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## EMPLOYMENT, WAGES, COST OF LIVING, AND TRADE DISPUTES IN OCTOBER.

### EMPLOYMENT.

THERE was little change, on the whole, in the state of employment during October. Among workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed was 11·7 at 22nd October, compared with 11·7\* at 24th September, and with 11·8\* at 27th August; at the end of October, 1922, the corresponding percentage was 12·3. Among members of Trade Unions from which returns were received the percentage unemployed was 10·9 at the end of October, compared with 11·3 at the end of September. The total number of workpeople registered at the Employment Exchanges as unemployed at 29th October, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was approximately 1,296,000, of whom 970,000 were men and 246,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls. At 1st October the total was 1,285,000, of whom 955,000 were men and 244,000 were women.

Employment was good in the coal-mining industry and in the tinsplate and steel sheet trades; fairly good in the coachbuilding and carpet trades; and fair in the building, brickmaking, jute and leather industries, and in some sections of the metal trades. In most of the other large industries it was slack or bad.

As compared with the previous month, there was an improvement in the coal-mining industry, in tinsplate and steel sheet manufacture, and in the pottery trade, but a slight decline in iron and steel manufacture.

### WAGES.

The slight upward movement in rates of wages, which has been in progress since July, continued in October, though the numbers of workpeople affected and the amount of net increase were still relatively small. In the industries for which statistics are compiled by the Department, the changes reported as taking effect during the month resulted in an aggregate increase of nearly £14,000 in the weekly full-time wages of about 190,000 workpeople, and in a reduction of £8,500 in the weekly wages of 66,000 workpeople.

In the textile bleaching, dyeing, printing and finishing trades there were increases amounting to nearly 3 per cent. on current rates in Yorkshire, and to 1s. 7d. and 10d. respectively in the weekly rates of adult male and female workers in Lancashire, Cheshire, and Scotland. In the paper-making industry men obtained advances of  $\frac{7}{8}$ d. or 1d. per hour, and women an advance of  $\frac{3}{8}$ d. per hour. There were also increases in the wages of iron puddlers and millmen in the North of England and the West of Scotland, blast furnacemen and iron and steel workers in South Wales, steel sheet millmen and galvanisers, workpeople employed in the wool textile industry in the West of England, and workpeople in wholesale warehouses at Manchester. Among trades covered by the Trade Boards Acts, the minimum rates were raised for workpeople employed in the hand-

hammered chain trade, and in the perambulator and invalid carriage trade.

The principal reductions in rates of wages affected iron miners in Cleveland and Cumberland, blastfurnace workers in Cleveland, and certain classes of skilled and semi-skilled men employed in the Thames ship repairing industry.

Up to the end of October the changes in rates of wages reported to the Department during 1923 have resulted in a net reduction of nearly £500,000 in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 3,150,000 workpeople and a net increase of over £300,000 in those of over 1,130,000 workpeople. In the corresponding period of 1922 there was a reduction of nearly £4,200,000 in the weekly full-time wages of over 7,500,000 workpeople, and a net increase of nearly £11,500 in those of nearly 75,000 workpeople.

### COST OF LIVING.

The average level of retail prices, at 1st November, of the commodities taken into account in the statistics prepared by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel, light and miscellaneous items) was approximately 75 per cent. above that of July, 1914, as compared with 75 per cent. a month ago and with 80 per cent. at 1st November, 1922. For food alone the corresponding percentage at 1st November was 73, compared with 72 a month earlier, and with 76 at 1st November, 1922.

These statistics are designed to indicate the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families. Accordingly, in making the calculations, the changes in the prices of the various items included are combined in proportions corresponding with the relative importance of those items in pre-war working-class family expenditure, no allowance being made for any changes in the standard of living.

For further particulars and details of the statistics for 1st November reference should be made to the article on page 403.

### TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in October, was 41. In addition, 18 disputes which began before October were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The total number of workpeople involved in all disputes in October (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was approximately 56,000, as compared with 54,000 in the previous month and 14,000 in October, 1922. The estimated aggregate duration of all disputes during October was about 1,167,000 working days, as compared with 1,029,000 days in September, 1923, and 186,000 days in October, 1922.

The principal dispute in progress was that involving members of the United Society of Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders in federated shipyards, which began on 30th April and was still in progress at the end of October.

\* Revised figure. See page 405.



## REPORT ON THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SCHEME.

THE Ministry of Labour have issued a Report\* on the national scheme of unemployment insurance from its introduction until July, 1923. The Report also contains a short account of the out-of-work donation scheme (which was in force from November, 1918, till March, 1921), and a number of appendices.

Compulsory insurance against unemployment was introduced for a few trades (chiefly building, engineering and shipbuilding) by Part II. of the National Insurance Act, 1911; about 2¼ million workpeople were originally covered thereby. The weekly benefit, for adults, was 7s.; and the joint weekly contribution from employers and employed together (paid by means of stamps affixed to the insured workers' unemployment books) was 5d., to which the State added one-third, or 1⅓d. In 1916 the scheme was extended to certain other classes of workers, principally munition workers, raising the number of insured workpeople to about 3¼ millions.

Employment in the insured trades was fairly good in 1913 and 1914, and during the War unemployment in these trades almost disappeared; hence at the date of the Armistice (November, 1918) the Unemployment Fund had accumulated a balance of about £15,200,000.

Early in the War it had been decided to give ex-Service men who were unemployed in the period immediately following their discharge from the Forces a free grant of "out-of-work donation," i.e., unemployment allowance not dependent on the payment of contributions. Shortly before the Armistice it was decided to extend out-of-work donation to civilians also in the change-over from war to peace. In the result out-of-work donation was paid during unemployment both to ex-Service men and women and to civilians from 25th November, 1918, to 24th November, 1919; and for ex-Service men and women, and for certain classes of merchant seamen, it continued up to 31st March, 1921, and in a few cases later. The total amount of out-of-work donation paid out was approximately £61,659,000, of which £21,725,000 was paid to civilians. No part of this, or of the cost of administration (amounting to about £4,400,000), came from the Unemployment Fund, which accordingly increased still further, and amounted in November, 1920, to £22,200,000.

The Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, which came into force on the 8th November, 1920, extended the insurance scheme, with certain exceptions, to all manual workers, and also to all non-manual workers earning not more than £250 a year. The chief exceptions were agriculture and private domestic service, permanent Civil Servants, pensionable teachers, and (subject to a certificate from the Minister of Labour) permanent employees of local authorities and of public utility companies, including railway companies. The total number of insured persons in the United Kingdom was about 11¼ millions. The rates of contribution were originally 8d. for a man, 6½d. for a woman, 4d. for a boy, and 3½d. for a girl. The rates of benefit at the outset were 15s. for men, 12s. for women, and half those rates for boys and girls between 16 and 18. For a few months in 1921 the rates of benefit were raised to 20s. for men and to 16s. for women; but since June, 1921, they have reverted to the original amounts. Since November, 1921, however, additional grants have been paid for certain dependants (e.g., 5s. for a wife and 1s. for each young child), the rates of contribution also being raised.

The Act of 1920 contained provisions enabling industries to contract out of the general scheme and to set up special schemes of their own covering all workers in each industry.† So far, only one scheme—that for the insurance industry—has come into operation, and one other—for the banking industry—is under consideration. The formation of other schemes is not permissible at present owing to the suspension by a subsequent Act (July, 1921) of the power to make new special schemes so long as the Unemployment Fund remains in debt.

When the Act of 1920 came into force the great depression of trade had already begun to reveal itself; and the number of unemployed rapidly increased, as will be seen from the following Table. The numbers are those of persons registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain, and they include a proportion who were not insured, but this does not invalidate comparison.

End of	Wholly unemployed.	On systematic short-time, and claiming benefit.
December, 1920	701,179	421,012
June, 1921	2,044,655	776,986
December, 1921	1,776,131	297,334
June, 1922	1,405,293	106,235
December, 1922	1,357,981	54,670
June, 1923	1,189,059	60,177

These figures are without parallel in the worst years of pre-war unemployment of which there is a record. Under the new Act, as originally framed, those who were newly brought into the insurance scheme would have been entitled to little or no benefit, owing to the rule that benefits were proportionate to contributions paid; and many even of those who had been insured since 1911 or 1916 would have run out of benefit. This would have lightened the strain on the Unemployment Fund, but would have been most unsatisfactory on other grounds.

\* Report on National Unemployment Insurance to July, 1923; H.M. Stationery Office; price 3s. net.

† See LABOUR GAZETTE, for May, 1923, page 158.

Hence it was decided to graft on to the original scheme of "covenanted" benefit, i.e., benefit drawn as of right by virtue of contributions, a system of "uncovenanted" benefit, i.e., benefit allowed as a discretionary grant to unemployed persons who were normally wage-earners in insured trades and were genuinely seeking whole-time employment, but who had exhausted their rights derived from payment of contributions, or who even, in exceptional cases, had paid no contributions at all. From 1921 onwards one Act after another has been passed granting further extensions of "uncovenanted" benefit, on account of the large numbers who remained unemployed.

"Uncovenanted" benefit, however, has never been payable continuously for long periods, but only for a specified maximum number of weeks in a given period. For example, in the period of 50 weeks from 2nd November, 1922, to 17th October, 1923, the maximum number of weeks of benefit which might be drawn was 44. The grant of "uncovenanted" benefit has also been limited in other ways: these limitations have especially affected single men and women residing with relatives, married women residing with their husbands, persons working short-time, and aliens. In the case of both covenanted and uncovenanted benefit precautions are taken with a view to ensuring that payment is not made to women or girls who may reasonably be required to accept positions in domestic service.

The proportion of uncovenanted benefit to the total is not precisely known; it has varied considerably from time to time, but it may safely be put at more than half of the total benefit paid between 8th November, 1920, and 30th June, 1923.

The grant of "uncovenanted" benefit imposed a great strain on the Unemployment Fund, which was reduced from £22,200,000 in November, 1920, to £1,000,000 at the end of June, 1921 (the end of the coal dispute). Accordingly powers were taken under various Acts to borrow from the Treasury sums up to £30,000,000. These borrowing powers have not been used, however, to their full extent. The maximum sum borrowed was rather more than £17,000,000 in March, 1923; on the 30th June the debt had been reduced to £15,600,000.\*

During the period of some two and a half years to June, 1923, the amount paid out in benefit (including allowances for dependants) has been about £128,000,000. Three-fourths of the benefits paid and of the costs of administration is provided by insured workpeople and their employers; not more than one-fourth falls upon the taxpayer. The contributions of employers and workpeople have been largely increased, and will be maintained at the present level until the Fund has paid off its debt, and has accumulated any necessary reserves. The rates of contribution at the present time are as follows:—

	Employer.	Employed.	State.
	d.	d.	d.
Men ...	10	9	6½
Women ...	8	7	5½
Boys from 16—18 ...	5	4½	3½
Girls from 16—18 ...	4½	4	3½

The sum of about £128,000,000, referred to above, has been paid out in the period from the 8th November, 1920, to the 30th June, 1923, in separate weekly amounts, ranging ordinarily from 12s. to 22s., and involving an estimated total of approximately 170 million separate payments.

The expenses of administration of the Scheme are paid in the first instance out of moneys provided by Parliament, but 12½ per cent. (up to April, 1922, 10 per cent.) of the annual revenue of the Unemployment Fund may be applied to the payment of these administrative expenses. Down to April, 1922, the administrative expenses exceeded the amount which might be appropriated in aid from the Unemployment Fund, but since that date the ratio of expenses to revenue has been below 12½ per cent., so that since April, 1922, no charge has fallen on the Exchequer under this head. The administrative expenses of the Scheme for the purpose of this ratio cover not merely the organisation required for collecting contributions and for assessing and paying benefit, but also the whole cost of the Employment Exchanges as placing agencies so far as they deal with insured persons. In other words, 95 per cent. of the whole cost of the Exchanges is at present paid for out of the Unemployment Fund. Moreover, expenses incurred by other Departments on behalf of the Ministry are also included, e.g., Office of Works, Stationery Office and Post Office. The present ratio of administrative expenses to revenue is 8·3 per cent., which compares very favourably with the ratio of expenses to revenue of State and other schemes of industrial insurance.

The Report emphasises the fact that the Scheme is *contributory*; one-fourth, and no more, of the sums paid in benefit and of the cost of administration falls upon the taxpayer. The total contributions from employers, employed and the Exchequer from the initiation of the Scheme in 1912 to the 1st July, 1923, have been as follows:—

	£	Per cent.
Employers ...	48,000,000	38·7
Employed ...	44,600,000	35·9
Exchequer ...	31,500,000	25·4
	124,100,000	100·0

The debt of £15,600,000 referred to above, together with the interest thereupon, is repayable by employers, employed, and the State approximately in the proportions indicated. The

\* See also page 396.



existence of the debt, therefore, does not constitute a grant from the taxpayer.

Up to December 31st, 1921, there was a single unemployment insurance scheme for the whole of the United Kingdom. On January 1st, 1922, however, the Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland took over the administration of the Scheme within that area; and on April 1st, 1922, the Ministry of Industry and Commerce under the Provisional Government assumed responsibility for its administration in the Irish Free State. At the present time, therefore, there are three separate schemes in operation in Great Britain and Ireland.

The general results of the administration of the scheme are summed up as follows:

"Experience has shown that compulsory insurance against unemployment is entirely practicable. The extended scheme of insurance has passed successfully through the crucial test imposed by an immense volume of unemployment, unprecedented both in intensity and in duration, which threw an almost intolerable strain on newly-fashioned machinery, and has continued with little abatement for the past two and a-half years. The Unemployment Fund has provided benefits vastly greater than those originally contemplated. It has done so, it is true, at the expense of largely increased contributions and of a considerable debt; but the debt is not so large that it cannot be paid off in a comparatively short space of time as soon as trade revives, and the financial stability of the scheme is not open to serious question.

"The great depression in trade has profoundly affected the whole outlook of the insurance scheme. So long as the depression continues . . . it may not be possible to do more than meet current problems as they arise; but the time has almost come for taking stock of the situation in all its aspects and deciding upon the line of development which may appear to offer the best chance of reaching a solution of the permanent problem of a fluctuating demand for labour."

## ANALYSIS OF CLAIMS TO UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFIT.

In the early part of this year a detailed analysis was made of a representative sample of over 370,000 claims to unemployment benefit current in Great Britain on the 27th January, 1923. This was about 30 per cent. of the total number of claims current at Employment Exchanges on the date mentioned, and the results of the analysis may with some confidence be regarded as applicable to the whole number of claims.

It is to be noted that the figures do not cover unemployed persons who, either because they were uninsured or for some other reason, were not claiming benefit. Hence some reservations are necessary in applying conclusions drawn from the present analysis to the whole body of insured persons unemployed at the date of the enquiry. On the other hand, the figures include a certain number of persons (about 5 per cent. of the total) who, though claiming benefit, were not actually in receipt of it, either because the claimants were still in the waiting week or because the claim was still under examination.

The 372,875 persons covered by the enquiry were made up as follows:—

		Per cent.
Men	302,829	81.2
Women	58,923	15.8
Boys under 18	6,003	1.6
Girls under 18	5,120	1.4
Total	372,875	100.0

Of the 302,829 men covered by the enquiry, 187,389 were non-ex-Service men; 13,622 were disabled ex-Service men; and 101,818 were non-disabled ex-Service men.

### Analysis by Marital State.

The following Table analyses the figures according to the marital state of the claimants:—

	Males.		Females.		All Persons.	
	Number.	Percentage of all Males.	Number.	Percentage of all Females.	Number	Percentage of all Persons
Married ..	172,180	55.7	21,164	33.1	193,344	51.8
Single ..	130,004	42.1	39,556	61.7	169,560	45.5
Widowed..	6,648	2.2	3,323	5.2	9,971	2.7
Total ..	308,832	100.0	64,043	100.0	372,875	100.0

These figures show a wide variation from the Census figures as regards the proportion of widowed, and particularly of male widowed, persons; and it seems probable that a good many widowed persons have been returned as either "married" or "single." Apart from such slight error as may be present in the "married" and "single" columns from the inclusion of some "widowed," there would seem good reason for confidence in the accuracy of the distinction made between married and single.

### Claims for Dependents' Benefit.

Of the 372,875 claims covered by the enquiry, 223,662 (60 per cent.) bore no authorisation for Dependents' Benefit, i.e., additional benefit in respect of a wife (or in certain cases a housekeeper) or young children. Of the 149,213 claims on which Dependents' Benefit had been authorised, 49,012 (32.8 per cent.) were in respect of adult dependants only, 9,507 (6.4 per cent.) were in respect of children only, and 90,694 (60.8 per cent.) in respect of both adults and children. The benefit was authorised in respect of 139,706 dependent adults and 227,216 dependent children, the proportion of such children to the 100,201 persons having benefit authorised in respect of children being 2.27 children per claimant. The authorised claims for dependants' benefit were nearly all claims made by males; only 1,195 females had any authorisation for dependants' benefit.

38,023 claimants had one dependent child; 27,282 had two; 16,684 had three; 10,049 had four; and 8,203 had more than four.

### Analysis by Sex and Age.

One of the most remarkable facts brought out by the enquiry was the high proportion of young claimants. Half of the female claimants were returned as under 25, and nearly half of the male claimants were returned as under 35. Taking males and females together, the closest concentration of claimants was in the two-year age group 18-19; this was also the age group showing the closest concentration of claimants for females taken separately. Taking males separately, the largest number of any one age was in the group 20-24. In this connection it should be noted that the ages given on the original documents from which the figures here analysed were copied were in most cases the ages of the claimants at the dates when the first claims in the period since November, 1920, were made. Hence their real ages were in many cases one or even two years more than those recorded.

The following Table shows the distribution of claimants by age groups, distinguishing males from females, and (among the males) ex-Service from non ex-Service:—

Age-group.	Males.		Females.*	Total.
	Ex-Service.	Other.		
Under 18 ..	—	6,003	5,120	11,123
18-19 ..	989	18,757	10,017	29,763
20-24 ..	26,010	28,404	16,938	71,352
25-29 ..	27,912	11,878	9,655	49,445
30-34 ..	18,595	12,879	5,693	37,167
35-39 ..	14,283	13,186	4,732	32,201
40-44 ..	11,648	14,799	3,562	30,009
45-49 ..	7,872	18,601	2,985	29,458
50-54 ..	4,025	20,841	2,118	26,984
55-59 ..	1,992	18,978	1,436	22,406
60-64 ..	787	15,540	928	17,255
65-69 ..	259	10,279	473	11,011
70 and over ..	50	1,701	18	1,769
No age stated ..	1,018	1,546	368	2,932
Total ..	115,440	193,392	64,043	372,875

As will be seen from the following Table, the proportion of male to female claimants in the several divisions showed a wide variation:—

	Males.		Females.	
	Per cent.		Per cent.	
Wales ..	94.2	...	5.8	...
North-Eastern ..	90.9	...	9.1	...
South-Eastern ..	87.7	...	12.3	...
Scotland ..	86.1	...	13.9	...
South-Western ..	85.9	...	14.1	...
London... ..	81.5	...	18.5	...
Midlands ..	78.9	...	21.1	...
North-Western ..	73.9	...	26.1	...
Total ..	82.8	...	17.2	...

Among insured persons the proportion of males to females is roughly 73:27. Among claimants it is roughly 83:17. The disparity here reflects partly the heavier incidence of disqualification upon women, and partly the greater depression in men's trades than in those in which women are largely employed.

### Contributions available for Benefit.

Among the subjects dealt with in the enquiry was that of the number of contributions available for benefit, whether in the claimants' ledger accounts (which represent contributions of earlier years) or on their current unemployment books. The number of contributions "available for benefit" means the number actually paid, less any contributions exhausted under the repealed Acts. The maximum weekly contributions possible in the ledgers was about 115 for those—the majority—who came into insurance in November, 1920, and about 550 for those who had been insured since July, 1912. The maximum number of contributions possible in the current unemployment books at the date of the return was 30.

\* Only 106 of the female claimants were ex-Service.



It was found that only 1·8 per cent. of the males and 0·8 per cent. of the females had no contributions available for benefit; while those with 49 or more contributions available for benefit numbered no fewer than 81·4 per cent. of the males and 75·5 per cent. of the females.

It was found that women in receipt of benefit had, in general, had more recent industrial employment than men; and that male claimants were relatively well placed as regards their ledger accounts (representing contributions in past years), but relatively worse placed than female claimants as regards contributions in their current unemployment books (representing recent employment).

One feature of the figures is the very great preponderance of the ledger as compared with the current contributions. No less than 38·2 per cent. of the men claimants and 25·6 per cent. of the women claimants had no contributions in their current book; yet only 1·8 per cent. of males and 0·8 of females had no contributions at all to their credit. The great majority of the claimants with no contributions on their current books were therefore in benefit by virtue of their ledger accounts. It is estimated that 75 per cent. of the men whose claims were examined had over 54 contributions to their credit in their ledger accounts, and that, of this 75 per cent., over a third had no contributions on their current books. The corresponding figures for women are 61·4 per cent., and over a quarter.

In the Table below the contribution figures for men are analysed in greater detail. It will be seen that the disabled ex-Service men were at a distinct disadvantage as regards contributions available for benefit. The figures (expressed as percentages) are as follows:—

Contributions available for Benefit.	Non-ex-Service Men.	Ex-Service Men.	
		Non disabled.	Disabled.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Nil.	1·3	1·8	8·2
1 — 6	0·6	1·0	3·2
7 — 12	0·9	1·1	2·6
13 — 18	1·3	1·7	3·2
19 — 24	2·2	2·4	4·2
25 — 30	2·3	2·6	3·3
31 — 36	2·2	2·5	3·4
37 — 42	2·4	2·9	3·6
43 — 48	2·6	2·9	3·4
49 and over	84·2	81·1	64·9
Total ..	100·0	100·0	100·0

The following Table analyses contributions according to industry. As was to be expected, the highest proportions of men with a substantial number of contributions to their credit were in trades under the Acts of 1911 and 1916 (building and works of construction, engineering and ironfounding, shipbuilding, and iron and steel manufacture). The figures for men (expressed as percentages) may be summarised as follows for the principal industries:—

Industry.	Proportion of men whose contributions available for Benefit were		
	Under 49.	49—54.	Over 54.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Engineering and Ironfounding ..	7·7	44·1	48·2
Building and Works of Construction ..	12·1	20·3	67·6
Shipbuilding ..	6·7	36·7	56·6
Iron and Steel Manufacture ..	8·8	38·9	52·3
Distributive ..	29·4	24·0	46·6
Canal, River, Dock, etc. ..	26·1	11·6	62·3
Coal Mining ..	48·7	20·7	30·6
All Industries ..	17·7	30·5	51·8

The figures for women were as follows:—

Industry.	Proportion of women whose contributions available for Benefit were		
	Under 49.	49—54.	Over 54.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Cotton ..	25·6	11·0	63·4
Distributive ..	18·4	20·1	61·5
Food and Drink ..	21·7	21·0	57·3
Tailoring ..	15·3	8·5	76·2
Dress ..	16·9	13·1	70·0
Hotel, College, etc., Service ..	33·8	23·0	43·2
All Industries ..	21·7	20·6	57·7

#### Number of Days' Benefit Paid.

The following Table analyses the claims according to the number of days' benefit paid on them during the "fourth special period" up to the date of the return. (The "fourth special period" began on the 2nd November, 1922; so that the maximum benefit that could be paid between that date and the 27th January, 1923, the date of the return, was 72 days). The figures include, of course, a large number of claimants who were unemployed and in receipt of benefit before the beginning of the "fourth special period." The number of men who had been in receipt of benefit for over 60 days during the period under review was no less than 128,588, or 42 per cent. of all the men; the corresponding numbers for women were 13,878, or 24 per cent.

#### Men Claimants.

Contributions available for Benefit.	Total Claims Examined.	Number of Claims on which under-mentioned days of Benefit had been paid.		
		24 or under.	25—60.	61—72.
24 or under ..	22,993	3,503	4,610	14,880
25—48 ..	30,729	4,326	8,134	18,269
49—54 ..	92,338	6,753	11,205	74,380
Over 54 ..	156,769	42,894	58,353	55,522
Total Claims Examined..	302,829	57,476	82,302	163,051

#### Women Claimants.

Contributions available for Benefit.	Total Claims Examined.	Number of Claims on which under-mentioned days of Benefit had been paid.		
		24 or under.	25—60.	61—72.
24 or under ..	3,568	1,443	802	1,323
25—48 ..	9,160	2,654	3,023	3,483
49—54 ..	12,150	2,309	2,880	6,961
Over 54 ..	34,045	16,103	11,455	6,487
Total Claims Examined..	58,923	22,509	18,160	18,254

It will be seen that women figure much more largely, in proportion, in the earlier groups; only 31 per cent. of the women drew from 61 to 72 days' benefit, as against 54 per cent. in the case of men.

The shorter periods over which boy and girl claimants had drawn benefit in the 72 days in question will be seen from the following percentage statement:—

Days of Benefit Paid.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Nil.	4·3	9·9	12·4	15·8
1—12	7·1	14·1	17·3	23·8
13—24	7·6	14·2	14·0	20·0
25—36	7·8	11·1	11·9	12·7
37—48	9·2	10·9	11·0	9·3
49—60	10·2	8·8	8·9	6·5
61—72	53·8	31·0	24·5	11·9
Total	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0

Payments of benefit have also been analysed by age-groups. In the case of males, the amount of benefit drawn is very nearly the same at all ages, except under 18 and over 54. For male applicants under 18 the length of benefit, as might be expected, was much below the average; for men over 54 it was above the average. In the case of females, the number of days' benefit rises as age increases. Taking those who have received from 61 to 72 days' benefit, there were only 11·9 per cent. of females in the group under 18; at ages between 18 and 34 the percentage varies only between 28·3 and 29·6 per cent.; thereafter the percentage rises steadily, in each age group, as follows:—31·8, 34·0, 37·6, 39·0, 41·7, 44·6, 45·2.

The following Table analyses the benefit figures for men according to industry:—

Industry.	Percentages of men to whom the number of Days' Benefit paid was		
	0—24.	25—60.	61—72.
Shipbuilding ..	11·6	24·7	63·7
Coal Mining ..	15·6	21·4	63·0
Engineering and Ironfounding ..	14·8	22·5	62·7
Iron and Steel ..	14·9	25·9	59·2
Distributive Trades ..	19·8	26·1	54·1
Building and Works of Construction ..	25·0	32·8	42·2
Canal, River, Dock, etc., Service ..	27·2	44·3	28·5
All Industries ..	19·0	27·2	53·8

## TREASURY ADVANCES TO THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE FUND.

In reply to a question in the House of Commons on 14th November the Minister of Labour gave the following figures showing the balances of advances to the Unemployment Fund outstanding at the end of each month since April, 1922:—

	£
1922—April ..	15,160,000
May ..	15,400,000
June ..	14,750,000
July ..	13,310,000
August ..	13,290,000
September ..	14,350,000
October ..	14,450,000
November ..	14,550,000
December ..	15,890,000
1923—January ..	16,380,000
February ..	16,850,000
March ..	16,840,000
April ..	16,090,000
May ..	15,810,000
June ..	15,600,000
July ..	14,083,000
August ..	13,670,000
September ..	13,100,000
October ..	13,180,000



## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE : REVISED STATISTICS.

IN recent issues of the LABOUR GAZETTE it has been pointed out that, owing to the adoption of a new system of classification, designed to bring the industrial grouping of insured persons into conformity with the grouping of occupied persons in the 1921 Census of Population, it was not possible to furnish the usual industrial percentages of unemployment until the numbers of insured workpeople according to the new classification were available. This enumeration has now been completed, and on pages 412 and 413 of the current issue statistics are given, showing the numbers in each of the principal industries insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920-1923, and the percentage unemployed in each of those industries for the period June to October.

Concurrently with the adoption of the Census system of classification, various changes in procedure, designed to give greater accuracy and precision to the statistics, have been introduced. It is therefore desirable that a brief account of the data employed and of the methods followed in compiling the statistics should be given.

In order that percentages of unemployment among insured persons industry by industry may be calculated, it is necessary to ascertain for each industry (a) the total number of insured persons, and (b) the number of insured persons who are unemployed. The method of computing these numbers will be described in turn in the following paragraphs.

### *Enumeration of Persons Insured.*

The numbers of persons insured against unemployment, both in the country as a whole and in the various industries, are obtained from a count of unemployment books. The unemployment book is a two-page card in which the employer must affix, for each week during any part of which the worker is in his employment, an unemployment stamp. When any worker who has not before been insured enters into employment in an industry coming within the scope of the Unemployment Insurance Act, he must obtain such a book from any convenient Employment Exchange. He hands it for safe keeping and regular stamping to his employer, with whom it stays until either (a) the man becomes unemployed, in which case he will receive the book from the employer and lodge it at an Employment Exchange, or (b) the currency of the book expires at the end of the insurance year in July, when it is sent to an Employment Exchange to be exchanged for a new one.

On the cover of the Unemployment Book is a space wherein the exchange clerk must designate the "industry" in which the newly-insured person has found employment. This is determined by the industry in which the employer is engaged. This "industry" is recorded by various code symbols, numbering about 100, each of the most important industries or industrial groups being denoted by a separate symbol. The code symbols on these unemployment books form the basis upon which the numbers of insured workpeople classified according to their industries are computed.

At the beginning of July in every year the currency of all existing unemployment books expires. The old books are called in and new ones issued in exchange. The number of books so exchanged affords an annual indication of the total of insured workpeople. That total must of necessity be an estimate rather than a computation. The process of exchanging books spreads over a number of weeks; indeed, even in the closing months of an insurance year some few books come in belatedly for exchange. Therefore, if an estimate of the number of insured persons as at 1st July is to be available within a reasonable time, an allowance must be made for those whose books will come in during the remainder of the year. The number of insured persons on July 1st, 1923, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland is estimated by these means to have been about 11,500,000. So far as is known there has been no material change in the numbers of insured workpeople between July and October, and that total is, therefore, treated as holding good for each of the succeeding months. In the event of a trade improvement between now and the next exchange of books, increases in the issue of new books will indicate the amount of increase in the numbers of insured workpeople, and the figures will be modified accordingly.

The annual exchange of new books for old affords an opportunity not only for a count of all insured persons, but also for readjustments in the classification of individual books as regards industry, juvenility and locality. Thus a man who has changed his industry since the previous exchange of books has his new book coded under the symbol of the industry to which he has transferred; a juvenile who has during the previous year become

an adult has his book re-classified among the adults; and a man who has removed from one locality to another has his new book recorded at the Exchange in his new locality.

The books exchanged at the end of an insurance year fall into two main categories:—Books in the possession of the employers, and books of unemployed persons which are lodged at an Exchange.

A large proportion of the books in the former class are exchanged in bulk by the employers. In this large proportion of cases the correct coding of the new books in accordance with the industry in which the employer is engaged is a simple and exact operation. In the case of small firms the employer will sometimes hand back the unemployment books to his workpeople, who will generally take them in person to the Exchange for the purpose of obtaining new books. In these cases the Exchange clerk is able to question the holder as to the business of his employer, and is thereby able to classify and code his book according to the industry in which he is then engaged.

As regards the second category, i.e., books of unemployed persons which are lodged at the Exchange when a claim to benefit is made, an important statistical question arises. To what industry shall an unemployed person be assigned? In the case of persons who are "stood off" for a short or long period it is plain that they should be classified to the industry in which they are normally employed. In other cases the correct assignment is not so clear. The policy adopted, however, is to code each unemployed person to the industry in which he was last employed. This results in apparent anomalies as regards individuals, but these anomalies largely disappear in the mass figures. Since every "lodged" book is coded at the time of lodging to the industry of the employer by whom the worker was last employed, the achievement of correctness in coding the new books presents no difficulty.

### *Enumeration of Insured Persons Unemployed.*

The methods adopted for the monthly computation and analysis of the numbers of insured workers who are unemployed depend upon the fact that an insured person on becoming unemployed must obtain his unemployment book from his employer and deposit or "lodge" it at the Exchange as the first condition of claiming benefit. The book will in ordinary circumstances remain lodged at the Exchange so long as the insured worker is unemployed, and even when he has found work in a non-insured trade.

Until June, 1923, the official statistics of unemployment of insured persons were based entirely on books lodged, but investigation showed that this procedure was subject to inaccuracies, and that certain persons had been included as unemployed who were no longer in that condition, while on the other hand other persons who were unemployed were not being counted as such. The inaccuracies were not extensive, but it was felt desirable that possibilities of inaccuracy should be reduced to the least possible dimensions, and accordingly the following system was devised.

The great bulk of books lodged is in respect of persons who have current or live claims to benefit and who give proof of unemployment at regular intervals at the Exchange. It was accordingly decided that the first count should be made in respect of claims current. These cases account for about 90 per cent. of the total recorded as unemployed.

Another smaller class of persons included in the statistics of unemployment is that of insured persons without claims to benefit in respect of whom the Exchange possesses definite information respecting unemployment. These are the insured contributors who, although they have no claim to benefit, are maintaining their registration at the Exchange.

The third class reckoned in the statistics is of insured persons who have no current claim to benefit and are not maintaining registration at the Exchange, but whose unemployment book remains lodged at the Exchange. The books of such persons are kept in a separate file, "the two months' file," so called because, in the absence of any definite information as to the industrial conditions of the persons in whose respect the books are lodged, the lodged books are retained in that file for a period of two months from the date when they were transferred from the file of books in respect of which there were current claims or from the date when for some other reason they were put into the "two months' file." Since every person employed in an insured trade must have his unemployment book stamped weekly by his employer, the retention of the book at the Exchange is *prima facie* evidence of unemployment in an insured trade. In the case of many of the books remaining lodged under these conditions, the Exchange knows definitely that the owner of the book is still unemployed, but in some cases no definite information can be obtained. To include the latter in the statistics for an indefinite period might lead to inaccuracies, and a time limit of two months has, therefore, been imposed, after which the books are transferred to the "dead file" if the economic condition of the owner of the book is still unknown, when they are no longer included in the statistics of unemployment.

The period of two months selected for retention in the statistics of persons whose condition is unknown is somewhat arbitrary; but it is believed to furnish a total in which the actually unemployed persons who are no longer being counted are roughly counterbalanced by the inclusion for eight weeks of persons who have, without the knowledge of the Exchange, ceased to be candidates for employment in insured industry.



*Revision of Industrial Classification.*

A brief explanation will now be given of the methods of classification adopted in the count of unemployed persons. Questions of locality, sex and juvenility present no serious difficulty, as the returns on which the statistics are based are sent to headquarters by each local office of the Employment Department, separate figures being rendered for men, boys, women and girls respectively. As regards industry, as stated above, the unemployment books are stamped with a code symbol taken from a list which is supplied to every local office of the Employment Department. Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts of 1911 and 1916, when the total insured population amounted to less than four millions, the coding of industry was a comparatively simple matter. With the extension of unemployment insurance in November, 1920, nearly eight million additional workers were brought within the scope of the Insurance Acts. The issue of books to these eight million workers and the coding of industries had to be done at great speed, and by a staff, in great part, newly recruited and untrained, with the result that errors arose. Since that date sweeping changes in industry have taken place on the part of large numbers of workpeople, and it has been difficult to maintain stability in the estimates made of the industrial population.

Although in the main the classification had been carried out on an industrial basis of grouping, it had not been followed quite strictly to the exclusion of all occupational groupings. Accordingly, prior to the exchange of books in 1923, instructions were issued to re-code all books on an industrial basis. It was decided that the industry under which an unemployment book should be classified should be determined by the nature of the employer's business, or, in the case of an unemployed person, of his last employer's business whatever it might be. It was particularly emphasised that it was not the occupation of the insured person, but the nature of the employer's business which determined the code symbol to be affixed to the unemployment book. Thus a bricklayer employed by a firm of builders would be classified under the building trade, whereas a bricklayer in an iron and steel works would be classified under iron and steel. Special attention was drawn to the case of firms who were engaged in two or more industries, e.g., a firm owning blast furnaces and iron and steel works, in order that the persons engaged in each component industry covered by the firm's activities might be classified to the industry in which they were working. In the case of persons such as clerks, warehousemen, packers, porters, etc., employed by firms concerned in two or more industries, every attempt was to be made to have them separately distinguished, but if this were found to be impossible, they were to be classified according to the principal industry of the employer. As regards persons employed in producing other goods for use in connection with the main product of the employer's business, such cases were to be classified according to the main business of the employer, except where the department was a self-contained works of such a size and composition as to constitute a substantial unit of another industry, e.g., the locomotive and repair shops of a railway, when it was to be treated as a separate industry. The books of persons employed in Government industrial undertakings (arsenal, dockyards, army clothing) and in industrial undertakings (tramways, gasworks, etc.) of Local Authorities were classified according to the industry or service in which they were employed, and not under National or Local Government Service.

The exchange of unemployment books in 1923 was also taken as an opportunity of revising the industrial classification to bring it, so far as possible, into line with the classification adopted for the census of population. Thus in the general engineering group sub-divisions are now given for electrical engineering, for marine engineering, and for constructional engineering. The basis for the motor industry has been enlarged, and now includes the construction and repair of engines, which were formerly included under general engineering. Again, the explosives and chemicals group has now been sub-divided into three groups, as against a single group in the previous classification; while pig-iron manufacture and iron and steel tube manufacture have been separated from iron and steel manufacture. A further sub-division has been made in the group embracing bricks, tiles and artificial building materials; and glass bottle manufacture has been separated from the other glass trades. Alterations have also been made in the mining, clothing, food and drink, and other groups. In view of the alterations in the method of industrial classification and in the industrial grouping caution is necessary in making comparisons between the figures published prior to 25th June, 1923, and those given on dates subsequent to 25th June.

On pages 412 and 413 is given an analysis of the estimated number of insured persons in each of the 100 industry groups, together with the numbers and percentages of those unemployed. The statistics on these pages should not be confused with the Live Register figures given on page 411. The former relate only to workpeople insured against unemployment under the Unemployment Insurance Act, i.e., substantially all persons for whom Health Insurance contributions have been paid, except outworkers and persons employed in agriculture and private domestic service. Employees of local authorities, railways and certain other public utility undertakings, members of the police

forces, and persons with rights under a statutory superannuation scheme, may, in certain circumstances, be exempted. Persons employed otherwise than by way of manual labour at a rate of remuneration exceeding in value £250 per annum are excepted, as are also juveniles under 16 years of age. The Live Register figures include all persons, irrespective of whether they are insured or not, who, having registered at an Employment Exchange, maintain their registration. Insured persons who are known to be unemployed are included in the Unemployment Insurance statistics, even if they have not maintained their registration on the Live Register.

**NUMBERS EMPLOYED AND WAGES IN THE RAILWAY SERVICE.**

A RETURN\* has been compiled by the Ministry of Transport showing the numbers of persons employed by the railway companies in Great Britain during the week ended 24th March, 1923, together with the corresponding numbers in the week ended 25th March, 1922. The Return also gives a comparison of the rates of pay of some of the principal classes at 1st July, 1922, and 1st July, 1923, and of the average weekly salary or wage and the average weekly earnings of selected grades at 19th March, 1921, and 24th March, 1923.

*Numbers employed.*—Details of the numbers of males and of females employed in each of the principal grades are given for the four railway groups and certain other selected companies, and the numbers are sub-divided so as to show those paid at the rates for adults and those at juniors' rates, respectively. All persons actually employed in the specified week, both by the railway companies and by the Railway Clearing House, are included, except those who were paid for time equivalent to less than three days in the week, and staff not directly employed by the companies—e.g., staff employed by contractors. The total number of persons employed† in March, 1923, was 681,778, compared with 676,802 in March, 1922, an increase of 0.74 per cent. The numbers employed in the principal grades at March, 1923, and March, 1922, are summarised in the following Table:—

Grade.	Number of Persons employed† in the week ended			
	24th March, 1923.		25th March, 1922.	
	Males	Females.	Males.	Females.
Carters and Vanguarders .. ..	19,203	—	17,351	—
Carriage Cleaners .. ..	7,054	882	5,735	926
Checkers .. ..	11,698	4	11,807	5
Clerks .. ..	75,773	9,081	76,442	9,291
Engine Cleaners .. ..	12,763	2	14,925	4
Engine Drivers and Motormen ..	36,708	—	35,851	—
Firemen .. ..	36,698	—	35,411	—
Guards—Goods .. ..	16,576	—	16,188	—
„ — Passenger .. ..	7,899	—	7,886	—
Inspectors .. ..	7,748	11	8,086	10
Labourers .. ..	37,422	40	37,732	57
Loaders and Sheetmen .. ..	5,069	—	5,056	—
Mechanics and Artisans .. ..	106,496	699	101,056	1,015
Permanent Way Men .. ..	63,312	—	63,021	—
Porters—Goods .. ..	20,717	14	20,032	16
„ — Passenger .. ..	27,679	22	27,538	14
Shunters .. ..	17,927	—	17,685	—
Signalmen .. ..	29,507	2	29,795	3
Station Masters, Yard Masters, etc.	7,673	10	7,801†	16
Ticket Collectors .. ..	5,451	11	5,507	21
Other Grades .. ..	105,450	12,117	108,451	12,062
Grand Total .. ..	658,883	22,895	653,362	23,440

The numbers employed by each of the four railway groups at March, 1923, were: London, Midland and Scottish, 268,835; London and North-Eastern, 202,232; Great Western, 109,376; and Southern, 70,479.

*Wages.*—The average weekly salary or wage and the average weekly earnings of adult males in the principal grades at 19th March, 1921, and 24th March, 1923, are summarised in the following Table. The average salary is calculated on the basis of 6/313ths of the annual salaried rate, including residual bonus, if any. The average wage is based on the standard rate (plus bonus additions, if any, under sliding scale) in operation at the dates specified, and in the case of mechanics and artisans is arrived at by adding the war wage to the standard or basic rate. The average earnings represent salaries or wages, residual bonus (if any), war wage, piece-work earnings, tonnage bonus, payments for overtime, Sunday duty and night duty, commuted allowance, and any other payments for work performed; but exclude compensation allowance, travelling and out-of-pocket expenses, and meal and lodging allowances.

