+ 28.0
Not specified...	424	+ 1.0	+ 2.7	786	+ 3.4	+ 52.0
TOTAL	7,209	+ 0.3	- 0.8	10,508	+ 2.5	+ 26.5
DISTRICTS.						
Lancashire and W. Riding of Yorkshire	2,391	+ 1.7	- 0.6	4,084	+ 3.0	+ 25.2
Macclesfield, Congleton and District	1,520	+ 0.3	+ 1.6	2,244	+ 0.1	+ 28.2
Eastern Counties	2,085	- 1.2	- 1.6	3,010	+ 4.4	+ 36.1
Other Districts, including Scotland	1,213	+ 0.2	- 2.6	1,170	+ 0.3	+ 8.4
TOTAL	7,209	+ 0.3	- 0.8	10,508	+ 2.5	+ 26.5

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war bonuses.

Imports and Exports.

Description.	March, 1919.	February, 1919.	March, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on	
				a Month ago.	Mar., 1914.
Imports (less re-exports):					
Raw silk ... lbs.	53,670	112,135	89,176	- 58,465	- 35,506
Thrown silk ... lbs.	10,112	3,476	37,909	+ 6,636	- 27,797
Spun silk yarn lbs.	27,203	31,893	48,088	- 4,690	- 20,885
Silk broad-stuffs yds.	7,361,451	8,221,332	9,736,190	- 859,881	- 2,374,739
Exports of British Manufactures:					
Spun silk yarn lbs.	10,302	8,232	99,718	+ 2,070	- 89,416
Silk broad-stuffs yds.	741,089	559,711	927,103	+ 190,378	- 186,014

LINEN TRADE.

DURING March employment in the linen trade in both Ireland and Scotland was bad, and worse than in February and a year ago.

In the Belfast district and in the rest of Ireland short time was general, and there was considerable unemployment. In Dunfermline and in other parts of Scotland employment was also very slack.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

DEPARTMENTS.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 22nd March, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 22nd March, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year* ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Preparing ...	4,547	- 4.6	- 13.8	5,297	- 21.2	- 4.7
Spinning ...	8,778	- 3.8	- 7.9	8,629	- 22.4	- 2.6
Weaving ...	9,709	- 4.0	- 8.3	13,243	- 10.2	+ 2.2
Other ...	3,428	- 0.1	- 8.5	5,835	...	+ 8.1
Not specified...	2,587	- 2.8	- 4.1	3,498	- 8.6	+ 13.8
TOTAL ...	28,999	- 3.5	- 8.7	36,502	- 13.6	+ 1.8
DISTRICTS.						
Belfast ...	12,112	- 3.2	- 10.0	13,754	- 18.6	- 4.5
Other places in Ireland	7,817	- 5.6	- 9.1	9,567	- 11.3	+ 3.2
TOTAL IRELAND	19,959	- 4.2	- 9.6	23,321	- 15.8	- 1.5
Fifehire ...	2,312	+ 0.3	- 2.0	3,474	+ 0.6	+ 25.6
Other places in Scotland	6,433	- 2.9	- 7.9	9,359	- 13.5	+ 3.3
TOTAL SCOTLAND	8,745	- 2.1	- 6.4	12,833	- 10.1	+ 8.6
England ...	295	+ 1.0	- 15.5	348	+ 15.2	- 1.7
UNITED KINGDOM	28,999	- 3.5	- 8.7	36,502	- 13.6	+ 1.8

Imports and Exports.

Description.	March, 1919.	February, 1919.	March, 1914.	Inc. (+) or dec. (-) on	
				Month ago.	March, 1914.
Imports of Flax and Tow tons	935	659	11,492	+ 276	- 10,557
Exports:					
Linen Yarn ... lbs.	1,117,700	1,069,200	1,436,700	+ 48,502	- 319,001
Linen Piece Goods 100 yds.	65,555	51,035	188,783	+ 14,520	- 123,228

HOSIERY TRADE.

In this trade employment on the whole was fairly good, and the statistics for the week ended 22nd March show a small increase in the number of workpeople employed by the firms making returns. In the last week of the month, however, there was some decline in employment, largely owing to shortage of coal.

From Leicester and district it was reported that employment was affected by stoppage of Government contracts and the limited orders for civilian goods owing to the scarcity and high price of yarns. In the Nottingham district employment in the power frame section was not so good as in February and a year ago, but in the hand frame section the operatives were well employed. In Scotland employment on the whole was good, but there was some unemployment among demobilised employees.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

* Comparison with a year ago is affected by changes in rates of wages including war bonuses.

★★

District.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 22nd March, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 22nd March, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year* ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Leicester ...	8,711	+ 2.5	- 0.5	13,833	+ 3.1	+ 11.3
Leicester Country District...	1,927	- 0.1	- 3.7	2,924	+ 2.6	+ 12.5
Notts and Derbyshire ...	4,395	+ 1.8	+ 4.5	5,786	- 0.4	+ 20.9
Scotland ...	2,658	+ 1.2	- 0.2	3,985	- 3.3	+ 13.0
Other Districts ...	751	- 1.4	- 10.5	1,040	- 0.9	+ 19.8
UNITED KINGDOM	18,442	+ 1.7	- 0.1	27,568	+ 1.2	+ 13.9

Exports.

Description.	March, 1919.	Feb., 1919.	March, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on	
				A Month Ago.	March, 1914.
Cotton Hosiery ... doz. pairs	83,617	87,979	55,528	- 4,362	+ 28,089
Woollen Hosiery ... doz. pairs	91,239	154,632	188,341	- 63,393	- 97,102

LACE TRADE.

DURING March employment in this trade showed a further decline. Employment was bad in the levers and curtain sections and fair in the plain net branch, and on the whole worse than a year ago.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

BRANCHES.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 22nd Mar., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 22nd Mar., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year* ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Levers...	1,508	- 3.1	- 15.5	2,370	- 11.7	- 23.3
Curtain ...	1,663	+ 3.5	- 7.0	2,954	+ 6.2	+ 12.9
Plain Net ...	3,058	- 0.5	- 6.0	4,827	+ 1.6	+ 5.7
Others...	797	- 1.5	- 10.2	945	- 2.8	- 6.6
TOTAL ...	7,931	- 0.3	- 8.9	11,096	- 0.8	- 1.7
DISTRICTS.						
Nottingham City ...	2,468	- 0.2	- 10.0	3,544	- 2.6	- 4.5
Long Eaton and other out-lying Districts	887	- 1.0	- 15.4	1,676	- 4.9	- 19.0
Other English Districts ...	2,633	- 0.8	- 6.0	4,115	- 0.2	+ 3.5
Scotland ...	1,043	+ 1.7	- 7.5	1,881	+ 5.4	+ 12.7
TOTAL ...	7,031	- 0.3	- 8.9	11,096	- 0.8	- 1.7

In the Nottingham district employment was worse than in February, owing to the shortage of coal, and approximately about half the firms were closed down at the end of March. Employment was bad in the levers and curtain sections, with much short time and unemployment, and fair in the plain net branch. In the Long Eaton district employment was also bad, partly owing to the effect of the coal dispute and partly owing to lack of orders. Short time was general, and there was a considerable amount of unemployment. In the West of England employment on the whole was good. In the Newmilns district employment was reported as slack, and a considerable number of the trade union members were either unemployed or on short time, or only working alternate weeks, during March.

CARPET TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT continued fairly good during March, but was adversely affected by the shortage of coal. During the month the 48-hour week came into force. In the Kidderminster district employment was reported as worse than in the previous month and a year ago, with some irregular time owing to lack of orders and material. In the West Riding employment continued fairly good. In Scotland it was reported as fair.

Returns from firms employing 5,500 workpeople in the week ended 22nd March showed an increase of 1.0 per cent. in the number employed, and of 1.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with the previous month. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 1.2 per cent. in the number employed and of 24.1* per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

BLEACHING, PRINTING, DYEING AND FINISHING.

DURING March employment in these trades was bad, and worse than in the previous month and in March, 1918. Much short time was generally reported. Among the trade union operatives in the woollen and worsted branch of the dyeing

* Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages, including war bonuses.

and finishing trades about 8 per cent. were unemployed at the end of March, and about 40 per cent. were on short time.

The following Table summarises information received from those employers who furnished Returns. Although in the week to which the Returns relate the number of workpeople and the amount of earnings were above those of the corresponding week in February, conditions in the trade fluctuated to such an extent that the figures cannot be regarded as indicating the general level of employment in other recent weeks, and there is no doubt that the position in the trade was, on the whole, less satisfactory at the end of March than in February.

	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 22nd Mar., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 22nd Mar., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year* ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
TRADES:						
Bleaching	2,285	+ 0.2	- 9.8	4,473	- 0.0	+ 5.7
Printing	663	+ 2.2	- 1.9	1,553	- 4.5	+ 5.9
Dyeing	11,348	+ 2.0	- 3.7	35,765	+ 8.4	+ 22.4
Trimming, Finishing and other Departments	6,666	+ 2.6	- 3.7	14,945	+ 4.4	+ 16.8
Not specified	1,498	+ 1.5	- 0.5	3,566	+ 7.0	+ 23.6
TOTAL	22,460	+ 2.0	- 4.1	60,302	+ 6.3	+ 19.2
DISTRICTS:						
Yorkshire	11,155	+ 2.4	- 2.1	35,920	+ 8.9	+ 24.4
Lancashire	7,159	+ 1.7	- 6.5	16,052	+ 1.8	+ 10.4
Scotland	1,602	+ 2.2	- 5.3	3,106	+ 2.9	+ 15.6
Ireland	504	- 0.6	- 13.1	771	- 3.1	+ 8.6
Other Districts	2,040	+ 1.2	- 2.3	4,453	+ 6.6	+ 17.8
TOTAL	22,460	+ 2.0	- 4.1	60,302	+ 6.3	+ 19.2

LEATHER TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT was fairly good on the whole, but not so good as a year ago. Practically no overtime was worked and a considerable amount of short time was reported, chiefly in the saddlery and harness trades at Walsall. With skinners employment was reported as good.

Trade Unions with 9,261 members reported 2.1 per cent. unemployed at the end of March, compared with 1.9 per cent. in February, 1919, and 2.4 per cent. a year ago.

BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

DURING March employment on the whole continued good. The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

District.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 22nd Mar., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 22nd Mar., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year* ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
London	2,046	+ 2.7	+ 4.2	4,652	+ 5.1	+ 25.0
Leicester	9,947	+ 2.3	+ 2.0	22,286	+ 6.6	+ 19.1
Leicester Country District	2,621	+ 4.5	+ 6.2	5,371	+ 7.8	+ 24.9
Northampton	7,879	+ 3.1	+ 6.2	16,432	+ 4.8	+ 25.9
Northampton Country District	6,846	+ 1.4	+ 1.8	13,481	+ 3.9	+ 19.0
Kettering	3,404	+ 1.2	+ 0.4	6,590	+ 0.5	+ 15.0
Stafford and District ...	1,380	+ 0.3	- 0.2	2,527	+ 4.0	+ 20.3
Norwich and District ...	3,615	+ 3.5	+ 5.8	6,404	+ 2.7	+ 22.5
Bristol and District ...	1,438	+ 2.6	+ 2.3	2,846	+ 7.4	+ 22.0
Kingswood	1,613	+ 2.1	+ 0.1	3,337	+ 5.1	+ 16.2
Leeds and District ...	1,755	+ 3.7	+ 0.3	3,503	+ 6.7	+ 11.5
Lancashire (mainly Rossendale Valley)	3,777	+ 1.4	- 0.7	6,605	+ 8.2	+ 16.1
Birmingham and District	723	+ 1.8	+ 6.3	1,243	+ 3.8	+ 7.3
Other parts of England and Wales	1,358	+ 2.7	+ 3.2	2,343	+ 4.6	+ 18.8
ENGLAND AND WALES ...	48,432	+ 2.4	+ 2.8	97,620	+ 5.1	+ 20.0
SCOTLAND	2,517	+ 4.1	- 0.1	5,070	+ 6.4	+ 15.3
IRELAND	589	- 1.5	+ 1.2	824	- 1.9	+ 22.8
UNITED KINGDOM ...	51,538	+ 2.4	+ 2.6	103,514	+ 5.1	+ 19.8

At Leicester and in the surrounding district employment continued good with male lasters and finishers and with female closing machinists; there was a slight decline in the clicking department, the supply of labour in consequence of demobilisation being temporarily greater than the demand. In the Northampton and Kettering districts employment on the whole was fairly good. At Stafford and Bristol employment continued good, especially in the production of ladies' boots and shoes at the former place. At Norwich and Kingswood

employment continued fair; at Leeds it was fairly good in all branches of the trade.

SHIRT AND COLLAR TRADE.

IN this trade employment on the whole continued fairly good during March. About half the firms making returns reported a shortage of labour, the scarcity being most marked in London and Manchester. About 12 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the Returns worked short time during the month.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

District.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 22nd Mar., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 22nd Mar., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year* ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
London	3,320	+ 5.1	+ 4.3	4,660	+ 6.4	+ 21.7
Manchester	1,646	- 0.6	- 5.0	2,356	+ 1.1	+ 2.3
Rest of Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire	1,907	+ 3.4	+ 6.8	2,087	+ 0.2	+ 21.1
S.W. Counties	1,546	+ 0.5	- 4.2	1,716	- 0.6	+ 16.6
Rest of England and Wales	1,129	+ 1.9	+ 2.9	1,534	+ 6.7	+ 22.0
Glasgow	1,684	- 1.6	+ 0.8	2,430	+ 2.0	+ 13.8
Belfast	1,819	- 1.4	- 3.7	2,140	- 3.0	+ 21.2
Rest of Ireland	719	- 0.6	- 6.9	841	- 1.9	+ 10.7
	379	- 6.7	- 6.4	309	- 9.9	+ 22.6
TOTAL UNITED KINGDOM	14,049	+ 1.1	+ 0.0	18,073	+ 1.8	+ 17.3

TAILORING TRADE.

BESPOKE.

London.—During March employment showed an improvement and the supply of labour was insufficient. Returns from firms paying £9,203 in wages to their workpeople (indoor and outdoor) during the four weeks ended 22nd March showed an increase of 9.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the previous month, and of 9.5 per cent. compared with March, 1918.

Other Centres.—Employment was reported as good at Liverpool, Sheffield, Nottingham, Glasgow, Aberdeen and Londonderry, as fairly good at Birmingham, and as fair at Cork. On the whole there was a slight improvement compared with the previous month.

READY MADE.

In this branch employment was fairly good, about the same as in February, but not so good as a year ago. About 7 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the Returns worked short time during the month, and about 5 per cent. were on overtime. A shortage of labour was reported by about 60 per cent. of the firms from whom Returns were received.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

District.	Indoor Workpeople.					
	Number Employed.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 22nd Mar., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 22nd Mar., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.*
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Leeds	6,453	+ 0·8	- 1·1	9,485	+ 5·3	+ 11·1
Manchester	3,286	- 2·3	+ 4·9	5,432	+ 0·7	+ 10·1
Other places in Yorkshire, Lancs. and Cheshire	3,567	- 0·9	+ 0·4	5,118	+ 6·9	+ 16·3
Bristol	1,290	+ 0·3	- 3·5	1,734	+ 4·5	+ 12·0
North and West Midland Counties (excluding Bristol)	2,144	+ 2·9	+ 5·1	3,179	+ 18·4	+ 35·2
South Midland and Eastern Counties	2,240	+ 2·6	- 9·6	3,157	+ 4·8	- 2·4
London	4,255	- 7·7	- 15·6	8,857	- 4·2	- 6·2
Glasgow	1,746	+ 1·7	- 9·9	2,741	..	- 2·1
Rest of United Kingdom ...	1,562	- 3·7	- 17·1	2,080	- 1·7	- 2·4
UNITED KINGDOM	26,543	- 1·2	- 5·0	41,783	+ 2·8	+ 6·1

In Leeds employment showed no decided change as compared with the previous month; a shortage of certain classes of labour was reported, but at the same time there were a considerable number of unemployed women and girls in the industry. At Manchester and Bristol employment was reported as good; in London it was fair, but not so good as in February; in Glasgow it continued fair.

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war bonuses.

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war bonuses.

FELT HAT TRADE.

DURING March employment was on the whole fair, but not so good as in the previous month. At Denton and Stockport employment was reported as fair, with about one-third of the operatives on short time. At the latter place there was a decline as compared with a month ago. In Warwickshire employment continued good.

OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.**DRESSMAKING AND MILLINERY.**

DURING March employment with dressmakers in retail firms in London continued fair, and was better than in February. Returns from firms, chiefly in the West End, employing 1,556 dressmakers in the week ended 22nd March showed an increase of 4.2 per cent. in the number employed compared with the previous month, and of 6.7 per cent. compared with a year ago. With court and private dressmakers employment showed a seasonal improvement, and was better than a year ago. With milliners in the West End employment was on the whole fair.

WHOLESALE MANTLE, COSTUME, BLOUSE, &c., TRADES.

In London employment continued fair. Firms employing 3,797 workpeople on their premises (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended 22nd March showed an increase of 1.8 per cent. in the number employed compared with the previous month, but a decrease of 2.9 per cent. compared with a year ago.

In Manchester employment showed no decided change as compared with the previous month. Firms employing 4,950 workpeople in the week ended 22nd March showed an increase of 0.3 per cent. in the number employed compared with the previous month, but a decrease of 4.1 per cent. compared with a year ago. Some short time was reported during the month.

In Glasgow employment was fairly good. Firms employing 1,806 workpeople in the week ended 22nd March showed an increase of 0.8 per cent. in the number employed compared with the previous month, but a decrease of 0.2 per cent. compared with a year ago.

A shortage of machinists, finishers, &c., was reported at all the three centres.

CORSET TRADE.

Returns from firms (mainly in England) employing 5,311 workpeople in their factories in the week ended 22nd March showed an increase of 3.3 per cent. in the numbers employed compared with the previous month, but a decrease of 3.9 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was fairly good; about 10 per cent. of the workers covered by the returns were on short time during the month, and about 5 per cent. were on overtime. Some shortage of labour was reported.

WOODWORKING AND FURNISHING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades, taken as a whole, was fairly good during March, and slightly better than in the previous month. Returns were received from Trade Unions covering 66,852 workpeople, of whom 2.2 per cent. were unemployed in March, as compared with 2.9 per cent. in February.

Mill Sawing and Machining.—There was a great deal of variation in the reports received. In some places employment was described as bad, in others as good. The percentage unemployed at the end of March among insured workmen in these trades was 7.4.

Furnishing.—Employment was good on the whole and showed some improvement on the previous month. All classes of workpeople shared in the improvement.

Coach Building.—Employment was good, and the general improvement noticeable in February as regards coachmakers continued during March in most districts.

Coopers.—Employment was good in all the principal districts, except at Glasgow, where a little unemployment was caused by the slackening of work at the docks. On the whole the state of employment was about the same as in February.

Miscellaneous.—Employment was fairly good with brush-makers and with wheelwrights and smiths, a slight improvement having been reported in most districts in each case as compared with the previous month. It was still rather slack with packing-case makers and good with basket makers.

Imports.—The imports of hewn wood during March, 1919, amounted to 71,787 loads, or 11,433 loads more than in February, 1919, but 135,291 loads less than in March, 1914. The imports of sawn or split wood during March, 1919, amounted to 139,583 loads, or 10,485 loads more than in February, 1919, and 18,624 loads more than in March, 1914.

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION OF WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT in the building trade, taken as a whole, continued slack during March, being about the same as in the previous month. Private building work was still almost entirely confined to maintenance and repairs. The difficulty in obtaining materials was not quite so pronounced, but the continued high

prices acted as a considerable check upon private enterprise. In some districts the number of men unemployed showed an increase, which was partly due to the return of men from the Forces and partly to the stoppage of outdoor work on account of unfavourable weather.

There was considerable variation in the state of employment as between different occupations and districts, but painters were reported to have been well employed in most districts, as is usual at this season. With masons and plasterers, especially the latter, employment continued very slack.

The following Table shows the general percentages of employed workpeople who were insured against unemployment under Part II. of the National Insurance Act, and who were in receipt of the Government Donation.

Occupations.	Number Insured at 28th Mar., 1919.	Percentage of Out of Work Donation Policies Lodged at 28th Mar.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) as compared with a	
			Month ago.	Year ago.
Carpenters	96,979	7.72	+ 0.86	+ 7.49
Bricklayers	42,275	13.62	+ 0.48	+ 13.39
Masons	20,076	16.93	+ 0.90	+ 16.27
Plasterers	10,431	28.53	+ 1.32	+ 27.71
Painters	71,513	8.06	+ 2.08	+ 7.48
Plumbers	26,768	9.21	+ 3.32	+ 8.80
Other skilled occupations ...	30,864	12.47	+ 0.27	+ 12.02
Navvies	90,547	8.11	+ 1.11	+ 7.63
Labourers	204,206	12.16	+ 1.07	+ 11.42
ALL OCCUPATIONS ...	593,659	10.78	+ 0.34	+ 10.24

Division.	Number Insured at 28th Mar., 1919.	Percentage of Out of Work Donation Policies Lodged at 28th Mar.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) as compared with a	
			Month ago.	Year ago.
London	110,657	14.28	+ 0.49	+ 13.55
Northern Counties	35,351	4.90	+ 0.44	+ 4.80
North Western	72,933	9.80	+ 0.27	+ 9.37
Yorkshire	42,488	5.61	+ 0.78	+ 5.50
East Midlands	24,540	7.58	+ 1.15	+ 7.19
West Midlands	41,997	7.32	+ 1.96	+ 7.17
S. Midlands and Eastern ...	51,708	10.17	+ 1.27	+ 9.65
South Eastern	31,243	10.34	+ 1.66	+ 9.81
South Western	58,646	8.50	+ 0.72	+ 8.16
Wales	26,925	6.35	+ 0.46	+ 6.11
Scotland	61,563	8.70	+ 4.12	+ 8.62
Ireland	35,808	31.71	+ 5.57	+ 28.58
United Kingdom ...	593,659	10.76	+ 0.34	+ 10.24

BRICK AND CEMENT TRADES.**BRICK TRADE.**

EMPLOYMENT continued good, and there was an appreciable increase in the number of workpeople employed and in the wages paid compared with the previous month. The improvement was most marked in the Midlands and in the South of England. In the Peterborough district and in the West Midlands the supply of labour was insufficient to meet the revival in the industry, and this condition also applied, though less generally, in other parts of England. In the North of England, the Eastern Counties and Scotland the state of employment showed a good deal of variation, being good in some places and slack in others. Some time was lost in most districts owing to bad weather.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

Districts.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 22nd Mar., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a		Week ended 22nd Mar., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.*
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Cheshire	1,845	Per cent. − 0.1	Per cent. − 6.1	£ 4,368	Per cent. − 0.6	Per cent. + 9.3
Midland and Eastern Counties	1,270	+ 11.9	+ 21.5	2,551	+ 12.3	+ 33.1
S. and S.W. Counties and Wales	986	+ 19.4	+ 25.1	2,536	+ 26.4	+ 54.7
Other Districts	609	+ 2.7	+ 2.9	1,582	+ 3.6	+ 21.7
United Kingdom ...	4,710	+ 7.0	+ 7.3	11,037	+ 8.2	+ 24.7

CEMENT TRADE.

Employment continued good, and a shortage of labour was reported by some firms, demobilised men belonging to the trade being readily absorbed. A considerable amount of overtime was worked in the Thames and Medway district.

*Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war bonuses.

Returns from firms employing 5,869 workpeople in the week ended 22nd March showed an increase of 7·4 per cent. in the number employed and of 8·7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the previous month. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 23·6 per cent. in the number employed, and of 41·2* per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

The exports of cement during March, 1919, amounted to 17,576 tons, or 14,361 tons less than in February, 1919, and 34,134 tons less than in March, 1914.

POTTERY TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT on the whole continued good in the pottery trades and showed little change from February. Some shortage of male labour, principally of placers, was reported. In almost every district a shortage of coal was reported, and in one district this was stated to result in demobilised tile-makers being unable to commence work. A shortage of raw materials, chiefly clay and flint, was again reported in many districts.

BRANCHES.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 22nd Mar., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 22nd Mar., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
China Manufacture ...	1,611	+ 0·8	- 5·1	£ 3,297	+ 1·9	+ 13·3
Earthenware Manufacture ...	10,729	- 0·4	- 1·7	18,495	+ 0·0	+ 10·4
Other Branches (including unspecified)	2,282	+ 2·4	+ 4·3	3,440	- 0·1	+ 21·4
TOTAL ...	14,622	+ 0·2	- 1·2	25,232	+ 0·3	+ 12·2
DISTRICTS.						
Potteries ...	11,833	+ 0·2	- 0·1	19,402	- 0·7	+ 21·8
Other Districts ...	2,784	+ 0·1	- 5·7	5,830	+ 3·7	- 11·2
TOTAL ...	14,622	+ 0·2	- 1·2	25,232	+ 0·3	+ 12·2

The imports of chinaware, earthenware and pottery in March, 1919, amounted to 477 cwts., or 257 cwts. more than in February, 1919, but 120,231 cwts. less than in March, 1914.

The exports of chinaware, earthenware, and pottery in March, 1919, amounted to 90,241 cwts., or 25,948 cwts. less than in February, 1919, and 244,759 cwts. less than in March, 1914.

GLASS TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in March remained good on the whole, a slight improvement as compared with the previous month being noticeable in most districts. A scarcity of all classes of skilled men was reported, particularly in Yorkshire, and there was also a scarcity of unskilled labour. A shortage of fuel was felt, particularly in Yorkshire and the Midlands, and in some cases furnaces were idle on that account.

In the glass bottle making section employment was good in the principal districts. Flint glass workers were also well employed. Plate glass bevellers and silverers at Birmingham reported employment as fairly good, and better than in the previous month. An improvement was also reported by pressed glass makers on the Tyne and Wear.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

BRANCHES.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 22nd Mar., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 22nd Mar., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Glass Bottle ...	5,864	+ 2·6	- 4·2	£ 14,170	+ 8·0	+ 14·7
Flint Glass Ware (not bottles)	1,867	+ 2·3	+ 12·2	4,601	+ 1·7	+ 31·9
Other Branches ...	600	+ 9·7	+ 10·3	1,253	+ 13·8	+ 37·7
TOTAL ...	7,831	+ 3·1	+ 0·3	20,024	+ 6·8	+ 19·5
DISTRICTS.						
North of England ...	513	+ 1·8	- 10·9	1,260	+ 6·0	+ 10·8
Yorkshire ...	3,669	+ 2·5	- 4·2	9,276	+ 7·9	+ 12·3
Lancashire ...	1,052	+ 3·2	- 0·9	2,438	+ 9·9	+ 22·0
Worcestershire and Warwickshire	782	+ 6·7	+ 6·5	1,982	+ 2·2	+ 30·0
Scotland ...	902	+ 3·9	+ 2·4	2,374	+ 7·4	+ 23·6
Other Parts of the United Kingdom	903	+ 2·6	+ 25·9	2,691	+ 4·2	+ 41·0
TOTAL ...	7,831	+ 3·1	+ 0·3	20,024	+ 6·8	+ 19·5

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war bonuses.

Imports and Exports.

	Mar., 1919	Feb., 1919.	Mar., 1914.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on	
				A month ago.	Mar., 1914.
Imports:—					
Bottles ... gross	32,912	16,365	175,028	+ 16,547	- 142,116
All other manufactures cwts.	12,478	10,941	214,893	+ 1,537	- 202,420
Exports:—					
Bottles ... gross	21,007	15,481	77,677	+ 5,526	- 56,670
All other manufactures cwts.	22,659	18,538	74,419	+ 4,121	- 52,260

PAPER, PRINTING AND BOOKBINDING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in the printing and allied trades generally showed a decline in March. This was largely due to the continued return to the trade of demobilised men. Although to a great extent such men have been reabsorbed in areas where there was previously a scarcity of labour, there are a considerable number who have not found employment.

In the paper trade employment was only moderate on the whole. A shortage of coal was sometimes reported, especially in the Northern Counties. The removal of import restrictions and the lack of orders due to high prices (consequent upon the increased cost of production) were also stated to be the cause of some unemployment and short time in this trade.

A good deal of overtime was still worked by letterpress printers in London, but elsewhere employment in this section was only fair. Employment was quiet in the lithographic printing and in the bookbinding trades. In London employment with lithographic printers was fair, but bookbinders reported a considerable amount of short time; in the provinces employment was quiet in both sections, with some short time and a number of workpeople unemployed.

The 48-hour week was adopted during the month throughout practically the whole of the printing trades.

The following Table summarises the Returns received from Trade Unions:—

	No. of Members of Unions at end of March, 1919.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a	
		March, 1919.	Feb., 1919.	March, 1918.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Paper ...	5,323	3·7	2·3	0·8	+ 1·4	+ 2·9
Printing ...	47,290	3·1	1·8	0·3	+ 1·3	+ 2·8
Bookbinding ...	10,280	2·9	2·2	0·1	+ 0·7	+ 2·8
TOTAL ...	62,903	3·1	1·9	0·3	+ 1·2	+ 2·8

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

	Workpeople.			Wages.		
	Week ended 22nd March, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 22nd March, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Paper ...	12,050	+ 0·6	+ 0·9	£ 25,697	+ 2·7	+ 21·8
Printing ...	8,926	+ 4·5	+ 14·8	23,164	+ 4·4	+ 53·1
Bookbinding ...	4,969	+ 3·7	+ 7·0	8,911	+ 4·7	+ 39·1
TOTAL ...	25,945	+ 2·5	+ 6·5	57,772	+ 3·6	+ 35·5

Imports and Exports.

Description.	March, 1919.	February, 1919.	March, 1914.	Inc. (+) or dec. (-) on	
				A Month ago.	March, 1914.
Imports:					
Wood Pulp for Paper Making ... tons	37,051	45,518	39,217	- 6,467	- 166
Paper ... cwts.	269,789	244,978	1,032,749	+ 24,811	- 762,960
Exports of Paper cwts.	55,266	37,628	302,705	+ 17,638	- 247,439

FOOD PREPARATION TRADES.

IN the sugar-refining and in the cocoa, chocolate and sugar confectionery trades employment continued good, and showed further improvement on the previous month; a considerable amount of overtime was worked. With jam and marmalade makers employment varied from fair to good, and showed on the average little change from a month earlier. With pickle and sauce makers, and in the biscuit and cake-making trades, employment was good, and better than a month earlier. In the bacon-curing and preserved meat trades the position was about the same as in the previous month. A shortage of coal is reported by several firms engaged in the food preparation trades.

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war bonuses.

The following Table summarises the information received from employers who furnished Returns:—

Trade.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 22nd Mar., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a		Week ended 22nd Mar., 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Sugar Refining, &c. ...	6,058	+ 12·7	+ 24·7	16,449	+ 15·4	+ 51·7
Cocoa, Chocolate, and Sugar Confectionery ...	21,189	+ 9·1	+ 37·8	39,091	+ 12·4	+ 58·4
Biscuits, Cakes, &c. ...	11,522	+ 5·2	+ 3·4	21,836	+ 7·1	+ 34·9
Jams, Marmalade, &c. ...	8,934	— 0·7	+ 2·0	15,271	+ 0·1	+ 29·5
Bacon and Preserved Meats ...	4,478	— 0·3	— 27·1	8,321	+ 2·7	— 4·8
Pickles and Sauces, &c. ...	703	+ 8·2	— 0·4	1,083	+ 9·9	+ 19·4
TOTAL ...	5,931	+ 6·0	+ 12·6	102,111	+ 8·8	+ 39·9

FISHING INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT continued fair. The following Table shows the quantity and value of fish landed in March, 1919, as compared with a year ago and with March, 1914:—

	Quantity of fish landed.			Value.		
	March, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on		March, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on	
		Mar., 1918	Mar., 1914		Mar., 1918	Mar., 1914
	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	£	£	£
Fish (other than shell):						
England and Wales ...	383,462	+168,938	—399,486	1,262,730	+190,594	+581,468
Scotland ...	210,925	—121,975	—153,464	483,987	—222,987	+295,915
Ireland ...	12,233	—5,730	+435	27,810	—16,609	+18,375
TOTAL ...	603,625	+41,233	—557,515	1,774,527	—49,002	+895,758
Shell Fish ...	...	...	...	42,825	+8,690	+11,139
TOTAL VALUE ...	...	...	...	1,817,352	—40,312	+906,897

The quantity and value of fish landed showed an increase in England and Wales, but decreases in Scotland and Ireland, as compared with March, 1918. Compared with March, 1914, there was a decrease of nearly 48 per cent. in the quantity of fish landed, while the value showed an increase of over 100 per cent.

East and South Coasts.—Employment was again fair in the Tees and Hartlepool district, and showed a further improvement. At Hull it was moderate among fishermen, and fair among fish dock labourers and fish curers, while at Grimsby it was reported as good, although at both ports there was some unemployment due to the return of men from mine sweeping. At Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft employment was fair and improving with fishermen and fish dock labourers, and moderate with fish curers. Off the coasts of Devon and Cornwall fishing, though somewhat irregular owing to stormy weather, showed an improvement upon the previous month. The Cornish mackerel season opened fairly well, and the local boats, augmented by East Coast drifters, secured fair catches. Packers and curers were fairly busy.

Scotland.—At Aberdeen employment was fair among fishermen and moderate with fish dock labourers and fish curers. At Peterhead it was fair, but showed a decline compared with February. At Macduff employment was moderate on the whole; at Fraserburgh it was again fair with fishermen, but bad with fish dock labourers and fish curers.

AGRICULTURE.†

ENGLAND AND WALES.

SKILLED labour of all kinds is still scarce, and but little improvement was noted during March, although the demand has not been so heavy as is usual owing to the weather preventing work in the fields. A slight improvement in the supply of labour was, however, reported in the Southern and Eastern parts of England, and in some districts it was sufficient for requirements, though still short generally. In Yorkshire and in parts of the Midlands labour was reported to be sufficient, except as regards horsemen and cattlemen, of which classes a marked shortage exists.

