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

### EMPLOYMENT.

EMPLOYMENT showed a further slight decline, on the whole, during October. Among the 11,508,000 workpeople insured against unemployment under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed at 27th October, 1924, was 11.1, compared with 10.8 at 22nd September, 1924, and with 11.7 in October, 1923. Among the members of those Trade Unions from which returns were received the percentage unemployed was 8.7 at the end of October, 1924, compared with 8.6 at the end of September, 1924. The total number of persons registered\* at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland as unemployed at 27th October, 1924, was approximately 1,247,000, of whom 943,000 were men and 235,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls; at 29th September, 1924, the total was 1,243,000, of whom 936,000 were men and 234,000 were women; and at 29th October, 1923, it was 1,340,000, of whom 994,000 were men and 263,000 women.

The principal industries showing a decline in employment in October were coal-mining and some branches of the clothing trades; in the cotton, furnishing and pottery trades some improvement was reported. Employment was good in the tinsplate, steel sheet, brick, carpet, and jute trades, with mill-sawyers, coopers, and most of the skilled operatives in the building trades; it was fairly good in the silk trade, the furnishing trades and some branches of the printing trades, and fair, on the whole, in the leather and pottery industries, and in certain branches of the metal trades. In the coal-mining industry employment was slack; at iron mines, at iron and steel works, and in the engineering and shipbuilding trades, it continued bad.

### WAGES.

In the industries for which statistics are available the changes in rates of wages reported in October resulted in an aggregate reduction of nearly £44,000 in the weekly full-time wages of over 380,000 workpeople and in an aggregate increase of £29,000 in the weekly wages of over 280,000 workpeople.

The reductions were mainly accounted for by a decrease in the rates of wages of coal miners in the Yorkshire and East Midland area, equivalent to nearly 5 per cent. of the current rates. Other important classes of workpeople whose wages were reduced included blastfurnace workers in the Cleveland district and in various districts in the Midlands, coal miners in the Radstock district, and iron ore miners in Cumberland.

The principal bodies of workpeople affected by increases were iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen in the Midlands, whose wages were increased by amounts equivalent to about 1½ per cent. on current rates; building trade operatives in the London district, who received

increases of ½d. or 1d. per hour; and workpeople employed in the machine-made paper trade. Other important classes of workpeople whose wages were increased included coal miners in the Bristol and Forest of Dean districts, steel sheet millmen and galvanisers, ship-repairers at the Bristol Channel ports, wool textile workers in the West of England and at Leicester, and road transport workers in Scotland.

During the ten completed months of 1924 the changes reported to the Department have resulted in net increases equivalent to nearly £540,000 in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 2,700,000 workpeople, and in net reductions of over £67,000 in those of 575,000 workpeople. In the corresponding period of 1923 there were net reductions of nearly £500,000 in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 3,150,000 workpeople, and net increases of over £300,000 in the weekly wages of 1,130,000 workpeople.

### COST OF LIVING.

At 1st November the average level of retail prices of the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, and miscellaneous items) was approximately 80 per cent. above that of July, 1914, as compared with 76 per cent. a month ago and 75 per cent. a year ago. The rise in the percentage between 1st October and 1st November was due to increases, partly seasonal, in the prices of food; for food alone the average increase over the pre-war level was 79 per cent. at 1st November, as compared with 72 per cent. a month ago and 73 per cent. a year ago.

The 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 these items in pre-war working-class family expenditure, no allowance being made for any changes in the standard of living.

### TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work reported to the Department as beginning in October was 37. In addition, 37 disputes which began before October were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The 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 36,000; the estimated aggregate duration of all disputes during October was about 377,000 working days. These figures compare with totals of approximately 28,000 workpeople involved and 518,000 days lost in the previous month.

During the first ten months of 1924 the stoppages of work owing to trade disputes reported to the Department have involved approximately 587,000 workpeople, as compared with 373,000 workpeople involved in the first ten months of last year. The aggregate duration of the stoppages in January to October, 1924, has been about 8,045,000 working days, as compared with about 9,513,000 days in the corresponding period of 1923.

\* The figures given include, in addition to applicants for employment, persons employed on a basis of systematic short time who were not actually at work on the dates specified. In previous issues of this GAZETTE the figures given have related only to applicants for employment.



## COMPARISON OF THE LEVELS OF REAL WAGES IN LONDON AND OTHER CAPITAL CITIES, 1st JULY, 1924.

At the International Conference of Official Labour Statisticians held at Geneva from 29th October to 2nd November, 1923, on the invitation of the International Labour Office, attention was called by the British Government delegate to the comparisons of the levels of real wages in certain capital cities, the results of which had been appearing in this GAZETTE since July, 1923. It was considered that, on account of its international character, work of this kind might more appropriately be undertaken by the International Labour Office. The Conference expressed the hope that that Office would be willing to continue, and so far as practicable widen the basis of, those comparisons, and that the Official Statisticians who had supplied information to the British Ministry of Labour for this purpose would forward even fuller information of the same kind to the International Labour Office. In April, 1924, the Governing Body of the International Labour Organisation authorised the taking over by the International Labour Office of the work of preparing and publishing the series of real wage comparisons initiated by this Ministry. The transfer took effect from 1st July, 1924, the last table of index numbers computed by this Ministry appearing in the August number of this GAZETTE, and having reference to the wages and retail prices prevailing at 1st June, 1924.

In the October issue of its "International Labour Review" the International Labour Office has published the first of its own series of computations, together with an article explaining in detail both the methods applied and the precise significance, as well as the limitations, of the resulting comparative figures. In the last two respects the new series of comparisons is identical with that initiated by this Ministry. It continues to be the aim of the new, as it was of the old, series to arrive, not at a comparison of labour costs (as part of the general cost of production), but at a comparison of working class standards of comfort, so far as these can be gauged by the purchasing power of the time-wage current for 48 hours' work (irrespective of the efficiency of the workers), at the ordinary rate of wage—i.e., at the time-rate other than for overtime—in certain typical male occupations common to large cities. In respect of method, on the other hand, certain modifications have been introduced by the International Labour Office. Of these the most noteworthy is occasioned by the attempt to measure the purchasing power of wages in each city, not only by the working-class standard of food consumption of the country in which that city is situated, but also by standards of working-class food consumption appropriate to each of the other cities represented in the Table; and, finally, by a sort of international standard of working-class food consumption (columns 7 and 8 of the subjoined Table).

The final results of the comparison as computed by the International Labour Office on the basis of the wage rates and retail prices current in the respective cities on or about 1st July, 1924, are set out in the following Table:—

**Index Numbers of Comparative Real Wages (or Comparative Purchasing Power of Money-Wages) in London and certain Cities Abroad at 1st July, 1924.**

(Average for all occupations covered by the enquiry) (London = 100). \*

City.†	Index Numbers based on quantities of each kind of food consumed in						General Average index nos. (based on food only).	General Average index nos. (with allowance for rent).
	Belgium and France.	Central European countries.	Great Britain.	South-eastern European countries.	Scandinavian countries and Netherlands.	Over-seas countries (Canada and U.S.A.)		
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
London ..	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Amsterdam ..	87	93	82	87	97	86	89	88
Berlin ..	56	60	48	55	57	52	55	—
Brussels ..	59	64	52	56	63	57	59	64
Christiania ..	72	79	56	70	78	66	72	72
Lisbon‡ ..	34	35	30	31	32	29	32	—
Madrid ..	59	58	52	58	59	56	57	—
Milan‡ ..	46	48	43	44	50	46	46	49
Ottawa ..	167	169	171	168	185	179	173	155
Paris ..	74	75	67	72	81	71	73	65
Philadelphia ..	208	207	211	202	242	214	214	213
Prague ..	58	61	49	57	57	52	56	61
Rome‡ ..	44	48	42	47	47	45	46	50
Stockholm ..	78	81	76	79	92	82	81	79
Vienna ..	47	49	46	47	50	45	47	51
Warsaw§ ..	80	96	66	80	85	89	83	—

\* Although London is taken arbitrarily as base (=100), the ratios would be the same, whatever city were chosen as base.

† The list of cities differs from this Ministry's list in the following respects: Philadelphia takes the place of New York; Rome, Milan and Lisbon have been added; and Copenhagen and Sydney are not as yet represented.

‡ The figures for Lisbon, as well as those for Rome and Milan, are relatively low. This may be accounted for in part by the differences in the items of food consumption in these countries from those ordinarily consumed in most of the other countries included in the table. The budgets used in the comparisons do not make adequate allowance for the large consumption of vegetable foods in these European countries.

§ Compared with those of other Central European capitals the figures for Warsaw are high. This is due in part, as explained by the Polish Government, to the fact that the wages of the groups of workers included are relatively higher than those of workers in many other industries. It is further pointed out that wages in Warsaw are very high in relation to those in other Polish towns, and consequently are not at all representative of the general level of wages in Poland. These considerations evidently apply to other countries, but their importance in the case of Poland appears to be particularly great.

In the above Table, the figures in column 3 may be regarded as a continuation of, and, therefore, comparable with, the series previously published in this GAZETTE. They possess a practical significance for the London worker, in that they are intended to show the ratio existing between the number of times the average of the wages current in each city on 1st July, 1924, for 48 hours' work at the ordinary time-rate of wages in all the occupations covered by the enquiry\* would buy in that city on the same date a parcel of provisions corresponding, so far as possible, in kind and quantity to the weekly purchase of a British working-class household. Assuming that there was a British workman who, if he had been employed in London, would have received such an average London wage, and if he had been employed abroad in any one of the capital cities represented in the Table, would have received the average of the wages current in that city in the occupations covered by the enquiry; and assuming further that he insisted on adhering to his home standard of food, it would appear that on 1st July, 1924, his Amsterdam wage, for instance, would have procured him less in that city than his London wage would have procured him in London—less in the proportion: London = 100, Amsterdam = 82.

Similarly, a Dutch worker would be primarily interested in the figures in column 5, which are based on a food regimen roughly corresponding to that to which he is accustomed. If he were considering migrating to London he would gather from column 5 that the average wage current in that city had a greater purchasing power in respect of his accustomed food regimen than had the average wage at home, the advantage being in the ratio 100 (London) to 97 (Amsterdam).

Columns 7 and 8 of the above Table give two general average index numbers. The figures in column 7 are arithmetic means of the index numbers in each line of the Table; those in column 8 are the arithmetic means in column 7 with a correction for rent. This correction has been made by taking into consideration the percentage of the total income of a working-class family in the various countries which, it is estimated, is spent on rent; but it is pointed out that, owing to the nature of the data concerning the proportion which rent forms of the total income, the results obtained are in some cases only approximate.

In addition to the Table reproduced above, the article under review presents two other Tables having reference to 1st July, 1924, namely:—

(i) The time-rates of wages (in the original currency) for a week of 48 hours, of typical categories of male workers,\* generally in the capital cities of the various countries.

(ii) The average retail prices in the same cities of a number of articles of food of everyday consumption, the original currency and weights and measures being used.

It is the intention of the International Labour Office to publish Tables similar to (i) and (ii) once a month. A Table of final comparative index numbers corresponding to that reproduced above will, however, be published at intervals of three months only.

## WAGES IN THE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY INDUSTRY.

ARISING out of a claim for increased wages by the workers' side of the National Joint Industrial Council for the Electricity Supply Industry a Tribunal was constituted by the Council in August last to consider the facts as regards the claim and to make recommendations to the Council. The Tribunal consisted of two members appointed by or through the employers' side of the Council, two appointed by the workers' side and an independent chairman (Mr. W. Addington Willis, C.B.E.) appointed by the Minister of Labour.

The conclusions arrived at by the Tribunal were that the increase in wages in the industry since 1914 is in excess of that in the cost of living, that the level of wages in the industry is higher than the average in the principal industries using electrical power, but not so high as in some cases referred to at the hearing, and that the industry is growing rapidly and has become increasingly prosperous during the past year.

The Tribunal accordingly recommended (a) that no case had been made out for the granting of the increase in wages asked; (b) that the District Councils should be asked to reconsider their rates of pay, having regard to the prosperity of the industry in their area and to the special reductions in wages made in 1922 or 1923; (c) that special attention should be given by the Councils to those districts in which there appeared to be grades of employees whose rates, due to the circumstances existing at the time when they were fixed in 1921, differed materially from the rates for the corresponding grades in other areas; (d) that pending the decisions of the respective District Councils and the confirmation thereof by the National Joint Industrial Council, the operation of the national cost-of-living sliding scale should be suspended, and the suspension, on 20th August, of the operation of notices which had been given in July, declaring a reduction under the sliding scale of  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour as from 1st August, should continue; and (e) that any matters of difference should be submitted to the National Council, or, failing settlement by that body, to the Tribunal.

At a meeting of the National Joint Industrial Council on 14th November it was agreed to put into operation the recommendations (b), (c), (d) and (e) with the exception of the latter part of (e), under which there may be a further reference to the Tribunal.

\* These occupations are almost identical with those covered by the series computed by this Ministry.



## WAGES IN THE TRAMWAY INDUSTRY.

IN July last the National Joint Industrial Council for the Tramway Industry appointed a Tribunal to consider matters referred to it by the Council in respect of the revision or modification of any national agreement and other matters of national importance. The Tribunal consists of five members of each side of the Council, four persons who are not members, two appointed by each side, and a chairman (Sir William Mackenzie, K.B.E., K.C.) appointed by the Council.

On 22nd July the National Council referred to the Tribunal a claim by the workers' side for a revision of wages. The claim involved the fixing of standard rates of wages for all grades of workers in the industry, based on a system of grouping of Authorities, with a minimum rate of 52s. a week, the stabilisation of wages for a definite period, and the payment for night work at the rate of time-and-a-quarter. Except in regard to stabilisation and night work the claim excluded the employees of the Metropolitan Tramway Authorities. After hearing the parties, the Tribunal has issued its Decision,\* which contains the following provisions.

The Tramway Authorities represented on the National Council (75 municipal undertakings and 42 company-owned undertakings) outside London, are classified in six main groups for wages purposes. In the case of three Authorities, however (Belfast, Hull and Leicester), no allocation is made, but it is provided that existing rates of wages shall remain unaltered, except for adjustment to the nearest sixpence; and, in the case of eight other Authorities, the Tribunal has not found it feasible to make any decision, but recommends their separate consideration by the National Council. The Tribunal specifies the appropriate rates of wages for motormen, conductors and car cleaners in each group of Authorities, and as regards semi-skilled and non-skilled men in the depôts and running sheds recommends the classification of such men into three grades, for which appropriate rates of wages in each group of undertakings are specified, the classification of various occupations being left for determination by the National Council. The gradings and groupings are subject to the following factors:—

- (i) that no employee shall suffer a reduction of wages;
- (ii) that no employee shall, as a result of any adjustment pursuant to the Decision, receive a weekly increase in excess of 1s. 6d.;
- (iii) that present rates be calculated to the nearest sixpence.

The commencing rates for motormen and conductors and the rates for car cleaners, which are to be observed by the various Authorities, are set out in Schedules to the Decision.

On the question of stabilisation it is recommended that the terms of the Decision shall remain in force, subject to three months' notice by either side of the Council, and that in any case no notice should be given before 31st December, 1925.

As regards night-shift work the Tribunal recommends the payment of an added rate of 4s. a week over the corresponding day-work rate in the case of undertakings outside the Metropolitan area, and of 6s. inside that area, subject to the condition that there shall be no reduction where amounts higher than 4s. are now paid and that existing terms under which night-work is carried on shall continue.

At a meeting of the National Joint Industrial Council on 13th November it was resolved to adopt the decision and Report of the Tribunal, and the Council recommended that the decision be given effect to as from and including 18th November, 1924, except in respect of added pay for night work, which will operate from and including 1st January, 1925.

## MINES DEPARTMENT : REPORT FOR 1923.

THE Annual Report of the Secretary for Mines, for the year ended the 31st December, 1923, has been published.†

The Report states that the year 1923 was a prosperous one for the British coal mining industry. The output (276 million tons) was higher than in any previous year except 1913, exports surpassed even that "record" year, prices were good, and earnings improved on the low level of 1922.

Employment was also good. At the beginning of the year only 4.5 per cent. of the insured coal miners were unemployed, and at the end of the year the percentage had fallen to 2.4 per cent.

The number of wage earners on the colliery books increased from 1,129,539 at the end of 1922 to 1,184,786 at the end of 1923. All districts reported increases; they were greatest in the coal-exporting districts, and least in those, like Lancashire and Cheshire, which are more closely associated with industries at home.

The average pithead price of all coal disposed of commercially in 1923 was 19s. 9½d. per ton, or about 1s. per ton more than in 1922. The average declared value of exported coal was 25s. 2d. per ton, f.o.b., or 2s. 7d. more than in 1922.

Under the National Wages Agreement the net proceeds showed an improvement of 1s. 5d. per ton over 1922, owing to an increase in gross proceeds, and a reduction of "other costs" (management, salaries, insurances, repairs, office and general expenses, depreciation, stores, timber, etc.). As about 85 per cent. of

this improvement was assignable to wages, the normal share of the net proceeds due to wages, apart from any guaranteed minimum, should have shown an increase of 1s. 2d. per ton. Actually, however, the increase in wages paid was only about 2d. per ton, or 1d. per shift. This was principally owing to the following causes:—(i) the output per man-shift was slightly lower in 1923 than in 1922 (16.33 cwts. commercially disposable, as against 16.42 cwts.); (ii) the guaranteed minimum rates, which keep wages at a level higher than would otherwise be payable under the Agreement, were much more general in 1922 than in 1923; (iii) the "time-lag" (i.e., the fact that the rate of wages paid in any given period depends on the proceeds of an earlier period) operated to keep wages *higher* than they would otherwise have been in 1922, and *lower* than they would otherwise have been in 1923.

It is pointed out, however, in the Report that, though the wages *per shift* thus showed little advance in 1923 over 1922, the average wages of the miners *for the whole year* showed an advance of over £9, owing to the increase in the number of shifts worked from 251 to 266. The average annual earnings of all classes of labour in 1923, for the whole country, were £134 6s. 1d.; the averages for the several districts ranged from £107 15s. 9d. in South Staffordshire and Shropshire to £153 13s. 9d. in Scotland and to £166 18s. 2d. in the small coalfield of Kent.

The number of persons employed in mining and quarrying iron ore and ironstone at the end of each quarter of 1923 was 15,775; 16,296; 15,488; and 15,413. The average number in 1913 was 22,900. A large proportion of the Cleveland mines remained idle in 1923; only fourteen produced at all during the year, and only nine were at work continuously throughout the year. The total number of men employed in this district at the end of the year was 4,123, as against 9,129 in 1913; and many of these were only working half-time.

The following Table shows the number of persons employed in mines and quarries (including brine salt wells) in 1922 and in 1923:—

Persons Employed.	Employed in getting		Total.	
	Coal.	Other Minerals.	1923.	1922.
Underground at Mines, and inside at Quarries:—				
Males, under 16 .. ..	47,404	1,061	48,465	42,436
" above 16 .. ..	918,732	68,686	987,418	939,812
Total .. ..	966,136	69,747	1,035,883*	982,248*
Above ground at Mines, and outside at Quarries:—				
Males, under 16 .. ..	18,845	1,441	20,286	19,120
" above 16 .. ..	212,163	40,414	252,577	239,756
Females, under 16 .. ..	558	20	578	525
" above 16 .. ..	5,588	965	6,553	6,353
Total .. ..	237,154	42,840	279,994	265,754
Grand Total .. ..	1,203,290	112,587	1,315,877	1,248,002

**Accidents.**—The total number of persons killed at mines and quarries in 1923 was 1,387, or 227 more than in 1922; and the number injured, and incapacitated for more than seven days, was 218,891, or 28,642 more than in 1922.

The following Table shows the number of persons killed and injured at mines (excluding quarries) in 1922 and 1923, distinguishing the principal causes of accidents or fatalities:—

Place and Cause of Accident.	Persons Killed.		Persons Injured.	
	1923.	1922.	1923.	1922.
<b>Underground Accidents:—</b>				
Explosions of firedamp or coal dust .. ..	60	73	101	105
Falls of ground .. ..	590	553	70,206	63,148
Shaft accidents .. ..	60	40	965	994
Haulage accidents .. ..	314	212	54,610	46,976
Miscellaneous .. ..	165	128	69,590	59,645
Total .. ..	1,189	1,006	195,472	170,868
<b>Surface Accidents:—</b>				
On railways, sidings, or tramways .. ..	51	51	4,711	4,256
Elsewhere .. ..	68	57	18,516	11,264
Total .. ..	119	108	18,227	15,520
Total (surface and underground) .. ..	1,308	1,114	213,699	186,388

The Report also deals with colliery developments, legislation, the Miners' Welfare Fund, health and safety in the mining and quarrying industries, and washing and drying accommodation at mines. Appended to the Report are statistical tables and charts giving, in detail, particulars of output, prices, numbers employed, wages, accidents, etc., for the various districts.

\* Obtainable from the Secretary of the Tribunal, 5, Old Palace Yard, London, S.W.1. Price 6d.  
† Third Annual Report of the Secretary for Mines, and Annual Report of H.M. Chief Inspector of Mines. H.M. Stationery Office; price 6s. 6d. net.

\* Including females employed inside quarries, of whom there were 47 in 1923, and 68 in 1922. Four of these, in both years, were under 16 years of age.



## CO-OPERATION IN AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES IN 1923.

THE following particulars as to the operations of agricultural and fishery co-operative societies in 1923 and previous years have been prepared by the Registrar of Friendly Societies from the statutory Returns furnished annually to his Department under the Industrial and Provident Societies and Friendly Societies Acts. The particulars are exclusive of societies registered in Ireland.

The societies are dealt with in three main groups:—(1) *Requirement Societies*, whose principal function is to supply their members with seeds, manures, utensils or other requirements for the carrying on of agriculture, and in the case of fishing societies with fishing tackle, etc.; (2) *Produce Societies*, which are chiefly concerned with the marketing of members' produce; and (3) *Service Societies*, which supply members with some service connected with the industry of agriculture, e.g., threshing. Some societies deal both in requirements and in produce. Usually societies fall readily into one of the three groups, but in exceptional cases, where a society undertakes the sale of produce and requirements to an equal extent, the decision which places it in the one category or the other is necessarily somewhat arbitrary. The societies connected with fishing are at present so few in number, and their operations on so small a scale, that their transactions do not affect materially the total figures given, and they are not, therefore, dealt with separately in the Tables which follow.