\* Published by H.M. Stationery Office. Price 1s. 6d.

† Excluding those employed by the Manchester Ship Canal Co., who numbered 1,418 at March, 1923, and 1,303 at March, 1922.

‡ This figure has been amended since the publication of the Return relating to March, 1922.



Class.	Average Weekly Salary or Wages.		Average Weekly Earnings.	
	19th Mar., 1921.	24th Mar., 1923.	19th Mar., 1921.	24th Mar., 1923.
Carters .. .. .	s. d. 75 6	s. d. 54 8	s. d. 79 2	s. d. 58 1
Carriage Cleaners (Carriage and Wagon Department) .. .. .	71 0	49 11	78 8	54 8
Checkers .. .. .	77 9	56 10	79 11	59 11
Clerks .. .. .	84 4	80 4	102 6	83 6
Engine Cleaners .. .. .	65 7	47 10	70 0	52 10
Engine Drivers and Motormen ..	102 4	86 8	115 7	101 7
Firemen and Assistant Motormen	77 8	65 1	85 10	75 10
Guards .. .. .	81 3	63 8	88 0	72 6
Permanent Way—Gangers .. .. .	76 11	56 7	88 0	63 7
" " —Sub-Gangers .. .. .	73 3	53 1	80 5	57 11
" " —Undermen .. .. .	71 9	51 4	79 3	56 7
Porters (Goods Staff) .. .. .	72 4	51 7	74 0	53 4
" (Traffic Department) Grade 1	72 2	51 5	78 8	55 3
" " " " " " " " " " " "	67 9	47 4	73 7	52 0
Shunters, Class 1 .. .. .	83 6	64 9	90 9	74 5
" " " " " " " " " " " "	79 9	59 10	86 7	65 5
" " " " " " " " " " " "	76 6	55 6	82 9	61 2
" " " " " " " " " " " "	72 7	51 10	78 5	56 1
Signalmen .. .. .	77 11	59 4	90 2	68 4
Station Masters, Yard Masters, etc.	103 6	104 0	129 6	112 10
Ticket Collectors, Class 1 .. ..	79 0	58 0	88 6	65 5
" " " " " " " " " " " "	74 1	54 1	82 4	59 10
Loco, Carriage and "Wagon Depart- ment :				
Carpenters, Joiners and Shipwrights	80 1	61 7	98 7	70 9
Carriage and Wagon Builders and Repairers .. .. .	73 7	57 9	97 8	74 3
Erectors, Fitters and Turners ..	77 0	62 7	100 5	77 1
Erectors' Fitters' and Turners' Assistants .. .. .	64 1	51 2	88 3	59 1
Labourers .. .. .	62 4	45 11	78 11	54 3
Machinists and Machinememen ..	70 5	54 7	93 0	69 0
Painters .. .. .	71 11	56 2	94 8	70 2
Riveters .. .. .	75 10	60 4	99 1	79 4
Smiths .. .. .	78 3	63 7	103 7	77 4
Strikers .. .. .	65 10	50 5	85 6	61 11
Civil Engineering:				
Carpenters, Joiners, and Ship wrights .. .. .	76 4	60 5	88 8	64 7
Labourers .. .. .	62 4	46 0	75 0	49 8
Painters .. .. .	68 9	53 11	79 10	58 1

The standard rates of wages shown in the Return relate to 1st July, 1922, and 1st July, 1923. The rates shown for the latter date are still in operation. For some of the principal grades of workers the rates at the two dates were as follows:—

Class.	Standard Rates of Wages, plus Bonus addition (if any), under sliding scale.	
	1st July, 1922.	1st July, 1923.
Engine Drivers and Motormen* ..	72s. to 90s.*	72s. to 90s.*
Firemen and Assistant Motormen* ..	57s. to 72s.*	57s. to 72s.*
Guards .. .. .	52s. to 65s.	50s. to 65s.
Porters (Goods Staff) .. .. .	48s. to 52s. 6d.	46s. to 50s.
Porters (Traffic Department) .. .. .	47s. to 51s. 6d.	45s. to 49s.
Shunters .. .. .	51s. to 65s.	50s. to 65s.
Signalmen .. .. .	49s. to 75s. 6d.	48s. to 75s.
Ticket Collectors .. .. .	54s. to 58s.	54s. to 58s.

It should be observed that comparison between the standard rates at 1st July, 1923, and the average wage and average earnings at 24th March, 1923, is affected by reductions in rates of wages which operated on 1st July, 1923, and which affected a considerable proportion of the workers in the conciliation grades.

# REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON DOMESTIC SERVICE.

**THE** Committee appointed by the Minister of Labour in April, 1923, to inquire into the present conditions as to the supply of female domestic servants, and in particular to inquire into the effect of the Unemployment Insurance Scheme in this connection, and to make recommendations, have issued their Report.†

The Committee state that in order to discover why women are so reluctant to adopt a profession comparing favourably in many respects with other industrial occupations, they tried, as far as possible, to collect evidence from persons in touch with large numbers of actual or potential domestic workers, or with long experience of their troubles and desires. In addition to the oral evidence, from a total of 73 witnesses, a large number of written statements were received in the form of replies to a questionnaire issued by the Committee.

The Committee draw attention to the fact that the radical changes and improvements in the moral and material conditions of industrial life generally during the past half century—such as the limitation of the hours of work, recognised rates of pay, improved educational advantages, inspection of factories, the wider social and recreational opportunities open to increasing numbers of workers, and many other progressive developments—have not been so marked in domestic work. Formerly the conditions in the latter were very superior to those appertaining to workshop or factory, but the failure further to advance them has resulted in the relative attractions of industrial and domes-

\* When the mileage during any term of duty exceeds 125 miles, extra payment is made.

† Report to the Minister of Labour of the Committee appointed to enquire into the present conditions as to the supply of female domestic servants. H.M. Stationery Office. Price 6d. net. The names of the members of the Committee are given in the issues of this GAZETTE for April, 1923 (page 153) and for May, 1923 (page 194).

tic life being reversed. The Committee add that a great deal of unnecessary expenditure of time and energy might be obviated by a wider use of labour-saving devices, which they believe would do much to make domestic service more attractive to educated girls.

The Committee summarise their conclusions as follows:—

Domestic service being a skilled occupation, training through some channel is essential. The home life of a very large number of girls does not provide them with such training, and since it is extremely difficult to place untrained girls of fourteen in private houses nowadays, it is necessary to provide reasonable facilities for teaching young girls how to perform the work required of them. It is added that standards of efficiency are desirable in both the employers' and the employees' interests, and should in future be established by the usual methods of examination and certification.

It is desirable to obliterate as far as possible the distinction between domestic and other workers, and, therefore, the former should (again, as far as practicable) be included in schemes of industrial improvement.

Recognised conditions are desirable; but, having regard to the varying needs of individual homes, these cannot be established by legislation and must be left to local agreements.

The question of status is a very crucial one, which can only be influenced indirectly.

There is widespread misunderstanding as to the conditions governing the payment of Unemployment Benefit. The payment of Unemployment Benefit to women has very little to do with the shortage of domestic workers.

This shortage is being exploited by many registries in areas where no by-laws regulating their methods are in force.

The conditions of domestic service make it difficult for girls to take part in the recreations or interests open to other workers, and their needs in these directions require to be specially studied and catered for.

The extension of day work is difficult, because of the objection of private employers to any change in their accustomed procedure; but, with careful organisation, day workers could take a much larger share of the domestic work of the country than is at present considered feasible.

In view of these conclusions, the Committee make the following recommendations :—

### Training.

(a) Instruction in domestic science in all elementary schools for every girl between the ages of twelve and fourteen ;

(b) instruction in domestic science carried to a further point for all girls in central and secondary schools, and, in Scotland, in the schools corresponding to these;

(c) the provision of advanced scholarships or bursaries for girls desirous of completing a specialised training;

(d) the provision of whole-time vocational courses in suitable centres for girls over the age of fourteen;

(c) the giving of maintenance grants where necessary to individual pupils;

(f) the establishment of open examinations with certificates of proficiency.

Thus a child could be trained in domestic subjects either at an elementary school followed by a vocational course,

or at an elementary school and central school, whether or not followed by a vocational course,

or at an elementary school and secondary school, and then, in suitable cases, by a further course at a technical school,

in suitable cases, by a further course at a technical school, to enable her to qualify for a teacher or for other superior posts,

or at an elementary school followed by private training.  
In all cases examinations will enable students to provide

Until these sources of supply are developed the courses

arranged by the Central Committee for Women's Training (or similar ones) should be available for older girls or adults

wishing to transfer into the occupation; and, where these are not available, courses with a maintenance grant in lieu

of unemployment benefit should be instituted where the facilities for training can be arranged.

*Unemployment Benefit.*

The artificial distinction between various types of domestic workers should be obliterated as far as possible, by bringing all female domestic workers, wherever employed, under a scheme of insurance in addition to National Health Insurance; but in the case of women and girls in private domestic employment there should be, as an alternative to Unemployment Benefit, a scheme whereby a pension of 15s. a week should be obtainable at the age of fifty-five, and should continue until the Old Age Pension becomes payable, when it should be reduced by the amount of that pension. Contributors to the pension scheme should have the option of a cash payment on marriage in lieu of pension. Benefits under this scheme should come into operation as soon as possible, and in any case not later than three years hence.

*Distribution.*

The making of by-laws for the proper control and supervision of registry offices should be made compulsory upon Local Authorities.



## General.

(a) Special sub-committees should be established by the Local Employment Committees attached to Employment Exchanges to consider the problems in connection with domestic work and to endeavour to form local associations of employers and employees to agree upon conditions in their area;

(b) Female domestic workers who have attained the statutory age should be entitled to the Parliamentary vote on the same residence qualification as men.

The Committee specially draw attention to the desirability of unofficial organisations, such as the Young Women's Christian Association, the National Organisation of Girls' Clubs, etc., and private individuals, furthering by all means in their power the provision of better social, recreational, and educational advantages for domestic workers and the upholding of the dignity of domestic service as a skilled and honourable profession.

## REPORT OF PRISON OFFICERS' PAY COMMITTEE.

THE Committee appointed\* to inquire into the pay and conditions of service at the Prisons and Borstal Institutions in England and Scotland and at Broadmoor Criminal Lunatic Asylum have issued their Report.†

Representatives of the Prison Service claimed that they should be granted consolidated scales of pay equivalent, rank for rank, to those recommended by the Desborough Committee in 1919 for the Police Service. The Committee, however, express the opinion that the responsibilities of the Police Service and the qualifications of initiative and resource required of its members are definitely superior to those required of corresponding ranks of the Prison Service; and, after making comparisons with the Asylum Service and with some other occupations, they conclude that the present rates of pay of the subordinate ranks of the English Prison Service are generally adequate, but some improvements are recommended in the maximum pay of Officers and in the scales of certain other subordinate grades. They also recommend that, in view of the reductions in certain allowances proposed by them, the pay of existing officers be increased within the scale of 29s.—45s. by 1s. a week as from the date when such reductions take effect. They also recommend that a non-pensionable allowance of 3s. a week should be paid to officers serving in Borstal Institutions. Among other recommendations in regard to the subordinate grades the Committee suggest that the Clerk and Schoolmaster class should be extended to female officers; that promotion to Principal Officer should be by selection on individual merit, subject to a qualifying examination; that the present hours of duty should not be increased; that longer periods of annual leave should be granted; and that certain allowances should be increased and others abolished or revised.

The recommendations in regard to the superior grades include improved scales of pay for governors, chaplains, medical officers, assistant tutors, and lady superintendents, with increased allowances to governors.

Similar proposals are made in regard to the Scottish Prison Service, the pay and conditions of service of which should, the Committee think, be generally assimilated to those in England. The Committee also make various recommendations with regard to the staff in the Broadmoor Criminal Lunatic Asylum.

Appendices to the Report include statistics of (a) the risk of death or injury in, and (b) the present pay of each of the various ranks in the Prison Service; and (c) rates of wages in other comparable employments (police, railway service, postmen, building trades, engineering, &c.).

## OUTPUT, COSTS OF PRODUCTION AND PROCEEDS OF THE COAL MINING INDUSTRY.

A STATISTICAL summary‡ of output and of the costs of production, proceeds and profits of the coal mining industry for the quarter ended 30th June, 1923, prepared by the Mines Department in continuation of similar statements for earlier dates, shows that at undertakings which produced about 95 per cent. of the total quantity of saleable coal raised during the quarter, 65,527,464 tons of coal were raised, of which 60,094,456 tons were disposable commercially. The net costs, after deducting the proceeds of miners' coal, amounted to £51,724,937, equivalent to 17s. 2-57d. per ton, and the proceeds of commercial disposals to £61,400,723, equivalent to 20s. 5-21d. per ton. There was thus a credit balance of £9,675,786, or 3s. 2-64d. per ton. An analysis by districts shows that in South Staffs and Salop, Cumberland and Kent, the costs exceeded the proceeds; in other districts there were credit balances ranging from 1d. per ton in the Bristol district to 4s. 11-89d. per ton in Northumberland.

The number of workpeople employed was 1,102,380, the number of man-shifts worked was 73,205,708, and the number of man-shifts lost that could have been worked was 6,291,749. The average output per man-shift worked, based on the tonnage of saleable coal raised, was 17-90 cwts., the average for the districts ranging from 12-01 cwts. in the Bristol coalfield to 20-36 cwts. in Yorkshire and the East Midlands. The average earn-

ings per man-shift worked were 9s. 9-77d., the district figures ranging from 7s. 6-73d. in South Staffs and Salop to 12s. 4-53d. in Kent.

The following Table compares some of the more important figures in the return with those given in the returns for previous quarters in 1922 and 1923. The figures given relate in each case to Great Britain.

Quarter ended	Amount of saleable coal raised	Credit (+) or Debit (-) balance per ton*	No. of workpeople employed	Output per man-shift worked*	Earnings per man-shift worked
	Tons	s. d.		Cwts.	s. d.
31st March, 1922 ..	57,633,631	+1 1-62	1,020,207	18-23	11 0-18
30th June, 1922 ..	53,261,024	-0 0-17	1,025,592	17-80	10 2-51
30th Sept., 1922 ..	58,717,767	+1 1-00	1,027,853	17-94	9 3-97
31st Dec., 1922 ..	64,538,199	+1 6-39	1,068,594	18-10	9 5-23
31st March, 1923 ..	67,077,543	+2 5-32	1,087,733	18-25	9 7-72
30th June, 1923 ..	65,527,464	+3 2-64	1,104,380	17-90	9 9-77

## OUTPUT AND EMPLOYMENT AT METALLIFEROUS MINES, QUARRIES, ETC.

A RETURN† has been prepared by the Mines Department containing statistics as to the output of metalliferous mines and quarries in Great Britain and the Isle of Man, together with particulars as to the numbers employed, selling prices, etc., during the quarter ended 30th June, 1923.

*Iron Ore and Ironstone.*—The following Table gives the principal figures relating to iron ore and ironstone, with comparative figures taken from earlier returns for the previous quarters in 1922 and 1923:—

Quarter ended	Output (Tons).	Number of Man-Shifts Worked.	Average Number of days on which Mineral was gotten.	Number of Persons employed at end of Quarter.	
				Wage-earners.	Salaried persons.
1922:—					
March ..	1,246,466	495,869	52	9,453	390
June ..	1,601,420	649,395	58	10,651	390
September ..	1,840,677	709,861	60	12,366	375
December ..	2,182,994	935,328	66	14,385	426
1923:—					
March ..	2,572,625	1,022,573	67	15,346	429
June ..	2,950,166	1,072,765	69	15,853	443

*Other Ores and Minerals.*—The output of other ores and minerals in the quarter ended 30th June, 1923, included lead ore (dressed), 3,153 tons; barytes and witherite, 10,193 tons; and fluorspar, 11,888 tons. The average number of persons employed at the mines and quarries producing these minerals in the quarter ended 30th June was 4,217, of whom 4,065 were wage-earners and 152 were clerks and salaried persons. Of the wage-earners, 1,132 were employed in the production of lead and zinc, 1,897 of tin and arsenic, etc., and 1,036 of other minerals.

## PROCEEDINGS OF JOINT INDUSTRIAL COUNCILS AND INTERIM INDUSTRIAL RECONSTRUCTION COMMITTEES IN OCTOBER.

DURING the four weeks ended the 27th October, 1923, 19 meetings of Joint Industrial Councils and one meeting of an Interim Industrial Reconstruction Committee were reported to the Ministry of Labour. A number of meetings of District Councils and Sub-Committees were also reported to have been held.

### WAGES, HOURS, AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT.

At a meeting of the *Gas Mantle* Joint Industrial Council, held on 1st October, it was agreed that the wages agreement, which would have expired on 8th October, should be continued for a further period of six months.

An arbitrator, who was appointed by the National Joint Industrial Council for the *Tramways Industry* to arbitrate upon a claim by the employees for the higher grading of the Ashton-under-Lyne tramways, has decided in favour of the men.

At a meeting of the *Soap and Candle Trade* Joint Industrial Council on the 12th October, an application for a reduction of wages of shift workers, which had been adjourned from the previous meeting, was withdrawn.

The Joint Industrial District Council for the *Export Packing and Cloth Working Industries (London Area)*, at a meeting on 25th October, agreed that the reduction due under the sliding scale for the past quarter should not operate. The sliding scale is to continue in operation, and the workers are to accept without question any reduction which may be due in January next.

Two new lists of piecework prices have been approved by the National Joint Industrial Council for the *Hosiery Trade*.

### OTHER TOPICS.

At meetings held on 11th and 30th October the National Joint Industrial Council for the *Tramways Industry* agreed that the Metropolitan District Council may approach the Govern-

\* See MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE for April, 1923 (p. 153).

† Cmd. 1959. H.M. Stationery Office. Price 9d. net.

‡ Cmd. 1972. H.M. Stationery Office. Price 2d.

\* Calculated on the quantity of coal disposable commercially.

† Published by H.M. Stationery Office. Price 4d.



ment with regard to the control of passenger transport services in the Metropolitan Area.

The *Heating and Domestic Engineering* Joint Industrial Council has given further consideration to the question of education.

The National Joint Council for *Insurance Committees' Administrative, Technical, and Clerical Services* has approved the principles of a proposed scheme for voluntary superannuation.

Amongst other questions discussed at the meetings of various Councils were: annual leave with pay, overtime for travelling, travelling after yard hours, the functions of yard committees, and the Bill for the Employment and Maintenance of Disabled ex-Service men.

## EMPLOYMENT OF EX-SERVICE MEN.

At 30th October, 1923, the number of men in training was 10,801, and the number awaiting training 6,016. Since August, 1919, 77,662 men have terminated training.

On the 31st October, 1923, the names of 28,051 employers were entered upon the King's National Roll.

### NATIONAL SCHEME.

The undertakings given by these employers under the provisions of the National Scheme for the Employment of Disabled Ex-Service Men cover approximately 330,000 disabled ex-Service men.

The following statement gives particulars of the number of Local Authorities in Great Britain of the categories referred to below who have enrolled under the Scheme and whose names are accordingly entered upon the King's National Roll:—

Local Authority.	On the Roll.	Not on the Roll.			Total.
		Enrol-ment has been promised.	According to present information employ only a small staff.	Not included in cols. (2) and (3).	
<b>ENGLAND.</b>					
<i>London</i> —	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
County Council .. ..	1	—	—	—	1
Corporation of City of London	1	—	—	—	1
Metropolitan Boroughs ..	28	—	—	—	28
Boards of Guardians ..	23	2	—	3	28
Totals .. ..	53	2	—	3	58
<i>Provinces</i> —					
County Councils .. ..	41	1	—	8	50
County Boroughs .. ..	79	—	—	—	79
Town Councils .. ..	176	8	9	33	226
Urban District Councils ..	419	8	218	76	721
Rural District Councils ..	172	7	113	288	580
Boards of Guardians ..	161	16	115	266	553
Totals .. ..	1,048	40	455	671	2,214
<b>WALES.</b>					
County Councils .. ..	6	2	—	4	12
County Boroughs .. ..	3	—	—	—	3
Town Councils .. ..	18	—	—	9	27
Urban District Councils ..	30	—	28	3	61
Rural District Councils ..	13	1	25	29	68
Boards of Guardians ..	11	1	12	23	47
Totals .. ..	81	4	65	68	218
<b>SCOTLAND.</b>					
County Councils .. ..	11	—	—	22	33
County District Committees	28	—	—	71	99
Town Councils .. ..	82	3	60	56	201
Parish Councils .. ..	8	5	920	27	960
Education Authorities ..	6	—	—	31	37
Totals .. ..	135	8	980	207	1,330
GRAND TOTALS ..	1,317	54	1,500	949	3,820

## COST OF LIVING IN NORTHERN IRELAND.

In September, 1922, the Minister of Labour for Northern Ireland appointed a Departmental Committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. J. H. Robb, K.C., M.P., "to consider the cost of living in Northern Ireland as compared with that in Great Britain, and the causes of differences, and to make such recommendations as they think proper, and to report on the advisability of publishing a separate cost of living index number for Northern Ireland."

An interim Report was presented by the Committee in December, 1922, and was noticed on page 47 of the issue of this GAZETTE for February, 1923, and the final Report† has now been published.

With regard to the cost of living in Northern Ireland as compared with that in Great Britain, the Committee in their final

report refer to the conclusions respecting food which were stated in their interim Report, which they confirm and amplify.

One general conclusion given in the interim report was that "there is at present no large difference in the cost of food between Northern Ireland and Great Britain." This conclusion is now confirmed, though difficulties arising from uncertainty as to equivalence of quality in the articles whose prices are recorded make it impossible to reach a more precise general judgment. The committee are, however, inclined, after balancing many minor points of evidence, to the following additional conclusion, viz., that whereas families in Great Britain which can afford best quality in all articles of diet would have to pay for their food as much as, or even a little more than, a Northern Ireland family, families in Great Britain which choose a dietary including lower priced imported foods can feed themselves more cheaply than is possible for families in Northern Ireland who are similarly unable to afford best quality foodstuffs.

The other general conclusion of the interim report was that "the relative increase in the cost of food over the 1914 level is higher in Northern Ireland than in the United Kingdom"—the greater increase being principally due to the Ulster preference for home-killed meat. This conclusion the committee amplify, stating that there is little doubt that retail prices of food reached a much higher level in Northern Ireland than in Great Britain; but the decline of prices from the peak point has also been greater in Northern Ireland, and at the present time the difference in increase of price over July, 1914, would be eliminated by a decrease of approximately 2 per cent. in the cost of food in Northern Ireland.

Reviewing the working-class budget as a whole, the position of Northern Ireland in relation to Great Britain is summarised as follows:—"Comparisons of prices reveal no marked difference in the cost of food. From the limited data available it appears, however, that the North of Ireland is at a disadvantage in the matter of prices of fuel and, in certain districts, of light. We believe that although no marked disadvantage exists in the case of clothing and miscellaneous articles, there is probably on balance a slight excess of cost here. In the matter of rents and rates, whilst the precise present position is obscure, it seems to be admitted that prior to the War the North of Ireland had the advantage, and we have no evidence which suggests that the relative situation in the two areas has been reversed."

Referring to the causes of the high cost of living, the committee discuss the alleged influence of (a) high wages, (b) excessive profits, and (c) high transport charges. In regard to high wages, the committee report that attention tended to be concentrated on particular cases without consideration of the broad relation between the change in the cost of living since 1914 and the average change in money wages since that date, and that the possible influence of this factor often appeared to have been exaggerated. In regard to allegations of excessive profits, the committee, speaking broadly, found little evidence of the influence of trade associations or combines on the movement of prices to the prejudice of the consumer, and they are of opinion that, with certain exceptions which are noted, the importance of this factor in raising the cost of living has been exaggerated in popular discussion. As regards transport charges, the committee report that, although reductions in fares and freight charges and in the price of petrol ought, in their opinion, to be made, it is not to be expected that they will very materially influence the general cost of living. Reference is also made to the high cost of building, to education as a factor in the cost of living, to credit buying, and to municipal trading.

The committee had evidence both for and against the proposal for a separate cost of living index number for Northern Ireland, and they report that both those who supported and those who were antagonistic to the proposal appeared to have in mind its possible effect upon the settlement of wages. The committee observe that the existing British cost of living index number "came into existence during the War, and has been used in the abnormal times during and since the War as a factor in the regulation of wages. We do not think such use will be a permanent feature of our industrial system, but that as trade becomes more stable, wages will be regulated mainly by other considerations. Where wages are already regulated with reference to the index number, they have been fixed on the basis of the Imperial number, and the introduction of a separate number for Northern Ireland would create an element of confusion in the interpretation of existing contracts.

"Even as to the future regulation of wages we see strong reasons against the use of a separate number for Northern Ireland. In our principal industries wages are the same as or are generally fixed in sympathy with wages in Great Britain, since such industries form a part of groups of industries which exist throughout the United Kingdom, and it would be introducing a new and disturbing factor to employ a separate index number for Northern Ireland: and as Northern Ireland has to compete with Great Britain in common markets, such factors should be avoided where possible.

"At the present time it is not possible to frame a separate index number for Northern Ireland on the same lines as the Imperial index number, because, except as to food, 1914 prices for Northern Ireland are not sufficiently known, and in our opinion cannot now be obtained in such a way as to make them a reliable basis for such calculations. We do not, therefore, recommend that any attempt should be made to publish a separate cost of living index number for Northern Ireland at present."

The committee recommend, however, the collection and publication of various statistical data as to housing and prices.

\* The Metropolitan Asylums Board is also on the Roll.

† "Final Report of the Departmental Committee on the Cost of Living." Cmd. 20. Published by H.M. Stationery Office, Belfast, and to be purchased (price 1s. 6d.) through any bookseller or directly from W. Erskine Mayne, Donegall Square West, Belfast.



## RECENT LABOUR LEGISLATION IN INDIA.

A SHORT summary of the provisions of two Acts affecting labour in India, which have received the assent of the Governor-General this year, and which come into force on 1st July, 1924, is given below. Both Acts extend to the whole of British India, including British Baluchistan and the Sonthal Parganas.

(1) *Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923.*\*—This Act provides that the employer shall be liable to pay compensation to a workman who suffers personal injury caused by an accident arising out of and in the course of his employment, except where the injury does not result in the total or partial disablement of the workman for a period exceeding ten days, or where it is directly attributable to the workman's own fault or neglect. Certain occupational diseases, such as anthrax, lead or phosphorus poisoning, are classed as accidents, under defined conditions, and the Governor-General is given power to extend the list. Schedule I. gives a list of injuries deemed to result in permanent partial disablement, with an assessment of the percentage loss of earning capacity. Schedule II. contains a list of persons who, subject to the provisions of section 2 (1) (n) of the Act, are included in the definition of "workman." Generally this term includes persons whose employment is not of a casual nature, and who are employed for the purpose of the employer's trade or business, either by way of manual labour or on monthly wages not exceeding three hundred rupees. Railwaymen, tramway workers, persons employed in mines, factories, the loading and unloading of ships, building (subject to certain limitations), telegraph and telephone workmen, firemen, sewer-men and seamen are specifically covered by the Act.

The maximum amount of compensation for (a) injury resulting in death is, in the case of an adult, a sum equal to thirty months' wages or 2,500 rupees, whichever is less, and, in the case of a minor, 200 rupees; for (b) injury resulting in permanent total disablement, in the case of an adult, a sum equal to forty-two months' wages or 3,500 rupees, whichever is less, and, in the case of a minor, a sum equal to eighty-four months' wages or 3,500 rupees, whichever is less. Permanent partial disablement is to be compensated as a percentage of the amount payable for permanent total disablement on the scale given in Schedule I. Rules for the calculation of the monthly wages of a workman are laid down.

In the event of the insolvency or liquidation of an employer or company that has entered into a contract with insurers in respect of a liability under the Act to any workman, the rights of the employer against the insurers in regard to that liability are to be transferred to and vested in the workman. If the liability of the insurers to the workman is less than the liability of the employer to the workman, the workman may prove for the balance in the insolvency proceedings or liquidation.

Any question that arises in proceedings under the Act as to the liability of any person to pay compensation or as to the amount or duration of compensation is, in default of agreement, to be settled by a Commissioner, to be appointed by the Local Government, and to be known as the Commissioner for Workmen's Compensation for the area specified in the notification of appointment. The Commissioner is given all the powers of a Civil Court, under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, to take evidence on oath, which he may impose, to enforce the attendance of witnesses, and to compel the production of documents and material objects. Other powers in regard to the review, commutation and distribution of compensation payments, the medical examination of injured workmen, etc., etc., are assigned to the Commissioner, who will, apparently, fulfil the functions of umpire, trustee, registrar and judge in the administration of the Act, subject to the right of appeal against his decisions, in certain cases, to the High Court.

(2) *Regulation of Hours and Labour in Mines.*—Chapter VI. of the Indian Mines Act, 1923,† provides that no person shall be employed in a mine for more than six days a week, or for more than sixty hours in any one week, if he works above ground, or more than fifty-four hours in any one week if he works underground. This provision does not apply to persons holding positions of supervision or management or employed in a confidential capacity, and it may be suspended, under certain conditions, when an emergency arises involving serious risk to the safety of the mine or of persons employed therein.

It is further provided that no child, defined as a person under the age of thirteen years, shall be employed in a mine, or allowed to be present in any part of a mine which is below ground. For every mine there must be kept in the prescribed form and place a register of all persons employed in the mine, of their hours of work, of their days of rest, and of the nature of their respective employments.

The penalties provided for infractions of the Act or of any rules or bye-laws made thereunder may extend to five hundred rupees.

## UNEMPLOYMENT IN GERMANY: TWO EMERGENCY ORDERS.†

THE German Government, making use of the emergency powers conferred upon it by an Act dated 13th October, has issued two Orders for dealing with the unemployment situation.

\* Act No. VIII. of 1923, to provide for the payment by certain classes of employers to their workmen of compensation for injury by accident. *Labour Gazette*, Bombay, No. 8, 1923.

† Act No. IV. of 1923, to amend and consolidate the law relating to the regulation and inspection of mines. *Labour Gazette*, Bombay, No. 9, 1923.

‡ *Deutscher Reichsanzeiger*, 16th, 24th and 26th October, 1923. Berlin.

(I.) The first of these Orders, which is designed to provide funds for the relief of the unemployed, introduces the principle, entirely new in Germany, of requiring contributions from employers and workpeople towards the cost of relieving unemployment.

The funds necessary for the relief of unemployment and under-employment are to be provided by means of contributions from employers and workers, together with subsidies from the local authorities. All workers subject to compulsory sickness insurance, and the employers of such workers, are obliged to contribute. The amount of the contribution is to be fixed by the Administrative Committee of the Public Employment Exchange for the district, and is to be a proportion of the health insurance contribution. Contributions are to be fixed at a sum which will cover four-fifths of the necessary expenditure on unemployment relief in the district and the necessary costs of the Public Employment Exchange. They must not, however, save in exceptional circumstances, exceed 20 per cent. of the health insurance contributions. Employers and workers are each to pay half.

Contributions are to take the form of additions to health insurance contributions, and are to be paid along with these. The health insurance societies will transfer the contributions immediately to the Commune administering the Employment Exchange to whose district they belong. The local authority has to provide one-fifth of the expenditure necessary for unemployment relief, but the sum must not exceed one-quarter of the contributions of employers and workers. When the maximum contributions from all these sources are, temporarily, inadequate in districts where unemployment is very great, the Reich and the State are to supply the necessary assistance in equal shares.

The nature, amount and duration of unemployment relief are to be fixed by administrative regulations to be issued by the Minister of Labour. Within the limits of these regulations the Administrative Committees of the Employment Exchanges are competent to decide as regards their respective districts. The chairman of the Public Employment Exchange decides on claims to relief, and the Administrative Committee on grievances.

Unemployed persons are obliged to accept work even outside their trade or home district. In general, the Administrative Committee of an Employment Exchange must insist on the performance of a certain amount of work as a condition for the grant of relief, and such work must be of public utility. For unemployed persons under 18, if suitable work is not available, relief must be made dependent on attendance at technical or general education classes.

In the first set of administrative regulations it is prescribed that if the contributions of employers, workers and communes of a district should be more than sufficient to provide relief for unemployed and short-time workers, and journey and equipment money for unemployed workers taking up a job, the local authority shall take other measures calculated to reduce unemployment, particularly by starting emergency relief works. Such relief works must in general be carried out by public corporations; and by private undertakings only if they are working for objects of public utility. Profit-making undertakings must not be assisted. The amount of assistance, which is to take the form of short-term "real value" loans, or, in exceptional cases, of subsidies, is to be in proportion to the amount saved in payment of unemployment relief. Wages on such relief works are to be fixed at a rate which will not remove the incentive to seek other work. If wages are fixed at collective agreement rates, no relief worker is to be employed for more than an average of 36 hours a week. If there is not sufficient work for all the unemployed in a district, they are to work in shifts to be changed at least once a month.

(II.) The second Order, dated 15th October, is designed to prevent (a) the closing down of works in the present crisis without previous investigation into the necessity for such action, and (b) the discharge of large bodies of workers if they can be retained in employment by a sharing of work.

It requires owners of industrial and transport undertakings in which at least 20 workers are ordinarily employed to notify the Demobilisation Authorities before they dismantle any plant or dispose of any machinery or materials belonging to their concerns, if such action would seriously diminish their productive capacity. A similar notification must be sent before any department of a concern can be closed down, if the closing would entail the discharge of 10 workers in concerns employing less than 200 persons, and 5 per cent. of the workers in larger concerns. Without the consent of the Demobilisation Authorities, dismantling of plant or disposal of machinery and materials must not be effected in less than six weeks, nor works closed down in less than four weeks, after the date of notification.

Discharges which exceed the limits prescribed above may not be made without the consent of the Demobilisation Authorities. If the employer is unable to employ the workers fully during the prescribed periods these Authorities may order a reduction of working hours, but the weekly hours of a worker must not be reduced to less than 24. In such cases the employer is entitled to make a proportionate reduction in wages or salaries.

Immediately on receiving notification, the Authorities must examine the position in conjunction with the management and the works council, and, if necessary, with economic experts; and consider suitable measures for relieving the economic difficulties of the undertaking. The Authorities may order the postponement of any proposed dismantling of machinery for a period not exceeding three months. They may also lay an embargo on plant, machinery and materials that the owner proposes to dismantle or dispose of, and commandeer them for the benefit of the State Treasury, or transfer them to some other person nominated by them. In both cases suitable compensation will be paid.



## CHANGES IN COST OF LIVING: STATISTICS FOR 1st NOVEMBER.

## Summary: Average Increases since July, 1914.

All Items included	...	...	...	75%
Food only	...	...	...	73%

DURING October there was a further increase in the retail prices of eggs. Fish and milk were also slightly dearer, on average, at 1st November than a month earlier. On the other hand, there was a fall during the month of nearly 1d. per lb. in the average price of bacon, and of about ½d. per 4 lbs. in the average price of bread, while potatoes, meat and flour also became slightly cheaper.

As a net result of all the changes recorded, the average increase over the level of July, 1914, in the retail prices (in Great Britain and Northern Ireland) of the articles of food included in these statistics rose to about 73 per cent. at 1st November, as compared with about 72 per cent. at 1st October.

In the following Table is given a comparison of retail prices of these articles of food in July, 1914, at 1st October, 1923, and at 1st November, 1923:—

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated— to the nearest ½d.)			Average Inc (+) or Dec. (—) at 1st Nov., 1923, as compared with	
	July, 1914.	1st Oct., 1923.	1st Nov., 1923.	July, 1914.	1st Oct., 1923.
Beef, British—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Ribs .. ..	0 10	1 5½	1 5½	+ 0 7½	— 0 0½
Thin Flank .. ..	0 6½	0 10½	0 10	+ 0 3½	— 0 0½
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—					
Ribs .. ..	0 7½	0 10½	0 10½	+ 0 3	—
Thin Flank .. ..	0 4½	0 5½	0 5½	+ 0 0½	—
Mutton, British—					
Legs .. ..	0 10½	1 8	1 7½	+ 0 9½	— 0 0½
Breast .. ..	0 6½	0 11½	0 11	+ 0 4½	— 0 0½
Mutton, Frozen—					
Legs .. ..	0 6½	1 0½	1 0½	+ 0 5½	—
Breast .. ..	0 4	0 6½	0 5½	+ 0 1½	—
Bacon (streaky)* ..	0 11½	1 6½	1 5½	+ 0 6½	— 0 1
Flour .. per 7 lb.	0 10½	1 3½	1 3	+ 0 4½	— 0 0½
Bread .. per 4 lb.	0 5½	0 8½	0 8½	+ 0 2½	— 0 0½
Tea .. ..	1 5½	2 6½	2 6½	+ 1 0½	—
Sugar (granulated) ..	0 2	0 6½	0 6½	+ 0 4½	—
Milk .. per quart	0 3½	0 6½	0 6½	+ 0 3	—
Butter—					
Fresh .. ..	1 2½	2 0½	2 0½	+ 0 10	+ 0 0½
Salt .. ..	1 2½	1 11½	1 11½	+ 0 9	— 0 0½
Cheese† .. ..	0 8½	1 3½	1 3½	+ 0 6½	—
Margarine .. ..	0 7	0 6½	0 6½	— 0 0½	—
Eggs (fresh) .. each	0 1½	0 2½	0 3½	+ 0 2	+ 0 0½
Potatoes .. per 7 lb.	0 4½	0 8	0 7½	+ 0 2½	— 0 0½

The following Table gives a percentage comparison of the level of retail prices at the same three dates:—

Article.	Average Percentage Increase at 1st Nov., 1923, as compared with July, 1914.			Corre- sponding figure for 1st October, 1923.
	Large Towns (Popula- tions over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	General Average.	
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Beef, British—				
Ribs .. ..	80	73	77	78
Thin Flank .. ..	50	53	51	53
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—				
Ribs .. ..	42	37	39	40
Thin Flank .. ..	11	16	14	15
Mutton, British .. ..	90	90	90	92
Legs .. ..	71	68	69	71
Mutton, Frozen .. ..	86	70	78	79
Legs .. ..	28	27	27	29
Breast .. ..	64	55	59	67
Bacon (streaky)* .. ..	120	103	111	106
Fish .. ..				
Flour .. ..	41	45	43	44
Bread .. ..	47	46	47	51
Tea .. ..	65	68	66	67
Sugar (granulated) ..	226	206	216	218
Milk .. ..	85	90	88	82
Butter—				
Fresh .. ..	65	73	69	67
Salt .. ..	64	65	64	65
Cheese† .. ..	76	78	77	76
Margarine .. ..	— 3	— 7	— 5	— 6
Eggs (fresh) .. ..	162	177	169	117
Potatoes .. ..	62	41	51	64
All above articles of Food (Weighted Percentage Increase).	74	72	73	72

\* If this kind is seldom dealt with in a locality, the returns quote the price of another kind locally representative.

† The description of cheese specified for quotation is Canadian or American, but where such cheese is seldom sold in a locality the returns quote the price of another kind locally representative.

## RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT.

As regards *rents*, inquiries into the changes which have taken effect under the Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Act indicate that the average increase in rents of working-class dwellings between July, 1914, and 1st November, 1923, was approximately 47 per cent. Of the total increase, about two-fifths is accounted for by increases on account of rates and water charges and about two-fifths is on account of the landlord's responsibility for repairs, increases on account of the higher level of mortgage interest permitted by the Act falling within the remaining one-fifth.

As regards *clothing*, owing to the wide range of quotations, both now and before the war, to changes in qualities, and in stocks held by retailers, and to variations in the extent to which different articles and qualities have been affected by price changes, it is impossible to make an exact calculation of the increase in prices; but information as to the movements of prices of men's suits and overcoats, underclothing and hosiery, textile materials and boots, received from retailers in the principal towns, indicates that at 1st November the level of retail prices of articles in this group, taking goods of the kinds purchased by the working classes and so far as possible the same qualities of goods at each date, was about the same as a month earlier and approximately 120 per cent. higher than in July, 1914.

In the *fuel and light* group the average retail prices of coal rose slightly during October, and at 1st November they were between 85 and 90 per cent. above those of July, 1914. The prices of gas and lamp oil remained at about 55 per cent. above the pre-war level, and the prices of candles and matches also showed no appreciable change during the month. Taking the fuel and light group as a whole, the average increase at 1st November, as compared with July, 1914, was about 80 per cent.

## ALL ITEMS.

If the average increases in the cost of all the foregoing items are combined in accordance with their relative importance in pre-war working-class family expenditure, allowance being also made for the increase in the prices of soap, soda, domestic ironmongery, brushware and pottery, tobacco, fares and newspapers (averaging about 80 per cent.), the resultant general average increase for 1st November is approximately 71 per cent.\* over the pre-war level, or about the same as at 1st October.

The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities and, as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are taken in 1923 as in 1914) is to show the *average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families* (i.e., the standard actually prevailing in working-class families before the war, irrespective of whether such standard was adequate or not). Owing to the variations in the amounts of increase in the prices of different commodities it is probable that economies or re-adjustments in expenditure have been effected in many families, especially in those cases where incomes have not increased so much as prices. On the other hand, it is probable that the standard of living has been raised in some families in which wages have been increased in greater proportion than prices. No allowance is made in the figures for any such alterations in the standard of living, as to which trustworthy statistics are not available.

## SUMMARY TABLE: 1915 TO 1923.

The following Table shows the average percentage increase, as compared with July, 1914, for all items included in the statistics, at the beginning of each month since January, 1915:—

*Average Percentage Increase since July, 1914—All Items.*  
(Food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, &c.)