SCOTLAND.

The supply of labour is still deficient in Aberdeen, Dumbarton, Wigtown and parts of Forfar and Perth; elsewhere the supply is improving, although skilled labour is still insufficient for requirements. Many cases are reported of demobilised agriculturists declining to return to the land, preferring to enter other occupations where higher rates of pay are to be obtained.

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages, including war bonuses.

† Based on information supplied by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries and by the Board of Agriculture for Scotland.

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT in March remained fair on the whole.

London.—Employment continued fair on the whole; it showed an improvement on the previous month and was much better than a year ago. The following Table shows the average number of labourers employed at the docks and at the principal wharves in London in March, 1919, in comparison with the previous month and with a year ago:—

Period.	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London.				
	In Docks.			At Wharves making Returns.	Total Docks and Principal Wharves.
	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, &c.	Total.		
Week ended Mar. 1st	6,659	2,797	9,456	7,115	16,571
" " " 8th	6,143	3,034	9,177	7,137	16,314
" " " 15th	7,140	2,256	9,396	7,369	16,765
" " " 22nd	7,077	1,874	8,881	7,316	16,197
" " " 29th	6,736	2,957	9,703	7,188	16,891
Average for 5 weeks ended Mar. 29th, 1919	6,736	2,586	9,322	7,225	16,547
Average for Feb., 1919	6,002	2,278	8,280	6,641	14,921
Average for Mar. 1918	4,998	1,465	6,463	5,825	12,288

Tilbury.—The mean daily number employed at the docks during March was 1,772, as compared with 1,681 in February, 1919, and 1,669 in March, 1918.

East Coast.—On the Tyne and Wear and at Blyth employment was fair on the whole, and showed a slight improvement. With dockers at Hartlepool and Middlesbrough it was fairly good; it was good also for riverside labour at Stockton. Employment at Hull was only moderate. It was fair and showed a slight improvement at Yarmouth and Lowestoft.

Southern and Western Ports.—Employment was fair and a little better than in February at Plymouth and at the Bristol Channel ports. At Liverpool it remained fair for dock labourers, and was steady for coal trimmers and heavers. At Manchester employment was good.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—Employment at Dundee was good and the same as in February. At Leith it was fairly good. At Glasgow and Ayr it continued to decline, but with sugar porters at Greenock it was good and better than in the previous month. Employment was reported as moderate at Belfast, good at Cork, fair at Waterford and dull at Limerick.

SEAMEN.

At all the principal ports included in the Table the supply of seamen was equal to or in excess of the demand. Among the ports where the supply was in excess of the demand were London, Liverpool, Southampton, the Tyne ports and Glasgow. The number of seamen shipped during the three months ended March showed a decrease of 36,655, or 29 per cent., as compared with the corresponding quarter of 1914.

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in					
	March, 1919.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a		Three months ended		
		Month ago.	Year ago.	March, 1919.	March, 1918.	March, 1914.
ENGLAND AND WALES:						
East Coast—						
Tyne Ports ...	1,456	+ 327	— 469	3,646	4,804	7,461
Sunderland ...	331	+ 63	+ 64	933	618	1,468
Middlesbrough ...	90	— 2·8	— 78	620	605	759
Hull ...	961	+ 529	+ 248	2,531	2,421	3,766
Grimsby ...	42	+ 15	— 52	126	396	91
Bristol Channel—						
Bristol † ...	694	+ 345	+ 252	1,811	1,666	3,369
Newport, Mon. ...	700	— 173	— 11	2,588	2,094	2,862
Cardiff † ...	3,275	— 32	+ 90	10,014	9,513	12,474
Swansea ...	256	— 15	— 4	1,011	944	1,362
Other Ports—						
Liverpool ...	13,699	+1,756	+5,439	40,215	26,623	43,724
London ...	6,586	+3,347	+1,483	15,504	13,554	23,536
Southampton ...	2,025	+ 781	+1,239	4,207	2,554	13,317
SCOTLAND:						
Leith ...	283	— 65	+ 165	954	600	1,246
Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth ...	21	— 37	— 34	130	233	609
Glasgow ...	1,591	+ 356	— 494	4,465	6,017	9,502
IRELAND:						
Dublin ...	118	+ 21	+ 18	304	257	173
Belfast ...	134	+ 4	— 357	496	920	491
TOTAL ...	32,265	+7,014	+7,499	89,585	73,819	126,240

* It will be understood that the numbers given are the numbers of separate engagements, and not of separate individuals.

† Including Barry and Penarth.

‡ Including Avonmouth and Portishead.

MINISTRY OF LABOUR EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.

The following Table summarises the work of the Employment Exchanges during the week ended 28th March, 1919 :—

	No. of fresh Registrations during week.	No. on Live Register at end of week.	Vacancies notified during week.	Vacancies filled during week.	Vacancies unfilled at end of week.
Men ...	94,803	585,368	21,857	16,036	46,591
Women ...	58,722	563,190	18,075	10,287	65,145
Total ...	153,522	1,128,558	39,931	26,323	111,736

Compared with the figures for the corresponding week of the previous month, the number of fresh registrations increased by 18·8 per cent., the increase for men being 15·7 per cent. and that for women 24·3 per cent. The increase in the number of applicants on the live register was 16·9 per cent. Vacancies notified for men increased by 5·3 per cent., while those for women decreased by 8·8 per cent. The number of men placed decreased by 1·4 per cent., compared with the figure for the week ended 28th February, and the number of women by 1·7 per cent. The number of vacancies for men which remained unfilled at the end of March was 9·3 per cent. less than at the end of February, while the number of vacancies for women which remained unfilled was 2·3 per cent. greater.

The following Table shows the number of applicants placed, and vacancies notified, and the live register for men and for women in the principal occupations during the week ended 28th March, 1919 :—

Occupation.	Men.			Women.		
	On Live Register at end of week.	Vacancies notified during week.	Applicants placed during week.	On Live Register at end of week.	Vacancies notified during week.	Applicants placed during week.
Carpenter and joiner ...	5,669	1,002	764	463	1	6
Bricklayer ...	5,139	479	311	5	1	...
Painter and Decorator ...	4,745	1,291	787	1,051	18	16
Builders' Labourer ...	13,298	841	767	236	...	2
Navy ...	6,876	1,189	607	83	...	2
Plater, &c. ...	6,129	950	601	115	4	2
Labourers in Shipyards, &c. ...	8,876	742	775	453	3	3
Fitter, Turner, &c. ...	28,750	1,211	903	6,969	18	90
Metal Machinist ...	14,816	408	346	29,537	195	335
Engineering Labourer ...	34,252	720	752	7,311	29	73
Clerk or Typist ...	21,282	453	520	21,695	951	857
Cartier ...	18,256	330	310	114	1	2
Porter, Watchman, &c. ...	29,533	283	366	970	14	12
Coal-mining ...	10,696	29	125	591	...	2
Cotton Spinning ...	5,024	22	17	5,552	47	40
Cotton Weaving ...	8,360	34	26	29,612	162	109
Tailor ...	2,016	226	57	11,821	1,162	425
Shop Assistant ...	7,848	96	91	31,534	246	351
General Labourer ...	71,556	1,311	1,662	85,914	254	1,082
Laundry Service ...	133	8	3	4,995	388	202
Domestic Indoor Servant ...	1,244	61	49	14,032	3,652	631
Day Girl ...	...	...	...	19,305	1,713	863
Charwoman, Cleaver ...	7	...	1	30,890	2,224	1,237

The usual monthly analysis for the four weeks ended 7th March is shown below:

GENERAL REGISTER.

The number of workpeople on the register of the Employment Exchanges (418 in number) at some time or other during the four weeks ended 7th March, 1919, was 1,379,165 (men, 592,043; women, 659,050; boys, 65,418; girls, 62,654). These figures comprise workers in professional, commercial and clerical, as well as in industrial occupations, but exclude casual occupations.

The number of vacancies notified during the period was 179,383, and the number of vacancies filled was 111,199. The total number of workpeople remaining on the register at 7th March, 1919, was 1,004,095.

	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Total
On registers at 7th Feb., 1919 ...	275,137	453,732	33,690	35,920	798,479
Number of individuals registered during period	316,906	205,318	31,728	26,734	580,686
Total ...	592,043	659,050	65,418	62,654	1,379,165
Re-registrations during period ...	2,709	5,003	446	500	8,658
On registers at 7th March, 1919...	412,577	519,581	35,123	36,814	1,004,095
Vacancies notified during period	80,579	73,438	11,517	13,849	179,383
Vacancies filled during period ...	57,222	37,193	8,442	8,342	111,199
Applicants placed in other districts	7,180	3,463	922	1,164	12,729

The average daily registrations, vacancies notified and vacancies filled during the month were 24,556, 7,474 and 4,633 respectively. A chart, showing the fluctuations since February, 1918, is given on page 145.

	Average Daily Registrations.			Average Daily Vacancies Notified.			Average Daily Vacancies Filled.		
	4 Weeks ended 7 Mar., 1919.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a		4 Weeks ended 7 Mar., 1919.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a		4 Weeks ended 7 Mar., 1919.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Men ...	13,317	+ 3,736	+ 9,214	3,357	+ 298	- 104	2,384	+ 328	+ 51
Women ...	8,763	- 1,509	+ 3,917	3,060	+ 402	+ 706	1,550	+ 169	- 355
Boys ...	1,341	- 172	+ 422	480	+ 37	- 37	351	+ 4	- 68
Girls ...	1,135	- 329	+ 326	577	+ 54	+ 122	348	+ 5	- 2
Total	24,556	+ 1,726	+ 13,879	7,474	+ 791	+ 687	4,633	+ 506	- 374

Compared with the previous month, the daily average of registrations showed a percentage increase of 7·6; the daily average of vacancies notified and vacancies filled showed percentage increases of 11·8 and 12·3 respectively.

The following Table shows the comparative volume of work done in insured and uninsured trades during the month :—

	Registrations.		Vacancies Notified.		Vacancies Filled.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Insured Trades ...	162,435	36,969	54,030	7,091	40,618	5,354
Uninsured Trades ...	189,354	200,586	38,068	8,193	25,046	40,181
Total ...	351,789	237,555	92,098	8,287	65,664	45,535

In the case of males, the insured trades accounted for 46·2 per cent. of the total registrations, 58·7 per cent. of the vacancies notified, and 61·9 per cent. of the vacancies filled. Among females, the percentages in the insured trades were 15·6, 8·1 and 11·7 respectively. Of the vacancies filled in uninsured trades, 3·9 per cent. were known to be for less than a week's employment, and, of the vacancies filled by boys and girls, 10·2 per cent. were filled by applicants who obtained their first situation since leaving school.

The following Table shows the proportion of vacancies filled to vacancies notified (excluding those on the register at beginning of period) :—

	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Insured Trades ...	74·6	77·2	81·3	71·1	75·2
Uninsured Trades ...	65·3	48·7	68·0	58·4	55·1
All Trades ...	71·0	50·6	73·3	60·2	61·9
Do. a month ago ...	67·2	52·0	78·4	65·4	61·7
Do. a year ago ...	67·4	80·9	81·1	76·9	73·8

Compared with both the previous month and a year ago, there was an increase in the case of men, but a decrease in the women's, boys' and girls' departments.

The proportion of vacancies filled to vacancies notified varied considerably in different trades, as is shown in the Table for men and women below :—

Groups of Trades.	Men.		Women.	
	4 weeks ended 7th Mar., 1918.	4 weeks ended 7th Feb., 1919.	4 weeks ended 7th Mar., 1919.	4 weeks ended 7th Feb., 1919.
Building ...	75·3	76·9	...	...
Works of Construction ...	81·8	81·3	...	...
Engineering, Shipbuilding and Construction of Vehicles	74·5	68·2	87·2	79·0
Miscellaneous Metal Trades ...	67·8	66·1	60·0	76·7
Chemicals ...	83·8	88·9	77·8	88·6
Domestic Service ...	46·8	46·1	38·4	39·3
Commercial and Clerical ...	82·0	71·3	87·8	79·1
Conveyance of Men, Goods and Messages	75·2	61·1	80·7	70·5
Agriculture ...	50·3	23·4	44·1	40·7
Mines and Quarries ...	65·6	32·7	...	...
Textiles ...	68·4	51·9	56·6	59·0
Dress (including Boots and Shoes) ...	39·1	35·5	46·2	45·8
Food, Tobacco, Drink and Lodging ...	48·4	62·5	77·1	70·0
General Labourers ...	79·8	80·3	90·6	81·6
All other Trades ...	60·9	45·6	65·2	65·6

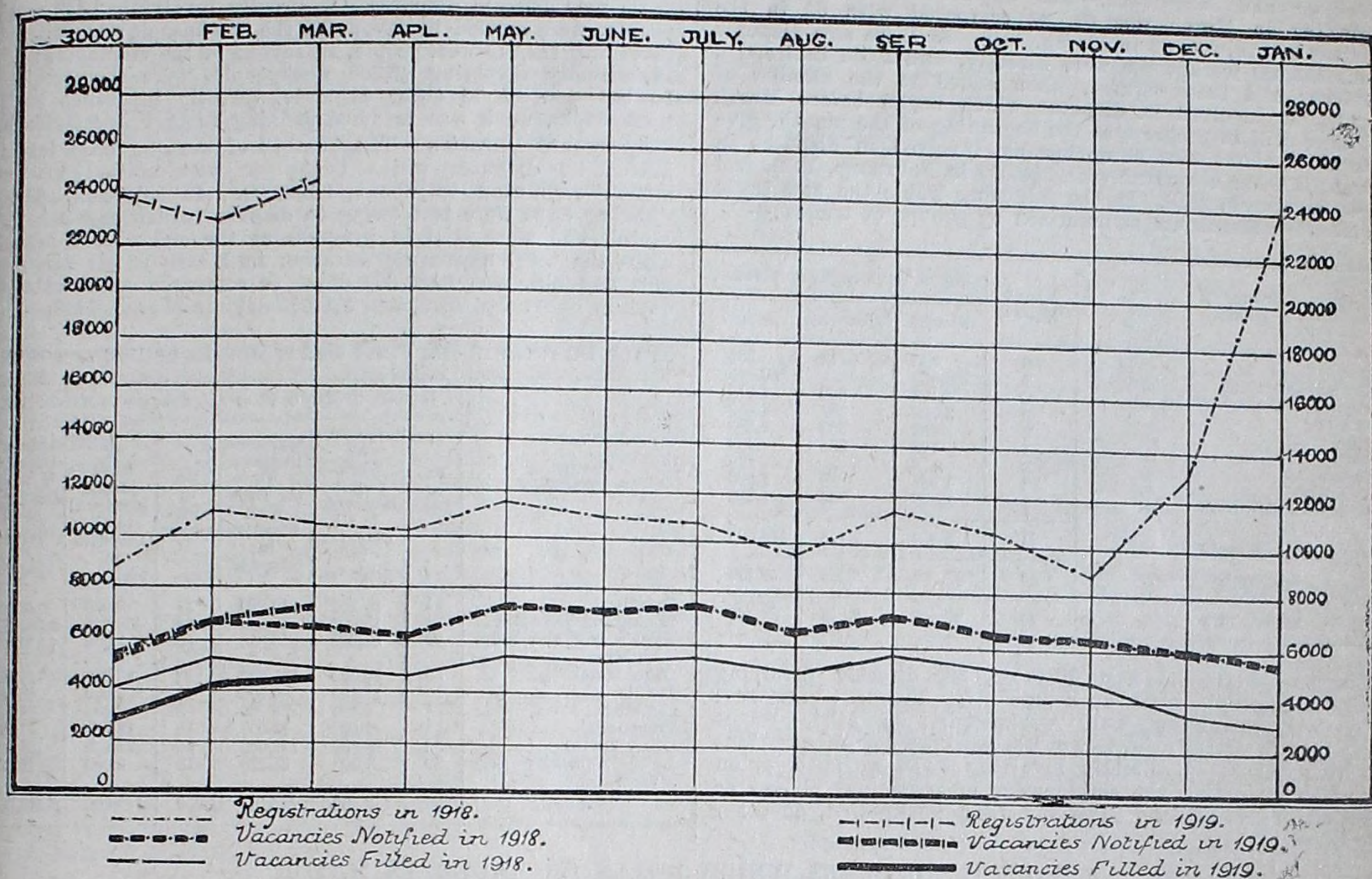
The largest proportion of vacancies filled to vacancies notified for men was 83·8 per cent. in chemicals, and the lowest, 30·3 per cent. in agriculture. For women the largest proportion filled was 90·6 per cent. in general labourers, and the lowest, 38·4 per cent. in domestic services.

CASUAL EMPLOYMENT.

The above figures exclude casual occupations (dock labourers and coal labourers). The number of casual jobs found for workpeople in these occupations was 1,683, a daily average of 70 compared with 67 in the previous four weeks and with 343 in the four weeks ended 8th March, 1918. During the four weeks there were also 759 cases in which men were given employment through the clearing-house system for dock labourers at Liverpool.

MINISTRY OF LABOUR EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES (contd.).

AVERAGE DAILY NUMBER OF REGISTRATIONS, VACANCIES NOTIFIED AND VACANCIES FILLED.*



INDIVIDUALS REGISTERED, VACANCIES NOTIFIED AND VACANCIES FILLED IN THE FOUR WEEKS ENDED 7th MARCH, 1919.

OCCUPATION GROUPS.	ADULTS.										JUVENILES.			
	REGISTRATIONS.						VACANCIES.				VACANCIES.			
	On Register at Beginning of Period.		Individuals Registered during Period.		On Register at End of Period.		Notified during Period.		Filled during Period.		Notified during Period.		Filled during Period.	
	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
A.—INSURED TRADES.†														
Building ...	31,407	3,032	39,104	755	45,313	2,958	16,245	126	12,236	84	500	21	356	18
Works of Construction ...	7,337	521	7,852	125	8,655	561	5,556	16	4,546	13	15	...	13	...
Sawmilling ...	3,198	3,713	3,171	871	4,491	3,470	838	108	533	91	217	36	164	31
Shipbuilding ...	13,646	913	12,240	267	16,282	991	3,343	7	2,185	7	197	...	156	...
Engineering ...	81,143	73,098	68,453	15,998	104,048	71,803	17,481	1,532	13,552	1,342	2,469	576	2,114	449
Construction of Vehicles ...	2,116	1,592	2,076	448	2,770	1,781	1,010	41	530	29	103	23	79	20
Cabinet Making, &c. ...	1,071	1,020	1,448	591	1,575	1,265	632	252	232	104	122	57	77	20
Miscellaneous Metal Trades ...	6,877	12,092	7,714	5,016	7,978	14,186	2,255	1,156	1,528	694	395	540	319	347
Precious Metals, &c. ...	762	1,463	1,036	715	1,240	1,703	241	133	90	87	159	254	86	176
Bricks and Cement ...	346	544	491	282	594	693	236	34	109	38	22	11	16	12
Chemicals, &c. ...	1,450	2,783	1,431	1,220	1,988	3,223	671	257	562	200	237	155	227	115
Rubber and Waterproof Goods ...	555	2,571	626	1,008	737	2,761	237	657	202	556	35	105	31	75
Ammunition and Explosives ...	2,529	25,438	1,799	4,693	2,859	21,709	462	366	455	418	30	45	38	48
Leather—Excluding Boots & Shoes ...	992	3,144	1,104	1,568	1,567	3,932	250	403	139	271	72	177	43	111
TOTAL, INSURED TRADES ...	156,429	131,927	148,545	33,557	200,127	131,036	49,457	5,091	36,899	3,932	4,573	2,000	3,719	1,422
B.—UNINSURED TRADES.														
Wood, Furniture, Fittings, &c. ...	177	494	834	504	311	744	203	229	85	98	44	57	17	32
Domestic ...	5,975	56,074	9,228	41,617	11,338	72,065	2,347	40,858	1,099	15,717	690	3,747	484	1,603
Commercial and Clerical ...	10,125	18,223	17,831	14,902	18,879	22,194	5,072	5,273	4,158	4,631	735	1,263	483	1,050
Conveyance of Men, Goods, &c. ...	27,252	13,886	45,193	6,491	55,567	16,245	6,722	592	4,614	478	2,918	1,269	1,965	814
Agriculture ...	3,083	2,351	4,139	1,288	5,428	2,752	3,122	612	915	270	193	53	96	22
Mining and Quarrying ...	6,719	376	9,709	300	11,601	583	1,542	19	1,012	17	26	3	18	...
Brushes and Brooms ...	111	336	160	237	180	477	23	35	12	25	10	32	5	19
Pottery and Glass ...	923	1,586	1,042	930	1,469	1,989	173	409	102	212	101	88	64	46
Paper, Prints, Books & Stationery ...	1,556	5,122	4,071	3,447	4,128	7,006	352	693	210	407	148	476	89	252
Textile ...	17,968	61,844	15,380	41,037	25,140	80,983	1,207	6,445	825	3,748	268	803	173	482
Dress ...	2,374	26,554	2,140	13,588	2,940	31,251	893	7,012	243	3,200	110	1,381	43	730
Boots and Shoes ...	921	1,112	2,081	878	2,053	1,486	587	480	337	263	141	160	75	69
Food, Tobacco, Drink & Lodging... ..	1,638	13,884	3,024	7,824	3,443	17,303	694	2,801	336	2,237	225	865	156	618
General Labourers ...	33,628	84,895	41,040	24,577	55,403	92,707	6,259	1,089	4,995	987	846	757	676	703
Shop Assistants ...	2,462	27,316	4,506	11,854	5,347	32,377	491	991	336	535	188	670	109	402
Government, Defence and Professional ...	2,965	4,229	6,591	2,151	7,262	4,709	768	495	447	285	286	204	253	166
All Others ...	828	3,523	1,872	1,136	1,961	3,674	674	214	567	151	15	21	11	17
TOTAL, UNINSURED TRADES ...	118,708	321,805	163,360	171,761	212,450	388,545	31,122	68,347	20,323	33,261	6,944	11,849	4,723	6,920
GRAND TOTAL—ALL TRADES ...	275,137	453,732	316,906	205,318	412,577	519,581	80,579	73,438	57,222	37,193	11,517	13,849	8,442	8,342
CASUAL EMPLOYMENT ...	3,624	...	4,540	...	5,595	...	1,658	...	1,683	...	...	...	...	...

* These figures are those of the General Register for a period ended early in the month stated at the head of the Chart.

† These are trades insured against unemployment under the National Insurance Acts, 1911-1916.

TRADE DISPUTES.*

[Based on Returns from Employers and Workpeople.]

TRADE DISPUTES IN MARCH.

Number and Magnitude.—The number of trade disputes beginning in March was 64, as compared with 62 in the previous month, and 83 in March, 1918. In these new disputes about 173,000 workpeople were directly, and 2,000 indirectly, involved; and these figures, when added to the number of workpeople involved in disputes which began before March and were still in progress at the beginning of the month, give a total of about 223,000 workpeople involved in disputes in March, 1919, as compared with 280,000 in February, 1919, and 47,000 in March, 1918. In the following Table the new trade disputes for March are summarised by groups of trades:—

Groups of Trades.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Workpeople involved.		
		Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.
Building	9	385	14	399
Mining and Quarrying	9	160,529	...	160,529
Engineering and Shipbuilding	6	4,113	200	4,313
Other Metal	9	3,766	637	4,403
Textile	2	453	583	1,036
Clothing	1	125	364	489
Transport	3	478	...	478
Other Trades	18	1,952	58	2,020
Local Authority Services	7	1,098	300	1,398
TOTAL, MARCH, 1919	64	172,909	2,153	175,065
TOTAL, FEB., 1919	62	147,799	2,165	149,964
TOTAL, MARCH, 1918	83	27,508	8,045	35,553

Causes.—Of the 64 new disputes, 32, directly involving 145,069 workpeople, arose on demands for advances in wages; 9, directly involving 9,310 workpeople, on other wages questions; 6, directly involving 899 workpeople, on questions affecting hours; 14, directly involving 9,756 workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; and 3, directly involving 7,875 workpeople, on other questions.

Results.—During the month settlements were effected in the case of 29 new disputes, directly involving 119,196 workpeople, and 16 old disputes, directly involving 53,517 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 14, directly involving 3,443 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 13, directly involving 122,912 workpeople, in favour of the employers; and 18, directly involving 46,358 workpeople, were compromised. In the case of 16 other disputes, directly involving 56,660 workpeople, work was resumed pending further negotiations.

Aggregate Duration.—The number of working days lost in March by disputes which began or were settled in that month amounted to about 1,108,000. In addition, 31,000 working days were lost owing to disputes which began before March and were still in progress at the end of the month. Thus the total aggregate duration in March of all disputes, new and old, was 1,139,000 days, as compared with 2,316,000 days in February, 1919, and 276,000 days in March, 1918.

TRADE DISPUTES IN THE FIRST THREE MONTHS OF 1918 AND 1919.†

Groups of Trades.	January to March, 1918.			January to March, 1919.		
	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.
Building...	41	21,000	215,000	21	3,000	38,000
Mining and Quarrying...	21	25,000	131,000	54	460,000	2,082,000
Engineering and Shipbuilding...	90	51,000	356,000	58	217,000	4,039,000
Other Metal	35	36,000	181,000	32	23,000	128,000
Textile	15	21,000	90,000	11	5,000	46,000
Clothing... ..	14	4,000	36,000	8	3,000	28,000
Transport	14	2,000	12,000	15	18,000	71,000
Other Trades	50	16,000	101,000	52	15,000	127,000
Local Authority Services	22	3,000	23,000	19	3,000	19,000
TOTAL	302	182,000	1,145,000	270	747,000	6,576,000

PRINCIPAL DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN OR ENDED IN MARCH.

Occupations and Locality.‡	Estimated Number of Workpeople Involved		Date when Dispute began.	Duration in Working Days.	Cause or Object †	Result.‡
	Directly.	Indirectly.‡				
MINING AND QUARRYING:—						
Coal miners, &c.—South Wales, Midland Counties, Yorkshire, &c.	100,000	...	24 March	6	In support of miners' national demand for advance in wages, reduction in working hours, nationalisation of mines, &c.	Work resumed pending result of miners' national ballot vote upon the terms offered by the Government.
Coal miners, &c.—Nottinghamshire	40,000	§	12 March ||	18	For a uniform basis rate of 8s. 3d. per shift for workers in abnormal places, advances in wages of main-road workers and colliery clerks, and payment for setting "benk bars"	Uniform basis rate of 8s. 3d. per shift granted for abnormal places and rates fixed for main-road workers and colliery clerks; question of payment for setting "benk bars" to be submitted to Coal Controller.
Coal miners, &c.—Merthyr Tydvil (near)	4,900	...	3 March	30	For a new scheme of delivery of coal for men's domestic use, dispute as to payment of minimum wage, and for recognition of washery-men as members of South Wales Miners' Federation in respect of their working hours, &c.	Work to be resumed pending a settlement.
Coal miners, &c.—Ebbw Vale ...	5,000	...	31 March	2	Against proposal to abolish "allowances" &c., and to restrict wages to the price list	Work resumed pending investigation.
METAL, ENGINEERING, AND SHIPBUILDING:—						
Cycle makers—Nottingham ...	1,042	...	3 March	13	Against re-employment of a certain foreman	Temporary arrangement effected pending final settlement.
Engineering machinists, &c. (male and female)—London	436	184	19 March	3	Refusal to work with a certain charge hand and on account of minor grievances	Charge hand to be given a further trial, and agreement reached on other disputed points.
Shipyard workers, &c.—North East Coast	40,000 ¶	...	6 Jan.	48	Dissatisfaction at introduction of 47-hour working week (with one daily break only for meals and alleged reduction in earnings of piece- and lieu-workers) and demand for 44-hour working week	Work resumed on a 47-hour week with one daily break, and pending settlement of the question of earnings of piece- and lieu-workers. For terms of settlement see summary of award on p. 157.
Shipyard workers, &c.—Humber ...	6,000	...	1 Jan.	52	Against alleged reduction in earnings of piece-workers and other grievances arising out of the establishment of the 47-hour working week	Work resumed pending a settlement. For terms of settlement see summary of award on p. 157.
Ship repairers, &c.—Bristol Channel	3,000	1,000	23 Jan.	52	For advance in wages	Temporary settlement effected pending negotiations.
Ship repairers, &c.—London ...	15,000	...	27 Jan.	32	For advance in wages of 15s. per week on current rates	Advance not granted.
Farriers.—Lancashire, Cheshire and North Staffordshire	1,000	...	24 Feb.	15	Strike at Liverpool for advance in wages followed by lock-out at other towns	Advance granted.

DISPUTES STILL IN PROGRESS.—65 disputes, involving about 15,000 workpeople, were reported to be in progress at the time of going to press.

* Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day, have, as usual, been omitted from the statistics, except when the aggregate duration (i.e. number of workpeople multiplied by number of working days, allowing for workpeople replaced by others, &c.) exceeded 100 days.

† In making up the totals for the several months of the year the figures have been amended in accordance with the most recent information.

‡ The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople "indirectly involved," i.e. thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons.

§ As a result of this dispute many factories were rendered idle through shortage of coal.

¶ The majority of strikers ceased work about 18th March.

|| At Sunderland work was generally resumed by 13th January, and at other centres many of the strikers returned to work during the progress of the dispute.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

[The particulars given, which are based on returns from employers and workpeople, are exclusive of changes affecting agricultural labourers, seamen, railway servants, police and Government employees. War bonuses and war increases have been so described where possible, but the information is not in all cases sufficient to distinguish between these and the increases not thus limited.]

Wages.

THE changes in rates of wages (including war bonuses) reported as having come into operation in March, to have effect either from dates in that month or from earlier dates, resulted in an increase of about £40,000 in the weekly wages of over 200,000 workpeople. In addition a large number of workpeople had their hourly time rates enhanced so as to give the same weekly wages as before for a shorter working week.

The principal changes include an increase in the wages of boot and shoe operatives in Great Britain, consequent upon the adoption of new minimum weekly rates of pay. Increases of 5s. and 2s. 6d. per week were granted to women 18 years of age and over and to girls under 18, respectively, in the soap and candle trades. Workpeople employed in the making-up and packing sections of the textile trades at Manchester, Salford and Blackburn had further increases under sliding scale, making the total war increases 31s. 11d. per week for men and 16s. 4d. per week for women.

Of the increases arranged in March, 31, affecting 38,000 workpeople, were arranged by arbitration; 4, affecting over 4,000 workpeople, were arranged by conciliation; 6, affecting nearly 16,000 workpeople, took effect under sliding scales; and the remaining 55 changes, affecting over 143,000 workpeople, were arranged directly as the result of negotiations between employers and workpeople or their representatives. In 5 cases only, affecting under 2,000 workpeople, the changes were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work.

The only decreases reported were slight reductions in the wages of coal miners in the Bristol and Radstock coalfields, which take place regularly every year at this season.

CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN JANUARY-MARCH, 1919.

The following Table summarises the changes for which particulars are available. Increases amounting to over £26,000 in the weekly wages of about 75,000 workpeople, which were arranged in January, February or March, to have effect from various dates in the latter part of 1918, are not included in these figures:—

PRINCIPAL CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN MARCH, 1919.