### (I.) REQUIREMENT SOCIETIES.

The following Table gives particulars of the operations of these societies in Great Britain for the eleven years 1913-1923:—

Year.	Number of Societies.	Member-ship.	Sales.*	Profit or Loss (—) on Year.	Wages.
			£	£	£
1913	257	27,204	1,583,268	8,851	29,657
1914	274	29,603	1,816,155	26,839	33,839
1915	301	33,421	2,653,100	53,257	44,627
1916	329	38,253	3,616,197	71,148	55,051
1917	410	54,367	4,323,532	75,821	59,755
1918	506	77,189	4,596,226	52,512	78,927
1919	581	94,468	8,995,544	65,608	150,684
1920	703	117,040	13,351,169	(—) 102,412	329,620
1921	710	117,605	10,679,709	(—) 147,828	395,610
1922	636	113,823	8,813,355	(—) 7,519	377,074
1923	596	107,210	8,366,949	(—) 27,633	356,178

Societies in this group are further sub-divided for the purpose of the Chief Registrar's Annual Report (Part B, Industrial and Provident Societies) into (a) Farmers', (b) Allotment Workers', (c) Agricultural Wholesale and (d) Fishermen's Trading Societies. The Farmers' Societies are the most numerous, and are responsible for the bulk of the business done, as will be seen from the following particulars for 1923:—

	Number of Societies.		Sales.	
	England & Wales.	Scotland.	England & Wales.	Scotland.
Farmers' Societies	202	145	7,425,742	362,746
Allotment Workers' Societies	200	—	151,346	—
Agricultural Wholesale Society	1	—	308,356	—
Fishermen's Trading Societies	47	1	118,759	—

The 450 societies in this group in England and Wales in 1923 had 2,346 employees, and share, loan and reserve capital amounting to £2,423,000. Excluding the figures for the Agricultural Wholesale Society, whose membership consists wholly of other societies, this capital represented about £22 per member; the 146 societies in Scotland had 153 employees, and capital amounting to £52,000, or nearly £5 per member.

### (II.) PRODUCE SOCIETIES.

The following Table gives similar particulars for produce societies in Great Britain, in each of the years 1913 to 1923 inclusive:—

Year.	Number of Societies.	Member-ship.	Sales.†	Profit or Loss (—) on Year.	Wages.
			£	£	£
1913	124	9,732	840,849	(—) 33,070	56,207
1914	129	10,401	935,552	16,890	37,482
1915	140	11,943	1,186,001	25,987	36,941
1916	159	13,701	1,641,359	21,517	43,998
1917	228	25,384	2,917,867	56,646	71,306
1918	289	40,697	4,552,383	66,819	107,677
1919	315	45,779	7,157,444	47,220	185,632
1920	302	44,201	7,920,488	(—) 116,420	261,561
1921	263	40,309	5,952,385	(—) 6,396	247,446
1922	248	38,395	4,199,533	11,812	200,941
1923	230	38,060	3,343,536	(—) 2,694	156,919

In 1923 this group comprised 94 dairy societies, 65 egg and poultry societies, 17 fruit and market garden produce societies, 41 farmers' and growers' societies and 13 miscellaneous societies. The 148 societies in this group in England and Wales in 1923 had 1,053 employees, and share, loan and reserve capital amount-

\* See reference in next column as to sales of Produce included here.

† See reference in next column as to sales of Requirements included here.

ing to £799,000, equivalent to nearly £24 per member; the 82 societies in Scotland had 282 employees, and capital amounting to £266,000, or nearly £60 per member. This high figure for Scotland was mainly due to several large dairy farmers' associations.

The sales of various kinds of produce for the years 1922 and 1923 were as shown in the following Table:—

Description of Produce.	England and Wales.		Scotland.	
	1922.	1923.	1922.	1923.
	£	£	£	£
Milk and Dairy .. ..	1,615,821	1,309,473	733,197	767,622
Eggs and Poultry .. ..	461,220	295,563	61,330	56,076
Live Stock .. ..	20,432	14,466	27,565	31,346
Fruit and Market Garden	104,641	88,599	99	57
Sundry * .. ..	808,286	536,777	20,513	3,498

In addition to their sales of produce these societies in 1923 supplied their members with requirements to the amount of £205,047 in England and Wales, and £35,012 in Scotland. The sales of the requirement societies (group I), on the other hand, included produce of the following descriptions and values:—

Description of Produce.	England and Wales.		Scotland.	
	1922.	1923.	1922.	1923.
	£	£	£	£
Milk and Dairy .. ..	249,827	236,756	—	—
Eggs and Poultry .. ..	45,991	53,972	6,637	4,158
Live Stock .. ..	508,990	415,552	36	97
Fruit and Market Garden	96,782	66,877	526	630
Sundry * .. ..	175,727	121,800	1,309	—

In addition to the societies classified as "agricultural," 203 industrial societies had farming and dairying departments. In 1923 they employed 2,931 persons in these departments, to whom £301,000 was paid in wages; and the value of productions in these departments amounted to £1,524,000. Societies in England and Wales were responsible for about 61 per cent. of these productions.

### (III.) SERVICE SOCIETIES.

This group includes not only the Service societies, such as threshing, etc., registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, but also small holdings and allotments societies and credit societies, and in addition certain societies registered under the Friendly Societies Act, viz., cattle insurance societies, agricultural credit societies, and societies for the promotion of horticulture and agriculture. Small holdings and allotments societies are responsible for the bulk of the figures tabulated (see subsequent special Table).

The following Table gives particulars of these societies in Great Britain for the years 1913-1923:—

Year.	Number of Societies.	Membership.	Profit or Loss (—) on Year.†	Wages.†
			£	£
1913	355	29,357	2,228	5,044
1914	346	29,954	4,294	5,991
1915	353	31,604	4,031	7,991
1916	353	33,901	5,736	8,399
1917	432	54,680	13,742	10,554
1918	596	99,215	16,712	16,576
1919	750	123,307	26,019	24,982
1920	937	153,046	9,872	30,964
1921	976	168,525	(—) 3,042	34,768
1922	981	176,911	10,185	34,003
1923	974	178,036	9,438	34,307

Societies in this group in England and Wales in 1923 had share, loan and reserve capital amounting to £415,000, equivalent to about £2 7s. per member. This low figure is due to the small holdings and allotments societies, whose capital per member is proportionately very small. The societies in Scotland had capital amounting to £83,000, or £27 per member.

*Small Holdings and Allotments Societies.*—Additional particulars of small holdings and allotments societies included in this group are given in the following Table:—

Year.	Number of Societies.	Acreage of Land let as—		Rent payable by—		Value of Land and Buildings owned by Societies.
		Small Holdings.	Allotments.	Societies.	Tenants.	
				£	£	£
1913	193	12,225	1,582	21,737	28,402	30,673
1914	180	12,597	1,651	26,074	30,156	34,025
1915	178	13,029	1,682	28,633	33,304	34,774
1916	181	13,129	1,780	29,989	34,910	34,299
1917	254	13,161	2,778	31,784	38,989	39,337
1918	406	13,514	4,510	39,108	50,246	51,449
1919	551	13,576	5,916	45,174	57,202	67,125
1920	724	15,723	8,063	59,321	74,579	137,160
1921	763	17,473	9,712	76,201	96,949	187,240
1922	774	17,635	10,013	80,292	104,062	178,524
1923	771	17,336	10,572	77,813	104,369	161,162

\* The Sundry Produce represented mainly dead meat in respect of Societies undertaking slaughtering.

† Exclusive of Wages in respect of Small Holdings and Allotments Societies, Credit Societies, and Societies registered under the Friendly Societies Act, for which particulars are not available.

‡ Exclusive of Profit or Loss on year for Cattle Insurance Societies and Societies formed for the promotion of Horticulture and Agriculture registered under the Friendly Societies Act, for which particulars are not available.



In 1923 the membership of these societies was 153,643, of whom 107,342, or nearly 70 per cent., were tenants. Their operations for the year resulted in a surplus of £8,511 on the small holdings and allotments and trading departments, as against a surplus of £9,336 for the preceding year.

*Credit Societies* were comparatively few in number, and their business was on a small scale. Some development in the near future, however, may be expected from the Agricultural Credits Act, which came into operation during the year.

## GENERAL.

The following Table shows the sales in 1923 for all societies (including the industrial societies above mentioned):—

	England and Wales.	Scotland.	Great Britain.
	£	£	£
Agricultural Requirements ..	7,314,293	392,873	7,707,166
Agricultural Produce:—			
Milk and Dairy .. ..	1,717,847	1,190,898	2,908,745
Eggs and Poultry .. ..	349,535	60,234	409,769
Live Stock .. ..	430,018	31,443	461,461
Fruit and Market Garden ..	155,476	687	156,163
Sundry (including Farm Produce of Industrial Societies) ..	1,421,967	168,960	1,590,927
Total Sales .. ..	11,389,136	1,845,095	13,234,231

The total sales for 1923 represented in the aggregate a decrease on the value for 1922 of £1,290,000, or 5 per cent. in requirements and 14 per cent. in produce. In the aggregate, societies in 1923 sustained a loss of nearly £21,000, compared with a profit of £14,000 for the preceding year. In England and Wales the aggregate loss incurred by societies in 1922 was almost trebled in 1923. In addition to a much heavier loss sustained by the Agricultural Wholesale Society (now in process of winding-up by order of Court), very unsatisfactory results were obtained by a County Farmers' Association in the Requirements group and by a Co-operative Bacon Factory in the Produce group. In the Scottish societies the aggregate profit earned in 1923 amounted to only half that obtained in the preceding year; this decrease was attributable largely to two of the Dairy Farmers' Associations in the Produce group.

## PROFIT SHARING, ETC.

The returns furnished show that of the 596 Requirement societies in 1923, 42, employing 377 persons, and paying £54,403 in wages, allotted bonuses to their employees amounting to £1,658, or 7d. in the £ on wages. Of the 230 Produce societies, 15, employing 168 persons, and paying £18,984 in wages, allotted bonuses amounting to £1,053, or 1s. 1d. in the £ on wages. Of the Service societies, 7, paying £9,974 in wages, allotted bonuses to their employees amounting to £264, or 6d. in the £ on wages. Of the 203 departments of Industrial societies, 12, employing 123 persons and paying wages in these departments amounting to £13,489, allotted bonuses of £183, or 3d. in the £ on wages.

## PROCEEDINGS OF JOINT INDUSTRIAL COUNCILS AND INTERIM INDUSTRIAL RE-CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEES IN OCTOBER.

DURING the four weeks ended 25th October thirteen meetings of Joint Industrial Councils and Interim Industrial Reconstruction Committees were reported to the Ministry of Labour.

At a meeting of the *Match Manufacturing* Joint Industrial Council the position regarding the exclusion from the scope of the Paper Box Trade Board of the making of match boxes when carried on in match factories was explained. A communication from the Association of Joint Industrial Councils regarding the Industrial Councils Bill was also discussed.

Joint Committees were set up to consider applications from the Workers' Panel for an increased number of holidays with pay, and for wages to be fully made up during sickness in the export packing section, by the Joint Industrial Council for the *Export Packing and Cloth Working* Industries (London Area) at its meeting on the 22nd October. Discussion also took place on the proposal to raise a fund by setting aside 1d. per piece of cloth worked in the industry from which wages in the cloth workers' section could be augmented during part-time employment, and out-of-work pay increased during total unemployment. The Workers' panel was asked to prepare a draft scheme. A scheme for the recruitment of workers was also approved.

The *Printing and Allied Trades* Joint Industrial Council gave approval to an apprenticeship scheme, and also concerned itself with questions relating to health and unemployment.

The report of the Special Tribunal concerning an application for a national increase of wages was considered by the National Joint Industrial Council for the *Electricity Supply* Industry, and, at the request of the trade union side, consideration of the matter was adjourned until the next meeting. (See page 396.)

The annual meeting of the *Hosiery Trade* Joint Industrial Council received a report from a deputation from the Council to the Home Office raising certain objections to the Factories Bill.

The question of late fines and waiting time was also discussed, but no decision reached.

No agreement was reached at the meeting of the Joint Industrial Council for the *Waterworks Undertakings* Industry regarding a resolution of the Midland District Council to submit to the National Council for settlement an appeal of the trade union side with reference to a reduction of wages under the sliding scale agreement. Certain questions relating to the national sliding scale agreement were remitted to the Executive Committee.

The Joint Industrial Council for the *Welsh Tin Plate and Sheet* Trades made important alterations in the constitution of the Council, with a view to the more speedy consideration of disputes and for conciliation and arbitration.

The Joint Industrial Council for the *China Clay* Industry met for the consideration of a new wages agreement.

## HOUSING (FINANCIAL PROVISIONS) ACT, 1924.

## BUILDING INDUSTRY COMMITTEE.

ON the 11th October the Minister of Health announced that, in pursuance of undertakings given when the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act of 1924 was before the House of Commons, he had taken steps to appoint committees of the building industry and of the manufacturers and suppliers of building materials to advise and assist him in carrying out the scheme embodied in the Act, particularly as regards the development and co-ordination of the supply of labour and materials for house building.

The Building Industry Committee, whose primary function is to assist in the augmentation of the supply of skilled labour, is at present composed of representatives of employers and operatives, but representatives of the manufacturers and suppliers of building materials will be added when nominated by them.

Several meetings of this committee have already taken place; also meetings of various sub-committees, including a meeting in Glasgow of the Scottish Advisory Sub-committee, whose representatives cordially associated themselves with the policy of the main committee.

The committee have issued a circular letter to local organizations of employers and operatives throughout Great Britain drawing attention to the proposals for securing the necessary increases in the skilled ranks of the building industry, contained in the Report upon the building industry by representatives of employers and operatives issued in April last, asking for the appointment of Local Joint Apprenticeship Committees throughout Great Britain in order to help in carrying out these proposals, and urging the desirability of complete co-operation in all steps proposed to secure the desired end.

Pending the formation of these local committees, the Building Industry Committee is considering the machinery which should be set up for carrying out the other recommendations made in the Report.

## EMPLOYMENT OF EX-SERVICE MEN.

## INDUSTRIAL TRAINING.

At 28th October, 1924, the number of men in training was 7,093, and the number awaiting training, 2,974. Since 1st August, 1919, 87,481 men have terminated training.

## NATIONAL SCHEME (KING'S ROLL).

The latest returns show that there are approximately 28,500 firms on the King's National Roll, the number of disabled ex-Service men employed by these firms being approximately 350,000.

## INTERRUPTED APPRENTICESHIPS.

Up to the 30th September, 1924, 44,717 apprentices have been accepted for training with 17,868 employers, as compared with 44,715 apprentices with 17,867 employers on 30th June, 1924.

The apprentices rejected up to 30th September, 1924, numbered 2,179, this being the same as on 30th June, 1924. Of those accepted 43,770 had terminated their training and 947 were still in training. The corresponding numbers on 30th June, 1924, were 43,726 and 989.

The number of men who have received Institutional Training up to 30th September, 1924, is 2,313, this being the same as on 30th June, 1924.

## ABOLITION OF STATE EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES IN RUSSIA.

ACCORDING to a despatch from the British Representative in Moscow, dated 22nd October, it has been decided to abolish the State employment exchanges throughout Soviet Russia. Their place is to be taken by employment agencies to be formed for all classes of workers, the use of which will be voluntary.



## FAMILY ALLOWANCES IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

IN many countries during and since the late war the practice has arisen of paying family allowances, i.e., periodical payments to the worker in respect of his family responsibilities rather than of the work done by him. A good deal of interest has been excited by this social experiment, and numerous requests from all quarters have been made to the International Labour Office, at Geneva, for information as to the extent to which this wage principle had been introduced in various countries. It was accordingly decided in 1923 to undertake a detailed investigation into the subject, and the results of the enquiry have now been published.\*

The report points out that under the existing economic system wages tend to be the same for the same work, with the result that a single man and a married man with a family receive the same amount if they work the same hours or produce the same output. If such a wage is just sufficient to maintain a single man, it is inadequate for a married man having dependants to support. There are, therefore, two possible bases for the determination of wages: (a) equal pay for equal work, and (b) payment according to need. The payment of family allowances is an attempt to apply the social principle of payment according to need, to a certain extent, as a corrective to the more or less mechanical working of economic tendencies.

Advocates of the system make various claims as to the advantages of its introduction. In countries where it is desired to increase the population it is considered that family allowances will remove "the economic restriction on parenthood," that it will reduce infant mortality, improve the health and welfare of children, and raise the social and economic status of women. Other advantages of an industrial character are advanced. Employers who pay family allowances to their workers claim that industrial relations are thereby improved. They also state that the system tends to stabilise the personnel of their establishments, as workers with families prefer to remain where they can be certain of receiving family allowances. Regularity in work and attendance is also claimed as an effect, as allowances are frequently suspended when the worker is absent, and it has been stated that workers with family responsibilities are the most regular and conscientious.

On the other hand, workers' organisations are as a rule strongly opposed to schemes of family allowances initiated and controlled by the employers, considering that such schemes are designed to divide the workers and to increase the bargaining power of the employers. They argue that if the allowances are a matter of social justice, or a recognition of the social importance of the family, they should be paid by the State.

With regard to the methods of providing family allowances, these are either voluntary or under schemes established by law. In France and Belgium especially, the system of family allowances has developed largely on the initiative of the employers. In Germany, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Poland and the Netherlands the system has developed largely on the basis of collective agreements between employers and workers. In some cases the employers pay the allowances through the intermediary of a common "equalisation fund," from which the workers are paid. This practice has been adopted particularly in France and Belgium, and in a few cases in the Netherlands, Germany, and other countries.

A certain element of compulsion has been introduced in some countries where family allowances are provided out of contributions from the employers but under legal regulation. Thus a French Act of 1922† provides that employers tendering for State contracts must pay family allowances at specified rates. Similar regulations have been introduced by provincial or municipal authorities in Belgium. In Austria‡ a general system of family allowances, to be paid by the employers, was introduced in December, 1921.

## WAGES IN THE BELGIAN GLASS INDUSTRY.†

SOME account of conditions prevailing at the present time in the Belgian glass industry and of the average wages of workers in the different glass manufacturing centres of the country is given in a report (dated 27th May, 1924) compiled by the United States Consular Service. For many years Belgium has taken a leading place among European countries engaged in this industry, largely because there is an abundance of raw materials of good quality in the country. In 1914, shortly before the outbreak of the war, there were in Belgium about 70 firms, employing approximately 25,000 workmen, engaged in the manufacture of glass. Production declined greatly during the war, but after the armistice there was an unprecedented demand, particularly for window glass, to be used in the devastated regions, so that the industry was one of the first to recover from the effects of the war, and at the present time the production in Belgium approximates to that of the pre-war period. There are now about 90 factories manufacturing plate glass, window glass, scientific glassware, bottles, jars and tableware. The output of plate glass is said to be second only to that of the United States. In 1923, about 28 per cent. of the plate glass and about 13 per cent. of the window glass manufactured was exported to the States.

\* *Family Allowances: The Remuneration of Labour according to Need* (Studies and Reports, Series D. Wages and Hours, No. 13, 1924). See also *International Labour Review*, Vol. X., No. 3, September, 1924. See also *Inter-Office*, Geneva. See also this GAZETTE, March, 1923, page 86, August, 1923, page 282, and January, 1924, page 12.

† See this GAZETTE for January, 1924, page 12.

‡ *Monthly Labour Review*, August, 1924. United States Bureau of Labour Statistics, Washington (D.C.).

The factories are for the most part situated in small towns, where glass making is usually the only industry. As a result, the trade is followed by families for succeeding generations, boys being apprenticed at the age of 14 years and girls generally beginning to work at the same age in the packing department or at a machine. Owing to the lack of opportunities for other work labour disputes are infrequent, since if a workman is dissatisfied he must seek work in some other locality. Early in 1924, the average wages of glass blowers making table glass varied in the four principal glass-making districts from 28 to 38 francs a day. Experienced glass workers making common bottle ware earned from 40 to 44 francs and blowers from 38 to 40 francs per day. Blowers making coloured wine and beer bottles were paid from 38 to 40 francs, and finishers from 30 to 33 francs, while experienced glass workers making crystal ware were paid from 30 to 33 francs and blowers from 26 to 28 francs daily. Apprentices usually begin with a wage of from 8 to 10 francs. Some factories give, in addition to the wages quoted, a bonus on production, which is paid to apprentices as well as to skilled workmen.

## WORKING HOURS IN POLISH IRON AND LEAD FOUNDRIES.

IN the August issue of this GAZETTE it was reported that the Polish Government as a temporary measure had authorised the introduction of a 10-hour day in iron and lead foundries in Upper Silesia.

H.M. Representative at Warsaw, reporting on 21st October, states that the period for which the working hours were prolonged expired on 18th October, but that it has now been extended for a further three months, i.e., until 18th January, 1925.

## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE IN POLAND : NEW ACT. CORRIGENDUM.

IN the article which appears under the above heading on page 322 of the September issue of this GAZETTE, the reference to "seasonal workers" in the paragraph concerning benefits under the Act should read as follows: "Seasonal workers who are employed normally for less than ten months in the year receive no benefit during the dead season."

## LABOUR DISPUTES IN GERMANY IN 1923.

A STATISTICAL report on the strikes and lock-outs of 1923, which appeared in a recent issue of the official journal *Reichsarbeitsblatt*, indicates less disturbed industrial conditions than in any year since 1918. The number of disputes which came to an end during the year was 2,046 (1,878 strikes and 168 lock-outs), whereas the average per annum during 1918-1922 was 4,192. These disputes affected 24,175 establishments in which 1,917,265 workers were employed, and of the latter 1,606,501 were on strike or locked-out. This total is made up of the maximum numbers directly affected on any day during the progress of the various disputes.

The strikes and lock-outs of 1923 led to a loss of 15,632,190 working days, including 460,417 days lost by workpeople who were not actual participants in the disputes.

About 78 per cent. of the demands made by workers (in the case of strikes) or by employers (in the case of lock-outs) related to wages and about 2 per cent. to working hours.

The workpeople were wholly successful in gaining their demands in 314 cases (or 15 per cent. of the disputes of 1923), partly successful in 1,043 cases (51 per cent.), and wholly unsuccessful in 689 cases (34 per cent.).

A point of interest in connection with these statistics is that the particulars supplied by the employers (who are under obligation to furnish particulars of disputes in their establishments) were for the first time collected by the employment exchanges, instead of, as in former years, by the local police authorities.