Month (beginning of).	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.
January ..	10-15	35	65	85-90	120	125	165	92	78
February ..	15	35	65-70	90	120	130	161	88	77
March ..	15-20	35-40	70	90	115	130	141	86	76
April ..	15-20	35-40	70-75	90-95	110	132	133	82	74
May ..	20	40-45	75	95-100	105	141	128	81	70
June ..	25	45	75-80	100	105	150	119	80	69
July ..	25	45-50	80	100-105	105-110	152	119	84	69
August ..	25	45-50	80	110	115	155	122	81	71
September ..	25	50	80-85	110	115	161	120	79	73
October ..	30	50-55	75-80	115-120	120	164	110	78	75
November ..	30-35	60	85	120-125	125	176	103	80	75
December ..	35	65	85	120	125	169	99	80	—

## NOTE.

A brief Statement of the method of compiling these statistics was given on page 236 of the July issue of this GAZETTE. A more detailed account was given in the issue of February, 1921.

\* If the amount of increased taxation on commodities is deducted, the average increase at 1st November, 1923, is about 5 per cent. less.



## EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER.

## GENERAL SUMMARY.

THERE was little change on the whole in the state of employment during October. It was good in the coal mining industry and in the tinplate and steel sheet trades; fairly good in the coach building and carpet trades; and fair in the building, brickmaking, jute and leather industries, and in some sections of the metal trades. In most of the other large industries it was slack or bad. As compared with the previous month there was an improvement in the coal-mining, in tinplate and steel sheet manufacture, and in the pottery trades, but a slight decline in iron and steel manufacture.

## SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.\*

Among members of Trade Unions from which returns were received the percentage of unemployed was 10·9 at the end of October, compared with 11·3 at the end of September and with 14·0 at the end of October, 1922. Among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts, numbering approximately 11,500,000, and working in practically every industry except agriculture and private domestic service, the percentage unemployed at 22nd October was 11·7, compared with 11·7 at 24th September and 12·3 at the end of October, 1922. For males alone the percentage was 12·4 at the 22nd October, as compared with 12·3 at the 24th September; for females the corresponding figures were 9·8 and 10·0. The number of workpeople on the Live Registers of the Employment Exchanges at 29th October was approximately 1,296,000, of whom men numbered 970,000 and women 246,000, the remainder being boys and girls. The corresponding total for 1st October was 1,285,000, of whom 955,000 were men and 244,000 were women. (It should be noted that some unemployed persons—e.g., some of those who have not valid claims to unemployment benefit, or who are not insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, do not register at the Employment Exchanges, and the Live Register figures, therefore, do not indicate the total number unemployed.)

## EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

**Mining and Quarrying.**—At coal mines employment showed a further improvement and was good. The total number of wage-earners on the colliery books at 27th October was 1,175,487, an increase of 5·5 per cent. as compared with October, 1922. The average number of days worked per week by the pits in the fortnight ended 27th October was 5·56, as compared with 5·37 in September, and 5·44 in October, 1922.

At iron mines employment showed little general change; in the Cleveland district it continued bad. At the mines covered by the returns received there was an increase of 15 per cent. in the numbers employed as compared with October, 1922. The average number of days worked per week by the mines in the fortnight ended 27th October was 5·24, as compared with 5·50 in October, 1922. At shale mines employment continued fair. Employment at limestone quarries was affected by bad weather, but otherwise continued good in the Buxton district and fair in the Clitheroe district; it remained slack in the Weardale district. Employment continued good at granite quarries, and fair at slate quarries. A decline was reported at whinstone quarries in the East of Scotland and at Clee Hill road material quarries; at china clay quarries employment continued good.

**Manufacture of Pig Iron, Iron and Steel and Tinplate.**—Employment in the pig-iron industry continued bad. Of a total of 487 furnaces, the number in blast at the end of October was 188, as compared with 190 at the end of September, and 151 in October, 1922. The numbers employed showed an increase of 7 per cent. as compared with October, 1922. At iron and steel works employment was slack on the whole, and showed a slight decline as compared with the previous month. In the tinplate and steel sheet trade employment was good, and better than during the previous month. At the end of October 532 mills were reported to be in operation, as compared with 513 in September, and 466 in October, 1922.

**Engineering, Shipbuilding and other Metal Trades.**—Employment in the engineering trade remained bad on the whole, and was rather worse than in the previous month. The textile engineering section showed a further decline, and marine engineering continued to suffer the effects of the shipbuilding dispute. In railway and electrical engineering employment continued fair, and showed an improvement. Employment in the shipbuilding and ship-repairing industries continued very bad; the lock-out of platers, riveters, etc., at the yards of members of the Shipbuilding Employers' Federation continued throughout the month; many yards were entirely closed, and work at others practically at a standstill. Employment was fair in the brasswork, tube, wire, stove and grate and hollow-ware trades; and slack or bad in the bedstead, nut, bolt and nail, lock and latch, cutlery and file, needle, chain and anchor, sheet metal, jewellery and plated-ware trades.

**Textile Trades.**—In the cotton trade employment continued bad, except with spinners of Egyptian cotton, who continued to be well employed. There was, however, an improvement in the American spinning branch. In the woollen and worsted trade employment continued bad. Employment in the hosiery trade also continued bad on the whole, but a slight improvement was reported in certain centres towards the end of the month.

In the silk trade employment was moderate in the Eastern

Counties, and bad in the Macclesfield, Leek and Congleton district; in the lace trade employment also continued bad. In the jute trade employment continued fair on the whole. In the linen trade it continued slack, but a slight improvement was reported in Ireland. In the carpet trade employment remained good at Kidderminster and fairly good in Scotland; in the textile bleaching, printing, dyeing and finishing trades employment continued slack on the whole.

**Clothing Trades.**—In the bespoke branch of the tailoring trades employment showed an improvement, and was fair on the whole; in the ready-made branch it was slack, and a decline was reported in some centres. In the corset trade employment continued slack; in the dressmaking and women's light clothing trades a decline was reported in certain districts. In the felt hat trade it declined, and was only moderate. In the boot and shoe trades employment continued slack on the whole. In the leather trades it continued fair generally in the tanning and currying section, and in the portmanteau, trunk and fancy leather section; but with saddle and harness makers it remained bad.

**Building, Woodworking, etc.**—Employment in the building trades continued generally fair, except with painters and labourers. It was good with bricklayers and masons, in which classes a shortage of labour was reported in a number of districts, fairly good with plasterers and carpenters and joiners; and fair with plumbers. With painters there was a further decline, and employment was poor; with builders' labourers it continued generally bad. In the brick trade employment was fair.

In the furnishing trades employment continued quiet or moderate. With coachbuilders it was fairly good generally; with millsawyers and woodcutting machinists it was slack; at Birmingham and Bristol, however, it improved to fair; with coopers it was fair generally, but good at Edinburgh and slack at Nottingham, Liverpool and Dundee. Employment with brush, basket and packing-case makers continued slack.

**Paper Manufacture, Printing and Bookbinding.**—Employment in the paper trade continued moderate on the whole; in many districts the mills were still working irregularly. With letterpress printers employment showed a further slight decline in London, and continued fair on the whole in the provinces, though it was reported as bad and worse than a month ago at Leeds, Manchester and Newcastle-on-Tyne. It was again reported as good with electrotypers and stereotypers in London. In the lithographic printing trade employment continued moderate. With bookbinders employment remained slack, but showed a further slight improvement in London and was good at Edinburgh.

**Pottery and Glass.**—In the pottery trades employment showed a further slight improvement, and, though still slack generally, was good in the tile section, and fair in the sanitary earthenware and fireclay sections. In the glass trades employment was slack on the whole.

**Agriculture and Fishing.**—With potato and root lifting in progress there was a demand for casual agricultural labour, but in several districts the workers were not fully employed. In the fishing industry employment continued fair generally.

**Dock Labour and Seamen.**—Employment with dock labourers was only moderate and slightly worse than during the previous month. With seamen employment was slack on the whole, and at almost all ports large numbers of men were unemployed.

The following Table shows the percentages unemployed (a) among members of those Trade Unions from which returns are obtained, and (b) among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland month by month since January, 1922 :—

Date. (End of Month.)	Percentages unemployed among	
	Trade Unions making Returns.	Insured Workpeople.*
1922.		
January ..	16·8	17·2
February ..	16·3	16·6
March ..	16·3	15·6
April ..	17·0	15·4
May ..	16·4	14·2
June ..	15·7	13·3
July ..	14·6	12·8
August ..	14·4	12·5
September ..	14·6	12·4
October ..	14·0	12·3
November ..	14·2	12·7
December ..	14·0	12·6
1923.		
January ..	13·7	13·1
February ..	13·1	12·2
March ..	12·3	11·5
April ..	11·3	11·4
May ..	11·3	11·2
June ..	11·1	11·3
July ..	11·1	11·5
August ..	11·4	11·8
September ..	11·3	11·7
October ..	10·9	11·7

\* The percentages for insured workpeople have been revised, since their publication in previous issues of this GAZETTE, in accordance with the more complete information which has now become available as to the total numbers of insured persons.

\* The figures relate to Great Britain and Northern Ireland.



**TRADE UNION PERCENTAGES of UNEMPLOYED.**

TRADE unions with a net membership of 1,155,306, in branches covered by the returns received, reported 125,456 (or 10.9 per cent.) of their members as unemployed at the end of October, 1923, compared with 11.3 per cent. at the end of September, 1923, and 14.0 per cent. at the end of October, 1922.

Trade.	Member-ship of Unions reporting at end of Oct., 1923.	Unemployed at end of October, 1923.*		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentage Unemployed as compared with a	
		Num-ber.	Per-cent- age.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Building† .. ..	120,910	5,082	4.2	- 0.5†	- 3.1
Coal Mining .. ..	140,962	1,279	0.9	-	- 7.9
Engineering and Ship- building .. ..	382,017	83,449	21.8	- 0.6	- 5.8
Miscellaneous Metal ..	52,325	5,000	9.6	+ 0.1	- 2.4
Textiles :-					
Cotton .. ..	60,016	5,309	8.9†	+ 0.1	+ 3.0
Woollen and Worsted	12,220	528	4.3	- 0.1	+ 3.2
Other .. ..	58,411	2,423	4.1	- 0.2	+ 0.1
Printing, Bookbinding and Paper .. ..	98,342	4,806	4.9	+ 0.2	- 0.9
Furnishing .. ..	25,708	1,759	6.8	- 0.2	+ 0.9
Woodworking .. ..	45,015	2,397	5.3	- 0.3	- 2.6
Clothing :-					
Boot and Shoe..	75,783	3,875	5.1	- 0.7	+ 1.2
Other Clothing ..	43,771	1,159	2.6	+ 0.2	-
Leather .. ..	5,859	582	9.9	+ 0.3	+ 1.5
Glass .. ..	1,216	28	2.3	+ 0.3	- 1.7
Pottery .. ..	28,000	7,025	25.1	- 0.2	+ 7.8
Tobacco§ .. ..	4,751	755	15.9	- 8.2	- 15.7
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>1,155,306</b>	<b>125,456</b>	<b>10.9</b>	<b>- 0.4</b>	<b>- 3.1</b>

**UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED TRADES.**

The percentage unemployed among workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Act in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 11.7½ per cent. (males 12.4 per cent., females 9.8 per cent.) at 22nd October, as compared with 11.7½ per cent. (males 12.3 per cent., females 10.0 per cent.) at 24th September. Tables showing the numbers unemployed in the principal industries appear on pages 412 and 413.

**SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.**

Information as to the state of employment in certain industries in October, derived from returns furnished by employers and employers' associations is summarised below. Further details are given on pages 406 to 411.

**(a) CERTAIN MINING AND METAL TRADES.**

Trade.	Workpeople included in the Returns for Oct., 1923.	Oct., 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
			Month ago.	Year ago.
		Days Worked per week by Mines.	Days.	Days.
Coal Mining .. ..	1,175,487	5.56	+ 0.19	+ 0.12
Iron " .. ..	8,755	5.24	- 0.01	- 0.26
Shale " .. ..	4,249	5.91	+ 0.08	- 0.05
		Furnaces in Blast	Number.	Number.
Pig Iron .. ..	-	188	- 2	+ 37
		Mills Working		
Tinplate and Steel Sheet	-	532	+ 19	+ 66
		Shifts Worked (one week).	Per cent.	Per cent.
Iron and Steel .. ..	73,561	384,905	- 0.4	+

**(b) OTHER TRADES.**

Trade.	Number of Workpeople Employed.		Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.			
	Week ended 27th Oct., 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	Week ended 27th Oct., 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	Month ago.¶	Year ago.¶
		Month ago.	Year ago.			
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Textiles :-						
Cotton .. ..	86,480	+ 1.3	- 6.4	148,407	+ 2.2	- 13.1
Woollen .. ..	16,923	+ 0.4	+ 0.3	33,248	- 1.2	- 8.8
Worsted .. ..	32,366	- 0.1	- 3.7	58,239	+ 2.6	- 14.7
Boot and Shoe ..	51,051	- 0.0	+ 1.3	107,054	+ 0.4	- 4.1
Pottery .. ..	12,410	+ 1.0	+ 3.1	23,025	+ 1.9	+ 2.8
Brick .. ..	7,834	- 1.1	+ 26.9	18,292	- 0.6	+ 30.9
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>207,064</b>	<b>+ 0.6</b>	<b>- 2.1</b>	<b>388,265</b>	<b>+ 1.3</b>	<b>- 8.3</b>

\* Short time and broken time are not reflected in the figures. In the mining and textile industries a contraction in the demand for labour is generally met by short-time working. Persons on strike or locked-out are also excluded.

† The percentage is based on returns relating to woodworkers and plumbers, and as regards woodworkers, who constitute the bulk of the membership, the previous returns related to the end of July.

‡ In addition to those totally unemployed, a large number of the members of the unions reporting were "paid off part of each week, or alternate weeks or fortnights" or on "temporary stoppage benefit."

§ The returns for the tobacco trade are supplied by unions whose members are mainly cigar makers.

¶ These figures include a due proportion of claimants to benefit in respect of systematic short time.

‡ Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.

**EMPLOYMENT CHART.****(1) PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT THE END OF EACH MONTH AMONG MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS :-**

Thick Curve ————— = 1923.

Thin Curve ————— = 1922.

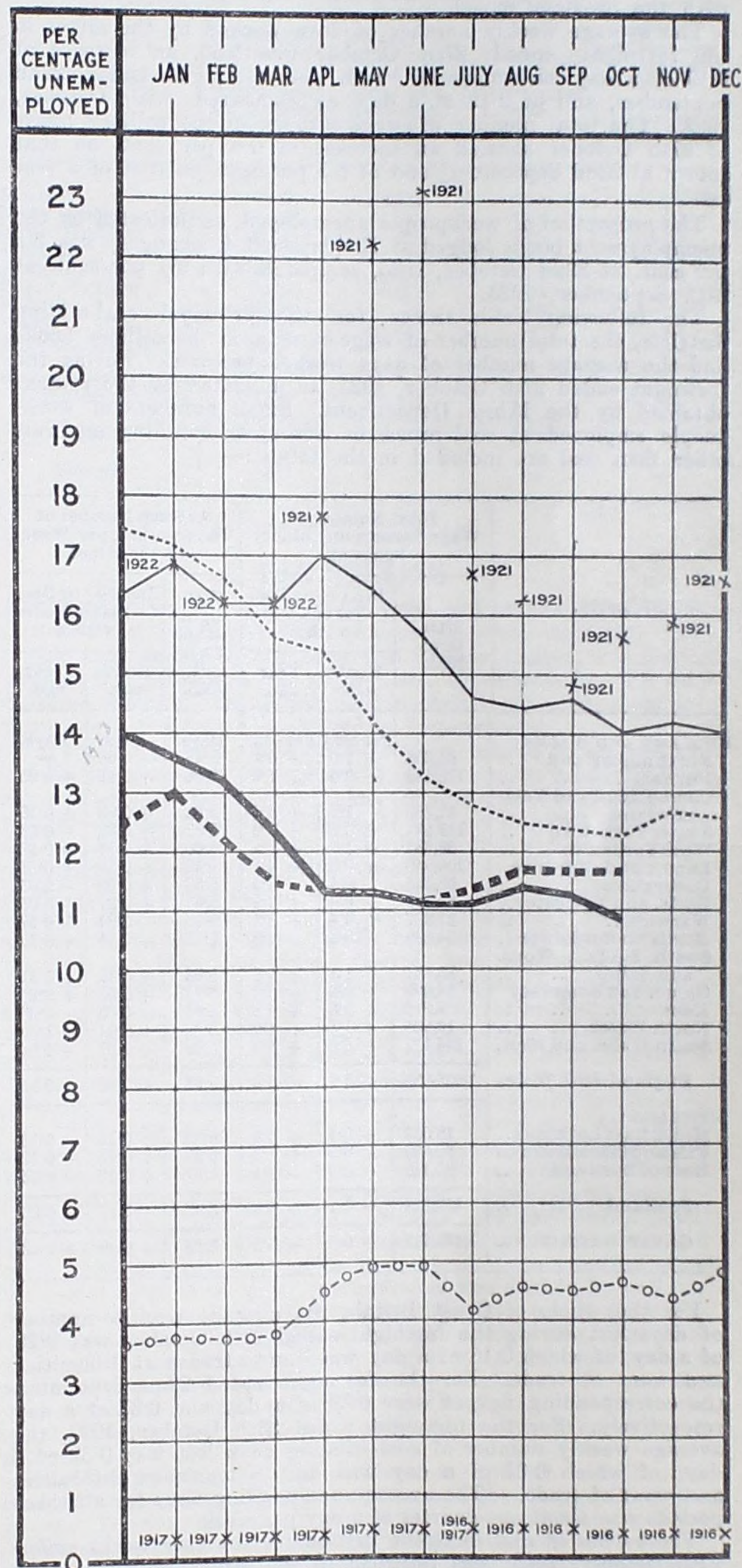
Chain Curve -o-o-o-o-o = Mean of 1913-22.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of Trade Union members unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1893-1922.

**(2) PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AMONG WORK PEOPLE INSURED AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT UNDER THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACT :-**

Thick Dotted Curve - - - - - 1923.

Thin Dotted Curve - - - - - 1922.

**NOTE.**

The figures relate to Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The Trade Union returns are furnished by various Trade Unions which pay unemployment benefit to their members. Persons on strike or locked out, sick or superannuated, are excluded from the figures. Detailed figures are given in the previous column.

The figures for insured workpeople include a due proportion of claimants to benefit in respect of short-time working, and the percentages have been revised, since their publication in the October issue of the GAZETTE, in accordance with the more complete information which has now become available as to the total numbers of insured persons. Detailed figures for June-October, 1923, are given on pages 412 and 413.



# DETAILED REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

**NOTE.**—The numbers of workpeople given in the following Tables represent the numbers covered by the Returns received and (except as regards coal mining) not the total numbers employed in the various industries. The comparisons of numbers employed and wages paid at different dates relate to the same firms at each date, and cover all the wage-earners, irrespective of age, sex, or occupation, employed by these firms. In comparing the earnings in different industries, it should be remembered that any averages calculated from these figures will be affected not only by the variations in the state of employment and in rates of wages, but also by differences in the proportions of males and females, of adults and juveniles, and of skilled and unskilled workers in the respective industries. The particulars given relate only to Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

## COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT during October continued good generally, and showed an improvement in nearly every district as compared with the previous month.

The average weekly number of days worked by the mines in the fortnight ended 27th October was 5.56, an increase of 0.19 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 22nd September, and of 0.12 of a day as compared with October, 1922. The total number of wage-earners on the colliery books at 27th October showed an increase of 0.6 per cent. on that shown at 22nd September, and of 5.5 per cent. on that of a year ago.

The proportion of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 2.5 per cent. at 22nd October, 1923, compared with 3.1 per cent. at 24th September, 1923.

The following Table shows, for the principal coal-mining districts, the total number of wage-earners on the colliery books and the average number of days worked per week\* during the fortnight ended 27th October, 1923, as indicated by the returns obtained by the Mines Department. Small numbers of workpeople employed at coal mines in raising or handling minerals other than coal are included in the totals:—

Districts.	Total Number of Wage Earners on Colliery Books at		Average Number of Days worked per Week by the Mines.*			
	27th Oct., 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) as compared with a	Fort-night ended 27th Oct., 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) as compared with a		Days.
				Month ago.	Year ago.	
ENGLAND AND WALES:		Per cent.	Per cent.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Northumberland ..	63,606	+ 1.0	+ 6.4	5.48	+ 0.06	—
Durham ..	172,583	+ 0.6	+ 7.2	5.38	+ 0.13	+ 0.05
Cumberland and Westmorland ..	11,762	+ 1.7	+ 3.6	5.68	+ 0.02	+ 0.16
South Yorkshire ..	112,544	+ 0.6	+ 7.8	5.62	+ 0.82	+ 0.02
West Yorkshire ..	68,853	+ 1.0	+ 5.3	5.60	+ 0.17	+ 0.12
Lancs. and Cheshire ..	104,516	+ 0.5	+ 0.7	5.49	+ 0.53	+ 0.53
Derbyshire ..	65,113	+ 0.4	+ 4.3	5.53	+ 0.02	— 0.03
Notts. and Leicester..	65,798	+ 0.4	+ 4.9	5.41	+ 0.27	+ 0.03
Warwick ..	21,897	+ 0.4	+ 2.4	5.93	— 0.01	+ 0.07
North Staffordshire ..	34,599	— 0.2	+ 2.9	5.73	+ 0.14	+ 0.70
South Staffs.,† Worc. and Salop ..	35,484	+ 1.1	+ 4.5	5.92	+ 0.10	+ 0.31
Glouc. and Somerset ..	14,969	+ 0.6	+ 5.4	5.71	+ 0.02	+ 0.83
Kent ..	1,913	+ 0.8	+ 9.8	5.63	— 0.05	— 0.06
North Wales ..	18,085	+ 1.3	+ 3.9	5.89	+ 0.61	+ 1.25
South Wales and Mon.	244,137	+ 0.9	+ 5.9	5.69	— 0.07	+ 0.02
England and Wales	1,035,859	+ 0.7	+ 5.3	5.58	+ 0.20	+ 0.15
SCOTLAND:						
Mid & East Lothians..	15,850	+ 0.4	+ 5.8	5.43	+ 0.11	— 0.12
Fife and Clackmannan	30,663	+ 0.3	+ 5.5	5.37	+ 0.17	— 0.12
Rest of Scotland ..	93,115	— 0.4	+ 7.1	5.47	+ 0.10	— 0.03
Scotland ..	139,628	— 0.1	+ 6.6	5.45	+ 0.13	— 0.06
GREAT BRITAIN ..	1,175,487	+ 0.6	+ 5.5	5.56	+ 0.19	+ 0.12

For the whole of Great Britain the average weekly number of days lost during the fortnight ended 27th October was 0.20 of a day, of which 0.16 of a day was due to transport difficulties and want of trade. For the fortnight ended 22nd September the corresponding figures were 0.39 of a day and 0.27 of a day respectively. For the fortnight ended 28th October, 1922, the average weekly number of coal-winding days lost was 0.32 of a day, of which 0.27 of a day was due to transport difficulties and want of trade. The average non-winding time for all three periods was about one-quarter of a day per week.

The output of coal in Great Britain for the four weeks ended 27th October, 1923, was returned to the Mines Department at 22,506,500 tons, compared with 21,349,900 tons in the four weeks ended 22nd September, 1923, and with 21,207,600 tons in the four weeks ended 28th October, 1922.

The exports of coal, including coal shipped for the use of steamers engaged in the foreign trade and the coal equivalent of coke and manufactured fuel, amounted in October to 10,017,222 tons, as compared with 8,555,359 tons in September.

\* The figures in this and the following article show the number of days (allowance being made in all the calculations for short days) on which coal, iron, &c., was got from the mines included in the returns. It is not necessarily implied that all the persons worked every day the mines were open. Mines not working are omitted in computing the average number of days worked.  
† Including Cannock Chase.

## IRON AND SHALE MINING.

### Iron Mining.

THERE was little general change in employment during October. In the Cleveland district it continued bad (though much better than in October of last year); and elsewhere it was moderate.

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

Districts.	Number of Workpeople employed at Mines included in the Returns.		Average No. of Days worked per week by the Mines.*		
	Fort-night ended 27th Oct., 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) as compared with a	Fort-night ended 27th Oct., 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) as compared with a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	Days.	Days.
Cleveland ..	3,544	+ 1.0	+ 46.3	4.86	+ 0.04
Cumberland and Lancashire..	3,660	+ 0.4	+ 1.8	5.52	+ 0.01
Other Districts ..	1,551	— 4.1	— 2.8	5.47	— 0.13
GREAT BRITAIN ..	8,755	— 0.2	+ 15.0	5.24	— 0.01

### Shale Mining.

Employment continued fair. At mines employing 4,249 workpeople in the fortnight ended 27th October, 1923, there was a decrease of 1.6 per cent. in the total number employed as compared with the previous month, and of 3.3 per cent. as compared with October, 1922. The average number of days\* worked per week by the mines was 5.91 in October, 1923, 5.83 in September, 1923, and 5.96 in October, 1922.

## PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in October continued bad.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 15.5 on 22nd October, compared with 16.2 on 24th September.

Returns received by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers from 83 firms, employing 20,057 workpeople at the end of October, showed a decrease of 0.26 per cent., compared with the number employed at the end of September, but an increase of 7.0 per cent. compared with October, 1922.

The total number of furnaces in blast at the end of October, as shown by the returns collected by the Federation, was 188, compared with 190 in September, and 151 in October, 1922.

The following Table shows the total number of furnaces in blast, according to returns collected by the Federation:—

District.	Total Number of Furnaces	Number of Furnaces in Blast at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) in Oct., on a	
		Oct. 1923.	Sept. 1923.	Oct. 1922.	Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND AND WALES:—						
Durham and Cleveland	115	37	39	31	— 2	+ 6
Cumberland and W. Lancs.	46	12	12	13	..	— 1
Other parts of Lancs. and Yorks., including Sheffield.	38	15	15	13	..	+ 2
Derby, Leicester, Notts. and Northants.	73	38	38	29	..	+ 9
Lincolnshire ..	22	17	17	11	..	+ 6
Staffs., Shropshire, Worcester and Warwick.	58	16	16	16	..	..
South Wales and Monmouth.	33	10	9	6	+ 1	+ 4
Total (England and Wales) }	335	145	145	119	— 1	+ 26
SCOTLAND ..	102	43	44	32	— 1	+ 11
GREAT BRITAIN ..	437	188	190	151	— 2	+ 37

The production of pig iron in October amounted to 592,600 tons, as compared with 558,600 tons in September, and 431,500 tons in October, 1922.

\* See \* footnote in previous column.



## IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works during October was slack on the whole, and rather worse than in the previous month. It was generally bad on the North-East Coast and in Scotland, but was fair at some works in the Midland Counties.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 22·7 on the 22nd October, as compared with 21·7 on the 24th September.

According to returns received from firms employing 73,561 workpeople, the volume of employment during the week ended 27th October (as indicated by the number of workpeople employed at each works, combined with the number of shifts during which work was carried on in each case) showed a decrease of 0·4 per cent. on the previous month, but an increase of 11·6 per cent. as compared with October, 1922. The average number of shifts during which the works were open in the week ended 27th October was 5·2, the same as a month ago.

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

DEPARTMENTS.	No. of Workpeople employed by firms making returns.		Aggregate number of Shifts.*			
	Week ended 27th Oct. 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) as compared with a	Week ended 27th Oct. 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) as compared with a		
					Month ago.	Year ago.
		Month ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.	
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces .. ..	7,701	– 3·4	43,986	– 2·2	– 14·9	
Puddling Forges .. ..	3,432	+ 16·1	15,663	+ 25·4	– 3·5	
Rolling Mills .. ..	27,325	+ 1·9	132,416	+ 2·2	+ 19·7	
Forging and Pressing ..	3,003	– 5·4	15,472	– 5·4	+ 19·8	
Founding .. ..	8,378	+ 0·6	46,080	+ 1·8	+ 18·9	
Other Departments ..	6,327	– 6·8	34,535	– 5·6	+ 12·3	
Mechanics, Labourers, etc. .. ..	17,395	– 2·2	96,753	– 4·5	– 0·6	
Total .. ..	73,561	– 0·4	384,915	– 0·4	+ 11·6	
DISTRICTS.						
Northumberland, Durham and Cleveland ..	13,936	– 1·7	74,129	– 0·3	+ 23·6	
Sheffield and Rotherham .. ..	18,510	– 1·2	97,284	+ 1·3	+ 15·7	
Leeds, Bradford, etc. ..	2,436	– 7·1	13,288	– 8·4	– 4·1	
Cumberland, Lancs. and Cheshire .. ..	7,462	+ 3·0	39,246	+ 3·6	+ 23·8	
Staffordshire .. ..	7,395	+ 0·8	38,430	+ 1·0	+ 3·4	
Other Midland Counties ..	3,965	– 2·1	20,961	– 1·9	+ 8·9	
Wales and Monmouth ..	8,866	+ 1·1	48,820	+ 0·6	+ 8·9	
Total, England and Wales .. ..	62,570	– 0·6	332,158	+ 0·4	+ 14·2	
Scotland .. ..	10,991	+ 1·0	52,747	– 5·5	– 2·5	
Total .. ..	73,561	– 0·4	384,905	– 0·4	+ 11·6	

The production of steel ingots and castings, as returned to the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, amounted in October to 702,100 tons, compared with 695,100 tons in September, and 565,200 tons in October, 1922.

## TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades continued good during October and showed an improvement as compared with the previous month. At the end of the month 532 tinplate and steel sheet mills were reported to be in operation at the works for which information is available, as compared with 513 at the end of September.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the number of unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges at 22nd October, was 3·7, as compared with 3·6 at 24th September.

The following Table shows the number of mills in operation at the works covered by the returns received:—

Works.	Number of Works Open			Number of Mills in Operation		
	At end of October, 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) on a		At end of October, 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Tinplate .. ..	78	+ 2	+ 6	407	+ 16	+ 47
Steel Sheet .. ..	14	+ 1	+ 2	125	+ 3	+ 19
TOTAL .. ..	92	+ 3	+ 8	532	+ 19	+ 66

The exports of tinned and galvanised plates and sheets in October, 1923, amounted to 109,233 tons, or 26,452 tons more than in September, and 34,621 tons more than in October, 1922.

\* The figures relate to the number of shifts during which the works were in operation, allowance being made for the numbers of men employed. No account is taken of the time lost by individual, owing to absenteeism, &c., and it is not implied that the number of shifts shown was actually worked by all the men employed.

## SHIPBUILDING.

EMPLOYMENT in the shipbuilding and ship-repairing industries continued very bad during October. The lock-out of platers, riveters, etc., at the yards of members of the Shipbuilding Employers' Federation continued throughout the month. Many yards were entirely closed and others were practically at a standstill.

In districts not involved in the dispute employment on repair work continued only moderate. On the Mersey there was a slight improvement compared with the previous month. At the Bristol Channel ports, however, employment fluctuated considerably; and at Swansea, where it had been fairly good, a decline was reported. On the Thames also employment showed a decline.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed (apart from those involved in trade disputes), at 22nd October, 1923, and the increase or decrease as compared with 24th September, 1923:—

Divisions.	Total number of insured workpeople unemployed 22nd October, 1923.	Increase (+) or Decrease (–) as compared with 24th Sept., 1923.	Percentage Unemployed 22nd October, 1923.	Increase (+) or Decrease (–) in percentage as compared with 24th Sept., 1923.
London .. ..	4,460	+ 1,118	31·5	+ 7·9
South Eastern .. ..	1,443	– 11	15·3	– 0·1
South Western .. ..	8,012	– 463	25·8	– 1·5
Midlands .. ..	111	– 11	22·2	– 2·2
North Eastern .. ..	39,227	– 727	54·1	– 1·0
North Western .. ..	13,085	– 2,089	36·4	– 5·9
Scotland .. ..	38,754	– 76	54·0	– 0·1
Wales .. ..	4,766	+ 279	37·4	+ 2·2
Northern Ireland ..	6,367	+ 567	26·1	+ 2·4
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	116,225	– 1,413	41·6	– 0·6
Males .. ..	115,879	– 1,415	43·2	– 0·5
Females .. ..	346	+ 2	8·6	–

## ENGINEERING.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry remained bad on the whole during October, and was rather worse than in the previous month. The textile engineering section showed a further decline, and marine engineering continued to suffer from the effects of the shipbuilding dispute. In railway and electrical engineering employment continued fair, and showed an improvement.

On the North-East Coast employment continued to decline, and conditions were very bad generally, with a great amount of unemployment and short time. The marine engineering section was particularly bad, partly on account of the continued dispute in the shipbuilding industry. In the locomotive section, however, employment was fair on the whole, and in the Tyne district electrical and motor repair work remained fair. Employment in Lancashire and Cheshire in the textile machinery section was worse than in the previous month, large numbers of workpeople working less than half-time. General and marine engineering showed no appreciable improvement, but railway engineering was fairly good, and better than in September; electrical engineers and patternmakers were also fairly well employed. In Yorkshire employment was again bad on the whole, and showed no general improvement. On railway work, however, it continued fair.

In Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire employment declined on the whole, and was bad in nearly all branches. At Derby activity in railway work continued, but in the motor section work was very irregular. Employment remained moderate at Chesterfield and Loughborough; at Leicester an improvement was reported in the textile machinery section. In the Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Coventry district employment on motor and cycle work was irregular; some improvement was reported after the recent cycle show, and some overtime was worked by patternmakers and electricians in preparation for the motor show. A slight improvement was shown in light engineering, but little progress was made in the heavy engineering and machine tool sections, and short time was commonly worked. On railway work employment was fairly good. At Rugby and Stafford electrical engineers were fairly well employed, an improvement being shown.

Employment remained fair at Norwich, Ipswich and Chelmsford, but continued slack at other centres in the Eastern Counties. In the London district it continued only moderate; general engineering was still depressed, but an improvement was reported on repair work, printing machinery, lifts, motor accessories and electrical scientific instrument making. It was fairly good on railway work at Swindon and Wolverton and on motor work at Oxford. In South Wales there was a slight improvement on the whole.

In Scotland employment remained very bad generally, and in the marine engineering section, where it continued to be adversely affected by the dispute in the shipbuilding industry, it was rather worse than in the previous month. In the textile machinery section, especially at Paisley, conditions were not quite so bad as in other sections. At Belfast employment was still bad.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 22nd October, 1923, and the increase or decrease as compared with 24th September, 1923:—



Divisions.	Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 22nd October, 1923.						Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with 24th Sept., 1923.
	Engineering, Iron and Steel Founding.	Stove, Grate, Pipe, &c., and General Iron Founding.	Electrical Engineering.	Marine Engineering and Marine Boiler Making.	Constructional Engineering.	TOTAL.	
London ..	13,581	492	433	122	110	14,738	- 64
South Eastern ..	6,322	408	254	162	45	7,191	+ 87
South Western ..	3,927	161	78	966	57	5,189	- 360
Midlands ..	16,961	5,144	1,354	42	555	24,056	+ 840
North Eastern ..	34,547	3,201	472	10,613	894	49,727	+ 1,973
North Western ..	37,719	1,482	1,321	453	113	41,088	- 275
Scotland ..	22,330	3,496	170	4,864	788	31,648	- 209
Wales ..	777	378	3	19	10	1,187	+ 189
Northern Ireland ..	2,056	351	6	211	11	2,635	+ 2,110
<b>GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.</b>	<b>138,220</b>	<b>15,113</b>	<b>4,091</b>	<b>17,452</b>	<b>2,583</b>	<b>177,459</b>	<b>+ 2,031</b>
<i>Males ..</i>	<i>135,730</i>	<i>14,375</i>	<i>3,506</i>	<i>17,335</i>	<i>2,561</i>	<i>173,557</i>	<i>+ 79</i>
<i>Females ..</i>	<i>2,490</i>	<i>738</i>	<i>585</i>	<i>67</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>3,902</i>	

Divisions.	Percentage Unemployed at 22nd October, 1923.						Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentage as compared with 24th Sept., 1923.
	Engineering, Iron and Steel Founding.	Stove, Grate, Pipe, &c., and General Iron Founding.	Electrical Engineering.	Marine Engineering and Marine Boiler Making.	Constructional Engineering.	TOTAL.	
London ..	14.3	12.2	6.3	23.9	6.6	13.6	- 0.1
South Eastern ..	14.6	11.8	3.3	4.6	5.6	12.2	+ 0.1
South Western ..	11.0	12.3	2.9	15.4	10.6	11.1	- 0.2
Midlands ..	18.2	15.3	6.5	2.4	10.0	15.5	- 0.3
North Eastern ..	24.1	27.2	8.2	36.9	13.0	25.3	+ 0.4
North Western ..	24.2	19.0	8.3	16.8	6.2	22.3	+ 1.0
Scotland ..	24.1	16.7	8.4	27.8	12.9	22.7	- 0.2
Wales ..	9.9	19.1	0.9	38.0	2.6	11.2	- 1.9
Northern Ireland ..	24.8	32.8	5.5	3.6	55.0	17.2	+ 1.2
<b>GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>17.6</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>26.1</b>	<b>10.9</b>	<b>19.4</b>	<b>+ 0.2</b>
<i>Males ..</i>	<i>21.4</i>	<i>18.2</i>	<i>6.9</i>	<i>26.4</i>	<i>11.2</i>	<i>20.3</i>	<i>+ 0.2</i>
<i>Females ..</i>	<i>6.3</i>	<i>10.7</i>	<i>5.0</i>	<i>6.0</i>	<i>2.6</i>	<i>6.5</i>	<i>+ 0.2</i>

## COTTON TRADE.

DURING October employment continued bad, except with spinners of Egyptian cotton. There was, however, an improvement as compared with the previous month in the American spinning section of the industry. The Master Cotton Spinners' Federation have recommended the continuance during November of the curtailment of production in the American section to the extent of 50 per cent.; but it was reported that in some cases the recommendation had not been fully adhered to during October, and that there were more mills running full time at the end of the month than for some months past.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 17.8 at 22nd October, compared with 20.1 at 24th September.

In the Oldham and Ashton districts employment in the spinning section showed an improvement, and was moderate; in the Stockport district it continued bad, except in the Egyptian section, which showed an improvement. In the weaving section employment continued bad, many firms stopping on Saturdays and Mondays in each week. At Bolton and Leigh employment with spinners continued good; with weavers it was fair, and about the same as in September. In the Bury and Rochdale districts employment continued bad, but was better than in September.

In the principal weaving centres there was little change on the whole. At Blackburn over 20,000 looms were reported to be standing idle at the end of the month. At Burnley employment was even worse than in September; most mills were stopped one week in four, others were stopped two or three days a week, and there was much under-employment in various other forms; the total production was estimated at less than 50 per cent. of the normal. At Preston and at Darwen about 5,000 and 2,000 weavers, respectively, were stated to be working short time at the end of the month, and many looms were stopped.

Returns from firms employing about 9,500 workpeople in the Oldham district showed that, during the four weeks ended 27th October, about 54 per cent. of these workpeople were on full time, and about 22 per cent. were working half time; of the remainder 19 per cent. were working more than half time and 5 per cent. were working less than half time.

In the other districts, taken collectively, about 25 per cent. of the workpeople reported on were on short time, to the extent of about 16 hours a week on the average, in the week ended 27th October. The districts most affected were still Bury and Rochdale, and Ashton, where 64 per cent. and 33 per cent., respectively, were on short time, to the extent of about 15½ hours a week on the average in each case.

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

DEPARTMENTS.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 27th Oct., 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 27th Oct., 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.*
Preparing ..	11,952	+ 2.1	- 4.7	19,323	+ 5.3	- 7.1
Spinning ..	22,487	+ 1.1	- 3.5	37,993	+ 5.6	- 6.2
Weaving ..	34,377	+ 0.7	- 10.8	55,434	+ 0.6	- 19.5
Other ..	8,702	+ 0.8	- 4.8	19,608	+ 2.5	- 11.3
Not specified ..	8,962	+ 3.8	+ 1.1	16,049	- 3.9	- 13.1
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>86,480</b>	<b>+ 1.3</b>	<b>- 6.4</b>	<b>148,407</b>	<b>+ 2.2</b>	<b>- 13.1</b>
<b>DISTRICTS.</b>						
Ashton ..	4,227	+ 2.6	+ 2.5	7,140	+ 3.9	+ 0.1
Stockport, Glossop and Hyde ..	6,609	- 12.7	- 16.9	11,117	- 6.7	- 23.1
Oldham ..	9,996	+ 2.6	- 2.5	17,576	+ 3.9	- 6.5
Bolton and Leigh ..	15,870	+ 1.5	+ 2.8	27,232	+ 4.1	- 4.5
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden, and Todmorden ..	8,935	+ 5.9	- 4.5	13,695	+ 12.3	- 9.8
Manchester ..	5,502	- 10.6	- 21.8	9,382	- 2.5	- 20.6
Preston and Chorley ..	6,238	+ 6.8	- 8.4	10,575	+ 4.4	- 17.1
Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen ..	8,641	- 1.0	- 13.3	15,585	- 2.3	- 21.4
Burnley, Padiham, Colne and Nelson ..	10,181	- 0.1	- 4.5	19,127	- 7.8	- 17.0
Other Lancashire Towns ..	3,565	+ 40.7	- 9.2	5,809	+ 36.1	- 19.3
Yorkshire Towns ..	3,815	+ 6.0	- 5.1	6,342	+ 5.8	- 16.0
Other Districts ..	2,901	+ 4.5	+ 1.9	4,827	+ 8.0	+ 7.5
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>86,480</b>	<b>+ 1.3</b>	<b>- 6.4</b>	<b>148,407</b>	<b>+ 2.2</b>	<b>- 13.1</b>

The imports (less re-exports) of raw cotton (including cotton linters) were 169,299,600 lbs. in October, 1923, compared with 56,081,200 lbs. in the previous month and with 119,382,300 lbs. in October, 1922.

The exports of cotton yarn were 14,733,500 lbs. in October, 1923, compared with 11,987,100 lbs. in September, 1923, and 16,031,700 lbs. in October, 1922.