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Occupations.	Particulars of Change.
Changes in Rates of Wages, and War Bonuses.				
Building and Allied Trades	London	1 March	Wood carvers	Increase, as war wages, of 3d. per hour. Minimum rate after change, 1s. 10d. per hour.
	NORTHERN COUNTIES AND CLEVELAND:—			
	Carlisle, Whitehaven and Workington	1 March	Building trade operatives (including bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, slaters, plumbers, plasterers, painters and labourers)	Uniform rates adopted of 1s. 7d. ¹ per hour for craftsmen, and 1s. 3½d. ¹ or 1s. 3d. ¹ for labourers, subject to net increase not exceeding 3d. per hour. ²
	Tees and Hartlepool District (including Middlesbrough, Stockton and Thornaby)	(See Note 3)	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, plasterers and labourers	Increase of 1d. per hour. ² Rates after change: bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, machinists, plasterers, plumbers and masons (banker hands), 1s. 8d. ⁴ ; masons (fixers), 1s. 8½d. ⁴ ; labourers, 1s. 4½d. ⁴
	Tees and Hartlepool District (including Middlesbrough, Stockton, Thornaby) and Darlington	31 March	Painters	Increase of 1d. per hour ² (1s. 7d. to 1s. 8d.). ⁴
	Darlington	10 March	Plumbers	Increase of 3½d. per hour in standard rate, into which is merged the bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings previously granted. Rate after change, 1s. 7d. per hour.
	Kendal, Penrith and Windermere	1 March	Building trade operatives (including bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, slaters, plumbers, plasterers, painters and labourers)	Uniform rates adopted of 1s. 5d. ¹ per hour for craftsmen, and 1s. 1½d. ¹ or 1s. 1d. ¹ for labourers, subject to net increase not exceeding 3d. per hour. ²
	YORKSHIRE (excluding Cleveland):—			
	Barnsley	1 March	Painters	Increase of 3d. per hour (1s. to 1s. 3d.).
	Colne Valley (including Slaithwaite, Marsden, Laithwaite, Golcar and Milnsbridge)	1 March	Masons and bricklayers	Increase of 4d. per hour in standard rate (1s. 2½d. to 1s. 6½d.), into which is merged the bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings previously granted.
			Carpenters and joiners	Increase of 1½d. per hour (1s. 5d. to 1s. 6½d.).
			Labourers	Increase of 3½d. per hour in standard rate (11½d. to 1s. 8d.), into which is merged the bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings previously granted.
	Harrogate	1 March	Bricklayers, masons and plasterers	Increase of 3d. per hour (1s. 2d. to 1s. 5d.). ⁴
			Carpenters and joiners and woodcutting machinists	Increase of 2d. per hour (1s. 2d. to 1s. 4d.). ⁴
	Huddersfield	1 March	Slaters	Increase of 3½d. per hour (1s. 1½d. to 1s. 5d.). ⁴
			Carpenters and joiners, and woodcutting machinists	Increase of 1½d. per hour (1s. 5d. to 1s. 6½d.). ⁴
Building and Allied Trades	Skipton	8 March	Masons	Increase of 5d. per hour (11d. to 1s. 4d.).
			Labourers	Increase of 3d. per hour (9d. to 1s.).
	Spen Valley (including Cleckheaton, Liversedge, Heckmondwike and Mirfield)	1 March	Masons and labourers	Increase of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: masons, 1s. 4d. per hour plus 12½ per cent.; labourers, 1s. 1½d. per hour plus 12½ per cent.
	York	1 March	Painters	Increase of 4½d. per hour in standard rate (11d. to 1s. 3½d.), into which is merged the bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings previously granted.
	LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE:—			
	Various towns in Lancashire and Cheshire, and a few towns in Yorkshire, Shropshire, Derbyshire: Group A. ⁵			Uniform rates adopted of 1s. 8d. ¹ per hour for craftsmen, and 1s. 4½d. ¹ or 1s. 4d. ¹ per hour for labourers, subject to net increase not exceeding 3d. per hour. ²
	Group B. ⁶	1 March	Building trade operatives (including bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, slaters, plumbers, plasterers, painters, and labourers)	Uniform rates adopted of 1s. 7d. ¹ per hour for craftsmen, and 1s. 3½d. ¹ or 1s. 3d. ¹ per hour for labourers, subject to net increase not exceeding 3d. per hour. ²
	Group C. ⁷			Uniform rates adopted of 1s. 6d. ¹ per hour for craftsmen, and 1s. 2½d. ¹ or 1s. 2d. ¹ per hour for labourers, subject to net increase not exceeding 3d. per hour. ²
	Furness			Uniform rates adopted of 1s. 5d. ¹ per hour for craftsmen, and 1s. 1½d. ¹ or 1s. 1d. ¹ per hour for labourers, subject to net increase not exceeding 3d. per hour. ²

PRINCIPAL CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN MARCH, 1919—(continued)

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Occupations.	Particulars of Change.
Changes in Rates of Wages, and War Bonuses (continued).				
Building and Allied Trades (continued)	Bolton	1 March	Concretors and asphalters	Increase of 2d. per hour (1s. 4d. to 1s. 6d.). ²
	Liverpool	1 March	Asphalters	Increase of 2d. per hour (1s. 4d. to 1s. 6d.). ²
	Manchester, Salford and District	1 March	Concretors and asphalters	Increase of 2d. per hour (1s. 4d. to 1s. 6d.). ²
	NORTH AND WEST MIDLANDS:—			
	Cheltenham	1 Jan. ⁹	Plumbers	Increase of 2½d. per hour in standard rate (1s. 0½d. to 1s. 3d.) into which is merged the bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings previously granted.
		1 March	Painters and labourers	Increase of 2½d. per hour in standard rate, into which is merged the bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings previously granted. Rates after change: painters, 1s. 3d.; labourers, 1s. 1d.
	Cirencester... ..	1 March	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, slaters, plasterers, plumbers, painters and labourers.	Increase of 1d. per hour, and bonus of 12½ per cent. previously granted merged into wages. Rates after change: tradesmen (except painters), 1s.; painters, 11½d.; labourers, 10d.
			Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, slaters, plumbers and plasterers	Increase of 3½d. per hour in standard rate, into which is merged the bonus of 12½ per cent. previously granted. Rates after change: masons (fixers) 1s. 7½d., other classes, 1s. 7d.
	Coventry	1 March	Painters, labourers and navvies	Increase of 4½d. per hour in standard rate, into which is merged the bonus of 12½ per cent. previously granted. Rates after change: painters, 1s. 7d., scaffolders and plasterers' labourers 1s. 5½d., other labourers and navvies, 1s. 5d.
	Gloucester	10 March	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, plumbers, plasterers, painters and labourers	Increase of 4½d. per hour, into which is merged the bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings previously granted. Rates after change: bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, plumbers and plasterers, 1s. 5d.; painters, 1s. 4d.; labourers, 1s. 3d. ²
		1 March	Bricklayers	Increase of 1½d. per hour (1s. 2d. to 1s. 3½d.)
			Masons, slaters and plasterers	Increase of 1½d. per hour. Rates after change: masons (banker hands), 1s. 3½d.; masons (fixers), slaters, and plasterers, 1s. 3½d.
	Grantham	8 March	Carpenters and joiners	Increase of 1½d. per hour (1s. 1½d. to 1s. 3½d.)
			Plumbers	Increase of 2½d. per hour (11½d. to 1s. 2d.)
			Labourers and scaffolders	Increase of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: masons' and plasterers' labourers and scaffolders, 1s.; general labourers, 11½d.
	Grimsby	1 March	Painters	Increase of 3d. per hour (1s. 2d. to 1s. 5d.). ⁴
			Bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, slaters, plumbers and plasterers	Increase of 1½d. per hour (1s. 1½d. to 1s. 3d.)
	Leamington Spa	29 Mar.	Masons, painters and labourers	Increase of 1½d. per hour. Rates after change: masons (banker hands), 1s. 3d.; masons (fixers), 1s. 3½d.; painters, 1s. 2d.; labourers, 1s.
	Ilkeston	8 March	Carpenters and joiners	Increase of 2d. per hour in standard rate (1s. 4d. to 1s. 6d.), into which is merged the bonus of 12½ per cent. previously granted to men on munitions work.
			Bricklayers, carpenters and joiners and plumbers	Increase of 1½d. per hour in standard rate (1s. 2d. to 1s. 3½d.), into which is merged the bonus of 12½ per cent. previously granted.
	Loughborough	1st pay day after 21 March	Woodcutting machinists	Increase of 2½d. per hour in standard rate (1s. 1½d. to 1s. 4d.), into which are merged the bonuses of 3s. per week and 12½ per cent. on earnings previously granted.
			Labourers	Increase of 1½d. per hour in standard rate (11½d. to 1s. 1d.), into which is merged the bonus of 12½ per cent. previously granted.
	Nottingham and District	31 March	Plumbers	Increase of 4d. per hour in standard rate (1s. 4½d. to 1s. 8½d.), into which is merged the bonus of 12½ per cent. previously granted. ²
			Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, slaters, plumbers, plasterers and labourers	Increase of 2¾d. per hour in standard rate, into which is merged the bonus of 12½ per cent. previously granted. Rates after change: tradesmen, 1s. 7½d.; labourers, 1s. 4½d.
	Sutton Coldfield	1 March	Painters	Increase of 1¾d. per hour (1s. 4d. to 1s. 5¾d.). ⁴
	EASTERN, SOUTHERN AND WESTERN COUNTIES:—			
	Newmarket... ..	29 Mar.	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners and painters	Increase of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: painters, 11½d.; other classes, 1s. 1d.
			Plumbers	Increase of 1d. per hour (1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d.).
	Norwich	1 March	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, plumbers, plasterers, painters and labourers	Increase of 3d. per hour. Rates after change: bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, plumbers and plasterers, 1s. 3d.; painters, 1s. 2d.; labourers, 1s. 0½d. ²
			Sawyers and woodcutting machinists	Increase of 4d. per hour. Rates after change: sawyers, 1s. 3d.; all-round machinists, 1s. 4d. ²
	Taunton	8 March	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, plumbers, plasterers, painters and labourers	Increase of 1½d. per hour. Rates after change: bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners and plasterers, 1s. 1½d.; plumbers and painters, 1s. 0½d.; labourers, 11d. ²
	Tonbridge	1 March	Carpenters and joiners	Increase to a rate of 1s. per hour.
	Bradford-on-Avon, Melksham, Trowbridge, Warminster and Westbury	10 Mar.	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, slaters, plumbers and plasterers	Increases to a rate of 1s. 1d. per hour. ²
			Painters	Increases to a rate of 1s. per hour. ²
			Labourers	Increases to a rate of 10d. per hour. ²
	WALES:—			
	Bangor and Carnarvon			Uniform rates adopted of 1s. 5d. ¹ per hour for craftsmen and 1s. 1½d. ¹ or 1s. 1d. ¹ per hour for labourers, subject to net increase not exceeding 3d. per hour. ²
	Colwyn Bay, Holyhead, Llandudno and West Flintshire	1 March	Building trade operatives (including bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, slaters, plumbers, plasterers, painters and labourers)	Uniform rates adopted of 1s. 6d. ¹ per hour for craftsmen and 1s. 2½d. ¹ or 1s. 2d. ¹ per hour for labourers, subject to net increase not exceeding 3d. per hour. ²
	Wrexham and East Flintshire			Uniform rates adopted of 1s. 7d. ¹ per hour for craftsmen and 1s. 3½d. ¹ or 1s. 3d. ¹ per hour for labourers, subject to net increase not exceeding 3d. per hour. ²
	SCOTLAND:—			
	Certain districts in Scotland ¹⁰	(See Note 3)	Bricklayers, masons, joiners and woodcutting machinists, slaters, plumbers, plasterers, glaziers, painters and labourers	Increase of 1d. per hour, or such less amount as will raise the total war increase to 6¾d. per hour, for those workpeople whose total war increase amounted to 5¾d. per hour and upwards, and of 1d. per hour to those whose total war increase was less than 5¾d.; the bonuses of 12½ per cent. or 7½ per cent. on earnings not being taken into account. (See Award No. 313 on p. 156).
	Scotland	10 March	Bricklayers, masons, joiners and woodcutting machinists, slaters, plumbers, plasterers, glaziers, painters and labourers	Hourly rates enhanced (on reduction in hours) so as to give the same weekly wages, including the bonus of 12½ per cent. as for the number of hours formerly worked. ² (See Award No. 314 on p. 156.)
	Edinburgh	(See Note 3)	Slaters	Increase of ½d. per hour. Rate after change, 1s. 4¾d. plus 12½ per cent. (See Award No. 360 on p. 156.)
	Dundee	(See Note 3)	Slaters	Increase of ½d. per hour. (See Award No. 360 on p. 156.)
	Rothsay	(See Note 3)	Joiners	Increase of 1d. per hour. (See Award No. 313 on p. 156).
	Rosyth	1st full pay after 6 March	Carpenters and joiners	Further increase of ¾d. per hour. (See Award No. 360 on p. 156.)

PRINCIPAL CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN MARCH, 1919—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Occupations.	Particulars of Change.
Changes in Rates of Wages, and War Bonuses (continued).				
Building and Allied Trades (continued)	Stirling	(See Note 3)	Masons	Increase of 1d. per hour. Rate after change, 1s. 4d. plus 12½ per cent. (See Award No. 313 on p. 156).
	Arbroath	1 March	Painters	Increase of ½d. per hour. Rate after change, 1s. 3¾d. plus 12½ per cent. (See Award No. 313 on p. 156).
	Castle Douglas	8 March	Painters	Increase of 1¼d. per hour. Rate after change, 1s. 3¾d. plus 12½ per cent.
	Castle Douglas	8 March	Carpenters and joiners	Increase of 3d. per hour (9d. to 1s.).
Coal Mining ...	IRELAND:—			
	Belfast	14 Mar.	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, and plasterers	Increases to a rate of 1s. 8¾d. per hour, into which are merged all bonuses. ²
	Belfast	14 Mar.	Painters	Increases to a rate of 1s. 8¾d. per hour, into which are merged all bonuses. ²
	Waterford	10 March 24 March	Carpenters and joiners Labourers	Increase of 3½d. per hour (11d. to 1s. 2½d.). Increase to a rate of 9d. per hour.
Quarrying ...	Radstock District	27 March	Hewers, other underground workers, banksmen, enginemen and stokers ...	Seasonal reduction of 1½ per cent. on basis rates, leaving hewers wages 31½ per cent. above the standard of 1916 plus war wage of 3s. per day.
	Bristol District	24 March	Hewers and other underground workers and banksmen	Seasonal reduction of 1½ per cent. on basis rates, leaving wages of hewers 31½ per cent., and for other underground workers 33½ per cent. above the standard of 1917 on the Gloucester side; and 35 per cent. and 36½ per cent., respectively, on the Somerset side. The war wage of 3s. per day is paid in addition to the percentages quoted.
	Forest of Dean	17 Feb. ⁹	Leading timbermen, contracting timbermen and colliers on day work	Minimum rates for men working on a 4s. per day standard, plus current percentages, increased to 4s. 7d. per day plus current percentages.
	Morley	7 March	Freestone quarrymen	Increase of 7½ per cent. to piece-workers and of 2d. per hour to time-workers.
Iron and Steel Manufacture	Clitheroe	1st pay day in March	Limestone quarrymen	Increase of 20 per cent.
	Cornwall and Devonshire	1 Mar.	Granite masons	Increase from rates of 1s. 1d., 1s. 1½d. and 1s. 2d. per hour to a rate of 1s. 3d. per hour.
	East and West of Scotland	1 March	Granite labourers Settmakers and quarry workers	Increases generally amounting to 1d. per hour. Increase of 25 per cent. on earnings.
	Northumberland, Durham and Cleveland	31 Mar.	Iron puddlers	Basis rate of 13s. 6d. per ton established and an increase, under sliding scale, of 12½ per cent. granted, making wages 13s. 6d. per ton plus 110 per cent.
Engineering and Ship-building	West of Scotland	31 Mar.	Iron and steel millmen Iron puddlers	Increase, under sliding scale, of 12½ per cent. Basis rate of 13s. 6d. per ton established and an increase under sliding scale, of 10 per cent. granted, making wages 13s. 6d. per ton plus 105 per cent. plus 10 per cent. (in respect of subsidy equivalent).
	Various Districts in the United Kingdom	(See Note 11)	Lieu workers in the shipbuilding trade ...	Increase, under sliding scale, of 10 per cent., making wages 105 per cent. plus 10 per cent. (in respect of subsidy equivalent) above standard.
	Tyne, Blyth, Wear, Tees and Hartlepool	19 Sep. ¹²	Red leaders on Admiralty and merchant work in shipyards	Enhancement, on reduction in hours of labour, of certain lieu rates. (See Award on p. 157.)
	Stroud	10 March	Engineers' labourers	Increase, as war wages, of 10 per cent. on contract or piece prices and on basis "lieu" rates.
Other Metal Trades	Southampton and district	6 March	All classes of workpeople employed in the engineering and shipbuilding trades	Increase of 2s. per week. Hourly rates enhanced (on reduction in hours) so as to give the same weekly earnings for a 47-hour week as for the normal week formerly worked (53 hours). ²
	Kilmarnock	(See Note 3)	Fitters and turners, planers, drillers and slotters	Increase of 1s. per week.
	Dublin	(See Note 3)	Fitters, turners, smiths and pattern-makers	Increase of 1s. 9d. per week in district rate. Rate after change: 40s. plus war wage of 28s. 6d., plus 12½ per cent. (See Award on p. 157.)
	Cork, Queenstown and Passage West	1st full pay after 10 March	Shipwrights	Increase, as war wages, of ¾d. per hour. (See Award on p. 160.)
Woollen and Worsted Industry	London District	1st full pay after 27 March	Labourers employed at piece rates by gas-meter, &c., makers	Increase of 10 per cent. (See Award on p. 157.)
	Cardiff	(See Note 3)	Heating and domestic engineers	Standard rate adopted of 1s. 4d. per hour plus a bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings. (See Award on p. 157.)
	Redditch	(See Note 13)	Needle and fishing tackle makers (women and girls)	Total war wage advances increased to 11s. per week for women 18 years and over and to 5s. 6d. per week for girls under 18. (See Award on p. 157.)
	Redditch	1st full pay after 21 March	Needle and fishing tackle makers (women and girls)	Scale of increased minimum time rates adopted, varying from 2½d. per hour for girls under 15 to 5½d. per hour for those 18 years and over. (See Award on p. 157.)
Other Metal Trades	Cradley Heath	1st full pay after 11 March	Hammered chain workers (women and girls)	Increase of 10 per cent. on current rates. (See Award on p. 157.)
	Cradley Heath and Rowley Regis District	1st full pay after 1 Jan. ⁹	Ships' tackle makers, &c.	Increases of 5s. per week to men 18 years of age and over, and of 2s. 6d. to boys and youths under 18. (See Award on p. 157.)
	London	Week preceding 1st pay day in April	Farriers	Increase of 1s. per day; and increased rates fixed for making screw and stud holes, and fixing new and old pads and leathers. Daily rates after change: firemen, 12s. 3d.; doormen, 11s. 9d. ² (See Award on p. 161.)
	Yorkshire (various towns) ¹⁴	3 March	Farriers	Increase of 2d. per hour. Rates after change: firemen, 1s. 6d.; registered doormen, 1s. 5½d.; other doormen, 1s. 5d. ²
Woollen and Worsted Industry	Liverpool, Birkenhead, and District	12 March	Farriers	Increase of 5s. per week. Rates after change: firemen, 77s.; doormen, 75s. ²
	Lancashire and Cheshire (various towns) ¹⁵ and Stoke-on-Trent	1 Feb. ⁹	Farriers	Increase of 6s. per week. Rates after change: Manchester and Stoke-on-Trent—firemen, 71s.; doormen, 67s.; other towns—firemen, 69s.; doormen, 65s. (See Award on p. 156). ²
	Glasgow, Greenock, Gourock, Paisley, Port Glasgow, Edinburgh, and Leith	3 March	Farriers	Increase of 5d. per hour in standard rate, into which is merged the war advance of 7s. 6d. per week granted in 1918. Rates after change: firemen, 1s. 7d.; doormen, 1s. 6½d. ²
	Sheffield	1 March	Horn pressers, sway knife cutters, &c. ...	Increases of 10 per cent. on piece rates (making a total war advance of 70 per cent.) and of 2s. 6d. per week to datal men.
Woollen and Worsted Industry	England and Wales ...	3 March	All classes of workpeople engaged in the woollen and worsted trades (except enginemen and firemen)	Hourly rates and piece rates enhanced (on reduction in hours) so as to give the same weekly earnings for a 48-hour week as for the normal week formerly worked (generally 55½ hours). ²
	Stroud and Witney Districts, and the West of England ¹⁶	10 Jan. ¹⁷	Woollen and worsted operatives:— Piece-workers Time-workers	Total war advance increased to a minimum of 105 per cent. over pre-war average earnings. (See Award on p. 158.) Increase of 105 per cent. over pre-war average district rates, subject to a minimum total war advance of 22s. per week for men 18 years and over, and of 16s. per week for women 18 years and over. (See Award on p. 158.)

PRINCIPAL CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN MARCH, 1919—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Occupations.	Particulars of Change.
Changes in Rates of Wages, and War Bonuses (continued).				
Textile Bleaching, Dyeing, Printing, Finishing, &c., Trades	Yorkshire (except Hebden Bridge District)	3 March	Workpeople employed in the dyeing, finishing, &c., trades	Hourly rates and piece rates enhanced (on reduction in hours so as to give the same weekly earnings for a 48-hour week as for the normal week formerly worked (generally 54 to 55½ hours). ² Increase of 4d. per hour to firebeaters (11d. to 1s. 3d.) and a proportionate increase to other grades.
	Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire	1st full pay after 18 Mar.	Firebeaters, engine tenters, oilers, greasers, and assistant boiler firemen employed in bleaching, dyeing and finishing trades	
	Manchester, Salford, and Blackburn	1st pay day in March	Workpeople employed in the making-up and packing trade:— Males 21 years of age and over employed as hydraulic packers, makers-up, general warehousemen (including cloth lookers, markers-off and stampers), plaiters, cutters and lappers, case fillers, hoist men, loaders, porters and sundrymen Qualified females, including markers-off, stitchers, cutters, plaiters, parcellers, sorters, tapers and hookers	Increase, under sliding scale, of 6d. per week, making a total war wage of 31s. 11d. per week. Rates after change: hydraulic packers, makers-up, and pattern-card makers, 65s. 11d.; cloth lookers, 58s. 11d.; stampers, &c., 58s. 5d.; plaiters and lappers, 55s. 5d.; general warehousemen 54s. 5d. Increase, under sliding scale, of 3d. per week, making a total war wage of 16s. 4d. per week. Rates after change: markers-off, 33s. 4d.; other workers, 28s. 4d. to 31s. 4d.
Silk Industry	Leek	1st full pay after 8 March	Silk dyers	Increase, as war wages, of 6s. per week to men 22½ years of age and over and a proportionate increase (varying from 1s. 6d. per week at 14 years of age to 6s. per week at 22 years of age) to men and boys under 22½ years. (See Award on p. 158.)
Carpet Industry	Kidderminster and various districts in Yorkshire and Lancashire ¹⁸	3 March	Workpeople employed in the carpet industry	Piece rates increased by 15 per cent. and hourly rates enhanced (on reduction in hours) so as to give the same weekly earnings for a 48-hour week as for the normal week formerly worked (55 or 55½ hours). ²
	Various districts in Scotland ¹⁹	10 March	Workpeople employed in the carpet industry	Piece rates increased by 15 per cent. and hourly rates enhanced (on reduction in hours) so as to give the same weekly earnings for a 48-hour week as for the normal week formerly worked (49 to 56 hours). ²
Boot, Shoe and Slipper Trades			Boot and shoe operatives 16 years of age and over:— Males employed in departments other than heel building and stock or shoe rooms	War bonuses and war advances previously granted cancelled, and minimum wage for men 23 years and over increased to 56s. per week, and scale of minimum wages for workers under 23 years increased, to begin at 18s. per week at 16 years of age, rising, according to age, to 53s. per week at 22 years of age. ²
			Males employed in heel building departments or in stock or shoe rooms ²⁰	War bonuses and war advances previously granted cancelled, and minimum wage for men 23 years and over increased to 53s. per week, and scale of minimum wages for workers under 23 years increased, to begin at 16s. per week at 16 years of age, rising, according to age, to 50s. per week at 22 years of age. ²
	Great Britain	31 Mar.	Females employed in the closing and heel building departments or in stock or shoe rooms ²⁰ ... Piece-workers	War bonuses and war advances previously granted cancelled, and minimum wage for women 20 years and over increased to 30s. per week, and scale of minimum wages for workers under 20 years increased, to begin at 15s. per week at 16 years of age, rising, according to age, to 26s. per week at 19 years of age. ² Increase of 5 per cent. on present prices pending a completion of new statements which shall ensure the average worker at least 25 per cent. over the above minimum rates. ² Piece rates increased by 10 per cent. and hourly rates enhanced (on reduction in hours) so as to give the same weekly earnings for a 46½-hour week as for the normal week formerly worked (49½ hours). ²
Transport Trades	Rossendale (including Bacup, Stacksteads, Waterfoot and Rawtenstall)	6 March	Shoe and slipper operatives	
	Great Britain ²¹	31 March	All classes of workpeople (except tradesmen and permanent way men) in the employment of tramway undertakings	Rates of pay revised (on reduction in hours) so as to give the same weekly wage as for the number of hours formerly worked, subject to certain specified limitations for those previously working over 57 hours per week. ²
	Newcastle - under - Lyne Stoke-on-Trent and Districts	1st full pay after 1 March	Carters	Increase of 5s. per week to men 18 years and over and to youths under 18 doing men's work, and of 2s. 6d. per week to other youths. Rates after change: one-horse drivers, 52s. per week; two-horse drivers, 57s. per week. (See Award on p. 158.)
Printing and Allied Trades	Milford Haven	15 March	Hobblers employed in landing fish	Rates previously paid increased from 6s. to 9s. per man for landing 100 kits or less; from 7s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. per man for landing over 100 and under 125 kits; from 9s. to 12s. per man for landing over 125 and under 150 kits; from 10s. 6d. to 13s. 6d. per man for landing over 150 and under 175 kits; and from 12s. to 15s. per man for landing over 175 and under 200 kits, with an additional 1s. 6d. for every 25 kits or part thereof. (See Award on p. 158.)
	United Kingdom	3 March	All classes of workpeople employed in the printing and allied trades	Hourly rates and piece-rates enhanced (on reduction in hours) so as to give the same weekly earnings for a 48-hour week as for the normal week formerly worked (generally 49 to 53 hours). ²
	Banbury	31 March	Compositors, machinemen and linotype and monotype operators (book, jobbing and newspaper)	Increase of 2s. 6d. per week. Minimum rate after change for jobbing compositors, 60s.
Papermaking Trade	Hereford, Leominster and Ross		Compositors, machinemen and linotype and monotype operators (book, jobbing and newspaper)	Increase of 4s. per week. Minimum rate after change for jobbing compositors, 60s.
	Bournemouth	31 March	Compositors, machinemen and linotype and monotype operators (book, jobbing and newspaper)	Increase of 4s. 6d. per week. Minimum rate after change for jobbing compositors, 60s.
	Bridgwater and Swindon		Compositors, machinemen and linotype and monotype operators (book, jobbing and newspaper)	Increases to a minimum rate of 60s. per week for compositors and machinemen, and to a minimum rate of 60s. plus 12½ per cent. for linotype and monotype operators.
Chemical Trades	Exeter	31 March	Compositors, machinemen and linotype and monotype operators (book, jobbing and newspaper)	Increase of 1s. 6d. per week. Minimum rate after change for jobbing compositors, 60s.
	Taunton		Compositors, machinemen and linotype and monotype operators (book, jobbing and newspaper)	Increase of 9s. per week. Minimum rate after change for jobbing compositors, 60s.
	Torquay	31 March	Compositors, machinemen and linotype and monotype operators (book, jobbing and newspaper)	Increase of 4s. 6d. per week. Minimum rate after change for jobbing compositors, 57s.
Papermaking Trade	Truro		Compositors, machinemen and linotype and monotype operators (book, jobbing and newspaper)	Increase of 7s. 6d. per week. Minimum rate after change for jobbing compositors, 57s.
	Weston-super-Mare	31 March	Compositors, machinemen and linotype and monotype operators (book, jobbing and newspaper)	Increase of 2s. 6d. per week. Minimum rate after change for jobbing compositors, 60s.
	Yeovil and Sherborne		Compositors, machinemen and linotype and monotype operators (book, jobbing and newspaper)	Increase of 4s. per week. Minimum rate after change for jobbing compositors, 60s.
Chemical Trades	Forfar and Kirriemuir	10 March	Compositors and machinemen	Increase of 5s. per week. Minimum rates after change for compositors, 51s.
	Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire	Pay-day in week ending 25 Jan. ¹²	Enginemen, firemen, &c. employed in paper mills	Increase to rates of 1s. 3d. per hour for firemen and engine tenters, and 1s. 2d. per hour for ash wheelers, oilers and greasers.
	Great Britain	Beginning of pay period paid in week ending 4 Jan. ⁹	Women and girls employed in the explosives and the heavy chemical trades:— 18 years of age and over Under 18 years	Increase of 5s. per week, subject to a maximum total increase of 20s. per week over pre-war rates. (See Awards on p. 158.) Increase of 2s. 6d. per week, subject to a maximum total increase of 10s. per week over pre-war rates. (See Awards on p. 158.)

PRINCIPAL CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN MARCH, 1919—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Occupations.	Particulars of Change.
Changes in Rates of Wages, and War Bonuses (continued).				
Chemical Trades (continued)	United Kingdom ...	(See Note 3)	Women and girls employed in the soap and candle trade:— (a) 18 years of age and over ...	Increase of 5s. per week, subject to a maximum total increase of 20s. per week over pre-war rates. (See Award on p. 159).
			(b) Under 18 years ...	Increase of 2s. 6d. per week, subject to a maximum total increase of 10s. per week over pre-war rates. (See Award on p. 159).
Cement and Brick Trades	United Kingdom ...	1st full pay after 13 March	Workpeople employed in the cement trade:— (a) Men and women 18 years of age and over ...	Increase of 5s. per week, subject to maximum total increases, over pre-war rates, of 30s. per week for men and 20s. per week for women. ² (See Award on p. 158).
			(b) Youths and girls under 18 ...	Increase of 2s. 6d. per week, subject to a maximum total increase of 10s. per week over pre-war rates. ² (See Award on p. 158).
Furniture Trades	North Staffordshire ...	1 March	Marl workers, brickmakers, &c. (men 21 years of age and over)	Increase of 1d. per hour in minimum time rate (11d. to 1s.), and a proportionate increase to piece-workers.
	Newcastle, South Shields, and Sanderland District	14 Mar. { 1 March	Cabinet makers, machinists, and carvers ... Upholsterers, and polishers ... Wholesale and retail trades:— Cabinet and chair makers, carvers, upholsterers, male polishers, machinists (with four years' experience) and mattress makers	Increase of 2½d. per hour (1s. 6½d. to 1s. 9d.) ² Increase of 3d. per hour (1s. 6d. to 1s. 9d.) ²
Packing Case Making	North East Lancashire ²²	15 March	Cabinet makers, polishers, machinists, carvers, upholsterers, &c.	Increase of 2d. per hour (1s. 6d. to 1s. 8d.) ²
	Birmingham and District	1st pay day in March	Workpeople employed in glass bevelling trade	Increase of 2d. per hour (1s. 2d. to 1s. 4d.) ² Increase of 1d. per hour (11d. to 1s.) ²
Brewing	Liverpool ...	22 March	Packing case makers ...	Increase of 2d. per hour. Rates after change: bevellers, silverers, and cutters, 1s. 8d.; brilliant cutters, 1s. 9d.; fitters, 1s. 6d.; packers, 1s. 5d. ²
	Sheffield ...	Week ending 8 March	Men and women employed on inside brewery work (except coopers), carters, lorrymen and assistants	Increase of 2d. per hour (1s. 5d. to 1s. 7½d.) into which is merged a war bonus of 2s. 6d. per week, previously granted.
Local Authority Services	Stoke-on-Trent ...	Beginning of 1st full pay after 20 March	Women employed in the bottling department Corporation employees (non-certified departments)	Increase of 5s. per week. Rates after change; carters and lorrymen, 61s.; old servants and assistants, 59s.; new men, 58s. ²
	South Wales and Monmouthshire (Certain Districts) ²³	1 Jan. 9	Certain classes of workpeople employed by Local Authorities	Increase of 4s. per week. ² Increase, as war wages, of 5s. per week to men, 18 years of age and over; of 3s. 6d. per week to women 18 years of age and over (subject to a maximum total war advance of 20s. per week for women); and of 2s. 6d. per week to boys and youths under 18. Minimum hourly rates of wages established, for a working week of 47 hours, into which are merged all war wage increases, or war bonuses, previously granted. The following are examples of the rates established:— leading wheelwrights and blacksmiths, 1s. 6½d. per hour; other wheelwrights and blacksmiths, leading platelayers, coach-painters, water-fitters, &c., 1s. 6d. per hour; steam motor-drivers, steam-boiler-drivers, engine-drivers, saddlers, working-gangers, sawyers, leading hands and central yardmen, 1s. 5d. per hour; leading blocklayers, 1s. 4¾d. per hour; grave-diggers, 1s. 4½d. per hour; semi-skilled labourers, blocklayers, platelayers, doormen, fitters' helpers and horse drivers, 1s. 3½d. per hour; ashmen, 1s. 3¼d. per hour; and ordinary labourers, strikers, sweepers, lamplighters, &c., 1s. 2d. per hour. ²

Changes in Hours of Labour.

Building Trades	Tees and Hartlepool District (including Middlesbrough, Stockton and Thornaby)	31 March	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, plasterers and labourers	Decrease of 3 hours per week in summer (50 to 47). ²⁴
	Tees and Hartlepool District (including Middlesbrough, Stockton, Thornaby) and Darlington	31 March	Painters ...	Decrease of 6 hours per week in summer (53 to 47). ²⁴
Building Trades	Certain towns in Cumberland, Lancashire, Cheshire, the Midlands and North Wales. (See Notes 5, 6 & 7.)	1 March	Building trade operatives (including bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, slaters, plumbers, plasterers, painters and labourers)	Uniform week adopted of 46½ hours in summer and not exceeding 44 hours in winter, resulting in decreases of from 2 hours to 9 hours per week in summer, and an average decrease for the year of nearly 3 hours per week. ²⁴
	Manchester and Salford, Liverpool and Bolton	1 March	Concretors and asphalters ...	Decrease of 3 hours per week in summer (49½ to 46½). ²⁴
Building Trades	Gloucester ...	10 March	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, plumbers, plasterers, painters and labourers	Decrease of 10 hours per week (56½ to 46½) in summer and a decrease in winter hours, making an average decrease for the year of about 8 hours per week. ²⁴
	Nottingham and District	17 March	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, slaters and tilers, plasterers and labourers	Decrease of 7½ hours per week in summer (51½ to 44).
Building Trades	Norwich ...	17 March	Painters ...	Decrease of 10 hours per week in summer (54 to 44).
		31 March	Plumbers ...	Decrease of 7½ hours per week in summer (51½ to 44). ²⁴
Building Trades	Bradford-on-Avon, Melksham, Trowbridge, Warminster and Westbury	1 March	Bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, plumbers, painters and labourers	Decrease of 5 hours per week in summer (55 to 50). ²⁴
	Taunton ...	10 March	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, slaters, plumbers, plasterers, painters and labourers	Decrease of 3½ hours per week in summer (57½ to 54). ²⁴
Building Trades	Scotland ...	8 March	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, slaters, plumbers, plasterers, painters and labourers	Decrease of 6 hours per week in summer (55½ to 49½). ²⁴
	Belfast ...	10 March	Bricklayers, masons, joiners and woodcutting machinists, slaters, plumbers, plasterers, glaziers, painters and labourers	Uniform week of 44 hours adopted, resulting in a decrease generally of 6 hours per week. ²⁴
Iron and Steel Manufacture	North of England, Scotland, and various districts in Great Britain ²⁵	14 March (See Note 25)	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners and plasterers	Decrease of 2 hours per week in summer (49 to 47). ²⁴
	Southampton and District	14 March	Painters ...	Decrease of 1 hour per week in summer (48 to 47). ²⁴
Engineering and Shipbuilding	South Wales and Monmouthshire	6 March	Iron and steel workers (shift workers) ...	Uniform 8 hour daily shift adopted. ²⁴
	South Wales and Monmouthshire	3 March	All classes of workpeople employed in the engineering and shipbuilding trades	Uniform week of 47 hours adopted, resulting in a decrease of 6 hours per week. ²⁴
Spelter Manufacture	Swansea and Glamorgan-shire	10 March	Workpeople engaged in tinsplate manufacture	Adoption of a uniform week of 47 hours for daymen (resulting in a decrease of, generally, 6 hours per week) and of an 8-hour daily shift for shift workers (resulting in a decrease of, generally, 16 hours per week).
			Spelter, &c., workers ...	Adoption of a uniform week of 47 hours for daymen (resulting in a decrease of, generally, 7 hours per week) and of an 8-hour daily shift for processmen (resulting in a decrease of, generally, 6 hours per week).