## WAGES IN THE FRENCH BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY.\*

THE manufacture of boots and shoes is one of the important industries of France, employing approximately 220,000 workers. While there is no census showing the number and capacity of plants, it is certain that there are more than 600 factories engaged in this industry. About two-thirds of these are of small capacity making fewer than 100 pairs a day.

Under normal conditions there is a lack of labour in French boot and shoe factories, particularly in the more skilled occupations, and workers engaged in this industry are, in consequence, relatively better paid than others. The wages of competent workers range from 160 francs to 250 francs a week, the average being probably about 200 francs. The labour cost on a pair of boots, the retail price of which is 100 francs, amounts to about 11 francs, while the cost of material is from 45 to 50 francs. Although the greater part of the material manufactured is made on American lasts and with American machinery, the average daily production per worker is stated to be much lower than in the United States.

\* *Monthly Labour Review*, September, 1924: United States Bureau of Labour Statistics, Washington (D.C.).



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

## Summary: Average Increases since July, 1914.

All Items included	...	...	...	80 %
Food only	...	...	...	79 %

## FOOD.

During October the average level of the retail prices of food continued to rise. The most important increases in prices affected eggs (½d. each on the average), potatoes (1d. per 7 lbs.), flour (nearly 1d. per 7 lbs.), and bread (between ½d. and ¾d. per 4 lbs.). Milk, butter, bacon, tea and cheese were also dearer on 1st November than on 1st October. On the other hand, sugar was cheaper at the later date by about ½d. per lb. The prices of meat, fish and margarine were approximately the same at both dates.

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 79 per cent. at 1st November, as compared with about 72 per cent. at 1st October, 1924, and 73 per cent. at 1st November, 1923.

In the following Table is given a comparison of retail prices of these articles of food in July, 1914, and at 1st October and 1st November, 1924:—

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated— to the nearest ½d.)			Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) at 1st Nov. 1924, as compared with	
	July, 1914.	1st Oct., 1924.	1st Nov., 1924.	July, 1914.	1st Oct., 1924.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beef, British—					
Ribs .. ..	0 10	1 6	1 6	+ 0 8	—
Thin Flank ..	0 6½	0 10	0 10	+ 0 3½	—
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 8½	1 8½	+ 0 9½	—
Breast .. ..	0 6½	0 11½	0 11½	+ 0 4½	—
Mutton, Frozen—					
Legs .. ..	0 6½	1 0½	1 0½	+ 0 5½	—
Breast .. ..	0 4	0 5½	0 5½	+ 0 1½	—
Bacon (streaky)*	0 11½	1 5½	1 6½	+ 0 7	+ 0 0½
Flour .. per 7 lb.	0 10½	1 5½	1 6½	+ 0 7½	+ 0 1
Bread .. per 4 lb.	0 5½	0 9½	0 10	+ 0 4½	+ 0 0½
Tea .. ..	1 6½	2 3½	2 4½	+ 0 10½	+ 0 0½
Sugar (granulated) ..	0 2	0 4½	0 4½	+ 0 2½	+ 0 0½
Milk .. per quart	0 3½	0 6½	0 6½	+ 0 3½	+ 0 0½
Butter—					
Fresh .. ..	1 2½	2 3	2 3½	+ 1 1½	+ 0 0½
Salt .. ..	1 2½	2 2	2 2½	+ 1 0½	+ 0 0½
Cheese† .. ..	0 8½	1 1½	1 2	+ 0 5½	+ 0 0½
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 9	0 10	+ 0 5½	+ 0 1

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., 1924, as compared with July, 1914.			Corre- sponding figure for 1st Oct., 1924.
	Large Towns (Popula- tions over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	General Average.	
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Beef, British—				
Ribs .. ..	83	77	80	81
Thin Flank ..	50	52	51	52
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—				
Ribs .. ..	44	41	42	42
Thin Flank ..	12	16	14	14
Mutton, British—				
Legs .. ..	94	94	94	94
Breast .. ..	77	70	73	72
Mutton, Frozen—				
Legs .. ..	86	77	82	80
Breast .. ..	30	30	30	29
Bacon (streaky)*	65	61	63	57
Fish .. ..	130	106	118	118
Flour .. ..	69	73	71	63
Bread .. ..	76	72	74	66
Tea .. ..	53	58	56	51
Sugar (granulated) ..	121	112	116	133
Milk .. ..	87	93	90	83
Butter—				
Fresh .. ..	87	93	90	85
Salt .. ..	87	88	87	82
Cheese† .. ..	61	62	61	58
Margarine .. ..	— 3½	— 7½	— 5½	— 5½
Eggs (fresh) .. ..	168	175	172	120
Potatoes .. ..	121	90	106	84
All above articles of Food (Weighted Percentage Increase).	80	78	79	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.

‡ Decrease.

## RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT.

As regards *rents*, inquiries which have been made into the changes which have taken effect under the Rent and Mortgage Interest Restrictions Acts indicate that the average increase in rents of working-class dwellings between July, 1914, and 1st November, 1924, 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 Acts 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, averaged about 125 to 130 per cent. higher than in July, 1914.

In the *fuel and light* group there were some increases in the retail prices of coal between 1st October and 1st November, and at the latter date the average retail price of coal was between 95 and 100 per cent. above the level of July, 1914. The average price of gas remained between 45 and 50 per cent. above the pre-war level, and the prices of lamp oil, 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 85 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 80 per cent.\* over the pre-war level, as compared with 76 per cent. a month earlier.

The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities and, as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are taken in 1924 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 1924.

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.	1924.
January ..	10-15	35	65	85-90	120	125	165	92	78	77
February ..	15	35	65-70	90	120	130	151	88	77	79
March ..	15-20	35-40	70	90	115	130	141	86	76	78
April ..	15-20	35-40	70-75	90-95	110	132	133	82	74	73
May ..	20	40-45	75	95-100	105	141	128	81	70	71
June ..	25	45	75-80	100	105	150	119	80	69	69
July ..	25	45-50	80	100-105	105-110	152	119	84	69	70
August ..	25	45-50	80	110	115	155	122	81	71	71
September ..	25	50	80-85	110	115	161	120	79	73	72
October ..	30	50-55	75-80	115-120	120	164	110	78	75	76
November ..	30-35	60	85	120-125	125	176	103	80	75	80
December ..	35	65	85	120	125	169	99	80	77	—

## NOTE.

A brief Statement of the method of compiling these statistics was given on page 236 of the July, 1923, issue of this GAZETTE. A more detailed account was given in the issue of February, 1921.

\* If allowance is made for the changes in taxation on commodities since July, 1914, the average increase is about 2 per cent. less.



## EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER.

## GENERAL SUMMARY.

EMPLOYMENT showed a further slight decline during October. The industries principally affected were coal mining and some branches of the clothing trade; in the cotton, furnishing and pottery trades some improvement was reported. Employment was good in the tinplate, steel sheet, brick, carpet and jute trades, and with most of the skilled operatives in the building trades; it was fairly good in the furnishing trades and in some branches of the printing trades, and fair, on the whole, in the silk, leather and pottery industries and in certain sections of the metal trades. In the coal mining industry it was slack; at iron mines, iron and steel works and in the engineering and shipbuilding industries it continued bad.

## SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

Among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts, numbering approximately 11,508,000, and working in practically every industry except agriculture and private domestic service, the percentage unemployed at 27th October, 1924, was 11.1, compared with 10.8\* at 22nd September, 1924, and 11.7 at the end of October, 1923. For males alone the percentage was 11.9 at 27th October, as compared with 11.5\* at 22nd September, 1924; for females the corresponding figures were 9.0 and 8.8.\* Among members of Trade Unions from which returns were received the percentage of unemployed was 8.7 at the end of October, 1924, compared with 8.6 at the end of September and with 10.9 at the end of October, 1923. The number of persons registered† at Employment Exchanges as unemployed at 27th October, 1924, was approximately 1,247,000, of whom men numbered 943,000 and women 235,000, the remainder being boys and girls. The corresponding total for 29th September, 1924, was 1,243,000, of whom 936,000 were men and 234,000 were women, and at 29th October, 1923, it was 1,340,000, of whom 994,000 were men and 263,000 women.

## EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

**Mining and Quarrying.**—Employment at coal mines showed a further decline. It was fairly good in Warwick, Staffordshire and Worcester, but slack in most other districts. The total number of wage-earners on the colliery books at 25th October was 1,146,054, a decrease of 1.2 per cent. as compared with September, and of 2.5 per cent., as compared with October, 1923. The average number of days worked per week by the pits in the fortnight ended 25th October, 1924, was 5.13, as compared with 5.56 in October, 1923.

At iron mines employment continued very bad in the Cleveland district; in other districts it was moderate. At the mines covered by the returns received there was an increase of 11.1 per cent. in the total numbers employed, compared with the previous month, and of 1.2 per cent., compared with October, 1923. The average number of days worked by the mines that were working was 5.45, compared with 5.39 in September, 1924, and 5.26 in October, 1923. At shale mines employment was again fair. At limestone quarries employment continued moderate in the Clitheroe district, fair in the Weardale district, and fairly good at Buxton. At slate quarries it remained good. At the East of Scotland whinstone quarries it was reported as only moderate. At china clay quarries it continued fairly good; at tin mines it was described as fair.

**Manufacture of Pig Iron, Iron and Steel, and Tinplate.**—In the pig-iron industry employment remained bad and showed little change as compared with the previous month. Of a total of 482 furnaces, the number in blast at the end of October was 171, compared with 170 in September and with 189 in October, 1923. At iron and steel works employment continued bad on the whole, but in some districts, particularly South Wales and Monmouthshire, an improvement was reported. In the tinplate and steel sheet trade employment continued good, but showed a slight decline as compared with the previous month. At the end of October 535 mills were reported to be in operation as compared with 539 in October, 1923.

**Engineering, Shipbuilding and Other Metal Trades.**—Employment in the engineering trades continued bad; there was an improvement in the motor vehicle section, but a decline in the textile machinery section. In marine engineering employment was very bad; in the motor section it was fair, and in electrical engineering it continued fairly good. Employment in the shipbuilding and ship-repairing industries continued very bad and showed a further slight decline. Employment in the other metal trades was moderate on the whole. It was fair in the brasswork, metallic bedstead, nut, bolt and nail, cutlery, tube, stove and grate, farriery, and hollow-ware trades; moderate in the needle and fishing tackle, sheet metal, file and wire trades; and slack or bad in the lock and latch, saddlery and harness furniture, chain and anchor, anvil and vice, and jewellery and plated ware trades.

**Textile Trades.**—In the cotton trade employment showed a

further improvement; in the Egyptian spinning section full time was generally worked; in the American spinning section organised short time continued to be worked; in the manufacturing section, though there was a decided improvement, many looms were still idle. In the woollen and worsted trades there was an improvement in some sections but a decline in others.

Employment in the hosiery trade continued slack on the whole; in Scotland it was fairly good. In the lace trade it continued bad generally. In the silk trade employment was good in the Eastern Counties and fair in the Macclesfield, Leek and Congleton districts; in the carpet and jute trades employment continued good on the whole; in the linen trade it showed little change as compared with the previous month. In the textile bleaching, printing, dyeing, etc., trades employment continued slack generally.

**Clothing Trades.**—Employment in the tailoring trade was moderate on the whole, and showed a slight decline, although an improvement was reported in some districts. In the dress-making and millinery trade employment remained moderate to fair, while in the blouse and light underclothing trade in the London district it was fair. In the corset trade employment continued slack; in the shirt and collar trade it was fair. In the felt hat trade employment showed a further decline, and much short time was worked. In the boot and shoe trade employment showed a slight decline and was only moderate.

**Leather Trades.**—Employment in the tanning and currying section continued fair; in the portmanteau, trunk and fancy leather section it remained fairly good; with saddlery and harness makers it was still bad.

**Building, Woodworking, etc.**—Employment in the building trade continued good on the whole with skilled operatives, other than painters, but generally slack with unskilled workers. It was very good generally with bricklayers and plasterers; good in most districts with masons and carpenters and joiners; fairly good with slaters and plumbers. With painters a seasonal decline was reported, and employment was very slack; with builders' labourers it continued slack. In the brick trade employment was good on the whole.

In the furnishing trades employment showed a further improvement and was fairly good; with millsawyers it was good; it was also good with coopers except at Belfast, where it continued bad. With coachbuilders employment showed a slight decline and was fair; with brushmakers it was fairly good.

**Paper Manufacture, Printing and Bookbinding.**—Employment in the paper trade continued moderate on the whole. With letterpress printers employment remained generally fairly good, though a decline was reported in several provincial towns, including Glasgow, Sheffield and Aberdeen; in London employment was very good with electrotypers and stereotypers, but slack with proof readers and typefounders. In the lithographic section employment showed a slight improvement and was fairly good. With bookbinders employment was fair in London and Edinburgh and generally moderate elsewhere.

**Pottery and Glass.**—In the pottery trade employment showed a further slight improvement and was good in the tile, sanitary earthenware and fireclay sections, and fair to moderate in other sections. In the glass trade employment continued moderate.

**Agriculture and Fishing.**—In agriculture the supply of labour was equal to the demand, except that more casual workers could occasionally have been employed on potato digging and similar work. In the fishing industry employment continued fairly good on the whole.

**Dock Labour and Seamen.**—Employment among dock labourers and seamen was slack on the whole.

The following Table shows month by month since October, 1923, (a) the percentages unemployed among members of those Trade Unions from which returns are obtained, (b) the percentages unemployed among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and (c) the approximate number (to the nearest 1,000) registered as unemployed at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Date. (End of Month.)	Percentages unemployed among				Number of work- people Registered as Unem- ployed.*†
	Trade Unions making Returns.	Insured Workpeople.†			
		Males.	Females.	Total.	
1923.					
October ..	10.9	12.4	9.8	11.7	1,340,000
November ..	10.5	12.1	9.7	11.5	1,304,000
December ..	9.7	11.2	9.1	10.7	1,327,000
1924.					
January ..	8.9	12.5	10.2	11.9	1,359,000‡
February ..	8.1	11.1	9.5	10.7	1,192,000
March ..	7.8	10.3	8.8	9.9	1,095,000
April ..	7.5	10.2	8.4	9.7	1,087,000
May ..	7.0	9.9	8.1	9.5	1,057,000
June ..	7.2	10.0	7.8	9.4	1,049,000
July ..	7.4	10.5	8.1	9.9	1,089,000
August ..	7.9	11.3	8.8	10.6	1,191,000
September ..	8.6	11.5§	8.8§	10.8	1,243,000
October ..	8.7	11.9	9.0	11.1	1,247,000

\* See note † in previous column.

† A substantial part of the increase shown in recent months is due to administrative and legislative changes in the Unemployment Insurance Schemes, which have brought on to the registers unemployed persons who previously, not being entitled to benefit, would not have registered.

‡ Figures inflated owing to effects of railway dispute.

§ Revised figures.

\* Revised figures.  
† The figures given include, in addition to applicants for employment, persons employed on a basis of systematic short time who were not actually at work on the dates specified. In previous issues of the GAZETTE the figures given have related only to applicants for employment, excluding those on systematic short time. 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.



**TRADE UNION PERCENTAGES of UNEMPLOYED.**

TRADE Unions with a net membership of 969,023 in branches covered by the returns received reported 84,659 (or 8·7 per cent.) of their members as unemployed at the end of October, 1924, compared with 8·6 per cent. at the end of September, 1924.

Trade.	Member-ship of Unions reporting at end of Oct., 1924.	Unemployed at end of October 1924.*		Inc.(+) or Dec.(−) in percentage Unemployed as compared with a	
		Num-ber.	Per-cent-age.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Coal Mining .. ..	145,114	16,403	11·3	..	+10·4
Engineering and Ship-building .. ..	342,570	49,362	14·4	+ 0·6	− 7·4
Miscellaneous Metal ..	48,347	3,208	6·6	+ 0·1	− 3·0
Textiles:—					
Cotton .. ..	59,204	3,655	6·2†	− 0·2	− 2·6
Woollen and Worsted	12,099	390	3·2	+ 0·5	− 1·1
Other .. ..	56,419	1,247	2·2	+ 0·1	− 1·9
Printing, Bookbinding and Paper .. ..	99,747	3,185	3·2	− 0·2	− 1·7
Furnishing .. ..	27,529	974	3·5	− 0·7	− 3·3
Woodworking .. ..	40,592	1,832	4·5	− 0·3	− 0·8
Clothing:—					
Boot and Shoe ..	78,138	3,000	3·8	− 0·2	− 1·3
Other Clothing ..	47,315	581	1·2	+ 0·3	− 1·4
Leather .. ..	6,083	425	7·0	− 0·3	− 2·9
Glass .. ..	1,186	39	3·3	− 0·3	+ 1·0
Tobacco† .. ..	4,680	358	7·6	− 1·3	− 8·3
Total .. ..	969,023	84,659	8·7§	+ 0·1§	− 2·2§

**UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED TRADES.**

THE percentage unemployed among workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 11·1 per cent. (males 11·9 per cent., females 9·0 per cent.) at 27th October, 1924, as compared with 10·8 per cent. (males 11·5 per cent., females 8·8 per cent.) at 22nd September, 1924, and 11·7 per cent. (males 12·4 per cent., females 9·8 per cent.) at 22nd October, 1923. Tables showing the numbers unemployed in the principal industries appear on pages 406 and 407.

**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 400 to 405.

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

Trade.	Workpeople included in the Returns for Oct., 1924.	Oct., 1924.	Inc.(+) or Dec.(−) as compared with a	
			Month ago.	Year ago.
		Days Worked per week by Mines.	Days.	Days.
Coal Mining .. ..	1,146,054	5·13	− 0·05	− 0·43
Iron .. ..	8,479	5·45	+ 0·06	+ 0·19
Shale .. ..	4,133	5·98	− 0·01	+ 0·07
		Furnaces in Blast	Number.	Number.
Pig Iron .. ..	—	171	+ 1	− 18
		Mills Working	—	—
Tinplate and Steel Sheet	—	535	− 4	− 4
		Shifts Worked (one week).	Per cent.	Per cent.
Iron and Steel .. ..	67,599	363,249	+ 0·8	− 0·7

**(b) OTHER TRADES.**

Trade:	Number of Workpeople Employed.		Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.			
	Week ended 25th Oct., 1924.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a	Week ended 25th Oct., 1924.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) on a		
				Month ago.	Year ago.	
		Month ago.	Year ago.	Per cent.	Per cent.	£
Textiles:—						
Cotton .. ..	85,591	+ 0·4	+ 6·4	+ 2·2	+ 11·1	154,711
Woollen .. ..	16,011	+ 0·9	+ 4·8	+ 0·4	+ 11·3	33,433
Worsted .. ..	30,674	+ 0·3	+ 0·5	+ 0·7	+ 6·6	58,096
Boot and Shoe ..	51,739	− 0·7	+ 3·3	− 1·7	+ 9·1	114,499
Pottery .. ..	13,057	+ 1·2	+ 4·4	+ 2·8	+ 7·3	24,971
Brick .. ..	8,402	− 0·7	+ 15·3	− 2·7	+ 25·3	21,334
Total .. ..	205,474	+ 0·2	+ 4·7	+ 0·5	+ 10·3	407,044

\* 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.

† In addition to those shown, who were 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.

§ The figures for September and October, 1924, exclude building and pottery trade operatives, who were included in October, 1923. The percentage for October, 1923, excluding these returns, would be 11·3, and the decrease between October, 1923, and October, 1924, would be 2·6.

|| 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 ————— = 1924.

Thin Curve ————— = 1923.

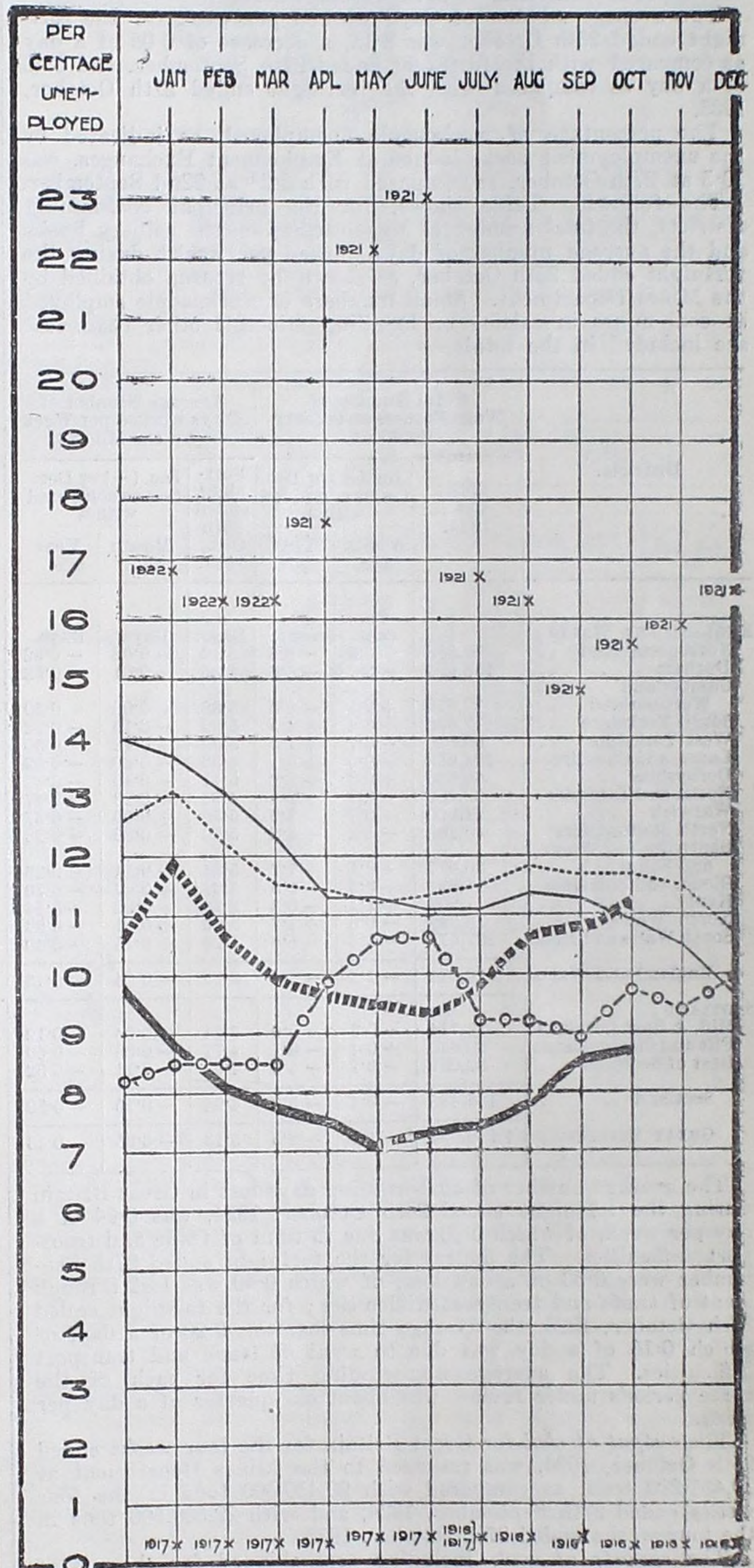
Chain Curve —o—o—o—o—o—o—o— = Mean of 1919–23.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of Trade Union members unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1894–1923.