The exports of cotton piece goods were 371,289,700 square yards, as compared with 344,318,800 square yards in the previous month, and with 353,654,000 square yards in October, 1922.

## WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued bad in these trades in October, and showed no improvement as compared with a month ago.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 11.0 on the 22nd October, the same percentage as on the 24th September.

## WOOLLEN TRADE.

Employment remained bad in October, and showed little general change. Some firms which had been running carding or spinning machines during the night reduced or closed down their night shifts.

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

DEPARTMENTS.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 27th Oct., 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 27th Oct., 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.*
Wool Sorting and Combing ..	430	+ 6.4	+ 18.5	876	- 2.2	+ 1.4
Spinning ..	3,960	+ 0.5	- 0.9	7,891	+ 0.5	- 8.2
Weaving ..	6,653	- 0.1	+ 0.5	11,847	- 0.8	- 7.6
Other Departments ..	5,010	- 0.3	+ 0.2	10,883	- 0.8	- 8.9
Not specified ..	865	+ 1.3	- 3.1	1,751	- 12.8	- 21.3
<b>TOTAL ..</b>	<b>16,923</b>	<b>+ 0.4</b>	<b>+ 0.3</b>	<b>33,248</b>	<b>- 1.2</b>	<b>- 8.8</b>
<b>Districts.</b>						
Huddersfield District ..	1,396	+ 3.1	+ 4.6	3,223	- 3.4	- 10.4
Leeds District ..	1,850	- 0.8	+ 4.5	4,005	- 4.2	+ 2.1
Dewsbury and Batley District ..	1,628	+ 0.9	+ 8.5	3,627	+ 2.6	+ 9.4
Other Parts of West Riding ..	2,055	+ 0.7	+ 0.6	4,569	+ 3.0	- 2.1
<b>Total, West Riding ..</b>	<b>6,929</b>	<b>+ 0.8</b>	<b>+ 4.2</b>	<b>15,424</b>	<b>- 0.4</b>	<b>- 0.5</b>
Scotland ..	4,998	- 0.3	- 5.8	9,083	- 2.2	- 17.7
Other Districts ..	4,996	+ 0.4	+ 1.5	8,741	- 1.7	- 11.8
<b>TOTAL ..</b>	<b>16,923</b>	<b>+ 0.4</b>	<b>+ 0.3</b>	<b>33,248</b>	<b>- 1.2</b>	<b>- 8.8</b>

In the Huddersfield district some firms were on full time, and there was even some overtime and night work in the spinning department; but such cases were exceptional. In the Heavy Woollen District (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) employment con-

\* Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.



tinued bad generally, but the blanket and rug trade remained fairly well employed. At Leeds no improvement was reported, and there was considerable unemployment and under-employment throughout the industry. Flannel workers in the Rochdale district were working reduced hours, and employment was only moderate; in the Stockport district and at Saddleworth employment was somewhat better than at Rochdale.

In Scotland employment showed a decline: only a small proportion of the woollen manufacturers were in a position to keep their operatives fully employed, and short time, often to the extent of three days a week, increased. It was estimated that the aggregate production was not much more than half the normal.

Returns from firms employing 15,826 workpeople in the week ended 27th October showed that 42 per cent. of these workpeople were on short time, to the extent of about 10½ hours a week on the average.

#### WORSTED TRADE.

Employment continued very quiet, and was not so good as a year ago; there was much short time and unemployment in all the principal districts. Employment was particularly bad with firms or departments combing or spinning merino wool; some wool combing firms were not running more than half time. Employment was very slack in the dress goods trade and in the fine coating trade, and many looms were standing idle.

Employment in Bradford was slightly better than in September, but considerably worse than a year ago. In the Halifax district several firms were working only three days a week, and employment was much worse than in October of last year. In the Huddersfield district, firms manufacturing fine worsted cloths were working greatly reduced hours. This district, however, showed an appreciable improvement over September.

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

—	Number of Workpeople.		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.			
	Week ended 27th Oct., 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended 27th Oct., 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) on a Month ago.*	Year ago.*
Departments.		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Wool Sorting and Combing .. ..	4,543	+ 3.5	– 6.6	10,256	+ 4.2	– 24.5
Spinning .. ..	16,593	– 1.0	– 1.9	24,915	+ 2.1	– 12.5
Weaving .. ..	5,348	+ 1.5	– 8.3	10,271	+ 1.5	– 17.9
Other Departments ..	3,796	– 0.6	+ 0.1	9,143	+ 3.2	– 3.7
Not Specified .. ..	2,081	– 4.0	– 5.8	3,654	+ 2.6	– 12.9
<b>TOTAL .. ..</b>	<b>32,366</b>	<b>– 0.1</b>	<b>– 3.7</b>	<b>58,239</b>	<b>+ 2.6</b>	<b>– 14.7</b>

Districts.		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Bradford District ..	15,368	– 0.3	– 5.2	28,594	+ 1.3	– 17.3
Keighley District ..	5,416	+ 0.6	– 2.6	9,916	+ 2.2	– 7.2
Halifax District ..	2,511	– 0.7	– 1.8	3,724	+ 2.6	– 28.1
Huddersfield District ..	3,111	+ 0.7	– 6.8	5,402	+ 9.1	– 17.7
Other Parts of West Riding .. ..	3,237	– 0.9	+ 0.3	5,289	+ 5.4	– 7.8
<b>Total, West Riding ..</b>	<b>29,643</b>	<b>– 0.1</b>	<b>– 4.0</b>	<b>52,925</b>	<b>+ 2.7</b>	<b>– 15.6</b>
<b>Other Districts .. ..</b>	<b>2,723</b>	<b>– 0.1</b>	<b>– 0.5</b>	<b>5,314</b>	<b>+ 1.1</b>	<b>– 4.1</b>
<b>TOTAL .. ..</b>	<b>32,366</b>	<b>– 0.1</b>	<b>– 3.7</b>	<b>58,239</b>	<b>+ 2.6</b>	<b>– 14.7</b>

Returns from firms employing 26,593 workpeople in the week ended 27th October showed that about 38 per cent. of these workpeople were working short time in that week, to the extent of 11½ hours on the average.

The imports of raw wool (sheep or lambs) were 25,670,700 lbs., while re-exports amounted to 35,762,100 lbs. in October, 1923, compared with 23,248,000 lbs. and 21,458,300 lbs. respectively in September, 1923, and with 59,596,400 lbs. and 30,760,900 lbs. in October, 1922.

The exports of woollen and worsted yarns were 4,286,700 lbs., compared with 3,868,900 lbs. in September, 1923, and 4,862,100 lbs. in October, 1922.

The exports of woollen and worsted tissues were 16,376,600 square yards, compared with 17,991,400 square yards in September, and 12,775,400 square yards in October, 1922.

The exports of blankets were 137,886 pairs, 114,843 pairs, and 84,775 pairs in October, 1923, September, 1923, and October, 1922, respectively.

#### BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during October continued slack on the whole, and showed little general change, an improvement in some districts being counterbalanced by a decline in others. Short time working was still very prevalent.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 9.8 on the 22nd October, compared with 10.3 on 24th September.

In London employment remained bad generally. There was a slight improvement at Leicester, but short time was still largely worked. At Northampton employment was slack; most of the factories were working short time. At Kettering some

firms were on full time, and few were working less than three-quarter time; employment was slightly better than in October of last year. At Wellingborough there was a further improvement, and very little short time was worked. Improvements were also reported at Hinckley and in the Rushden district; in the latter district employment was good, and some overtime was worked. At Desborough employment declined, and much short time was worked. Employment also declined at Stafford and at Stone.

At Norwich there was not much change, and short time was largely worked. At Bristol employment was still quiet; at Kingswood the gradual recovery from a condition of extreme depression was maintained. A slight improvement was reported at Leeds, though short time was still largely worked.

Employment was again bad at Arbroath. At Edinburgh it was very quiet, and worse than in September; while at Glasgow it remained quiet. Elsewhere in Scotland it was fair on the whole.

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

—	Number of Workpeople.		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.			
	Week ended 27th Oct., 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended 27th Oct., 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) on a Month ago.	Year ago.*
<b>England and Wales:—</b>		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
London .. ..	2,012	+ 4.2	– 2.5	4,237	+ 3.1	– 9.4
Leicester .. ..	8,308	– 1.6	+ 0.2	17,468	+ 8.3	– 7.3
Leicester Country District .. ..	2,302	– 0.1	– 3.4	4,967	+ 2.1	– 6.0
Northampton .. ..	6,891	– 0.9	+ 3.2	15,195	– 4.9	+ 0.6
Northampton Country District .. ..	8,044	+ 1.0	+ 4.0	17,711	+ 0.3	+ 1.2
Kettering .. ..	3,326	– 0.4	+ 5.5	8,042	– 2.2	+ 4.7
Stafford and District ..	2,549	+ 0.4	+ 3.5	4,679	– 2.8	+ 1.2
Norwich and District ..	3,753	– 0.7	– 9.3	7,079	– 2.6	– 4.8
Bristol, Kingswood and District .. ..	2,454	– 1.7	+ 2.7	4,751	– 0.1	– 10.6
Leeds and District ..	1,920	+ 2.0	– 3.1	4,136	– 0.6	– 6.9
Lancashire (mainly Rossendale Valley) ..	4,384	+ 0.6	+ 7.3	8,641	– 1.9	– 15.6
Birmingham and District .. ..	1,009	+ 0.7	– 2.2	1,692	– 2.8	– 16.9
Other parts of England and Wales .. ..	1,512	+ 2.0	+ 4.5	2,935	+ 11.9	+ 7.0
<b>England and Wales ..</b>	<b>48,464</b>	<b>– 0.0</b>	<b>+ 1.3</b>	<b>101,583</b>	<b>+ 0.4</b>	<b>– 4.2</b>
<b>Scotland .. ..</b>	<b>2,587</b>	<b>+ 0.4</b>	<b>+ 0.7</b>	<b>5,471</b>	<b>+ 1.6</b>	<b>– 2.4</b>
<b>United Kingdom ..</b>	<b>51,051</b>	<b>– 0.0</b>	<b>+ 1.3</b>	<b>107,054</b>	<b>+ 0.4</b>	<b>– 4.1</b>

Returns from firms employing 41,336 workpeople in the week ended 27th October showed that about 48 per cent. of these workpeople worked short time in that week, to the extent of about 13 hours each, on an average.

The exports of boots and shoes in October 1923, amounted to 127,758 dozen pairs, or 1,969 dozen pairs less than in September, 1923, but 45,014 dozen pairs more than in October, 1922.

#### BUILDING AND PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTING, &c.

EMPLOYMENT in the building trade continued generally fair during October, except with painters and labourers. Employment with workpeople employed in the public works contracting industry remained bad on the whole.

Employment was good with bricklayers and masons, fairly good with plasterers and carpenters and joiners, and fair with plumbers, a slight improvement being noticeable with the latter; with painters there was a further decline, and employment was generally poor. In a number of districts a shortage of certain classes of skilled operatives, mainly bricklayers and masons, was again reported. Employment with builders' labourers continued generally bad, although in a few of the larger centres it was reported as fair.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts who were unemployed at 22nd October, 1923:—

Divisions.	Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed 22nd October, 1923.			Increase (+) or Decrease (–) as compared with 24th Sept., 1923.
	Building	Public Works Contracting etc.	Total	
London .. ..	23,143	3,551	26,694	+ 1,718
South Eastern .. ..	9,767	2,379	12,146	+ 358
South Western .. ..	8,805	3,214	12,019	+ 417
Midlands .. ..	9,708	2,865	12,573	– 112
North Eastern .. ..	10,577	3,225	14,402	+ 242
North Western .. ..	12,584	2,879	15,463	+ 367
Scotland .. ..	7,966	3,054	11,020	+ 451
Wales .. ..	2,715	2,191	4,906	+ 197
Northern Ireland .. ..	2,401	510	2,911	– 12
<b>Great Britain and Northern Ireland .. ..</b>	<b>87,666</b>	<b>24,468</b>	<b>112,134</b>	<b>+ 3,636</b>
<b>Males .. ..</b>	<b>87,478</b>	<b>24,448</b>	<b>111,926</b>	<b>+ 3,684</b>
<b>Females .. ..</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>– 48</b>

\* Comparison of earnings is affected by changes in rates of wages.

\* Comparison of earnings is affected by reductions in rates of wages.



Divisions.	Percentage unemployed, 22nd October, 1923.			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage as compared with 24th Sept., 1923.	
	Building.	Public Works Contract- ing, etc.	Total.		
London .. .. .	14.4	18.9	14.9	+	1.0
South Eastern .. .. .	9.0	14.9	9.8	+	0.3
South Western .. .. .	10.1	18.4	11.5	+	0.4
Midlands .. .. .	12.5	24.2	14.0	+	0.2
North Eastern .. .. .	12.5	19.6	13.8	+	0.2
North Western .. .. .	13.5	23.2	14.6	+	0.3
Scotland .. .. .	12.1	18.5	13.4	+	0.6
Wales .. .. .	10.4	19.9	13.2	+	0.5
Northern Ireland .. .. .	18.8	11.8	17.0	-	0.1
Great Britain and Northern Ireland .. .. .	12.2	19.2	13.3	+	0.5
Males .. .. .	12.3	19.3	13.4	+	0.4
Females .. .. .	2.2	2.3	2.2	-	0.5

### BRICK TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT in the brick trade was fair on the whole, and showed a slight decline as compared with the previous month. It was good in the Peterborough District, moderate in the Nottingham district, and bad in the Yorkshire and Coventry districts.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed in the brick, pipe, tile, etc., trades, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges at 22nd October, was 8.4, as compared with 7.4 at 24th September.

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

Districts.	Number of Workpeople		Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.			
	Week ended 27th Oct., 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.    Year ago.	Week ended 27th Oct., 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		
				Month ago.*	Year ago.*	
Northern Counties, York- shire, Lancashire and Cheshire	1,742	Per cent. - 0.7    +18.1	£ 3,865	Per cent. - 3.6	Per cent. +17.1	
Midlands and Eastern Counties	4,515	- 1.0    +35.2	10,723	+ 1.5	+40.9	
South and South-West Counties and Wales	1,399	+ 0.6    +16.5	3,264	- 2.2	+21.0	
Other Districts	178	-16.8    +13.4	435	- 9.8	+20.8	
TOTAL	7,834	- 1.1    +26.9	18,292	- 0.6	+30.9	

Returns from firms employing 7,014 workpeople showed that about 2 per cent. of these workpeople worked short time to the extent of 8½ hours each on an average during the week ended 27th October.

### POTTERY TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in the pottery trades showed a further slight improvement, and though still slack generally, was good in the tile section and fair in the sanitary earthenware and fireclay sections.

In the Potteries employment as a whole was slack; at Bristol and Derby it was reported as fair; and at Glasgow as bad.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 11.1 at 22nd October, 1923, as compared with 11.8 at 24th September, 1923.

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

BRANCHES.	Number of Workpeople.		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.			
	Week ended 27th Oct., 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.    Year ago.	Week ended 27th Oct., 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		
				Month ago.*	Year ago.*	
China Manufacture ..	1,437	+ 1.1    - 8.3	2,973	+ 5.0	+14.2	
Earthenware Manufacture ..	9,150	+ 0.7    + 3.2	16,786	+ 0.8	+ 0.3	
Other Branches (including unspecified) .. .. .	1,823	+ 2.2    +13.6	3,266	+ 4.9	+ 7.0	
TOTAL	12,410	+ 1.0    + 3.1	23,025	+ 1.9	+ 2.8	
DISTRICTS.						
Potteries .. .. .	9,649	+ 0.8    + 3.1	17,045	+ 0.4	+ 2.3	
Other Districts .. .. .	2,761	+ 1.5    + 3.1	5,980	+ 6.4	+ 4.2	
TOTAL	12,410	+ 1.0    + 3.1	23,025	+ 1.9	+ 2.8	

Returns from employers relating to short-time working showed that of 11,578 workpeople employed 22 per cent. were working on an average about 13 hours less than full time in the week ended 27th October, 1923.

\* Comparison of earnings is affected by change in rates of wages.

### SEAMEN.

DURING October employment with seamen was slack on the whole. At almost all the ports considerable numbers of men were unemployed. Among insured workpeople in the shipping service, the percentage unemployed at 22nd October was 20.1, compared with 18.1 at 24th September.

On the Thames the demand for men remained moderate. On the Tyne, Wear and Tees it continued quiet. At Hull it improved, and was reported to be good during the week ended 27th October. It declined at Southampton, being described as poor at the end of the month. The demand at Bristol was very quiet. At Avonmouth it improved in the first half of the month, and declined afterwards. Employment at Newport and at Swansea was fair on the whole. It was fair at Cardiff, except during the week ended 27th October, when the demand was quiet. In the foreign-going trade on the Mersey the demand was quiet on the whole.

On the Clyde the demand improved up to the end of the third week of October and declined subsequently, being reported as dull at the end of the month. It was quiet at Leith, and very poor at Belfast.

The following Table shows the number of seamen shipped in British registered foreign-going vessels at the undermentioned ports of Great Britain and Northern Ireland during October:—

Ports.	Number of Seamen <sup>a</sup> shipped in October.				
	Oct., 1923.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Ten months ended	
		Month ago.	Year ago.	Oct., 1923.	Oct., 1922.
<i>ENGLAND &amp; WALES:</i>					
Liverpool .. - ..	14,133	- 322	+ 1,690	131,026	118,798
London .. - ..	9,772	+ 1,667	+ 2,065	74,100	72,101
Southampton .. ..	11,238	+ 73	+ 118	97,095	91,733
Tyne Ports.. - ..	1,507	+ 340	- 210	12,393	17,200
Sunderland .. ..	111	+ 2	- 2	1,648	1,745
Middlesbrough .. ..	304	- 45	- 271	3,658	3,916
Hull .. ..	1,810	+ 423	+ 288	14,951	13,508
Grimsby .. - ..	15	- 20	+ 11	186	208
Bristol .. ..	1,355	+ 435	+ 289	10,397	10,367
Newport, Mon. .. ..	942	+ 120	+ 220	9,507	8,629
Cardiff† .. ..	2,768	- 50	- 669	27,692	31,340
Swansea .. ..	1,123	+ 394	+ 497	8,321	6,285
<i>SCOTLAND:</i>					
Leith .. ..	335	+ 62	- 67	3,597	3,495
Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth .. ..	205	+ 59	- 105	2,278	2,563
Glasgow .. ..	3,170	- 791	+ 395	30,236	24,254
<i>NORTHERN IRELAND:</i>					
Belfast .. ..	85	- 2	- 83	2,186	2,420
TOTAL .. ..	48,873	+ 2,345	+ 4,166	429,271	408,562

### DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT among dock labourers during October was again only moderate, and, on the whole, somewhat worse than in the previous month. Among insured workpeople in the canal, river, dock and harbour service, 24.0 per cent. were unemployed at 22nd October, compared with 23.0 per cent. at 24th September.

London.—The following Table shows the average daily number of dock labourers employed at the docks and at the principal wharves in each week of the month:—

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, etc.	Total.		
Week ended—					
6th Oct., 1923 ..	5,518	2,223	7,741	7,878	15,619
13th " ..	4,959	1,935	6,894	7,968	14,862
20th " ..	5,207	2,474	7,681	7,839	15,520
27th " ..	5,743	2,575	8,318	7,683	16,001
Average for 4 weeks ended 27th Oct., 1923 .. .. .	5,357	2,302	7,659	7,842	15,501
Average for Sept., 1923	6,286	2,833	9,119	7,939	17,058
Average for Oct., 1922	5,360	2,806	7,666	7,705	15,371

Tilbury.—The mean daily number of dock labourers employed in October was 1,070, as compared with 1,299 in September, and with 958 in October 1922.

East Coast.—With coal trimmers on the Tyne and Wear employment was good, and with other classes of workers it continued fair generally. At Hull and Middlesbrough there was a falling off as compared with the previous month, but at Hartlepool employment continued fairly good. At other East Coast ports it remained moderate.

\* It will be understood that the numbers given are the numbers of separate engagements, and not of separate individuals.  
† Including Avonmouth and Portishead.  
‡ Including Barry and Penarth.



*Western and Southern Ports.*—At Liverpool employment continued only moderate, except with coal trimmers, for whom an improvement was reported. The average weekly number of dock labourers registered at the Clearing Houses under the Liverpool Docks Scheme, as employed in the 4 weeks ended 29th October, was 15,395, compared with 14,644 in the five weeks ended 1st October, and with 14,558 in the corresponding period of last year; the average weekly amount of wages paid to these men, through the Clearing Houses, was £39,243 in the four weeks ended 29th October, compared with £34,430 in the five weeks ended 1st October.

At Manchester employment was fair.

Employment remained slack at the South Wales ports, and fair at Plymouth and other South-Western ports. At Southampton there was a decline.

*Scottish and Irish Ports.*—Employment at Glasgow was fair, though below the level of the previous month. At Dundee it declined further and was slack. At Aberdeen it continued fair. At Belfast it was good, and better than in September.

## MINISTRY OF LABOUR EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.\*

THE number of persons remaining on the "live registers" of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland—i.e., of applications for employment outstanding from workpeople—at 29th October, 1923, was 1,296,050,† of whom 970,207 were men, 42,143 boys, 245,802 women, and 37,898 girls. Compared with 1st October there was an increase of 10,945. In the men's and women's departments there were increases of 15,352 and 1,663 respectively, while in the case of juveniles there was a decrease of 6,070.

During the four weeks ended 29th October the number of vacancies filled by Employment Exchanges was 69,315, of which 39,660 were for men, 16,310 for women, and 13,345 for juveniles.

The following Table summarises the work of the Exchanges during the four weeks ended 29th October, 1923:—

Week ended	Applications by Employers.	Vacancies Filled.	Applications outstanding at end of week.	
			From Workpeople (Live Register.) †	From Employers.
1st October, 1923 .. ..	19,253	16,007	1,285,105	16,294
8th October, 1923 .. ..	19,507	17,037	1,290,230	15,694
15th " " " " " "	20,006	16,910	1,293,199	16,026
22nd " " " " " "	20,531	17,542	1,289,373	16,052
29th " " " " " "	20,493	17,856	1,296,050	15,915
Total (4 weeks) .. ..	80,542	69,315	—	—

A detailed analysis of the figures in the preceding paragraphs is not yet available, but statistics for the five weeks ended 8th October are dealt with below:—

*Applications from Workpeople.*—The total number of 721,148 applications from workpeople during the five weeks ended 8th October showed a daily average of 24,038, a decrease of 6.6 per cent. compared with the daily average of the previous month. Of this daily average, men accounted for 14,831, women for 6,680, and juveniles for 2,527—decreases of 8.7 per cent. and 10.9 per cent. respectively in the case of men and juveniles, and an increase of 0.3 per cent. in the case of women, compared with the previous month.

*Vacancies Notified.*—During the five weeks ended 8th October there were 90,906 vacancies notified, representing a daily average of 3,030, as compared with 2,893 during the preceding period. Of this daily average, 1,547 were for men, 927 for women, and 556 for juveniles. Compared with the previous month, the daily average number of vacancies notified for men, women and juveniles increased by 1.5 per cent., 6.3 per cent. and 11.9 per cent. respectively.

*Vacancies Filled.*—The total number of vacancies filled during the period was 76,050—a daily average of 2,535, as compared with 2,391 during the preceding statistical month. Of this daily average, men accounted for 1,373, women for 675, and juveniles for 487. The corresponding figures for the previous month were: Men, 1,319; women, 629; and juveniles, 443.

*Juveniles.*—During the period, 36,510 applications were received from boys and 39,300 from girls. The number of vacancies notified for boys was 8,026, and 7,188 vacancies were filled. In the case of girls, 8,664 vacancies were notified, and 7,419 were filled. Of the total vacancies filled by juveniles, 21.8 per cent were filled by applicants who obtained their first situation since leaving school.

The figures above, except those in the first three paragraphs, are exclusive of dock labourers and coal porters. The number of casual jobs found for men in these occupations during the period of five weeks ended 8th October was 3,577.

\* The figures relate to Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The figures for Great Britain alone, as already published in the Press, show that on 29th October, 1923, there were on the Live Registers 943,200 men, 233,800 women, and 79,000 juveniles, compared with 1,165,000 men, 235,000 women, and 85,800 juveniles at 1st January, 1923.

† Workmen on systematic short time are not included.

The following Table shews for each of the Employment Exchange administrative areas and for the principal towns therein the number of persons remaining on the "live registers" at the Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 29th October, 1923. In certain cases, e.g., Bristol, Birmingham, Sheffield, Liverpool, Glasgow, etc., the figures cover more than one Exchange Area.—

Area.	Number of Persons remaining on the Live Registers at 29th October, 1923.				Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) as compared with 1st Oct., 1923.
	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.	
London .. .. .	145,474	32,717	14,054	192,245	+ 6,292
South Eastern Division..	52,100	9,969	5,437	67,506	+ 3,739
Brighton .. .. .	2,925	699	581	4,205	+ 651
Chatham .. .. .	3,584	440	590	4,614	+ 217
Ipswich .. .. .	2,967	460	228	3,655	— 69
Norwich .. .. .	4,713	811	434	5,958	+ 112
Rest of South Eastern	38,211	7,559	3,604	49,374	+ 2,818
South Western Division..	62,110	10,653	6,199	78,962	+ 3,729
Bristol .. .. .	11,907	2,675	1,335	15,917	+ 268
Plymouth .. .. .	5,793	820	589	7,202	+ 566
Portsmouth .. .. .	7,034	814	776	8,624	— 51
Reading .. .. .	1,581	94	303	1,978	— 50
Southampton .. .. .	6,253	606	515	7,374	— 44
Swindon .. .. .	691	89	173	953	+ 4
Rest of South Western	28,851	5,585	2,508	36,944	+ 3,036
Midlands Division .. ..	119,775	36,302	8,444	164,521	— 4,394
Birmingham .. .. .	30,694	9,537	1,370	41,601	— 709
Coventry .. .. .	4,413	741	300	5,454	— 440
Cradley Heath .. .. .	3,887	956	259	5,102	— 3
Derby .. .. .	2,536	826	355	3,717	+ 250
Leicester .. .. .	3,408	1,466	108	5,002	— 710
Northampton .. .. .	1,608	453	176	2,237	+ 115
Nottingham .. .. .	6,606	1,931	226	8,813	— 348
Smethwick .. .. .	3,731	1,171	424	5,326	+ 103
Stoke-on-Trent .. .. .	6,881	3,504	251	10,636	— 449
Walsall .. .. .	4,547	612	871	6,060	— 142
West Bromwich .. .. .	2,991	451	155	3,597	— 189
Wolverhampton .. .. .	5,735	1,861	344	7,940	— 452
Rest of Midlands	42,738	12,693	3,605	59,036	— 1,320
North Eastern Division..	198,767	30,263	13,002	242,032	+ 2,351
Barnsley .. .. .	1,125	304	109	1,538	+ 92
Bradford .. .. .	8,330	4,270	322	12,922	— 273
Darlington .. .. .	2,531	172	163	2,866	+ 274
Dewsbury .. .. .	1,059	445	106	1,610	+ 171
Doncaster .. .. .	360	208	326	894	+ 101
Gateshead .. .. .	6,013	681	585	7,279	+ 107
Grimsby .. .. .	1,847	248	225	2,320	+ 220
Halifax .. .. .	2,267	1,045	94	3,406	— 396
Hartlepool .. .. .	6,999	269	336	7,604	+ 336
Huddersfield .. .. .	3,248	1,768	172	5,188	+ 46
Hull .. .. .	9,133	853	1,100	11,086	+ 356
Leeds .. .. .	14,447	3,715	978	19,140	+ 817
Lincoln .. .. .	3,265	285	204	3,754	— 36
Middlesbrough .. .. .	9,649	487	365	10,501	+ 598
Newcastle-on-Tyne .. ..	17,523	1,400	1,176	20,099	— 127
Rotherham .. .. .	1,940	199	275	2,414	— 544
Sheffield .. .. .	23,524	2,098	1,488	27,090	+ 208
South Shields .. .. .	6,785	418	384	7,587	+ 53
Stockton-on-Tees .. .. .	7,804	192	323	8,319	— 33
Sunderland .. .. .	15,477	890	878	17,245	— 283
York .. .. .	1,832	301	517	2,650	+ 99
Rest of North Eastern	53,609	10,015	2,896	66,520	+ 565
North Western Division	190,458	36,300	19,529	246,287	— 4,184
Accrington .. .. .	2,378	2,139	276	4,793	— 320
Ashton-under-Lyne .. ..	2,633	1,295	180	4,108	— 304
Barrow .. .. .	6,123	418	641	7,182	— 1,061
Birkenhead .. .. .	5,761	511	1,180	7,452	— 405
Blackburn .. .. .	5,150	4,955	579	10,684	+ 2,096
Blackpool .. .. .	1,376	1,09	173	2,558	+ 1,157
Bolton .. .. .	6,301	1,445	495	8,241	— 314
Burnley .. .. .	4,605	6,205	585	11,395	— 843
Bury .. .. .	2,044	2,226	264	4,534	+ 147
Chorley .. .. .	1,461	609	97	2,167	+ 271
Liverpool .. .. .	44,121	7,284	3,698	55,103	+ 1,065
Manchester .. .. .	24,430	6,855	2,059	33,344	+ 333
Nelson .. .. .	1,348	923	61	2,332	+ 241
Oldham .. .. .	10,344	6,265	658	17,268	+ 1,639
Preston .. .. .	4,919	4,668	485	10,072	— 2,371
Rochdale .. .. .	5,074	4,616	663	10,413	— 1,913
St. Helens .. .. .	1,869	284	321	2,474	— 134
Salford .. .. .	8,942	4,119	1,382	14,443	— 389
Stockport .. .. .	3,484	2,624	336	6,444	— 1,097
Warrington .. .. .	2,453	459	227	3,139	+ 16
Wigan .. .. .	1,510	3,757	715	5,982	— 21
Rest of North Western	44,132	23,573	4,454	72,159	— 1,976
Scotland Division .. ..	142,002	24,701	10,094	176,797	+ 1,011
Aberdeen .. .. .	5,392	869	311	6,563	+ 19
Clydebank .. .. .	4,183	275	320	4,778	— 181
Dundee .. .. .	7,089	2,030	238	9,357	+ 31
Edinburgh .. .. .	9,864	1,959	963	12,816	— 276
Glasgow .. .. .	63,000	10,585	5,055	78,640	+ 1,591
Greenock .. .. .	10,785	707	350	11,842	+ 36
Motherwell .. .. .	2,143	179	179	2,501	+ 220
Paisley .. .. .	5,489	917	276	6,682	— 349
Rest of Scotland	34,057	7,159	2,402	43,618	— 80
Wales Division .. .. .	32,233	2,863	2,220	37,316	+ 1,170
Cardiff .. .. .	5,229	646	429	6,304	— 599
Llanelli .. .. .	453	134	62	649	+ 27
Newport .. .. .	2,636	209	138	2,983	— 11
Swansea .. .. .	2,413	193	154	2,800	+ 311
Rest of Wales .. .. .	21,502	1,881	1,397	24,580	+ 1,442
Northern Ireland .. ..	30,988	12,004	1,062	44,054	+ 1,131
Belfast .. .. .	16,980	7,695	663	25,338	+ 1,175
Londonderry .. .. .	1,884	778	60	2,722	— 24
Lurgan .. .. .	400	82	8	490	+ 26
Lisburn .. .. .	748	604	55	1,407	— 202
Newry .. .. .	731	304	23	1,118	+ 21
Rest of Northern Ireland	6,185	2,541	253	8,979	+ 175
Total Gt. Britain and Northern Ireland ..	970,207	245,502	80,041	1,296,050	+ 10,945



# UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED INDUSTRIES IN GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND, JUNE TO OCTOBER, 1923.

[An account of the data employed and of the methods followed in compiling these statistics is given on pages 397-8.]

TRADES.		ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PERSONS IN INSURED TRADES AT JULY, 1923.			NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED (INCLUDING A DUE PROPORTION OF SYSTEMATIC SHORT TIME WORKERS).										PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED (TOTALS) (INCLUDING PART SHORT TIME).				
					June.		July.		August.		September.		October.						
					Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	25th June.	23rd July.
Fishing .. .. .	(1)	23,600	530	24,130	2,336	48	2,885	77	3,048	75	3,083	34	2,673	32	9.9	12.3	12.9	12.9	11.2
Coal Mining .. .. .	(2)	1,258,650	8,200	1,266,850	31,684	337	37,290	416	43,813	493	38,451	482	31,148	437	2.5	3.0	3.1	2.5	2.5
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining and Quarrying .. .. .	(3)	19,670	50	19,720	3,500	4	4,567	5	4,447	4	4,946	4	4,497	2	18.0	23.2	22.6	25.1	22.8
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining .. .. .	(4)	5,000	70	5,070	1,161	9	1,119	5	1,097	7	931	9	941	17	23.1	22.2	21.8	19.5	18.9
Stone Quarrying and Mining .. .. .	(5)	32,060	270	32,330	1,348	8	1,331	13	1,676	15	1,937	14	2,017	11	4.2	4.2	5.2	6.0	6.3
Slate Quarrying and Mining .. .. .	(6)	8,000	20	8,020	107	2	195	1	141	—	100	—	138	1	1.4	2.5	1.8	1.2	1.7
Other Mining and Quarrying .. .. .	(7)	24,960	1,580	26,540	1,823	177	1,634	179	1,623	197	1,480	194	1,619	156	7.5	6.8	6.9	6.3	6.7
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pit Digging .. .. .	(8)	12,520	170	12,690	692	43	590	35	681	35	737	27	821	13	5.8	4.9	5.6	6.0	6.6
Coke Ovens and By product Works .. .. .	(9)	15,070	200	15,270	952	66	1,030	29	903	28	908	37	940	31	6.7	6.9	6.1	6.2	6.4
Artificial Stone and Concrete Manufacture .. .. .	(10)	10,090	660	10,750	1,413	88	1,433	90	1,488	84	1,570	94	1,719	76	14.0	14.2	14.6	15.5	16.7
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting Works .. .. .	(11)	16,080	620	16,700	1,408	36	1,740	40	1,830	28	1,292	39	1,235	43	8.6	10.7	11.1	8.0	8.0
Bricks, Pipes, Tiles, Fireclay Goods Manufacture .. .. .	(12)	54,340	7,500	61,840	4,012	948	3,663	992	3,627	890	3,801	764	4,367	814	8.0	7.5	7.3	7.4	8.4
Manufacture of Pottery, Earthenware, China, Porcelain .. .. .	(13)	35,750	36,380	72,130	3,638	4,067	4,380	5,140	4,557	5,934	3,697	4,790	3,698	4,309	10.7	13.2	14.6	11.8	11.1
Glass (excl. Bottles, Optical and Scientific Glass) Manufacture .. .. .	(14)	22,880	4,990	27,870	4,100	410	3,865	426	3,517	371	3,180	451	3,171	335	16.2	15.4	14.0	13.0	12.6
Glass Bottle Making .. .. .	(15)	14,950	1,650	16,600	3,671	172	3,612	164	3,419	175	3,278	193	3,390	182	23.2	22.7	21.7	20.9	21.5
Chemicals Manufacture .. .. .	(16)	80,430	24,940	105,370	10,340	1,711	10,615	1,668	10,298	1,779	10,029	1,626	10,284	1,737	11.4	11.7	11.5	11.1	11.4
Explosives Manufacture .. .. .	(17)	13,960	5,120	19,080	2,015	465	1,938	471	1,513	490	1,902	556	1,925	510	13.0	12.6	10.5	12.9	12.8
Paint, Varnish, Japan, Red and White Lead Manufacture .. .. .	(18)	10,920	2,950	13,870	454	138	428	150	462	154	431	177	509	177	4.3	4.2	4.4	4.4	4.9
Oil, Grease, Glue, Soap, Ink, Match, etc., Manufacture .. .. .	(19)	57,530	21,620	79,150	5,108	1,470	6,062	1,526	5,235	1,573	4,999	1,572	5,291	1,390	8.3	9.6	8.6	8.3	8.4
Pig Iron Manufacture (Blast Furnaces) .. .. .	(20)	29,510	240	29,550	2,785	3	2,918	9	3,944	10	4,765	8	4,567	10	9.4	9.9	13.4	16.2	15.5
Puddling Furnaces, Iron and Steel Rolling Mills .. .. .	(21)	210,150	4,480	214,630	43,780	340	44,389	414	46,075	396	46,186	360	48,307	373	20.6	20.9	21.7	21.7	22.7
Manufacture of Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc. .. .. .	(22)	38,510	4,000	42,510	6,455	559	6,207	556	6,311	546	6,343	554	6,489	489	16.5	15.9	16.1	16.2	16.4
Manufacture of Tin Plates .. .. .	(23)	25,860	4,330	30,190	958	176	892	174	1,426	255	879	208	904	211	3.8	3.5	5.6	3.6	3.7
Iron and Steel Tube Making .. .. .	(24)	23,900	1,450	25,350	3,672	233	4,807	243	3,994	255	4,564	211	4,369	190	15.4	19.9	16.8	18.8	18.0
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Rope Manufacture .. .. .	(25)	20,630	3,940	24,570	1,882	316	2,055	360	2,236	359	2,245	352	2,201	383	8.9	9.8	10.6	10.6	10.5
Engineering: Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding .. .. .	(26)	635,260	39,690	674,950	138,830	2,333	134,639	2,361	133,500	2,541	134,177	2,339	135,730	2,490	20.9	20.3	20.2	20.2	20.5
Heating and Ventilating Engineering .. .. .	(27)	5,340	420	5,760	368	7	365	16	302	13	339	8	394	6	6.5	6.6	5.5	6.0	6.9
Electrical Wiring and Contracting .. .. .	(28)	11,010	860	11,870	1,948	28	1,947	39	1,579	27	1,686	43	1,589	27	16.6	16.7	13.5	14.6	13.6
Electrical Engineering .. .. .	(29)	50,570	11,710	62,280	3,620	375	3,932	541	3,451	558	3,652	557	3,506	585	6.4	7.2	6.4	6.8	6.6
Electrical Cable, Wire and Electric Lamp Manufacture .. .. .	(30)	48,480	24,360	72,840	4,802	2,329	4,842	2,504	4,794	2,425	4,601	2,174	4,723	2,090	9.8	10.1	9.9	9.3	9.4
Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles and Aircraft .. .. .	(31)	174,590	19,830	194,420	17,052	1,237	17,403	1,295	19,660	1,595	22,006	1,656	22,543	1,662	9.4	9.6	10.9	12.2	12.4
Construction and Repair of Carriages, Carts, etc. .. .. .	(32)	25,540	2,400	27,940	3,613	188	3,533	208	3,794	235	3,905	269	3,918	213	13.6	13.4	14.4	14.9	14.8
Railway Carriage, Wagon and Tramcar Building .. .. .	(33)	50,560	1,230	51,840	2,195	29	2,468	33	2,349	37	2,414	23	2,419	24	4.3	4.8	4.6	4.7	4.7
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing .. .. .	(34)	268,520	4,010	272,530	118,551	455	117,286	356	119,366	340	117,294	344	115,879	346	43.7	43.2	43.9	43.2	42.6
Marine Engineering and Marine Boiler Making .. .. .	(35)	65,760	1,110	66,870	14,033	18	14,814	30	16,735	40	16,649	43	17,385	67	21.0	22.2	25.1	25.0	26.1
Hand Tool, Cutlery, Saw, File Making .. .. .	(36)	22,760	7,340	30,100	3,907	951	4,305	958	3,961	967	4,291	921	4,165	875	16.1	17.5	16.4	17.3	16.7
Bolt, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc., Manufacture .. .. .	(37)	17,510	12,730	30,240	2,818	2,261	2,859	2,265	3,212	2,042	2,896	2,090	2,813	2,084	16.8	16.9	17.4	16.5	16.2
Brass and Allied Metal Wares Manufacture .. .. .	(38)	20,450	12,000	32,450	4,269	2,401	4,379	2,318	4,460	2,443	4,343	2,506	4,151	2,411	20.6	20.6	21.3	21.1	20.2
Constructional Engineering .. .. .	(39)	22,940	840	23,780	2,806	10	2,334	14	2,390	35	2,541	64	2,561	22	11.8	9.9	10.2	11.0	10.9
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., Making and General Iron Founding .. .. .	(40)	79,020	6,890	85,910	13,907	708	14,209	785	14,644	840	14,507	820	14,375	738	17.0	17.5	18.0	17.8	17.6
Other Metal Industries .. .. .	(41)	107,180	60,310	167,490	11,335	6,585	11,742	7,242	12,527	7,388	12,013	7,445	12,362	7,112	10.7	11.3	11.9	11.6	11.6
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc., Manufacture .. .. .	(42)	29,380	20,450	49,830	4,275	2,162	4,613	2,144	4,346	2,151	4,116	1,837	3,903	1,764	12.9	13.6	13.0	11.9	11.4
Cotton Industry .. .. .	(43)	211,010	365,280	576,290	41,074	81,154	41,537	81,358	43,087	80,829	38,631	77,248	34,444	67,957	21.2	21.3	21.5	20.1	17.8
Woollen and Worsted Industry .. .. .	(44)	119,630	153,700	273,330	9,727	8,938	10,869	14,667	13,205	17,301	13,663	16,493	13,787	16,356	6.8	9.3	11.2	11.0	11.0
Silk Industry .. .. .	(45)	14,320	23,820	38,140	918	1,494	794	1,762	1,066	2,067	1,090	2,496	1,062	2,371	6.3	6.7	8.2	9.4	9.0
Linen Industry .. .. .	(46)	25,700	56,370	82,070	4,172	8,826	5,102	11,96	4,890	11,000	4,970	12,203	5,173	10,910	15.8	19.7	19.4	20.9	19.6
Jute Industry .. .. .																			



# UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED INDUSTRIES IN GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND, JUNE TO OCTOBER, 1923.—continued.

[An account of the data employed and of the methods followed in compiling these statistics is given on pages 397-8.]

TRADES.		ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PERSONS IN INSURED TRADES AT JULY.			NUMBERS UNEMPLOYED (INCLUDING A DUE PROPORTION OF SYSTEMATIC SHORT-TIME WORKERS).										PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED (TOTALS) (INCLUDING PART SHORT TIME).					
					June.		July.		August.		September.		October.							
					Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	25th June.	23rd July.	27th August.
Tanning, Currying and Leather Dressing .. .. .	(54)	33,230	8,590	41,820	3,894	819	3,877	893	4,142	1,016	3,986	875	3,894	777	11.3	11.4	12.3	11.6	11.2	(54)
Saddlery, Harness and Other Leather Goods Manufacture .. .	(55)	16,800	12,550	29,350	2,242	1,262	2,043	1,265	2,033	1,243	1,916	1,161	1,875	1,033	11.9	11.3	11.2	10.5	9.9	(55)
Tailoring .. .. .	(56)	65,910	120,300	186,210	4,273	6,240	5,150	7,376	7,191	11,659	7,421	13,194	7,537	13,209	5.6	6.7	10.1	11.1	11.1	(56)
Dress and Mantle Making and Millinery .. .. .	(57)	12,250	104,160	116,410	796	5,871	885	6,441	1,018	8,527	921	8,272	867	8,133	5.7	6.3	8.2	7.9	7.7	(57)
Hat and Cap (including Straw Plait) Manufacture .. .. .	(58)	13,810	20,830	34,640	1,184	1,334	1,165	1,659	1,181	1,864	1,287	1,876	1,828	2,091	7.3	8.2	8.8	9.1	11.3	(58)
Blouses, Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc., Making .. .	(59)	6,640	60,880	67,520	356	4,547	350	4,645	358	4,702	382	5,043	359	5,428	7.3	7.4	7.5	8.0	8.6	(59)
Other Dress Industries .. .. .	(60)	12,470	20,470	32,940	1,165	2,489	1,283	2,625	1,361	3,012	1,388	3,005	1,344	2,719	11.1	11.9	13.3	13.3	12.3	(60)
Boot, Shoe, Slipper and Clog Trades .. .. .	(61)	93,620	50,230	143,850	10,173	2,647	11,232	3,815	11,639	4,005	11,252	3,533	10,827	3,219	8.9	10.5	10.9	10.3	9.8	(61)
Bread, Biscuit, Cake, etc., Making .. .. .	(62)	104,290	54,840	159,130	12,408	4,249	12,096	3,758	11,539	3,842	11,367	3,789	12,508	4,219	10.5	10.0	9.7	9.5	10.5	(62)
Grain Milling .. .. .	(63)	26,460	3,100	29,560	1,399	173	1,555	266	1,452	256	1,323	184	1,251	185	5.3	6.2	5.8	5.1	4.9	(63)
Cocoa, Chocolate, and Sugar Confectionery .. .. .	(64)	25,040	45,740	70,780	1,550	4,408	1,722	6,310	1,979	5,515	1,794	3,657	1,868	3,552	8.4	11.3	10.6	7.7	7.7	(64)
Other Food Industries .. .. .	(65)	49,070	49,220	98,290	3,839	6,631	3,717	5,297	3,793	6,824	3,985	7,107	4,082	6,137	10.7	9.2	10.8	11.3	10.4	(65)
Drink Industries .. .. .	(66)	81,500	20,850	102,350	5,101	1,986	4,904	1,545	5,014	2,053	4,879	2,552	4,531	2,652	6.9	6.3	6.9	7.3	7.0	(66)
Tobacco, Cigar, Cigarette and Snuff Manufacture .. .. .	(67)	14,960	30,360	45,320	985	2,168	1,125	2,019	1,108	2,195	1,072	2,002	934	1,936	7.0	6.9	7.3	6.8	6.3	(67)
Sawmilling and Machined Woodwork .. .. .	(68)	54,700	3,300	58,000	6,747	210	6,434	204	6,509	224	6,370	245	6,385	229	12.0	11.4	11.6	11.4	11.4	(68)
Wool Box and Packing Case Making .. .. .	(69)	10,710	2,020	12,730	1,834	266	1,925	261	1,891	260	1,925	302	2,053	222	16.5	17.2	16.9	17.5	17.9	(69)
Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc. .. .. .	(70)	76,540	17,810	94,350	5,730	1,011	6,242	1,063	7,201	1,272	6,985	1,278	6,506	1,130	7.1	7.7	9.0	8.8	8.1	(70)
Other Woodworking .. .. .	(71)	20,610	6,840	27,450	2,807	951	2,849	1,052	3,069	1,202	2,875	971	2,674	883	13.7	14.2	15.6	14.0	13.0	(71)
Paper and Paper Board Making .. .. .	(72)	40,440	16,120	56,560	2,951	927	3,449	1,163	3,193	1,080	3,581	1,174	3,898	1,211	6.9	8.2	7.6	8.4	9.0	(72)
Cardboard Boxes, Paper Bags and Stationery .. .. .	(73)	19,740	35,900	55,640	1,220	2,874	1,188	3,040	1,139	3,010	1,166	2,999	1,170	2,917	7.4	7.6	7.5	7.3	7.3	(73)
Wall Paper Making and Paper Staining .. .. .	(74)	3,510	1,270	4,780	169	83	135	75	150	73	155	75	133	40	5.3	4.4	4.7	4.8	3.6	(74)
Stationery and Typewriter Requisites (not Paper) .. .. .	(75)	1,950	2,850	4,800	103	130	146	113	118	173	127	128	121	137	4.9	5.4	6.2	5.3	5.4	(75)
Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding .. .. .	(76)	150,870	80,140	231,010	8,737	4,173	8,608	4,265	8,984	4,222	8,828	4,184	9,041	3,927	5.6	5.6	5.7	5.6	5.6	(76)
Building .. .. .	(77)	708,640	8,480	717,120	89,400	180	87,335	184	82,391	209	84,665	227	87,478	188	12.5	12.2	11.5	11.8	12.2	(77)
Public Works Contracting, etc. .. .. .	(78)	126,900	860	127,760	24,643	20	23,609	19	23,682	20	23,577	29	24,448	20	19.3	18.5	18.6	18.5	19.2	(78)
Rubber Manufacture .. .. .	(79)	33,140	24,760	57,900	4,165	2,028	4,067	2,318	4,101	2,688	4,500	3,138	4,585	3,243	10.7	11.0	11.7	13.2	13.5	(79)
Oilcloth, Linoleum, etc., Manufacture .. .. .	(80)	10,440	1,880	12,320	516	125	683	128	444	101	45	158	572	128	5.2	6.6	4.4	5.1	5.7	(80)
Brush and Broom Making .. .. .	(81)	4,930	4,060	8,990	596	337	452	555	501	521	563	532	654	411	10.4	11.2	11.4	12.2	11.8	(81)
Scientific & Photographic Instrument & Apparatus Manufacture .. .	(82)	11,270	6,520	17,790	796	164	711	215	718	175	748	188	740	188	5.4	5.2	5.0	5.3	5.2	(82)
Musical Instrument Making .. .. .	(83)	16,430	3,330	19,760	1,004	153	1,272	165	1,098	134	807	138	952	145	5.9	7.3	6.2	4.8	5.6	(83)
Toys, Games, and Sports Requisites Manufacture .. .. .	(84)	6,580	5,640	12,220	747	754	538	678	642	651	615	596	689	582	12.3	10.0	10.6	9.9	10.4	(84)
Gas, Water, and Electricity Supply Industries .. .. .	(85)	168,940	6,760	175,700	12,800	213	12,247	199	11,954	345	11,728	250	11,903	262	7.4	7.1	7.0	6.8	6.9	(85)
Railway Service .. .. .	(86)	182,240	10,540	192,780	11,255	225	11,285	218	10,505	259	10,453	249	11,505	372	6.0	6.0	5.6	5.6	6.2	(86)
Tramway and Omnibus Service .. .. .	(87)	105,810	4,550	110,360	3,063	90	3,271	105	3,180	103	3,627	95	3,813	139	2.9	3.1	3.0	3.4	3.6	(87)
Other Road Transport .. .. .	(88)	142,770	4,470	147,240	25,935	94	25,686	87	25,549	93	24,477	102	26,207	111	17.7	17.5	17.4	16.7	17.9	(88)
Shipping Service .. .. .	(89)	112,050	5,850	117,900	20,433	326	21,655	317	21,109	336	21,025	353	23,303	363	17.6	18.6	18.2	18.1	20.1	(89)
Canal, River, Dock and Harbour Service .. .. .	(90)	191,790	1,850	193,640	49,635	140	52,316	137	45,698	115	44,350	119	46,280	142	25.7	27.1	23.7	23.0	24.0	(90)
Other Transport and Communication and Storage .. .. .	(91)	23,450	2,850	26,300	5,263	433	4,936	355	4,734	407	4,703	335	4,610	331	21.7	20.1	19.5	19.1	18.8	(91)
Distributive Trades .. .. .	(92)	756,430	505,150	1,261,580	52,725	20,707	53,120	21,388	54,329	23,517	54,100	23,885	56,004	26,022	5.8	5.9	6.2	6.2	6.5	(92)
Commercial, Banking, Insurance and Finance .. .. .	(93)	91,020	52,600	143,620	5,857	1,475	5,927	1,316	5,986	1,262	5,626	1,403	5,876	1,383	5.1	5.0	5.0	4.9	5.1	(93)
National Government .. .. .	(94)	143,410	37,820	181,230	18,769	2,437	17,832	2,230	17,442	2,152	17,141	1,953	17,059	2,140	11.7	11.1	10.8	10.5	10.6	(94)
Local Government .. .. .	(95)	223,000	18,370	241,370	13,844	353	14,012	446	14,156	428	15,005	445	15,170	651	5.8	5.9	5.9	6.3	6.4	(95)
Professional Services .. .. .	(96)	65,300	42,770	108,070	3,204	1,180	3,365	1,115	3,120	1,302	3,210	1,277	3,396	1,322	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.4	(96)
Entertainments and Sport .. .. .	(97)	38,740	20,550	59,290	5,864	2,457	5,788	2,579	5,538	2,319	5,228	2,097	5,789	2,344	14.0	14.1	13.3	12.4	13.7	(97)
Hotel, Boarding House, Club Services .. .. .	(98)	93,220	161,520	254,740	11,171	14,352	10,786	14,526	10,968	15,046	11,580	15,999	13,743	20,720	10.0	9.9	10.2	10.8	13.5	(98)
Laundries, Dyeing and Dry Cleaning .. .. .	(99)	20,290	86,990	107,280	1,194	4,277	1,136	4,213	1,147	4,834	1,144	5,004	1,257	5,262	5.1	5.0	5.6	5.7	6.1	(99)
Other Industries and Services .. .. .	(100)	78,230	28,650	106,880	25,543	2,849	25,085	3,021	26,503	3,102	26,803	3,112	27,816	2,930	26.6	26.3	27.7	28.0	28.8	(100)
* TOTAL .. .. .		8,526,900	2,975,900	11,502,800	1,029,928	265,208	1,042,044	282,457	1,053,912	300,838	1,045,978	293,689	1,056,762	291,095	11.3	11.5	11.8	11.7	11.	

\* The number of insured contributors claiming benefit in respect of Systematic Short Time at 22nd October was 68,137, of whom 36,866 were men, 26,544 women, and 4,727 juveniles. Of these about one-half may be assumed to have been unemployed at the date of the return, and these have been included in the figures.



## TRADE DISPUTES.\*

**Number, Magnitude and Duration.**—The number of trade disputes involving a stoppage of work, reported to the Department as beginning in October in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was 41, as compared with 29 in the previous month, and 32 in October, 1922. In these new disputes about 12,000 and 32 in October, 1922. In these new disputes about 12,000 workpeople were directly involved and 1,000 indirectly involved (i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes). In addition, about 43,000 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 18 disputes which began before October and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The number of new and old disputes was thus 59, involving about 56,000 workpeople, and resulting in a loss during October of about 1,167,000 working days.

The principal dispute in progress was that involving members of the United Society of Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders in federated shipyards. This dispute, which began on 30th April, continued throughout October.

The following Table analyses the disputes in progress in October in Great Britain and Northern Ireland by groups of industries, and indicates the number of workpeople involved (whether directly or indirectly) at the establishments concerned, and the approximate time lost during the month in all disputes in progress:—

Groups of Industries.	Number of Disputes in progress in October.			Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress in Oct.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress in Oct.
	Started before 1st Oct.	Started in Oct.	Total.		
Building .. ..	2	4	6	1,000	9,000
Mining & Quarrying	4	10	14	9,000	16,000
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding	4	7	11	42,000	1,096,000
Transport .. ..	1	3	4	1,000	20,000
Other Trades.. ..	7	17	24	3,000	26,000
<b>Total, Oct., 1923 ..</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>56,000</b>	<b>1,167,000</b>
<i>Total, Sept., 1923 ..</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>57</i>	<i>54,000</i>	<i>1,029,000</i>
<i>Total, Oct., 1922 ..</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>57</i>	<i>14,000</i>	<i>186,000</i>

**Causes.**—Of the 41 disputes beginning in October, 9, directly involving 1,000 workpeople, arose out of demands for advances

in wages; 5, directly involving 1,000 workpeople, against proposed reductions in wages; 12, directly involving 6,000 workpeople, on other wages questions; 5, directly involving 2,000 workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; and 10, directly involving 2,000 workpeople, on other questions.

**Results.**—Settlements were effected during October in the case of 29 new disputes, directly involving 10,000 workpeople, and 10 old disputes, directly involving 1,000 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 8, directly involving 2,000 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 18, directly involving 6,000 workpeople, were settled in favour of the employers; and 13, directly involving 3,000 workpeople, were compromised. In the case of 4 disputes, directly involving 1,000 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

## TOTALS FOR FIRST TEN MONTHS OF 1922 AND 1923.†

The following Table summarises the figures for Great Britain and Northern Ireland for the first ten months of 1923, in comparison with the corresponding period of 1922:—

Groups of Industries.	January to Oct., 1922.			January to Oct., 1923.		
	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 .. ..	54	8,000	167,000	51	20,000	358,000
Mining and Quarrying	141	117,000	1,408,000	152	162,000	1,070,000
Engineering and Shipbuilding .. ..	49	356,000‡	17,145,000‡	46	49,000	4,949,000
Other Metal .. ..	51	12,000	297,000	42	7,000	75,000
Textile .. ..	16	4,000	64,000	27	36,000	1,226,000
Clothing .. ..	20	3,000	45,000	23	4,000	28,000
Transport .. ..	44	7,000	67,000	50	57,000	1,012,000
Agriculture and Fishing	4	2,000	54,000	8	9,000	263,000
Printing, Paper, &c., Trades .. ..	11	19,000	324,000	12	6,000	169,000
Woodworking and Furnishing .. ..	23	2,000	37,000	19	2,000	42,000
Chemical, Brick, Glass, Pottery, etc. ..	12	1,000	30,000	25	3,000	86,000
Food, &c., Trades ..	18	5,000	65,000	19	9,000	155,000
Other Trades .. ..	24	3,000	27,000	42	4,000	16,000
Employees of Public Authorities .. ..	28	4,000	89,000	25	5,000	64,000
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>495</b>	<b>543,000</b>	<b>19,819,000</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>373,000</b>	<b>9,513,000</b>

## PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS DURING OCTOBER, 1923.

Occupations and Locality. §	Approximate Number of Workpeople Involved.		Date when Dispute		Cause or Object. §	Result. §
	Directly.	Indirectly. §	Began.	Ended.		
<b>BUILDING TRADES:—</b>			1923.	1923.		
Joiners, etc.—Glasgow .. ..	700	..	15 Oct.	18 Oct.	Against enforcement on joiners of the national working rules of the building industry, involving a local reduction in overtime rates, while other building occupations remained under local agreements.	Application of the national rules to Scotland to be deferred pending negotiations.
<b>METAL, ENGINEERING, AND SHIPBUILDING:—</b>						
Platers, rivetters, caulkers, etc. (shipbuilding and repairing), and other workpeople—Federated Districts.	10,000¶	30,000¶	30 April	..	Lock-out to enforce acceptance of an Agreement governing overtime and night-shift working made between the Employers' Federation and the Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades.	No settlement reported.
<b>TRANSPORT:—</b>						
Canal boatmen, carters, warehousemen, and other workpeople—Birmingham, Midlands, London, Ellesmere Port, etc.	617	67	13 Aug.	..	Against proposed reduction in wages of canal boatmen.	No settlement reported.
Omnibus drivers and conductors—Croydon.	400	..	21 Oct.	22 Oct.	Misunderstanding arising out of delay in receipt by the men of a new time schedule involving immediate application of the "spread over" system to hours of duty at week-ends.	Men accepted the new schedule.
<b>OTHER TRADES:—</b>						
Woollen weavers, dyers, finishers, etc.—Huddersfield.	464	..	9 Oct.	25 Oct.	For reinstatement of two dismissed employees.	Work found at other firms for the two employees in question.
Saltworkers—Tees-side.	228	..	8 Oct.	30 Oct.	Against reduction in wages under a sliding scale Agreement, whereby wages were governed by selling prices.	Sliding scale Agreement terminated, and modified reduction in wages agreed upon, an advance being granted in the case of labourers. (See also page 419.)
Dustmen, destructor men, roadmen, etc., and electricity workers—Fulham, S.W.	530	..	13 Oct.**	25 Oct.	Against re-introduction of piece-work system of payment for dustmen.	Piece-work basis accepted, subject to payment of a guaranteed minimum weekly wage not less than the time-work wage adopted by the Joint Industrial Council (London District).

\* 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, all being for workpeople replaced by others, etc.) 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. Workpeople involved in more than one dispute are counted more than once in the totals; the extent of such duplication is, however, very slight.

‡ Two disputes which together involved about 350,000 workpeople occurred in 1922 in the engineering and shipbuilding industries.

§ 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.

|| The districts involved include the Clyde, East Scotland, North-East Coast, Hull, Southampton, Birkenhead, and Barrow.

¶ Estimated numbers involved by the end of October, exclusive of workpeople unemployed when the stoppage began.

\*\* Roadmen, etc., ceased work on 20th October and electricity workers on 25th October.



## CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

[Based on Returns from Employers and Workpeople.]

## Rates of Wages.

RATES of wages continued to show, on balance, a slight upward tendency in October. In the industries covered by the Department's statistics\* the changes reported to have come into operation during the month, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, resulted in an aggregate increase of nearly £14,000 in the weekly full-time wages of about 190,000 workpeople, and in a decrease of £8,500 in the weekly wages of 66,000 workpeople.

The groups of industries principally affected are as shown below :—

Group of Industries.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by		Amount of Changes in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
Mining and Quarrying ..	6,500	18,500	£ 400	£ 2,600
Metal .. .. .	28,000	34,000	2,200	4,800
Textile .. .. .	89,000	—	4,600	—
Paper, Printing, &c. ..	30,000	3,500	4,500	350
Other .. .. .	35,000	10,000	2,150	750
Total .. .. .	188,500	66,000	13,850	8,500

In the mining and quarrying group the workers affected by the changes in wages in October were mainly engaged in iron mining. There were decreases varying from 1½d. to 3d. per shift in Cumberland, of nearly 6½ per cent. on the rates previously in force in Cleveland, and of about 1 per cent. on previous rates in Leicestershire and Lincolnshire. In Northamptonshire the previous rates were increased by about 1 per cent.

In the metal industries the wages of blast furnace workers were reduced by about 8½ per cent. on the previous rates in Cleveland, by nearly 6½ per cent. in North Staffordshire, and by smaller amounts in Nottinghamshire and the West of Scotland. In Northamptonshire and South Staffordshire there were slight increases in the wages of blast furnace workers, and in South Wales and Monmouthshire there was an increase of nearly 4 per cent. on the previous rates of blast furnace workers and iron and steel workers. Iron puddlers and millmen in the North of England and West of Scotland received a small increase, and steel sheet millmen and galvanisers generally had their wages reduced by about 3½ per cent. There were reductions varying from 6d. to 1s. 2d. per week in the wages of certain classes of skilled and semi-skilled workmen employed in the ship-repairing industry on the Thames.

The increases in wages recorded in the textile trades were principally due to the operation of cost-of-living sliding scale arrangements. The wages of workpeople employed in the bleaching, dyeing, printing, and finishing trades were increased by nearly 3 per cent. in Yorkshire and by 1s. 7d. and 10d. per week in the case of adult male and female workers respectively in Lancashire, Cheshire, and Scotland. There were also increases, under cost-of-living sliding scales, in the wages of workpeople employed in the woollen and worsted industry in the West of England and at Leicester.

There were increases in the wages of workpeople employed in the paper-making industry, amounting in the case of adult male workers to ¾d. or 1d. per hour, and in the case of adult female workers to ¾d. per hour.

Under the Trade Boards Acts there were increases, due to the operation of cost-of-living sliding scales, in the minimum

rates fixed for workpeople in the hand-hammered chain trade and in the perambulator and invalid carriage trade.

Of the increases taking effect in October, 40, amounting to nearly £11,400 per week, took effect under cost-of-living sliding scales (including £500 under Trade Board Orders); 15, amounting to over £1,700 per week, took effect under sliding scales based on selling prices; 7, amounting to £800 per week, were arranged by joint standing bodies of employers and workpeople (including £500 under cost-of-living sliding scales, incorporated above); 3, amounting to £60 per week, were arranged by arbitration; and the remaining 7 cases, amounting to over £400 per week, were arranged by direct negotiation between the parties or by individual action on the part of employers. Of the above increases a small total (less than £50 per week) took effect following disputes causing stoppages of work. Of the decreases, 15, amounting to £4,250 per week, took effect under sliding scales based on selling prices; 7, amounting to £500 per week, were arranged by arbitration; 4, amounting to £350 per week, were arranged by joint standing bodies of employers and workpeople; and the remaining 23 cases, amounting to nearly £3,400 per week, by direct negotiation or by individual action on the part of employers. Reductions preceded by disputes causing stoppages of work accounted for about £100 per week.

## Summary of Changes in January—October, 1923.

The following Table shows the number of workpeople in Great Britain and Northern Ireland affected by changes in rates of wages reported to the Department during the ten completed months of 1923, and the aggregate amounts of such changes :—

Group of Industries.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by net		Net Amount of Change in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases	Increases.	Decreases.
Building .. .. .	5,700	446,000	£ 1,000	£ 73,600
Mining and Quarrying ..	936,000	18,000	266,000	3,200
Iron and Steel .. .. .	146,000	2,500	29,500	900
Engineering and Shipbuilding .. .. .	5,000	155,000	550	28,100
Other Metal .. .. .	30,000	116,000	2,850	23,900
Textile .. .. .	1,550	193,000	200	13,100
Clothing .. .. .	1,250	491,000	40	80,400
Transport .. .. .	2,750	753,000	275	123,500
Paper, Printing, &c. ..	—	112,000	—	13,100
Furniture and Woodworking .. .. .	100	54,500	15	11,300
Chemical, Glass, Brick, Pottery, &c. .. .. .	1,150	125,000	320	21,600
Food, Drink and Tobacco ..	200	239,000	20	32,700
Public Utility Services ..	2,500	325,000	330	58,100
Other .. .. .	—	111,000	—	14,100
Total .. .. .	1,132,200	3,142,000	301,100	497,600

In the corresponding 10 months of 1922 there was a net reduction of nearly £4,200,000 in the weekly wages of over 7,500,000 workpeople, and a net increase of nearly £11,500 in the wages of nearly 75,000 workpeople.

## Hours of Labour.

There was a small increase in the working hours of glass bottle makers in Yorkshire, owing to a decision to work a Saturday shift.

## PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING OCTOBER, 1923.

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
Building	Bridlington and Scarborough	1 Oct.	Building trade operatives ..	Increase of ½d. per hour for craftsmen (1s. 5½d. to 1s. 6d.) and ¼d. per hour for labourers (1s. 1½d. to 1s. 1¾d.).†
	Leatherhead and Ashted	1 Oct.	Building trade operatives ..	Increase of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: painters 1s. 5d., other craftsmen 1s. 5½d., labourers 1s. 1½d.†
	Maidstone ... ..	3 Sept.	Building trade operatives ..	Increase of ½d. per hour for craftsmen (1s. 3½d. to 1s. 4d.) and ¼d. per hour for labourers (11½d. to 1s.).‡
	Redhill and Reigate	6 Oct.§	Building trade operatives ..	Increase of ¼d. per hour. Rates after change: craftsmen 1s. 4½d., labourers 1s. 0½d.†
	Aberdeen ... ..	8 Oct.	Joiners ... .. .	Increase of 1d. per hour (1s. 6d. to 1s. 7d.).

\* The particulars of numbers affected and amount of change in weekly wages exclude changes affecting Government employees, police, agricultural labourers, domestic servants, shop assistants and clerks, for which classes the information available is not sufficient to provide a basis for statistics. Where information is available, however, details of general changes in the current rates of wages of agricultural labourers, shop assistants and clerks are included in the list of principal changes reported. The statistics relate to full-time rates of wages, and do not take into account the effect of short time working.

† In addition to the numbers quoted wages stand at the same level as at the beginning of the year in the case of 280,000 workpeople, whose wages have been increased and reduced by equal amounts during the year.

‡ This increase in wages resulted from the up-grading of the districts concerned, under the Grading Scheme of the National Wages and Conditions Council for the Building Industry (see page 222 of June GAZETTE).

§ In some cases the increase took effect on 3rd September.



## PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING OCTOBER, 1923—(continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
<b>MINING AND QUARRYING.</b>				
Coal Mining	Northumberland...	1 Sept.	Adult underground pieceworkers	Minimum rates to be calculated by adding to the legal minimum rates 6/7ths of the amount by which the county percentage for July-August (138.55) exceeded 50; no increase in the minimum rates being made in respect of the advance in the county percentage to 145.06 per cent. as from 1 September.*
Coke and By-products Manufacture	South Wales ...	1 Oct.	Cokemen and by-product workers	Increase of 5 per cent. on standard base rates of 1916 and 1917, making wages 30 to 40 per cent. above the standard.
Shale, Mining, etc.	Scotland ...	24 Oct.	Workpeople employed in and about shale mines:— Pieceworkers ... All workers (except engine-men and boiler firemen) Winding enginemmen, non-winding enginemmen and boiler firemen	Decrease of 12½ per cent. on piece rates. Extra payment for overtime and week-end work discontinued. Decrease of 3d. per shift, subject to the provision that rates of 7s. per shift and under are not reduced and that rates over 7s. and under 7s. 3d. per shift are reduced to 7s. per shift.
	Cleveland ...	22 Oct.	Oilworkers ... Ironstone miners ...	Decrease of 13 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 89.5 per cent. above the standard. Rates after change for labourers: (underground), 3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d. per shift; (surface), 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d. per shift, plus in each case 89.5 per cent.
Iron Mining, etc.	Cumberland ...	15 Oct.	Iron ore miners ... Winding enginemmen ... Other underground and surface workers.	Decrease† of 3d. per shift in the bargain price (10s. 7d. to 10s. 4d.) and of 3d. per shift in the minimum wage (7s. 11d. to 7s. 8d.). Decrease† of 2½d. per shift (9s. 2d. to 8s. 11½d.). Decrease† of 1½d. per shift for men and of ¾d. per shift for boys under 16 years. Rates after change: 1st class or leading labourers, 6s. 6½d. per shift; joiners, 9s. 3½d. per shift, plus 6d. per shift tool money; blacksmiths, 9s. 3½d. per shift.
	Northamptonshire	17 Oct.	Ironstone miners ...	Increase† of 1½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 62 per cent. above the standard of 1920.
	Leicestershire and Lincolnshire	24 Oct.	Ironstone quarrymen ...	Decrease† of 1½ per cent. on the standard rates of 1920, leaving wages 22½ per cent. above the standard.
	Banbury and District	24 Oct.	Ironstone miners and quarrymen	Increase† of 1½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 62 per cent. above the standard.
	West Cumberland	8 Oct.	Limestone quarrymen ...	Decrease† of 1½d. per shift for blacksmiths and joiners, of 2½d. per shift for other men, and of 1d. per shift for boys under 16 years. Rates after change: knobblers, 8s. 10½d.; haulage enginemmen, 8s. 6½d.; blacksmiths and joiners, 8s. 9½d.; day borers (1st class), 8s. 4½d.; day labourers (1st class), 7s. 8½d.; ruddmen, 7s. 2½d.
Quarrying	South and West Durham	22 Oct.	Limestone quarrymen ...	Decrease† of 13 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 89.5 per cent. above the standard.
	Northamptonshire	17 Oct.	Limestone quarrymen ...	Increase† of 1½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 62 per cent. above the standard of 1920.
	Aberdeen ...	17 Oct.	Granite workers ...	Increase† of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: granite cutters, turners, scabblers and toolsmiths, 1s. 6d.; polishers (hand), leading bedsetters and sawmen, 1s. 5d. per hour.
<b>IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTURE.</b>				
Pig Iron Manufacture	Cleveland and Durham	7 Oct.	Blastfurnacemen ...	Decrease† of 12.5 per cent. on standard rates of 1919, leaving wages 38 per cent. above the standard (plus, in some cases, an output or input bonus). Minimum rate after change for scale labourers at blast-furnaces, 6s. per shift, plus 38 per cent.
	Tees-side ...	7 Oct.	Cokemen and by-product workers	Decrease† of 12 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 82.75 per cent. above the standard, plus a flat rate make-up payment (varying according to tonnage) for keepers, helpers and slaggers. Minimum rate after change for yard labourers, 3s. 8d. per shift, plus 82.75 per cent.
	North Staffordshire	1st making up day in Oct.	Blastfurnacemen ...	Increase† of 2 per cent. on standard rates, making wages 36 per cent. above the standard of July, 1922. Rates after change:—General labourers, 5s. 1d. per shift, plus 36 per cent.; by-turn labourers, 5s. 3d. per shift, plus 36 per cent.
	South Staffordshire	First full pay after 15 Oct.	Blastfurnacemen ...	Decrease† of 1½ per cent. on standard rates of 1920, leaving wages 22½ per cent. above the standard.
	Nottinghamshire and parts of Derbyshire	24 Oct.	Blastfurnacemen ...	Increase† of 1½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 62 per cent. above the standard of 1920.
	Northamptonshire	17 Oct.	Blastfurnacemen ...	Increase† of 6½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 63½ per cent. above the standard. Minimum rate after change for labourers, 4s. 5½d. per shift, plus 63½ per cent.
	South Wales and Monmouthshire	1 Oct.	Blastfurnacemen ...	Decrease† of 4 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 37 per cent. above the standard.
Iron and Steel Manufacture	West of Scotland...	28 Oct.‡	Blastfurnacemen ...	Decrease† of 6 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 64 per cent. above the standard of 1891.
	England and Wales	8 Oct.	Steel sheet millmen ...	Increase† of 2½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 47½ per cent. above the standard.
	North of England	1 Oct.	Iron puddlers ... Iron millmen ...	Increase† of 2½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 45 per cent. above the standard.
	Barrow-in-Furness	1 Oct.	Merchant millmen ...	Increase† of 2½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 45 per cent. above the standard.
	Sheffield District	1 Oct.	Building trade operatives employed in steel and engineering works	Decrease of 5s. 7½d. per week for plumbers, 3s. 8d. per week for other craftsmen, and 3s. 4½d. per week for bricklayers' labourers. Rates after change: craftsmen, 71s.; bricklayers' labourers, 52s.
	South Wales and Monmouthshire	1 Oct.	Iron and steel workers ...	Increase† of 6½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 63½ per cent. above the standard. Minimum rate for labourers after change, 4s. 5½d. per shift, plus 63½ per cent.
	West of Scotland...	1 Oct. 21 Oct.	Iron puddlers and millmen ... Bricklayers employed in steel works	Increase† of 2½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 57½ per cent. above the standard. Decrease of ½d. per hour (1s. 8½d. to 1s. 8d.).

\* The above arrangement cancels the arrangement reported on p. 378 of the October GAZETTE whereby from 1st September the minimum wage was to be calculated by adding to the legal minimum wage 5ths of the amount by which the county percentage for September and October exceeded 50 per cent.

† This change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with selling prices.

‡ This decrease took effect from the pay period beginning nearest 1st November; in most cases this was 28th October.

|| This change took effect under an arrangement between the Sheffield and District Engineering Trades Employers' Association and the National Federation of Building Trade Operatives. Men working on chimney and stack work over 40 feet high are to be paid 4s. per week extra, and over 90 feet high 8s. per week extra.



## PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING OCTOBER, 1923—(continued).

Industry.	Locality	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
<b>ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING.</b>				
Engineering, etc.	Sheffield District...	1 Oct.	Building trade operatives employed in engineering, etc., works	[See entry under Iron and Steel Manufacture on p. 416.]
Ship-repairing	Thames District ...	3 Oct.	Sheet metal workers, joiners, painters, electricians' assistants, galley-men and tilers Rivet heaters under 18 years ... French polishers ... Hammermen ... Platers, rivetters, burners, welders, and holders-up	Decrease of 1s. per week. Rates after change:—Sheet metal workers, joiners and painters, 63s.; electricians' assistants, 48s.; galley-men and tilers, 56s. 6d. Decrease of 9d. per week (26s. 9d. to 26s.). Decrease of 6d. per week (63s. 6d. to 63s.). Decrease of 1s. 2d. per week (52s. 2d. to 51s.). Decrease of 1s. per week for platers, rivetters, burners and welders, and of 10d. per week for holders-up. Rates after change: Platers, 80s. 10d.*; rivetters, 73s. 7d.*; burners, 87s. 6d.; welders, 92s.; holders-up, 67s. 5d.* Decrease of 1s. per week (61s. to 60s.).
	London (certain firms)†	3 Oct.	Sailmakers ...	Decrease of 1s. per week (61s. to 60s.).
	Milford Haven ...	5 Oct.	Fitters and smiths ...	Decrease of 2s. 6d. per week (70s. to 67s. 6d.).
<b>OTHER METAL TRADES.</b>				
Galvanising Iron and Steel Sheets	England and Wales‡	8 Oct.	Workpeople employed in galvanising departments (excluding process of annealing)	Decreases of 6 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 64 per cent. above the standard.
Textile Machinery, etc. Manufacture	Yorkshire ...	1st pay day in Oct.	Shuttle-makers ...	Addition of 49 per cent. previously paid increased to 53 per cent. Minimum day-work rate after change:—10½d. per hour plus 53 per cent. (or 1s. 4.065d. per hour).
	Lancashire¶	1st pay day in Oct.	Shuttle-makers ...	Addition of 49 per cent. previously paid on revised list of 1920, increased to 53 per cent. Minimum daywork rate after change:—1s. per hour plus 53 per cent. (or 1s. 6.36d. per hour).
	Lancashire, Cheshire and Yorkshire**	6 Sept.	Spindle and flyer makers ...	Decrease in war wage of 3s. per week for time and pieceworkers, and a decrease of 5 per cent. on piece prices for pieceworkers.
Outlery Manufacture	Sheffield ...	8 Oct.	Warehouse girls employed in the outlery trade	Decreases in bonus of 2s. 6d. per week for those 13 years and under 15 years of age, and of 1s. 9d. for those 15 years and under 18 years of age. Total rates after change:—6s. 6d. at 13 years, increasing each year to 14s. 3d. at 17.
Anchor, Chain and Ships' Tackle, etc., Manufacture	Cradley Heath and District and Pontypridd	1st pay day in Oct.	Commercial endwelded, dollied and tommied chainmakers (except those whose wages are regulated by the Chain Trade Board), and cable shackle makers Sidewelded chainmakers ...	Increase of 5 per cent. on list prices.
	Great Britain ...	1 Oct.	Anchor and grapnel makers ... Workpeople employed in the hand-hammered chain making trade	Increase of amounts varying from 2d. to 4½d. per cwt. according to size. Increase of 3d. per cwt. Increase of 5 per cent. on the general minimum time rates and piecework rates as varied under Trade Boards Acts at 20 November, 1922, leaving the rates as fixed at that date. (See also p. 389 of October GAZETTE.)
	Needle and Fishing Tackle Manufacture	Redditch and District	Men and youths employed in the needle and fishing tackle making trade	Decrease in bonus of 2s. for those 21 years and over, of 2s. 3d. for those 20 years, and of amounts varying from 1s. to 1s. 10d. for those 17 to 19 years of age. Rates after change for those 21 years and over:—Grade A, 1s. 1d.; Grade B, 11d.; Grade C, 9d. per hour, plus in each case a bonus of 8s. per week.††
Farriery	London ...	13 Oct.	Women employed in the needle and fishing tackle making trade	Bonus of 2s. per week previously paid to those 18 years and over withdrawn. Rate after change, 6d. per hour.
		1st full pay after 26 Oct.	Farriers employed in the workshops of railway companies	Basis rates fixed as follows:—Firemen, 50s. per week; doormen, 48s. per week, subject in each case to the addition of a war wage of 16s. 6d. per week, the new rates resulting usually in a net increase of 1s. to 4s. per week. (See Decision No. 850 on p. 428.)
	Leicester ...	4, 5 or 6 Oct.	Workpeople employed in lambs' wool and worsted yarn spinning industry‡‡	Bonus increased from 3½d. to 3½d. in the shilling on earnings. Rates after change:—Timeworkers, men, 42s. 6d. plus 3½d. in shilling; women, 25s. 6d. plus 3½d. in shilling; pieceworkers, 25 per cent. above time rates.
Woollen and Worsted	West of England District§§	1st full pay week after 25 Oct.	Workpeople employed in the woollen and worsted industry	Increase in minimum time and piecework basis time rates of 1s. or 1s. 6d. per week for men and 6d. or 1s. per week for women, with corresponding increases for pieceworkers and juniors. Minimum rates after change for timeworkers:—Male workers 21 years and over—wool sorters with not less than 5 years' experience and other men in Class A, with not less than 4 years' experience, 51s. 6d.; Class B, with not less than 3 years' experience, 48s. 6d.; Class C, with not less than 1 year's experience, 42s. 6d.; Class D, 39s.; engine drivers: Class A, 54s. 6d.; stokers, Class B, 51s. 6d.; Class C, 45s. 6d. Female workers, 18 and over—wool sorters with not less than 5 years' experience and others in Class A with not less than 4 years' experience, 26s. 6d.; Class B, with not less than 3 years' experience, 25s.; Class C, 23s. 6d.
	Yorkshire (mainly) and certain firms in Lancashire	Pay preceding 1st pay day in Nov.	Workpeople employed in the bleaching, dyeing, and finishing trades	"Cost of living" wage increased from 74 per cent. to 79 per cent. for timeworkers, from 59 per cent. to 63½ per cent. for pieceworkers (except pressers), and from 44½ per cent. to 47½ per cent. for pressers.

\* The rates for platers, rivetters and holders-up include a speed allowance of 20 per cent. on basic rates.

† Members of River Thames Dry Dock Proprietors' and Ship-Repairers' Association.

‡ Certain firms—members of the Galvanising Conciliation Board.

§ This change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices.

¶ This change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices.

\*\* Excluding certain workpeople employed at Garston and Blackburn.

\*\*\* This change took effect under an arrangement made between the Spindle and Flyer Trade Employers' Association and the United Operative Spindle and Flyer Makers' Trade and Friendly Society.

†† The bonus was previously 0s. per week (not 12s. as stated on p. 297 of August GAZETTE), the bonus from February to April, 1923, having been 14s.

‡‡ The bonus was previously 0s. per week (not 12s. as stated on p. 297 of August GAZETTE), the bonus from February to April, 1923, having been 14s.

§§ Excluding workpeople such as engineers belonging to unions other than the Workers' Union.

||| Including Stroud, Trowbridge, Frome, Westbury, Chippenham, Bath, Chipping Norton, Wellington, Witney, South Devon, and North Tawton.

||| The change applied to workpeople employed by firms who are members of the British Cotton and Wool Dyers' Association, Ltd. (Slubbing Section), the Leeds Dyers' and Finishers' Federation, the Yorkshire Dyeing, Staining and Colouring Association, Ltd., the Leeds and District Worsted Dyers' and Finishers' Association, Ltd., the Huddersfield and District Master Dyers' Association, the Yorkshire Dyers' Federation, the West Riding of Yorkshire Master Slubbing Dyers' Association, The Bradford Dyeing Association, Ltd., and the Employers' Federation of Cotton Yarn Bleachers, Dyers and Sizers (certain firms). At Hebden Bridge the increase for time-workers were similar to those in Lancashire (see next page); for pieceworkers the "cost of living" wage was increased from 63 to 68 per cent. for netherwood cutters from 57 to 61 per cent. for hand cutters, from 43 to 52 per cent. for menders, and from 54 to 58 per cent. for all other pieceworkers.



## PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING OCTOBER, 1923—(continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change (Decreases in italics.)
<b>TEXTILE TRADES—(continued).</b>				
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc. (contd.)	Lancashire (mainly) and certain firms in Yorkshire, Cheshire and Derbyshire;† also Scotland	Pay preceding 1st pay day in Nov.	Workpeople employed in the bleaching, dyeing, calico printing and finishing trades except waste bleachers, machine calico printers, engineers and mechanics, etc., employed in repair and maintenance of plant)	Males: "Cost of living" wage increased* from 22s. 4d. to 23s. 10d., in Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire, and from 22s. 4d. to 23s. 11d. in Scotland, for workers 21 years of age and over, and by smaller amounts for those under 21. Females: "Cost of living" wage increased* from 13s. 4d. to 14s. 2d. per week for workers 18 years of age and over in Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire, and for workers 21 years and over in Scotland, and by smaller amounts for workers under these age limits in the respective districts. Increase* of 1s. 6d. per week. Rates after change:—Bradford, Leeds and Shipley, 64s. 1d.; other towns, 63s. 1d. "Cost of living" wage increased* from 22s. 4d. to 23s. 10d. per week. Total rate after change, 61s. 10d. "Cost of living" wage increased* from 22s. 4d. to 23s. 10d. per week. Total rate after change, 61s. 10d.
	West Riding of Yorkshire	Pay preceding 1st pay day in Nov.	Mechanics employed in dye-works	"Cost of living" wage increased* from 30s. 8d. to 32s. 6d. per week. "Cost of living" wage increased* from 22s. 4d. to 23s. 10d. per week. "Cost of living" wage increased* from 27s. 8d. to 29s. 6d. per week for men, from 16s. 5d. to 17s. 4d. per week for women, from 17s. 9d. to 18s. 11d. per week for youths 18 to 21 years, and from 12s. 7d. to 13s. 5d. per week for youths 16 to 18 years. Bonus increased* from 14s. to 15s. in the £.
	Bolton and Bury District		Mechanics employed in the textile dyeing, bleaching, etc., industry	
	Tottington, Whitefield, Radcliffe, Walmersley, Entwistle, Ramsbottom, Accrington and West-houghton		Mechanics employed in calico print works	
	Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire and Scotland		Engravers, etc., employed in calico print works:— Engravers ... .. Turners, polishers and varnishers Engravers, etc., employed in engraving works	
Elastic Web Manufacture	Leicester ... ..	19 Oct.	Elastic web weavers (males) ...	
<b>CLOTHING TRADES.</b>				
Boot and Shoe Manufacture	Northamptonshire	Full pay beginning on or next after 30 Oct.	Boot and shoe operatives ...	Extras to be paid for samples, as provided for in statements of 1919, revised, resulting in an all-round reduction on this particular class of work. (See Award on p. 428.)
Tailoring Felt Hat Making	Nottingham Atherstone and Bedworth	22 Oct. 22 Sept.	Tailors ... .. Male pieceworkers ... ..	Decrease of 1d. per "log" hour (1s. to 11d.). Bonus of 30 per cent. on piecework lists previously paid increased* to 32½ per cent.
<b>TRANSPORT TRADES.</b>				
Railway Service	London ... .. Swindon† ... ..	Oct. 1 Oct.†	Farriers ... .. Issuers and storemen employed in the stores department of the Great Western Railway	[See entry under Other Metal Trades on p. 417.] Revised basis rates of wages (subject to the addition of a war wage of 16s. 6d. per week) adopted as follows:—issuers—Grade I., 37s.; Grade II., 35s.; Grade III., 32s.; storemen, Grade I., 31s.; Grade II., 30s.† (See Decision No. 833 on p. 349 of September GAZETTE) Decrease of 2s. 6d. per week. Weekly rates after change on home trade vessels§ (food not provided):—chief engineers—201 to 300 tons, 85s.; 301 to 400 tons, 87s. 6d.; first mates and second engineers—201 to 300 tons, 70s.; 301 to 400 tons, 72s. 6d. Tariff list of January, 1921 (subject to a reduction of 30 per cent.), cancelled, and a revised tariff list adopted in which certain anomalous conditions have been adjusted. Decrease of 4s. per week for captains and chief engineers, and of 2s. per week for mates, second engineers, able seamen and firemen. Rates after change:—captains, 70s.¶; chief engineers, 60s.¶; mates and second engineers, 55s.; able seamen and firemen, 50s. Increase* of 1s. per week. Rates after change at Glasgow and Paisley:—one horse drivers, 54s.; petrol wagon drivers (over 2 tons), 63s.; steam wagon drivers, 73s.; second men on steam wagons, 68s.
Merchant Shipping Service	Great Britain and Ireland	1 Oct.	First mates and chief and second engineers on weekly cargo vessels under 401 tons gross	
Dock, Warf, Riverside, etc., Labour	Newcastle-on-Tyne	15 Oct.	Riggers and lumpers ... ..	
	Mersey ... ..	6 Oct.	Tugboatmen ... ..	
Road Transport	Scotland (except Forfarshire)	29 Oct.†	Road transport workers ... ..	
<b>AGRICULTURE AND FISHING.</b>				
Agriculture	Derbyshire ... ..	1 Oct.	Adult male agricultural labourers	Rate of 7d. per hour adopted up to 31 December.**
	Shropshire ... ..	29 Oct.	Able-bodied male agricultural labourers	Rates adopted up to 1 March, 1924, for a guaranteed week of 54 hours of 30s. for adult workers, and for youths varying from 2½d. per hour at 14 to 15 years to 6½d. per hour at 20 to 21 years.**
	Devonshire ... ..	12 Oct.	Male agricultural labourers ...	Rate adopted up to 5 January, 1924, for adult workers of 30s. for a week of 51 hours, and for youths varying from 10s. at 14 to 15 years to 27s. at 20 to 21 years.**
<b>PAPER, PRINTING AND ALLIED TRADES.</b>				
Paper Manufacture	Great Britain ...	1 Oct.	All classes of workpeople†† (except mechanics, etc.):— Timeworkers: Men 21 years and over ...	Increase* of ¾d. per hour for Class III. dayworkers, and of 1d. per hour for other workers. Minimum† rates after change: Class I. occupations—shift-workers, 1s. 6d.; Class II.—dayworkers, 1s. 1½d.; shift-workers, 1s. 3d.; Class III.—dayworkers, 11½d.; shift-workers, 1s. 1½d.; West of England, Scotland and Wales, 1d. per hour less.

\* The change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices.  
† The change applied to workpeople employed by firms who are members of the Federation of Calico Printers, the Employers' Federation of Dyers and Finishers, the Employers' Federation of Bleachers, and the Employers' Federation of Cotton Yarn Bleachers, Dyers, and Sizers (certain firms).  
‡ In the case of the following outstations: Wolverhampton, Reading, Worcester, Westbourne Park, Port Talbot, Aerphilly, Cardiff (late Cardiff Railway and late Taff Vale Railway), Barry, Oswestry and Alexandra Docks, the Court decided that Issuers and Storemen should be graded and rated in the same manner as 1923, and at the rate of 2s. per week (or such part thereof as may remain) as from the first day of each succeeding calendar month.  
§ The rates quoted for chief engineers are supplemented by 12s. 6d. per week and for first mates and second engineers by 7s. 6d. per week when trading outside, home trade limits.  
¶ Where food is provided a deduction of 21s. per week (or pro rata for part of a week) is made from the above rates.  
\*\* Plus ½ per cent. commission on actual earnings.  
\*\*\* The rates were agreed upon by the local Conciliation Committee set up under the Corn Production Acts (Repeal) Act, 1921.  
†† Excluding those in hand made paper mills and board mills.  
‡‡ The new minimum rates for workers employed in coating mills are 1s. 4d. and 1s. 2½d. for shiftworkers and dayworkers respectively in Class I. occupations in North and South of England, and 1s. 3d. and 1s. 1½d. in the West of England, Scotland and Wales. For other occupations in coating mills the rates are the same as those quoted above.



Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics).	
PAPER, PRINTING AND ALLIED TRADES—(continued).					
Paper Manufacture (contd.)	Great Britain ...	1 Oct.	Timeworkers:*	Increase† of from ½d. to ¾d. per hour.	
			Boys and youths under 21 years		
			Women and girls ...	Increase† of from ½d. to ¾d. per hour. Minimum rates after change for women, 6½d.; Scotland, West of England and Wales, ½d. per hour less.	
Envelope Making and Manufacturing Stationery	Maidstone, Wells and Totnes.	22 Oct.	Pieceworkers*	Increase† proportionate to those for timeworkers.	
	London ...	1st full pay after 26 Oct.	Workpeople employed in hand-made paper mills	Increase* of 2d. per "day's work" for journeymen and 1d. per "day's" work for apprentices.	
			Women and girls ...	Decrease of 2s. per week for timeworkers 18 years of age and over (38s. to 36s.), with proportionate decreases for pieceworkers and juniors. (See Decision 848 on p. 428.)	
Book-binding	London ...	Pay day in week ending 4 Aug.	Workpeople on Sheridan binding machines	Minimum weekly rates adopted as follows:—Combination—machine manager or operator, 120s.; assistant, 90s.; men laying up work, 82s. 6d.; single—wrapping only, 92s. 6d.; gathering—one machine, 85s.; two machines, 90s.; men laying up work, 82s. 6d.	
			Workpeople on folding machines	Minimum weekly rates adopted as follows:—Pile self-feeder—one machine, 86s. 6d.; two machines, 90s.; cross feeder—one machine, 86s. 6d.; two men to two large or three small machines—operator, 90s.; assistant, 79s. (present arrangements as to knocking-up on boxes to remain).	
			Workpeople on insetting and stitching machines	Minimum weekly rates adopted as follows:—Christensen and Dexter—operator (to look after machine and clear fliers, but not to count), 86s. 6d.	
			Workpeople on cutting machines	Minimum weekly rates adopted as follows:—Paper pattern, 87s. 6d.; three and four pile "Friedheim"—operator, 97s. 6d.; assistant, 85s.; "Krause," 92s. 6d.; Gauge—"Perfectas," 87s.	
FURNITURE AND WOODWORKING TRADES.					
Furniture Manufacture	Birmingham, West Bromwich and Wolverhampton	Pay day in week ending 2 or 3 Nov.	Male timeworkers ...	Increase† of ½d. per hour for adult workers and of proportionate amounts for boys and youths. Standard rate after change for skilled adults, 1s. 6d.	
			Female french polishers and upholstresses	Increase† of ½d. per hour for adult workers (8½d. to 9d.) and of proportionate amounts for girls.	
			Pieceworkers ...	Percentage addition to pre-war piecework prices increased† from 65 to 67½.	
	Birmingham and West Bromwich	Pay day in week ending 2 Nov.	Carpet and blind fitters ...	Increase† of ½d. per hour (1s. 4½d. to 1s. 5d.).	
	High Wycombe ...	Pay day in week ending 29 Oct.†	Women timeworkers ...	Increase† of ½d. per hour (10d. to 10½d.).	
	Aberdeen ...	Week ending 25 Oct.	Men ...	Increase† of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: wood carvers, 1s. 6½d.; others, 1s. 5½d.	
			Women ...	Increase† of ½d. per hour (8½d. to 8¾d.).	
Mill Sawing	North-East Coast and Hull	1 Oct.	Woodcutting machinists ...	Decrease of ½d. per hour (1s. 6½d. to 1s. 6d.).	
	West Riding of Yorkshire	1 Oct.	Woodcutting machinists and sawyers	Decrease of ½d. per hour for those employed in the foreign timber section (1s. 5½d. to 1s. 5d.).	
	Leeds ...	1 Oct.	Deal carriers ...	Decrease of ½d. per hour (1s. 3d. to 1s. 2½d.).	
	Cardiff, Barry, Newport and Swansea	1st pay day in Oct.	Woodcutting machinists and sawyers	Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 6d. to 1s. 5d.) for qualified workers 21 years of age and over.	
Packing Case Making	Bristol, Cardiff, Gloucester, Newport and Swansea	Week ending 10 Aug.	Labourers employed in timber yards	Decrease of 1d. per hour (1s. 3d. to 1s. 2d.).	
	Scotland ...		Woodcutting machinists ...	Increase† of ¾d. per hour for journeymen. Minimum rate after change for journeymen, 1s. 3½d.	
	Scotland (except Aberdeen)	Pay day in week ending 3 Nov.	Packing case makers and woodcutting machinists employed in packing case shops	Increase† of ¾d. per hour for journeymen and ¼d. per hour for apprentices. Rates after change: packing case makers, Glasgow, 1s. 3½d., Edinburgh, Leith, Dunfermline and Dundee, 1s. 2½d.; woodcutting machinists (all districts), 1s. 3½d.	
			Workpeople employed in the perambulator and invalid carriage trade:—	Increase† in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of the following amounts for the classes named respectively (see Order on p. 389 of October GAZETTE):—	
Perambulator and Invalid Carriage Trade	Great Britain ...	1 Oct.	Timeworkers 21 and over:	Increase† of ¾d. or ½d. per hour.	
			Male workers ...	Increase† of ¾d. per hour.	
			Female workers ...		
			Timeworkers under 21:		
			Male workers (except porters and labourers)	Increase† of from 6d. to 1s. 9d. per week.	
			Female workers ...	Increase† of from 6d. to 1s. 3d. per week	
			Male porters and labourers	Increase† of ¾d. or ½d. per hour.	
			Certain classes of male and female indentured apprentices	Increase† proportionate to those for workers of corresponding ages other than apprentices.	
			Pieceworkers ...	Piecework basis time rate fixed at 10 per cent. above the appropriate general minimum time rates.	
CHEMICAL, GLASS, BRICK, POTTERY, ETC., TRADES.					
Salt Manufacture	Tees-side ...	1 Oct.	Labourers ...	Increase of 2s. 7d. per week (37s. 5d. to 40s.)¶	
			Classes other than labourers ...	Decrease of 8·68 per cent. on standard base rates of 1912, leaving wages 57·57 per cent. above standard.¶	
	Wineford and Middlewich	7 May 7 June			Decrease of 5s. per week.
		1 Oct.	Watermen employed by salt manufacturers (River Weaver)	Increase of 1d. per ton in ton money for bagged salt in steamers and barges, and decrease of ½d. per ton in ton money for bulk salt in steamers, the ton money for bulk salt in barges remaining unchanged.	
Brick-making	Peterborough ...	1st full pay in Oct.		Decrease of 2s. 6d. per week. Rates after change (standing wages): Captains—steamers, 50s. 6d.; barges, 45s. 6d.; mates, 37s. 6d.; engineers, 40s.	
			Pressed brickmakers ...	Increase of 5 per cent. on earnings.	

\* Excluding mechanics, etc., and those employed in hand-made paper mills and board mills.  
 † The change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices.  
 ‡ This change was due to take effect from the pay-day in the week ending 29th September (as reported on p. 380 of the October GAZETTE), but the new rate actually came into operation from the date shown above.  
 § Including Blith, Dunston, Jarrow, Newcastle, North and South Shields, Seaham Harbour, Sunderland, Tyne Dock and Tees District (including Hartlepool).  
 ¶ Including Barnsley, Bradford, Dewsbury, Halifax, Huddersfield, Keighley, and Leeds. At the smaller centres the rates are 2d. or 3d. less than that quoted.  
 ¶ Under the sliding scale arrangement previously in force in this industry a reduction of 30 per cent. on base rates was due as from 1st October, leaving wages 36½ per cent. above the standard. It has been agreed between the parties that in lieu of the above reduction, wages should be altered as stated above, and the sliding scale terminated.



## PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING OCTOBER, 1923—(continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
<b>FOOD, DRINK, AND TOBACCO TRADES.</b>				
Baking and Confectionery	Certain towns in Yorkshire*	Pay day in week commencing 27 Oct.	Adult male workers employed in the baking and confectionery trades by private traders	Increase† of 1s. 6d. per week. Minimum rates after change: forehands, 68s. 6d., doughmixers and ovenmen, 63s. 6d., tablehands, 58s. 6d.
	Aberdeen ...	Pay preceding 1st pay day in Nov. 27 Oct.	Bakers and confectioners	Increase† of 1s. 6d. per week. Minimum rates after change: 4 a.m. start, 77s., 5 a.m. and 6 a.m. start, 74s. 6d.
	Ayrshire† ...	Pay day in Nov. 27 Oct.	Bakers and confectioners	Increase† of 1s. per week. Minimum rate after change, 70s.
Brewing	Dumfries and Maxwelltown Certain towns in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire§	2nd pay day in Oct.	Brewery workers	Increase† of 1s. per week. Minimum rate after change, 70s. Decreases of 2s. per week for adult male workers (except at Worksop, where the reduction was 1s.) and of 1s. per week for women and youths. Rates after change: Adult males—Grade A towns§, 56s.; A2, 55s.; B, 52s.; C, 49s.; Women—Grades A, B, and C respectively, 27s. 6d., 22s. 6d., 20s. at 20 years.
<b>MISCELLANEOUS TRADES AND OCCUPATIONS.</b>				
Warehousing	Manchester ...	1 Oct.	Workpeople employed in wholesale warehouses (clothing, millinery, cotton, etc.)	Increase† of from 3d. to 1s. 3d. per week for male workers and of from 3d. to 6d. per week for female workers. Minimum rates after change: male workers—14 years, 10s., increasing to 21s. at 18 years, 36s. 6d. at 21 years and to 49s. at 23 years; female workers—14 years, 9s. 6d., increasing to 19s. 6d. at 18 years and to 28s. at 21 years. Decrease of 4d. per ton (2s. 8d. to 2s. 4d.).
	Dundee ...	24 Sept.	Workpeople employed in warehousing and discharging gunnie bales	Decrease of ½d. per hour for qualified coverers 21 years and over (1s. 4½d. to 1s. 4d.).
Boiler and Pipe Covering	London ...	1st full pay in Oct.	Boiler and pipe coverers	Decrease of ½d. per hour for qualified coverers 21 years and over (1s. 4½d. to 1s. 4d.).
<b>PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICES.</b>				
Electricity Undertakings	Stepney   ...	1 Oct.	Adult male workers	Decreases   varying from 6d. to 5s. 3d. per week. Rates after change for labourers: indoor, 68s.; outdoor, 69s. 5d. per week.
Tramway Undertakings	York ...	11 Oct.	Motormen, conductors, etc.	Increase† of 1s. per week for men and of 6d. per week for youths under 18 years. Rates after change: motormen, 59s. to 61s.; conductors, 55s. to 57s.
	Workington ...	5 Oct.	Workpeople employed in Highways, Scavenging and Water Departments	Increase† of 1s. 5d. per week for engine drivers, of 1s. 2d. for 1st class roadmen and labourers, and of 1s. for carters, roller drivers, 2nd class roadmen and labourers and scavengers. Rates after change: labourers and roadmen (1st class), 55s. 2d.; (2nd class), 52s. 8d.; scavengers, 51s. 6d.
Non-Trading Departments of Local Authorities	Peterborough ...	28 Sept.	Able-bodied male manual workers	Decrease of 1s. 9d. per week for labourers, roadmen, scavengers and refuse collectors, and of 2s. 9d. for horse drivers. Rate after change for labourers, 43s. 3d.
	East Ham ...	1 Oct.	Able-bodied male manual workers	Decrease in bonus of 1s. per week for those on base rate of 33s. and of 1s. 6d. for those on base rates of 31s. to 32s. 6d. per week. Rates after change: road scavengers, 57s.; refuse collectors, 58s. per week.
	Stepney ...	1 Oct. 27 Oct.	Able-bodied male manual workers	Decreases   of from 5d. to 8s. 9d. per week. Increase† of ¼th of bonus. Rates after change: scavengers, 69s. 5d.; carmen, dust collectors and labourers, 71s. 1d. per week.
	Gloucestershire, Somerset and Wiltshire¶ Bristol ...	1st pay in Sept. 25 Oct.	Adult male workers	Increase† of 1s. per week, making the scheduled minimum weekly rates after change Grade A areas, 54s.; B1, 50s.; B2, 47s.; C1, 42s.; C2, 40s.; D, 35s.¶
Mental Hospitals	Plymouth ...	5 Sept.	House refuse collectors and sweepers	Decrease of 1s. 6d. per week. Rates after change for general yard and road labourers, 59s. 6d.; sweepers and refuse collectors, 54s. per week.
	Glamorgan County Council	10 Oct.	Male manual workers	Increase† of 2½ per cent. of total rates paid in May, 1921. Rate after change: 49s. 4d. per week.
	England and Wales	1st pay day after 16 Oct.	Indoor staff employed in mental hospitals	Increase† of 1s. 4½d. per week. Minimum rate after change: 53s. 5½d. per week. Increase† of ⅓th of the total bonus payable on 30th September, 1921 (making a total reduction of ⅙ths of bonus).

## CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED IN OCTOBER, 1923.

Glass Bottle Manufacture	Yorkshire ...	Oct.	Glass bottle makers	Additional "journey" (Saturday morning) to be worked on first shift, increasing hours on that shift from 36½ to 41½ per week.
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\* Including Bradford, Barnsley, Bridlington, Dewsbury, Hull, Halifax, Huddersfield, Leeds, Sheffield, Wakefield, and York.

† The change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices.

‡ Including Auchinleck, Dalmellington, Kilbirnie, Kilmarnock, Kilwinning, Maybole, Stevenston, and Troon.

§ Grade A: Nottingham, Mansfield, Daybrook, Derby, Beeston, and Chesterfield; Grade A2: Worksop; Grade B: Kimberley; Grade C: Retford.

|| These decreases were the result of a decision of the Council to adopt ultimately the rates of wages laid down by the London Joint Industrial Council, and in the case of tradesmen the appropriate trade union rate; it was arranged that the reductions were to be made in four equal amounts in July and October, 1923, and January and April, 1924, respectively. The above decreases apply to the Council's permanent men, all men newly engaged being paid the existing Joint Industrial Council rates. The subsequent increase for Non-trading Departments (see above) was given as a result of an advance due under the cost of living sliding scale of the Joint Industrial Council.

¶ The authorities affected are those which follow the wages agreement of the Joint Industrial Council, including Bristol (Grade A: see also under separate entry); Gloucester (Grade B1), Swindon (Grade B1), and Taunton (Grade B1).

## CHANGES IN WAGES TAKING EFFECT IN NOVEMBER, 1923.

The following groups of workpeople are affected by changes already reported as having been arranged to take effect in November:—*Increases*.—Coal miners in Radstock; steel smelters; Siemens steel makers in South Wales; boot and shoe makers; leather belt makers; furniture trades operatives in London and Manchester; male workers employed in the flour milling industry; tramway workers; employees in non-trading services of Local Authorities in London. *Decreases*.—Coal miners in Northumberland, Durham, Yorkshire and East Midlands area, Forest of Dean, South Wales and Monmouthshire, and Scotland. Further particulars of these changes will be given in the December issue of this GAZETTE.



PRICES AND WAGES IN THE IRON TRADE.

IN certain sections of the iron and steel industry, rates of wages are adjusted, from time to time, under "sliding-scale" agreements, in accordance with the changes in the selling prices of specified iron and steel products, as indicated by the results of periodical "ascertainments." The results of recent ascertainments of the selling prices of 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.
Pig Iron :		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Cleveland (No. 3) ..	July-Sept	99 7½	–12 6	+14 0½
Cumberland .. ..	July-Aug.	109 2½	– 6 9½	†
Hematite mixed numbers.)	July ..	111 5½	– 5 9½	+12 9½
	August ..	106 11½	– 4 5½	+15 8½
North Staffordshire ..	July-Sept.	98 2½	– 9 8½	+16 7
North Lincolnshire ..	Apr.-June	85 8½	+ 6 0½	+ 5 4½
Manufactured Iron :				
North of England ..	July-Aug.	228 11	+ 4 9½	+15 11½
(Bars and angles.)				
West of Scotland ..	July-Aug.	242 10½	+ 0 5½	+22 3
(Rounds, squares, flats, tees, angles, hoops and rods.)				

**Pig Iron.**—The decrease in the ascertained selling price of Cleveland pig iron for the quarter ended September resulted in a reduction in the wages of blastfurnacemen amounting to 12½ per cent. on standard or basic rates, with effect from 7th October. The reduction in the ascertained price of Cumberland pig iron for the months July-August resulted in a reduction of 8½ per cent. on standard rates in the wages of blastfurnacemen in West Cumberland and North Lancashire, and of 6d. per shift in the bargain price and of 4d. per shift in the minimum wage of iron ore miners in the Furness district. The July ascertainment for Cumberland resulted in decreases of 6d. per shift in the bargain price and minimum wage of iron ore miners in that county, and of 4½d. per shift in the wages of limestone quarrymen; while further decreases of 4d. per shift in the bargain price and minimum wage of iron ore miners, and of 3d. per shift in the wages of limestone quarrymen took effect as the result of the August ascertainment. The decrease in the ascertained selling price of North Staffordshire pig-iron for the quarter ended September resulted in a reduction of 12 per cent. on the standard wages of blast-furnacemen with effect from the first making-up day in October. In North Lincolnshire blastfurnacemen's wages were advanced by 7½ per cent. on standard rates, as a result of the increased ascertained price of pig iron for that district.

**Manufactured Iron.**—In the North of England the wages of puddlers and millmen were increased by 2½ per cent. on standard rates, with effect from 1st October, in consequence of the rise in the ascertained price of manufactured iron in that district. In the West of Scotland a similar advance in wages took effect, also from 1st October, as the result of the increased ascertained price.

CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETIES.

QUARTERLY RETURNS OF SALES.

THE following Table gives particulars of the sales of wholesale co-operative societies in Great Britain in the quarter ended June, 1923, with comparative figures for 1922 and 1918 :—

Names of Societies and Nature of Business.	Sales† in the Second Quarter of			Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (–) compared with	
	1923.	1922.	1918.	Year ago.	Five Years ago.
	£	£	£		
ENGLISH WHOLESALE SOCIETY :—					
Distributive Departments ..	16,500,148	16,723,601	16,200,163	– 1·3	+ 1·9
Productive ..	4,348,147	4,980,702	4,016,619	– 2·7	+ 20·7
SCOTTISH WHOLESALE SOCIETY :—					
Distributive Departments ..	4,358,713	4,292,747	4,874,415	+ 1·5	– 10·6
Productive ..	1,388,490	1,509,132	1,566,890	– 8·0	– 11·4
ENGLISH AND SCOTTISH WHOLESALE SOCIETIES' JOINT COMMITTEE :—					
Productive Departments ..	131,936	90,843	111,173	+ 45·2	+ 18·7
Total, Distributive Departments ..	20,858,861	21,016,348	21,074,578	– 0·7	– 1·0
Total, Productive Departments ..	6,368,573	6,580,677	5,694,682	– 3·2	+ 11·8
Grand Total, GREAT BRITAIN	27,227,434	27,597,025	26,769,260	– 1·3	+ 1·7

\* Stated to the nearest farthing.  
† No ascertainment was made for this period.  
‡ The figures given for Productive Departments represent Sales and Transfers to the Distributive Department

BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

RETURNS have been received from 142 Local Authorities in Great Britain giving the estimated cost of buildings for which plans were passed in October, 1923. The summarised figures for October are given in the following Table, together with similar figures relating to plans passed in these localities in the first ten months of this year.

In the 142 localities to which the figures relate, plans were passed in October for buildings of an estimated value of about £4,390,000, compared with an average of about £3,800,000 in the preceding nine months.

District and Aggregate Population (at Census of 1921) of Towns from which returns have been received.	Estimated Cost of Buildings for which plans were approved in the 142 towns from which returns have been received.					
	Dwelling Houses.	Factories and Workshops.	Shops, Offices, Warehouses, and other Business Premises.	Churches, Schools and Public Buildings.	Other Buildings, and Additions and Alterations.	TOTAL
(a) OCTOBER, 1923.						
	£	£	£	£	£	£
ENGLAND AND WALES—						
Northern Counties (917,000)	200,200	—	19,700	37,100	23,800	280,800
Yorkshire .. (2,376,000)	356,300	11,400	37,300	24,000	78,600	507,600
Lancashire and Cheshire (2,959,000)	569,800	69,900	118,200	66,200	58,200	902,300
North and West-Midland Counties .. (2,911,000)	438,800	59,300	15,900	41,000	144,200	699,200
South-Midland and Eastern Counties (515,000)	151,000	3,300	7,200	—	29,500	191,000
Outer London* (1,995,000)	498,400	56,000	141,800	38,800	40,200	775,200
South-Eastern Counties (1,067,000)	177,500	14,500	19,400	800	76,900	289,100
South-Western Counties (432,000)	79,700	10,000	1,400	2,000	13,100	106,200
Wales and Monmouthshire .. (834,000)	148,900	1,900	27,600	19,200	17,900	215,500
SCOTLAND .. (2,102,000)	173,300	23,800	53,300	104,000	70,500	424,900
Total .. (16,108,000)	2,813,900	250,100	441,800	333,100	552,900	4,391,800
(b) JANUARY TO OCTOBER, 1923.						
	£	£	£	£	£	£
ENGLAND AND WALES—						
Northern Counties (917,000)	957,900	84,600	121,000	166,900	250,900	1,581,300
Yorkshire .. (2,376,000)	3,404,300	342,700	463,100	450,200	1,099,600	5,759,900
Lancashire and Cheshire (2,959,000)	3,452,300	724,300	793,800	242,100	775,200	5,987,700
North and West-Midland Counties .. (2,911,000)	3,461,600	842,100	429,200	392,700	1,236,600	6,362,200
South-Midland and Eastern Counties (515,000)	1,526,500	77,400	154,200	56,800	168,700	1,983,600
Outer London* (1,995,000)	4,717,600	404,300	803,500	310,000	729,900	6,965,300
South-Eastern Counties (1,067,000)	2,384,700	91,800	229,500	143,500	767,100	3,616,600
South-Western Counties (432,000)	651,500	25,200	57,400	47,300	124,200	905,600
Wales and Monmouthshire .. (834,000)	1,022,200	41,800	140,100	154,700	171,200	1,530,000
SCOTLAND .. (2,102,000)	1,320,400	315,800	359,100	521,200	1,425,400	3,941,900
Total .. (16,108,000)	22,899,000	2,950,000	3,550,900	2,485,400	6,748,800	38,634,100

ASSISTED PASSAGES UNDER THE EMPIRE SETTLEMENT ACT, 1922.

THE number of assisted passages granted during October, 1923, in connection with agreed schemes under the Empire Settlement Act (see March, 1923, GAZETTE, page 84), and the total number of such passages granted from the inception of these schemes, together with the numbers of departures during the same periods, are shown in the following Table :—

	Assisted Passages Granted In Oct., 1923.	Total Assisted Passages Granted.		Departures in Oct., 1923.	Total Departures.	
		1922.	Jan.—Oct., 1923.		1922.	Jan.—Oct., 1923.
Assisted Passage Schemes :						
To Australia ..	2,123	7,058	23,659	2,591	6,118	19,952
" New Zealand ..	794	1,133	5,409	512	694	4,365
" Canada :						
Dominion of Canada	495	—	3,443	478	—	3,344
Province of Ontario	54	—	1,681	67	—	1,309
Minor Schemes ..	113	—	1,531	113	—	1,468
TOTAL ..	3,579	8,191	35,723	3,761	6,812	30,438

The figures given in the above Table include both applicants and dependants of applicants to whom assisted passages have been granted.

\* Particulars are not available for the London County Council Area.



## DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.\*

THE total number of cases† of poisoning and of anthrax in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, reported under the Factory and Workshop Act during October, 1923, was 68. Six deaths† were reported during the month, five due to lead poisoning in various industries, and one to epitheliomatous ulceration in the pitch industry. In addition, seven cases of lead poisoning (including one death) among house-painters and plumbers came to the knowledge of the Home Office during October, but notification of these cases is not obligatory.

## (a) CASES OF LEAD POISONING.

Among Operatives engaged in—	
Smelting of Metals	...
Plumbing and Soldering	5
Printing	...
File Cutting and Hardening	...
Tinning of Metals	...
Other Contact with Molten Lead	1
White and Red Lead Works	8
† Pottery	7
Vitreous Enamelling	...
Electric Accumulator Works	11
Paint and Colour Works	1
Indiarubber Works	...
Coach and Car Painting	2
Shipbuilding	1
Paint used in other Industries	3
Other Industries	4
TOTAL OF ABOVE	43
HOUSE PAINTING AND PLUMBING	7

## (b) CASES OF OTHER FORMS OF POISONING.

Mercury Poisoning	...
Phosphorus Poisoning	...
Arsenic Poisoning	...
Toxic Jaundice—	
Arseniuretted Hydrogen Gas	2
Benzine, etc., derivatives	...
Epitheliomatous Ulceration—	
Paraffin	2
Pitch	7
Tar	2
Oil	1
Chrome Ulceration—	
Manufacture of Bichromates	3
Dyeing and Finishing	1
Chrome Tanning	4
Other Industries	...
TOTAL OTHER FORMS OF POISONING	22
(c) CASES OF ANTHRAX—	
Wool	1
Handling of Horsehair	1
Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins (Tanners, Fellmongers, &c.)	1
Other Industries	...
TOTAL, ANTHRAX	3

## FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.§

THE number of workpeople, other than seamen, reported as killed in the course of their employment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland during October, 1923, was 238,|| as compared with 162|| in the previous month and with 178 a year ago. The distribution of such fatal accidents among the various trades is as follows:—

## RAILWAY SERVICE.

Brakemen and Goods Guards	...
Engine Drivers	3
Firemen	1
Guards (Passenger)	1
Permanent Way Men	6
Porters	2
Shunters	1
Mechanics	1
Labourers	2
Miscellaneous	1
Contractors' Servants	...

## TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE

## MINES.

Underground	132
Surface	8

## TOTAL, MINES

## QUARRIES over 20 feet deep

## FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Cotton	4
Wool, Worsted, & Shoddy	2
Other Textiles	...
Textile Bleaching and Dyeing	...
Metal Extracting and Refining	2
Metal Conversion, including Rolling Mills and Tube Making	6
Metal Founding	1
Engineering and Machine Making	6

## FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS (continued):

Boiler Making & Constructional Engineering	...
Locomotives, Railway & Tramway Carriages, Motors, Aircraft	2
Other Metal Trades	2
Shipbuilding	5
Wood	2
Gas	...
Electric Generating Stations	2
Clay, Stone, Glass, etc.	5
Chemicals, etc.	6
Food and Drink	2
Paper, Printing, etc.	2
Tanning, Currying, etc.	...
Rubber Trades	...
Other Non-Textile Industries	4

## TOTAL FOR FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

Docks, Wharves, etc., s. 104	6
Buildings, s. 105	12
Warehouses, s. 104 and Railway Sidings, s. 106	1

## TOTAL

Accidents reported under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894

Total (excluding Seamen) 238

\* Based on Returns from the Home Office and from the Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland.

† Cases include all attacks 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.

‡ Of the seven persons affected in the Pottery Industry two were females.

§ Based on Returns from the Home Office, the Mines Department, the Ministry of Transport, and the Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland.

|| The figures for October include deaths, numbering 40, resulting from the Redding Pit disaster, which occurred on 25th September.

## POOR LAW RELIEF IN GREAT BRITAIN.

(Data supplied by the Ministry of Health in England and Wales and by the Board of Health in Scotland.)

THE number of persons relieved on one day\* in October, 1923, in the thirty-one selected areas named below was 916,192, or 1·2 per cent. more than in the previous month, but 12·7 per cent. less than in October, 1922. The equivalent rates per 10,000 of estimated population, at the three dates, were 525, 522 and 604 respectively.

In the twenty-five selected areas in England and Wales the number of persons relieved in October, 1923, was 734,328, or 480 per 10,000 of the population, as compared with 475 per 10,000 in the previous month and 563 per 10,000 a year ago. In the six areas in Scotland, 181,864 persons, or 889 per 10,000 of the population, were relieved in October, compared with 869 per 10,000 in the previous month, and 913 per 10,000 in October, 1922.

Recipients of indoor relief in the thirty-one districts in October numbered 123,460, or 1·5 per cent. more than in the previous month, and 0·8 per cent. more than in October of last year. Recipients of outdoor relief numbered 792,732, an increase of 1·1 per cent. on the previous month, but a decrease of 14·4 per cent. on a year ago.

Eighteen districts showed increases and thirteen districts showed decreases in the number per 10,000 relieved in October as compared with September; the most marked increases were in the Paisley and Greenock district, the Stockton and Tees district, the East district of the Metropolis, and in Dundee and Dunfermline. The chief decrease was in the Newcastle district. Compared with October, 1922, all except six districts showed decreases; very considerable decreases were recorded for Sheffield, Coatbridge and Airdrie, Stockton and Tees, Birmingham, and Wolverhampton; the most marked increases were at Paisley and Greenock, and in the East district of the Metropolis.

Selected Urban Areas.†	Number of persons‡ in receipt of poor law relief on one day* in October, 1923.				Increase (+) or Decrease (–) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with a	
	Indoor.	Out-door.	Total.	Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population.	Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.						
<i>Metropolis.</i>						
West District .. ..	9,141	9,581	18,722	230	+ 9	– 51
North District .. ..	10,299	24,902	35,201	350	+ 10	– 21
Central District .. ..	2,480	3,103	5,583	420	+ 4	– 17
East District .. ..	10,011	55,390	65,401	1,032	+ 58	+ 73
South District .. ..	19,647	82,115	101,762	536	+ 15	– 62
TOTAL, Metropolis .. ..	51,578	175,091	226,669	506	+ 19	– 30
West Ham .. ..	4,203	68,940	73,143	993	+ 18	– 12
<i>Other Districts.</i>						
Newcastle District ..	2,622	36,784	39,406	810	– 54	+ 5
Stockton and Tees District ..	1,104	26,650	27,754	1,056	+ 71	– 362
Bolton, Oldham, etc. ..	4,029	8,001	12,030	154	+ 4	+ 11
Wigan District .. ..	1,792	11,354	13,146	303	– 19	– 102
Manchester District ..	8,774	33,964	42,738	423	+ 11	– 22
Liverpool District ..	9,759	57,958	67,717	573	– 14	– 136
Bradford District ..	1,727	4,974	6,701	183	+ 9	– 15
Halifax and Huddersfield .. ..	1,207	3,363	4,570	121	– 4	– 7
Leeds District .. ..	2,396	9,860	12,256	255	+ 5	– 48
Barnsley District ..	863	7,326	8,189	262	– 5	– 110
Sheffield District ..	2,541	42,069	44,610	886	– 21	– 448
Hull District .. ..	1,773	13,837	15,610	504	– 20	– 51
North Staffordshire ..	2,060	5,451	7,511	186	– 4	– 66
Nottingham District ..	2,039	9,732	11,771	258	– 12	– 48
Leicester District ..	1,171	2,834	4,005	171	– 3	– 56
Wolverhampton District ..	3,307	27,178	30,485	434	+ 14	– 195
Birmingham District ..	7,013	47,434	54,447	592	– 4	– 320
Bristol District ..	2,515	13,705	16,220	400	– 3	+ 21
Cardiff and Swansea ..	2,425	12,925	15,350	332	+ 15	– 69
TOTAL "Other Districts"	59,117	375,399	434,516	431	– 2	– 112
TOTAL, Districts in England and Wales .. ..	114,898	619,430	734,328	480	+ 5	– 83
SCOTLAND.						
Glasgow District .. ..	4,787	115,595	120,382	1,243	+ 2	– 52
Paisley & Greenock Dist.	755	24,212	24,967	1,304	+ 130	+ 248
Edinburgh District ..	1,460	17,280	18,740	446	– 4	+ 13
Dundee and Dunfermline	676	4,322	4,998	243	+ 55	– 10
Aberdeen .. ..	519	5,630	6,149	387	+ 18	– 40
Coatbridge and Airdrie ..	365	6,263	6,628	653	+ 1	– 432
TOTAL for the above } Scottish Districts	8,562	173,302	181,864	889	+ 20	– 24
TOTAL for above 31 Districts in October, 1923 }	123,460	792,732	916,192	528	+ 6	– 76

\* The figures for England and Wales relate to 27th October, and those for Scotland to 13th October.

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

‡ Exclusive of casuals, of lunatics in Asylums, Registered Hospitals and Licensed Houses, and of persons receiving out-door medical relief only. The figures for Scotland include destitute able-bodied unemployed in receipt of poor law relief.



## COMPARATIVE REAL WAGES

IN LONDON AND CERTAIN CAPITAL CITIES ABROAD  
IN SEPTEMBER, 1923.

[N.B.—The method by which the index-numbers in the following table have been computed was explained in an article in the MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE for July, 1923, pages 236-238. The numbers relate to purchasing-power in terms of food alone, and, for the reasons given in the article referred to, they can only be accepted as affording a very rough indication of the differences that existed, on or about the date at the head of the table, between the real wage levels (in terms of food), in the various capitals, of the selected categories of typical urban male labour. The numbers for the various occupations are comparable horizontally but not vertically. The averages, however, are comparable both ways, provided it be understood (a) that this applies only to capitals other than London, and (b) that any differences between the indices for a given capital at two different dates do not imply a proportionate change in the real-wage level between those dates, but only a proportionate change in the level in relation to that of London.]

## Index Numbers of Comparative Real Wages, 1st September, 1923. (London=100.)

Occupation.	London.	Amsterd.m.	Berlin.	Brussels.	Christiania.	Copenhagen.	Madrid.	New York.	Ottawa.	Paris.	Prague.	Stockholm.	Sydney.	Vienna.	Warsaw.
<b>BUILDING TRADES.</b>															
<i>Skilled :</i>															
Mason ..	100	107	—	63	87	—	—	260	86	67	92	—	48	75	
Bricklayer ..	100	107	—	63	87	—	—	260	76	—	92	—	48	75	
Carpenter ..	100	107	—	62	82	—	—	195	76	57	92	—	51	73	
Joiner ..	100	107	—	65	82	—	—	195	76	—	92	—	41	—	
Plumber ..	100	107	—	55	82	—	—	208	76	—	85	—	—	—	
Painter (General)	100	106	—	52	91	—	—	178	80	80	107	—	54	79	
<i>Unskilled :</i>															
Labourer (General)	100	116	—	53	107	—	—	138	95	71	103	—	51	61	
<b>ENGINEERING TRADES.</b>															
<i>Skilled :</i>															
Fitter ..	100	106	—	60	102	—	—	196	96	97	75	—	57	86	
Ironmoulder ..	100	93	—	63	103	—	—	195	103	71	76	—	—	87	
Patternmaker ..	100	98	—	77	95	—	—	213	122	—	70	—	—	80	
Turner ..	100	106	—	65	102	—	—	196	102	63	75	—	61	86	
<i>Unskilled :</i>															
Labourer ..	100	109	—	64	134	—	—	184	101	72	90	—	51	86	
<b>FURNITURE TRADES.</b>															
<i>Skilled :</i>															
Cabinetmaker ..	100	84	—	62	82	—	—	136	—	76	77	—	41	—	
<b>PRINTING &amp; BOOK-BINDING TRADES.</b>															
<i>Skilled :</i>															
Compositor (Book and Job) Hand	100	83	—	49	79	—	—	173	59	—	72	—	36	109	
Do. Machine ..	100	86	—	49	73	—	—	161	—	84	73	—	—	142	
Machine Minder ..	100	83	—	51	79	—	—	159	62	—	72	—	36	109	
Bookbinder ..	100	92	—	53	92	—	—	188	63	76	73	—	35	122	
<b>Average, 1st Sep., 1923 ..</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>85*</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>91†</b>	
Do. 1st August, 1923 ..	100	100*	—	57	94	—	66	219	153	80*	77	88	—	91†	
Do. 1st July, 1923 ..	100	99	—	62	90	—	62	—	186	88*	65	86	152	50	76
Do. 1st June, 1923 ..	100	100	—	64	87	—	62	—	182	87	67	84	—	47	96
Do. 1st May, 1923 ..	100	99	—	65	86	—	58	—	182	—	67	83	—	43	98
Do. 1st April, 1923 ..	100	102	57	70	93	141	—	209	174	—	68	85	158	—	101
Do. 1st March, 1923 ..	100	103	57	70	92	—	61	217	180	63	69	87	—	55	85
Do., 1914 ..	100	66	—	61	77	108	42	—	181	—	84	74	—	—	93

THE figures relating to Paris must still be regarded as provisional. In the absence of actual data, it has been assumed that the retail food prices for 1st September have been reduced since 1st June (the date of the latest official quotations) in the same proportion as the reduction in the Paris cost-of-living index-number, viz., from 339 to 331, and, further, that wages have remained unchanged. For further observations regarding Paris, as well as Copenhagen, Berlin, Sydney and New York see the notes to Tables in previous GAZETTES.