PRINCIPAL CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN MARCH, 1919—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Occupations.	Particulars of Change.
Changes in Hours of Labour.				
Farriery	London	31 March	Farriers	Uniform week of 47 hours adopted, resulting in a decrease of, generally, from 6 to 8 hours per week. ²⁴
	Yorkshire (various towns) ¹⁴	3 March	Farriers	Uniform week of 47 hours adopted, resulting in a decrease of, generally, about 6 hours per week. ²⁴
	Liverpool, Birkenhead and District	12 March	Farriers	Decrease of 6 hours per week (53 to 47). ²⁴
	Lancashire and Cheshire (various towns) ¹⁵ and Stoke-on-Trent	1 March	Farriers	Decrease of 6 hours per week (53 to 47). ²⁴
	Edinburgh and Leith ...	3 March	Farriers	Decrease of 3 hours per week (51 to 48). ²⁴
	Glasgow, Greenock, Gourock, Paisley, and Port Glasgow	3 March	Farriers	Decrease of 4 hours per week (51 to 47). ²⁴
Textile Trades	England and Wales ...	3 March	All classes of workpeople engaged in the woollen and worsted trades (except engine-men and firemen)	Uniform week of 48 hours adopted, resulting in a decrease of, generally, 7½ hours per week. ²⁴
	Yorkshire (except Hebden Bridge District)	3 March	Workpeople employed in the dyeing, finishing, &c., trades	Uniform week of 48 hours adopted, resulting in decreases of from 6 to 7½ hours per week. ²⁴
Carpet Industry	Kidderminster and various districts in Yorkshire and Lancashire ¹⁸	3 March	Workpeople engaged in the carpet industry	Uniform week of 48 hours adopted, resulting in decreases of 7 to 7½ hours per week. ²⁴
	Various districts in Scotland ¹⁹	10 March	Workpeople engaged in the carpet industry	Uniform week of 48 hours adopted, resulting in decreases of from 1 to 8 hours per week. ²⁴
Boot and Shoe and Slipper Trades.	Great Britain	31 March	Boot and shoe operatives	Uniform week of 48 hours adopted, resulting, generally, in a decrease of 4½ hours per week. ²⁴
	Rossendale (including Bacup, Stacksteads, Waterfoot and Rawten-stall)	6 March	Shoe and slipper operatives	Decrease of 3 hours per week (49½ to 46½). ²⁴
Transport Trades	Great Britain ²⁰	31 March ²⁷	Drivers (horse and mechanical), stable and garage hands, mates and trawlermen in the carting industry	Uniform week of 48 hours adopted, resulting in decreases of from 7½ to 20 hours per week.
	Great Britain ²¹	31 March	All classes of workpeople (except tradesmen and permanent way men) in the employment of tramway undertakings	Uniform week of 48 hours adopted for workpeople other than depot day staffs (to whom a 47-hour week was granted) resulting in decreases of from 1½ to 13¼ hours per week. ²⁴
Printing and Allied Trades	United Kingdom	3 March	All classes of workpeople employed in the printing and allied trades	Uniform week of 48 hours adopted, resulting generally in decreases of from 1 to 5 hours per week. ²⁴
	United Kingdom	1st full pay after 13 March	Workpeople employed in the cement trade ...	Uniform week of 48 hours adopted, resulting in decreases of from 6 to 8½ hours per week. ²⁴
Furniture Trades	Newcastle, South Shields, and Sunderland District	1 March	Cabinet makers, machinists, carvers, upholsterers, and polishers	Decrease of 6 hours per week (50 to 44). ²⁴
	Manchester and District	1 March	Whole-sale and retail trades:—Cabinet and chair makers, carvers, upholsterers, male polishers, machinists (with four years' experience), mattress makers, labourers, upholsterers, female polishers, and glass-workers	Decrease of 1½ hours per week in summer, and of 4 hours per week in winter, making an average decrease for the year of just over 2 hours per week. Hours after change: summer, 46½; winter, 44. ²⁴
Brewing	North-East Lancashire ²²	15 March	Cabinet makers, polishers, machinists, carvers, upholsterers, &c.	Uniform week of 46½ hours adopted, resulting in decreases of from 2¼ to 6½ hours per week. ²⁴
	Sheffield	March	Workpeople employed as inside workers at breweries (except coopers)	Uniform week of 47 hours adopted. ²⁴
Local Authority Services	South Wales and Monmouthshire (certain districts) ²³	1 Jan. ⁹	Certain classes of workpeople employed by Local Authorities	Uniform week of 47 hours adopted, resulting in decreases of from 1 to 7 hours per week. ²⁴
	London	6 March	Tram-car washers	Uniform 8 hour shift adopted, resulting in a decrease of 6 hours per week.

¹ The rates quoted include all bonuses, and are conditional on the increase in March not exceeding 3d. per hour, any excess to be paid from 1 May.

² See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour."

³ The increase was to be paid on the pay day in the week ending 5 April, in respect of the preceding pay period.

⁴ The rate after change is inclusive of the bonus of 12½ per cent. granted to men on munitions work.

⁵ Viz., Altrincham, Ashton-under-Lyne, Barrow-in-Furness, Bolton, Bury, Eccles, Heywood, Hyde, Littleborough, Manchester, Middleton, Oldham, Prestwich, Ramsbottom, Radcliffe, Rochdale, Royton, Runcorn, St. Helens, Saddleworth, Sale, Salford, Shaw, Stalybridge, Stockport, Warrington, Whitefield, Widnes, and Wigan.

⁶ Viz., Accrington, Adlington, Alderley Edge, Bacup, Blackburn, Blackpool, Blackrod, Burnley, Buxton, Chester, Chorley, Clitheroe, Congleton, Darwen, Fleetwood, Frodsham, Glossop, Haslingden, Hebden Bridge, Horwich, Lancaster, Leigh, Leyland, Longridge, Lytham, Macclesfield, Morecambe, New Mills, Northwich, Ormskirk, Preston, Rawtenstall, Rossendale, St. Anne's-on-the-Sea, Southport, Tordmorden, Westhoughton, Whalley and Wilmslow.

⁷ Viz., Crewe, Knutsford, Middlewich, Nantwich, Over, Sandbach, Tarporley, Wem, Whitchurch and Winsford.

⁸ Plumbers in the Manchester area and in North-East Lancashire are not affected.

⁹ This increase took effect from the date shown, under an Award issued in March.

¹⁰ In the large majority of cases building trade operatives in Scotland have already received advances amounting to 6¾d. per hour above pre-war rates. The information at present available is insufficient to state precisely the towns and occupations affected, but it is known that joiners at Rothesay and masons and painters at Stirling have received advances under the Award. Particulars of these increases will be found on pages 148 and 149.

¹¹ The enhancement was to take effect from the date when the men commenced to work under the 47-hour scheme.

¹² This increase took effect from the date shown, under an arrangement made in March.

¹³ The increases were to be paid on the pay day in the week ending 7th December in respect of the preceding pay period, under an Award issued in March.

¹⁴ Viz., Barnsley, Bradford, Halifax, Harrogate, Heckmondwike, Huddersfield, Leeds, Sheffield, and Todmorden.

¹⁵ Viz., Accrington, Ashton, Altrincham, Blackburn, Blackpool, Bolton, Burnley, Bury, Chester, Chorley, Clitheroe, Colne, Crewe, Lancaster, Leigh, Macclesfield, Manchester, Middleton, Morecambe, Nelson, Oldham, Ormskirk, Preston, Rochdale, Rossendale, St. Helens, Southport, Stockport, Tarporley, Warrington, Widnes, and Wigan.

¹⁶ Including Bath, Chippenham, Frome, Trowbridge, Westbury, Wellington, South Devon, and North Tawton.

¹⁷ The increase was to take effect from 10th January or from the making-up day for wages in that week. In certain cases the increases are to take effect from 1st November, 1918. For further particulars see Award on p. 158.

¹⁸ Including Halifax, Heckmondwike, Brighouse, Sowerby Bridge, and Rochdale.

¹⁹ Including Glasgow, Paisley, Ayr, Bonnyrigg, Kilmarnock, Perth and Stirling.

²⁰ The above rates do not apply to the following operations in the closing departments and stock or shoe rooms; knot-tying, inking, solutioning, repairs and odd jobs, brushing-off by hand or machine, loop-covering, and trimming ends by hand.

²¹ This change was the result of an agreement between the Municipal Tramways Conference, the Tramways and Light Railways Association, and the National Transport Workers Federation. Towns in which the change has not yet taken effect include Edinburgh, Cheltenham and Lancaster.

²² Including Accrington, Blackburn, Blackpool, Burnley, Chorley, Clitheroe, Colne, Darwen, Haslingden, Heywood, Padiham, Preston and Todmorden.

²³ Including Aberavon, Aberdare, Abersychan, Barry, Bedwelly, Caerphilly, Glynceorrwg, Gelligaer, Llanfrechfa, Upper Maesteg, Margam, Mountain Ash, Mynyddislwyn, Neath, (Rural District Council), Ogmore and Garw, Porthcawl and Pontypridd.

²⁴ See also under "Changes in Rates of Wages."

²⁵ The 8-hour shift was to be introduced not later than 30th March, but in the case of any works where it was found to be impossible to do so by this date the 12-hour shift was to be continued, the 4 hours extra work per shift being paid for at special rates. Precise information as to the works which have not yet commenced to work an actual 8-hour shift is not available.

²⁶ This change was adopted as the result of an agreement between the National Alliance of Commercial Road Transport Associations and Federations, the National Union of Horse and Motor Vehicle Owners Associations (Incorporated), and the Motor Transport Employers' Federation on the one hand and the National Transport Workers' Federation on the other. A full list of towns not affected is not available, but the change has not yet been applied in Gateshead and Leek.

²⁷ In Edinburgh and Glasgow the change took effect in February, and in several towns earlier than 31 March.

Increases in Minimum Rates of Wages under the Trade Boards Act.—Notices were issued by the Trade Boards concerned increasing the minimum rates of wages fixed for certain classes of workers, as shown below:—

Linen and Cotton Embroidery Trade (Ireland).—From 1st March the minimum time-rates of wages for female workers were raised by 1d. or 1½d. per hour, making new minimum rates of 3½d., 4½d. and 4½d. per hour. Increases were also made in the general minimum piece-rates for certain processes, and some additional general minimum piece-rates were fixed. (See also LABOUR GAZETTE for March, 1919, page 119.)

Sugar Confectionery and Food Preserving Trade (Great Britain).—From 3rd March the minimum time-rate of wages was raised from 8d. per hour to 11d. per hour for male workers 24 years of age and over, and from 5d. per hour to 6½d. per hour for female workers 18 years of age and over; corresponding increases were made in the minimum time-rates for male workers under 24 years of age, and for female workers under 18 years of age. (See also LABOUR GAZETTE for March, 1919, page 119.)

PRICES AND WAGES IN THE COAL AND IRON TRADES.

The results of recent ascertainment of the selling prices of coal and iron are given below:—

Product and District.	Price according to last Audit.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) of last Audit on	
	Period covered by last Audit.	Average selling price per ton.	Previous Audit.	A year ago.
COAL. (Average of all classes of Coal at pit's mouth.)				
Northumberland ...	Dec. 1918—Feb. 1919	25 1½	+ 1 10	+ 7 1¼
PIG IRON.				
Cleveland ... (No. 3 Pig Iron.)	1919 Jan.—Mar.	118 4¼*	— 0 1½	+ 10 1¼
MANUFACTURED IRON.				
North of England ... (Bars and angles.)	Jan.—Feb.	332 11¼	+ 22 2¼	+ 56 3¼
Midlands ... (Bars, angles, tees, plates, sheets, hoops, strips, &c.)	Jan.—Feb.	351 11½	+ 20 5¼	+ 39 7¼
West of Scotland ... (Rounds, squares, flats, tees, angles, hoops and rods.)	Jan.—Feb.	337 10¼	+ 19 2½	+ 42 7½

Coal.—No change in the wages of Northumberland miners was made in connection with the ascertainment of the average selling price of coal for the above period.

Pig Iron.—The reduction in the ascertained price of Cleveland pig iron involved a decrease of 0·5 per cent. in the level of rates of wages above the standard of 1879. The decrease took effect on 7th April.

Manufactured Iron.—In the Midlands and in the West of Scotland the wages of puddlers and millmen were increased by 10 per cent., whilst in the North of England wages were increased by 12½ per cent.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.

IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

[Cases include all attacks, fatal or otherwise, reported to the Home Office during the month, and not previously reported, so far as is known, during the preceding 12 months. Deaths include all fatal cases reported during the month whether included (as cases) in previous returns or not.]

The total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshop Act during March was 20, of which 13 were due to lead poisoning and 7 to anthrax. One death due to lead poisoning and 2 to anthrax were reported. In addition, 3 deaths amongst house painters and plumbers came to the knowledge of the Home Office, but notification of these cases is not obligatory.

THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH, 1919.

During the three months ended March, 1919, the total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax reported under the Factory and Workshop Act was 68, compared with 71 in the corresponding period of 1918. The number of deaths in 1919 was 13, as compared with 10 in 1918. In addition, 6 cases of lead poisoning (including 4 deaths) among house painters and plumbers came to the knowledge of the Home Office during the year 1919, compared with 6 cases (including 3 deaths) during the year 1918.

ANALYSIS BY INDUSTRIES.

Industry.	Cases.			Deaths.		
	Month of March, 1919.	Three months ended		Month of March, 1919.	Three months ended	
		March, 1919.	March, 1918.		March, 1919.	March, 1918.
Lead Poisoning.						
AMONG OPERATIVES ENGAGED IN—	6	10	1	1	3	—
Smelting of Metals	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brass Works	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sheet Lead and Lead Piping...	1	4	6	—	—	—
Plumbing and Soldering ...	1	3	2	—	—	—
Printing	—	—	—	—	—	—
File Cutting	1	1	—	—	—	—
Tinning of Metals	—	—	—	—	—	—
White Lead Works	—	1	—	—	—	—
Red and Yellow Lead Works	1	3	—	—	1	—
Pottery	—	—	1	—	—	—
Glass Cutting and Polishing...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vitreous Enamelling	2	5	5	—	—	—
Electrical Accumulator Works	1	2	—	—	—	—
Paint and Colour Works ...	—	2	3	—	2	1
Coach and Car-Painting ...	—	—	4	—	—	—
Shipbuilding	—	5	5	—	1	—
Paint used in other Industries	—	4	6	—	—	1
Other Industries	13	40	33	1	7	2
TOTAL IN FACTORIES & WORKSHOPS	3	6	6	3	4	3
HOUSE PAINTING AND PLUMBING						
Other Forms of Poisoning.						
MERCURIAL POISONING—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barometer and Thermometer Making	—	—	—	—	—	—
Furriers' Processes	—	2	—	—	—	—
Explosives Works	—	1	—	—	—	—
Other Industries	—	1	2	—	—	—
TOTAL	—	2	—	—	—	—
PHOSPHORUS POISONING ...	—	—	2	—	—	—
ARSENIC POISONING—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paints, Colours, and Extrac- tion of Arsenic	—	2*	—	—	—	—
Other Industries	—	2*	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ARSENIC POISONING ...	—	—	13	—	—	4
TOXIC JAUNDICE	—	3	17	—	—	4
TOTAL "OTHER FORMS OF POISON- ING"	7	22	14	2	4	2
Wool	—	1	5	—	—	1
Handling of Horsehair	—	2	—	—	2	—
Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins (Tanners, Fell- mongers, &c.)	7	25	21	2	6	4
Other Industries						
TOTAL ANTHRAX	20	68	71	3	13	10
TOTAL REPORTED UNDER FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT	23	74	77	6	17	13
GRAND TOTAL						

* Caused by arseniuretted hydrogen gas.

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

CASES REPORTED.

[Based on Home Office and Board of Trade Returns.]

Trade.	Number of Workpeople killed during			Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) in March, 1919, on a	
	March, 1919.	Feb., 1919.	March, 1918.	Month ago.	Year ago.
RAILWAY SERVICE—					
Brakemen and Goods Guards	6	1	2	+ 5	+ 4
Engine Drivers	3	1	2	+ 2	+ 1
Firemen	1	—	2	+ 1	— 1
Guards (Passenger)	—	—	—	—	—
Permanent Way Men	4	20	8	— 16	— 4
Porters	7	3	4	+ 4	+ 3
Shunters	2	1	2	+ 1	—
Mechanics	—	—	2	—	— 2
Labourers	1	2	1	— 1	—
Miscellaneous	17	4	6	+ 13	+ 11
Contractors' Servants	—	1	3	— 1	— 3
TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE	41	33	32	+ 8	+ 9
MINES—					
Underground	95	76	99	+ 19	— 4
Surface	9	5	15	+ 4	— 6
TOTAL, MINES	104	81	114	+ 23	— 10
Quarries over 20 feet deep	3	3	11	—	— 8
FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS—					
Textile—					
Cotton	4	2	9	+ 2	— 5
Wool and Worsted	3	1	5	+ 2	— 2
Other Textiles	3	1	1	+ 2	+ 2
Non-Textile—					
Extraction of Metals	10	8	7	+ 2	+ 3
Founding and Conversion of Metals	24	8	28	+ 16	— 4
Marine and Locomotive Engineering	6	6	6	—	—
Ship and Boat Building	12	10	14	+ 2	— 2
Gas	4	6	2	— 2	+ 2
Wood	2	1	3	+ 1	— 1
Clay, Stone, &c.	1	1	1	—	—
Chemicals	4	12	10	— 8	— 6
Laundries	1	—	—	+ 1	+ 1
Food	4	2	4	+ 2	—
Drink	3	3	—	—	+ 3
Paper, Printing, &c.	—	2	3	— 2	— 3
Other Non-Textile Industries	26	26	45	—	— 19
TOTAL, FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS	107	89	138	+ 18	— 31
ACCIDENTS REPORTED UNDER FACTORY ACT, SS. 104-5—					
Docks, Wharves, and Quays	6	14	10	— 8	— 4
Warehouses	3	4	—	— 1	+ 3
Buildings to which Act applies	6	8	7	— 2	— 1
TOTAL UNDER FACTORY ACT, SS. 104-5	15	26	17	— 11	— 2
Accidents reported under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894	2	2	2	—	—
TOTAL (excluding Seamen)	272	234	314	+ 38	— 42

* Including Government subsidies.

PAUPERISM IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

[Data supplied by the Local Government Boards in England, Scotland and Ireland.]

THE number of paupers relieved on one day in March, 1919, in the thirty-five selected areas named below corresponded to a rate of 126 per 10,000 of population, showing no change on February, and a decrease of 6 on a year ago. Compared with the previous month, the total number of paupers relieved decreased by 413 (or 0·2 per cent.). The number of indoor paupers decreased by 1,716 (or 1·5 per cent.), while the number of outdoor paupers increased by 1,303 (or 1·1 per cent.). Fourteen districts showed increases, fourteen showed decreases, and seven showed no change. None of the increases or of the decreases reached the level of 10 per 10,000.

Compared with March, 1918, the total number of paupers decreased by 10,692 (or 4·3 per cent.). The number of indoor paupers decreased by 10,645 (or 8·7 per cent.), and the number of outdoor paupers by 47. Five districts showed increases, one showed no change, and every other district showed a decrease. The greatest increase was in the Coatbridge and Airdrie district (21 per 10,000): none of the other increases exceeded 6 per 10,000. The Central Metropolitan district showed the largest decrease (32 per 10,000). Ten districts showed decreases ranging from 10 to 19 per 10,000, and eighteen others showed decreases of under 10 per 10,000.

Selected Urban Areas.*	Paupers on one day in March, 1919.				Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with a	
	In-door.	Out-door.	TOTAL.	Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population.	Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.†						
Metropolis.						
West District	8,083	1,330	9,413	116	- 3	- 10
North District	9,846	4,349	14,195	142	- 2	- 13
Central District	2,863	923	3,786	284	- 8	- 32
East District	9,101	3,478	12,578	192	- 4	- 19
South District	16,189	8,905	25,094	131	- 1	- 8
TOTAL, Metropolis	46,081	18,985	65,066	144	- 2	- 12
West Ham	3,529	7,878	11,407	143	...	- 7
Other Districts.						
Newcastle District	1,857	3,483	5,340	107	+ 1	+ 6
Stockton & Tees District	850	1,951	2,801	107	- 1	- 10
Bolton, Oldham, &c.	3,002	2,479	5,481	66	- 1	- 7
Wigan District	1,463	4,177	5,640	125	+ 3	- 1
Manchester District	6,953	3,650	10,603	100	...	- 7
Liverpool District	7,722	8,176	15,898	135	- 3	- 11
Bradford District	1,650	1,243	2,893	77	- 1	+ 1
Halifax & Huddersfield	939	1,432	2,371	71	...	+ 2
Leeds District	1,976	2,012	3,988	82	...	- 3
Barnsley District...	656	3,165	3,821	116	+ 3	+ 6
Sheffield District...	2,066	2,101	4,167	82	+ 1	- 5
Hull District	1,429	4,375	5,804	176	- 3	- 15
North Staffordshire	1,515	3,194	4,709	128	...	- 3
Nottingham District	1,685	3,363	5,048	105	- 1	...
Leicester District	1,007	1,665	2,672	112	+ 2	- 13
Wolverhampton District	2,687	4,239	6,926	98	...	- 2
Birmingham District	5,386	2,655	8,041	93	+ 1	- 6
Bristol District	2,365	2,517	4,882	123	+ 2	- 5
Cardiff & Swansea	1,769	4,790	6,559	140	+ 1	- 2
TOTAL, "Other Districts"...	46,977	61,730	108,707	106	...	- 4
SCOTLAND.†						
Glasgow District	2,708	14,614	17,322	180	+ 3	- 2
Paisley & Greenock District	598	1,700	2,298	117	- 1	- 6
Edinburgh & Leith District	1,029	3,736	4,765	118	+ 2	- 8
Dundee and Dunfermline	561	1,703	2,267	112	+ 2	- 4
Aberdeen	354	1,887	2,241	131	...	- 12
Coatbridge and Airdrie	241	1,591	1,832	154	+ 7	+ 21
TOTAL for the above Scottish Districts	5,491	25,034	30,525	149	+ 2	- 4
IRELAND.†						
Dublin District	3,908	6,914	10,822	259	- 1	- 7
Belfast District	2,803	891	3,694	71	+ 2	- 1
Cork, Waterford and Elmerick District	2,787	3,640	6,427	258	+ 5	- 14
Galway District	267	162	419	123	- 3	- 11
TOTAL for the above Irish Districts	9,265	11,507	20,772	182	+ 1	- 7
Total for above 35 Districts in Mar., 1919	111,343	125,134	236,477	116	..	- 6

* These urban areas include in the case of England and Wales and Ireland more than one poor-law union, except in the Leicester, Birmingham, West Ham, Belfast and Galway districts; and more than one parish in the case of Scotland, except in the Aberdeen district.

† Exclusive of Vagrants; of Patients in the Fever and Small-pox Hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Boards; of Lunatics in Asylums, Registered Hospitals and Licensed Houses; and of persons receiving outdoor medical relief only.

‡ Excluding Casuals, but including persons maintained in Institutions for the Blind, Deaf and Dumb, &c., who are classified as not able-bodied.

BUILDING PLANS.

RETURNS received by the department from 93 of the principal urban districts in the United Kingdom (exclusive of the County of London) giving the estimated cost of buildings for which plans were passed during the first quarter of 1919, show that there was a net increase of £748,897 (or 31·8 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding quarter of 1918.

The population of the districts included in the Returns was nearly 13,000,000 at the census of 1911.

DISTRICT.	Dwelling Houses.	Factories and Workshops.	Shops, Offices, Warehouses and other business premises.	Churches, Schools and Public Buildings.	Other Buildings, Additions and Alterations.	TOTAL.
First Quarter of 1918.						
Outer London (1,713,000)	1,000	12,200	19,270	...	71,235	103,705
Northern Counties (837,000)	...	70,110	20,450	27,000	18,409	135,969
Yorkshire (1,648,000) ...	7,360	779,148	42,397	257	58,090	887,252
Lancashire & Cheshire (2,323,000)	2,260	95,708	32,256	750	87,515	218,489
Midlands (2,045,000) ...	10,030	301,423	23,870	1,803	238,280	575,411
Other Districts in England (1,073,000)	251	55,800	984	...	11,493	68,533
Wales & Mon. (432,000)	300	350	300	...	980	1,930
Scotland (1,833,000) ...	...	181,375	1,810	1,000	27,511	211,696
Ireland (723,000) ...	14,540	50,000	49,000	15,000	31,520	151,060
TOTAL ...	35,740	1,546,119	181,337	45,810	545,039	2,354,045
First Quarter of 1919.						
Outer London (1,713,000)	17,700	86,402	104,471	8,350	103,568	320,491
Northern Counties (837,000)	10,900	33,350	21,300	4,000	23,015	91,665
Yorkshire (1,643,000) ...	21,215	175,085	84,052	68,150	73,006	421,488
Lancashire & Cheshire (2,323,000)	77,850	284,895	76,490	9,752	124,715	573,702
Midlands (2,045,000) ...	58,600	557,563	128,419	11,920	343,877	1,100,379
Other Districts in England (1,073,000)	11,450	75,800	23,300	12,420	48,122	174,092
Wales & Mon. (432,000)	400	1,020	1,150	...	9,985	12,555
Scotland (1,833,000) ...	1,600	205,168	700	1,079	83,473	292,020
Ireland (723,000) ...	5,125	...	9,500	...	101,925	116,550
TOTAL ...	203,940	1,419,263	452,382	115,671	911,686	3,102,942

Compared with the corresponding period of 1918 there was an increase in the value of all classes of building except factories and workshops, which showed a decrease of £126,856 (or 8·2 per cent.). The largest percentage increase was in dwelling-houses (470·6 per cent.). There were decreases in the Northern Counties, in Yorkshire, and in Ireland, but increases in every other district; the largest percentage increases were in Wales and Monmouthshire (550·5 per cent.), in Outer London (209 per cent.), and in Lancashire and Cheshire (162·6 per cent.).

The following Table shows for each class of building, and for each district, the increase or decrease in the quarter ended March, 1919, compared with the corresponding period of 1918:—

CLASS OF BUILDING:	Increase (+) or Decrease (-).	
	Amount.	Per cent.
Dwelling Houses	£ 168,270	+ 470·6
Factories and Workshops	126,856	- 8·2
Shops and Other Business Premises	271,045	+ 149·5
Churches, Schools and Public Buildings	63,861	+ 152·5
Other Buildings, Additions and Alterations	395,647	+ 67·3
TOTAL ...	748,897	+ 31·8
DISTRICTS:		
Outer London	£ 216,786	+ 209·0
Northern Counties	44,304	- 32·6
Yorkshire	465,761	- 52·5
Lancashire and Cheshire	355,213	+ 162·6
Midlands	524,968	+ 91·2
Other Districts in England	105,559	+ 154·0
Wales and Monmouthshire	10,625	+ 550·5
Scotland	80,324	+ 37·9
Ireland	34,510	- 22·8
TOTAL ...	748,897	+ 31·8

CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETIES.

QUARTERLY RETURNS OF SALES.

Names of Societies and Nature of Business.	Sales* in the Fourth Quarter of			Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (—) compared with	
	1918.	1917.	1918.	A Year ago.	Five Years ago.
	£	£	£		
ENGLISH WHOLESALE SOCIETY:—					
Distributive Departments...	18,031,568	14,265,096†	8,833,746	+ 26·8	+104·3
Productive " ...	5,268,984	4,633,892†	2,095,375	+ 13·7	+151·3
SCOTTISH WHOLESALE SOCIETY:—					
Distributive Departments...	5,415,166	4,654,268	2,458,539	+ 16·3	+120·3
Productive " ...	1,639,390	1,799,373	808,898	— 8·9	+102·7
ENGLISH AND SCOTTISH WHOLESALE SOCIETIES' JOINT COMMITTEE:—					
Productive Departments ...	113,961	161,276	53,574	— 29·3	+112·7
IRISH AGRICULTURAL WHOLESALE SOCIETY:—					
Distributive Departments...	207,036	148,109	42,277	+ 39·8	+389·7
TOTAL.—Distributive Departments	23,713,770	19,067,473	11,334,562	+ 24·4	+109·2
TOTAL.—Productive Departments	7,022,335	6,594,541	2,953,847	+ 6·5	+137·3
GRAND TOTAL ...	30,736,105	25,662,014	14,293,409	+ 19·8	+115·0

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

(1) WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACTS.

ACCIDENT ARISING OUT OF AND IN THE COURSE OF EMPLOYMENT: WORKMAN INJURED WHILE ASSISTING FELLOW WORKMAN.

A workman injured by accident is entitled to compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, for incapacity due to injuries only where the accident was one arising out of and in the course of the employment.

A man was employed by an engineering company as a steel dresser, his work being to trim the edges of steel plates. Not far from where he worked a young woman was employed at a sawing machine. As she was not a highly skilled person the man was instructed by the assistant foreman, whose orders they were both bound to obey, to help her when she was in any difficulty with her machine. One day in June, 1918, she found herself in difficulty, and told the man that she wanted a sharp saw fitted. He accordingly fitted a new saw, and then, at her request, proceeded to set up her job. While he was so doing he slipped, and the saw took off some of his fingers.

The injured man claimed compensation under the Act, but the company resisted his claim on the ground that the accident did not arise out of or in the course of his employment, as when it occurred he was not doing the work he was employed to do.

The County Court Judge decided that when engaged in assisting the young woman when she was in temporary difficulty with her work the claimant was acting within the sphere of his employment. An award of compensation was therefore made. The employers appealed.

The Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal. They held that when the claimant met with the accident he was actually doing the very work which he was instructed to do by the assistant foreman, whom he was bound to obey; that he was employed not only as a steel dresser, but to assist the young woman with her machine if she found herself in difficulties; and that therefore the accident did arise both "out of" and "in the course of" his employment.—*Cars v. Vickers, Limited.*—Court of Appeal.—20th January, 1919.

(2) TRADE DISPUTES ACT.

MEMBER OF UNION FORBIDDEN TO JOIN ANOTHER UNION: ATTEMPT TO COMPEL WORKMAN TO JOIN SECOND UNION: CONSPIRACY: "CONTEMPLATION OR FURTHERANCE OF TRADE DISPUTE": WHAT IS "TRADE DISPUTE"? RIGHT OF WORKMAN TO DISPOSE OF HIS LABOUR.

It is provided by the Trade Disputes Act, 1906, that an act done by a person in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute shall not be actionable on the ground only that it induces some other person to break a contract of employment or that it is an interference with the trade, business, or employment of some other person, or with the right of some other person to dispose of his capital or labour as he wills.

"Trade dispute" is defined as "any dispute between employers and workmen, or between workmen and workmen,

which is connected with the employment or non-employment, or the terms of the employment, or with the conditions of labour, of any person."

With very few exceptions all the workmen employed at a certain colliery were members of one of four trade unions. These four unions elected a joint council, which the colliery company recognised as representing the unions. There were a few men who were members of the A.S.E. and not of any one of the four. A member of the A.S.E. was forbidden by the rules of his society to join a second union without special permission.

V, one of the men who belonged to the A.S.E., was a turner, who had been in the service of the colliery company for 24 years, a member of the A.S.E. for 37 years, and was 61 years of age. His long membership of the A.S.E. had entitled him to substantial benefits.

A was the chairman and B the secretary of the local branch of one of the four associated unions. During 1918 they made frequent attempts to induce V to join their union, and said they would procure his dismissal if he refused. He asked the A.S.E. for leave to join this union, but leave was refused. In 1916 the four unions had passed a resolution that all workmen employed at the colliery should be required to join their association; and in 1917 a further resolution was passed that members of other unions should be informed that the workmen would refuse to work with them unless they joined the association to which the majority belonged. Early in 1918 the workmen of the colliery threatened to "down tools" unless another man who was in a similar position to V joined their association. This man yielded to the threat and did as required. In May, 1918, the four unions resolved that a notice should be sent to the manager of the colliery that all weekly wage-earners at the colliery must become members of one of the unions. They founded their demand on the ground that non-members were enjoying the increase of wages obtained from time to time by the four unions, and should be compelled to join one of those unions. Later a deputation met the manager on the matter, and the manager agreed that all the men employed should belong to one of the four unions. The manager was induced to so agree by his fear of a strike if he took any other course. V continued to refuse to yield to the pressure brought to bear upon him by A and B. If he yielded he would have lost all the benefits of his 37 years' membership of the A.S.E., while if he refused he ran the risk of losing the situation which he had held for 24 years. In July, 1918, A and B induced the manager to promise to dismiss V unless he yielded. Accordingly in September the manager gave the following notice to V: "— Union. I am informed by the representatives of the above union that you are not a member, and it is agreed between owners and men that no person must be employed unless he is a member. I herewith give you until Saturday morning to conform with the rules." The "representatives" were A and B. Without delay V commenced proceedings in the High Court against A and B, claiming an injunction to restrain them from inducing or attempting to induce the colliery company to break a contract of employment with him, or for interfering or attempting to interfere with his employment or his right to dispose of his labour as he pleased.