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

Thick Dotted Curve - - - - - = 1924.

Thin Dotted Curve - - - - - = 1923.

**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 are briefly explained, and are analysed in detail on pages 406 and 407.



## 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 to females, of adults to juveniles, and of skilled to unskilled workers in the respective industries.

### COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT in the coal mining industry showed a further decline during October. It was fairly good in Warwickshire, Staffordshire and Worcestershire, but slack in most other districts. In Gloucester and Somerset and in Kent employment was affected by stoppages of work owing to disputes on questions of wages.

The total number of wage-earners on the colliery books at 25th October showed a decrease of 1·2 per cent. as compared with that at 27th September, and a decrease of 2·5 per cent. as compared with that at 27th October, 1923.

The average number of days worked per week for the fortnight ended 25th October was 5·13, a decrease of 0·05 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 27th September, and 0·43 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 27th October, 1923.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 10·3 at 27th October, as compared with 8·2\* at 22nd September.

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 25th October, as shown by 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.†			
	25th Oct., 1924.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) as compared with a	Fortnight ended 25th Oct., 1924.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) as compared with a	Month ago.	Year ago.
		Month ago.	Year ago.			
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES:</b>		Per cent.	Per cent.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Northumberland ..	59,586	+ 0·3	— 6·3	5·16	— 0·02	— 0·32
Durham ..	158,696	— 3·0	— 8·0	4·86	+ 0·01	— 0·52
Cumberland and Westmorland ..	10,670	+ 2·1	— 9·3	5·38	+ 0·03	— 0·30
South Yorkshire ..	117,599	+ 0·2	+ 4·5	5·30	— 0·16	— 0·32
West Yorkshire ..	69,839	— 0·7	+ 1·4	5·30	+ 0·12	— 0·30
Lancs. and Cheshire ..	104,663	— 0·5	+ 0·1	4·86	— 0·20	— 0·63
Derbyshire ..	66,539	+ 0·3	+ 2·2	5·11	— 0·40	— 0·42
Notts. and Leicester ..	67,153	— 0·1	+ 2·1	4·94	— 0·23	— 0·47
Warwick ..	21,320	+ 0·7	— 2·6	5·56	+ 0·09	— 0·37
North Staffordshire ..	35,702	— 0·2	+ 3·2	5·50	— 0·09	— 0·23
South Staffs.‡ Worcs. and Salop ..	36,077	+ 0·1	+ 1·7	5·64	— 0·11	— 0·28
Glouc. and Somerset ..	14,894	+ 0·5	— 0·5	5·01§	+ 0·07	— 0·70
Kent ..	1,907	+ 1·1	— 0·3	2·49§	+ 0·02	— 3·14
North Wales ..	18,399	— 0·6	+ 1·7	5·06	+ 0·01	— 0·83
South Wales and Mon. ..	227,577	— 3·4	— 6·8	5·29	+ 0·14	— 0·40
<b>England and Wales</b>	<b>1,010,621</b>	<b>— 1·3</b>	<b>— 2·4</b>	<b>5·15</b>	<b>— 0·04</b>	<b>— 0·43</b>
<b>SCOTLAND:</b>						
Mid. & East Lothians ..	15,714	— 0·3	— 0·9	5·24	— 0·04	— 0·19
Fife and Clackmannan ..	30,630	+ 0·4	— 0·1	4·77	— 0·35	— 0·60
Rest of Scotland ..	89,089	— 0·7	— 4·3	4·95	— 0·11	— 0·52
<b>Scotland ..</b>	<b>135,433</b>	<b>— 0·4</b>	<b>— 3·0</b>	<b>4·95</b>	<b>— 0·15</b>	<b>— 0·50</b>
<b>GREAT BRITAIN ..</b>	<b>1,146,054</b>	<b>— 1·2</b>	<b>— 2·5</b>	<b>5·13</b>	<b>— 0·05</b>	<b>— 0·43</b>

The average number of coal-winding days lost in Great Britain during the fortnight ended 25th October, 1924, was 0·64 of a day per week, of which 0·58 was due to want of trade and transport difficulties. The figures for the fortnight ended 27th September were 0·58 of a day lost, of which 0·49 was lost through want of trade and transport difficulties; for the fortnight ended 27th October, 1923, the average time lost was 0·20 of a day, of which 0·16 of a day was due to want of trade and transport difficulties. The average non-winding time for each of the three periods under review was about one-quarter of a day per week.

The output of coal for Great Britain for the four weeks ended 25th October, 1924, was returned to the Mines Department at 20,451,200 tons, as compared with 20,430,300 tons in the four weeks ended 27th September, 1924, and with 22,506,500 tons in the four weeks ended 27th October, 1923.

The exports of coal, including coal shipped for the use of steamers engaged in foreign trade, and the coal equivalent of coke and manufactured fuel, amounted to 6,981,209 tons in October, compared with 7,158,774 tons in September.

\* Revised figure.

† The figures in this and the following article show the number of days (allowance being made in all the calculations for short time) on which coal, iron, etc., were 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.

§ Affected by stoppages of work owing to wages dispute.

### IRON AND SHALE MINING.

#### Iron Mining.

IN the Cleveland district employment remained very bad; about one-half of the mines continued to be idle and short time was worked at those that were active. In the Cumberland and Lancashire district there was a considerable increase in the number of workpeople employed owing to the re-opening of a large mine which was closed the previous month, but employment was only moderate on the whole. In other districts employment showed a slight decline, but was again moderate generally.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed in iron ore and ironstone mining and quarrying, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 22·1 at 27th October, as compared with 26·5\* at 22nd September.

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

Districts.	Number of Work- people employed at Mines included in the Returns.			Average No. of Days worked per week by the Mines.†		
	Fort- night ended 25th Oct., 1924.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) as com- pared with a		Fort- night ended 25th Oct., 1924.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) as com- pared with a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Cleveland ..	3,750	– 1·0	+ 5·8	5·16	—	+ 0·30
Cumberland and Lancashire ..	3,311	+ 38·3	+ 0·6	5·68	+ 0·13	+ 0·10
Other Districts ..	1,418	– 2·5	– 7·9	5·70	– 0·03	+ 0·19
ALL DISTRICTS	8,479	+ 11·1	+ 1·2	5·45	+ 0·06	+ 0·19

#### Shale Mining.

At shale mines employment continued fair. At mines employing 4,133 workpeople during the fortnight ended 25th October, there was a decrease of 0·3 per cent. in the numbers employed compared with the previous month, and of 2·7 per cent. compared with October, 1923. The average number of days† worked per week by the mines was 5·98 in October, 1924, 5·99 in September, 1924, and 5·91 in October, 1923.

### PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during October remained bad, and showed little change as compared with September. The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 17·3 at 27th October, 1924, as compared with 15·7\* at 22nd September, 1924.

Returns received by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers from 83 firms, employing 20,680 workpeople at the end of October, showed a slight decrease of 0·8 per cent. compared with September, but an increase of 2·8 per cent. compared with October, 1923.

The total number of furnaces in blast at the end of October, as shown by the returns collected by the Federation, was 171, compared with 170 at the end of September and 189 at the end of October, 1923.

The following Table shows the number of furnaces in blast at the end of October, 1924, September, 1924, and October, 1923:—

District:	Total Number of Furnaces.	Number of Furnaces in Blast at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) in Oct. on a	
		Oct., 1924.	Sept., 1924.	Oct., 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES.</b>						
Durham and Cleveland ..	111	39	42	37	— 3	+ 2
Cumberland and W. Lancs. ..	47	12	11	13	+ 1	— 1
Other parts of Lancs. and Yorks. (including Sheffield) ..	35	15	12	15	+ 3	..
Derby, Leicester, Notts. and Northants. ..	73	42	42	38	..	+ 4
Lincolnshire ..	23	10	11	17	— 1	— 7
Staffs., Shropshire, Worcester and Warwick ..	60	11	13	16	— 2	— 5
South Wales ..	32	10	10	10	..	..
<b>Total, England and Wales</b>	<b>381</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>— 2</b>	<b>— 7</b>
<b>SCOTLAND ..</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>+ 3</b>	<b>— 11</b>
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>482</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>+ 1</b>	<b>— 18</b>

\* Revised figures.

† See † note in previous column.



The production of pig iron in October amounted to 586,400 tons, as compared with 569,200 tons in September and 595,700 tons in October, 1923.

### IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works continued bad on the whole in October, but in some districts, particularly in Wales and Monmouth, there was an improvement.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the number of unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 23·5 on 27th October, as compared with 25·7\* on 22nd September.

According to returns received from firms employing 67,599 workpeople, the volume of employment during the week ended 25th October (as indicated by the number of workpeople employed combined with the number of shifts during which work was carried on in each department) increased by 0·8 per cent., as compared with the previous month, but showed a decrease of 0·7 as compared with a year ago. The average number of shifts during which the works were open was 5·4 in the week ended 25th October, as compared with 5·3 in September.

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 25th Oct., 1924.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) as compared with a		Week ended 25th Oct., 1924.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) as compared with a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.		Per cent.	Per cent.
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces .. ..	7,167	– 1·5	+ 0·1	42,012	– 1·7	– 0·1
Puddling Forges .. ..	3,189	– 9·2	– 11·1	14,854	– 3·2	– 9·8
Rolling Mills .. ..	24,638	+ 2·1	– 5·2	124,056	+ 4·9	– 0·7
Forging and Pressing .. ..	2,547	– 7·8	– 5·5	12,565	– 11·1	– 10·1
Founding .. ..	7,986	– 1·2	– 2·2	45,049	– 0·3	+ 0·5
Other Departments .. ..	7,238	– 1·7	– 0·5	39,742	– 2·1	+ 0·2
Mechanics, Labourers .. ..	14,834	+ 0·9	– 2·4	84,971	+ 1·1	+ 1·1
<b>TOTAL .. ..</b>	<b>67,599</b>	<b>– 0·3</b>	<b>– 3·5</b>	<b>363,249</b>	<b>+ 0·8</b>	<b>– 0·7</b>
<b>DISTRICTS.</b>						
Northumberland, Durham and Cleveland .. ..	14,300	– 0·4	– 8·6	79,283	– 0·6	– 5·8
Sheffield and Rotherham .. ..	13,612	– 0·9	+ 0·5	70,871	– 0·8	+ 0·1
Leeds, Bradford, etc. .. ..	1,870	+ 2·0	– 15·9	9,950	+ 1·6	– 17·0
Cumberland, Lancs. and Cheshire .. ..	6,408	– 3·8	– 14·4	34,321	+ 1·8	– 12·8
Staffordshire .. ..	7,220	– 2·0	– 2·6	38,224	– 1·8	– 0·6
Other Midland Counties .. ..	4,192	– 1·6	+ 0·1	22,737	– 0·4	+ 2·7
Wales and Monmouth .. ..	8,802	+ 1·8	– 0·1	47,595	+ 5·7	– 0·0
<b>Total, England and Wales .. ..</b>	<b>56,404</b>	<b>– 0·8</b>	<b>– 4·9</b>	<b>302,981</b>	<b>+ 0·5</b>	<b>– 3·7</b>
<b>Scotland .. ..</b>	<b>11,195</b>	<b>+ 2·1</b>	<b>+ 4·1</b>	<b>60,268</b>	<b>+ 2·4</b>	<b>+ 17·2</b>
<b>TOTAL .. ..</b>	<b>67,599</b>	<b>– 0·3</b>	<b>– 3·5</b>	<b>363,249</b>	<b>+ 0·8</b>	<b>– 0·7</b>

The production of steel ingots and castings, as returned by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, amounted to 678,500 tons in October, as compared with 645,000 tons in September, and 702,200 tons in October, 1923.

### TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades continued good on the whole, but showed some decline as compared with the previous month. At the end of the month 535 tinplate and steel sheet mills were reported to be in operation at the works for which information is available, as compared with 539 in September. At the end of October, 1923, the number in operation was also 539. The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 6·2 on 27th October, as compared with 3·7\* on 22nd 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 Oct., 1924.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) on a		At end of Oct., 1924.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Tinplate .. ..	78	..	..	410	– 2‡	– 4
Steel Sheet .. ..	14	..	..	125	– 2	..
<b>TOTAL .. ..</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>535</b>	<b>– 4‡</b>	<b>– 4</b>

\* Revised figures.

† 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 individuals owing to absenteeism, etc., and it is not intended to imply that the number of shifts shown were actually worked by all the men employed.

‡ The figures for September, 1924, have been revised.

The exports of tinned and galvanised plates and sheets in October, 1924, amounted to 100,810 tons, or 6,304 tons more than in September, 1924, but, 8,423 tons less than in October, 1923.

### ENGINEERING.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry remained bad during October, and showed little change on the whole, an improvement in the motor vehicle section being counterbalanced by a decline in the textile machinery section, where employment was very bad, with much short time. In marine engineering employment was very bad and showed a further slight decline. In electrical engineering it continued fairly good. In the motor vehicle section it was fair.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 27th October, 1924, and the increase or decrease as compared with 22nd September, 1924:—

Divisions.	Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 27th October, 1924.						Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) as com- pared with 22nd Sept., 1924.
	Engl- neering, Engineers', Iron and Steel Found- ing.	Electrical Engineering.	Marine Engineer- ing and Marine Boiler Making.	Constructional Engineering.	Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft.	TOTAL.	
London ..	8,640	338	100	87	2,524	11,689	+ 81
South Eastern ..	3,490	342	117	47	1,261	5,257	– 31
South Western ..	2,382	38	424	63	806	3,713	+ 229
Midlands ..	11,456	1,425	53	779	10,727	24,440	– 2,957
North Eastern ..	20,256	472	6,439	887	795	28,849	– 90
North Western ..	30,955	1,024	421	128	2,241	34,769	+ 2,786
Scotland ..	16,423	248	2,646	1,134	782	21,233	+ 581
Wales ..	820	28	63	44	132	1,087	+ 143
Northern ..							
Ireland ..	1,713	7	1,335	9	189	3,253	– 188
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.	96,135	3,922	11,598	3,178	19,457	134,290	+ 554
Males ..	93,824	3,140	11,541	3,139	17,787	129,431	+ 653
Females ..	2,311	782	57	39	1,670	4,859	– 99

Divisions.	Percentage Unemployed at 27th October, 1924.						Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) in per- centage as com- pared with 22nd Sept., 1924.*
	Engi- neering, Engineers', Iron and Steel Founding.	Electrical Engineering.	Marine Engi- neering and Marine Boiler Making.	Constructional Engineering.	Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft.	TOTAL.	
London ..	9·8	3·8	14·7	4·2	7·6	8·8	+ 0·1
South Eastern ..	8·2	4·0	3·7	8·9	5·5	6·8	..
South Western ..	6·9	1·3	6·5	10·3	4·3	5·8	+ 0·3
Midlands ..	12·9	6·1	3·4	12·9	12·7	11·9	– 1·5
North Eastern ..	15·6	6·6	24·8	13·0	7·7	16·1	..
North Western ..	21·7	6·0	22·3	7·1	11·0	18·9	+ 1·5
Scotland ..	19·3	7·3	13·0	20·1	7·9	17·1	+ 0·5
Wales.. ..	10·2	8·0	35·0	8·3	7·1	9·9	+ 1·3
Northern Ireland ..	21·8	5·8	23·5	45·0	12·2	21·3	– 1·3
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.	15·3	5·5	17·5	13·2	9·6	13·5	..
Males ..	15·9	5·4	17·8	13·6	9·6	14·1	+ 0·1
Females ..	5·9	5·8	4·6	4·4	8·9	6·6	– 0·2

On the North-East Coast employment remained very bad, especially in marine engineering. It showed a further improvement at Newcastle, but a continued decline on the Wear. In Yorkshire it remained very moderate on the whole; it was fair with patternmakers, however, and good with electrical engineers. In Lincolnshire it was bad, but improving, both short time and overtime being worked. At Peterborough it remained good. In Lancashire and Cheshire in the textile machinery section it was very bad, with much short time, and showed a decline compared with the previous month; in railway engineering it was still moderate, with some short time and suspensions.

In the Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Coventry district a distinct revival was experienced in the motor industry, especially at Coventry, following the annual show. Employment in this industry was fairly good, on the whole, for the time of year, though many workpeople remained unemployed. Employment remained slack in general engineering, but fair in electrical engineering. At Nottingham it remained bad with lace machine builders, but good in the motor and cycle section. At Derby it was good in the motor section, an improvement being reported; at railway works, however, men were still losing Saturdays. At Leicester employment continued fair generally.

No marked change was observed in the Eastern Counties, employment remaining moderate at most centres, while still slack at Colchester. In the London district employment generally remained moderate, but showed a further tendency towards improvement; it was good in the electrical section and fairly good, for the time of year, in the motor section. In the Southern

\* The figures for September, 1924, have been revised.



Counties it was good in the motor and electrical sections, and also at the railway works at Swindon; in general engineering it was only moderate. In South Wales employment remained slack on the whole.

In Scotland conditions remained very bad, little general change being shown. At Belfast there was a further slight improvement, but employment was still very bad.

### SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING.

EMPLOYMENT in the shipbuilding and ship-repairing industries continued very bad during October, and showed a further slight decline on the whole.

On the North-East Coast employment continued very bad, and showed a further decline in most branches, though it was fair with joiners on the Tyne. On the East Coast it was fair generally, and better than in the previous month. On the Thames it remained bad. On the South Coast it was still moderate except at Cowes, where it continued good, and at Southampton, where it continued bad. On repair work at the Bristol Channel ports the dispute which began in August continued for the greater part of the month (see p. 409). On the Mersey employment was bad and showed a further decline. At Barrow a decline was reported.

In the Clyde district employment remained bad, but showed a slight improvement on the whole. At Dundee it continued fair, and showed an improvement; at Aberdeen a further improvement was reported; at Leith employment was bad. At Belfast employment continued bad, but was rather better than in the previous month.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 27th October, 1924, and the increase or decrease as compared with 22nd September, 1924:—

Divisions.	Total number of insured workpeople unemployed at 27th Oct., 1924.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) as compared with 22nd Sept., 1924.*	Percentage Unemployed at 27th Oct., 1924.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in percentage as compared with 22nd Sept., 1924.*
London .. ..	3,880	+ 281	27.1	+ 1.9
South Eastern ..	1,058	+ 54	11.1	+ 0.6
South Western ..	4,561	— 164	16.2	— 0.6
Midlands .. ..	114	— 10	22.4	— 1.9
North Eastern ..	27,171	+ 2,567	33.7	+ 3.7
North Western ..	12,205	+ 795	35.9	+ 2.3
Scotland .. ..	17,466	— 682	26.6	— 1.1
Wales .. .. .	5,043	— 44	44.7	— 0.4
Northern Ireland ..	8,590	— 499	40.0	— 2.3
<b>GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND</b>	<b>80,088</b>	<b>+ 2,298</b>	<b>31.4</b>	<b>+ 0.9</b>
<b>Males .. .. .</b>	<b>79,817</b>	<b>+ 2,267</b>	<b>31.7</b>	<b>+ 0.9</b>
<b>Females .. ..</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>+ 31</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>+ 0.9</b>

### WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in October showed a further slight improvement in some sections, but a decline in others; it was considerably better, on the whole, than in October of last year.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 8.0 on the 27th October, as compared with 7.7\* on the 22nd September.

Employment with wool sorters was still bad, but the slight improvement previously reported continued in October; there was no change in wool combing. In both these sections much short time was again reported. In worsted spinning there was a slight improvement, which, however, was confined to the cross-bred section.

There was a slight improvement, on the whole, in the worsted manufacturing branches; but all firms were not affected by it, and with some there was an actual decline. Employment with fine men's-wear manufacturers at Huddersfield, Leeds, Halifax, Bradford and Keighley was still poor.

In woollen manufacturing, employment with many firms at Huddersfield and in the Colne Valley, Holme Valley and Calder Vale was good. Night shifts were started by some firms in the carding and in the spinning departments. With other firms, however, employment was still only moderate, though showing signs of improvement. In the Heavy Woollen District (Dewsbury, Batley, etc) there was a distinct falling-off, and night work was stopped at several factories. Short time was worked in the shoddy trade owing to a shortage of rags.

Employment in the flannel trade at Rochdale, Saddleworth, Yeadon, Guiseley and Apperley Bridge showed, contrary to what is usual at this time of year, a slight falling-off. Much short time was worked at Rochdale, and employment at most centres in Wales was poor. On the whole, however, employment in this trade was described as fair.