It has been possible to add to the Table an average index-number for 1st August for New York by making use of recently published trade union rates of wages in the case of certain occupations and of the rates ruling in the Navy yards of New York in the case of the remainder.

Owing to the fact that the Warsaw statistical authorities are now furnishing data representing an average for the first two weeks (instead of the conditions on the first day) of the month, the index-number for September, as well as that for August, which has been recalculated on new figures supplied by Warsaw, is not strictly comparable with the index-numbers in the Table for other months. The new August average figure is 91 as against 97 published last month.

In order to enable the comparison to be carried back to 1914, index-numbers have been computed for that year, and added to the Table, in respect of those capital cities for which the necessary data are available. The prices used for this purpose are those for July, 1914, and the hourly time-rates of wages those for August, 1914, except in the case of Brussels, where the prices used are for 15th April, 1914; Copenhagen, where the wages used are average earnings for the year 1914; and Warsaw, where the prices and wages used are those for January, 1914.

\* Provisional figures.

† Based on prices and wages for the first two weeks of the month.

## RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

[N.B.—While the percentages given in the following Summary Tables are derived from the most authoritative sources of statistical information, certain differences in the nature and scope of the data used, in the methods of combining such data and in the periods for which the rise is measured, suggest the need for caution in drawing conclusions from a comparison between the figures for any two countries. It is also to be observed that in every case the percentage calculation is based on the assumption that the standard of living is identical at the various periods compared.]

## I.—FOOD.

PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES AS COMPARED WITH JULY, 1914.\*

Country.	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.*					Latest figures available.
	July, 1920.	July, 1921.	July, 1922.	July, 1923.		
					Rise.	Date.
<b>UNITED KINGDOM ..</b>	Per cent. 158	Per cent. 120	Per cent. 80	Per cent. 62	Per cent. 73	1923. Nov.
<b>FOREIGN COUNTRIES.</b>						
Austria (Vienna) ..	..	9,700†	323,600	1291000	1263500	Oct.
Belgium ..	359	310	281	359	406	Sep.
Czechoslovakia ..	..	1,246	1,330	821	803	Sept.
Denmark ..	153	136	84	88	88	July
Finland ..	882	1,178	1,005	868	952	Aug.
France (Paris) ..	273	206	197	221	229	Sept.
„ (other towns) ..	288‡	250‡	212‡	251‡	251	Aug.
Germany ..	..	1,391	6,736	4650900	¶	Sept.
Holland (The Hague) ..	..	113	80	60	54	Sept.
„ (Amsterdam) ..	111	80	40	36	37	Aug.
Italy (Rome) ..	218	302	359	..	391	May
„ (Milan) ..	345	406	392	396	396	Sept.
Norway ..	219	195	133	118	117	Oct.
Poland (Warsaw) ..	..	45,555	129,711	2410623	4269074	Aug.
Sweden ..	197	132	79	60	65	Oct.
Switzerland ..	..	110	57	64	63	Sept.
United States ..	115	45	39	44	46	Sept.
<b>BRITISH DOMINIONS, &amp;c.</b>						
Australia ..	..	61	48	£4	61	Sept.
Canada ..	127	48	38	37	43	Oct.
India (Bombay) ..	88	74	60	43	47	Oct.
New Zealand ..	67	64	44	42	45	Sept.
South Africa ..	97	39	16	16	15	Sept.

\* Exceptions to this are: Belgium, in which comparison is with April, 1914; France (other towns), 3rd quarter of 1914; Germany, average, 1913-14; The Hague, January to July, 1914; Rome, Milan, January to June, 1914; Switzerland, June, 1914; Poland, January, 1914; Amsterdam, South Africa, average, 1914. † Figure for June. ‡ The increases shown are for families of the lowest income class; in Sept., the increase for all working-class families ranged from 404 to 408 per cent. § Fuel and lighting are also included in these figures. ¶ Figure for August. ¶ 17,300,000-fold increase.

## II.—ALL ITEMS.

PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES IN THE COST OF FOOD, TOGETHER WITH (SO FAR AS POSSIBLE) HOUSE-RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT AND OTHER HOUSEHOLD REQUIREMENTS, AS COMPARED WITH JULY, 1914.†

Country.	Items on which Computation is based.*	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.†					Latest figures available.
		July, 1920.	July, 1921.	July, 1922.	July, 1923.		
						Rise.	Date.
<b>UNITED KINGDOM ..</b>	A, B, C, D, E	152	119	84	69	75	Nov.
<b>FOREIGN COUNTRIES.</b>							
Austria (Vienna) ..	A, B, C, D, E	..	9,700	264,400	1,090,200	1,026,000	Oct.
Belgium ..	A, C, D, E	353	279	266	329	358	Oct.
Bulgaria ..	A, D	..	1,512	2,331	..	2,531	June
Denmark ..	A, B, C, D, E	162	137	99	104	104	July
Finland ..	A, B, C, D, E	811	1,039	1,018	990	1,041	Aug.
France (Paris) ..	A, B, C, D, E	263‡	195‡	189‡	231‡	231	3rd Qtr.
Germany ..	A, B, C, D	..	5,282	37,650,000	¶	¶	11 Nov.
Italy (Rome) ..	A, B, C, D, E	213	287	329	..	349	May
„ (Milan) ..	A, B, C, D, E	341	394	388	387	387	Sept.
Luxembourg ..	A, C, D	..	284	259	240	367	Aug.
Norway ..	A, B, C, D, E	202§	202§	155§	139§	132	Sept.
Poland (Warsaw) ..	A, B, C, D, E	..	25609	78,698	209,3546	345,4920	Aug.
Spain (Madrid) ..	A, D	90‡	84	79	72	78	Sept.
„ (Barcelona) ..	A, D	91‡	78	73	65	68	Sept.
Sweden ..	A, B, C, D, E	170	136	90	74	77	Oct.
Switzerland ..	A, D	..	59	66	64	64	Sept.
United States ..	A, B, C, D, E	117§	80‡	67§	70§	72	Sept.
<b>BRITISH DOMINIONS, &amp;c.</b>							
Australia ..	A, B	67‡	46‡	43‡	..	51	2nd Qtr.
Canada ..	A, B, D	90	52	46	46	49	Oct.
Egypt (Cairo) ..	A, D	..	93	72	52	47	Aug.
India (Bombay) ..	A, B, C, D	89	77	65	53	52	O t.
Irish Free State ..	A, B, C, D, E	..	..	85§	80	80	July
New Zealand ..	A, B, D	49	57	44	45	46	Aug.
South Africa ..	A, B, D	62	30‡	20	19	18	Sept.

\* A=Food; B=House-Rent; C=Clothing; D=Fuel and Light; E=Other or Miscellaneous Items. † Exceptions to this are: France, Spain, Australia and South Africa, in which comparison is with the average for 1914; Belgium, April, 1914; Rome, Milan, and New Zealand, January to June, 1914; Egypt and Germany, average, 1913-1914; Poland, January, 1914; Switzerland and Luxembourg, June, 1914; United States, 1913; Bulgaria, average, 1901-1910. ‡ Figure for 3rd Quarter. § Figure for June. ¶ Figure for May. ¶ 98,500,000,000-fold increase.



## EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

[N.B.—The following paragraphs include an abstract of such official information as is available with regard to the state of employment abroad, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fluctuations in employment in each country from period to period. The bases of the official statistics published in the various countries, are, however, not the same as those of the United Kingdom statistics, and therefore the figures quoted below cannot properly be used with those on pp. 404-405 to compare the actual level of employment in the United Kingdom with that in other countries. For further information on the subject of the bases of the unemployment statistics of the various countries see Report issued in 1922 by the International Labour Office under the title "Methods of Compiling Statistics of Unemployment." (Studies and Reports, Series C., No. 7.)]

## FRANCE.\*

*Unemployment in October.*—The total number of unemployed remaining on the "live register" at the Employment Exchanges in the week ended 27th October, 1923, was 11,223 (7,188 men and 4,035 women). In the preceding week the corresponding figure was 10,024, and in the last week of October, 1922, 11,375. The total number of vacancies remaining unfilled was 10,119 (5,389 for men and 4,730 for women), as against 10,818 in the preceding week and 8,889 in the last week of October, 1922. During the week under review the exchanges succeeded in placing 29,285 persons (23,215 men and 6,070 women) in situations, and, in addition, found employment for 3,244 foreign immigrants.

According to the latest returns, two departmental and 18 municipal unemployment funds were in operation throughout France on 2nd November, the number of persons in receipt of out-of-work benefit through their agency being 415 (326 men and 89 women). This shows a decrease of 865 when compared with the figure for the preceding week, and of 1,635 when compared with the figure for 2nd November, 1922. It is to be noted that these figures do not fully represent the number of persons out of employment, since some localities are without unemployment funds, and where they do exist their record of unemployed persons is not complete.

## GERMANY.+

*Employment in September.*—Owing to the now generally adopted practice of quoting the prices of all commodities at or above the gold standard or world market price, the purchasing power of the home market has become completely exhausted and industry and commerce have restricted operations to the minimum. As a result there has been a decline in employment exceeding anything recorded in Germany since the first months after the Armistice.

The number of unemployed in receipt of assistance from public funds (comprising, as is pointed out, only a small proportion of the total unemployed) reached on 15th October approximately the same figure as was attained shortly after the Armistice, viz., 660,788 (543,147 men and 117,641 women), as against 383,106 on 15th September and 21,028 at the beginning of October, 1922. In addition there were 1,379,499 part-time workers in receipt of assistance under this head.

Trade union returns show a considerable increase in unemployment. Thirty unions reported that out of an aggregate membership of about 5,000,000 there were some 500,000, more precisely 9.9 per cent. of the total unemployed, whereas in the preceding month the percentage was 6.3, and in September, 1922, 0.8.

The following Table gives particulars for the principal unions:—

Unions.	Member-ship reported at end of Sept., 1923.	Percentage Unemployed at end of Month.		
		Sept., 1923.	August, 1923.	Sept., 1922.
All Unions making Returns ..	5,055,000	9.9	6.3	0.8
PRINCIPAL UNIONS:—				
Building (Soc. Dem.) ..	479,000	12.2	..	0.7
" (Christian) ..	60,000	4.2	2.4	0.4
Painters (Soc. Dem.) ..	49,000	20.2	10.5	3.0
Metal (Soc. Dem.) ..	1,084,000	10.5	7.1	0.2
" (Hirsch-Duncker) ..	118,000	2.9	0.4	0.1
Textile (Soc. Dem.) ..	645,000	7.2	4.5	0.7
" (Christian) ..	133,000	9.0	8.9	0.3
Clothing ..	86,000	19.8	12.2	0.5
Boot and shoe ..	75,000	8.2	6.3	1.0
Transport ..	468,000	7.3	3.7	0.6
Printing ..	64,000	17.8	12.9	4.0
Bookbinding ..	84,000	12.3	8.0	1.1
Woodworking (Soc. Dem.) ..	395,000	11.0	5.7	0.7
Porcelain ..	69,000	4.0	1.1	0.9
Food preparation ..	81,000	2.2	1.4	..
Baking and confectionery (Soc. Dem.) ..	69,000	17.0	13.5	4.2
Tobacco (Soc. Dem.) ..	72,000	27.5	20.6	6.4
Factory workers (irrespective of trade) ..	491,000	10.7	5.4	0.7
Factory and transport workers (Christian) ..	125,000	2.0	4.1	0.2
Municipal and State workers ..	129,000	2.5	2.4	0.5

The foregoing figures relate to persons wholly unemployed. In addition 35 unions with about 4½ million members reported over 1½ millions (39.7 per cent. of the total) as working short

\* Bulletin du Marché du Travail, 3rd November, 1923. Paris.  
+ Reichs-Arbeitsblatt, 1st November, 1923. Berlin.

time during the month of September, as compared with 26.0 per cent. in the unions reporting in August.

Returns from public Employment Exchanges show that in the month under review the number of applicants for employment rose to about 1,380,000—21 per cent. over the total reported for August—while the vacancies notified by employers fell to 343,084, or by 20 per cent. As a result there were on an average 555 applicants for every 100 vacancies for male workers and 235 for every 100 for females, as compared with 340 and 173 respectively in the preceding month.

Statistics furnished by 4,107 health insurance societies show that the total membership of these bodies (that is of work-people under obligation to insure and therefore assumed to be in work) fell from 10,675,618 on 1st September to 10,339,462 on 1st October, or by 3.1 per cent.

## BELGIUM.\*

*Unemployment in August and September.*—The most recent figures available relate to September, but are provisional in character. Returns received by the Belgian Ministry of Industry and Labour from 1,634 approved unemployment funds, with a total membership of 650,366, show that 9,767 of these were either wholly or partially unemployed at the end of that month. The aggregate days of unemployment in September were 117,795, or 0.76 per cent. of the aggregate possible working days; for August the corresponding percentage was 0.91, and for September, 1922, 2.20.

Revised and final figures are given for August, in which month 1,642 funds, with an aggregate membership of 649,825, reported 3,701 or 0.6 per cent. wholly unemployed, and 8,798 partially so, on the last working day of the month. The percentage of members totally unemployed in July was 0.7, and in August, 1922, 1.6.

During September 12,565 applications for employment were received at Employment Exchanges, as compared with 13,090 in August. Vacancies notified by employers numbered 12,476 (13,079 in August). For every 100 situations registered as vacant there were thus about 101 applications as against 100 in August.

## SWITZERLAND.+

*Unemployment in September.*—According to figures compiled by the Federal Labour Office of Switzerland, the number of applicants for work remaining on the "live register" of the Employment Exchanges on 30th September was 22,830 (as compared with 22,554 at the end of the preceding month and 49,512 at the end of September, 1922). Of these, 8,039 were employed on relief works, leaving 14,791 entirely without work. Among the applicants for employment were 3,884 normally engaged in the building, etc., trades, 2,283 in the metal, engineering and electrical trades, 2,000 in the textile trades, and 1,960 in the watch, clock and jewellery trades. In addition to the foregoing persons entirely without work, 14,422 were reported as only partially employed, including 7,333 in the textile trades and 3,926 in the metal, engineering and electrical trades. The vacancies reported by employers remaining unfilled at the end of September numbered 2,313, as against 2,420 at the end of August and 1,907 at the end of September, 1922.

Taking September as a whole 320 applications on an average were made for each 100 vacancies for men and 101 for each 100 for women. In August the figures were 326 and 89 respectively.

## NORWAY.

*Unemployment in August.*—According to information supplied through the courtesy of the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics, the percentage of members unemployed at the end of August in trade unions making returns was as shown below, where comparative figures are also given for the previous month and for August, 1922:—

Unions.	Membership.			Percentage Unemployed.		
	Aug. 31, 1923.	July 31, 1923.	Aug. 31, 1922.	Aug. 31, 1923.	July 31, 1923.	Aug. 31, 1922.
Bricklayers and masons (Christiania) ..	898	888	859	3.5	3.2	8.7
Carpenters ..	701	752	689	1.1	1.9	3.6
Painters (Christiania) ..	567	518	575	..	..	..
Metal workers ..	6,758	6,790	6,562	8.5	8.6	15.2
Boot and shoe makers ..	839	854	701	14.8	18.	6.8
Printers ..	2,465	2,472	2,378	3.4	1.	6.3
Bookbinders (Christiania) ..	900	862	710	5.0	5.9	14.4
Cabinetmakers ..	464	479	547	5.6	7.3	15.9
Bakers (Christiania) ..	570	558	645	3.0	2.3	6.7
Total ..	14,162	14,173	13,666	6.4	6.5	11.2

## DENMARK.‡

*Unemployment in October.*—Returns supplied to the Danish Statistical Department by trade unions and by the Central Employment Exchange show that out of 249,586 workpeople, 7.6 per cent. were unemployed on 26th October, as against 7.4 per cent. on 28th September and 11.3 per cent. at the end of October, 1922.

During the five months June to October the proportion has been from 7 to 8 per cent.—a level considerably below that of the last two years, although still above that of the corresponding months of 1920; in 1914 unemployment in these months ranged from 5 to 6 per cent.

\* Revue du Travail, 31st October, 1923. Brussels.  
Der Schweizerische Arbeitsmarkt, 15th October, 1923. Berne.  
Statistiske Ef erretninger, 19th October, 1923. Copenhagen.



SWEDEN.\*

*Unemployment in August.*—Trade unions with an aggregate membership of 126,479 reported 11,009, or 8·7 per cent., as out of work on the last day of August, as against 9·7 per cent. at the end of July and 16·7 per cent. at the end of August, 1922. The Table gives corresponding particulars for the principal unions included in the returns:—

Unions.	Membership reporting on 31st Aug., 1923.	Percentage Unemployed.		
		31st Aug., 1923.	31st July, 1923.	31st Aug., 1922.
All Unions making Returns ..	126,479	8·7	9·7	16·7
PRINCIPAL UNIONS:—				
Iron and steel .. ..	8,199	6·1	7·1	14·8
Engineering .. ..	31,131	12·0	13·2	28·5
Textile .. ..	5,665	1·2	1·0	4·3
Clothing .. ..	3,615	8·5	10·4	9·4
Boot, shoe and leather ..	6,640	4·8	5·7	19·8
Food preparation .. ..	3,406	5·8	7·3	8·3
Sawmilling .. ..	7,455	12·4	8·9	9·5
Woodworking .. ..	6,813	10·1	12·2	21·3
Paper and pulp .. ..	6,075	2·2	2·5	6·2
Municipal workers .. ..	6,065	1·6	3·7	1·9
Commercial employees ..	6,008	5·7	6·8	—
General and factory workers ..	11,526	18·7	22·0	21·2
(trades not specified)				

HOLLAND.

*Unemployment in October.*—H.M. Commercial Secretary at The Hague reports that, according to figures supplied by the State Department of Unemployment Insurance, in the week ended 6th October, out of 268,649 members of unemployment funds making returns, 27,984 (10·4 per cent.) were unemployed for six days in the week, and 7,586 (or 2·8 per cent.) for less than six days. In the corresponding week of the preceding month (ended 8th September) the percentages were 10·4 and 3·0, and in the week ended 7th October, 1922, 7·2 and 2·1.

CANADA.

*Employment in October.*†—For 1st October, 1923, returns were received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at Ottawa from 5,867 firms with an aggregate pay-roll of 819,186. On 1st September the same firms reported 830,236 employed. There was thus a decrease of 11,050 at the later date. If the number 100 be assigned to the week ended 17th January, 1920, the

\* *Sociála Meddelanden*, No. 10, 1923, Stockholm.

† Information supplied through the courtesy of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa.

index number of employment for 1st October is 99·5, as compared with 100 for 1st September and 94·6 for 1st October, 1922.

*Trade Union Unemployment at end of September.*—Information supplied through the courtesy of the Canadian Department of Labour shows that 2·0 per cent. of the membership of trade unions making returns were unemployed at the end of September, as compared with 2·2 per cent. at the end of August, and 2·8 per cent. on 30th September, 1922.

AUSTRIA.

*Unemployment in September.*—According to *Statistische Nachrichten* (the journal of the Austrian Department of Statistics) for 25th October, the number of persons in receipt of unemployment benefit in the principal industrial districts was 80,131 at the end of September, as compared with 83,909 at the end of the preceding month, and 38,000 at the end of September, 1922. In Vienna alone there were 52,599 in receipt of benefit at the end of September, and 56,603 at the end of August.

UNITED STATES.\*

*Employment in September.*—The Federal Department of Labour presents preliminary figures relating to the volume of employment in September, 1923, from 6,930 representative establishments in fifty-one manufacturing industries, covering 2,352,516 workpeople. These establishments in August reported 2,352,945 persons unemployed, a total which is practically the same as that for September. The aggregate wages paid show a very slight increase of 0·1 per cent. Twenty-five of the fifty-one industries show increases in the number of workpeople employed in September, the greatest being in the machine-tool industry, followed by confectionery and ice-cream, fertilisers, stamped-ware, cigars, sugar refining, women's clothing and stoves. The carriage and wagon industry had the greatest decrease in employment, followed by rubber boots and shoes, automobile tyres, agricultural implements, steel shipbuilding and paper.

As regards comparison between the month under review and the corresponding month of last year, it is reported that 2,993 establishments in forty-three industries had an increase of 10·6 per cent. in the number of workers employed in the year, and an increase of 20·5 per cent. in the aggregate wages paid. Thirty-two of the forty-three industries show increases in the number of workpeople employed; the increase amounted to over 31 per cent. in steam railroad car building and repairing, foundries and machine shops. The one large decrease—31·5 per cent.—is shown in the automobile tyre industry.

\* Information supplied through the courtesy of the Federal Commissioner of Labour Statistics, Washington, D.C.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

Fatal Accidents Acts, 1846-1864.

COMPANY'S LIABILITY LIMITED TO £100—DEATH OF WORKMAN— NEGLIGENCE BY RAILWAY COMPANY—CLAIM BY WIDOW.

SECTION 1 of the Fatal Accidents Act, 1846, provides as follows:—

“Whensoever the death of a person shall be caused by wrongful act, negligence or default, and the act, neglect or default is such as would (if death had not ensued) have entitled the party injured to maintain an action and recover damages in respect thereof, then, and in every such case, the person who would have been liable if death had not ensued, shall be liable to an action for damages, notwithstanding the death of the person injured.”

By Section 2 of the same Act the jury may give such damages as they think proportionate to the injury resulting to the dependants.

In August, 1922, a workman was travelling from Charing Cross to Milton Range Halt as a passenger on the defendants' train, and, on arrival at his destination, he crossed the line in company with other passengers, when, owing to dense fog, he was knocked down and killed. The widow of the deceased workman brought an action against the defendants under the above Acts, in which she alleged that the death of her husband was due to the negligence of the defendants' servants. The defendants, the railway company, admitted negligence, but pleaded that at the time of the accident the workman was travelling with a workman's ticket issued by the company to the workman upon the conditions applying to workmen's tickets issued under Section 32 of the South-Eastern and London, Chatham and Dover Railway Companies' Act, 1839. This section of the Act provides that the Company's liability is limited to £100 in respect of any claim to compensation for injury. This action was tried by Mr. Justice Swift in a non-jury action; and he held that the damages recoverable against the company under the Fatal Accidents Act, 1846, were not limited to £100, and awarded £800 damages. Against this decision the defendants appealed. In the Court of Appeal it was held that the judgment of Mr. Justice Swift was correct. It was further held that the Act of 1846 gave a new cause of action, and that the measure of damages recoverable by the widow was different from that under which the deceased workman could have recovered had he survived. Although the deceased, had he survived, might have been limited by his contract in the amount of damages that he could have recovered, this fact was immaterial as regards the widow's claim. The appeal was accordingly dismissed.—*Numan v. Southern Railway Company.*—*Court of Appeal.* October 23.

Trade Union Act, 1871.

RIGHT OF INSPECTION OF BOOKS AND ACCOUNTS—RIGHT OF AGENT OF MEMBER.

The plaintiff in this case held an official position in the defendant Trade Union, but was dismissed in April, 1922, and an action is pending questioning the validity of his dismissal. In October, 1922, the plaintiff was expelled from the defendant Union of which he was a member, but in an action brought by him Mr. Justice Astbury declared the expulsion invalid. In March of this year the plaintiff gave the Union notice that it was his intention on a certain day to inspect the books of the Union with a chartered accountant, who would give the Union an undertaking that he would not make use of any information so acquired except for the purpose of assisting and advising the plaintiff. The plaintiff duly attended on the 7th March, together with his accountant, when the defendant refused inspection, on the ground of the accountant's presence. The plaintiff brought an action for a declaration that he was entitled to inspection by an accountant upon the accountant giving the above undertaking. On behalf of the defendant it was stated that the plaintiff's action was not *bona fide*, but was brought in the interests of a rival Union and for the purpose of injuring the defendant Union, and there was no need for the assistance of the accountant. The plaintiff had made several endeavours to inspect the books, and on these occasions the excuse was put forward that the books were either at the auditors or that they were not ready for inspection. In September, 1922, the plaintiff was afforded an opportunity of inspecting the books, but on his attempting to make extracts from them they were withdrawn. Mr. Justice Astbury held that a member of a Trade Union who was entitled to inspect the books was also entitled to employ proper assistance in such case, that this was an action in which plaintiff was justified in calling in expert assistance, and that he was entitled to the declaration asked for, as it had not been proved that the plaintiff was acting *mala fide*. The matter came for hearing before the Court of Appeal, where it was held that the decision of Mr. Justice Astbury was correct. It was further held that the case had a wider reference than to Trade Unions only, as it concerned the right of inspection which might be claimed by members of companies, partners, etc. It was clear that “inspection” meant effective inspection, and that in order to make it effective an agent might be employed, that the onus of establishing that the plaintiff had not the right claimed lay on the defendant Union, and they had not established that. The appeal was accordingly dismissed.—*Dodd v. Amalgamated Marine Workers' Union.*—*Court of Appeal.* October 26, 30 and 31.



## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS.

## DECISIONS GIVEN BY THE UMPIRE.

VOLUMES containing the collected decisions of the Umpire appointed under Section 12 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, respecting disputed claims to benefit, are published by H.M. Stationery Office.

Cases after No. 2000 will not be published in volume form, but summaries of the decisions are printed in pamphlets issued at approximately fortnightly intervals. The pamphlets will be supplied post free, as and when issued, for an annual subscription of 7s. 6d., payable in advance. All applications should be made to H.M. Stationery Office or at any of the addresses shown on the front cover of this GAZETTE.

The following are recent decisions of general interest:—

**CASE No. 5245, SECTION 8 (1).—TRADE DISPUTE, EMPLOYMENT LOST OWING TO—SAFETY MAN DISCHARGED DURING MINERS' DISPUTE—WORK BEING DONE BY COLLIERY OFFICIAL.**

The applicant had been employed as a boiler fireman at a colliery, and he lost employment on 14th May, 1923, owing to a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute, which began on 15th May, 1923, on a wages question, and which involved all the miners at the colliery.

The applicant contended that neither he nor his Union was concerned in the dispute. His wages and conditions were not governed in any way by those of the miners. It was usual for boiler firemen to be retained during the miners' disputes in order to keep the boilers going for pumping operations, but in this case he had been discharged and his work was being done by a colliery official, who did the work from another pit.

*Recommended* by the Court of Referees that the claim for benefit should be disallowed under Section 8 (1).

The applicant's Association appealed to the Umpire.

*Decision.*—"On the facts before me my decision is that the claim for benefit should be disallowed.

"I agree with the recommendation of the Court of Referees. The applicant lost employment by reason of a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute at the premises at which he was employed."

**CASE No. 5248, SECTION 8 (1).—TRADE DISPUTE, EMPLOYMENT NOT LOST OWING TO—SAFETY MAN DISCHARGED SOME WEEKS AFTER MINERS' STRIKE COMMENCED—WORK BEING DONE BY COLLIERY OFFICIALS FOR ECONOMY REASONS.**

The employers, a colliery company, reported that the applicant, a fan man, had been suspended on 4th June, 1923, on account of a strike of the miners at the colliery at which he had been employed.

The applicant stated that the strike began on 15th May, 1923, but he and five other fan men worked for nearly three weeks during the dispute. Although they were now discharged, their work still continued, but it was being done by colliery officials, such as weighmen, storekeepers, etc. None of the fan men was implicated in the dispute.

*Recommended* by the Court of Referees that the claim for benefit should be allowed. The Court found that there was no stoppage of the fan men's work. The fan men were not parties to the dispute, but their work was essential; they had been discharged for reasons of economy and in order to give employment to the officials.

The Insurance Officer declined to accept the Court's recommendation and the case was referred to the Umpire.

*Decision.*—"On the facts before me my decision is that the claim for benefit should be allowed.

"I agree with the recommendation of the Court of Referees. The applicant and some others carried on the necessary maintenance work for about three weeks during a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute at the colliery at which they were employed. The employer appears to have then decided to economise by dispensing with their services and putting in their place officials of the company who would not ordinarily do work of the kind, such as clerks, storekeepers and weighmen. This change took place so long after the commencement of the stoppage of work that it can hardly be regarded as part of the shuffling and rearrangement of work incidental to a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute.

"The displacement of the applicant by another man who was ordinarily employed on work of quite a different kind seems to have been the substantial cause of the applicant's loss of employment, and I think he may be regarded as having been discharged to make room for another man rather than as having lost employment as a direct result of the stoppage of work due to the trade dispute."

**CASE No. 5360, SECTIONS 8 (1) AND (2).—TRADE DISPUTE AND EMPLOYMENT LEFT VOLUNTARILY—LEFT WORK BEFORE EXPIRATION OF NOTICES OF GENERAL WAGE REDUCTION—REMAINING EMPLOYEES STRUCK WORK WHEN NOTICES EXPIRED—APPLICANT ANTICIPATED STOPPAGE.**

The applicant, who was last employed as a labourer, left his employment voluntarily on 4th May, 1923, in view of a notice from the employers to the effect that wages were to be reduced as from 10th May, 1923.

The employers reported that on 2nd May notices were posted advising the employees of a new system of payment to be inaugurated on 10th May. The new rates offered formed part of a general reduction of wages in the works; they would, however, be equivalent to an increase of about 64 per cent. over those paid in pre-war times. The other employees ceased work on 9th May, refusing to accept the new rates.

The applicant contended that the wages proposed by the employers were too low.

*Recommended* by the Court of Referees that the claim for benefit should be disallowed for the duration of the stoppage of work due to the trade dispute. The Court held that the applicant lost employment through a trade dispute, and that it was impossible to treat him differently from the employees who had ceased work on the expiration of the notices.

The applicant, who had been granted leave, appealed to the Umpire.

*Decision.*—"On the facts before me my decision is that the claim for benefit should be disallowed.

"I agree with the Court of Referees. There was a dispute at these works as to the rates of wages, and when the employers posted notices of the wages they proposed to pay after the current week the applicant left. The dispute led to a general stoppage of work, and the applicant by his action merely anticipated such stoppage."

**CASE No. 5514, SECTION 8 (1).—TRADE DISPUTE—CASUAL DOCK LABOURER NOT PARTY TO DOCKERS' STRIKE AND NOT AT WORK WHEN STRIKE STARTED.**

The applicant, a casual dock labourer, lodged his claim for benefit on 28th June, 1923. On 2nd July the claim was disallowed under Section 8 (1) on the ground that the applicant's unemployment was due to the dockers' strike, which began at 9 a.m. on that date.

The applicant stated that he secured 4 hours' work on 30th June. He again applied for work on a certain vessel at 8 a.m. on 2nd July, but he was not engaged.

*Recommended* by the Court of Referees that the claim for benefit should be allowed in respect of 2nd July, but disallowed thereafter. The Court held that the case was distinguishable from Case No. 1106 in that the applicant had reported for duty on 2nd July, 1922. From 3rd July, however, the claim was disallowed under Section 8 (1).

The applicant's Association appealed to the Umpire. They stated that the applicant did not actually participate in the dispute. He was unemployed before the strike took place, and had not been offered work during the strike, although he had reported for work at the usual calling off time, viz.:—8 a.m. daily from 2nd to 12th July. There was no evidence to show that but for the dispute he would have been employed.

Further enquiry was made at the docks, and it was ascertained that the only system for engaging labour was "calling off" at the ship-side. Men failing to secure engagement on one ship would proceed to the next, and so on. There was work available, and men who were willing to work could have presented themselves for duty in the ordinary way without molestation. There was a tally system in operation whereby men ordinarily seeking work at the docks could be identified, and the applicant was the holder of one of these tallies.

*Decision.*—"On the facts before me my decision is that the claim for benefit should be disallowed from July 3rd.

"Whether the applicant himself was taking part in the dispute or not, I am satisfied that he lost employment as from July 3rd by reason of a stoppage of work which was due to a trade dispute. He ordinarily sought and obtained work at the docks, and although the work is casual and he had not employment at the moment when the dispute started, there is no reasonable doubt that but for the dispute he would have continued to obtain casual employment. The case is substantially similar to No. 1106. With regard to July 2nd, there are not sufficient grounds for differing from the Court of Referees. The mere fact that the applicant reported for work on that day, however, does not of itself suffice to show that he should not be disqualified for receipt of benefit; he would be disqualified if there were sufficient ground for inferring that his failure to obtain employment was due to the stoppage of work."

## REPAYMENT AND RETURN OF CONTRIBUTIONS (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS, 1923.

The Unemployment Insurance (Repayment and Return of Contributions) (Amendment) Regulations, 1923, dated November 1, 1923, made by the Minister of Labour under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920 (10 and 11 Geo. 5, c. 30).

WHEREAS the Minister of Labour, by virtue of the powers conferred on him by section 28 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, has made the Unemployment Insurance (Repayment and Return of Contributions) Regulations, 1920 (hereinafter referred to as the "Principal Regulations");

And whereas it is desirable to amend the said Regulations.

Now therefore the Minister of Labour, by virtue of the powers conferred on him by the said Act, hereby makes the following Regulations for amending the Principal Regulations.

1. Regulation 5 of the Unemployment Insurance (Repayment and Return of Contributions) Regulations, 1920, shall cease to have effect, and the following provision shall have effect in lieu thereof:—

"(5) Application for the return of any contribution paid in respect of any person under the erroneous belief that the contributions were payable in respect of him shall be made within three years from the date on which that contribution was paid and shall be made in such form as the Minister may direct."

2. Where before the coming into force of these regulations application has been made under the principal regulations for



the return of any contributions so paid as aforesaid, any subsequent application for the return of those contributions made on or before the 30th day of April, 1924, in such form as the Minister may direct or may in any particular case accept shall be deemed to have been made on the date of the commencement of these Regulations.

3. Where by these Regulations any Regulations or words are directed to be substituted for any other Regulations or words in the Principal Regulations, copies of the Principal Regulations printed under the authority of His Majesty's Stationery Office after these Regulations come into force, may be printed with the Regulations or words substituted as these Regulations require, and with the Regulations and paragraphs thereafter numbered in accordance with such direction; and the Principal Regulations shall be construed as if they had, at the time at which these Regulations come into force, been made with such additions or omissions.

4. These Regulations may be cited as the Unemployment Insurance (Repayment and Return of Contributions) (Amendment) Regulations, 1923, and shall come into force on the date hereof.

Signed by Order of the Minister of Labour, this first day of November, 1923. (Sgd.) H. J. WILSON,  
Secretary of the Ministry of Labour.

### INSURANCE INDUSTRY SPECIAL SCHEME (AMENDMENT) (No. 2) ORDER, 1923.

The Unemployment Insurance (Insurance Industry Special Scheme) Amendment (No. 2) Order, 1923, dated October 19, 1923, made by the Minister of Labour under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1923 (13 Geo. 5, c. 2).

WHEREAS it is provided by Section 10 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1923 (hereinafter referred to as "the Act of 1923,"), that for the purpose of securing in the case of a special scheme that like rates of benefit shall be payable to the person to whom the scheme applies as are payable under the Act of 1923, and that the benefits under the scheme shall otherwise be not less favourable than those provided by the general provisions of the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920 to 1922, as amended by the Act of 1923 (but for no other purposes), the Minister of Labour (hereinafter referred to as "the Minister") may, after consultation with the body charged with the administration of the scheme, by order vary or amend the provisions of the scheme, and any such order may provide for consequential amendments as to rates of contributions and otherwise.

And whereas by the Unemployment Insurance (Insurance Industry Special Scheme) Order, 1921, the Insurance Industry Unemployment Insurance Scheme (hereinafter referred to as "the scheme") was approved by the Minister, and the Incorporated Insurance Industry Unemployment Insurance Board (hereinafter referred to as "the Joint Board") is the body charged with the administration of the scheme.

And whereas the provisions of the scheme have been amended by the Unemployment Insurance (Insurance Industry Special Scheme) (Amendment) Order, 1922, the Unemployment Insurance (Insurance Industry Special Scheme) (Amendment) Order, 1923 (which said Orders are hereinafter respectively referred to as the Amendment Order, 1922, and the Amendment Order, 1923), and the Unemployment Insurance (Insurance Industry Special Scheme) (Amendment) Special Order, 1923, all of which said Orders and Special Order are hereinafter referred to as the "Amending Orders."

And whereas for the purposes mentioned in the said Section 10 of the Act of 1923 it is necessary further to vary and amend the said scheme.

Now, therefore, the Minister, after consultation with the Joint Board, hereby makes the following order:—

1. The variations and amendments of the provisions of the scheme contained in the schedule hereto shall have effect.

2. This Order shall cease to have effect upon the subsequent coming into force of any Special Order amending the scheme, but without prejudice to anything previously done hereunder, and shall for the purposes of any such Special Order be deemed to form part of the amending Orders.

This Order may be cited as the Unemployment Insurance (Insurance Industry Special Scheme) (Amendment) (No. 2) Order, 1923, and shall be included amongst the Orders, which may be cited together as the Unemployment Insurance (Insurance Industry Special Scheme) Orders, 1921 to 1923.

Signed by order of the Minister of Labour this nineteenth day of October, 1923.

(Signed) H. J. WILSON,  
Secretary of the Ministry of Labour.

### SCHEDULE.

1. Paragraph 1 (1) and (2) of the Schedule to the Amendment Order, 1923, shall be deemed always to have had effect as if instead of the words "forty-four weeks" there had been inserted the words "forty-nine weeks."

2. Subject to the provisions of this schedule the Joint Board shall have the same power to authorise the receipt of out of work benefit during the first benefit year as defined in the Act of 1923 as they have to authorise the receipt of out of work benefit

during the fourth special period, and references in the Amendment Orders, 1922 and 1923, to the authorisation and receipt of out of work benefit under those Orders shall apply accordingly:—

Provided that the periods for which a person may be authorised by the Joint Board under paragraph 3 of the Schedule to the Amendment Order, 1922, and paragraph 1 of the Schedule to the Amendment Order, 1923, as applied by this paragraph to receive out of work benefit during the said first benefit year shall be periods not exceeding in the aggregate twenty-six weeks and notwithstanding anything in any Act, Scheme, Order or Special Order, no person shall, whether as being so authorised or otherwise, be entitled to receive out of work benefit in the said first benefit year for periods amounting in the aggregate to more than twenty-six weeks.

3. The Joint Board shall, in exercising the powers conferred upon them by this Schedule, give effect to any general directions which may from time to time be given by the Minister.

4. Save as in this Schedule otherwise expressly provided, nothing herein contained shall operate so as to deprive any person of, or to prevent any person from receiving, any out of work benefit which he would have been entitled to receive if the provisions of this Schedule had not come into force.

## RECENT CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION CASES.

### THE INDUSTRIAL COURT.

WHEEL REGISTRAR—GRADING AND RATE OF PAY—LONDON, MIDLAND AND SCOTTISH RAILWAY, HORWICH.—National Union of Railwaymen v. London, Midland and Scottish Railway. The Union claimed that the man in question should be graded as a Grade V. unappointed clerk. *Decision*.—The claim has not been established. Issued 22nd October, 1923. (841.)

HEAVY PUNCH AND DIE PRESSMAN—GRADING AND RATE OF PAY—LONDON, MIDLAND AND SCOTTISH RAILWAY, HORWICH.—National Union of Railwaymen v. London, Midland and Scottish Railway. The Union claimed that the man in question should be given the grade of machinist, Grade II., under Decision No. 728. *Decision*.—While unable to accede to the Union's claim, the Court consider that the work done by the man is rather that of a machinist than of a labourer, and they decide that, as from the beginning of the first full pay period following the date of the decision, he should receive a base rate of 34s. per week. Issued 22nd October, 1923. (842.)

PIPE TESTER—GRADING AND RATE OF PAY—LONDON, MIDLAND AND SCOTTISH RAILWAY, HORWICH.—National Union of Railwaymen v. London, Midland and Scottish Railway. In the absence of a specific rate being laid down in Decision No. 728 for this work, the company had graded the man in question, when applying that decision, as a Grade I. labourer, and had raised his base rate from 28s. to 29s. per week. The Union claimed a higher rate on the basis of analogy to the classes specifically dealt with in Decision No. 728. *Decision*.—The Court are of opinion that the work warrants the payment of a rate above the labourer's rate, and decide that, as from the beginning of the first full pay period following the date of the decision, a basic rate of 31s. per week should be paid. Issued 22nd October, 1923. (843.)