After a hearing of considerable length the Judge decided in favour of the plaintiff and granted the injunction claimed.

The Judge said that at common law every man has a right to dispose of his own labour as he pleases. A combination of two or more persons without justification or excuse to injure a man in his trade is actionable if damage results. Honesty of purpose and absence of ill-will towards the injured person are not of themselves sufficient justification for such combination. Although a mere warning may be unobjectionable in law, and the act of one individual may not be sufficient to give rise to any course of action, actual coercion by several supported by threats of violence or moral intimidation is illegal. Here, although no actual threats were used to the manager of the colliery, moral intimidation, undue influence, and coercive pressure were employed by the defendants to induce him to dismiss the plaintiff. The Trade Disputes Act did not in the circumstances protect the defendants. A dispute to come within the Act must be connected directly, and as such, with employment or non-employment, and not about some entirely different subject matter, a non-settlement of which may result in employment or non-employment, the existence, terms and conditions of which are not in contest. The dispute here was whether the plaintiff would or would not join the union represented by the defendants, and the consequences threatened if he refused to join, formed no part of the subject matter of the dispute. Therefore there was no trade dispute within the meaning of the Act. If, however, there was a dispute within the meaning of the Act, the defendants were not protected by the Act; for the Act, the defendants were not protected by the Act; for the words "in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute," and the words "on the ground only" are limitations of great importance. The first-mentioned words do not cover the case of coercive interference in which the person interfering may intend to bring a trade dispute into existence if he does not get his own way. All disputes outside the definition in the Act are inoperative to bring persons within the protection of the Act. The defendants were excluded from protection by reason of the unlawful character of the means employed by them in their campaign against the plaintiff, even if they acted in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute, which they did not do.—*Valentine v. Hyde and Howard.*—Chancery Division.—6th March, 1919.

* The figures given for the productive departments represent sales and transfers to the distributive departments.

† Revised for comparison.

RECENT CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION CASES. COURT OF ARBITRATION CONSTITUTED UNDER WAGES (TEMPORARY REGULATION) ACT, 1918.

Building and Allied Trades.

CARPENTERS AND JOINERS.—Admiralty, Air Ministry, His Majesty's Office of Works, War Office, Dunfermline Master Builders' Association, J. Angus & Sons (Rosyth), Neil McLeod & Sons (Rosyth), R. Kemp & Sons (Rosyth), R. Rogerson & Co. (Rosyth), Topham Jones and Railton, Ltd. (St. Margarets, North Queensferry), Mr. Nathaniel Grieve (Rosyth), J. Smith & Sons (Rosyth), J. J. and P. McLachlan (Rosyth), J. Millar & Sons (North Queensferry), T. Millar & Co. (Rosyth), and J. Baxter & Sons (Rosyth) *v.* Amalgamated Society of Carpenters, Cabinetmakers and Joiners and Dunfermline and Rosyth Area Joint Building Trades Committee. Award—Fully qualified joiners concerned to be paid at the rate of 1s. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. an hour, plus 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on earnings, from the beginning of the first pay following 6th March, 1919; the advance of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. an hour granted under the award to be considered as an advance on their basic rate. Issued 15th March, 1919. (310)

BUILDING TRADE (SCOTLAND).—Scottish Building Trade (Employers) Wages Board *v.* Building Trade of Scotland Operatives' Wages and Conditions of Service Board. Award—Men concerned, who have received general advances amounting to 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. an hour and upwards, but less than 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. an hour, to be paid such increase as will give 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. an hour over pre-war rates; in cases where the general advances are less than 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. an hour an advance of 1d. an hour to be given. Any payment in respect of the bonus on earnings of 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. is excluded in making the calculation. Issued 17th March, 1919. (313)

BUILDING TRADE OPERATIVES.—Scottish Building Trades (Employers) Wages Board *v.* Building Trade of Scotland Operatives' Wages and Conditions of Service Board. Award—Men concerned to receive 50 hours' pay for a week of 44 hours, as from and including the date on which the 44-hours' working week came into operation. Issued 17th March, 1919. (314)

LABOURERS.—War Office and Londonderry Master Builders' Association *v.* National Amalgamated Union of Labour. Award—Men concerned, employed as civil subordinate workmen by the Royal Engineers at Ebrington Barracks, Londonderry, aged 21 years and over, who are paid as plain time-workers, are to receive a bonus of 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on earnings, as from and including 22nd Nov., 1918. Issued 19th March, 1919. (318)

PLUMBERS.—War Office and Londonderry Master Builders' Association *v.* United Operative Plumbers and Domestic Engineers' Association. Award—Plumbers concerned, engaged on maintenance of buildings at Ebrington Military Barracks, Londonderry, aged 21 years and over, who are paid as plain time-workers to receive a bonus of 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on earnings, as from and including 22nd Nov., 1918. Issued 19th March, 1919. (319)

LABOURERS, &c.—Harland & Wolff, Ltd., Harvey & McLaughlin, Ltd., W. J. Campbell & Son, and the Air Ministry *v.* Workers' Union. Award—Labourers and erectors concerned, employed on the construction of the Aldergrove Aerodrome, to receive an advance of 1d. an hour. Issued 19th March, 1919. (335)

CARPENTERS AND JOINERS.—Harland & Wolff, Ltd., Harvey & McLaughlin, Ltd., W. J. Campbell & Son and the Air Ministry *v.* Amalgamated Society of Carpenters, Cabinetmakers and Joiners and General Union. Award—That the bonus on earnings of 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. should be paid on the increased rate of 1s. 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. an hour to the men concerned employed on the erection of the aerodrome at Aldergrove Acceptance Park, Crumlin. Issued 19th March, 1919. (336)

PLUMBERS.—J. Miskimmin & Sons, Ltd (Belfast) *v.* United Operative Plumbers and Domestic Engineers' Association. Award—Men concerned, employed on Government work, aged 21 years and over, paid as plain time-workers, to receive a bonus of 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on their earnings, as from the beginning of the first pay in March, 1919. Issued 19th March, 1919. (337)

SLATERS AND JOINERS: SPECIAL DISTRICT CASES.—Scottish Building Trade (Employers) Wages Board *v.* Building Trades of Scotland Operatives' Wages and Conditions of Service Board. Award—Slaters employed at Edinburgh and Dundee to have their rate increased by $\frac{1}{2}$ d. an hour, and joiners employed in Rothesay district by $\frac{3}{4}$ d. an hour. Other claims submitted not conceded. Issued 28th March, 1919. (360)

Mining and Quarrying.

QUARRYMEN.—Railway Executive Committee *v.* National Union of Railwaymen. Decision—Claim on behalf of men employed by the North Staffordshire Railway Co. in limestone quarries at Froghall and Cauldon Lowe, for payment of the 3s. a week advance in accordance with the sliding scale settlement, not established. Issued 19th March, 1919. (317)

WEIGHERS.—Cambrian Combine Colliery Co., Ltd. *v.* South Wales and Monmouthshire Weighers' Association. Award—Able-bodied men concerned to receive a minimum rate of 6s. a day, plus the additional percentage and the daily war wages now paid. Claim with regard to overtime not established. Issued 21st March, 1919. (346)

Pig Iron and Iron and Steel Manufacture.

PIPE FITTERS.—David Colville & Sons, Ltd. (Dalzell Iron and Steel Works, Motherwell) *v.* United Operative Plumbers' Association of Scotland. Award—Pipe fitters concerned, who are fully qualified plumbers and who were engaged as such, to be paid the district rate applicable to plumbers. Issued 17th March, 1919. (315)

Engineering, Shipbuilding, and Other Metal Trades.

DRILLERS.—J. I. Thornycroft & Co., Ltd. (Southampton) *v.* Society of Amalgamated Toolmakers, Engineers and Machinists. Decision—Claim that drillers employed in the firm's boiler shop are entitled to the 20 per cent. advance given to boilermakers under the Committee on Production Award No. 2296, not established. Issued 4th March, 1919. (283)

VERTICAL MACHINE DRILLERS.—J. I. Thornycroft & Co., Ltd. (Southampton) *v.* Shipconstructors and Shipwrights' Association. Claim for the extension of the Committee on Production Award No. 2508 to all members of the Association, employed by the firm on vertical drilling machines who were not included in that award, not established. Issued 4th March, 1919. (284)

SPELTER WORKERS.—Sulphide Corporation, Ltd. (Seaton Carew) *v.* National Union of General Workers. Award—(1) Spelter workers concerned to receive an advance of 5s. for a week of six days, boys under 18 years of age 2s. 6d., as from and including the pay period for which payment was made in the week ended 7th Dec., 1918. (2) Roastermen and gas-producermen to be paid at the rate of time and a half for work done between 2 p.m. on Saturday and 6 a.m. on Monday, and all seven-shift men to be paid at the rate of time and a half for Sunday work, subject to the men working a minimum of six shifts during the week. (3) The daily good time-keeping bonus for six days' work to be continued, but the extra good time-keeping bonus for seven days' work to merge in the increased payments for week-end work. Issued 5th March, 1919. (285)

PIECE-WORKERS.—Wm. Beardmore & Co., Ltd. (Dalmuir), represented by the Shipbuilding Employers' Federation *v.* Sheet Iron Workers' Society. Award—The advance of 5 per cent. on piece prices granted under Award No. 2790 of the Committee on Production is to be paid on the gross price of the job in accordance with the terms of the Agreement between the parties dated 3rd July, 1917. The award is to take effect from the beginning of the first full pay following 9th Nov., 1918. Issued 6th March, 1919. (288)

ENGINEERS.—G. N., Ltd. (Hendon) *v.* Amalgamated Society of Engineers, Society of Amalgamated Toolmakers, and Steam Engine Makers' Society. Award—Men concerned, aged 18 years and over, to receive an advance of 8s. 6d. a week and boys 4s. 3d. from first pay following 1st Jan., 1919. Issued 6th March, 1919. (290)

RIVETERS, CAULKERS, PLATERS, &c.—Rennie Forrestt Shipbuilding, Engineering and Dry Dock Co., Ltd. (Wivenhoe), Cox and King (Wivenhoe), Rowledge Iron Works (Rowledge), and Aldous, Ltd. (Brightlingsea, Essex) *v.* Amalgamated Society of Engineers, Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners, Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society, Shipconstructors and Shipwrights' Association, National Society of House and Ship Painters and Decorators, Workers' Union and Amalgamated Society of Woodcutting Machinists. Award—Piece-work prices for Admiralty work done in the four yards by the men concerned to be increased (in addition to percentage additions to the base prices existing at the outbreak of the war) by the following increases on base prices: Riveters by 35 per cent., plus the usual 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for holder-up; caulkers by 20 per cent.; platers and anglesmiths by 10 per cent. All additions granted since the outbreak of war to be merged in the advances now given, except the general advance of 10 per cent. granted on 1st March, 1915, and the special general advances amounting to 21s. 6d. a week granted by Awards of the Committee on Production, and the bonus of 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on earnings. Other portions of the claim to form the subject of discussion between the parties. This award is to take effect from 20th Jan., 1919. Issued 7th March, 1919. (291)

SMITHS AND STRIKERS.—W. Dixon, Ltd. (Glasgow) *v.* United Kingdom Society of Amalgamated Smiths and Strikers. Decision—Claim for payment of the district rates for smiths and smiths' strikers not established. Issued 7th March, 1919. (292)

FARRIERS.—National Master Farriers' Association (Lancashire, Cheshire and North Staffordshire District) *v.* Amalgamated Society of Farriers. Award—Men concerned to receive an advance of 6s. a week, as on and from 1st Feb., 1919. Issued 8th March, 1919. (293)

HEATING AND DOMESTIC ENGINEERS.—Milan, Ltd., T. A. Heaps & Co., T. H. Rainer & Sons and C. Watson & Son (represented by the Huddersfield Heating and Domestic Engineers' Association) *v.* National Union of Operative Heating and Domestic Engineers. Decision—The Court made no order, the Union's representative having withdrawn their claim at the hearing. Issued 10th March, 1919. (297)

GENERAL WORKERS.—Manchester and District Engineering Trades Employers' Association *v.* Workers' Union and National Union of General Workers. Award—Claim for the revision of overtime rates not established. Issued 11th March, 1919. (298)

SHIP JOINERS.—Manchester Dry Docks Co., Ltd., and Morrell Mills & Co., Ltd. (Manchester) v. Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners. Award—Claim on behalf of ship joiners for 53 hours' pay for 47 hours' work for the period from 1st Nov., 1918, to 31st Dec., 1918, not established. Issued 11th March, 1919. (299)

CHAIN MAKERS.—Chain Manufacturers' Association (Cradley Heath) v. National Federation of Women Workers. Award—Women concerned, in the hand hammered chain making trade, to receive an increase of 10 per cent. on their present rates. Issued 11th March, 1919. (303)

BRASSWORKERS.—Auster, Ltd. (Birmingham) v. Workers' Union and National Brassworkers and Metal Mechanics. Award—Men concerned, aged 18 years and over, to receive an advance of 5s. a week and boys 2s. 6d. from the pay day in the week ending 7th Dec., 1918, and is to be payable in respect of the pay period for which payment was made on that day. Issued 11th March, 1919. (304)

LEAD MILLERS.—Baxendale & Co., Ltd., Giddings & Dacre, Ltd., and Samuel Gratrix, Jun., & Bros., Ltd. (all of Manchester) v. National Warehouse and General Workers' Union. Award—Men concerned, aged 18 years and over, to receive an advance of 5s. a week, and boys 2s. 6d., from the beginning of pay following 1st Feb., 1919. Other portion of the claim not established. Issued 12th March, 1919. (306)

VEHICLE BUILDING.—Frederic Selby & Co., Ltd. (Birmingham) v. Workers' Union. Award—From and included in pay received in week ended 7th Dec., 1918, men concerned, aged 18 years and over, to receive an advance of 5s. a week, and boys 2s. 6d. a week, the war advance of 1s. a week in excess of the other firms in the district engaged in the same work to be merged in these advances. Issued 15th March, 1919. (308)

MACHINE ASSEMBLERS.—Municipal Appliances Co. (Bamber Bridge) v. National Union of General Workers. Decision—The workmen concerned, employed on assembling machines, are not of a class to which the prescribed Preston rate for boilermakers' labourers and fitters' labourers is applicable. Issued 15th March, 1919. (311)

DRESSERS.—Kirkcaldy and District Engineering Masters' Association v. Associated Iron, Steel and Brass Dressers of Scotland. Decision—Claim that members of the Society employed in Kirkcaldy should have their wages increased by 3s. 4d. a week not established. Issued 18th March, 1919. (316)

ENGINEERING AND FOUNDRY TRADES.—Engineering Employers' Federation v. Trade Unions in the Engineering and Foundry Trades who were parties to the agreement of Feb., 1917, in pursuance of which periodical adjustment of wages advances were considered by the Committee on Production, the parties agreeing that a similar course should be followed under the Wages (Temporary Regulation) Act and dealt with by the Court of Arbitration. Decision—The claim for a further general advance in wages and that all war wages advances, plus the 12½ per cent. bonus on earnings, should be added to the time rates not established. Issued 19th March, 1919. (320)

SHIPBUILDING TRADE.—Shipbuilding Employers' Federation v. Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades and the National Federation of General Workers. Decision—Claim for a further general advance in wages not established. Issued 19th March, 1919. (321)

RAILWAY SHOPMEN.—Railway Executive Committee v. Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades. Decision—Claim for a further flat rate advance of 15s. a week to railway shopmen, piece-workers and time-workers, not established. Issued 19th March, 1919. (322)

HEATING AND DOMESTIC ENGINEERS.—National Association of Master Heating and Domestic Engineers v. National Union of Operative Heating and Domestic Engineers. Award—That as from and including the pay period for which payment is made in the week ending 5th April, 1919, the rate to be paid in the Cardiff district is to be 1s. 4d. per hour for a 47-hours week, plus a bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings. Claim for further general advance and special advance to Bristol district not established. Issued 19th March, 1919. (329)

FOUNDRY AND GENERAL LABOURERS.—Belfast Employers' Association and the Ironfounders' Association of Ireland v. National Amalgamated Union of Labour. Award—Foundry labourers and general labourers to be paid a minimum rate of 49s. a week (including war wages), plus the bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings from the beginning of the first full pay in April, 1919. Other portions of the claim not established. Issued 19th March, 1919. (330)

ENGINEERS (DUBLIN).—Engineering Employers' Federation v. Amalgamated Society of Engineers. Award—The rate of the Dublin engineers concerned to be increased to 40s. a week, with the addition of the war wages advance of 28s. 6d. a week and the 12½ per cent. bonus on earnings, as from and including the pay period for which payment is made in the week ending 5th April, 1919. Issued 19th March, 1919. (334)

ENGINEERS, FITTERS, TURNERS, &C.—Harland & Wolff, Ltd., Workman, Clark & Co., Ltd. (Belfast) v. Amalgamated Society of Engineers. Decision—Claim for a further general advance on wages and the existing war wages and the 12½ per cent. bonus to be merged in the district rate not established. Issued 20th March, 1919. (342)

ENGINEERING, SHIPBUILDING, &C. (Belfast), Ironfounders' Association of Ireland, Belfast Corporation, Belfast

Harbour Commissioners, Harland & Wolff, Ltd., Workman, Clark & Co., Ltd., Belfast and County Down Railway, Midland Railway Co., Musgrave & Co., McLachlan & Ross, MacColl & Co., Ltd., Stephen Cotten & Co., Ltd., Travers & Co., Davidson & Co., Ltd., James Reynolds & Co., Ltd., Smillie & Co., Ltd., J. & E. Hall, Ltd., Millfield Foundry, Saunders, Hill & Co., Ritchie, Hart & Co., Ltd., James Mackie & Sons, Ltd., Combe, Barbour & Co., Ltd., Mayne & Co., J. & J. McKeown, Spence & Co., Brown & Co., Gregg, Sons & Phoenix, and D. J. Sproat & Co. (all of Belfast) v. Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades (Belfast District Committee). Award—Claim for an advance of 15s. a week to adult time- and piece-workers, and 7s. 6d. a week to boys, youths and apprentices in the engineering, shipbuilding and foundry trades in Belfast district not established. Issued 20th March, 1919. (343)

WOMEN WORKERS.—Redditch and District Needle and Fishing Tackle Employers' Association v. National Federation of Women Workers. Award—From first pay following 21st March, 1919, the women and girls concerned, employed as time-workers, are to receive rates varying from 5½d. an hour for women 18 years and over, to 2½d. an hour for girls under 15 years of age; piece-workers are to be paid such rates as will enable them to earn at least 25 per cent. over the hourly rates of time-workers. As from and including the pay period for which payment was made in the week ending 7th Dec., 1918, the women concerned, 18 years of age and over, are to receive a war wage advance of 11s. a week, and girls under 18 years of age, 5s. 6d. a week, instead of the amounts at present paid to the workpeople concerned. Issued 21st March, 1919. (345)

UNSKILLED MEN.—Samuelson & Co., Ltd. (Banbury) v. Workers' Union. Award—Claim that the advance granted under Award No. 2800 of the Committee on Production to the engineering and foundry trades should be paid to the Union's members not established. They have received the advance from 1st Feb., 1919. Issued 21st March, 1919. (348)

BOILER PLATE SHEARERS, GENERAL LABOURERS, &C.—Hughes, Bolckow & Co., Ltd. (Swalwell) v. National Union of General Workers. Award—Men concerned, aged 18 years and over, to receive an advance of 5s. a week, and boys 2s. 6d. a week. Issued 22nd March, 1919. (349)

SHIP'S TACKLE WORKERS, &C.—Rowley Regis and District Forging Manufacturers' Association v. Amalgamated Society of Anchormen, Shackle and Shipping Tackle Makers. Award—Ships' tackle makers and odd workers concerned, aged 18 years and over, to receive an advance of 5s. a week, and boys 2s. 6d. a week, as from first pay following 1st Jan., 1919. Issued 25th March, 1919. (352)

GAS METER MAKERS.—Gas Meter Making Employers' Federation and Thomas Glover & Co., Ltd. (London) v. National Union of General Workers. Award—Men concerned, employed on piece-work, to receive an advance of 10 per cent. on piece-work prices. Claim with regard to time-workers not established. Issued 27th March, 1919. (358)

LABOURERS, TOOLROOM MEN, &C.—Nieuport and General Aircraft Co., Ltd. (London) v. United Order of General Labourers of Great Britain and Ireland and the Workers' Union. Decision—The workpeople concerned are not entitled to payment of the bonus of 12½ per cent. under award No. 1555 of the Committee on Production from 1st Jan., 1918. The bonus has been paid to the men since 17th Sept., 1918. Issued 28th March, 1919. (359)

CLERKS.—Ministry of Munitions v. National Union of Clerks. Decision—Claims on behalf of the wages and timekeeping staff at the Government Rolling Mills, Southampton, for (1) an advance of 12½ per cent. on upstanding wages to males 21 years of age and over and (2) for overtime payment, not established. Issued 28th March, 1919. (363)

SHIPYARD LABOURERS (WOMEN).—Day, Summers & Co., Ltd. (Northam, Southampton) v. National Union of General Workers. Award—Women concerned, engaged as labourers in the firm's shipyard, to be paid the arrears of wages, viz., 5s. 6d. a week from the respective dates on which they were engaged up to 1st Aug., 1918. Issued 31st March, 1919. (366)

DUPLICATING MACHINE MAKERS.—Roneo, Ltd. (Romford) v. Workers' Union. Decision—The advances given under Award No. 2800 of the Committee on Production of 9th Nov., 1918, to the engineering and foundry trades to form part of the prescribed rate of the men concerned. Issued 31st March, 1919. (368)

LIEU-WORKERS AND PIECE-WORKERS.—Shipbuilding Employers' Federation v. Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society, Shipconstructors and Shipwrights' Association, and Associated Blacksmiths and Iron Workers' Society. Award—(1) Claim that piece-workers be granted an allowance of 12½ per cent. as compensation for reduced working week not established. (2) Claim on behalf of lieu-workers paid at hourly or daily rates, that they shall be paid for a 47-hours week the same rates per full week or per ratio for the fewer number of hours or days worked as they received prior to the reduction of the working week, conceded, except as regards lieu-workers whose rates are based on their additional piece-work earnings; in any cases in which the men have been or are paid on their piece-work earnings before the change of hours took effect, if the basis on which such rates were calculated was a full 53 or 54 hours week, they are to receive the necessary payment to compensate them for the reduced week. (3) Piece-workers' assistants, including rivet heaters, except when sharing in a definite proportion in the earnings of their squads, to receive from their employer an enhanced

rate in view of the shorter working week. The award to date from the commencement of the 47-hours scheme. Issued 31st March. (369)

Textile Trades.

TEXTILE TRADE.—West of England Wool Textile Employers' Association v. General Union of Textile Workers, Workers' Union, Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union, and National Federation of Women Workers. Award—The Court approved agreement arrived at in conference between the parties, giving an increase to time-workers over pre-war rates of 105 per cent., and to be not less than 22s. to men and 16s. a week to women, and in the case of piece-workers a minimum increase of 105 per cent. over pre-war average earnings, to take effect from 10th Jan., 1919. In certain cases in which applications were made before 1st Nov., 1918, and not settled at the date of agreement, the advances to be paid from that date. The agreement does not apply to foremen or to persons physically deficient. Issued 3rd March, 1919. (282)

DYERS.—Leek Manufacturers and Dyers' Association v. Amalgamated Society of Silk and Cotton Dyers. Award—Men concerned, aged 22½ years and over, to receive an advance of 6s. a week, and the men and boys concerned, under 22½ years of age, to receive a proportionate advance according to the practice at present in force. The Court are of opinion that the relation between the scale of wages appertaining to Leek and to Macclesfield should be made the subject of consideration by the Joint Industrial Council of the trade. Issued 8th March, 1919. (294)

WEAVERS.—Rochdale Flannel Manufacturers' Association v. Workers' Union. Award—The scale to be paid in future shall be ¼d. per beer and 1½d. per pick for weaving 50 yards of flannel, woven length. This shall apply to all those firms where weaving has hitherto been paid for on a definite scale. At those firms where weaving prices have hitherto been fixed for each separate kind of cloth no change shall be made in the price to be paid for cloths priced since 11th Nov., 1918, but cloth priced before that date and cloths introduced from the date of the operation of this award shall be paid for at the rate of ¼d. per beer and 1½d. per pick per piece of 50 yards, woven length. This award is to come into operation on all pieces put into the loom after 29th March, 1919. Issued 28th March, 1919. (362)

Clothing Trades.

WHOLESALE CLOTHING TRADE.—Wholesale Clothing Manufacturers' Federation of Great Britain and Ireland and the Huddersfield Wholesale Clothiers' Association v. United Garment Workers' Trade Union and Amalgamated Society of Tailors and Tailoresses. Award—The workpeople concerned are to receive the following weekly advances, in which are to merge any district or general advances received since 1st May, 1917. Men aged 22 years and over, 18s. 9d.; men from 18 to 22 years and women 18 years and over, 12s. 6d.; juniors, 7s. The advances are not to apply to workpeople employed on "log" hour system, who are to receive the following advances per "log" hour above basis rates and war advances now obtaining: ¾d., ½d., ¼d., and ¼d. respectively. Issued 31st March, 1919. (370)

CLOTHING TRADE.—Northern Clothing Manufacturers' Association v. United Garment Workers' Trade Union and Amalgamated Society of Tailors and Tailoresses. Award—The workpeople concerned are to receive the following weekly advances, in which are to merge any district or general advances received since 1st May, 1917. Men aged 22 years and over, 18s. 9d.; men from 18 to 22 years and women 18 years and over, 12s. 6d.; juniors, 7s. The advances are not to apply to workpeople employed on "log" hour system, who are to receive the following advances per "log" hour above basis rates and war advances now obtaining: ¾d., ½d., ¼d., and ¼d. respectively. Issued 31st March, 1919. (371)

BESPOKE TAILORING TRADE.—National Federation of Merchant Tailors, Master Tailors' Federation, and Association of London Master Tailors v. United Garment Workers' Trade Union and Amalgamated Society of Tailors and Tailoresses. Award—The workpeople concerned, employed on the "log" hour system, to receive advances as follows: Men aged 22 years and over, ¾d. a "log" hour; men 18 to 22 years of age and women 18 years and over, ½d. a "log" hour, and juniors ¼d. a "log" hour. Workpeople not paid on the "log" hour basis to receive weekly advances of 18s. 9d., 12s. 6d., 12s. 6d., and 7s. respectively, any general or district advances since 1st May, 1917, to merge therein. Issued 31st March, 1919. (572)

Transport Trades.

HOBBLERS.—Milford Haven Trawler Owners and Fish Salesmen's Association, Ltd. v. National Amalgamated Labourers' Union of Great Britain and Ireland. Award—Hobblers employed in landing fish at Milford Haven to be paid, from 15th March, 1919, rates according to a tariff varying from 9s. for landing 100 kits or less, to 15s. for landing over 175 to 200 kits, with an additional 1s. 6d. for every 25 kits over 200. Issued 15th March, 1919. (312)

RAILWAY ELECTRICAL WORKERS.—Railway Executive Committee v. Electrical Trades Union, National Union of General Workers, Workers' Union and National Amalgamated Union of Enginemen, Firemen, Mechanics, Motormen and Electrical Workers. Decision—Claim for a war wage advance of 15s. to electrical workers employed on generating stations and sub-

stations on railways in London not established. Issued 25th March, 1919. (353)

CARTERS.—North Staffordshire Master Carters and Team Owners' Association v. Amalgamated Horsemen's Union. Award—From first pay after 1st March, 1919, men concerned, aged 18 years and over, and youths doing adults' work, to receive a further war wage advance of 5s. a week, other youths to be paid an increase of 2s. 6d. a week. Issued 27th March, 1919. (357)

BOATMEN.—James Fairclough & Sons, Ltd. (Warrington) v. National Union of Dock Labourers and Riverside Workers. Award—Boatmen concerned, employed on wheat carrying steam tugs, to receive an advance of 5s. a week. Issued 28th March, 1919. (364)

TUG CAPTAINS.—Port of London Authority v. Amalgamated Society of Watermen, Lightermen and Bargemen. Award—Tug captains concerned to receive a further war wage advance of 10s. a week from first pay following 6th Dec., 1918. Issued 31st March, 1919. (367)

Chemical, Explosives, Brick, Cement, Pottery, and Glass Trades.

SKILLED ENGINEERS AND ELECTRICAL WORKERS.—Ministry of Munitions (Explosives Department) v. Electrical Trades Union. Award—The skilled engineers, T. Bailey and W. P. Turner, and the electrical workers, T. Graham and T. Sitherland, employed in H.M. Factory, Gretna, to be paid the bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings from the beginning of the first full pay after 13th October, 1917, to 31st Dec., 1917. Claim in respect of the other workmen not established. Issued 8th March, 1919. (295)

GENERAL WORKERS.—Ministry of Munitions (Explosives Department) v. National Union of General Workers. Award—Men concerned, employed at H.M. Magazines at Curthwaite and Dalston, aged 18 years and over, to receive a war advance of 5s. a week from the beginning of the first pay after 1st Feb., 1919. Issued 8th March, 1919. (296)

FINE DRUG AND CHEMICAL WORKERS.—R. Sumner & Co., Ltd. v. National Warehouse and General Workers' Union. Decision—The rates of wages applicable to the men and women concerned, aged 21 years and over, are to be the pre-war minimum rates for the different classes of workpeople agreed upon on 13th Sept., 1918, between the Drug and Fine Chemical Manufacturers' Association and the National Warehouse and General Workers' Union, plus the war advances to date of 25s. a week in the case of men and 20s. a week in the case of women. Issued 11th March, 1919. (300)

BLASTING POWDER MANUFACTURERS.—Curtis's and Harvey, Ltd. (London) v. Workers' Union. Award—Claim for the extension of the bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings to men employed by the company at the firm's powder mills, Roslin, not established. Overtime to be paid for at the rate of time and a half, and double time on Sundays; the rate for overtime to include all war advances. Issued 11th March, 1919. (305)

CEMENT WORKERS.—Cement Makers' Federation v. National Federation of General Workers. Award—5s. a week to men and women to a maximum advance over pre-war rates of 30s. on a basis of 6 days, or shifts; youths and girls under 18 years of age 2s. 6d. a week to a 10s. maximum advance. Youths and girls doing adults' full work to be paid adults' rates. Working week to be 48 hours, for which the workpeople are to receive the sum that was payable for 54 hours. A full week's annual holiday to be granted. Overtime to be readjusted as set out in award, and payment to be made for half day or shift when workman is put off by weather conditions or breakdown, provided he will do half a day's work of any kind that may be required. Issued 13th March, 1919. (307)

GENERAL WORKERS.—Scottish Committee of Chemical Manufacturers v. National Union of General Workers, National Amalgamated Union of Labour, Workers' Union and Scottish Union of Dock Labourers. Award—The allowances for overtime, &c., granted under the award of the Committee on Production No. 823 to the chemical trade in England and extended to the chemical trade in Scotland by Committee on Production Award No. 2530 of 9th Dec., 1918, are to take effect from first pay after 26th Sept., 1918. The Court recommend that the parties should meet and agree upon a lump sum to be paid to cover the arrears due under the award. Issued 15th March, 1919. (309)

CHEMICAL TRADE.—Chemical Employers' Federation v. National Federation of General Workers. Award—Women concerned, aged 18 years and over, to receive an advance of 5s. a week, and girls under 18 years 2s. 6d. a week, from and including the pay period for which payment was made in the week ended 4th Jan., 1919. Claim for a further general advance to male employees not established. Claims for payment of double time for week-end work and an additional advance to process workers not established. Issued 19th March, 1919. (323)

CHEMICAL EMPLOYERS' FEDERATION v. JOINT COMMITTEE OF SALT AND CHEMICAL TRADE WORKERS. Award—Women concerned, aged 18 years and over, to receive an advance of 5s. a week, and girls under 18 years, 2s. 6d. a week, as from and including the pay period for which payment was made in the week ended 4th Jan., 1919. Claim for a further general advance to male employees not established. Claim for payment of double time for week-end work not established. Issued 19th March, 1919. (324)

EXPLOSIVES TRADE.—Wages Committee of Explosives Manufacturers *v.* National Federation of General Workers. Decision—Claim for a further general advance in wages not established. Issued 19th March, 1919. (325)

Soap and Candle Trades Employers' Federation *v.* Joint Committee of Salt and Chemical Trade Workers. Award—(1) Claim on behalf of male employees not established. (2) Women concerned, aged 18 years and over, to receive an advance of 5s. a week, and girls 2s. 6d. a week, as from and including the pay period for which payment is made in the week ending 5th April, 1919. Claims for payment of double time for week-end work and for the establishment of a 44-hours' week not established. Issued 19th March, 1919. (327)

Soap and Candle Trades Employers' Federation *v.* National Federation of General Workers. Award—Claim on behalf of male employees not established. Women concerned, aged 18 years, to receive an advance of 5s. a week, girls 2s. 6d. a week, as from and including the pay period for which payment is made in the week ending 5th April, 1919. Issued 19th March, 1919. (328)

DRUG AND FINE CHEMICAL INDUSTRY.—Drug and Fine Chemical Manufacturers' Association *v.* National Warehouse and General Workers' Union, National Union of General Workers, National Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen and Clerks, Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union and Workers' Union. Decision—Claim for an advance of 10s. a week to all male and female workers, 18 years of age and over, and 5s. to those under 18 years of age not established. Issued 20th March, 1919. (340)

EXPLOSIVES TRADE.—Thames Ammunition Works, Ltd. (Slades Green) *v.* Workers' Union. Award—Men concerned, aged 18 years and over, to receive a war wage advance of 3s. 6d. a week from first pay following 1st Nov., 1918, and a further war advance of 5s. a week from first pay following 1st Jan., 1919. Boys and youths under 18 years of age to receive advances of 1s. 9d. and 2s. 6d. a week from the respective dates. Issued 25th March, 1919. (351)

Ministry of Munitions (representing the National Filling Factory and the Central Stores Department, Hereford) and War Office *v.* Workers' Union. Award—Claims for an advance of 3d. an hour on time rates and for an advance of 20s. a week to out-door workers in central store department not established. Issued 28th March, 1919. (365)

Public Utility Services.