In Scotland spinners were well employed, and an improvement was reported in the tweed trade, few efficient workers remaining unemployed. At Galashiels some workers in this trade who had

been irregularly employed since July were on full time at the end of the month.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns as to the numbers of workpeople employed and the total amount of wages paid in the three periods under review:—

	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 25th Oct., 1924.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a		Week ended 25th Oct., 1924.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.*	Year ago.*
<b>WOOLLEN INDUSTRY.</b>						
<i>Departments.</i>		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Wool Sorting and Combing ..	576	— 1.4	+ 4.9	1,156	+ 2.0	+ 7.1
Spinning .. ..	4,040	+ 0.5	+ 9.0	8,196	— 0.9	+ 12.3
Weaving .. ..	5,901	+ 0.6	+ 2.8	11,418	— 0.1	+ 11.5
Other Departments	4,618	+ 1.4	+ 4.5	10,605	+ 1.6	+ 9.7
Not specified ..	876	+ 2.6	+ 1.3	2,058	+ 2.2	— 17.5
<b>TOTAL ..</b>	<b>16,011</b>	<b>+ 0.9</b>	<b>+ 4.8</b>	<b>33,433</b>	<b>+ 0.4</b>	<b>+ 11.3</b>
<i>Districts.</i>		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Huddersfield District	1,503	+ 1.6	+ 7.7	3,947	+ 4.5	+ 22.5
Leeds District ..	1,642	+ 0.3	+ 8.3	4,043	— 0.8	+ 20.1
Dewsbury and Batley District ..	1,318	— 1.2	+ 5.9	2,905	— 2.4	+ 9.2
Other Parts of West Riding .. ..	2,147	+ 0.9	+ 0.3	4,986	+ 2.4	+ 5.1
<b>Total, West Riding</b>	<b>6,610</b>	<b>+ 0.5</b>	<b>+ 5.0</b>	<b>15,881</b>	<b>+ 1.2</b>	<b>+ 13.5</b>
Scotland .. ..	3,867	+ 1.2	+ 7.6	7,745	+ 0.2	+ 16.5
Other Districts ..	5,534	+ 1.1	+ 2.7	9,807	— 0.6	+ 4.4
<b>TOTAL ..</b>	<b>16,011</b>	<b>+ 0.9</b>	<b>+ 4.8</b>	<b>33,433</b>	<b>+ 0.4</b>	<b>+ 11.3</b>
<b>WORSTED INDUSTRY.</b>						
<i>Departments.</i>		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Wool Sorting and Combing ..	4,534	+ 0.9	+ 1.9	11,290	+ 2.5	+ 12.4
Spinning .. ..	15,892	+ 0.0	— 1.0	25,018	+ 0.7	+ 4.8
Weaving .. ..	5,108	— 0.1	+ 6.6	10,501	— 0.6	+ 14.8
Other Departments	3,514	+ 1.2	— 1.8	8,674	+ 1.8	+ 0.2
Not specified ..	1,626	+ 0.6	— 2.5	2,613	— 5.8	— 4.9
<b>TOTAL ..</b>	<b>30,674</b>	<b>+ 0.3</b>	<b>+ 0.5</b>	<b>58,096</b>	<b>+ 0.7</b>	<b>+ 6.6</b>
<i>Districts.</i>		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Bradford District	15,061	+ 0.4	— 0.5	29,856	+ 0.4	+ 6.2
Keighley District	4,819	+ 0.2	+ 4.4	8,869	— 0.6	+ 3.9
Halifax District ..	2,663	+ 1.8	+ 1.6	4,540	+ 0.3	+ 17.7
Huddersfield District	2,681	+ 0.9	+ 2.3	4,999	+ 1.4	+ 14.8
Other Parts of West Riding .. ..	3,172	— 2.8	— 2.2	5,688	+ 0.5	+ 6.9
<b>Total, West Riding</b>	<b>28,396</b>	<b>+ 0.2</b>	<b>+ 0.5</b>	<b>53,952</b>	<b>+ 0.7</b>	<b>+ 7.5</b>
Other Districts ..	2,278	+ 1.5	— 0.3	4,144	+ 0.3	— 3.4
<b>TOTAL ..</b>	<b>30,674</b>	<b>+ 0.3</b>	<b>+ 0.5</b>	<b>58,096</b>	<b>+ 0.7</b>	<b>+ 6.6</b>

Returns from firms in the woollen section, employing 15,008 workpeople, showed that about 21 per cent. of these workpeople were on short time in the week ended 25th September, to the extent, on the average, of 9½ hours. In the worsted section returns from firms employing 28,099 workpeople in the same week showed that about 22 per cent. of these workpeople were on short time, to the extent of about 11 hours on the average.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women registered as applicants for employment at Employment Exchanges at 6th October, 1924, in the principal centres, at which approximately 69 per cent. of the total number of applicants for employment in the woollen and worsted industries were registered:—

Department.	Number of Applicants for Employment at 6th October, 1924.			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) as compared with 1st September, 1924.		
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.
Wool Sorting ..	309	2	311	— 71	— 1	— 72
Wool Washing and Preparing ..	667	108	775	+ 13	— 26	— 13
Wool Combing ..	840	839	1,679	— 22	+ 48	+ 26
Wool Carding ..	869	128	997	+ 149	+ 30	+ 179
Woollen Spinning ..	313	164	477	+ 47	+ 25	+ 72
Worsted Drawing and Spinning ..	192	1,445	1,637	— 56	— 230	— 286
Wool Winding and Warping ..	144	77	221	+ 48	+ 15	+ 63
Worsted Winding and Warping ..	32	346	378	— 8	— 100	— 108
Woollen Weaving ..	182	1,336	1,518	— 66	+ 331	+ 265
Worsted Weaving ..	105	771	876	— 28	— 503	— 531
Other Processes ..	996	137	1,133	+ 86	— 17	+ 69
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>4,649</b>	<b>5,353</b>	<b>10,002</b>	<b>+ 92</b>	<b>— 428</b>	<b>— 336</b>

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

\* Revised figures for September, 1924.



The imports of raw wool (sheep's or lamb's) were 32,219,000 lb., while re-exports amounted to 32,421,700 lb. in October, 1924, compared with 34,617,400 lb., and 9,252,000 lb. respectively in September, 1924, and with 25,670,700 lb. and 35,762,100 lb. respectively in October, 1923.

The exports of woollen and worsted yarns were 4,856,700 lb., compared with 3,347,600 lb. in September, 1924, and 4,286,700 lb. in October, 1923.

The exports of woollen and worsted tissues were 15,348,300 square yards, compared with 15,528,700 square yards in September, 1924, and with 16,376,600 square yards in October, 1923.

The exports of blankets were 225,737 pairs, 203,691 pairs, and 137,886 pairs in October, 1924, September, 1924, and October, 1923, respectively.

### COTTON TRADE.

DURING October employment showed a further improvement. In the American spinning section employment continued to improve, and some few firms were reported to be working in excess of the 26½ hours a week recommended by the Short Time Organisation Committee of the Federation of Master Cotton Spinners' Associations. (This was increased to 32 hours as from November 3rd.) In the Egyptian spinning section full time was generally worked. In the manufacturing section a considerable number of looms were still idle, but there was a decided improvement, and employment was much better than in October of last year. In some cases the stoppage of looms was reported to be due to a shortage of weavers, and there were complaints from manufacturers as to the shortage of certain counts of yarn.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 11.6 on the 27th October, as compared with 14.3\* on the 22nd September.

In the Oldham, Ashton and Stockport districts employment was still reported as bad, but was better than in September and better than a year ago. With weavers also in the Oldham district there was some improvement. Employment with spinners was reported as good in the Bolton, Chorley and Leigh districts; in the Bolton district it was fairly good with weavers, but bad with card room workers. At Bury and Rochdale it continued bad, but showed a further improvement. There was a marked improvement at Todmorden.

In the principal weaving districts some improvement took place, but there were still large numbers of workpeople not fully employed. In the Preston district there was a decided improvement, many firms being able to revert to full time, with more looms running; at Darwen employment was fair. At Blackburn it was reported that 80 per cent. out of over 90,000 looms were running at the end of October. At Burnley there was a distinct improvement, the main difficulty being shortage of weft. An improvement was also reported at Accrington and at Nelson.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns for the three periods under review:—

DEPARTMENTS.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 25th Oct., 1924.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 25th Oct., 1924.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Preparing .. ..	11,936	+ 0.5	+ 7.5	19,122	+ 0.7	+ 5.7
Spinning .. ..	22,350	+ 0.7	+ 5.9	38,373	+ 2.7	+ 6.6
Weaving .. ..	36,310	+ 0.6	+ 8.4	64,497	+ 2.7	+ 17.9
Other .. ..	8,128	- 1.0	- 0.3	19,302	+ 0.3	+ 2.3
Not specified .. ..	6,867	+ 0.4	+ 3.9	13,417	+ 3.7	+ 16.5
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>85,591</b>	<b>+ 0.4</b>	<b>+ 6.4</b>	<b>154,711</b>	<b>+ 2.2</b>	<b>+ 11.1</b>

DISTRICTS.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 25th Oct., 1924.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 25th Oct., 1924.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ashton .. ..	3,636	- 1.0	+ 1.1	6,090	- 0.8	- 6.1
Stockport, Glossop and Hyde .. ..	6,854	+ 0.9	+ 24.8	11,840	+ 1.3	+ 28.1
Oldham .. ..	9,938	+ 0.8	+ 4.9	16,664	+ 2.1	+ 0.4
Bolton and Leigh .. ..	15,402	+ 0.3	+ 2.5	27,147	+ 1.2	+ 5.2
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden, and Todmorden .. ..	7,682	+ 1.3	+ 0.8	12,754	+ 8.6	+ 7.0
Manchester .. ..	4,377	+ 0.3	+ 5.5	7,581	+ 4.5	+ 12.0
Preston and Chorley .. ..	6,677	+ 1.2	+ 6.9	11,889	+ 1.2	+ 13.0
Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen .. ..	10,444	- 1.4	+ 13.5	20,516	+ 1.9	+ 21.7
Burnley, Padiham, Colne and Nelson .. ..	10,997	+ 1.2	+ 7.8	23,811	+ 0.1	+ 22.2
Other Lancashire Towns .. ..	3,244	+ 0.4	- 1.9	5,501	+ 7.2	+ 1.7
Yorkshire Towns .. ..	3,718	+ 0.6	+ 3.6	6,495	+ 1.5	+ 11.1
Other Districts .. ..	2,622	+ 1.4	+ 2.5	4,423	+ 5.4	+ 3.9
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>85,591</b>	<b>+ 0.4</b>	<b>+ 6.4</b>	<b>154,711</b>	<b>+ 2.2</b>	<b>+ 11.1</b>

Returns from firms employing 76,591 workpeople showed that 17 per cent. of these workpeople were on short time, to the extent of 19 hours on the average, in the week ended the 25th October.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women registered as applicants for employment at Employment Ex-

changes at 6th October, 1924, in the principal centres, at which approximately 90 per cent. of the total number of applicants for employment in the cotton trade were registered:—

Department.	Number of Applicants for Employment at 6th October, 1924.			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with 1st Sept., 1924.		
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.
Card & Blowing Room	1,890	9,869	11,759	- 319	- 1,754	- 2,073
Spinning .. ..	11,211	7,956	19,167	- 1,469	- 1,338	- 2,807
Beaming, Warping and Winding .. ..	1,915	9,679	11,594	- 271	- 1,580	- 1,851
Weaving .. ..	2,810	8,226	11,036	- 934	- 3,948	- 4,882
Other Processes .. ..	812	535	1,347	- 163	+ 70	- 93
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>18,638</b>	<b>36,265</b>	<b>54,903</b>	<b>- 3,156</b>	<b>- 8,550</b>	<b>- 11,706</b>

The imports (less re-exports) of raw cotton (including cotton linters) were 183,687,400 lb. in October, 1924, compared with 60,368,700 lb. in September, 1924, and with 169,299,600 lb. in October, 1923.

The exports of cotton yarn were 13,454,100 lb. in October, 1924, compared with 11,316,200 lb. in September, 1924, and 14,733,500 lb. in October, 1923.

The exports of cotton piece goods were 364,293,900 square yards, as compared with 359,971,300 square yards in the previous month and with 371,289,700 square yards in October, 1923.

### BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT showed a slight decline on the whole as compared with September, and was only moderate. Short time was still being worked to a large extent in many centres. Compared with October, 1923, there was a fairly general improvement.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 10.0 on the 27th October, as compared with 8.6\* on the 22nd September.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns for the three periods under review:—

	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 25th Oct. 1924.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 25th Oct. 1924.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per Cent.	Per Cent.	£	Per Cent.	Per Cent.
England and Wales:—						
London .. ..	2,183	- 0.4	+ 6.5	4,816	- 1.5	+ 10.5
Leicester .. ..	8,200	- 0.7	- 3.4	18,167	- 2.5	+ 2.0
Leicester Country District .. ..	2,261	- 0.1	+ 1.6	5,070	- 0.1	+ 4.9
Northampton .. ..	6,687	+ 0.3	+ 2.2	16,481	- 1.7	+ 13.7
Northampton Country District .. ..	8,201	+ 0.1	+ 4.7	18,867	+ 2.3	+ 9.7
Kettering .. ..	3,263	+ 0.0	+ 4.8	8,249	- 3.3	+ 9.6
Stafford and District .. ..	2,623	- 2.2	+ 2.9	4,684	- 11.0	+ 0.1
Norwich and District .. ..	4,417	- 2.1	+ 18.7	8,701	- 8.6	+ 24.4
Bristol, Kingswood and District .. ..	2,139	- 2.3	- 4.1	4,283	- 9.7	- 1.7
Leeds and District .. ..	1,950	- 1.6	+ 6.2	4,333	+ 3.9	+ 9.3
Lancashire (mainly Rossendale Valley) .. ..	4,585	- 0.7	+ 4.8	10,094	+ 2.7	+ 17.1
Birmingham and District .. ..	1,059	- 3.3	+ 5.0	1,966	- 7.6	+ 16.2
Other parts of England and Wales .. ..	1,572	+ 0.6	+ 4.0	3,207	+ 6.0	+ 9.3
<b>England and Wales</b>	<b>49,140</b>	<b>- 0.7</b>	<b>+ 3.5</b>	<b>108,918</b>	<b>- 1.9</b>	<b>+ 9.5</b>
Scotland .. ..	2,599	- 0.3	+ 0.5	5,581	+ 1.5	+ 2.0
<b>Great Britain</b>	<b>51,739</b>	<b>- 0.7</b>	<b>+ 3.3</b>	<b>114,499</b>	<b>- 1.7</b>	<b>+ 9.1</b>

Returns from firms employing nearly 40,000 operatives in the week ended 25th October showed that over 36 per cent. of these operatives worked short time in that week, to the extent of about 14½ hours each, on an average.

Employment remained bad in London. At Leicester it was still slack, and short time was fairly general. At Northampton employment remained fair, although short time was still worked at some of the smaller factories. At Wellingborough employment was quiet, though somewhat better than in September; there was some unemployment among male operatives, but on the other hand there was some demand for female workers. Employment remained moderate at Kettering; there was a good deal of unemployment, and some firms were working short time; employment was, however, better than in October of last year. In the Higham and Rushden district there was an improvement, and full time was mostly worked, and at Finedon there was even some overtime.

There was no marked change in the depressed conditions at Leeds, and a great deal of short time was again worked, especially in the heavy boot trade. There was much slackness at

\* Revised figures.

\* Revised figures.



Stafford, where employment declined and short-time working increased. In the slipper trade of the Rossendale Valley there was a slight seasonal decline, and a good deal of short time was worked.

Short time was worked in some factories at Norwich, but employment, although declining, was still fair for the time of year, and noticeably better than in October of last year. In the Bristol and Kingswood district there was a decline; many factories, however, were able to maintain full-time working. At Street employment was fair, but not so good as in September.

Employment continued fairly good at Kilmarnock, where an improvement was reported, and fair at Edinburgh. It declined and was quiet at Glasgow; it was still very bad at Arbroath; at Maybole it was slack, and short time was generally worked.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women registered as applicants for employment at Employment Exchanges at 6th October, 1924, in the principal centres, at which approximately 77 per cent. of the total number of applicants for employment in the boot and shoe industry were registered:—

Department.	Number of Applicants for Employment at 6th October, 1924.			Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) as compared with 1st September, 1924.		
	Men.	Women	Total.	Men.	Women	Total.
<b>Boot and Shoe Manufacture:</b>						
Preparing Department	147	27	174	+ 8	– 12	– 4
Rough Stuff Department	402	18	420	+ 30	+ 6	+ 36
Clicking Department ..	1,075	92	1,167	+205	+ 78	+283
Closing Department ..	25	1,117	1,142	– 14	+359	+345
Making Department ..	2,417	58	2,475	+133	+ 5	+138
Finishing Department..	1,599	551	2,150	+255	+162	+417
Slipper Making .. ..	475	90	565	– 86	–119	–205
Clog Making .. ..	26	1	27	—	– 5	– 5
Repairing and Hand Sewn Work	648	4	652	– 18	—	– 18
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>6,814</b>	<b>1,958</b>	<b>8,772</b>	<b>+513</b>	<b>+474</b>	<b>+987</b>

The exports of boots and shoes in October, 1924, amounted to 132,244 dozen pairs, or 6,232 dozen pairs more than in September, 1924, and 4,486 dozen pairs more than in October, 1923.

## PAPER MANUFACTURE, PRINTING, AND BOOKBINDING.

EMPLOYMENT continued moderate on the whole in the paper-making trade. In the machine-made section it was fairly good in Kent, but in Lancashire a good deal of short time or irregular working was reported. The hand-made and wrapping sections were generally slack.

With letterpress printers employment generally continued fairly good, and benefited to some extent from the General Election. A decline on the previous month, however, was reported in several provincial towns, including Glasgow, Sheffield and Aberdeen, where employment generally was slack. Employment was also slack and worse than a month ago with proof readers and type-founders in London. With electrotypers and stereotypers in London it continued very good.

In the lithographic printing trade employment was fairly good, and showed, on the whole, a slight improvement compared with the previous month. Overtime was worked in some districts owing to the General Election.

With bookbinders employment was fair and better than in September in London and continued fair at Edinburgh; elsewhere it was generally moderate.

The percentage of unemployed among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts in the printing and bookbinding trades was 5.1 at 27th October, compared with 5.0\* at 22nd September. In the paper and paper board making industry the percentage was 7.8 at 27th October, compared with 8.6\* at 22nd September. In the cardboard box, paper bag, and stationery trades the percentage was 6.4 at 27th October, compared with the same percentage\* as at 22nd September.

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

	No. of Members of Unions at end of October, 1924.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (–) on a	
		Oct., 1924.	Sept., 1924.	Oct., 1923.	Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>Letterpress Printing:</b>						
London .. ..	34,742	2.8	2.9	4.9	– 0.1	– 2.1
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Cheshire	13,897	3.3	3.6	5.3	– 0.3	– 2.0
Midlands and Eastern Counties	7,550	2.5	2.5	3.5	..	– 1.0
Scotland .. ..	5,750	3.3	3.4	4.1	– 0.1	– 0.8
Other Districts ..	6,451	3.0	2.5	3.4	+ 0.5	– 0.4
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>68,390</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>– 0.1</b>	<b>– 1.7</b>
<b>Lithographic Printing</b>	<b>9,700</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>– 1.6</b>
<b>Bookbinding .. ..</b>	<b>14,904</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>– 0.4</b>	<b>– 1.6</b>

\* Revised figures.

## BUILDING TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT in the building trade showed little change in October, except in the painting and decorating section, where there was a seasonal decline; it continued good, on the whole, with skilled operatives, other than painters, but generally slack with unskilled workers. In a few instances a little overtime was worked, but adverse weather conditions caused a certain amount of lost time on outside work.

As regards individual occupations, employment remained very good generally with bricklayers and plasterers and good in most districts with masons and with carpenters and joiners; in a considerable number of districts a shortage of one or more of the foregoing classes of skilled operatives, especially of bricklayers and plasterers, was again reported. Employment continued fairly good generally with slaters and plumbers, and showed a slight improvement. There was a further decline with painters, and employment in most districts was very slack, as is usual at this time of the year; it remained slack, on the whole, with builders' labourers.

The following Table shows the numbers and approximate percentages\* of workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts who were unemployed at 27th October, and the increase or decrease in the percentage as compared with 22nd September:—

Occupations.	Total Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 27th Oct., 1924.	Approximate Percentage* Unemployed.	Increase (+) or Decrease (–) in percentage as compared with 22nd Sept., 1924.†
Carpenters .. ..	2,826	2.3	—
Bricklayers .. ..	670	1.2	– 0.1
Masons .. ..	554	2.5	+ 0.2
Slaters .. ..	185	3.6	– 1.4
Plasterers .. ..	256	1.6	– 0.3
Painters .. ..	17,786	16.6	+ 4.5
Plumbers .. ..	1,606	4.7	– 0.6
Labourers of above ..	25,744	10.1	– 0.1
All other occupations ..	24,881	25.1	– 0.3
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>74,508</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>+ 0.5</b>
<b>Divisions.</b>			
London .. ..	20,916	13.4	+ 1.5
South-Eastern .. ..	8,177	7.3	+ 0.6
South-Western .. ..	7,047	7.9	+ 0.5
Midlands .. ..	7,442	9.4	– 0.3
North-Eastern .. ..	8,109	9.2	+ 0.4
North-Western .. ..	10,457	11.3	– 0.1
Scotland .. ..	6,394	9.6	+ 0.7
Wales .. ..	2,859	11.1	+ 0.2
Northern Ireland .. ..	3,107	24.4	+ 0.8
<b>Great Britain and Northern Ireland .. ..</b>	<b>74,508</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>+ 0.5</b>
<b>Males .. ..</b>	<b>74,286</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>+ 0.6</b>
<b>Females .. ..</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>+ 0.3</b>

## BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

Returns from Local Authorities in 142 of the principal urban areas in Great Britain (except the London County Council area), with a total population of 15,981,000, show that in October, 1924, plans were passed for buildings of an estimated cost of £4,526,600, as compared with £4,462,100 in September, 1924, and £4,446,400 in October, 1923. Of the total for October, 1924, dwelling-houses accounted for £2,991,100; factories and workshops for £213,300; shops, offices, warehouses and other business premises for £547,500; and other buildings, and additions and alterations to existing buildings, for £774,700.

## BRICK TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT in the brick trade in October continued good on the whole, but showed a slight decline as compared with the previous month; short time was worked in some districts, but compared with a year ago employment was much better. At Peterborough, Nottingham and Bridgwater employment was reported as being very good.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed in the brick, pipe, tile, etc., trades, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges on 27th October, 1924, was 7.8, as compared with 6.8† on 22nd September.

The following Table summarises the information received as to the number of workpeople employed and the amount of wages paid by those employers who furnished returns for the three periods under consideration:—

\* Figures are not available as to the exact numbers of insured workpeople in each of the occupations shown in the first column of the Table in the building industry. For the purpose of computing the percentages given in the third column, the total numbers insured, in each occupation, have been estimated by applying ratios obtained from the exchange of unemployment books which took place in 1922 to the total number of insured workers engaged in the building industry as shown by the 1924 exchange of books. In view of the possibility that some changes may have taken place, since 1922, in the ratios referred to, the percentages of unemployed, as given in the third column, should be regarded as only approximate.

† The percentages for September, 1924, have been revised.