PIPE FITTERS—LONDON ELECTRIC RAILWAYS.—National Union of Railwaymen v. Metropolitan District Railway, London Electric Railway, City and South London Railway and Central London Railway. The Union claimed that, although the men in question do not serve an apprenticeship, their work is of a highly-skilled nature, and should be remunerated at the rate of a Grade I. fitter, namely, at a basic rate of 50s. per week. The Court viewed the work at Ealing, which was agreed to be typical. *Decision*.—The claim for the payment to the men concerned of the rate of a Grade I. craftsman has not been established. Issued 22nd October, 1923. (844.)

ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES—CLYDE DISTRICT—WORKING RULES, 1918—FAIR HOLIDAY PERIOD ON REPAIRS TO SHIPS.—Shipbuilding Employers' Federation v. Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades. The question at issue in this case was whether the Fairfield Shipbuilding and Engineering Company, Limited, Govan, were entitled in July, 1922, to observe the same Fair Holiday Period on repairs to ships as was observed on repairs to ships by other firms in the same district. *Decision*.—The custom in the Clyde district is that in any yard carrying on shipbuilding and ship repair when any vessel is under repair, the length of the Fair Holiday for men engaged in the work of repair is the same as that in a yard entirely devoted to repair. The Fairfield Shipbuilding and Engineering Company, Limited, are therefore entitled to observe the same Fair Holiday period on repairs to ships as is recognised by custom on ship repair work. Issued 22nd October, 1923. (845.)

ELECTRICAL WIREMEN—LONDON ELECTRIC RAILWAYS—RATES OF PAY.—Electrical Trades Union v. London Electric Railways. The decision in this case follows on Decision No. 768. *Decision*.—The work in question may properly be regarded as coming within paragraph 3 of Decision No. 728, and as being incidental to the ordinary business of the companies. The rates prescribed in Decision No. 728 are therefore applicable to that work, in so far as it affects the electricians regularly employed by the companies concerned. In the case of electricians not regularly



employed by the companies, for example, men taken on temporarily to do a particular job, and who will not be absorbed in the regular staff of the companies, the rates prescribed in the schedules to Decision No. 728 are not applicable, and the rates payable shall be the rates agreed to be paid between the National Federated Electrical Association and the Electrical Trades Union, less 1½d. (one penny and one farthing) per hour. *Decision.*—As regards the work in question, the Court decide that the rates payable to electricians taken on as "temporary," as above described, are the rates mentioned above, and that in all other cases the rates payable are those prescribed in the schedules to Decision No. 728. The decision is to operate as from 1st November, 1923. Issued 24th October, 1923. (846.)

**ASSISTANTS, MATES AND HELPERS—LABOURERS, GRADE I.—RUNNING SHED, TOTON—DECISION No. 728.**—Workers' Union v. London, Midland and Scottish Railway. The men concerned have been graded by the company as labourers, but the Union contends that they ought properly to be graded as fitters' assistants or mates. The Court viewed the work after the hearing. *Decision.*—Having regard to all the circumstances, and *inter alia* to the fact that eight men are each regularly employed with and attached to an individual fitter and possess special skill and experience, the Court decide that their duties and responsibilities are such as to entitle them to be classified as fitters' mates. In the case of two men, who are partly on piecework under the supervision of the different fitters with whom they work and are otherwise under the supervision of the foreman fitter, the decision of the Court is that the men should be classified as Grade I. labourers. The decision is to take effect as from the beginning of the first full pay period following 15th September, 1923. Issued 24th October, 1923. (847.)

**ENVELOPE MAKING AND STATIONERY MANUFACTURING—WOMEN WORKERS—LONDON—APPLICATION FOR REDUCTION OF STANDARD TIME-RATES OF WAGES.**—Employers' Federation of Envelope Makers and Manufacturing Stationers v. National Union of Printing, Bookbinding, Machine Ruling and Paper Workers. *Decision.*—After a careful consideration of the full and detailed evidence submitted to them by the respective parties, the Court have come to the conclusion that a case has been established for some reduction of wages, and they decide that as from the date of the decision the basic time-rates of wages of the workpeople concerned shall be reduced by 2s. per week. Issued 26th October, 1923. (848.)

**RAILWAY VEHICLE BUILDERS—DECISION No. 728, PARAGRAPH 23 AND SCHEDULE D—RANGE RATES—VARYING RATES IN SAME TOWN AND IN SAME WORKSHOP—CRAFTSMEN ON LOWER GRADE WORK—GLASGOW AND BARASSIE.**—Amalgamated Society of Railway Vehicle Builders through the Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades v. Railway Companies parties to Decision No. 728. *Decision.*—The Decision No. 728 was applied by agreement between the various railway companies and unions of Scotland, and, so far as the wagon builders are concerned, the range rate was applied to them. Apparently some time before the issue of Decision No. 728, the men at the Barassie Railway workshop went on strike against their then rate, and, under what is known as the "Cooper award," they received an advance of 5s. per week, and are now being paid a basic rate of 44s. per week. The basic rate in the Glasgow shops of the former Caledonian Railway is 40s. per week. When the Glasgow men claimed an advance the management requested them to remain at work pending a settlement, when they would be as well off as, if not better off than, they would have been had they gone on strike. The matter was apparently overlooked when it was agreed to apply Decision No. 728 to Scotland. If the men were promised that they would be as well off as the Barassie men, this promise should be fulfilled. Issued 26th October, 1923. (849.)

**FARRIERS IN LONDON—FIXING OF RATES—DECISION No. 728.**—Amalgamated Society of Farriers and Blacksmiths v. Railway Companies parties to Decision No. 728. *Decision.*—As from the beginning of the first full pay period following the date of the decision, the basic rate for firemen shall be 50s. per week and for doormen 48s. per week. Issued 26th October, 1923. (850.)

**SCOTTISH DYES, LTD., GRANGEMOUTH—BOILER-FIREMEN—CONTINUOUS PROCESS—EXTRA PAYMENT FOR SHIFT WORKERS DURING WEEK-ENDS.**—Scottish Dyes, Ltd., v. Transport and General Workers' Union. *Decision.*—The Court has come to the conclusion that the men concerned should receive an extra payment for week-end work, and, having regard to the experimental stage of the company's business at Grangemouth and to the rates of wages paid in local and kindred undertakings, the Court decide:—

(a) For the present shift rate of 8s. 9d. there shall be substituted a new shift rate based on a rate of 1s. (one shilling) per hour—8s. 3d. per shift.

(b) Extra payment shall be made for five week-end shifts, namely, at rate and a-half for three shifts and rate and a-quarter for two shifts.

The decision is not intended to affect the present payment of an extra rate of ½d. per hour after twelve months' service with the firm, nor to interfere with the practice of making an extra payment for work done after the normal working hours on boiler cleaning. In accordance with an agreement between the parties the decision is to be deemed to operate as from 19th August, 1923. Issued 26th October, 1923. (851.)

## CONCILIATORS, SINGLE ARBITRATORS AND AD HOC BOARDS OF ARBITRATION APPOINTED BY THE MINISTER OF LABOUR.

**BOOT AND SHOE WORKERS: NORTHAMPTON.**—Workpeople's Side v. Employers' Side of the Joint Board of Conciliation and Arbitration for the Boot and Shoe Trade of the County District of Northampton. Difference—Claim by the Manufacturers' Section for a reduction in the extras to be paid for samples. Arbitrator—Mr. W. Addington Willis. Award—The award sets out the extras to be paid for quantities of three pairs or under for the operations of Clicking, Closing, Lasting and Finishing; comes into operation at the commencement of the full pay week which begins on or next after the 30th October, 1923. Issued 23rd October, 1923. (I.R. 1487/2/1923.)

**MOULDERS: FALKIRK.**—Central Iron Moulders' Association and the National Union of Foundry Workers v. National Light Castings Ironfounders' Federation. Difference—As to the wages that should be paid to daysmen moulders employed by members of the Falkirk No. 1 District of the Federation. Arbitrator—Sir William W. Mackenzie, K.B.E., K.C. Award—The weekly rate of wages should be the same as that paid to daysmen moulders by members of the No. 2 District (Glasgow and West of Scotland) of the Federation, namely, 52s. 7½d., plus 11s. 6d. per week war bonus. The award is effective as from the beginning of the first full pay period following the 1st November, 1923. Issued 26th October, 1923. (I.R. 1499/2/1923.)

## AGREEMENTS NEGOTIATED BY OFFICERS OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR.

**GLASS BOTTLE WORKERS: BURNLEY.**—National Glass Workers' Trade Protection Association v. Messrs. E. Bishop and Sons, Burnley. Difference—Proposal to reduce wages by 10 per cent. and refusal of the firm to recognise the Union. Agreement—The firm would recognise the Union. Wages should be reduced by 7½ per cent. immediately on resumption of work, and by a further 2½ per cent. on the first pay day in January, 1924. The whole position should be reviewed in June, 1924. Agreed October, 1923. (I.R. 827/1923.)

**PLUMBERS: FALMOUTH.**—United Operative Plumbers' and Domestic Engineers' Association v. Messrs. Cox and Company, Ship Repairers, Falmouth. Difference—Claim on behalf of plumbers for extra payment when working in the holds of ships when insulating material is being put in. Agreement—The men accepted the offer of the firm to remove any cause of complaint where plumbers were called upon to work when the packing used in such work was unduly unpleasant or dangerous to health. Agreed 27th September, 1923. (I.R. 1465/1923.)

**WASTE-PAPER WORKERS: LONDON.**—Transport and General Workers' Union v. Messrs. Lendrum's, Limited, London. Difference—Proposal to reduce wages. Agreement—Pressmen and guillotine cutters should receive 60s. for a 48 hours week, with a guaranteed minimum of 54s. 4½d.; other men a rate of 57s. for a 48 hours week, with a guaranteed minimum of 51s. 8d.; women, 28s. for a 48 hours week, with a guaranteed minimum of 25s. 6d. The guaranteed minimum rates should not apply to employees losing time on their own account. Overtime should be paid for at the rate of time and a quarter for the first two hours after ordinary stopping time each day, at time and a half thereafter, and at double time for Sunday, customary public holidays and statutory holidays. Waterside transport workers and casual workers should be employed under the terms of the National Dock Agreement. Three months' notice should be given of any desire to alter the agreement, at least three weeks before the expiration of which notice a joint conference should be held to discuss the matter. Signed 1st October, 1923. (I.R. 1296/1923.)

**POTTERY WORKERS, EARTHENWARE AND ROCKINGHAM SECTIONS: SCOTLAND.**—National Society of Pottery Workers v. Scottish Earthenware Manufacturers' Association and the Rockingham and Caneware Manufacturers' Association. Difference—Proposal to reduce wages by 10 per cent., in two instalments. Agreement—The question of wages reductions would be deferred until the customary period in 1924, i.e., six weeks' notice prior to the 25th March, the Union undertaking to give precedence and special consideration to any notice then given by the employers. A scheme for conciliation in the Earthenware and Rockingham Sections of the industry in Scotland would be submitted for the consideration of the parties. Signed 23rd October, 1923. I.R. 689/1923.)

## TRADE BOARDS ACTS, 1909 AND 1918.

### ORDERS.

An Order confirming minimum rates of wages (as cancelled and fixed) for periods dependent on the "Cost of Living" Index Figure has been made under Section 4 (2) of the Trade Boards Act, 1918:—

#### Chain Trade Board (Great Britain).

Order C (17), dated 22nd October, 1923, cancelling rates for hand-hammered chain making from iron supplied by the employer and refixing the rates whether or not the iron is supplied by the employer and specifying 1st November, 1923, as the



date from which the said minimum rates as cancelled and fixed are effective.

The Order points out that under the Trade Boards Acts, in cases where the iron is provided by or at the expense of the worker, the employer is under obligation, in addition to paying the worker at not less than the minimum rates fixed by the Trade Board, to reimburse the worker for any necessary expenditure in connection with the provision of the iron.

Order made by the Ministry of Labour for Northern Ireland under Section 4 (2) of the Trade Boards Act, 1918, confirming minimum rates of wages as fixed and varied by the under-noted Trade Board:—

#### Brush and Broom Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Order N.I.B.B. (24 and 25) confirming general minimum piece-rates and overtime rates for male workers, and specifying the 29th October, 1923, as the date from which these rates are effective.

General Minimum Piece-Rates, formerly applying to male workers of 21 years of age and over (other than male apprentices under 22 years of age) employed and with not less than three years' experience in certain branches of the trade, now applied to male workers of all ages (other than Indentured Apprentices under 22 years of age) employed in certain branches of the trade.

### NOTICES OF PROPOSAL.

#### Hat, Cap and Millinery Trade Board (England and Wales).

Proposal H.M. (11), dated 16th October, 1923, to vary the general minimum time rates for female workers other than learners, the piece-work basis time rates for all female workers, the overtime rates for female workers (other than learners) employed on time-work and the overtime rates for all female workers employed on piece-work.

#### Tobacco Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal N. (10), dated 18th October, 1923, to cancel the provision excluding from the operation of minimum rates male or female learners to hand or mould cigar-making during the first 12 months of learnership, and to vary certain conditions attached to the minimum rates of wages for male and female apprentices in the cigar section of the trade.

#### Chain Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal C. (18), dated 30th October, 1923, to cancel minimum rates of wages for making certain sizes of dollied or tommied chain and of hand-hammered chain from iron supplied by the employer, and to fix for periods dependent upon the "Cost of Living" figure minimum rates of wages for making certain sizes of dollied or tommied chain and of hand-hammered chain whether or not the iron is supplied by the employer.

### OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

**ALIENS.**—*Aliens Order, 1920. A return of alien passengers, excluding transmigrants, landed, embarked, and refused leave to land in the United Kingdom during the three months ending September 30th, 1923.* Home Office. (Cmd. 1868.—II.; price 2d.)

**CENSUS.**—*Census of England and Wales, 1921: (a) County of Devon, (b) County of Cornwall, (c) County of Chester.* (S.O. publications: price 11s. 6d., 8s., 12s. 6d. respectively.)

**DOMESTIC SERVICE.**—*Report of the Committee appointed to inquire into the present conditions as to the supply of female domestic servants.* Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publication: price 6d.) (See page 399.)

**JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT.**—*The health of the school child. Annual report of the Chief Medical Officer of the Board of Education for the year 1922.* (S.O. publication: price 1s. 6d.)

**MINING.**—(1) *Reports of H.M. Inspectors of Mines for the year 1922. 1, Scotland Division; 2, Northern Division; 3, York and North Midland Division; 5, South Wales Division.* (S.O. publications: price 5s., 5s. 6d., 5s. 6d., 5s. respectively.) (2) *List of Mines in Great Britain and the Isle of Man, 1922.* Board of Trade, Mines Department. (S.O. publication: price 13s. 6d.) (3) *Statistical summary of output and of the costs of production, proceeds and profits of the coal mining industry for the quarter ended 30th June, 1923.* Board of Trade, Mines Department. (Cmd. 1972: price 2d.) (See page 400.) (4) *Output and employment at metalliferous mines, quarries, etc., during the quarter ended 30th June, 1923.* Board of Trade, Mines Department. (S.O. publication: price 4d.) (See page 400.)

**POOR-LAW RELIEF.**—*Statement of the number of persons in receipt of Poor-Law relief in England and Wales on the night of the 1st day of January, 1923.* Ministry of Health. (H.C. 121/1923: price 1s.)

**PRICES.**—*Interim report on cereals, flour and bread.* Departmental Committee on Distribution and Prices of Agricultural Produce. Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. (Cmd. 1971: price 3s.)

**PRISON OFFICERS' PAY.**—*Report of the Committee appointed to inquire into the pay and conditions of service at the prisons and Borstal institutions in England and Scotland and at Broadmoor Criminal Lunatic Asylum.* Home Office. (Cmd. 1959: price 9d.) (See page 400.)

**RAILWAYS.**—*Return showing (1) the number of persons employed by the several railway companies of Great Britain during the week ended 24th March, 1923, and (2) a comparison of the rates of pay at 1st July, 1922, and at 1st July, 1923, and also of the average weekly salary or wage, and the average weekly earnings for the weeks ended 19th March, 1921, and 24th March, 1923, for certain selected grades.* Ministry of Transport. (S.O. publication: price 1s. 6d.) (See page 398.)

**SEAMEN.**—*Return of the number, ages, ratings and nationalities of the seamen employed on the 19th day of June, 1921, on vessels registered under Part I. of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894, in the British Islands.* Board of Trade, Marine Department. (S.O. publication: price 21s.)

**TEACHERS' SALARIES.**—*Appendix III. to the report of the Standing Joint Committee on salaries for teachers in technical schools, etc.* Board of Education. (S.O. publication: price 1d.)

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.**—*Report on National Unemployment Insurance to July, 1923, with a short account of the Out-of-Work Donation scheme (November, 1918, to March, 1921) and appendices.* Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publication: price 3s.) (See page 394.)

### GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

#### LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, OCTOBER, 1923.

##### ADMIRALTY.

##### (CIVIL ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF'S DEPARTMENT.)

**H.M. Naval Establishments Abroad: Steel Piling:** The British Steel Piling Co., London, E.C.—**Two Steel Tanks:** Dorman, Long & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough.—**C.I. Pipes and Specials:** Stanton Ironworks Co., Ltd., near Nottingham.—**Ten Steel Tanks:** The Motherwell Bridge Co., Ltd., Motherwell, near Glasgow.—**Lead Wool and Spun Yarn:** Lead Wool Co., Ltd., Snodland, Kent.—**C.I. Pipes and Specials:** The Staveley Coal & Iron Co., Ltd., Staveley, near Chesterfield.—**Twelve Steel Tanks:** Tees Side Bridge and Engineering Works, Ltd., Middlesbrough.—**Ten Steel Tanks:** Whessoe Foundry & Engineering Co., Ltd., Darlington.—**Eleven Steel Tanks:** Newton Chambers & Co., Ltd., near Sheffield.—**Rosyth: Rockcutter:** Lobnitz & Co., Ltd., Renfrew, Scotland.—**Dalnottar: Five Steel Tanks:** Furness Shipbuilding Co., Ltd., Haverton Hill-on-Tees.—**Portsmouth: Timber:** Bailey & Whites, Ltd., Portsmouth.

##### ADMIRALTY.

##### (CONTRACT AND PURCHASE DEPARTMENT.)

**Batteries:** Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd., Manchester; D.P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell.—**Batteries and Cells:** Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Blankets:** J. W. Whitworth, Ltd., Luddendenfoot.—**Boxes, Ammunition:** Brownlee & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Britannia Metal, White Metal, and Nickel Silver Articles:** Cooper Bros. & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield; Gladwin, Ltd., Sheffield; J. & G. Graves, Ltd., Shef-

field; T. Wilkinson & Sons, Birmingham.—**Buffalo Hides:** Bryant & Co., London, S.E.—**Calico:** G. I. Sidebottom & Co., Manchester.—**Canvas, R.N. and M.N.:** Baxter Bros. & Co., Ltd., Dundee; Boase Spinning Co., Ltd., Dundee; Richards, Ltd., Aberdeen; F. Webster & Son, Arbroath; Port Glasgow & Newark Sailcloth Co., Ltd., Port Glasgow.—**Canvas Suit Cases:** M. & A. Hess, London, E.C.—**Capstan, Electrically driven:** Cowans, Sheldon & Co., Ltd., Carlisle.—**Cells:** Pritchett & Gold & E.P.S. Co., Ltd., Dagenham, Essex.—**China, Porcelain:** R. H. & S. L. Plant, Ltd., Longton.—**Cloth, Silk:** J. T. Brocklehurst & Sons, Ltd., Macclesfield.—**Collars, Soft White:** John Desmond & Co., Ltd., Londonderry; R. M. Moody, Bridgwater.—**Collars, Stiff White:** Welch, Margetson & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Compasses, Aircraft:** Kelvin, Bottomley & Baird, Ltd., London, S.E.; Dent & Co. & Johnson, Ltd., Linwood, Paisley.—**Conversion of Compasses:** Dent & Co. & Johnson, Ltd., Linwood, Paisley; Kelvin, Bottomley & Baird, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Cranes, Electric Travelling:** A. Jack & Co., Ltd., Motherwell.—**(Sub-Contractors for Motors:** Metropolitan Vickers Elec. Co., Trafford Park, Manchester.)—**Crane, Electric Locomotive:** Sir W. Arrol & Co., Ltd., Parkhead, Glasgow.—**Crank Housing, etc., for Pumping Engines:** Fullerton, Hodgart & Barclay, Ltd., Paisley.—**Enamels:** Robert Ingham, Clarke & Co., Ltd., London, E.; Jenson & Nicholson, Ltd., London, E.; Indestructible Paint Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Fans, Electric:** Veritys, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Fearnought and Kearsley:** J. Horsfall & Sons (Greetland), Ltd., Halifax; J. Churchward & Sons, Ltd., Buckfastleigh; L. Harwood & Co., Ltd., Luddendenfoot; W. Edleston, Ltd., Sowerby Bridge.—**Fenders, Hazel Rod:** Thomas Black & Co., Greenock.—**Gear**



**for Torpedo Tubes:** MacTaggart, Scott & Co., Ltd., Loanhead, Edinburgh.—**Glass, Table:** J. Fleming & Co., Stourbridge; Stevens & Williams, Ltd., Brierley Hill; Stuart & Sons, Ltd., Wordsley; Webb's Crystal Glass Co., Ltd., Stourbridge.—**Gunmetal Hose Couplings:** J. Downton & Co., Ltd., London, E.; J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Gunmetal Hose Fittings:** Highton & Son, Ltd., London, E.; The Stroud Metal Co., Ltd., Stroud, Glos.; T. Wilson & Sons (Swalwell), Ltd., Swalwell, on-Tyne.—**Gymnastic Gear:** A. G. Spalding & Bros., Ltd., London, W.C.; W. Sykes, Ltd., Horbury; F. H. Ayres, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Helmets, Sun:** J. Compton & Sons, Ltd., London, E.; C. Owen & Co. (Bets), Ltd., London, E.; Everitt W. Vero & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Hides and Leather Goods:** G. Angus & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; J. & F. J. Baker & Co., Ltd., Colyton, Devon; Barrowfield Leather Co., Bridgeton, Glasgow; Barrow, Hepburn & Gale, Ltd., London, S.E.; J. Deed & Sons, Ltd., London, W.C.; H. Densham & Son, Ltd., Bristol; F. C. Jenner & Co., London, S.E.; S. E. Norris & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Hides, Upholstering:** J. T. Underwood, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Lard:** J. Henderson & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Lathes, Capstan:** H. W. Ward & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Lathes, Flat Turret:** H. W. Ward & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Leather Gloves:** North of England Chamois Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; J. S. Deed & Sons, Ltd., London, W.C.; C. Cockwell & Co., Cricklade, Wilts.—**Leather Straps and Millbands:** S. E. Norris & Co., Ltd., London, E.; Harbord & Poole, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Lead Sheet & Pipe, &c.:** Locke, Blackett & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; Locke, Lancaster & W. W. & R. Johnson & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Life Belts and Buoys:** Steedman & McAlister, Glasgow; John Wilson & Co., Glasgow.—**Linen, Black:** Ulster Weaving Co., Ltd., Belfast.—**Linoleum:** M. Nairn & Co., Ltd., Kirkealdy. **Machines, Coal Hopper Weighing and Totalling:** W. & T. Avery, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Machines, Pneumatic Drilling:** The Globe Pneumatic Engineering Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Macintoshes (C.P.O.):** Charles Macintosh & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Mercury Vapour Rectifier Installation:** Hewitt Electric Co., Ltd., London, N.—**Motor Alternators and Spares:** Newton Bros. (Derby), Ltd., Derby.—**Naval Brass Bolts, Nuts and Studs:** Muntz's Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham; E. H. Bentall & Co., Ltd., Heybridge, Maldon.—**Naval Brass and Copper Bars, Sheets, &c.:** Vivian & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; Bull's Metal & Melloid Co., Ltd., Glasgow; J. Booth & Co. (1915), Ltd., Birmingham; P. H. Muntz & Co., Ltd., West Bromwich; McKechnie Bros., Birmingham; Muntz's Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham; The Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Birmingham Battery & Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Overcoats:** St. Alban Manufacturing Co., Leeds.—**Paint, Oxide of Iron:** Golden Valley Ochre & Oxide Co., Ltd., Bristol; Hemingway & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Paint, White Lead:** Brimsdown Lead Co., Ltd., Brimsdown; Cookson & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; Foster, Blackett & Wilson, Ltd., Hebburn-on-Tyne; H. Grace & Co., London, E.; Mersey White Lead Co., Ltd., Warrington; Rowe Bros. & Co., Ltd., Liverpool; Walkers, Parker & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.—**Pinions, Replace:** Fairfield Shipbuilding & Engineering Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Racks, Steel:** J. Sankey & Sons, Ltd., Wellington, Shropshire.—**Regulators, Oil Pressure Protective:** Crosby Valve & Engineering Co., Rotherham.—**Reps and Damasks:** J. Holdsworth & Co., Ltd., Halifax; Walsh & McCrea, Ltd., Halifax.—**Rope, Steel Wire:** Excelsior Wire Rope Co., Ltd., Cardiff; Dixon & Corbitt & R. S. Newall & Co., Ltd., Gateshead-on-Tyne; Caledonian Wire Rope Co., Ltd., Airdrie; Bullivant & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Craven & Speeding Bros., Sunderland; Binks Bros., Ltd., London, E.; W. D. Houghton & Co., Ltd., Warrington; Edwin Ellis & Co., Ltd., London, E.; J. Crawhall & Sons, Gateshead-on-Tyne.—**Rope, Serrated Steel Wire:** Bullivant & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Rotary Converter Equipment:** English Electric Co., Ltd., Stafford.—**Runways, Overhead:** The Vaughan Crane Co., Ltd., Manchester; Herbert Morris, Ltd., Loughborough.—**Shoes, Brown Canvas:** R. Coggins & Sons, Ltd., Raunds; John Horrell & Son, Raunds.—**Shirts, Soft White:** Bryce & Weston, Ltd., London, E.C.; Salisbury Manufacturing Co., London, E.C.—**Soap, Soft:** Peter Lunt & Co., Liverpool.—**Solder:** E. Austin & Sons (London), Ltd., London; E. R. Jones & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; J. Ratcliff & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Sheldon Bush & Patent Shoe Co., Bristol.—**Steel Ship Sheets:** Pather Iron & Steel Co., Wishaw; Smith & McLean, Ltd., Glasgow; Port Talbot Steel Co., Ltd., Port Talbot, S. Wales; W. Beardmore & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow; Parkgate Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherham; Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Glasgow; F. Braby & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Steel Wire Hawesers:** Edwin Ellis & Co., Ltd., London, E.; Craven & Speeding Bros., Sunderland.—**Tea, Blended:** Kearley & Tonge, Ltd., London, E.C.; McMeekin & Co., London, E.C.; Tower Tea, Ltd., London, E.—**Thermometers, Hydrometers, &c.:** A. C. Cossor & Son, London, N.; Heath & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Tubing, Conduit:** Perfecta Seamless Steel Tube & Conduit Co. (1923), Ltd., Birmingham; General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Watchcoats:** H. Lotery & Co., London, E.—**Web Leggings:** Mills Equipment Co., Ltd., London, N.—**Zinc Slabs and Sheets:** F. Braby & Co., Ltd., London, N.W.; Locke, Lancaster & W. W. & R. Johnson & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; London Zinc Mills, Ltd., London, N.

## WAR OFFICE.

**Aluminium Ingot:** British Aluminium Co., Ltd., Argyleshire.—**Barrows, Stable:** C. R. Claridge, Exeter.—**Belting (Asbestos):** Turner Bros. Asbestos Co., Ltd., Rochdale.—**Boiler and Fittings:** Great Central Cooperative Engineering & Ship Repairing Co.,

Ltd., Grimsby.—**Brass Foundry, Plumbers and Hot Water:** John Webb & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Brass Sheet:** P. H. Muntz & Co., Ltd., West Bromwich.—**Caps, Service:** J. Compton & Sons, Ltd., London, E.—**Cases, Signal Pistol:** Konrath Dale & Fishwick, Ilford.—**Cloth, Bedford Cord:** Whiteley & Green, Ltd., Holmbridge, Yorks.—**Cloth, Blue-Grey:** J. Hainsworth & Sons, Ltd., Farsley, near Leeds; J. Watkinson & Son, Ltd., Holmfirth, near Huddersfield.—**Collars, Soldiers', and Shoulder Straps:** Read & Spence, London, S.W.—**Copper Ingot:** H. Gardner & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Copper Sheet:** British Insulated & Helsby Cables, Ltd., Prescott.—**Cotton Waste:** Cotton Cellulose Co., Rawtenstall.—**Cylinders, Iron:** F. Francis & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Drawers, Cotton:** I. & R. Morley, Nottingham.—**Drill, Brown:** A. & S. Henry & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Drill, Cotton Khaki:** A. & S. Henry & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Engine Spares:** Armstrong-Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry.—**Flannel, Grey:** J. Bradbury & Co. (Saddleworth), Ltd., Uppermill, Lancs.—**Gas Mantles:** Curtis & Harvey (Gas Mantle Dept.) Lighting Trades, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Generators:** Newton Bros., Derby, Ltd., Derby.—**Hides, Brown Light:** Barrow, Hepburn & Gale, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Lead:** British Metal Corp., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Lead Alloy:** Locke, Lancaster & W. W. & R. Johnson, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Leathers, Strirrup:** D. Mason & Sons, Birmingham.—**Linoleum:** Barry, Ostlere & Shepherd, Kirkcaldy; M. Nairn & Co., Kirkcaldy.—**Lorries, Motor, 30 cwt.:** Crossley Motors, Ltd., Manchester; Guy Motors, Ltd., Wolverhampton; Karrier Motors, Ltd., Huddersfield.—**Metal, Expanded:** Glasgow Expanded Metal Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Mattress Cases (Single):** Drake Bros., Tollesbury.—**Mattress Cases (Double):** R. Dunn & Co., Belfast.—**Overalls:** D. Gorton & Sons, Haverhill.—**Plates, Dinner, Enamelled:** Welsh Tinplate & M.S. Co., Ltd., Llanelli.—**Piping, Cast Iron and Spun:** Stanton Ironworks, Ltd., near Nottingham.—**Pipes and Fittings, Steam, Water and Gas:** Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Pneumatic Covers:** Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Rugs:** Brintons, Ltd., Kidderminster; J. Templeton & Co., Glasgow.—**Shoes, Canvas:** Palatine Branch Leyland & Birmingham Rubber Co., Ltd., Preston.—**Shorts and Trousers:** St. Alban Mfg. Co., Leeds.—**Soles, Half:** R. S. Lawrence & Co., London, N.; W. Nichols & Son, Ltd., Kettering.—**Steel Wire Rope:** Caledonian Wire Rope Co., Ltd., Airdrie.—**Strappings:** Adams Bros., Raunds.—**Tin Plate:** Brook, Dore & Co., Ltd., S. Wales.—**Tractors, Robey:** Robey & Co., Ltd., Lincoln.—**Wall Papers:** Line, J., & Sons, Ltd., London, W.—**Wire, Electric:** Enfield Cable Works, Ltd., Brimsdown.—**Zinc Ingot:** British Metal Corporation, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Works Services—Maintenance Works:** Norwich and Great Yarmouth: Greengrass, H. C., Norwich. Hounslow Division: Lole & Co., London, S.W. N. Aldershot: Morgan & Son, Ash Vale, Surrey.—**Building Works and Services:** Berwick-on-Tweed: M. Gray & Son, Berwick-on-Tweed.—**Painting:** Pembroke Dock: A. Bagnall & Sons, Ltd., Shipley, Yorks; Thomas Carr, Halifax.—**Installations:** Water Supply at Catterick: Blackett, R., & Son, Darlington. Electric Light at Fenham Barracks, Newcastle-on-Tyne: Grindley, Ross & Co., Ltd., Glasgow. Electric Light at Lydd: G. E. Taylor & Co., London, E.C. Electric Lighting in Hillsborough Barracks: Yorkshire Electric Wiring & Motor Co., Ltd., Sheffield.

## AIR MINISTRY.

**Accumulators:** Peto & Radford, London, S.W.; The Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Aircraft:** A. V. Roe & Co., Manchester; Fairey Aviation Co., Hayes; Blackburn Aero & Motor Co., Leeds.—**Aircraft (Purchase of Aero Derby Winner):** Gloucestershire Aircraft Co., Ltd., Cheltenham.—**Aircraft (Repairs to):** Blackburn Aero & Motor Co., Leeds.—**Aircraft Spares:** S. E. Saunders, Ltd., Cowes, I.W.; Vickers, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Aircrews:** Aircrew Co., Weybridge; D. M. Davies, London, N.—**Axles (Rear) for Rolls Royce Chassis:** Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Bedsteads:** Evered & Co., Ltd., Smethwick, Staffs.—**Bomb Carrier and Fittings:** G. A. Harvey & Co., London, S.E.—**Building Works Services—Battery Booster, etc. (Shrewsbury):** The D.P. Battery Co., Ltd., Basingstoke. Married Quarters (Shotwick): J. Mayers, Sons & Co., Ltd., Chester. Wireless Masts (Egypt): C. F. Elwell, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Building Works Services—Married Quarters (Cranwell):** W. Pattinson & Sons, Ltd., Ruskington, near Sleaford. Married Quarters (Old Sarum): Chivers & Sons, Devizes.—**Building Works Services—Married Quarters (Leuchars):** Alex. Kinnear, Ludin Links, Fife.—**Building Works Services—Reconditioning Quarters (Martlesham Heath):** Cubitt & Gotts, Westerfield, Ipswich.—**Caps, S.D. Drab:** J. Compton & Sons, Ltd., London, E.—**Coal (to Halton):** Wm. Cory, Son & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Coke (to Cranwell):** A. G. Dawbarn, London, E.C.—**Coke (Manston):** Ashwoods Shipping & Motor Transport, Margate.—**Colours, Identification, Nitro.:** Necol Industrial Colloids, London, S.W.—**Counterpanes:** Barlow & Jones, Ltd., Manchester.—**Delco Ignition Spares:** Delco-Remy, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Dope Solvent:** Cellon (Richmond), Ltd., Richmond.—**Drawings, Aircraft:** Westland Aircraft Works, Yeovil.—**Drums, Steel:** G. T. Johnson & Co., Liverpool.—**Engine, Aircraft:** The Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—**Engine (Aircraft) Drawings:** Ricardo & Co., (Engineers), Ltd., London, S.W.—**Engine, Aircraft (Modification to), Engines, Aircraft (Repair of), Engine (Aircraft), Spares:** Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Engines (Aircraft) Stripping and Converting:** Armstrong-Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry.—**Pumps:** British Electric Plant Co., Ltd., Alloa.—**Radiators:** John Marston, Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Silver Spruce:** J. Gliksten & Sons, Ltd., London, E.; Cox, Long & Co., London, E.C.—**Spares for Lancia Cars:** Curtis Automobile Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Split Axle Machines:** H. G. Hawker Eng. Co.,



Kingston-on-Thames.—**Thermometers, Oil Temperature:** Negretti & Zambra, London, E.C.—**Tyres:** Avon India Rubber Co., Ltd., Melksham, Wilts.

## POST OFFICE.

**Apparatus, Telephonic:** Automatic Telephone Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Liverpool; British L.M. Ericsson Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Beeston, Notts; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Sterling Telephone & Electric Co., Ltd., Dagenham, Essex; Western Electric Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Apparatus, Testing, Protective, etc.:** Phoenix Telephone & Electric Works, Ltd., London, N.W.; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Bolts, Arm:** F. W. Cotterill, Ltd., Darlaston.—**Cable, Telegraphic and Telephonic:** Enfield Cable Works, Ltd., Brimsdown, Middlesex; Hackbridge Cable Co., Ltd., Hackbridge, Surrey; Pirelli General Cable Works, Ltd., Southampton; Union Cable Co., Ltd., Dagenham Dock, by Romford, Essex.—**Cases, Packing:** W. Bridgewater & Sons, Birmingham.—**Chains, Bicycle:** Brampton Bros., Ltd., Birmingham; Coventry Chain Co., Ltd., Coventry.—**Cloth:** W. Baines' Sons, Ltd., Morley, near Leeds; J. Churchward & Sons, Ltd., Harbertonford, S. Devon; Greengates Worsted Co., Apperley Bridge, Yorks; A. W. Hainsworth & Sons, Ltd., Farsley, near Leeds; J. Hainsworth & Sons, Farsley, near Leeds; J. Halliday & Co., Ltd., Pudsey; J. Harper & Sons, Bradford; A. & S. Henry & Co., Ltd., Bradford; W. & T. Huggan, Bramley, near Leeds; J. J. L. & C. Peate, Ltd., Guiseley, near Leeds.—**Cloth, Cotton:** Eccles Spinning & Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Patricroft, near Manchester; A. & S. Henry & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Coils, Loading:** Western Electric Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Cords, Telephone:** British Insulated & Helsby Cables, Ltd., Helsby; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Ducts:** Rainford Potteries, Ltd., Rainford, near St. Helens, Lancs.—**Fittings, E.L.:** Cable Accessories Co., Ltd., Tividale, Tipton.—**Frames and Covers, Manhole:** Bradley & Turton, Ltd., Kidderminster; United Steel Companies, Ltd. (Messrs. Thomas Butlin & Co. Branch), Wellingborough; J. Varley, Ltd., St. Helens, Lancs.—**Fuel, Oil:** Shell-Mex, Ltd., Southampton, Avonmouth, Hull, or London.—**Insulators:** Bullers, Ltd., Hanley; Doulton & Co., Ltd., Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent; J. Macintyre & Co., Ltd., Burslem; Taylor, Tunnicliffe & Co., Ltd., Hanley, Stone or Longton.—**Jars, Stoneware, Leclanche:** J. Bourne & Son, Ltd., Denby, Derbyshire.—**Lamps, Telephone:** Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End, Middlesex.—**Lead, Strip:** Quirk, Barton & Co., Ltd., London.—**Oil, Insulating:** Reesoils, Ltd., Trafford Park, Manchester.—**Poles, Telegraph:** Armstrong, Addison & Co., Sunderland; Gabriel Wade & English, Ltd., Hull.—**Rods, Stay:** Bullers, Ltd., Tipton.—**Seals, Lead:** Lead Seal Manufacturing Co., Salford; I. N. Lyons, Ltd., London, N.—**Spindles:** Bullers, Ltd., Tipton.—**Stayblocks and Stayguards:** Burt, Boulton & Haywood, Ltd., Newport and London.—**Tape, Insulating, Adhesive:** W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Tin, Ingot:** Quirk, Barton & Burns (St. Helens), Ltd., St. Helens, Lancs.—**Tube, Brass, Pneumatic:** Yorkshire Copper Works, Ltd., Leeds.—**Vehicles, Motor:** Beardmore Motors, Ltd., Paisley; W. H. Perry, London, N.—**Wire, Bronze:** T. Bolton & Sons, Ltd., Oakamoor; Elliotts Metal Co., Ltd., Selly Oak, Birmingham; R. Johnson & Nephew, Ltd., Manchester; Shropshire Iron Co., Ltd., Hadley, near Wellington, Salop.—**Wire, Copper:** T. Bolton & Sons, Ltd., Oakamoor; British Insulated & Helsby Cables, Ltd., Prescott; Johnson, Clapham & Morris, Ltd., Manchester; R. Johnson & Nephew, Ltd., Manchester; Shropshire Iron Co., Ltd., Hadley, Salop; F. Smith & Co., Incorporated in the London Electric Wire Co., & Smiths, Ltd., Salford, Manchester; J. Wilkes, Sons & Mapplebeck, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Wire, Galvanised, Iron:** R. Johnson & Nephew, Ltd., Manchester.—**Cable—Manufacture, Supply, Drawing-in and Jointing:** Gloucester-Newport-Cardiff: Western Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Tunbridge Wells-Eastbourne-Hastings: Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E. Rhyl-Colwyn Bay: Pirelli-General Cable Works, Ltd., Southampton. Manchester-Atherton-Leigh: W. T. Glover & Co., Ltd., Trafford Park, Manchester. Wirral Exchanges: Mersey Junction Section: British Insulated & Helsby Cables, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Conduits—Laying:** Ipswich-Norwich (Sections I., II. and V.); Lowestoft-Great Yarmouth; London-High Wycombe-Oxford (Sections III. and IV.); Lavender Hill: J. A. Ewart, Ltd., London, S.W. London-High Wycombe-Oxford (Section V.); Bungay-Lowestoft (Sections I., II. and III.); Catford (Southend and Grove Park); Sutton-Epsom: J. Mowlem & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Gloucester-Cheltenham; Darlington-Stockton-Middlesbrough (Section III.): W. Dobson, Edinburgh. King's Langley-Chipperfield; Crowborough (Sussex): G. E. Taylor & Co., London, E.C. Ipswich-Norwich (Sections III. and IV.); Ipswich-Norwich (Section VI.) and Norwich-North Walsham (Section I.); East-Tilbury (Sections I. and II.): F. R. Hipperson, London, E.C. Newry; Ballymena: J. Ross & Son, Belfast. Chester-Wrexham (Section I.); Trafford Park, Manchester (Chester Road): F. Mitchell & Son, Ltd., Manchester. Ashford (Kent); Slaithwaite (Yorks): J. F. Hodge & Co., Rednal, near Birmingham. Newcastle-Blyth: A. Duncan, Glasgow. Rotherhithe (Lower Road): W. Muirhead, Macdonald, Wilson & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Brighton; Streatham-Norbury: H. Farrow, London, N.W. Castleton (Rochdale); Rockferry (Liverpool); Wavertree (Liverpool); Selly Oak, Pershore Road and Weoley Hill: Whittaker, Ellis, Ltd., London, S.W. Aberdare and Mountain Ash: H. Smith, Newport, Mon. Norwich-North Walsham (Sections II. and III.): R. J. May, Trowse, Norwich. Durham-Bishop Auckland: Chandler Bros., Manchester. Chester-Wrexham (Section II.): Wyatt Bros., Whitchurch, Salop. 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