ELECTRICAL WORKERS.—Corporation of Worcester (Electricity Department) *v.* Workers' Union and Amalgamated Society of General Toolmakers, Engineers and Machinists. Award—(1) As from 1st Oct., 1918, the men concerned are to receive such advance as shall give 20s. a week, exclusive of the bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings, over their pre-war rates, boys and youths under 18 years to receive such advance as shall give 6s. 6d. a week over pre-war rates, and the woman concerned to receive an advance of 5s. a week. (2) As from the beginning of the first full pay following 1st Dec., 1918, the men concerned aged 18 years and over are to receive a further advance of 3s. 6d. a week, and boys 1s. 9d. a week. Issued 3rd March, 1919. (281)

MALE EMPLOYEES.—Bridgwater Rural District Council *v.* Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union. Award—Men concerned to receive a war wage advance of 2s. 6d. a week, subject to a maximum total war advance of 20s. a week, the first pay following 1st Feb., 1919. Issued 5th March, 1919. (286)

BLACKSMITHS AND STRIKERS.—Bristol Corporation *v.* Certain employees (represented by the Amalgamated Society of Engineers). Decision—The prescribed rate applicable to blacksmiths engaged on general smiths' work other than engineering shops in the Bristol district on 1st Dec., 1918, was 45s. a week plus 16s. 6d. a week war wages, plus 12½ per cent. bonus on earnings, and after that date 45s. a week, plus 21s. 6d. war wages, plus 12½ per cent. bonus; the same to apply to wheelwright smiths. In the case of strikers the corresponding amounts were 33s. plus 16s. 6d. plus 12½ per cent., and 33s. plus 16s. 6d. plus 12½ per cent. Issued 6th March, 1919. (287)

ENGINE DRIVERS, FIREMEN, &c.—Charing Cross, West End, and City Electricity Supply Co., Ltd. *v.* Amalgamated Union of Engine and Cranemen, Boiler Firemen and Wire Rope Workers. Decision—Agreement arrived at between the parties at the hearing approved whereby (1) the rates and working conditions of all men employed at the Bow generating station shall be those set out in Award No. 2772 of the Committee on Production, except that overtime to be paid for at the rate of time and a half, and, in the event of men being called in before the commencement of normal shifts, time and a half to be paid. (2) An advance of 5s. a week to be granted to all workers in accordance with the terms of Award No. 150 of the Court of Arbitration. Issued 6th March, 1919. (289)

GAS WORKERS.—Torquay Gas Co. and Exmouth Gas Co. *v.* Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union. Award—From the beginning of the first full pay following 1st Dec., 1918, men concerned, aged 18 years and over, to receive an advance of 3s. 6d. a week, payable at the rate of 7d. a day or shift, for each day or shift worked, boys and youths to receive an advance of 1s. 9d. a week, payable at the rate of 3½d. a day or shift for each day or shift worked. Issued 11th March, 1919. (301)

GENERAL WORKERS.—Staffordshire Potteries Waterworks Co. (Hanley) *v.* Workers' Union. Award—Men concerned to re-

ceive an advance of 6s. a week from the first pay day in Jan., 1919, and is to be payable in respect of the pay period for which payment was made on such pay day. Issued 11th March, 1919. (302)

OFFICIAL STAFF.—Dublin Corporation (Markets Committee) *v.* Certain employees of the Markets Committee. Award—From the beginning of the first full pay which followed 1st Jan., 1919, men concerned, whose total earnings, exclusive of war advances do not exceed £300 a year, and whose total war advances are less than 23s. 6d. a week, to receive an advance of 23s. 6d. a week, in which shall be merged such war advances as may have been granted in accordance with the Corporation scale or otherwise. Issued 19th March, 1919. (331)

SECRETARY AND OFFICIAL STAFF.—Dublin Corporation *v.* Staff of the Technical Education Committee. Award—Claim that the 24 members of the staff of the Technical Education Committee of the Corporation are entitled to allowances equivalent to the amounts granted to the engineering and foundry trades, plus a bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings, not established. Issued 19th March, 1919. (332)

GENERAL WORKERS.—Pembroke U.D.C. (County Dublin) *v.* Irish Municipal Employees' Trade Union. Award—Men concerned to receive a war wage advance of 5s. a week from first pay in Jan., 1919. Issued 19th March, 1919. (333)

TRAMWAY WORKERS.—Dublin United Tramways Co. *v.* National Transport Workers' Federation. Award—From the beginning of the first pay in Feb., 1919, grades of men, 18 years of age and over, covered by Sir Dunbar Plunket Barton's award of 12th Oct., 1918, to receive such an advance as will give them 28s. a week over pre-war rates (in addition to service increments and merit advances), payment to be made on the basis of six days or six shifts. Claim, so far as it relates to boys under 18 years of age, not established. Issued 19th March, 1919. (338)

TRAMWAY EMPLOYEES.—Llandudno and Colwyn Bay Electric Railway Co. *v.* Amalgamated Association of Tramway and Vehicle Workers. Award—To men concerned, aged 18 years and over, there shall be paid such advance as shall give 26s. a week over pre-war rates of wages, payment to be made on the basis of a week of six days or six shifts, from and including 20th Jan., 1919. Issued 20th March, 1919. (339)

NON-CERTIFIED DEPARTMENTS.—Stoke-on-Trent Corporation *v.* Workers' Union, Municipal Employees' Association, and Navvies, Builders' Labourers and General Workers' Union. Award—Men concerned, aged 18 years and over, to receive a war wage advance of 5s. a week and boys 2s. 6d. a week. Women concerned, aged 18 years and over, to receive a war wage advance of 3s. 6d. a week, subject to a maximum total advance of 20s. a week. The Court recommend that the question of hours and holidays be settled by the Joint Industrial Council that is being set up. Issued 20th March, 1919. (344)

LONDON ELECTRICITY UNDERTAKINGS.—Dartford Urban District Council, Leyton Urban District Council, West Ham Corporation, Gravesend Corporation, Luton Corporation, Reigate Corporation, Chiswick Electricity Supply Corporation, Ltd., Hendon Electric Supply Co., Ltd., Richmond (Surrey) Electric Light and Power Co., Ltd., Smithfield Markets Electric Supply Co., Ltd., Twickenham and Teddington Electric Supply Co., Ltd., Uxbridge and District Electric Supply Co., Ltd., Electric Supply Corporation, Ltd. (in respect of their Chelmsford undertaking), Conference of Chief Officials of London Electric Supply Companies (representing the following companies: Metropolitan Electric Supply Co., Ltd., Brompton and Kensington Electricity Supply Co., Ltd., Central Electric Supply Co., Ltd., Charing Cross, West End and City Electricity Co., Ltd., Chelsea Electricity Supply Co., Ltd., City of London Electric Lighting Co., Ltd., County of London Electric Supply Co., Ltd., Kensington and Knightsbridge Electric Lighting Co., Ltd., London Electric Supply Corporation, Ltd., Notting Hill Electric Lighting Co., Ltd., St. James' and Pall Mall Electric Light Co., Ltd., South London Electric Supply Corporation, Ltd., South Metropolitan Electric Light and Power Co., Ltd., and Westminster Electric Supply Corporation, Ltd.), London United Tramways, Ltd., London County Council (Tramways Dept.), Metropolitan Electric Tramways, Ltd., South Metropolitan Electric Tramways and Lighting Co., Ltd., North Metropolitan Electric Power Supply Co., Ltd., North Metropolitan Electric Power Distribution Co., Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames Corporation, Hornsey Corporation, Croydon Corporation, East Ham Corporation, Wimbledon Corporation, Borough Councils of Battersea, Bermondsey, Ealing, Fulham, Hackney, Hammersmith, Hampstead, Islington, Poplar, St. Marylebone, St. Pancras, Shoreditch, Southwark, Stepney, Stoke Newington and Woolwich, and the Urban District Councils of Barking, Barnes, Beckenham, Epsom, Erith, Finchley, Heston and Isleworth, Ilford, Walthamstow, Watford and Willesden *v.* Electrical Trades Union, National Union of General Workers, Workers' Union, and National Amalgamated Union of Enginemen, Firemen, Mechanics, Motormen and Electrical Workers. Decision—Claim for a further war wage advance of 15s. a week not established. Issued 25th March, 1919. (350)

London General Omnibus Co., Ltd. *v.* Mr. Joseph Read. Decision—The prescribed rate of wages to a painter, the class of work upon which the employee is engaged, is 10d. an hour (with any allowances for overtime, &c., when worked, and additional war bonuses or war advances). Issued 26th March, 1919. (354)

ELECTRICITY WORKERS.—Maidstone Corporation (Electricity Works) v. National Union of Corporation Workers. Award—Men concerned, aged 18 years and over, to receive a war wage advance of 5s. a week and boys 2s. 6d. a week, from first pay following 1st Jan., 1919. Issued 26th March, 1919. (356)

TRAMWAY EMPLOYEES.—Worcester Electric Traction Co. v. Amalgamated Society of Tramway and Vehicle Workers. Award—Men concerned, aged 18 years and over, to receive an advance of 5s. a week, payment to be made on the basis of a week of six days or six shifts; the advance to female workers to be determined in proportion to the advance applicable to male workers in conformity with the practice which has hitherto prevailed. Issued 28th March, 1919. (361)

Miscellaneous Trades.

CANTEEN WORKERS.—P. & W. Anderson, Ltd. (Bedfordshire), and the Air Ministry v. National Federation of Women Workers. Award—Women canteen workers concerned, aged 18 years and over, to receive a war wage advance of 5s. a week, and girls under 18 years 2s. 6d. a week, as from the beginning of the first pay after 1st Nov., 1918. Issued 20th March, 1919. (341)

RUBBER TRADE.—Leyland and Birmingham Rubber Co., Ltd. v. Workers' Union. Award—Claim that 3s. 6d. of the 8s. 6d. a week advance paid to the workers concerned should be retrospective to Aug., 1918, and that the remaining 5s. a week should be paid from Dec., 1918, not established. Issued 21st March, 1919. (347)

INCANDESCENT MANTLE MAKERS.—Volker Lighting Corporation, Ltd., Welsbach Light Co., Ltd., J. S. Robins, Ltd., and Curtis's and Harvey, Ltd. (all of London) v. Workers' Union and the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative and Commercial Employees and Allied Workers. Award—The minimum rates of wages to be 6½d. an hour for women, 18 years of age and over, and 5½d. an hour for girls 17 to 18 years of age; the rates for girls under 17 years of age to be adjusted in relation to these minimum rates. Piece-work prices to be such as to enable every woman or girl to earn at least 25 per cent. over her time-rate. Overtime to be paid for at the rate of time and a quarter. The award to take effect from first pay following 1st March, 1919. Issued 26th March, 1919. (355)

SINGLE ARBITRATORS AND COURTS OF ARBITRATION APPOINTED BY THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT, 1896.

Building and Allied Trades.

PLUMBERS.—Gloucester Building Trades Employers' Federation v. National Federation of Building Trades Operatives. Difference—Application for an alteration in the rate of wages paid to plumbers at Cheltenham to a flat rate of 1s. 7d. per hour. Arbitrator—Mr. W. A. Willis. Award—Plumbers' claim to a higher rate than other building trades operatives not established. Rates shall be as from 1st Jan., 1919, 1s. 3d. per hour, and as from 1st May, 1919, a rate of 1s. 4d. per hour, if this latter rate of wages is approved by the Minister of Labour in respect of the other tradesmen. Merger of 12½ per cent bonus. Issued 12th March, 1919. W.A. 2156.

Mining and Quarrying.

QUARRYMEN, BREAKERMEN, & C.—Workers' Union v. Steetley Lime Co., Ltd. Difference—Application for reduction of working hours and an increase of wages. Arbitrator—Mr. Charles Doughty. Award—Advance of 5s. a week to men over 18, 2s. 6d. a week to boys under 18, on condition that no time is lost. Breakermen to receive in addition an advance of ½ of a penny per ton; quarrymen ¼d. per ton extra for tramming full tubs for every 50 yards or a part thereof over 300 yards. A 47-hour working week to daymen, blacksmiths and joiners for the same wages as the present 53-hour week. No alteration in hours to other grades. Effective as regards advances as from the commencement of the first full pay week in February, 1919; as regards alteration in hours, as from 7th March, 1919. Issued 6th March, 1919. W.A. 515/2.

QUARRYMEN.—Josiah Smart & Sons and Constable, Hart & Co., both of Matlock, v. National Union of General Workers. Difference—Application for increase in rates to piece-workers, time-workers rated by hour, and standard wage men, and that existing bonuses be converted into general wage rates. Arbitrator—Mr. C. M. le Breton, K.C., O.B.E. Award—Increases of ¼d. per ton to piece-workers; 1d. per hour to time-workers; 4s. per week to standard wage men. Half these amounts to boys under 18. Claim for conversion of existing bonuses into rates not established. Operative (by agreement) as from beginning of first full pay after 21st Feb., 1919, and to remain in force until 1st Dec., 1919. Issued 8th March, 1919. W.A. 456/2.

Pig Iron and Iron and Steel Manufacture.

MELTERS. & C.—Steel Ingot Makers' Association v. Iron and Steel Trades Confederation. Difference—Application (1) on behalf of melters employed on the new tilting furnace at the works of John Lysaght & Co., Ltd., at Normanby Park, Scunthorpe, that the basic tonnage rates should be 1s. 3d. per ton on the fixed furnace. (2) On behalf of the workmen employed in the basic grinding shed at the same works, for an advance in basic wages from 5s. to 7s. per shift of 8 hours on the ground of increased labour and

material handled. Court of Arbitration—Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C. (chairman), Mr. William Burton (employer's representative), the Right Hon. W. Adamson, M.P. (labour representative). Award—(1) That the basic tonnage rate to employees on the new tilting furnace be 1s. 2d. per ton, to be divided between the first, second and third hands in the proportions hitherto observed on the fixed furnace, and to operate as from the commencement of the week ending 15th Dec., 1917. (2) That the basic wages of the men employed in the basic grinding shed be increased as from 15th April, 1918, by 1s. 6d. per shift of 8 hours, such increase to carry the proportionate increases in percentages, and other additions. Issued 31st March, 1919. W.A. 2577.

Engineering, Shipbuilding and Other Metal Trades.

FARRIERS.—National Master Farriers Association v. Amalgamated Society of Farriers, Yorkshire. Difference—Application for an advance of 3d. per hour against the offer of the employers of an advance of 1½d. per hour. Arbitrator—Mr. Charles Doughty. Award—The wages of firemen, registered doormen and doormen shall be increased by 2d. per hour. Effective as from 1st Feb., 1919. Issued 1st March, 1919. W.A.(M.) 302.

BRASSWORKERS AND METAL MECHANICS.—Humphries, Jackson and Ambler, Ltd., of Manchester v. National Brassworkers and Metal Mechanics and National Union of Operative Heating and Domestic Engineers. Difference—Application by the unions for the payment of the 7½ per cent. bonus as from 1st Jan., 1918, to 1st Aug., 1918, to those of their members employed by the above firms as pieceworkers in making steel windows. Arbitrator—Mr. W. A. Robertson. Award—Claim not established. Issued 3rd March, 1919. W.A. 1922.

ENGINEERS AND LABOURERS (TORPEDO WORKERS).—National Union of General Workers v. Amalgamated Society of Engineers. Difference—As to allocation of prices of work that has been performed by members of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers and the National Union of General Workers at the torpedo works of Whitehead, Wyke Regis, Weymouth. Arbitrator—Mr. W. H. Whiting, C.B. Award—The sum of 16s. 6d. (instead of 9s. 5½d.) shall be paid to a labourer for riveting of the after bodies of torpedoes. Retrospective as from 29th April, 1918. Issued 5th March, 1919. W.A. 10/2.

SHIPWRIGHTS.—Queenstown Dry Dock Shipbuilding and Engineering Co., Ltd., Passage West, Co. Cork v. Ship Constructors' and Shipwrights' Association. Difference—Application for payment of 4½ hours' pay for the unshipping of vessels from the firm's slipway. Arbitrator—Mr. W. A. Willis. Award—Claim not established. Issued 10th March, 1919. W.A. 2084.

SHIPWRIGHTS.—Cork Harbour Commissioners, Robert Perry & Co., Queenstown, Johnson & Perrott, Cork, City of Cork Steam Packet Co., and the Queenstown Dry Dock Engineering and Shipbuilding Co., Ltd. v. Ship Constructors' and Shipwrights' Association. Difference—Application for a substituted rate, namely, an increase of 4d. per hour made on behalf of shipwrights, members of above association, employed in Cork. Arbitrator—Mr. W. A. Willis. Award—War advance of ¼d. (three farthings) per hour to men concerned. Effective as from beginning of first full pay following 10th March, 1919. Issued 10th March, 1919. W.A. 2084/3.

ENGINEERS.—Stringer & Co., Ltd. (Sheffield) v. Two of their Employees. Difference—Application for 7½ per cent. bonus on earnings. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Award—(1) Claim established. (2) Merger of workshop bonus of 1s. a day. Effective as from beginning of first full pay week following 1st Jan., 1918. Issued, 10th March, 1919. W.A. 2090.

RAILWAY VEHICLE MAKERS.—The Gloucester Railway Wagon and Carriage Co., Ltd. v. Amalgamated Society of Railway Vehicle Builders, Wheelwrights, & C. Difference—Application for certain minimum rates to punchers, shearers, holders up, straighteners and levellers, straighteners' improvers, levellers' helpers, slotters, iron sawyers, riveters (pneumatic), millers, millers' charge hand, wagon painters and drillers. Arbitrator—Mr. C. Doughty. Award—Specified minimum rates for various classes of workmen, on condition that they have worked at the machine or trade for two years. Certain rates for promoted labourers and other workmen. Effective as from commencement of first full pay week after 8th March, 1919. Issued 10th March, 1919. W.A. 2128.

SMITHS, STRIKERS, & C.—Mountford Phillips & Co., Ltd. (Llantrisant) v. Workers' Union and United Kingdom Society of Amalgamated Smiths and Strikers. Difference—Application for payment of a bonus for the Christmas Holidays, 1918. Arbitrator—Mr. Clegg Mellor. Award—Claim established. The bonus shall be paid on the pay day following the receipt of this award by the parties concerned. By agreement, no bonus shall be payable in respect of future holidays. Issued 13th March, 1919. W.A. 2182.

FARRIERS (Doormen and Firemen).—National Master Farriers' Association (Liverpool Branch) v. Amalgamated Society of Farriers (Liverpool, Birkenhead and District). Difference—Application for an increase of 10s. per week to firemen and 12s. to doormen, a working week of 44 hours, and an alteration of working conditions. Conference presided over by an officer of the Ministry of Labour. Agreement—(1) Increase of 5s. per week to doormen and firemen. (2) Working week of 47 hours. Issued 15th March, 1919. W.A. 1803.

TIN SMELTERS.—The Penpoll Tin Smelting Co., Ltd. (Bootle, Liverpool) v. National Amalgamated Union of Labour.

Difference—Application that the advances specified in the Committee on Production award No. 2800 to the engineering and foundry trades be paid by the company as from the date named in the award. Arbitrator—Mr. Clegg Mellor. Award—In accordance with the agreement between the employers and the Union, the awards given by the Committee on Production to the engineering and foundry trades shall be paid by the company, but the date of revision each four months shall run from the 30th Sept. 1918. Claim as made not established. Issued 21st March, 1919. W.A. 232/2.

ENGINEERS.—The Wigan Coal and Iron Co., Ltd. v. Steam Engine Makers' Society. Difference—Application that outworking allowances paid in engineering establishments in the Wigan district shall apply to men in the company's repair shops. Arbitrator—Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C. Award—Where the distance from the workshop to the places to which men are sent out to work exceeds two miles, but not otherwise, the overtime rates shall be as claimed, i.e. in accordance with the rates of overtime for outworkers as contained in the agreement between the Employers' Federation and the Society, provided that this decision is not intended to imply or constitute application of such agreement beyond the exact terms of this award. Effective as from 31st March, 1919. Issued 25th March, 1919. W.A. 2464.

FARRIERS.—The National Master Farriers' Association v. Amalgamated Society of Farriers. Difference—Application for an increase of wages and for the alteration of certain conditions of employment in the London district, viz. (1) An increase of 2s. 6d. per day to firemen and doormen. (2) Making 48 shoes double-handed or 32 single-handed, all sizes, to constitute a day's work. (3) No patent or machine-made shoes to be used. (4) Shoes with screw or stud holes to count double. Arbitrator—Mr. Charles Doughty. Award—(1) Forty-seven hours shall constitute a week's work. All work executed between 6 P.M. and 6 A.M. to be paid for at the rate of time and a quarter. (2) Threepence per pair, shall be paid for fixing new pads. Twopence per pair shall be paid for fixing old pads and leathers. (3) Removes to count as half. (4) An increase of 1s. a day shall be paid to firemen and doormen, making the firemen's wage 12s. 3d. a day and the doormen's wage 11s. 9d. a day. (5) Work. (a) For double-handed, 48 on or making 48 cart shoes, half new iron and half old iron, or making 60 coach shoes, half new iron and half old iron, shall constitute a day's work. (b) For single-handed, 32 on or making 32 cart shoes (all new iron), or making 40 coach shoes, half new iron and half old iron, or making 60 cob or pony shoes, half new iron and half old iron, shall constitute a day's work. (c) All iron worked over 1½ by ½ to count as cart shoes. (6) There shall be no restriction upon the use of patent or machine-made shoes. (7) Shoes with screw or stud holes to be paid for at the ordinary rate plus threepence per hole for each hole made. Effective as from the first pay day in April, 1919, for the preceding week. Issued 27th March, 1919. W.A. 1102/2.

CLERKS.—The Projectile Co. (1902), Ltd. (Battersea) v. National Union of Clerks. Difference—Claim that all the men and women concerned shall be formally reinstated and given a proper discharge with one week's wages in lieu of notice; and for payment of a Christmas bonus. Negotiation conducted by an officer of the Ministry of Labour. Agreement—That the firm pay the clerks concerned the Christmas bonus and one week's pay in lieu of notice. Agreed 31st March, 1919. W.A. 6323/3.

Textile Trades.

HAND PINNERS, SCUTCHERS AND DYERS.—W. & J. Knox, Ltd. v. Workers' Union. Difference—Application for advance in wages of 5s. per week. Arbitrator—Sheriff J. M. Irvine, K.C. Award—Advance of 3s. per week. Effective as from beginning of first full pay after 14th March, 1919. Issued 14th March, 1919. W.A. 1190/2.

WOOLLEN WORKERS.—F. & J. Clayton & Co., Ltd. (Woollen Mills, Navan, Ireland) v. Irish Transport and General Workers' Union. Difference—Application for increase on pre-war rates of 80 per cent. for piece-workers and 25s. for time-workers. Arbitrator—Mr. W. A. Willis. Award—War advances to time-workers of 4s. per week to men over 18 whose wages are less than 27s. 6d. per week, 3s. per week to men over 18 whose wages exceed 27s. 6d. per week, except where the war advances already exceed 20s. per week, 2s. per week to youths under 18, 3s. 6d. to women over 21, 1s. 6d. per week to girls under 21. To piece-workers (except a man spinner and menders) a bonus of 10 per cent. of total earnings (including any existing bonus). Effective as from 7th April, 1919. Issued 19th March, 1919. W.A. 1061/2.

WOOLLEN OPERATIVES.—Scottish Woollen Trade Employers' Association v. National Union of General Workers and the Workers' Union. Difference—Concerning new proposals on wages and working conditions. Conference presided over by Sir Richard Lodge. Agreement—(1) That the normal working week be 48 hours instead of 49½ hours, without reduction of wages to time-workers. To take effect on 28th April. (2) Increase of 26s. per week over pre-war weekly earnings to all men time-workers. (3) Increase of 19s. per week over pre-war weekly earnings to all women time-workers. (4) Where under (2) and (3) the individual pre-war weekly wages are below the adjusted pre-war general average the increase to be on the adjusted pre-war general average. (5) Piece-workers to receive an increase of 80 per cent. (in place of 70 per cent. as at present) on their pre-war general district average earnings as now adjusted, such increase to cover any claims for

reduction of hours worked. (6) Young persons under 18 to receive the following advances on their present weekly wages, viz.: Boys from 14 to 16, 1s., and from 16 to 18, 2s.; girls from 14 to 16, 1s., and from 16 to 18, 1s. 6d. (7) A flat statement for weaving is in course of adjustment. If such flat statement be adopted the percentage increase on same shall be 75 per cent., to take the place of the readjusted schedule rate referred to in Article (5). (8) Time- and piece-workers.—The 26s. individual increase shall apply in so far as these workers are on time-work, and the 80 per cent. shall apply in so far as they are on piece-work. Effective with regard to all pays made after 21st April, 1919, which pays shall contain the increase for one week. Signed 28th March, 1919. W.A. 2253/2.

Clothing Trades.

HOSIERY OPERATIVES (MALE AND FEMALE).—The Blackrock Hosiery Co. (Dublin) v. Irish Women Workers' Union and Irish Transport and General Workers' Union. Difference—Application for payment of a 5d. war bonus on and from 28th-29th June, 1918, to 27th Nov., and that the 5d. war bonus be now increased to 6½d., as it is in England. Arbitrator—Mr. W. A. Willis. Award—(1) Back payments of the 5d. war bonus from 28th June, 1918, up to the time when the bonus was first begun to be paid by the firm. (2) An additional war bonus of 1½d. in the shilling as from 1st Jan., 1919, making from this date an aggregate bonus of 6½d. in the shilling. Issued 25th Feb., 1919. W.A. 1865.

BOOT AND SHOE OPERATIVES.—Joint Board of Conciliation and Arbitration for the County District of Northampton. Difference—In reference to a deduction from the piece-work statement price for "jointing" by hand made by a firm of shoe manufacturers at Kettering on welted work "jointed" by the Rear Angle Gripper attachment to the Rex Puller Over Machine. Umpire—Alderman Thomas Smith. Award—In accordance with the principle affirmed by the Arbitration Board on 24th Jan., 1918, a deduction of ½d. per dozen pairs shall be made in respect of army and civilian welted work when "jointed" by the Rear Angle Gripper attachment. This award shall be open to revision when the existing piece-work statements are readjusted, as provided by the terms of settlement arrived at between the Incorporated Boot and Shoe Manufacturers' Federation and the National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives, dated 13th Feb., 1919. Operative as regards the shoe manufacturing firm at Kettering in which the dispute arose as from the pay week commencing 30th Sept., 1918. Issued 22nd March, 1919. W.A. 1416/2.

TAILORS.—Paisley Co-operative Manufacturing Society, Ltd. v. their employees (tailors). Difference—Claim for an extra ½d. per hour. Arbitrator—Sheriff J. Wilson, K.C. Award—Claim not established. Issued 24th March, 1919. W.A. 712/2.

Transport Trades.

LABOURERS.—The Area Administrative Officer (Ireland) v. Irish Transport and General Workers' Union. Difference—Application for an increase of 4d. per hour to members of the Union employed at the forage departments, &c., of the War Department, Lapp's Quay, Cork. Arbitrator—Mr. W. A. Willis. Award—A war advance of 1½d. (one penny and a farthing) per hour to men concerned. Effective from beginning of first full pay in Jan., 1919. Issued 10th March, 1919. W.A. 2192.

Paper and Printing Trades.

PRINTING AND PAPER WORKERS.—D. Gestetner (Cyclostyle Works, Tottenham) v. National Union of Printing and Paper Workers. Difference—Claim for the payment of wages to members of the Union employed in the firm's paper shop for the holidays of Christmas Day and Boxing Day. Arbitrator—Mr. Charles Doughty. Award—Claim established, without prejudice to the firm's position and obligations under the agreements made between the Union and the Federation of Master Printers. Issued 4th March, 1919. W.A. 984/2.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.

CLERK AND TIMEKEEPER.—John Garlick (1910), Ltd. (builders and contractors and aircraft manufacturers, London) v. National Union of Clerks. Difference—Application on behalf of a clerk and timekeeper for the 12½ per cent. bonus as from 21st Oct., 1917. Arbitrator—Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C. Award—Claim not established, without prejudice to the firm's giving him a further advance to meet the increased cost of living since his last advance in June, 1918. Issued 27th Feb., 1919. W.A. 1859.

Chemical, Explosives, Brick, Cement, Pottery and Glass Trades.

TAR STILL CLEANERS.—J. Brown & Co. (Dewsbury) v. National Union of General Workers. Difference—Application for an advance of 100 per cent. on the wages of employees engaged in cleaning out tar stills. Arbitrator—Mr. W. A. Robertson. Award—Claim not established. Issued 28th Feb., 1919. W.A. 1882.

LABOURERS.—Edmonton Munitions Co., Ltd. v. Their Employees. Difference—Application for payment of the 12½ per cent. bonus as from 1st Jan., 1919. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Award—Claim not established. Issued 28th Feb., 1919. W.A. 1890.

LABOURERS.—Chilworth Gunpowder Co., Ltd. v. Workers' Union. Difference—Application for a grant of underclothing to members in the black department similar to that made to the workers in the blending house, or a further advance of

1d. per hour in lieu thereof. Arbitrator—Mr. W. A. Willis. Award—Claim not established. Issued 10th March, 1919. W.A. 2096.

GLASS BOTTLE WORKERS.—Kinghorn Bottle Co., Ltd. v. Scottish Federation of Glass Bottle Workers Trade Protection Society. Difference—Application for advance in wages of 15 per cent. on present rates. Court of Arbitration—Mr. Charles Doughty (chairman), Mr. James Currie (employers' representative), the Right Hon. W. Adamson, M.P. (labour representative). Award—The wages to be paid for making bottles on the O'Neil machine shall be increased by 15 per cent. on present rates. An amicable agreement was reached before the hearing as to work other than work upon the O'Neil machine. Effective as from the commencement of the first complete working week in February, 1919. Issued 31st March, 1919.

Food, Drink, and Tobacco Trades.

EMPLOYEES AT FLOUR MILLS.—Irish Flour Millers' Association on behalf of certain Associated firms v. Irish Transport and General Workers' Union. Difference—To determine the number of hours to constitute the normal working week in certain flour mills in Ireland. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Award (embodying unanimous decision of a conference)—A working week to consist of 47 hours (excluding meal times) for day workers and 44 hours including meal times for shift workers. The new conditions are to be adapted to the requirements of each district, and are to come into force not later than 28th April, 1919. Carmen, lorry drivers and carriers are excluded. (This award is supplementary to award of W.A. 338 of 8th Jan., 1919.) Issued 19th March, 1919. W.A. 1711-2.

CARTERS.—Bolands, Flour Millers, Dublin. Correction of Clause 1 of Award W.A. 338/6 of 5th Feb., 1919. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Award—The following clause shall replace Clause 1: That in the case of Bolands' carters who are concerned in the present application the load rates shall be increased by 2½d. per load. Issued 20th March, 1919. W.A. 1480/2.

PORTERS AND FILLERS.—Green & Co., Maylor Street, Hall & Co., South Mall, McDonnell & Co., South Mall, corn merchants, all of Cork v. Irish Transport and General Workers' Union. Difference—Application that present rates of pay to casual men engaged as porters and fillers be raised to 2s. 6d. per ton. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Award—That the casual men concerned shall be paid at the rate of 1s. 7½d. per ton per gang for all work done. Effective as from 3rd Feb., 1919. Issued 20th March, 1919. W.A. 1107/2.

STOREMEN AND WEIGHMEN.—Green & Co., Maylor Street, Cork, Hall & Co., South Mall, Cork v. Irish Transport and General Workers' Union. Difference—Application for advance of 15s. per week on present rates to permanent men employed as storemen and weighmen. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Award—War advance of 5s. per week to men, 2s. 6d. per week to boys. Effective as from the pay day of the week commencing 17th Feb., 1919. Issued 20th March, 1919. W.A. 1107/3.

GRIST MILL EMPLOYEES.—Munster Corn Millers' Association, representing seven firms, and sixteen other firms, all in Ireland v. Irish Transport and General Workers' Union. Difference—Application for (a) an advance on present wages of 16s. per week in the case of men and of 6s. per week in the case of boys; (b) a normal working week of 48 hours; (c) payment of work after 48 hours at the overtime rate of time and a half; (d) payment of Sunday work at the rate of double time. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Award—(1) Grist mill defined. (2) In the case of town grist mills, war advance to men over 21 of 7s. per week, or such portion thereof as will produce a wage of 40s. per week. Town mill defined. (3) An equitable war advance to men now receiving over 40s. per week. (4) In the case of country grist mills, war advance to men over 21 of 5s. per week, and in addition, where wages are low, sufficient to produce a wage exceeding by 5s. the agricultural weekly wage of the district, provided the total advance applied for is not exceeded. Country mill defined. (5) War advance of 4s. per week to youths under 21. (6) Merger of any advances since 13th Dec., 1918. (7) Method of valuation of board and lodging and free perquisites in the case of country mills. (8) Proportionate hourly advance for part time employees. (9) Advance to men paid on an output basis to be settled by employers and the Union. (10) 48-hour week not practicable until established generally in the grist milling industry in Ireland. (11) Meanwhile all hours above 54 per week to be paid for as overtime. (12) Overtime rate to be time and a quarter in country mills and time and a half in town mills, subject to no country mill paying less than before. (13) Double time for Sunday work (i.e. between Saturday midnight and Sunday midnight) except in such cases (e.g. carters) where attendance is part of the normal duties of the workmen. Effective as from the first full pay in February, 1919. Issued 24th March, 1919. W.A. 2506.