Districts.	No. of Workpeople.			Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 25th Oct. 1924.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 25th Oct., 1924.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.*
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Northern Counties, York- shire, Lancashire and Cheshire	1,994	- 1·6	+ 18·4	4,892	- 1·7	+ 30·6
Midlands and Eastern Counties	4,671	- 0·3	+ 15·4	12,026	- 3·8	+ 24·7
South and South-West Counties and Wales	1,564	- 0·6	+ 13·0	3,979	- 1·6	+ 23·5
Scotland .. .. .	173	..	..	446	+ 4·0	+ 5·7
Total .. .. .	8,402	- 0·7	+ 15·3	21,334	- 2·7	+ 25·3

### POTTERY TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in the pottery trades showed a further slight improvement. It continued good in the tile, sanitary earthenware and fireclay sections, and fair to moderate in other branches.

At Newcastle-under-Lyme employment was fairly good; at Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent and Longton an improvement was reported, but at Hanley employment was still depressed. At Derby and Chesterfield employment was good; at Worcester it was fairly good; but at Glasgow it continued bad.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges at 27th October, 1924, was 10.9, as compared with 11.5† at 22nd September.

The following Table summarises the information received from employers who furnished returns for the three periods under review :—

—	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 25th Oct., 1924.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) on a		Week ended 25th Oct., 1924.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.*
BRANCHES.		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
China Manufacture ..	1,492	+ 1·8	+ 3·8	2,918	+ 2·7	– 1·8
Earthenware Manufacture ..	9,729	+ 1·3	+ 5·4	18,483	+ 3·4	+ 8·8
Other Branches (including unspecified) .. ..	1,836	+ 0·1	—	3,570	+ 0·1	+ 8·1
Total .. ..	13,057	+ 1·2	+ 4·4	24,971	+ 2·8	+ 7·3
DISTRICTS.						
North Staffordshire ..	9,988	+ 0·9	+ 2·7	18,178	+ 3·5	+ 5·4
Other Districts .. ..	3,069	+ 2·2	+ 10·6	6,793	+ 1·0	+ 12·9
Total .. ..	13,057	+ 1·2	+ 4·4	24,971	+ 2·8	+ 7·3

Returns from employers relative to short time working showed that of 12,471 workpeople employed by firms furnishing information 1,739, or 14 per cent., were working on an average 13 hours less than full time in the week ended 25th October, 1924.

### SEAMEN.

EMPLOYMENT with seamen during October was slack on the whole. Among insured workpeople in the shipping service the percentage unemployed at 27th October was 20.3, compared with 18.6† at 22nd September.

On the Thames the demand for men remained fairly good on the whole. It was generally fair on the Tyne, and moderate on the Wear and the Tees. Employment at Hull improved until 25th October, and declined subsequently, being reported as poor at the end of the month. At Southampton and at Bristol it was quiet on the whole. The demand at Avonmouth and at Swansea was fair. At Newport it declined until the middle of October, and improved afterwards, being described as fairly good at the end of the month. Employment at Cardiff was fair until the middle of the month, and declined subsequently. In the foreign-going trade on the Mersey the demand was fairly good until the latter part of the month, when a falling off occurred. At Manchester it was fair.

The demand on the Clyde was moderate until the last week of October, when a considerable improvement took place. Employment remained quiet at Leith. At Belfast it was fair during the week ended 25th October, and very quiet during the rest of the month.

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 :—

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* Shipped at the Ports shown.				
	Oct., 1924.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Ten months ended	
		Month ago.	Year ago.	Oct., 1924.	Oct., 1923.
ENGLAND & WALES :					
Liverpool† .. ..	12,813	- 2,175	- 544	120,541	123,745
Manchester .. ..	1,106	+ 101	+ 330	8,295	7,281
London .. ..	9,424	- 199	- 348	84,422	74,100
Southampton .. ..	11,327	+ 839	+ 89	88,613	97,095
Tyne Ports .. ..	2,953	+ 639	+ 1,446	19,355	12,398
Sunderland .. ..	355	+ 151	+ 244	2,280	1,648
Middlesbrough .. ..	383	- 199	+ 79	4,428	3,658
Hull .. ..	2,080	+ 415	+ 270	16,046	14,951
Grimsby .. ..	2	- 16	- 13	169	186
Bristol† .. ..	928	- 305	- 427	9,621	10,397
Newport, Mon. .. ..	499	- 184	- 443	8,053	9,507
Cardiff§ .. ..	2,572	- 781	- 196	29,491	27,692
Swansea .. ..	690	- 86	- 433	7,635	8,321
SCOTLAND :					
Leith .. ..	364	- 138	+ 29	3,768	3,597
Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth .. ..	344	+ 79	+ 139	2,900	2,278
Glasgow .. ..	4,370	+ 201	+ 1,200	33,822	30,236
NORTHERN IRELAND :					
Belfast .. ..	204	- 23	+ 119	2,141	2,186
Total .. ..	50,414	- 1,681	+ 1,541	441,580	429,271

### DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT among dock labourers during October was again slack on the whole. Among insured workpeople in the canal, river, harbour and dock service 25.9 per cent. were unemployed at 27th October, compared with 27.8|| per cent. at 22nd September.

London.—The following Table shows the average daily number of dock labourers at docks and wharves in respect of which returns were received for 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—					
4th Oct., 1924 ..	5,898	1,866	7,764	7,905	15,669
11th „ ..	5,833	1,750	7,583	7,855	15,438
18th „ ..	4,999	2,125	7,124	8,236	15,360
25th „ ..	5,374	2,361	7,735	8,347	16,082
Average for 4 weeks ended 25th Oct., 1924 .. ..	5,526	2,025	7,551	8,086	15,637
Average for Sept., 1924 .. ..	5,051	2,047	7,098	7,259	14,357
Average for Oct., 1923 .. ..	5,357	2,302	7,659	7,842	15,501

Tilbury.—The mean daily number of dock labourers employed in October was 913, as compared with 793 in the previous month and with 1,070 in October, 1923.

East Coast.—On the Tyne and Wear employment with coal trimmers was moderate. With other classes of workers on the Tyne it was fair, but on the Wear and at Blyth it was slack. Employment was fair at Middlesbrough, but remained slack at Hull. At most of the other East Coast ports it was moderate on the whole.

Western and Southern Section.—At Liverpool employment continued slack. The average weekly number of dock labourers registered at the clearing houses under the Liverpool Docks Scheme as employed in the four weeks ended 27th October was 15,529, compared with 14,881 in the four weeks ended 29th September and with 15,395 in October, 1923. The average weekly amount of wages paid to these men through the clearing houses was £46,510 in the four weeks ended 27th October, compared with £42,390 in the four weeks ended 29th September and with £39,243 in October, 1923.

At the South Wales ports employment was fair on tinplate shipments, but slack on coal and timber cargoes, except at Cardiff, where it was reported as good. It was also good at Bristol and Avonmouth. At Southampton and Plymouth and other South-Western ports it was fair.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—Employment at Dundee continued good. At Leith and Glasgow it was fair. At Belfast employment was good.

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

† Including Birkenhead and Garston.

‡ Including Avonmouth and Portishead.

§ Including Barry and Penarth.

|| Revised figures

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

† Revised figures.



## UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED INDUSTRIES.

THE statistics here presented show, industry by industry, the number of persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, and the number and percentage of such persons who were unemployed on 27th October, 1924. "Unemployed" as used in these statistics does not necessarily mean that the person is definitely without a job. Persons who on 27th October, 1924, were not at work because they were suspended, "stood off," "furloughed," or on short time, and whose unemployment books were lodged at Exchanges, are counted in the statistics as "unemployed."

Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, substantially all employed persons, except outworkers and persons employed in agriculture and private domestic service, must be insured against unemployment. Every person so insured is given an Unemployment Book on which *inter alia* the industry of the employer has been recorded. 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 excepted. 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 sixteen years of age.

The number of persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland is estimated at approximately 11,508,000. This figure is computed annually, and is estimated from a count of the unemployment books which are exchanged annually. This annual exchange commences in the first week of July, but it is not until the end of September that the exchange of books is sufficiently near completion to allow of a satisfactory estimate being made. In making this annual estimate consideration is given not only to the actual number of books exchanged, but also to the number likely to be exchanged in the course of the insurance year.

Every insured person claiming unemployment benefit must lodge his unemployment book at an Employment Exchange when making a claim. It is possible therefore to obtain from a count of the lodged books a record of unemployment in insured trades. The figures given of numbers unemployed are not, however, confined to persons in receipt of benefit. They include:—

(a) Insured persons, unemployed and in receipt of benefit;

(b) Insured persons not in receipt of benefit, but known to be unemployed by reason of their maintaining registration at an Employment Exchange or otherwise;

(c) Insured persons who are not in receipt of benefit and are not maintaining registration, but whose unemployment books remain lodged at Employment Exchanges. Provided there is no definite evidence of employment these are counted in the statistics for two months after the insured person's last attendance at an Exchange.

Insured persons who are disqualified for the receipt of benefit under the trade dispute disqualifications contained in Section 8 (i) of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, are not included amongst the numbers unemployed.

In July, 1923, the classification of insured workpeople was revised so as to bring it, so far as practicable, into conformity with the industrial grouping adopted in connection with the 1921 census of population. At the same time the classification was put on a strictly industrial basis, all unemployment books being classified according to the industry of the employer, or, in the case of unemployed persons, of the last employer. Consequently the statistics of unemployment industry by industry subsequent to June, 1923, are not strictly comparable with those prior to that date.

INDUSTRY.	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS AT JULY, 1924, (GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.)			NUMBERS AND PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED.*									
				NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYMENT BOOKS REMAINING LODGED AT 27TH OCTOBER, 1924. (GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.)			PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 27TH OCTOBER, 1924.				INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (−) AS COMPARED WITH 22ND SEPTEMBER, 1924.† (GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.)		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females	Total.	Males.	Females	Total.		Males.	Females	Total.
									Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	Great Britain only.			
Fishing .. .. .	25,150	600	25,750	2,704	23	2,727	10.8	3.8	10.6	10.3	−0.6	−0.2	−0.6
Mining:—													
Coal Mining .. .. .	1,252,420	7,920	1,260,350	129,199	835	130,034	10.3	10.5	10.3	10.3	+2.1	−0.1	+2.1
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining and Quarrying .. .. .	17,050	40	17,090	3,768	2	3,770	22.1	5.0	22.1	21.8	−4.4	−5.0	−4.4
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining .. .. .	4,950	50	5,000	852	3	855	17.2	6.0	17.1	17.1	−0.2	+2.0	−0.1
Stone Quarrying and Mining .. .. .	35,840	300	36,140	1,876	11	1,887	5.2	3.7	5.2	4.8	+0.2	−1.0	+0.2
Slate Quarrying and Mining .. .. .	10,120	10	10,130	122	2	124	1.2	20.0	1.2	1.2	−0.1	+20.0	−0.1
Other Mining and Quarrying .. .. .	20,550	1,610	22,160	1,255	156	1,411	6.1	9.7	6.4	6.2	−0.2	+1.1	−0.1
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pit Digging .. .. .	13,270	270	13,540	577	16	593	4.3	5.9	4.4	4.3	—	−1.9	—
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products:—													
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works .. .. .	13,230	260	13,490	1,701	29	1,730	12.9	11.2	12.8	12.8	+3.7	−3.8	+3.5
Artificial Stone and Concrete Manufacture .. .. .	11,110	690	11,800	2,106	77	2,183	19.0	11.2	18.5	18.5	+5.6	+1.1	+5.3
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting Works .. .. .	15,330	690	16,020	1,193	62	1,255	7.8	9.0	7.8	7.8	+1.0	+2.9	+1.0
Brick, Tile, etc., Making .. .. .	62,770	7,720	70,490	4,402	1,099	5,501	7.0	14.2	7.8	7.6	+0.9	+1.6	+1.0
Pottery, Earthenware, etc. .. .. .	37,960	35,290	73,250	3,350	4,649	7,999	8.8	13.2	10.9	10.9	+0.4	−1.7	−0.6
Glass Trades:—													
Glass (excluding Bottles, Optical and Scientific Glass) Manufacture .. .. .	21,750	5,230	26,980	3,230	478	3,708	14.9	9.1	13.7	13.7	−0.1	−0.6	−0.2
Glass Bottle Making .. .. .	16,260	1,780	18,040	4,370	190	4,560	26.9	10.7	25.3	25.2	+3.4	−0.6	+3.0
Ammunition Explosives, Chemicals, etc.:—													
Chemicals Manufacture .. .. .	76,010	21,630	97,640	7,352	1,387	8,739	9.7	6.4	9.0	8.9	−0.2	−0.3	−0.2
Explosives Manufacture .. .. .	13,820	5,440	19,260	1,231	459	1,690	8.9	8.4	8.8	8.8	+0.5	+2.3	+1.0
Paint, Varnish, Japan, Red and White Lead Manufacture .. .. .	12,910	3,530	16,440	586	221	807	4.5	6.3	4.9	4.9	−0.3	+1.1	—
Oil, Grease, Glue, Soap, Ink, Match, etc., Manufacture .. .. .	54,270	19,430	73,700	4,302	1,614	5,916	7.9	8.3	8.0	8.0	−0.4	+0.4	−0.2
Metal Manufacture and Secondary Processes:—													
Pig Iron Manufacture (Blast Furnaces) .. .. .	29,880	310	30,190	5,175	38	5,213	17.3	12.3	17.3	17.3	+1.6	−0.6	+1.6
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling Furnaces, Iron and Steel Rolling Mills and Forges .. .. .	203,150	4,120	207,270	48,200	431	48,631	23.7	10.5	23.5	23.4	−2.3	−0.6	−2.2
Manufacture of Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc. .. .. .	36,500	3,530	40,030	4,467	338	4,805	12.2	9.6	12.0	12.1	+0.4	−0.8	+0.3
Manufacture of Tin Plates .. .. .	24,960	4,300	29,260	1,578	237	1,815	6.3	5.5	6.2	6.2	+2.6	+1.6	+2.5
Iron and Steel Tube Making .. .. .	25,690	1,530	27,220	4,160	187	4,347	16.2	12.2	16.0	15.9	—	−0.9	—
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Rope Manufacture .. .. .	20,480	4,010	24,490	2,816	439	3,255	13.8	10.9	13.3	13.3	+0.4	−1.8	—
Engineering and Ironfounding:—													
Engineering: Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding .. .. .	588,500	38,880	627,380	93,824	2,311	96,135	15.9	5.9	15.3	15.2	+0.3	—	+0.3
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding .. .. .	74,780	7,090	81,870	9,821	861	10,682	13.1	12.1	13.1	12.9	+0.4	+0.7	+0.5
Electrical Engineering .. .. .	58,080	13,450	71,530	3,140	782	3,922	5.4	5.8	5.5	5.5	+0.3	+0.4	+0.3
Marine Engineering and Marine Boiler Making .. .. .	64,860	1,250	66,110	11,541	57	11,598	17.8	4.6	17.5	17.0	+0.6	+1.2	+0.6
Constructional Engineering .. .. .	23,120	890	24,010	3,139	39	3,178	13.6	4.4	13.2	13.2	−0.4	+0.5	−0.4
Construction and Repair of Vehicles:—													
Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft .. .. .	184,500	18,840	203,340	17,787	1,670	19,457	9.6	8.9	9.6	9.5	−1.1	−0.9	−1.1
Construction and Repair of Carriages, Carts, etc. .. .. .	22,090	2,400	24,550	2,864	207	3,071	13.0	8.4	12.5	12.2	+0.1	−1.2	—
Railway Carriage, Wagon and Tramcar Building .. .. .	51,000	1,180	52,180	4,404	57	4,461	8.6	4.8	8.5	8.5	+1.5	+2.0	+1.3

\* See note on page 407.

† The percentages for 22nd September have been re-worked, since the publication in the October issue of this GAZETTE, on the basis of the new estimates, now available, of the numbers of insured workers in the different industries.



INDUSTRY.	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS AT JULY, 1924. (GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.)			NUMBERS AND PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED.									
				NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYMENT BOOKS REMAINING LODGED AT 27TH OCTOBER, 1924. (GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.)			PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 27TH OCTOBER, 1924.		INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) AS COMPARED WITH 22ND SEPTEMBER, 1924.* (GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND)				
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.		Males.	Females.	Total.
									Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	Great Britain only.			
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ..	251,610	3,480	255,090	79,817	271	80,088	31.7	7.8	31.4	30.6	+ 0.9	+ 0.9	+ 0.0
Metal Trades :—													
Electrical Wiring and Contracting ..	11,970	880	12,850	930	25	955	7.8	2.8	7.4	7.3	- 1.1	+ 0.6	- 1.0
Electrical Cable, Wire and Electric Lamp Manufacture ..	48,700	26,240	74,940	3,188	1,918	5,106	6.5	7.3	6.8	6.8	- 0.9	+ 0.6	- 0.3
Hand Tool, Outlery, Saw, File Making ..	23,540	8,140	31,680	3,419	879	4,098	14.5	8.3	12.9	12.9	- 1.9	- 3.5	- 2.3
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc., Manufacture ..	15,630	11,860	27,490	2,468	2,062	4,530	15.8	17.4	16.5	16.5	+ 0.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Brass and Allied Metal Wares Manufacture ..	18,600	11,210	29,810	3,222	1,839	5,061	17.3	16.4	17.0	17.0	+ 0.4	- 0.2	+ 0.2
Heating and Ventilating Engineering ..	5,330	430	5,760	355	6	361	6.7	1.4	6.3	6.2	+ 2.4	+ 0.2	+ 2.3
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc., Manufacture ..	27,420	19,940	47,360	3,408	1,680	5,088	12.4	8.4	10.7	10.7	- 1.8	- 0.7	- 1.4
Other Metal Industries ..	112,180	63,370	175,550	12,024	9,033	21,057	10.7	14.3	12.0	11.9	- 0.8	+ 0.2	- 0.5
Textile Trades :—													
Cotton ..	201,450	360,940	562,390	21,218	43,793	65,011	10.5	12.1	11.6	11.6	- 2.8	- 2.8	- 2.7
Woollen and Worsted ..	110,650	150,240	260,890	10,100	10,661	20,761	9.1	7.1	8.0	7.9	+ 0.8	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Silk ..	15,880	25,840	41,720	707	1,550	2,257	4.5	6.0	5.4	5.4	- 0.3	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Linen ..	25,620	57,510	83,130	3,341	5,852	9,193	13.0	10.2	11.1	11.3	- 0.5	+ 0.8	+ 0.4
Jute ..	13,150	28,070	41,220	1,723	2,675	4,398	13.1	9.5	10.7	10.7	- 0.2	+ 1.1	+ 0.7
Hemp Spinning and Weaving, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc., Making ..	7,620	12,980	20,600	938	2,644	3,582	12.3	20.4	17.4	13.3	+ 0.3	- 0.6	- 0.3
Hosiery ..	20,330	73,080	93,410	1,240	5,749	6,989	6.1	7.9	7.5	7.4	- 1.0	+ 0.2	- 0.1
Lace ..	8,440	11,890	20,330	2,073	1,863	3,936	24.6	15.7	19.4	19.4	+ 2.5	+ 1.1	+ 1.7
Carpet Manufacture ..	11,810	15,150	26,960	789	1,469	2,258	6.7	9.7	8.4	8.3	+ 1.5	+ 1.5	+ 1.5
Other Textile Industries ..	13,230	30,650	43,880	1,226	4,029	5,255	9.3	13.1	12.0	12.0	- 0.7	+ 1.6	+ 1.0
Textile, Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc. ..	83,920	33,600	117,520	10,981	4,241	15,222	13.1	12.6	13.0	13.6	- 0.7	+ 1.6	—
Leather and Leather Goods :—													
Tanning, Currying and Leather Dressing ..	34,020	8,580	42,600	2,758	811	3,569	8.1	9.5	8.4	8.4	- 1.8	- 1.7	- 1.8
Saddlery, Harness and other Leather Goods Manufacture ..	15,020	12,760	27,780	1,660	1,053	2,713	11.1	8.3	9.8	9.6	- 0.3	- 0.5	- 0.4
Clothing Trades :—													
Tailoring ..	66,200	123,250	189,450	7,691	14,518	22,209	11.6	11.8	11.7	11.4	- 0.4	+ 0.5	+ 0.1
Dress and Mantle Making and Millinery ..	11,610	94,780	106,390	833	7,523	8,356	7.2	7.9	7.9	7.5	+ 0.3	- 0.2	—
Hat and Cap (including Straw Plait) Manufacture ..	14,190	19,440	33,630	1,634	2,780	4,414	11.5	14.3	13.1	13.1	+ 2.6	+ 2.1	+ 2.3
Blouses, Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc., Making ..	7,340	64,740	72,080	373	6,586	6,959	5.1	10.2	9.7	9.4	- 0.2	+ 1.1	+ 1.0
Other Dress Industries ..	10,790	18,920	29,710	1,023	2,677	3,700	9.5	14.1	12.5	12.4	+ 0.2	+ 2.0	+ 1.4
Boot, Shoe, Slipper and Clog Trades ..	92,220	50,270	142,490	10,343	3,904	14,247	11.2	7.8	10.0	9.9	+ 1.1	+ 2.0	+ 1.4
Food, Drink and Tobacco :—													
Bread, Biscuit, Cake, etc., Making ..	94,580	49,960	144,540	10,064	4,228	14,292	10.6	8.5	9.9	9.6	+ 0.6	+ 0.7	+ 0.7
Grain Milling ..	28,010	3,520	31,530	1,342	224	1,566	4.8	6.4	5.0	4.8	- 0.1	- 0.6	- 0.2
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery ..	25,160	47,010	72,170	1,472	3,877	5,349	5.9	8.2	7.4	7.4	- 0.7	- 0.1	- 0.3
Other Food Industries ..	50,670	57,810	108,480	4,162	6,930	11,092	8.2	12.0	10.2	10.1	+ 1.1	- 3.5	- 1.4
Drink Industries ..	85,890	23,010	108,900	4,614	2,923	7,537	5.4	12.7	6.9	6.6	- 0.2	- 0.1	- 0.2
Tobacco, Cigar, Cigarette and Snuff Manufacture ..	13,760	30,090	43,850	976	2,132	3,108	7.1	7.1	7.1	6.2	- 0.4	- 0.1	- 0.2
Sawmilling, Furniture and Woodwork :—													
Sawmilling and Machined Woodwork ..	54,690	2,990	57,680	5,338	226	5,564	9.8	7.6	9.6	9.4	- 0.1	- 1.6	- 0.3
Wood Box and Packing Case Making ..	10,700	1,840	12,540	1,384	287	1,671	12.9	15.6	13.3	13.2	- 1.3	+ 2.7	- 0.7
Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc. ..	79,410	17,350	96,760	5,204	1,279	6,483	6.6	7.4	6.7	6.6	- 0.3	- 0.3	- 0.3
Other Woodworking ..	20,070	6,430	26,500	2,145	778	2,923	10.7	12.1	11.0	10.6	- 0.8	- 3.4	- 1.4
Printing and Paper Trades :—													
Paper and Paper Board Making ..	39,920	14,690	54,610	3,130	1,142	4,272	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8	- 1.0	- 0.2	- 0.8
Cardboard Boxes, Paper Bags and Stationery ..	19,360	35,490	54,850	1,131	2,402	3,533	5.8	6.8	6.4	6.4	- 0.3	+ 0.2	—
Wall Paper Making and Paper Staining ..	4,100	1,380	5,480	125	35	160	3.0	2.5	2.9	2.8	- 0.3	- 0.1	- 0.2
Stationery and Typewriting Requisites (not paper) ..	1,980	2,480	4,460	112	158	270	5.7	6.4	6.1	6.0	+ 0.4	+ 1.6	+ 1.1
Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding ..	155,650	84,490	240,140	7,541	4,732	12,273	4.8	5.6	5.1	5.1	—	+ 0.2	+ 0.1
Building and Construction of Works :—													
Building ..	713,030	8,530	721,560	74,286	222	74,508	10.4	2.6	10.3	10.1	+ 0.6	+ 0.3	+ 0.5
Public Works Contracting, etc. ..	133,770	810	134,580	24,487	24	24,511	18.3	3.0	18.2	17.9	+ 0.8	+ 1.3	+ 0.8
Other Manufacturing Industries :—													
Rubber Manufacture ..	33,070	25,150	58,220	3,922	2,963	6,885	11.9	11.8	11.8	11.8	+ 0.5	+ 0.5	+ 0.4
Oilcloth, Linoleum, etc., Manufacture ..	11,820	2,380	14,200	567	107	674	4.8	4.5	4.7	4.7	+ 0.4	- 0.5	+ 0.2
Brush and Broom Making ..	5,450	4,360	9,810	651	475	1,126	11.9	10.9	11.5	11.5	- 3.4	+ 0.6	- 1.6
Scientific and Photographic Instrument and Apparatus Manufacture ..	12,700	7,000	19,700	600	501	1,101	4.7	7.2	5.6	5.6	—	+ 3.0	+ 1.1
Musical Instrument Making ..	16,330	3,550	19,880	965	175	1,140	5.9	4.9	5.7	5.7	- 1.1	- 0.8	- 1.1
Toys, Games, and Sports Requisites Manufacture ..	5,940	5,100	11,040	642	511	1,153	10.8	10.0	10.4	10.4	+ 0.4	- 2.7	- 1.1
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply Industries ..	165,660	5,890	171,550	10,457	256	10,713	6.3	4.3	6.2	6.1	+ 0.3	+ 0.5	+ 0.3
Transport and Communication :—													
Railway Service ..	163,940	9,270	173,210	10,757	440	11,197	6.6	4.7	6.5	6.3	+ 0.7	+ 1.9	+ 0.8
Tramway and Omnibus Service ..	115,110	4,210	119,320	3,667	186	3,853	3.2						