Public Utility Services.

SUPERINTENDENTS, SHIFT ENGINEERS, &c.—Gravesend Corporation v. Certain of their Employees in the Electricity Department. Difference—Application for certain increases on present wages to employees in the electrical undertaking. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Award—(1) An increase of 6s. a week to the outside superintendent, station superintendent and shift engineers; the 12½ per cent. shall be placed on all earnings including present increase. (2) A total weekly

advance of 28s. 6d. over pre-war wages, plus 12½ per cent. on weekly earnings, to firemen, joiner, fitter's mate and public lighting attendant. Merger of previous war advances. (3) Overtime at the rate of time and a quarter for first two hours, and time and a half thereafter; double time for Sunday (when outside normal week's work). Overtime shall count after each normal day, or each shift, has been completed, and shall not be paid to men who receive an up-standing wage or who work extra time to suit each other's convenience. Effective as from pay day of week ending 7th Dec. 1918. Rate of earnings established by this award shall stand for six months from date of award. Issued 4th March, 1919. W.A. 1979.

POOR LAW OFFICERS.—Blackburn Board of Guardians v. National Poor Law Officers' Association. Difference—Application for payment of war bonuses in accordance with the scales of war bonus for civil servants fixed by the Conciliation and Arbitration Boards for Government employees in awards dated 9th July, 1918, and 8th Nov., 1918. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Award—Claim established, subject to certain conditions as to merger of previous bonuses and war advances and the monetary value of rations received. Award does not apply to registrars, who shall receive separate consideration. The bonuses hereby payable shall not count as of right for pension or gratuity under the Superannuation Acts. They are payable for the period of the war as defined by the Local Government Board. Issued 6th March, 1919. W.A. 1372/2.

LABOURERS AND OTHERS.—Joint Board of Local Authorities of South Wales and Monmouthshire. Difference—Application for (1) A standard minimum rate of 30s. per week. (2) 5s. added to the 25s. war wage granted since the war. (3) A working week of 44 hours divided into five days of 8 hours and 4 hours on Saturday. Conciliation Board presided over by Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C. Agreement—(1) A minimum wage of 1s. 3d. per hour to be paid to able-bodied labourers over 18. (2) Other workmen to be paid and graded as per the Cardiff list. (3) A week of 47 hours worked (exclusive of meal times). No overtime to be paid until 47 hours have been worked. (4) Merger of all war advances in above rates. (5) Six national or bank holidays per year with pay. Effective as from 1st Jan., 1919. Issued 11th March, 1919. W.A. 1266/2.

LABOURERS.—Irish Lights Commissioners v. Irish Transport and General Workers' Union. Difference—Application that all advances granted in the engineering trade be applied in the case of labourers employed by the Commissioners at Kingstown. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Award—Claim not established. Issued 22nd March, 1919. W.A. 381/2.

MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL REPAIR STAFF, LABOURERS, STORE-KEEPERS, &c.—London County Council Tramways Rolling Stock Conciliation Board. Difference—Application for an 8-hour shift. Court of Arbitration—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. (chairman), Sir George Wyatt Truscott, Bart. (employers' representative), Mr. Frank Smith, J.P. (labour representative). Award embodies an agreement arrived at that the 47-hour week (or 8-hour shift) should be understood to be granted by the Council and accepted by the employees concerned, the conditions to be settled between the parties at the earliest possible date. Issued 26th March, 1919. W.A. 2002/2.

LABOURERS.—Leeds Corporation v. National Union of General Workers. Difference—Application on behalf of outside labourers employed in the electricity department for payment of 3s. 6d. per week in terms of award of Aug., 1918, to electricity workers generally in London. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Award—War advance of 3s. 6d. per week. Effective as from the pay day of the week ending 7th Dec., 1918. Issued 27th March, 1919. W.A. 1606/2.

CARTERS.—The Skipton Urban District Council v. Amalgamated Association of Tramway and Vehicle Workers. Difference—Application that the carters employed by the Council shall be paid the full terms of the award for vehicle workers of 30s. per week over pre-war rates dated 17th Sept., 1918. Arbitrator—Mr. Clegg Mellor. Award—War advance of 2s. 6d. per week. Effective as from the first pay day in 1919 for the week previous to that pay day. The men are recommended to wait for back pay until the pay day in the week ending 19th April, 1919. Issued 27th March, 1919. W.A. 2527.

Miscellaneous Trades.

SHOP ASSISTANTS, WAREHOUSEMEN AND CLERKS (PACKING-ROOM STAFF).—Rylands & Sons, Ltd. (London) v. National Amalgamated Society of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen and Clerks, and National Warehouse and General Workers' Union. Difference—Claim on behalf of the packing-room staff employed at the firm's London warehouse for (a) 25 per cent. increase on present earnings. (b) A maximum working week of 48 hours. (c) An overtime rate of time and a half. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Award—(1) War advances of 15 per cent. on weekly wages (including monetary equivalent of ration allowance) to male and female employees over 18 in the employ of the firm for over one year, and 3s. per week to male and female employees over 18 in the employ of the firm for between six and twelve months, and to youths and girls under 18 in the employ of the firm for over six months. (2) Present half-yearly bonus shall continue, and in its calculation there shall be included the 10s. weekly food allowance recently made, together with the weekly increase hereby granted. (3) A maximum working week of 48 hours. (4) Overtime at time and a half. (5) Position may be reconsidered by the parties after six months from the date of the award. Effective as regards (1) and (2) as from 1st Jan.,

1919; as regards (3) and (4) as from the first pay day following 26th Feb., 1919. Issued 26th Feb., 1919. W.A. 492/2.

WOMEN SECOND-CLASS EXAMINERS AND ASSISTANT FOREWOMAN.—The Management, Woolwich Arsenal (Ministry of Munitions) v. National Federation of Women Workers. Difference—(1) Application by the women in the Gun Inspection Department who are engaged on the same work as the men, who received the departmental increase of 5s., for similar increases, with retrospective payment. (2) Application by an assistant forewoman that she should receive the same wages as the assistant foreman, in view of the fact that she has been engaged on identical work. Arbitrator—Mr. W. H. Whiting, C.B. Award—(1) Claim established. Effective as from 30th June, 1918. (2) Claim established. The assistant forewoman should be paid at the rate of 69s. 6d., plus women's war bonuses, from the 3rd Feb., 1917. Issued 12th March, 1919. W.A. 1264/2.

CO-OPERATIVE WORKERS.—The Bathgate Co-operative Society v. Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employees and Allied Workers. Difference—The fixing of a specified minimum scale of wages varying according to length of service and age. Arbitrator—Sheriff Hay Shennan. Award—Advance of 5s. per week to all employees over 18 other than heads of departments, 2s. 6d. per week to employees under 18. Effective as from the first payment of wages in Jan., 1919. Issued 14th March, 1919. W.A. 1460/2.

LABOURERS (MALE AND FEMALE).—Army Ordnance Depot (Stirling) v. Workers' Union. Difference—Application for an advance of 12s. per week for men and women; proportionate advance for boys and girls. Arbitrator—Mr. J. B. Baillie, O.B.E. Award—Tradesmen shall receive their district rates. Other men over 18 and women time-workers over 18, an advance of 5s. per week. No advance to women piece-workers, but authorities may adjust rates in particular cases. Half of above advances to boys and girls under 18. Advances are war advances. Effective as from first full pay day following 18th March, 1919. Issued 18th March, 1919. W.A. 2319.

CO-OPERATIVE WORKERS (SHOP ASSISTANTS, &c.).—The Northern Co-operative Society, Ltd. v. National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen and Clerks. Difference—Claim for (1) advance of 5s. per week to all employees over 16. (2) Advance of 2s. 6d. per week to all employees under 16. (3) Closing hour on Thursday to be 6 P.M. instead of 8 P.M. (4) Overtime worked at Christmas and New Year to be paid for at double time rate. Arbitrator—Sheriff J. M. Irvine, K.C. Award—(1) By agreement, an elaborate scale of minimum wages and annual increments and certain immediate advances is adopted for employees in the grocery, drapery, furniture and butchery departments and the counting house. (2) Claim (3) is not established. (3) Overtime worked at Christmas and New Year shall be paid for at the rate of time and a half. Effective as from 19th Feb., 1919. Issued 19th March, 1919. W.A. 1360/2.

SHOP ASSISTANT.—Morrison's Economic Stores (Aberdeen) v. National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen and Clerks. Difference—Application that a female assistant should be reinstated in her former position. Arbitrator—Sheriff J. M. Irvine, K.C. Award—The assistant having apologised and promised to perform her duties, shall be reinstated. Issued 27th March, 1919. W.A. 1370/2.

AGREEMENTS APPROVED BY THE MINISTER OF LABOUR UNDER SECTION I. OF THE WAGES (TEMPORARY REGULATION) ACT, 1918.

Building and Allied Trades.

JOINERS AND BRICKLAYERS (GRIMSBY).—Local Conciliation Board at Grimsby. Award—That the Louth operative joiners and bricklayers be paid 1s. per hour plus 12½ per cent. bonus, making total wage of 1s. 1½d. per hour. Effective on and after 15th Nov., 1918. Approved 30th Nov., 1918. L.R. 15207/128.

BUILDING TRADES OPERATIVES (CHELTENHAM).—South Western Centre Board of Conciliation for the Building Trade. Decision—Carpenters, masons, bricklayers, plasterers and woodcutting machinists at Cheltenham to be paid a flat rate of 1s. 3d. per hour. Effective as from 1st Dec., 1918. Approved 11th Dec., 1918. W.A. 9625.

BUILDING TRADES OPERATIVES (BATLEY).—Batley and District Association of Building Trades Employers and the Operatives. Agreement—Rates for masons and bricklayers increased from 1s. 3½d. per hour to 1s. 3d. per hour plus 12½ per cent., and the rate for labourers from 1s. 1d. per hour to 1s. 2d. per hour, inclusive of all bonuses. Effective as from first full pay after 15th Nov., 1918. Approved 16th Dec., 1918. L.R. 15207/126.

BUILDING TRADES OPERATIVES (HASTINGS).—Hastings and St. Leonards Employers' Association of Builders and Allied Trades and the Building Trades Operatives. Agreement—That the present rates of wages are as follow: Bricklayers, 11d. per hour; bricklayers' labourers, 9d.; navvies, 9½d.; scaffolders, 9½d.; carpenters and joiners, 11d.; plasterers, 11d.; plumbers, fitters, &c., 11d.; paperhangers, 10d.; painters, 10d. These rates to include all bonuses. Approved 18th Feb., 1919. L.R. 25706.

BUILDING TRADES OPERATIVES (BATLEY).—Northern Centre Board of Conciliation for the Building Trades. In the matter

of Batley joiners', bricklayers', masons' and labourers' rates. Decision—That the rate of wages for joiners, masons and bricklayers be advanced to 1s. 6d. per hour and for labourers to 1s. 3½d. per hour, the revised rates to be inclusive of all bonuses. Effective as from the first full pay following 17th Feb., 1919. Approved 1st March, 1919. L.R. 15207/126.

JOINERS (HUDDERSFIELD).—Northern Centre Board of Conciliation. Decision—That the wages of the operative joiners of Huddersfield district be advanced 1½d. per hour (1s. 5d. to 1s. 6½d.) inclusive of all bonuses; hours of labour remain unchanged. Effective as from 1st March, 1919. Approved 4th March, 1919. W.A. (M) 5749 (L.R.).

OPERATIVE JOINERS (COLNE).—Northern Centre Board of Conciliation for the Building Trades. In the matter of the Colne Valley joiners' rates. Decision—That the wages of the operative joiners be advanced 1½d. per hour (1s. 5d. to 1s. 6½d.) inclusive of all bonuses. Effective as from 1st March, 1919. Approved 4th March, 1919. L.R. 15207/13.

BUILDING TRADES OPERATIVES (OSSETT AND HORBURY).—Northern Centre Board of Conciliation for the Building Trades. In the matter of the Ossett and Horbury joiners, masons, bricklayers and labourers' appeal. Decision—That the rate of wages for joiners, masons and bricklayers be advanced to 1s. 6d. per hour, labourers to 1s. 3½d. per hour inclusive of all bonuses. Effective as from first full pay following 17th Feb., 1919. Approved 4th March, 1919. W.A. (M) 1584/4. C.E.

BUILDING TRADES OPERATIVES (GRIMSBY).—Northern Centre Board of Conciliation for the Building Trades. In the matter of the Grimsby rates. Decision—That the wages of the Grimsby operative bricklayers, joiners, plasterers, plumbers and machinists and labourers be advanced 3d. per hour, including all bonuses. Effective as from the first full pay following 15th Feb., 1919. Approved 4th March, 1919. L.R. 15207/128.

BUILDERS' LABOURERS (WIGAN).—Northern Centre Board of Conciliation for the Building Trades. In the matter of the Wigan labourers' rates. Decision—That the Wigan Employers' Association be strongly recommended to recognise the local branch of the Builders' Labourers' Society, and that from first full pay following 1st March, 1919, the rate of wages should be 1s. 2d. per hour to bricklayers' labourers; 1s. 1½d. per hour to other labourers. Approved 4th March, 1919. L.R. 15207/53.

OPERATIVE PAINTERS (WINSFORD).—Northern Centre Board of Conciliation for the Building Trades. In the matter of the Winsford painters' rates. Decision—That the rate of wages for operative painters of Winsford district be advanced to 1s. 3d. per hour, inclusive of all bonuses. Effective as from 18th Feb., 1919. Approved 6th March, 1919. L.R. 25154.

BRICKLAYERS (WINSFORD).—Northern Centre Board of Conciliation for the Building Trades. In the matter of the rates for Winsford bricklayers. Decision—That the rates for bricklayers be advanced to 1s. 3d. per hour. Approved 6th March, 1919. L.R. 25154.

BUILDING TRADES OPERATIVES (LANCASTER).—Northern Centre Board of Conciliation for the Building Trades. In the matter of the Lancaster operatives' appeal. Decision—That the rate of wages for the Lancaster bricklayers, joiners, plasterers, stonemasons, plumbers, painters and woodcutting machinists shall be 1s. 6d. per hour, inclusive of all bonuses. Effective as from the first full pay following 17th Feb., 1919. Approved 6th March, 1919. L.R. 15207/71.

BRICKLAYERS (TARPORLEY).—Northern Centre Board of Conciliation for the Building Trades. In the matter of the Tarporley bricklayers' rates. Decision—That the wages of the bricklayers be advanced to 1s. 3d. per hour, to be inclusive of all bonuses. Effective as from the first full pay following 18th Feb., 1919. Approved 6th March, 1919. L.R. 25154.

BUILDING TRADES OPERATIVES (CREWE).—Northern Centre Board of Conciliation for the Building Trades. In the matter of the Crewe bricklayers', painters', and plumbers' rates. Decision—That the rate of wages for operative painters and plumbers of Crewe district be advanced to 1s. 3d. per hour, inclusive of all bonuses. Effective as from first full pay following 18th Feb., 1919. Approved 6th March, 1919. W.A. (M.) 1748.

JOINERS (ORMSKIRK).—Northern Centre Board of Conciliation for the Building Trades. In the matter of the Ormskirk joiners' rates. Decision—That the rate of wages of the joiners be advanced 2d. per hour (1s. 3d. to 1s. 5d.), inclusive of all bonuses. Effective as from first full pay following 17th Feb., 1919. Approved 6th March, 1919. L.R. 15207/70.

PLASTERERS (ABERDEEN).—The Aberdeen Master Plasterers' Association and the Operatives. Agreement—That men be paid ½d. per hour as claimed by them retrospectively from 1st Aug., payable on 21st Nov., making the wages now 1s. 2d. per hour. These rates not inclusive of the bonus of 12½ per cent. Approved 17th March, 1919. W.A. (M.) 7992. I.C.

Pig Iron and Iron and Steel Manufacture.

IRONSTONE MINERS, BARERS, BLASTFURNACEMEN, &c.—Lincolnshire Ironmasters' Association and their workmen. Agreement—(1) That the sliding scale be anticipated by 15 per cent. to the end of Oct. next, such 15 per cent. to merge in future increases from this date in addition to other sums which are also to merge. (2) Blastfurnace labourers who are able and willing to take by-turn work at the front and the back side or as slag tippers to have their base rate increased from 3s. 8d. to 4s. 2d., this to be a permanent increase. Any

man who refuses to do by-turn work without a sufficient reason to automatically revert to the 3s. 8d. rate. (3) Base rates of iron-stone miners to be increased one farthing per ton all round. Barers proportionately increased. Agreed 16th Jan., 1919. Approved 29th Jan., 1919. W.A. (M) 5863 (L.R.)

Engineering, Shipbuilding and Other Metal Trades.

LABOURERS.—Engineering and the National Employers' Federations (West of England Association) (Stroud District). Agreement—Rise of 2s. on labourers' rate. Effective as from date of approval. Approved 10th March, 1919. L.R. 15981.

QUALIFIED STEEL WORK ERECTORS.—Bridge and Constructional Engineers Committee and the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation. In respect of qualified steel work erectors in Lancashire and Cheshire. Agreement—(1) The recognised rate for qualified steelwork erectors shall be 10½d. per hour for all hours actually worked in which rate shall merge any existing good time-keeping bonuses or other extra payment. In addition there shall be payable the National advance or bonuses awarded by the Committee on Production and also the 12½ per cent. bonus. In the case of men who are in receipt of a higher rate of wages, such rates shall not be disturbed so long as the contract they are engaged upon continues. This arrangement shall take effect as from the commencement of the first full pay following 2nd July, 1918. (2) In the case of "home" men sent to jobs too far away to allow of their returning home each night, 17s. 6d. per week shall be paid as outworking allowance as from the commencement of first full pay following 22nd Nov., 1918, this not to apply to men who follow jobs from one place to another and who do not incur expense in maintaining a home in addition to their lodgings. (3) In the case of men paid outworking allowance, railway fares to and from the "out" district shall be allowed only at start and finish of job and at three holidays during the year on condition of punctual return of men to work. Travelling time at single time rate only to be allowed on the journeys at start and finish of contract. (4) Other existing conditions shall remain as at present. (5) This agreement shall continue for six months from 22nd Nov., 1918, without prejudice to the right of the Union to raise the question of working hours in the event of a shorter working week being agreed upon in engineering and shipbuilding establishments. Agreed 24th Jan., 1919. Approved 14th March, 1919. L.R. 21257/4.

ELECTRICAL WORKERS—STATION AND SUB-STATION ATTENDANTS.—Sheffield and District Engineering Trades Employers' Association v. Electrical Trades Union. Agreement—That to station and sub-station attendants a general advance of 3s. per normal week shall be conceded, and that a minimum rate for such classes shall be 28s. per week exclusive of special war advances. Effective as from the first full pay week after 15th Jan., 1919. Approved 24th March, 1919. W.A. 1576.

Public Utility Services.

WORKERS AT ELECTRICITY UNDERTAKINGS.—Electricity Undertakings (General), London District. See Committee on Production, Award No. 2772 for the list of undertakings. The four Trade Unions concerned are The Electrical Trades Union, The National Union of General Workers, The Workers' Union, and the National Amalgamated Union of Enginemen, Firemen, Mechanics, Motormen and Electrical Workers. In the matter of a claim by the four unions for a 47-hour week without reduction in pay. Conference in accordance with paragraph 13 of Award No. 2772. Agreement—(1) 47-hour week in the case of day-workers. (2) 48-hour week in the case of shift-workers, subject to certain conditions. (3) New system to commence as from 1st Feb., 1919. (4) Basic rates (see paragraph 8 of Award No. 2772). Hourly rates under this heading to be adjusted from 1st Feb., 1919, as follows: Day-workers in ratio $\frac{5}{4}$, shift-workers in the ratio of $\frac{5}{4}$. A sub-committee of two on either side to revise these hourly rates for submission at an early date to the joint meeting of employer and union representatives (paragraph 13 of Award No. 2772). Agreed 3rd Jan., 1919. Approved 23rd Jan., 1919. W.A. 418/9.

Miscellaneous Trades.

ELECTRICIANS.—National Joint Council for the Electrical Contracting Industry. Agreement—(1) That the standard hours of work be 47 per week. The rate of pay per hour shall be: Pre-war hourly rate of district multiplied by 53, with 28s. 6d. added, the whole divided by 47. Plus 12½ per cent. bonus where applicable. The exact rate for any district under the above arrangement shall be settled locally, and in the case of disagreement shall be settled by the chairman, vice-chairman, and joint secretaries of the N. J. I. C. (2) That in districts where levelling up has occurred during the war, an adjustment shall be made as required to give effect to such levelling up. In such cases the exact hourly rate shall be settled in the district, and in the event of difference shall be settled by the chairman and vice-chairman of the N. J. I. C. (3) That this alteration shall apply to the first full working week following Monday, 27th Jan. (4) It is provided that after this agreement comes into effect there shall be one break only of not less than 45 minutes' duration in the ordinary full working day. (5) Starting and stopping overtime is to be deprecated, and is contrary to the spirit of the application for a shorter working week. It is agreed that systematic overtime should be abolished, and that any overtime should only be worked when absolutely necessary. Agreed 23rd Jan., 1919. Approved 29th Jan., 1919.

STATUTORY RULES AND ORDERS, 1919.

WAGES (TEMPORARY REGULATION) ACT, 1918.

No. 260.

ORDER DATED 26TH FEBRUARY, 1919, MADE BY THE MINISTER OF LABOUR UNDER SECTION 2 (3) OF THE WAGES (TEMPORARY REGULATION) ACT, 1918 (8 & 9 GEO. 5, c. 61)

Whereas sub-section (3) of section 2 of the Wages (Temporary Regulation) Act, 1918, provides as follows:—

Where an award determining or varying a rate has been so made by the interim court of arbitration, or an agreement or settlement for such purpose has been arrived at, the Minister of Labour may, on the advice of the interim court of arbitration, by order direct that the determination or variation effected by the award, agreement, or settlement shall be binding on all workmen to whom the prescribed rate in question is applicable and the employers of those workmen.

And whereas on the 25th January, 1919, the interim court of arbitration made the award set out in the schedule hereto and such award determined or varied the rate applicable to the workmen to whom the award relates. Now therefore, on the advice of the interim court of arbitration the Minister of Labour, in pursuance of the powers vested in him by the said sub-section and of all other powers enabling him in this behalf, hereby orders and directs that the determination or variation effected by the said award shall be binding on all workmen to whom the prescribed rate in question is applicable and the employers of those workmen.

Dated this 26th day of February, 1919.

R. S. Horne,

Minister of Labour.

The Schedule to this Order is the finding of the Court of Arbitration No. 174, dated 25th January, 1919, which, in a difference between the Engineering and National Employers' Federations on the one hand and the National Federation of Women Workers, National Amalgamated Union of Labour, National Union of General Workers, Amalgamated Society of Gas Workers, Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers Union and Workers' Union on the other hand, gave to women 18 years of age and over a further War advance of 5s. per week and to girls under 18 years of age 2s. 6d. per week, such advances to be paid from and included in first pay in January, 1919.

No. 357.

ORDER DATED 24TH MARCH, 1919, MADE BY THE MINISTER OF LABOUR UNDER SECTION 4, PARAGRAPH (e) OF THE WAGES (TEMPORARY REGULATION) ACT, 1918 (8 & 9 GEO. 5, c. 61).

Whereas it is provided by paragraph (e) of Section 4 of the Wages (Temporary Regulation) Act, 1918, that as respects a woman or girl to whom neither paragraph (c) nor paragraph (d) of that section applies the prescribed rate shall be the time rate or other basis for determining wages (with any allowances for overtime, night work, week-end or holidays when worked and additional war bonuses or war advances) paid on the said date by employers employing a majority of women or girls engaged on the same class of work in the trade or industry or branch thereof in the district in which she is employed, unless some other rate is fixed by the Minister of Labour on the advice of the Interim Court of Arbitration, in which case the rate so fixed shall be the prescribed rate:

And whereas no rates have yet been settled under the procedure laid down in the Trade Boards Acts, 1909 and 1918, for the classes of workpeople set out in the first column of Part 1 of the Schedule hereto:

And whereas the Minister of Labour on the advice of the Interim Court of Arbitration considers it desirable to fix prescribed rates for the said classes of workpeople:

Now, therefore, the Minister of Labour, on the advice of the Interim Court of Arbitration and in pursuance of the power given to him for this purpose by paragraph (e) of Section 4 of the Wages (Temporary Regulation) Act, 1918, hereby makes the following Order:—

- (1) The prescribed rates for the several classes of workpeople specified in the first column of Part 1 of the Schedule hereto when employed on time-work shall be those set out respectively in the fourth column of Part 1 of that Schedule opposite the respective classes, consisting in each case of the time rate in the second column of Part 1 of that Schedule, together with the war-wage advance in the third column of Part 1 of that Schedule.
- (2) The prescribed rates for the said several classes of workpeople when employed on piece-work or other systems of payment by results shall be the same as the prescribed rates fixed by this Order for the said several classes when employed on time-work.
- (3) The prescribed rates for learners of over 15 years of age entering the industry for the first time shall for the first year be 1d. per hour less than the prescribed rates fixed by this Order for workpeople of similar age.

- (4) The rates fixed by this Order apply only to the classes of workpeople set out in the first column of Part 1 of the Schedule hereto, to whom neither paragraphs (c) nor (d) of Section 4 of the Wages (Temporary Regulation) Act, 1918, nor the provisos to that section apply.
- (5) This Order shall have effect in all districts in Great Britain but not in Ireland.
- (6) This Order shall come into operation on the 7th day of April, 1919.
- (7) The Minister reserves power to revoke or vary this Order.

Dated this 24th day of March, 1919.

R. S. Horne,

Minister of Labour.

Ministry of Labour,
Montagu House,
London.

The Schedule above referred to.

PART I.

Class of Workpeople.	Time rate.	War advance.	Prescribed rate.
	d.	d.	d.
Women of 18 years and over employed on the operations specified in the second part of this Schedule.	6	1	7
Girls of 17 years and under 18 so employed ...	5	1	6
Girls of 16 years and under 17 so employed ...	3¾	1	4¾
Girls of 15 years and under 16 so employed ...	3	1	4
Girls under 15 years so employed after six months	1¾	1	2¾
Girls under 15 years so employed first six months.	1	1	2

PART II.

- (1) The making from textile fabrics of women's and children's clothing, including:—

- (a) Tailored garments, costumes, mantles and ladies' uniforms.
- (b) Non-tailored gowns, blouses, blouse robes, ties and neckwear.
- (c) Dressing gowns, underskirts, underclothing, aprons and pinafores.
- (d) Baby linen (garments), including infants' millinery.

(2) The manufacture of corsets, stays, supports or abdominal belts and similar articles, bust confiners, such as brassières and bandeaux, when boned or with elastic webbing in their construction, and including also infants' stay bands, children's corset bodices and the assembling of stocking suspenders made in a corset factory.

(3) Decorative needlework incidental to the above garments, including all machine embroidery and hand embroidery other than linen and cotton.

(4) All packing, warehousing, storing or other operations incidental to the processes marked 1 to 3 above, but excluding—

Boys' tailoring and all knitted articles and articles made from knitted fabrics.

TRADE BOARDS ACTS, 1909 AND 1918.

PROPOSAL TO VARY GENERAL MINIMUM TIME-RATES AND GENERAL MINIMUM PIECE-RATES.

LACE FINISHING TRADE.

The Lace Finishing Trade Board having obtained the consent of the Minister of Labour under Section 3 (5) of the Trade Boards Act, 1918, to the issue of a notice of proposal, have issued a notice, dated 1st April, 1919, stating that they propose to vary the general minimum time-rates from 4½d. to 5½d. an hour with corresponding increases in the minimum rates for learners and in the general minimum piece-rates, such minimum rates to be operative until the 1st of January, 1920.

Objections to the proposed variation may be lodged with the Trade Board within two months from the 1st of April, 1919. Objections should be in writing, and should be addressed to the Secretary, Lace Finishing Trade Board, 5, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MAKE SPECIAL ORDERS.

BRUSH AND BROOM TRADE.

The Minister of Labour has given notice that he intends, pursuant to the powers conferred upon him by Section 1 of the Trade Boards Act, 1918, to make a Special Order applying the Trade Boards Acts, 1909 and 1918, to the Trade specified in the Appendix to this Notice.

Copies of the Draft Special Order may be obtained on application in writing to the Secretary, Ministry of Labour, Montagu House, Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

Objections to the Draft Special Order must be sent to the Minister of Labour at the above address within 42 days from 25th March, 1919.

Every objection must be in writing, and must state:—

- (a) The specific grounds of objection; and

- (b) The omissions, additions, or modifications asked for.

The trade specified in the appendix to the above notice is as follows:—

The Brush and Broom Trade, that is to say, the manufacture of Brushes (other than Feather Brushes) or Brooms including the following operations where all or any of them are carried on in association with or in conjunction with the manufacture of such Brushes or Brooms:—

- (a) The drafting, dressing, or mixing of bass, whisk, or similar fibres, or animal bristles, or hair, and the working of wood, bone, ivory, or celluloid;

- (b) All finishing, warehousing, packing, or other operations incidental to or appertaining to the manufacture of such Brushes or Brooms;

but excluding the following operations:

The sawing and turning of wood as a preliminary operation to the manufacture of such Brushes or Brooms, the making of metal parts, and the mounting of Brushes with metal or tortoiseshell backs.

HAIR, BASS AND FIBRE TRADE.

The Minister of Labour has given notice that he intends, pursuant to the powers conferred upon him by Section 1 of the Trade Boards Act, 1918, to make a Special Order applying the Trade Boards Acts, 1909 and 1918, to the Trade specified in the Appendix to this Notice.

Copies of the Draft Special Order may be obtained on application in writing to the Secretary, Ministry of Labour, Montagu House, Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

Objections to the Draft Special Order must be sent to the Minister of Labour at the above address within 42 days from 25th March, 1919.

Every objection must be in writing, and must state:—

- (a) The specific grounds of objection; and

- (b) The omissions, additions, or modifications asked for.

The trade specified in the appendix to the above notice is as follows:—

The Hair, Bass and Fibre Trade, that is to say, the drafting, dressing or mixing of bass, whisk, or similar fibres or horse hair or other hairs, and the curling or weaving of hair or fibre or of mixed hair and fibre, and all preparatory finishing, warehousing or packing operations incidental to or appertaining to all or any of the above processes, but excluding any of the above operations or processes where they are carried on in association with or in conjunction with the manufacture of Brushes or Brooms, and excluding also the dressing of animal skins.

CORSET TRADE.

The Minister of Labour has given notice that he intends, pursuant to the powers conferred upon him by Section 1 of the Trade Boards Act, 1918, to make a Special Order applying the Trade Boards Acts, 1909 and 1918, to the trade specified in the Appendix to this Notice.

Copies of the Draft Special Order may be obtained on application in writing to the Secretary, Ministry of Labour, Montagu House, Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

Objections to the Draft Special Order must be sent to the Minister of Labour at the above address within 42 days from 25th March, 1919.

Every objection must be in writing, and must state:—

- (a) The specific grounds of objection; and

- (b) The omissions, additions, or modifications asked for.

The trade specified in the Appendix to the above Notice is as follows:—

The Corset Trade, that is to say—

- (a) The manufacture of corsets, stays, children's corset bodices, infants' stay bands, bust confiners such as brassières and bandeaux when boned or with elastic webbing in their construction;

- (b) The manufacture of support or abdominal belts and similar articles, except where made in association with or in conjunction with the manufacture of surgical instruments;

- (c) The assembling of stocking suspenders in conjunction with or in association with the manufacture of any of the above-mentioned articles;

- (d) All warehousing, packing, or other operations incidental to or appertaining to the manufacture of any of the above-mentioned articles.

FLAX AND HEMP TRADE.

The Minister of Labour has given notice that he intends, pursuant to the powers conferred upon him by Section 1 of the Trade Boards Act, 1918, to make a Special Order applying the Trade Boards Acts, 1909 and 1918, to the Trade specified in the Appendix to this Notice.

Copies of the Draft Special Order may be obtained on application in writing to the Secretary, Ministry of Labour, Montagu House, Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

Objections to the Draft Special Order must be sent to the Minister of Labour at the above address within 42 days from 11th April, 1919.

Every objection must be in writing, and must state:—

- (a) The specific grounds of objection; and
(b) The omissions, additions, or modifications asked for.

The trade specified in the Appendix to the above Notice is as follows:—

The Flax and Hemp Trade, that is to say, the preparing, spinning or weaving (a) of scutched flax, (b) of hemp, (c) of a mixture of scutched flax and any other fibre, or (d) of a mixture of hemp and any other fibre;

including:—

- (1) The preparing and spinning of waste reclaimed at any stage; and
(2) All packing, despatching, warehousing, storing or other operations incidental to or appertaining to any of the above-mentioned work;

but excluding:—

- (1) The calendering, bleaching, dyeing or finishing of any of the above-mentioned materials; and
(2) The preparing or spinning of materials required for the making or remaking of (a) rope (including driving rope and banding), (b) cord (including blind and window cord, but excluding silk, worsted and other fancy cords), (c) core for wire ropes, (d) lines, (e) twine (including binder and trawl twine), (f) lanyards, (g) net and similar articles, when such preparing or spinning is carried on in the same factory or workshop as the said making or remaking; and
(3) The making or repair of sacks or bags; and also
(4) The weaving of carpets, rugs, or mats.

JUTE TRADE.

The Minister of Labour has given notice that he intends, pursuant to the powers conferred upon him by Section 1 of the Trade Boards Act, 1918, to make a Special Order applying the Trade Boards Acts, 1909 and 1918, to the Trade specified in the Appendix to this Notice.

Copies of the Draft Special Order may be obtained on application in writing to the Secretary, Ministry of Labour, Montagu House, Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

Objections to the Draft Special Order must be sent to the Minister of Labour at the above address within 42 days from 11th April, 1919.