\* See footnote † on page 406.

NOTE :—The percentage unemployed in Great Britain at 27th October, as shown by the above figures, was 11.0, compared with 9.7 at 28th July. A substantial part of this increase, however, is not a real increase in unemployment but is due to an effect of the Unemployment Insurance Act of the 1st August in bringing into the records for the first time certain classes of unemployed persons (particularly those out of work owing to a trade dispute at their place of employment and those unemployed for short or uncertain periods) who previously, not being entitled to benefit, would not have registered at Employment Exchanges.



# MINISTRY OF LABOUR EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.\*

THE number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland as unemployed on 27th October, 1924, was 1,247,095. Of this number, 942,684 were men, 36,487 boys, 235,484 women and 32,440 girls. Compared with 29th September there was an increase of 3,695. In the men's and in the women's departments there were increases of 6,211 and 1,348 respectively, while in the case of juveniles there was a decrease of 3,864.

During the four weeks ended 27th October, the number of vacancies filled by Employment Exchanges was 101,585, of which 58,386 were for men, 24,529 for women, and 18,670 for juveniles.

The following Table summarises the work of the Exchanges during the four weeks ended 27th October, 1924 :—

Week ended	Applications from Employers.		Vacancies Filled.	Number of Workpeople Registered as Unemployed.
	During Week.	Outstanding at end of Week.		
29th September, 1924 ..	28,114	23,191	23,336	1,243,400
6th October, 1924 ..	28,518	21,695	25,390	1,257,574
13th " " ..	29,486	22,828	24,515	1,252,145
20th " " ..	30,893	23,771	26,018	1,246,148
27th " " ..	30,321	24,054	25,662	1,247,095
Total (4 weeks) ..	119,218	—	101,585	—

The figures above include casual occupations, such as dock labourers and coal porters. In the following paragraphs statistics of these occupations are not included.

A detailed analysis of the figures above is not yet available, but statistics for the five weeks ended 6th October are dealt with below :—

**Applications from Workpeople.**—The number of applications from persons seeking work, received at the Employment Exchanges during the five weeks ended 6th October, was 1,068,846, equivalent to a daily average of 35,628. Of this daily average, men accounted for 23,736, women for 9,113, and juveniles for 2,779. In the preceding month the corresponding averages were: Men, 23,401; women, 9,220; juveniles, 3,062

**Vacancies Notified.**—During the five weeks ended 6th October there were 131,022 vacancies notified, representing a daily average of 4,368. Of this daily average, 2,204 were for men, 1,234 for women, and 930 for juveniles, compared with a daily average during the previous month of 1,849 men, 1,066 women, and 773 juveniles.

**Vacancies Filled.**—The total number of vacancies filled during the period was 109,484, a daily average of 3,649, as compared with 3,162 for the preceding statistical month. Of this daily average, men accounted for 1,954, women for 929, and juveniles for 766. The corresponding figures for the previous month were :—Men, 1,659; women, 833; and juveniles, 670.

**Juveniles.**—During the period, 42,936 applications were received from boys and 40,439 from girls. The number of vacancies notified for boys was 14,794, and 12,423 vacancies were filled. In the case of girls, 13,104 vacancies were notified and 10,569 were filled. Of the total vacancies filled by juveniles, 22·8 per cent. were filled by applicants who obtained their first situation since leaving school.

Statistics relating to *Building Trades* (men) and to *Domestic Service* occupations (women) for the five weeks ended 6th October have been compiled for the principal occupations, and the outstanding features are dealt with below.

In the building trades, 9,506 vacancies were notified for men and 7,591 vacancies were filled. The principal occupations concerned were :—Carpenters, 2,454 vacancies notified and 2,006 filled; bricklayers, 1,298 vacancies notified and 588 filled; painters, 2,221 vacancies notified and 2,066 filled; and builders' labourers, 1,408 vacancies notified and 1,281 filled.

The number of applicants registered for employment in the building trades was 61,560 at 6th October, compared with 59,541 at 1st September.

The number of vacancies notified for women in domestic service during the five weeks ended 6th October was 17,205. Of this number, 6,605 were for resident domestic servants, 4,269 for non-resident domestic servants, 4,155 for charwomen, and 1,330 for waitresses; other domestic occupations accounting for 846.

Of the 11,336 vacancies filled, 2,701 were placings in resident domestic service, 3,125 as non-resident, 3,728 as charwomen, and 1,130 as waitresses.

The total number of women applicants for work in domestic service was 36,233 on 6th October, compared with 29,443 on 1st September.

\* The figures relate to Great Britain and Northern Ireland; those in the first three paragraphs above, and in the Table in the second column, refer to all workpeople on the "Live Registers" of Exchanges, including persons "suspended" or "stood off," and those who, although employed on a basis of systematic short time, were not actually at work on the date in question. In the previous issues of this GAZETTE, the figures given have related to applicants for employment, excluding persons employed on a basis of systematic short time. For Great Britain alone, the corresponding figures, as published in the Press, show that on 27th October, 1924, the numbers registered as unemployed were 910,500 men, 225,100 women, and 67,500 juveniles, as compared with 947,000 men, 267,000 women, and 72,000 juveniles at 31st December, 1923.

THE following Table shows for each of the Employment Exchange administrative areas, and for the principal towns therein, the number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland as unemployed on 27th October, 1924. In certain cases, e.g., Bristol, Birmingham, Sheffield, Liverpool, Glasgow, etc., the figures cover more than one Exchange area.

Area.	Number of Persons registered as unemployed* on 27th October, 1924.				Inc.(+) or Dec.(−) as compared with 29th Sept., 1924.
	Men.	Women.	Juveniles.	Total.	
<b>London Division</b> ..	129,954	32,397	8,847	171,198	+ 3,734
<b>South Eastern Division</b> ..	42,849	9,357	4,650	56,856	+ 2,068
Brighton ..	2,430	703	263	3,396	+ 342
Chatham ..	2,838	350	675	3,863	+ 117
Ipswich ..	2,234	423	234	2,891	— 53
Norwich ..	2,942	525	127	3,594	— 7
Rest of South Eastern	32,405	7,356	3,351	43,112	+ 1,669
<b>South Western Division</b> ..	52,236	11,072	4,815	68,123	+ 1,297
Bristol ..	11,296	2,871	974	15,141	— 598
Plymouth ..	4,898	748	477	6,123	+ 141
Portsmouth ..	5,962	917	563	7,442	+ 179
Reading ..	1,483	123	176	1,782	— 111
Southampton ..	5,123	489	674	6,286	— 47
Swindon ..	266	63	98	427	— 56
Rest of South Western	23,208	5,861	1,853	30,922	+ 1,789
<b>Midlands Division</b> ..	107,301	40,488	6,126	153,915	— 4,205
Birmingham ..	25,086	10,193	964	36,243	— 3,537
Coventry ..	3,180	346	47	3,573	— 1,331
Cradley Heath ..	3,798	1,049	190	5,037	+ 104
Derby ..	1,464	429	254	2,147	+ 80
Leicester ..	3,149	1,964	75	5,188	+ 425
Northampton ..	1,214	626	78	1,918	— 78
Nottingham ..	6,884	3,135	313	10,332	+ 255
Smethwick ..	3,491	1,518	155	5,164	+ 79
Stoke-on-Trent ..	6,142	3,790	209	10,141	— 924
Walsall ..	4,658	1,001	326	5,985	— 189
West Bromwich ..	3,563	702	214	4,479	— 117
Wolverhampton ..	4,210	1,735	114	6,059	— 983
Rest of Midlands	40,462	14,000	3,187	57,649	+ 2,011
<b>North Eastern Division</b> ..	198,891	28,445	13,504	240,840	— 1,108
Barnsley ..	2,063	155	127	2,345	+ 894
Bradford ..	6,259	2,772	254	9,285	+ 571
Darlington ..	2,197	201	138	2,536	— 18
Dewsbury ..	867	410	44	1,321	+ 227
Doncaster ..	264	150	166	580	— 30
Gateshead ..	9,586	913	1,017	11,516	— 91
Grimsby ..	2,181	243	408	2,832	— 3
Halifax ..	1,815	1,110	128	3,053	+ 345
Hartlepool ..	4,983	183	313	5,479	— 14
Huddersfield ..	2,289	1,019	138	3,446	— 207
Hull ..	8,089	736	676	9,501	+ 142
Leeds ..	12,552	3,769	300	16,621	+ 299
Lincoln ..	2,323	306	235	2,864	+ 17
Middlesbrough ..	10,267	462	837	11,566	+ 542
Newcastle-on-Tyne ..	12,942	1,742	1,498	16,182	— 2,600
Rotherham ..	1,695	213	218	2,126	— 4,278
Sheffield ..	20,707	3,404	1,085	25,196	— 2,049
South Shields ..	6,092	459	350	6,901	+ 2
Stockton-on-Tees ..	5,166	213	187	5,566	+ 481
Sunderland ..	13,760	923	882	15,565	+ 776
York ..	1,559	253	157	1,969	— 256
Rest of North Eastern	71,235	8,809	4,346	84,390	+ 4,142
<b>North Western Division</b> ..	174,698	69,032	16,250	259,980	— 13,056
Accrington ..	2,440	549	131	3,120	— 1,196
Ashton-under-Lyne ..	2,712	1,735	317	4,764	— 1,224
Barrow ..	4,762	422	275	5,459	+ 753
Birkenhead ..	5,670	537	610	6,817	+ 399
Blackburn ..	2,738	1,292	200	4,230	— 843
Blackpool ..	1,363	1,148	200	2,711	+ 1,029
Bolton ..	5,148	2,003	453	7,604	— 406
Burnley ..	2,708	2,111	193	5,012	— 505
Bury ..	1,649	1,193	127	2,969	— 67
Chorley ..	1,045	548	78	1,671	— 233
Liverpool ..	44,763	7,553	4,660	56,976	— 1,530
Manchester ..	21,483	10,096	1,808	33,387	+ 933
Nelson ..	879	417	19	1,315	— 36
Oldham ..	13,755	5,663	870	20,288	— 3,101
Preston ..	2,695	946	146	3,787	— 244
Rochdale ..	4,343	3,966	484	8,793	— 1,026
St. Helens ..	2,342	368	163	2,873	+ 275
Salford ..	7,188	5,383	1,013	13,584	+ 176
Stockport ..	3,050	1,981	236	5,267	— 223
Warrington ..	2,478	353	108	2,939	— 84
Wigan ..	3,019	2,941	549	6,509	— 1,633
Rest of North Western	38,468	17,827	3,610	59,905	— 4,270
<b>Scotland Division</b> ..	125,372	30,914	8,841	165,127	+ 3,837
Aberdeen ..	4,411	1,077	178	5,666	— 193
Clydebank ..	1,792	338	139	2,269	— 25
Dundee ..	5,433	2,261	122	7,816	— 185
Edinburgh ..	10,265	2,455	821	13,541	+ 340
Glasgow ..	52,997	13,695	4,110	70,802	+ 2,119
Greenock ..	5,521	982	316	6,819	+ 942
Motherwell ..	2,247	232	133	2,612	— 333
Paisley ..	3,999	1,152	351	5,502	+ 151
Rest of Scotland	38,707	8,722	2,671	50,100	+ 1,021
<b>Wales Division</b> ..	79,194	3,402	4,594	87,190	+ 11,346
Cardiff ..	6,052	707	475	7,234	+ 42
Llanelli ..	756	93	40	889	— 106
Newport ..	2,600	228	255	3,083	— 104
Swansea ..	3,916	239	314	4,469	+ 252
Rest of Wales	65,870	2,135	3,510	71,515	+ 11,262
<b>Northern Ireland</b> ..	32,189	10,377	1,300	43,866	— 218
Belfast ..	22,705	6,848	881	30,434	— 355
Londonderry ..	2,319	795	92	3,206	+ 36
Lurgan ..	254	58	4	316	— 21
Lisburn ..	544	445	87	1,076	+ 105
Newry ..	852	191	14	1,057	+ 10
Rest of Northern Ireland	5,515	2,040	222	7,777	+ 7
<b>Total, Gt. Britain and Northern Ireland</b> ..	942,684	235,484	68,927	1,247,095	+ 3,695

\* See footnote to previous column.



## 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 37, as compared with 41 in the previous month and 41 in October, 1923. The total number of workpeople involved in these disputes (including those thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes) was approximately 17,000. In addition about 19,000 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 37 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 74, involving about 36,000 workpeople, and resulting in a loss during October of about 377,000 working days.

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 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.		
Mining and Quarrying ..	10	6	16	15,000	108,000
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding ..	7	5	12	14,000	182,000
Textile .. ..	1	9	10	4,000	32,000
Transport .. ..	2	7	9	1,000	9,000
Other .. ..	17	10	27	2,000	46,000
<b>Total, Oct., 1924 ..</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>36,000</b>	<b>377,000</b>
<b>Total, Sept., 1924 ..</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>28,000</b>	<b>518,000</b>
<b>Total, Oct., 1923 ..</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>56,000†</b>	<b>1,167,000†</b>

*Causes.*—Of the 37 disputes beginning in October, 12, directly involving 9,000 workpeople, arose out of demands for advances in wages; 13, directly involving 1,000 workpeople, on other wages questions; 6, directly involving 2,000 workpeople, on questions

respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; and 6, directly involving 1,000 workpeople, on other questions.

*Results.*—Settlements were effected in the case of 17 new disputes, directly involving 9,000 workpeople, and 17 old disputes, directly involving 5,000 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 9, directly involving 10,000 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 9, directly involving 1,000 workpeople, in favour of the employers; and 16, directly involving 3,000 workpeople, were compromised. In the case of 8 disputes, directly involving 600 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

TOTAL FOR FIRST TEN MONTHS OF 1923 AND 1924.†

The following Table summarises the figures for Great Britain and Northern Ireland for the first ten months of 1924, as compared with the corresponding period of 1923:—

Groups of Industries.	January to Oct., 1923.			January to Oct., 1924.		
	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.
Agriculture ..	8	9,000	263,000	..	..	..
Mining & Quarrying ..	152	162,000	1,070,000	165	123,000	1,382,000
Brick, Pottery, Glass, etc.	11	1,000	56,000	22	3,000	101,000
Chemical .. ..	14	2,000	30,000	9	1,000	20,000
Engineering .. ..	16	2,000	24,000	23	10,000	90,000
Shipbuilding .. ..	30	47,000	4,925,000	32	34,000	593,000
Other Metal .. ..	42	7,000	75,000	55	24,000	676,000
Textile .. ..	27	36,000	1,226,000	38	9,000	165,000
Clothing .. ..	23	4,000	28,000	27	3,000	32,000
Food, Drink and Tobacco.	19	9,000	155,000	16	9,000	47,000
Woodworking and Furnishing.	19	2,000	42,000	24	3,000	90,000
Paper, Printing, etc.	12	6,000	169,000	9	3,000	17,000
Building, Decorating, Contracting, etc.	50	20,000	358,000	44	112,000	3,122,000
Transport .. ..	50	57,000	1,012,000	68	243,000	1,533,000
Public Administration Services.	25	5,000	64,000	21	4,000	104,000
Other .. ..	42	4,000	16,000	28	6,000	73,000
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>373,000</b>	<b>9,513,000</b>	<b>581</b>	<b>587,000</b>	<b>8,045,000</b>

## PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES IN PROGRESS DURING OCTOBER, 1924.

Occupations and Locality.‡	Approximate Number of Workpeople Involved.		Date when Dispute		Cause or Object.§	Result.§
	Directly.	Indirectly.§	Began.	Ended.		
<b>MINING AND QUARRYING:—</b> Coal miners, { Forest of Dean .. etc.    { Bristol District	7,000 1,900	.. ..	6 Oct. 25 Aug.	6-11 Oct. 13-23 Oct.	Refusal of employers to pay advance in wages resulting from revised national agreement.	Employers agreed to pay the advance.¶ (See also page 411.)
<b>METAL, ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING:—</b> Fitters, turners, electricians, etc. (members of the Amalgamated Engineering Union) and other shipyard workers—Bristol Channel.	1,500**		15-18 Aug.	20-24 Oct.	Employers demanded removal of embargo imposed by workpeople upon overtime working and upon the employment of chargemen, workpeople demanding larger advance in wages than offered.	Employers' terms accepted.
Maintenance men, etc., and other workpeople (heavy steel manufacture)—Sheffield and Rotherham District.	1,000	9,000	18 Aug.	10 Oct.	Dissatisfaction with a sliding scale based on selling prices and for observance of rates of wages and conditions of employment obtaining in the engineering industry in the district.	Men accepted terms offered by employers, involving retention of sliding scale conditions subject to special consideration being given to the case of higher grade semi-skilled workers.
Packers and other workpeople (tinplate works)—Swansea and Llanelly.	28	1,500	30 Sept.	4 Oct.	For performance of certain processes by packers at the works, instead of by other workpeople at the docks.	Work resumed on advice of Trade Union officials.
<b>TEXTILE:—</b> Flax roughers, hacklers, pinners, scutchers and other workpeople (linen thread manufacture)—Glasgow (near).	200	750	19 May	{ 19 Aug†† 18 Oct. }	For advance in wages .. ..	Advance not granted, but wages to be stabilized until June, 1925.
Roving frame tenters, cotton spinners, weavers, etc.—Preston (near).	25	400	13 Oct.	13 Oct.	Dissatisfaction with earnings on certain frames, workpeople demanding increase in piecework prices.	Machinery to be speeded up to allow of earnings being increased.
Textile makers-up, warehousemen, packers, etc.—Manchester.	800**	1500**	20 Oct.	12 Nov.	Dissatisfaction with employers' offer of advance in wages.	Employers' offer slightly modified.
<b>OTHER INDUSTRIES:—</b> Firebrick workers—Chester (near) ..	450	..	26-28 June	..	For advance in wages .. ..	No settlement reported.
Workpeople employed in sugar refining—Greenock.	600**	..	9 Oct.	..	For advance in wages of 12s. per week and revision of overtime rates.	No settlement reported.

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

† A dispute involving about 40,000 boilermakers, etc., in Federated shipyards accounted for most of the loss of time in October, 1923.

‡ 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.

§ 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.

|| In addition to the cases shown, a large colliery in Kent which closed down in July owing to a dispute as to the wage rates to be paid remained closed in October.

¶ No agreement has been reached respecting the Somerset side of the Bristol coalfield. \*\* Estimated number.

†† Three Trade Unions were directly involved; one of them accepted the terms in August, enabling resumption of work by workpeople indirectly involved.



# CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

[Based on Returns from Employers and Workpeople.]

## Rates of Wages.

In the industries covered by the Department's statistics\* the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in October in Great Britain and Northern Ireland resulted in an aggregate reduction of nearly £44,000 in the weekly full-time wages of over 380,000 workpeople and in an increase of £29,000 in the weekly wages of over 280,000 workpeople.