Every objection must be in writing, and must state:—

- (a) The specific grounds of objection; and
(b) The omissions, additions, or modifications asked for.

The trade specified in the Appendix to the above Notice is as follows:—

The Jute Trade, that is to say, the preparing, spinning or weaving (a) of jute or (b) of jute and any other fibre except flax or hemp;

including:—

- (1) The preparing and spinning of waste reclaimed at any stage; and
(2) All packing, despatching, warehousing, storing, or other operations incidental to or appertaining to any of the above-mentioned work;

but excluding:—

- (1) The calendering, bleaching, dyeing, or finishing of any of the above-mentioned materials; and
(2) The preparing or spinning of materials required for the making or remaking of (a) rope (including driving rope and banding), (b) cord (including blind and window cord, but excluding silk, worsted and other fancy cords), (c) core for wire ropes, (d) lines, (e) twine (including binder and trawl twine), (f) lanyards, (g) net and similar articles, when such preparing or spinning is carried on in the same factory or workshop as the said making or remaking; and
(3) The making or repair of sacks or bags; and also
(4) The weaving of carpets, rugs, or mats.

JUTE, FLAX, AND HEMP FINISHING TRADE.

The Minister of Labour has given notice that he intends, pursuant to the powers conferred upon him by Section 1 of the Trade Boards Act, 1918, to make a Special Order applying the Trade Boards Acts, 1909 and 1918, to the Trade specified in the Appendix to this Notice.

Copies of the Draft Special Order may be obtained on application in writing to the Secretary, Ministry of Labour, Montagu House, Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

Objections to the Draft Special Order must be sent to the Minister of Labour at the above address within 42 days from 11th April, 1919.

Every objection must be in writing, and must state:—

- (a) The specific grounds of objection; and
(b) The omissions, additions, or modifications asked for.

The trade specified in the Appendix to the above Notice is as follows:—

The Jute, Flax and Hemp Finishing trade, that is to say, the calendering, bleaching, dyeing or finishing (a) of jute yarn or cloth, (b) of flax yarn or cloth, (c) of hemp yarn or cloth, or (d) of yarn or cloth partly composed of jute, flax or hemp;

including:—

- (1) The making of sacks or bags from materials wholly or partly composed of jute, flax or hemp, and
(2) All packing, despatching, warehousing, storing, or other operations incidental to or appertaining to any of the above-mentioned work;

but excluding:—

- (1) The bleaching of materials required for the making or remaking of (a) rope (including driving rope and banding), (b) cord (including blind and window cord, but excluding silk, worsted, and other fancy cords), (c) core for wire ropes, (d) lines, (e) twine (including binder and trawl twine), (f) lanyards, (g) net and similar articles, when such bleaching is carried on in the same factory or workshop as the said making or remaking; and
(2) The bleaching, dyeing or finishing of carpets, rugs, or mats; and also
(3) The repair of used sacks or bags.

SPECIAL ORDER MADE UNDER SECTION I. OF THE TRADE BOARDS ACT, 1918.

LAUNDRY TRADE.

The Minister of Labour has, in pursuance of the powers conferred on him by Section 1 of the Trade Boards Act, 1918, made a Special Order, dated 1st April, 1919, that from and after that date the following provision shall have effect, that is to say:—

Article 1.—The Trade Boards Acts, 1909 and 1918, shall apply to the trade specified in the Appendix to this Order.

Article 2.—This Order may be cited as the Trade Boards (Laundry) Order, 1919.

The trade specified in the Appendix to the above Notice is as follows:—

The "Laundry Trade," that is to say, the laundering of articles of every description, and all processes and operations incidental thereto performed by way of trade or for the purpose of gain.

APPOINTMENT OF CERTIFYING SURGEONS.

MARCH, 1919.

District.	Certifying Surgeon.	Place and time for Examination.*
Blackburn, North (Lancs.)	Dr. A. A. Gunn, 31, Gt. Bolton Street, Blackburn	Surgery, Mayfield, 50, Preston New Road, Blackburn Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 6-8.30 p.m. Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Broughton Astley (Leicester)	Dr. W. G. Rogers, Ullesthorpe Grange, Lutterworth	
Castlederg (Co. Tyrone)	Dr. G. F. V. Leary, Castlederg	Surgery, Monday, 9-10 a.m.
Clevedon (Somerset)	Dr. L. E. V. Every-Clayton, Emsworth House, Linden Road, Clevedon	Week-days, 6-7 p.m.
Harrogate (Yorks.)	Dr. J. Mair, 5, Haywra Crescent, Harrogate	Public Health Office, 5, Haywra Crescent, Harrogate Wednesday, 9-9.30 a.m. Surgery, Week-days, 9-10 a.m. Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Hitchin (Hertford)	Dr. A. H. Foster, 13 and 14, Tilehouse Street, Hitchin	
Preston, East (Lancs.)	Dr. A. Toulmin, 5, Camden Place, Winckley Square, Preston	Friday, 9.30-10.30 a.m.
Wolston (Warwick)	Dr. E. C. Abraham, Wolston, Nr. Coventry	
Wrotham (Kent)	Dr. E. H. Walker, Nutlands, Ightham, Sevenoaks	Surgery, High Street, Borough Green, Kent, Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.

NOTE.—Except where otherwise stated, the place of examination is at the residence of the Certifying Surgeon.

NATIONAL INSURANCE (UNEMPLOYMENT) ACTS, 1911 to 1918.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

Decisions by the Umpire.

Pursuant to paragraph (5) of the Unemployment Insurance (Umpire) Regulations, the Minister of Labour hereby gives Notice of the following decisions by the Umpire on questions whether contributions are payable:—

A. The Umpire has decided that contributions are payable in respect of:—

2450X. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in boring holes in wooden brush boards by machinery (including treadle-driven machinery).

This decision amplifies decision A1771X (the LABOUR GAZETTE for September, 1916).

NOTE.—Decisions in which the Umpire has decided that contributions are payable under the National Insurance (Part II.) (Munition Workers) Act, 1916, are indicated by

* Of young persons and children from factories and workshops in which less than five are employed.

the letter X at the end of the number, e.g., 1554X. Contributions under these decisions are payable as from the 4th September, 1916.

Where no reference is given to an Application, the question has been decided by the Umpire, without notice, as a matter not admitting of reasonable doubt, in accordance with paragraph (2) of the Unemployment Insurance (Umpire) Regulations.

Decisions relating to individual workmen which raise no question of general interest, or which merely apply a principle laid down in the previous decision, are not published.

PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO LABOUR RECEIVED DURING MARCH.

[All the Official Publications (distinguished by Cd., Cmd., H.C. or S.O. publications) may be purchased through any Bookseller or directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses: Imperial House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2, and 28, Abingdon Street, London, S.W.1; 37, Peter Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff; 23, Forth Street, Edinburgh; or from E. Ponsonby, Ltd., 116, Grafton Street, Dublin; or from the Agencies in the British Dominions and Dependencies, the United States of America and other foreign countries of T. Fisher Unwin, Ltd., London, W.C.]

UNITED KINGDOM.

Industrial Reports. No. 4. *Industrial Councils.* Suggestions as to the Constitution and Functions of a National Joint Industrial Council, of District Councils of National Joint Industrial Councils, and of Works Committees in Industries in which National Joint Industrial Councils are established. Ministry of Labour. [S.O. publication: price 1d.]

Reports upon Openings in Industry suitable for Disabled Sailors and Soldiers. No. XXVI. *The Vehicle Building Trade.* Ministry of Labour. [S.O. publication: price 1d.]

Unemployment Insurance. *Unemployment Fund Account, 1916-17.* [H.C. 21: price 1d.]

Report of the Departmental Committee (Home Office) on Compensation for Disabled Sailors and Soldiers under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906. [Cmd. 49: price 1d.]

Reconstruction Problems. Pamphlets of the Ministry of Reconstruction. No. 14. *Food Production and its Problems for the Consumer.* No. 15. *Juvenile Employment.* No. 16. *Prices during the War and After.* No. 17. *Art and Industry.* [S.O. publications: price 2d. each.]

Employment of Women. Report of the Board of Trade on the Increased Employment of Women during the War in the United Kingdom. With Statistics up to April, 1918. [Cd. 9164: price 2d.]

Domestic Service Problem. Training, machinery of distribution, organisation and conditions. Report of the Women's Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Reconstruction. [Cmd. 67: price 3d.]

Women's Housing Sub-Committee. *Final Report.* Ministry of Reconstruction Advisory Council. [Cd. 9232: price 3d.]

Housing. *Financial Assistance to Public Utility Societies.* Memorandum by the Local Government Board. [Cmd. 89: price 1d.]

Memorandum on the Proceedings of the Committee on Production, May, 1918—November, 1918. Committee on Production and Special Arbitration Tribunal (Section 1 (2) Munitions of War Act, 1917). [Cmd. 70: price 1d.]

Wages and Conditions of Employment in Agriculture. Vol. I. *General Report.* Farming survey, labour supply and its quality, conditions of labour, wages and earnings, housing accommodation, &c. [Cmd. 24: price 1s. 9d.] Vol. II. *Reports of Investigators.* Board of Agriculture and Fisheries. [Cmd. 25: price 4s.]

Agricultural Wages Board. *Report of Committee to inquire into the Financial Results of the Occupation of Agricultural Land and the Cost of Living of Rural Workers.* [Cmd. 76: price 9d.]

Coal Industry Commission Act, 1919. (1) *Interim Report* by Mr. Justice Sankey, Mr. Arthur Balfour, Sir Arthur Duckham and Sir Thomas Royden, M.P. [Cmd. 84: price 1d.] (2) *Report* by Messrs. Smillie, Hodges, Herbert Smith, Sir Leo Chiozza Money, R. H. Tawney and Sidney Webb. [Cmd. 85: price 2d.] (3) *Interim Report* by Messrs. R. W. Cooper, J. T. Forgie and Evan Williams. [Cmd. 86: price 1d.]

Mines and Quarries, 1917. Part II.—Labour. Persons employed, accidents, prosecutions, coal-cutting machinery, employment of boys, &c. [Cmd. 3: price 4d.] **Part III.—Output.** Output of coal and minerals, exports and imports, prices, &c. Home Office. [Cmd. 4: price 3d.] *Previously issued as S.O. publications.*

Development Fund. *Accounts, 1917-18.* Advances *inter alia* for afforestation, agriculture, flax and hemp growing, tobacco growing. [H.C. 25: price 1d.]

Police (Counties and Boroughs, England and Wales). Report of H.M. Inspector of Constabulary for the year ended 29th September, 1918. Strength of the force, women constables, &c. [H.C. 38: price 1d.]

Local Loans Fund. Accounts for year ended 31st March, 1918. Loans for housing, small dwellings acquisition, &c. [H.C. 12: price 3d.]

Twenty-sixth Report of the Congested Districts Board for Ireland, year ended 31st March, 1918. Fisheries, domestic economy, female industrial classes, house improvement, purchase of live stock, &c. [Cd. 9139: price 3d.]

BRITISH INDIA AND BRITISH DOMINIONS.

INDIA.—Report of the Indian Industrial Commission, 1916-18. Commission "to examine and report upon the possibilities of further industrial development in India." [Cmd. 51: price 4s. 6d.]

CROWN COLONIES.—Colonial Reports—Annual. Labour, legislation, &c. No. 977—St. Vincent, 1917-18 [price 1d.] No. 978—Bahamas, 1917-18 [price 1d.] No. 980—Jamaica, 1917-18 [price 2d.] No. 983—Swaziland, 1917-18 [price 1d.] No. 984—Trinidad and Tobago, 1917 [price 5d.] No. 986—Cyprus, 1917-18 [price 1d.] No. 987—Bechuanaland Protectorate, 1917-18 [price 1d.] [Cmd. 1 and 1, 3, 6, 7, 9 and 10 respectively.]—*Federated Malay States, Report for 1917.* [Cmd. 26: price 6s.]—*Unfederated Malay States under British Protection, Report for 1917.* [Cmd. 27: price 1s.]

CANADA.—The Labour Gazette, February, 1919. Proceedings under the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act during January, prices—wholesale and retail, changes in wages and hours in the third quarter of 1918, disputes in January, Manitoba and British Columbia minimum wage orders for female employees, child labour in Quebec, &c. *Monthly Bulletin of Agricultural Statistics, December, 1918.* Prices of agricultural produce, world's production of grain and potatoes, crop reports of Canada and other countries. [Ottawa: J. de L. Taché, King's Printer.]

NEW SOUTH WALES.—The Industrial Gazette, November, 1918. Dislocations in industries, arbitration awards, State labour exchanges, prices, employment and unemployment, &c. *Do. Special Supplement.* Compendium of Awards in force, 21st June, 1918. *Adult Time Workers. Do. December, 1918.* Text of the Industrial Arbitration Further Amendment Act, 1918, dislocations in industries, arbitration awards, prices, State labour exchanges, employment and unemployment, &c. Department of Labour and Industry. *Industrial Arbitration Reports, 1918, Part III.* [Sydney: W. A. Gullick, Government Printer.]

QUEENSLAND.—The Industrial Gazette, 10th December, 1918, and 10th January, 1919. Industrial awards and agreements, labour exchanges, accidents, &c. Department of Labour. [Brisbane: A. J. Cumming, Government Printer.]

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—Wages Board Determinations. *Restaurants,* additional, dated 15th July, 1918. *Boot Trade,* dated 2nd September, 1918. *Furniture,* dated 18th June, 1918, altering that of 31st August, 1916. *Brassworkers, Bedstead Makers, Wireworkers, and Wire Mattress Makers,* dated 28th June, 1918. *Brickmakers,* dated 14th August, 1918.

NEW ZEALAND.—Monthly Abstract of Statistics, November, 1918. Wholesale and retail prices, rents and cost of living, public employment offices, pensions, &c. [Wellington: Marcus F. Marks, Government Printer.]

SOUTH AFRICA.—Report of the Labour Department for December, 1918. Applications for employment, places found, &c. —*The Journal of Industries, January, 1919.* Labour and industrial conditions in December, from notes supplied by the Superintendent of White Labour. Ministry of Mines and Industries. [Pretoria: The Government Printing and Stationery Office.]

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

INTERNATIONAL.—(1) International Crop Report and Agricultural Statistics, February and March, 1919. (2) *International Review of Agricultural Economics, November-December, 1918.* International Institute of Agriculture. [Rome.]

—*Bulletin des Internationalen Arbeitsamtes.* No. 8-10, 1918. [Jena: Gustav Fischer.]

UNITED STATES (a) Federal.—The Monthly Labour Review, December, 1918. Prices and cost of living, food and fuel control, wages and hours of labour, strikes and lock-outs, conciliation and arbitration, employment and unemployment, thirty-fourth annual conference of the Trades and Labour Congress of Canada, workmen's compensation, accidents, &c. *Bulletins of the Bureau of Labour Statistics, No. 233, July, 1918.* Operation of the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act of Canada, by Benjamin M. Squires. No. 246, *September, 1918.* Decisions of Courts affecting Labour, 1917. No. 243, *September, 1918.* Workmen's Compensation Legislation of the United States and Foreign Countries, 1917 and 1918. Bureau of Labour Statistics, Department of Labour. *Children's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labour. Children's Year Leaflets.* No. 11—*The Visiting Teacher.* No. 12—*The Employment Certificate System.* [Washington: Government Printing Office.]

—(b) *State.* New York. *The Bulletin, February, 1919.* The Labour Market in January, women in industry, earnings of women, compensation, inspection, &c. *The Labour Market in December, 1918.* Detailed report and tables, average weekly earnings in factories, average weekly earnings in New York State factories compared with cost of retail food in the United States, course of employment, State public employment offices. Department of Labour *Special Bulletins.* No. 91, *January, 1919.* A plan for Shop Safety, Sanitation and Health Organisation. No. 92, *February, 1919.* Weekly earnings of Women in five industries (Paper Boxes, Shirts and Collars, Confectionery, Cigars and Tobacco, and Mercantile Establishments). State Industrial Commission, Bureau of Statistics and Information. [Albany: J. B. Lyon Co., Printers.]

—*Massachusetts.* *Labour Bulletin* No. 125. Labour Legislation in Massachusetts, 1918. Bureau of Statistics. [Boston: Wright & Potter Printing Co., State Printers.]

—**Minnesota.** *Sixteenth Biennial Report of the Department of Labour and Industries, 1917-18.* Wage movements, labour organisations, industrial accidents, factory inspection, women and children's bureau, &c. [Minneapolis: Syndicate Printing Co.]

—**North Dakota.** *Fourteenth and Fifteenth Biennial Reports of the Commissioner of Agriculture and Labour, 1915-18.* Statistics of industries—number employed, wages and hours, labour organisations of the State, &c. [Bismarck: Tribune Co., State Printers.]

FRANCE.—*Bulletin du Ministère du Travail et de la Prévoyance Sociale, November-December, 1918.* Journal of the French Department of Labour and Thrift. Employment in mines in September, October and November, 1918, index figures showing increase in retail prices by regions, 1911-1918. [Paris: Berger-Levrault.]

GERMANY.—*Reichs-Arbeitsblatt, December, 1918, and January, 1919.* Employment during the year 1918 and in December, 1918, wages of miners in the third quarter of 1918, employment of women and the development of German and Russian co-operative societies during the War. National Statistical Office. [Berlin: Landgrafenstrasse 1.]

ITALY.—(1) *Bollettino dell' Ufficio del Lavoro (Fortnightly Series), February 16th and March 1st, 1919.* Text of law of 9th February, 1919, regulating private contracts of employment. (2) *Do. (Monthly Series.) January-June, 1918.* Labour disputes in second, third and fourth quarters of 1917, retail prices by provinces and regions, October-December, 1917. (3) *Inchiesta sui Portieri.* Report on wages, hours and working conditions of house-porters (concierges) in certain towns in 1914. (4) *Inchiesta sulla Condizione dei Lavoratori d'Albergo e Mensa.* Report on conditions as to wages, hours and working conditions among hotel and restaurant employees in Italy in 1914. Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Labour. [Rome: Fratelli Treves.]

HOLLAND.—(1) *Maandschrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek, 31st January and 28th February, 1919.* Unemployment in October-December, 1918, labour disputes in December and January, collective agreements in 1918. (2) *Do. Index for 1918.* (3) *Bijdragen tot de Statistiek van Nederland, Nos. 266 and 267.* Report as to offences against labour laws in 1917, and statistics as to judicial activities in 1916. Central Bureau of Statistics. [The Hague: Gebr. Belinfante.] *Centraal Verslag der Arbeidsinspectie in het Koninkrijk der Nederlanden over 1917.* Factory Inspectors' Reports for 1917. Department of Labour. [Arnhem: G. J. Thieme.]

SWITZERLAND.—*Bulletin No. 2 of 1919.* Predominant prices of various articles in 32 localities at end of February; rations per person for March, 1919. Federal Bureau of Statistics. [Berne: Emil Sieber.]

DENMARK.—(1) *Statistisk Aarbog, 1918.* (Danish Statistical Year Book, 1918.) Retail prices, labour disputes, unemployment, wages in various trades in 1913, 1917 and 1918, hours of labour, trade unions, &c. (2) *Statistiske Meddelelser, 4th Series, Vol. 56.* Statistics as to income tax, 1917-18, &c.

—*Statistiske Efterretninger, March 7th, 1919.* Retail prices in February, 1919. Danish Statistical Department.

—*Indberetning fra Arbejdsansvinningsdirektøren for Finans-aaret, 1917-1918.* Report of Inspector of Employment Exchanges in 1917-18. [Copenhagen.]

—*Social Forsorg, February, 1919.* (Organ of the Workmen's Insurance Council, Employment Exchanges Department, &c.) [Hellerup: Ahlmanns Alié, 25.]

SWEDEN.—(1) *Sjömansyrket i Sverige, Del II.* Second part of a report on conditions of labour in the shipping trade, giving wages of seamen, &c., in period 1860-1917. (2) *Yrkesinspektionens Verksamhet år 1915, 1916, 1917.* Reports of Factory Inspectors for years 1915, 1916 and 1917. (3) *Arbetsinställelser i Sverige år 1917.* Statistics as to labour disputes in 1917. (4) *Sociala Meddelanden, No. 1, 1919.* (Journal of the Swedish Department for Social Affairs.) Increase of cost of living during the war, wages of agricultural and forestry workers during period 1913-18, proposed laws as to general 48-hour week, as to limiting working hours in bakeries and in shipping trade, average cost of living in 44 towns, July, 1914, to December, 1918. Department for Social Affairs. [Stockholm: P. A. Nörstedt & Sons.]

NORWAY.—*Statistisk Aarbok for Kristiania by, 1917.* (Municipal Year Book of Christiania, 1917.) Retail prices during years 1855-1917, consumption of food in working families 1903-1917, average wages in certain trades, 1905-1917. Municipal Bureau of Statistics. [Christiania.]

—*Sociale Meddelelser, No. 5-6, 1918, and No. 1 and 2 of 1919.* Compulsory arbitration in labour disputes, &c. Department of Social Affairs. [Christiania: H. Aschehoug & Co.]

SPAIN.—*Anuario Estadístico de España, 1917.* (Statistical Year Book of Spain for 1917.) Average retail prices of articles of consumption, and daily rates of wages in certain occupations in various towns in 1917. Ministry of Public Instruction. [Madrid: P. P. de Velasco.]

—*Boletín del Instituto de Reformas Sociales, February, 1919.* (Journal of the Spanish Labour Department.) Labour disputes in January. [Madrid: Minuesa de los Ríos.]

PORTUGAL.—*Boletim da Previdência Social, May to September, 1918.* (Journal of the Portuguese Labour Department.) Cost of living in period March to May, 1918. Ministry of Labour. [Lisbon.]

FINLAND.—Report on Workmen's Benefit Funds (sickness, pensions and burials) in 1916. Reports on public pawnbroking shops in 1914 and in 1916. Insurance in 1915. Census of

Industries in 1915. Savings banks in 1917. Housing conditions in Helsingfors in December, 1910, building operations in Helsingfors, Abo Viborg, Tammerfors, Vasa, Bjornoborg and Uleaborg, December, 1910 (2 vols.).

—*Statistisk Årsbok for Finland, 1917.* (Statistical Year Book for Finland, 1917.) Wages of agricultural workers in 1915 and of State railway workers in 1915, activities of employment exchanges, 1907-1916. Central Bureau of Statistics. [Helsingfors.]

—*Sjöfart på Ryssland och utrikes Orter år 1915.* Report on Finland's export trade with Russia and other foreign countries in 1915. [Helsingfors.]

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, MARCH, 1919.

WAR OFFICE.

Aluminium Ware: Aluminium Plant & Vessel Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Badges, Metal:** Dale, Forty & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Belting, Leather:** Turner Bros. Asbestos Co., Ltd., London, E.C., & Rochdale.—**Blankets:** J. Ashworth, Ltd., Bacup, Lancs; J. Beaumont, Jun., Huddersfield; T. Calverley & Sons, Huddersfield; Cooke Bros. (Kidderminster), Ltd., Kidderminster; Dodgson & Hargreaves, Ltd., Leeds; J. Fenton & Sons, Ltd., Batley; T. Hardman & Sons, Ltd., Bury; J. Kenyon & Son, Ltd., Bury; T. Lee & Sons, Dewsbury; Morton Sundour Fabrics, Ltd., Carlisle; Priestly Bros., Halifax; S. Rogers, Rødley, Leeds; Smith Bros. & Co., Ltd., Paisley; B. Taylor & Sons, Stainland, Halifax; J. Templeton & Co., Glasgow; J. Walker & Sons, Ltd., Mirfield, Yorks; Wormalds & Walker, Ltd., Dewsbury.—**Bolts and Nuts, &c.:** Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Smethwick; T. Pittaway & Sons, Birmingham; J. C. Prestwich, Ltd., Atherton, Lancs; Stones Bros., Ltd., West Bromwich; Wilkes, Ltd., Darlaston.—**Braces:** Coventry Brace Manufacturing Co., Coventry.—**Bricks:** Bispham Hall Collieries, Ltd., Wigan; Martin Bros., Plymouth.—**Brushes:** Davis, Burrow & Sons, Ltd., Hunslet, Leeds; C. Hoyland & Son, Ltd., Sheffield; J. Palmer, Ltd., Portsmouth; J. H. Simpson & Co., Leeds; Singleton, Flint, & Co., Lincoln; J. Taylor, Ulverston; Vale and Bradnack, Walsall.—**Buildings, Steel:** J. Booth & Sons, Bolton.—**Buttons, &c.:** Buttons, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Candles:** Kynock, Ltd., Witton, Birmingham; Palmer & Co., Ltd., London, E.; Robin & Houston, Ltd., Renfrew; Young's Paraffin Light & Mineral Oil Co., Ltd., Uphall, N.B.—**Cases, Wood, Packing, &c.:** C. Clarke & Co., Ltd., London, E.; E. Lockett & Sons, Manchester; C. & F. Read & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Cloth (Piece Goods):** Beaumont & Smith, Pudsey, Yorks; J. E. Crowther, Marsden, Yorks; Crowther, Bruce, & Co., Ltd., Marsden, Yorks; Fenay Mills Co., Huddersfield; J. Fenton & Sons, Ltd., Batley; B. Hall & Son, Milnsbridge, Yorks; J. B. & W. Hirst, Ltd., Batley; Holdsworth & Clissold, Ltd., Cleckheaton.—**Cloth, Dyeing of:** Standeven & Co., Ltd., Halifax.—**Clothing, Plain Clothes:** Airdale Clothing Co., Ltd., Leeds; Arthur & Co., Ltd., Dublin; G. W. Atkinson & Co., Leeds; Atkinson, Rhodes & Co., Ltd., Leeds; Baird, Lewis & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Bairstow, Sons & Co., Ltd., Huddersfield; P. Baker, Dublin; J. Barker & Co., Ltd., London, W.; Barnett & Wilson, Manchester; Benjamin & Towe, Ltd., London, E.C.; H. L. Beresford, Croydon; M. Boland & Sons, Leeds; T. Briggs (London), Ltd., London, E.C.; Briggs, Jones, & Gibson, Ltd., Manchester; Britannia Clothing Co., Leeds; R. B. Brown & Sons, Leeds; S. J. Burton, London, W.; S. Camrass & Sons, Leeds; E. S. Cartledge, London, W.; R. Clarke & Co., Bristol; Clifton Clothing Co., Leeds; N. Cohen, Liverpool; Cooper, Ullman, & Cooper, London, E.; County Tailoring Co., Ltd., London, N.; W. Dixon & Co., Nottingham; Dixon & Gaunt, Ltd., Leeds; Dolan & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; A. H. Early & Co., Ltd., London, E.; B. Eastwood & Co., Leeds; W. Evans & Co., London, W.; Fainer Bros., Ltd., Leeds; L. Fox & Co., Leeds; W. Frame & Co., Reading; Fraser & Co., London, W.; Frazer Bros., Leeds; L. Freeman & Sons, Leeds; Gardam & Sons, Leeds; Genese & Young, London, E.C.; Goldberg, Levine, & Co., Leeds; L. Goldstein, London, E.; Goodman Bros., Leeds; Goodrich Bros., London, N.; Goswell Clothing Works, Ltd., London, E.; Grainger & Smith, Ltd., Dudley; J. Hammond & Co., Newcastle, Staffs; Hart & Levy, Ltd., Leicester; J. Harvey, Ltd., Leeds; J. Hepworth & Son, Ltd., Leeds; Hipps, Ltd., Leeds; Hobson & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.; Hogg & Hurlley, Ltd., Leeds; Hollington Bros., London, E.; Hope Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Leeds; Horne Bros., London, W.; Horsfield & Co., Leeds; Hunter, Barr, & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Hutchisons, Ltd., London, E.C.; M. Hyam Wholesale Clothing Co., Ltd., London, E.; Johnson & Co., Ltd., London, W.; H. Jones, London, W.; D. Joseph & Sons, Leeds; Josselson & Beskin, London, E.C.; Kingsland Manufacturing Co., London, E.; M. Kruszinski & Co., London, E.; H. Leaning & Co., Ltd., Colchester; Lee & Whatmore, Leeds; Linder Bros., London, E.; Lloyd, Attree, & Smith, London, E.C.; D. Lubelski & Sons, Leeds; Lybro, Ltd., Liverpool; Maister, Cooper, & Grevler, London, E.; J. Mares, Ltd., Basingstoke; G. J. Mason, Glasgow; Miers Bros., Leeds; A. H. Mills & Co., Leeds; H. Mindelsohn, Leeds; J. W. Mitchell, Leeds; Newby, Riley, & Hartley, Leeds; Nunn & Co., London, E.C.; A. Polikoff, London, E.; Preston, Brooke, & Co., Ltd., Leeds; Rawson & Coop, Ltd., Wigan; S. Rose & Son, Leeds; L. Rosenberg & Co., Leeds; J. L. Rowse & Co., London, E.; H. Saffer, Leeds; Scottish

War Office—continued.

Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., Glasgow; Selincourt & Sons, London, E.C.; M. & R. Silman & M. & L. Reuben, Leeds; Sindall Bros. & Co., London, N.E.; Stammers, Ltd., Walsall; L. Stone & Sons, Manchester; Strachan, Crear, & Jones, Glasgow; Taylor & Co., Leeds; S. Taylor & Co., Ltd., Huddersfield; Thorneloe & Clarkson, Leicester; W. Tucker & Co., Ltd., Bath; Universal Clothing Co., Leeds; Wacks & Co., Leicester; Wallis & Linnell, Ltd., Kettering; Walton Bros., London, N.E.; Wathen, Gardiner, & Co., Bristol; C. & J. Webb, Ltd., London, E.; Whur & Sons, London, W.; Wrigley & Tinker, Huddersfield.—**Clothing, Uniform:** G. Glanfield & Son, Ltd., London, E.; S. Rains, London, W.—**Cordage, Lines, & Twines:** Dixon & Corbitt & R. S. Newall & Co., Ltd., Gateshead-on-Tyne; J. Holmes & Son., Huddersfield; J. Todd & Son, Ltd., Glasgow; W. Waites, Sons, & Atkinson, Ltd., Manchester.—**Couplings, Rope:** Day Motor Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Cranes, Spares for:** Stothert & Pitt, Ltd., Bath.—**Drawers, &c., Cotton:** G. Braund, Ltd., Loughborough; N. Corah & Sons, Leicester.—**Duck, Tent:** Horrockses, Crewdson, & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Earthenware:** British Anchor Pottery Co., Ltd., Longton; Doulton & Co., Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent; Minton, Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent.—**Enamelled Ware:** Anglo Enamelware, Ltd., Stourport; Welsh Tinplate & Metal Stamping Co., Ltd., Llanelli.—**Engines, Oil, Spares for:** Ruston & Hornsby, Grantham.—**Flannel:** J. Allott & Sons, Ltd., Dolecross, Oldham; Hally & Co., Auchterarder, N.B.; J. King, Keighley.—**Galvanised Ware:** Bradley & Co., Ltd., Bilston; S. W. Bullas & Sons, Ltd., Cradley Heath; Ludlow Bros. (1913), Ltd., Lye, Stourbridge; Pratt Bros., Ltd., Birmingham; J. & P. Round, Lye, Stourbridge; E. Tinsley & Co., Old Hill; Walls, Ltd., Birmingham; C. Wolfe & Sons, Ltd., Bathgate.—**Generating Sets, Spares for:** M. L. Magneto Syndicate, Ltd., Coventry.—**Grindery, Boot:** Lowe & Brookes, Ltd., Birmingham; Tips, Ltd., Bristol; Vulcan Manufacturing Co., Wolverhampton.—**Head-Dresses:** A. H. Early & Co., Ltd., London, E.; M. Grant & Sons, Ltd., London, E.; N. Jacobson, Ltd., Manchester; P. Johnson, Ltd., Manchester; Reese & Bonn, Ltd., London, E.; S. Schneiders & Sons, London, E.—**Hessian:** Craiks, Ltd., Forfar; Don Bros., Buist & Co., Forfar; Ogilvy, Bros., Kirremuir, N.B.; H. Smith & Co., Dundee; J. & D. Wilkie, Ltd., Kirremuir, N.B.—**Hinges:** J. Sadler, Birmingham.—**Hosiery:** N. Corah & Sons, Leicester; A. E. Hill, Wigston, Leicester; Lawrie & Co., Ltd., Leicester; J. & D. McGeorge, Dumfries; Moore, Eady, & Murcott Goode, Ltd., Leicester; T. Morley & Son, Leicester; R. W. Myhill & Co., Leicester; Pool, Lorrimer, & Tabberer, Leicester; S. Smith, Leicester; C. Verwee, Maidenhead; Women's Workrooms United Club, Rhyl.—**Knives, Clasp:** J. Allen & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield; Atkinson Bros., Ltd., Sheffield; J. Davenport & Co., Sheffield; A. Field & Co. (Sheffield), Ltd., Sheffield; Ford & Medley, Ltd., Sheffield; Needham, Veall, & Tyzack, Ltd., Sheffield; C. Wostenholm & Son, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Knives, Forks, Spoons, &c.:** Harrison, Fisher & Co., Sheffield; Maleham & Yeoman, Sheffield; Martin, Hall, & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; Maxfield & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield; Needham, Veall, & Tyzack, Ltd., Sheffield; Wall, Kay, & Sons, Sheffield.—**Matches:** Bryant & May, Ltd., London, E.; Maguire, Miller & Co., Ltd., Liverpool; Vulcan Globe Match Co. Ltd., London, E.C.—**Medicines:** Abel Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; R. Blackie, London, S.E.; Boots Pure Drug Co., Ltd., Nottingham; British Diamalt Co., Sawbridge-worth; British Malt Products Co., Dunbar and Accrington; Burgoyne, Burbridges, & Co., Ltd., London, E.; Burroughs, Wellcome & Co., Dartford; W. 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