The groups of industries principally affected were 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 ..	22,000	369,000	2,200	42,700
Metal, Shipbuilding, &c. .	76,500	14,000	4,450	925
Paper, Printing, etc. . .	30,500	—	4,550	—
Building .. .. .	107,000	—	14,400	—
Other .. .. .	47,500	1,000	3,400	75
Total .. .. .	283,500	384,000	29,000	43,700

The reductions in the mining group were mainly accounted for by a decrease in the percentage addition to basis rates in the Yorkshire and East Midland area, equivalent to nearly 5 per cent. on current rates. Coal miners in the Radstock district also sustained a decrease, amounting to nearly  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. on current rates, and there were decreases of from  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 1d. per shift in the wages of iron ore miners in Cumberland. There were increases, on the other hand, in the wages of coal miners in the Bristol and Forest of Dean districts, as a result of the adoption in those districts of the National Wages Agreement of June, 1924, while the lower-paid colliery workers in several districts in the East Midland area also received increases in wages.

In the metal group there were increases of about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. on the current rates of iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen in the Midlands, and of  $1\frac{1}{4}$  per cent. on those of workpeople employed in the steel sheet rolling and galvanising trades. There was also a small increase (under 1 per cent. on current rates) in the wages of blastfurnace and iron and steel workers in South Wales and Monmouthshire. An additional bonus of 2s. 6d. per week was granted to workpeople employed in the ship-repairing trade at the Bristol Channel ports. Blastfurnace workers had their wages reduced by about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. on current rates in the Cleveland district, and there were reductions, varying from about 1 to  $4\frac{3}{4}$  per cent. on current rates, in the wages of similar classes of workpeople in various Midland districts.

The increases in the paper, etc., group mainly affected workpeople in the machine paper-making trade, the increases amounting to  $\frac{3}{4}$ d. or 1d. per hour in the case of men, and  $\frac{3}{8}$ d. per hour in the case of women.

In the building trade men employed in the London district received increases of 1d. per hour in the inner area (within 12 miles radius of Charing Cross) and of  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour in the outer area. There were also increases, generally of  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour, in the wages of building trade operatives in various towns in the Eastern, South Midland, and South Western Counties.

In trades other than the above, the principal groups of work-

people affected by increases included workpeople employed in the wool textile industry in the West of England and at Leicester, road transport workers in Scotland, and wholesale warehouse workers at Manchester. Under the Trade Boards Acts there were increases in the minimum rates of workpeople employed in the perambulator and invalid carriage trade in Great Britain.

Of the increases taking effect in October, 37, amounting to £6,500 per week, took effect under cost of living sliding scales; 18, amounting to £4,400 per week, took effect under sliding scales based on the selling prices of manufactured products or on the proceeds of the industry; 14, amounting to £13,300 per week, were arranged by joint standing bodies of employers and workpeople (including £600 under cost of living sliding scales included above); two, amounting to £300 per week, took effect under Trade Board Orders (£200 under a cost of living sliding scale included above); and the remaining 22 cases were arranged by direct negotiation between employers and workpeople. In seven cases, involving nearly £6,000 per week, the increases were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work. Of the decreases, 22, amounting to over £43,500 per week, took effect under sliding scales based on the selling prices of manufactured products or on the proceeds of the industry; two, amounting to £50 per week, took effect under cost of living sliding scales; and the remaining three changes were arranged by direct negotiation between employers and workpeople. In one case only, involving about £10 per week, the decrease was preceded by a dispute causing stoppage of work.

## Summary of Changes reported in January–October, 1924.

Group of Industries.	Approximate Number of Workpeople† affected by net		Net Amount of Change in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
			£	£
Mining and Quarrying ..	858,000	364,000	133,400	48,600
Brick, Pottery, Glass, Chemical, etc. . . .	220,000	250	34,500	30
Iron and Steel .. .	157,000	41,250	21,200	5,800
Engineering and Shipbuilding .. .	148,000	8,000	48,100	1,750
Other Metal .. .	74,000	32,000	12,100	2,300
Textile .. .	28,500	80,000	2,150	3,850
Clothing .. .	6,000	12,500	850	1,350
Food, Drink and Tobacco	71,000	2,250	13,000	600
Woodworking, etc. . .	48,500	4,000	8,400	360
Paper, Printing, etc. . .	1,500	1,000	200	150
Building and Allied Trades	473,000	250	103,900	60
Transport .. .	330,000	5,500	120,000	800
Public Utility Services ..	199,000	20,000	28,800	1,350
Other .. .	74,000	4,000	11,100	400
Total .. .	2,688,500	575,000	537,700	67,400

In the corresponding ten months of 1923 there were net reductions of nearly £500,000 in the weekly wages of nearly 3,150,000 workpeople, and net increases of over £300,000 in the weekly wages of 1,130,000 workpeople, while nearly 300,000 workpeople were affected by increases and decreases which left their wages at the same level as at the beginning of the year.

## Hours of Labour.

No important changes were reported in October.

## PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING OCTOBER, 1924.

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
<b>MINING AND QUARRYING.</b>				
Coal Mining	Durham ...	20 Oct.	Datal stonemen, screen enginemen, firemen and bellmen, wiremen and plate-layers on the surface	Wages increased where necessary so as to make the total minimum 7s. 9½d. per day for men whose previous total was more than 7s. 6½d., but less than 7s. 9½d. per day.
	Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, Derbyshire, Cannock Chase and Warwickshire	1 Oct.	Workpeople employed in or about coal mines, other than those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries	Decrease of 7.75 per cent. on the standard base rates of 1911, leaving wages 52.53½ per cent. above the standard of 1911.‡
	Leicestershire ...	1 Oct.	Men 18 to 21 years of age employed in or about coal mines	Basis rates increased by amounts varying, for underground workers, from 1d. to 2d. per shift, and for surface workers from 2½d. to 4d. per shift. Basis rates after change—underground workers: 18 years, 3s. 9d. per shift; 19 years, 4s. 2d.; 20 years, 4s. 7d.; 21 years, 5s.; surface workers: 18 years, 3s.; 19 years, 3s. 5½d.; 20 years, 3s. 11d.; 21 years, 4s. 6d.¶

\* 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 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 440,000 workpeople, whose wages have been increased and reduced by equal amounts during the year.

‡ In the case of West Yorkshire the surface workers' percentage addition to the 1911 standard from 1 October was 50.87 for the Eastern Area and 47.53 for the Western Area (subject to conditions described in footnote § below).

§ In accordance with the terms of the National Agreement of June, 1924, the above changes were subject to the condition that the wages of an adult day-wage workman should not fall below a sum represented by adding 40 per cent. to the "standard wages" of the lowest paid class of day-wage workmen in the district.

¶ The rates quoted are subject to the current percentage addition of 52.53.



## PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING OCTOBER, 1924—(continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
<b>MINING AND QUARRYING—(continued).</b>				
Coal Mining (contd.)	Warwickshire ...	1 or 2 Oct.	Lower paid men employed in or about coal mines	Wages increased where necessary so as to make the total minimum 7s. 6d. per shift for surface workers and 8s. per shift for underground workers.
	Cannock Chase ...	2 Oct.		Increase in basis rates as follows:— <i>Underground men:</i> dirt emptiers, 4s. 9d. per shift to 5s. per shift; youths 21 years of age, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 9d.; 20 years, 4s. to 4s. 6d.; 19 years, 3s. 6d. to 4s.; 18 years, 3s. to 3s. 6d.*
	South Derbyshire	7 Oct.	Workpeople employed in or about coal mines, other than those whose wages are regulated by movements in other industries	<i>Surface men:</i> 21 years, 4s. to 4s. 4d.; 20 years, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 11d.; 19 years, 3s. 3d. to 3s. 6d.; 18 years, 2s. 10d. to 3s.; banksmen and pushers-on, previous basis rate of 3s. to 5s. 5d., increased to 4s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.*
	Forest of Dean ...	1 May†		Wages increased where necessary so as to make the total minimum 7s. 5d. per day for adult able-bodied surface workers and 7s. 9d. per day for adult able-bodied underground workers.
	Radstock ...	25 Sept.		Percentage above standard base rates of 1919 increased to 80.†
Coke and By-Products Manufacture	Bristol District (Gloucestershire side of coalfield)	Oct.‡	Skilled fitters, masons, carpenters, smiths and electricians§	Decrease of 6.51 per cent. on the standard base rates of 1918, leaving wages 41.54 per cent. above the standard of 1918.
	South Wales and Monmouthshire	20 Oct.		Increase of 13.56 per cent. for hewers and pieceworkers and of 13.78 per cent. for other workers on standard base rates of 1917, making wages 35.55 per cent. and 37.77 per cent. respectively above the standard of 1917, and subsistence allowance previously fixed for lower paid men increased by one-eighth, making subsistence allowance 6½d. per day for underground workers, subject to gross wages not exceeding 7s. 3½d. per day, and 10d. per day for surface workers, subject to gross wages not exceeding 6s. 9d. per day.‡
	Durham ...	4 Oct.		Increases of such amount as will raise earnings to not less than 8s. 6½d. per shift.§
Iron Mining	South Yorkshire...	1 Oct.	Cokemen and by-product workers	Decrease of 2 per cent. on the standard base rates, leaving wages 45 per cent. above the standard.
	Cumberland ...	13 Oct.	Iron ore miners ...	Decrease of 7.75 per cent. on the standard base rates, leaving wages 52.53 per cent. above the standard.
	Leicestershire and Lincolnshire	29 Oct.	Winding enginemen ...	Decrease of 1d. per shift in the bargain price (9s. 8d. to 9s. 7d.) and of 1d. per shift in the minimum wage (7s. to 6s. 11d.).
Quarrying	Northamptonshire	15 Oct.	Other underground and surface workers	Decrease of 3d. per shift (8s. 5½d. to 8s. 5d.).
	Banbury and District	22 Oct.	Ironstone quarrymen ...	Decrease of 3d. per shift for men and of 3d. per shift for boys under 16 years. Rates after change: underground 1st class or leading labourers, 6s. 2d. per shift; joiners, 8s. 11d. per shift plus 6d. per shift tool allowance; blacksmiths, 8s. 11d. per shift.
	West Cumberland	13 Oct.	Ironstone miners and quarrymen	Decrease of 1½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 20 per cent. above the standard of 1920.
Quarrying	Macclesfield ...	25 Aug.	Ironstone miners and quarrymen	Decrease of 5½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 53½ per cent. above the standard of 1920.
	Northamptonshire	15 Oct.	Limestone quarrymen ...	Decrease of 5½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 53½ per cent. above the standard.
	Portland ...	25 Aug.	Limestone quarrymen ...	Decrease of 3d. per shift for blacksmiths and joiners, of 3d. per shift for other men, and of 3d. per shift for boys under 16 years.
Quarrying	Aberdeen and Kemnay District	1st pay day after 18 Oct.	Banker masons, mason machinists and smiths employed in saw mills and stone yards	Increase of 3d. per shift for men and of 3d. per shift for boys under 16 years.
	Settmakers employed at granite quarries	18 Oct.	Settmakers employed at granite quarries	Further increase of 3d. per hour. Rates after change: quarrymen, rock getters, machine men, and dressers, 1s. 5½d. per hour; sawyers, 1s. 4½d.
	Quarrymen, rock getters, machinemens, dressers and sawyers	25 Aug.	Quarrymen, rock getters, machinemens, dressers and sawyers	Decrease of 5½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 53½ per cent. above the standard of 1920.
Quarrying	Northamptonshire	15 Oct.	Limestone quarrymen ...	Increase of 3d. per hour. Rates after change: banker masons and mason machinists, 1s. 8d. per hour; smiths, 1s. 6d.
	Portland ...	25 Aug.	Banker masons, mason machinists and smiths employed in saw mills and stone yards	Increase under cost of living sliding scale of 4d. per ton.
	Aberdeen and Kemnay District	1st pay day after 18 Oct.	Settmakers employed at granite quarries	Increase under cost of living sliding scale of 4d. per ton.
<b>IRON AND STEEL SMELTING AND MANUFACTURE.</b>				
Pig Iron Manufacture	Cleveland and Durham	5 Oct.	Blastfurnacemen ...	Decrease of 3 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 18.75 per cent. above the standard of 1919 (plus, in some cases, an output or input bonus).
	Tees-side ...	5 Oct.	Cokemen and by-product workers	Minimum rate after change for scale labourers, 6s. per shift, plus 18.75 per cent.
	North Nottinghamshire and parts of Derbyshire	29 Oct.	Blastfurnacemen ...	Decrease of 1½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 20 per cent. above the standard. Rates after change for labourers, 5s. 8½d. to 6s. 1½d. per shift, plus 20 per cent.
Pig Iron Manufacture	North Staffordshire	1st making-up day in Oct.	Blastfurnacemen ...	Decrease of 8½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 70½ per cent. above the standard, plus a flat-rate make-up payment (varying according to tonnage output) for keepers, helpers and slaggings. Rate after change for yard labourers, 3s. 8d. per shift, plus 70½ per cent.
	South Staffordshire	1st full pay after 13 Oct.	Blastfurnacemen ...	Decrease of 5 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 29 per cent. above the standard of July, 1922. Rates after change: general labourers, 5s. 1d. per shift, plus 29 per cent.; by-turn labourers, 5s. 3d. per shift, plus 29 per cent.
	Northamptonshire	15 Oct.	Blastfurnacemen ...	Decrease of 5½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 53½ per cent. above the standard of 1920.
Iron and Steel Manufacture	South Wales and Monmouthshire	1 Oct.	Blastfurnacemen ...	Increase of 1 per cent., making wages 62½ per cent. above the standard. Minimum rate after change for labourers, 4s. 5½d. per shift, plus 62½ per cent.
	England and Wales	6 Oct.	Steel sheet millmen ...	Increase of 2 per cent. on standard rates, making wages 60 per cent. above the standard of 1891.

\* The rates quoted are subject to the current percentage addition of 52.53.

† The above change took effect under an arrangement made in October. Prior to 1st May, 1924, the percentage paid on the standard rates of 1919 was 62. From May, 1924, till the end of September, 1924, the Forest of Dean Colliery Owners' Association paid wages under the National Wages Agreement of July, 1921, and the following percentages above the 1919 Standard operated—63.74 from 1st May, 76.66 from 1st July, and 66.20 from 1st September. In the early part of October it was agreed between the parties that the rates of wages should be governed by the National Agreement of June, 1924, and the percentage on standard was increased as stated above, with retrospective effect from 1st May.

‡ The above change took effect from the date of resumption of work (varying at different collieries) following a trade dispute, and was in accordance with the terms of the National Agreement of June, 1924, which had not previously been reached respecting the South (Somerset) side. The subsistence allowance North (or Gloucestershire) side of the Bristol Coalfield, no agreement having been reached respecting the South (Somerset) side. The subsistence allowance quoted is confined to married men and single men over 16 years of age who are the sole support of a family.

§ The rate quoted applies to skilled men. It was also agreed that craftsmen who are not considered to be fully skilled should receive a minimum in excess of that paid to labourers, viz., 8s. 0½d., such rate being left for mutual arrangement at the individual collieries.

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



## PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING OCTOBER, 1924—(continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
<b>IRON AND STEEL SMELTING AND MANUFACTURE—(continued).</b>				
Iron and Steel Manufacture—contd.	Rotherham and Sheffield District (certain firms)	13 Oct.	Unskilled and semi-skilled men (21 years and over), employed in steel melting shops and steel mills, whose base earnings are not more than 7s. per shift	Bonus granted as follows:—men at present on a base rate of 3s. 10d. per shift, but not exceeding 4s., 1s. 2d. per shift; over 4s., but not exceeding 4s. 6d., 1s. per shift; over 4s. 6d., but not exceeding 5s., 10d. per shift; over 5s., but not exceeding 5s. 6d., 8d. per shift; over 5s. 6d., but not exceeding 6s., 5d. per shift; over 6s., but not exceeding 6s. 6d., 3d. per shift; and over 6s. 6d., but not exceeding 7s., 2d. per shift. Increase* of 2½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 67½ per cent. above the standard.
	Midlands and part of South Yorkshire and South Lancashire	6 Oct.	Iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen Non-scale workers employed in iron and steel works	War bonus increased* by 6d. per week for men, 3d. per week for youths 18 to 21 years, and 1½d. per week for boys under 18 years.
	South Wales and Monmouthshire	1 Oct.	Men employed in steel melting shops and in iron and steel rolling mills	Increase* of 1 per cent., making wages 62½ per cent. above the standard. Minimum rate after change for labourers, 4s. 5½d. per shift, plus 62½ per cent.
<b>ENGINEERING, SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING.</b>				
Engineering, etc.	Various districts in Great Britain outside the London area and the Royal Dockyard towns	1st full pay week following 8 Oct.	Workpeople employed in War Department and certain Air Ministry Establishments who are in receipt of the engineering "war advances"	Increase of 4s. per week in "war advances."
Ship-building, Ship-repairing, etc.	Manchester	25 Sept.	Platers, rivetters, caulkers, burners, boilermakers, holders-up, red-leaders and scalers employed in the ship-repairing trade	Increase of 4s. per week.
	Barry, Cardiff, Newport, Penarth, Port Talbot, Swansea, Sharpness, Avonmouth and Bristol	1 July 1 Oct.	Fitters, turners, blacksmiths, coppersmiths, machinists, plumbers, tinsmiths, tool-smiths, patternmakers, electricians, brass finishers, sheet metal workers (members of the Amalgamated Engineering Union) employed in the ship-repairing trade	Bonus of 2s. 6d. per week granted. Bonus increased to 5s. per week. Rate after change: 65s. per week plus bonus of 5s. (At Bristol the rate is 2s. per week less.)
		1 Oct.	Shipwrights	Increase in bonus of 2s. 6d. per week (2s. 6d. to 5s.). Time rate after change, 65s. per week plus a bonus of 5s. per week.
		1 Oct.	Other classes of workpeople employed in the ship-repairing trade	Increase in bonus of 2s. 6d. per week (2s. 6d. to 5s.). Time rates after change: woodcutting machinists, decorative painters, electricians, plumbers and platers' helpers, 65s.; riggers, 58s.; chippers and painters, 52s.; fitters' helpers and general labourers, 49s.; cranemen, 53s.; plus, in each case, a bonus of 5s. per week. (At Bristol the rates are 2s. per week less than the above.)
	Lerwick	1 Sept.	Workpeople employed in engineering, ship-repairing, etc.	<i>Decrease of 1½d. per hour for tradesmen and of 1d. per hour for labourers. Rates after change, tradesmen, 1s. 1½d. per hour; labourers, 9d. per hour.</i>
<b>OTHER METAL TRADES.</b>				
Galvanising	England and Wales†	6 Oct.	Workpeople employed in galvanising departments (excluding process of annealing)	Increase* of 2 per cent. on standard rates, making wages 60 per cent. above the standard.
<b>TEXTILE TRADES.</b>				
Woollen and Worsted Industry	Leicester	1st pay day in Oct.	Workpeople employed in lambs' wool and worsted yarn spinning industry (excluding workpeople such as engineers belonging to Unions other than the Workers' Union)	Bonus increased‡ from 3½d. to 3½d. in the shilling on earnings. Minimum rates after change: timeworkers—men, 42s. 6d. plus 3½d. in the shilling; women, 25s. 6d. plus 3½d. in the shilling; pieceworkers, 25 per cent. above time rates.
	West of England§	1st full pay after 28 Oct.	Workpeople employed in the woollen and worsted industry	Increases‡ in the 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 time rates after change: male workers 21 years' and over—woolsorters with not less than 5 years' experience and other men in Class A with not less than 4 years' experience, 53s.; Class B with not less than 3 years' experience, 50s.; Class C with not less than 1 years' experience, 43s. 6d.; Class D, 40s.; engine drivers—Class A, 56s.; stokers—Class B, 53s.; Class C, 46s. 6d.; female workers 18 years and over: woolsorters with not less than 5 years' experience and others in Class A with not less than 4 years' experience, 27s.; Class B with not less than 3 years' experience, 25s. 6d.; Class C, 24s.
	Leek	(19 Sept.) (31 Oct.)	Mechanics	Increase of 4s. per week (66s. to 70s.).
Silk Industry	Macclesfield	25 Aug.	Hand loom weavers	Increase of 2s. per week (70s. to 72s.).
	Leicester	Oct.	Elastic web weavers (male workers)	Bonus of 55½ per cent. on list prices increased to 65 per cent. Bonus increased‡ from 14s. to 15s. in the £.
Elastic Web Weaving				
Rope, Twine and Net			Male workers employed in the rope, twine and net trade:—	Scales of minimum hourly rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts for Areas A and B¶ respectively as follows (see page 386 of October GAZETTE):—
	Northern Ireland¶	19 Sept.	Hand dressers (hemp), hand spinners and charge hands Piecers-out, rope makers (walk) Hemp cutters Line and cord makers Rope layers (house machines)	2½d. at under 15 years, increasing to 5½d. or 5½d. at 18, and to 11d., 10½d. at 21 and over. 2½d. at under 15, increasing to 5½d. or 5½d. at 18, and to 10½d. or 10d. at 21 and over. 2½d. at under 15, increasing to 5½d. or 4½d. at 18, and to 10d. or 9½d. at 21 and over. 2½d. at under 15, increasing to 5½d. or 4½d. at 18, and to 9½d. or 9½d. at 21 and over. 2½d. at under 15, increasing to 5½d., or 4½d. at 18, and to 9½d., or 9d. at 21 and over.

\* This change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with selling prices.  
† Certain firms—members of the Galvanising Conciliation Board.

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

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

¶ The County Borough of the City of Belfast comprises Area A, and all other districts Area B. Where two rates are quoted the first relates to Area A and the second to Area B. The starting rates are the same in both areas.



MINIMUM RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING OCTOBER, 1924—(continued).				
Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
Rope, Twine and Net— (cont.)	Northern Ireland	19 Sept.	<b>TEXTILE TRADES—(continued).</b> Male workers employed in the rope, twine and net trade (contd.):— Rope formers (house machines) All other male workers ...	Scales of minimum hourly rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts for Areas A and B* respectively as follows (cont.):— 2½d. at under 15, increasing to 5½d., or 4½d. at 18, and to 9d., or 8½d. at 21 and over. 2½d. at under 15, increasing to 5½d., or 4½d. at 18, and to 8½d., or 8d. at 21 and over.
Shirtmaking	Northern Ireland	20 Oct.	<b>CLOTHING TRADES.</b> Female workers ... .. Female workers:— 18 years of age and over ...  Under 18 years of age ... ..  All workers ... ..	Overtime rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts for hours worked in excess of 48 per week. (See also page 422.)  Minimum time rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of 5½d. per hour during first six months' employment in the trade and 6½d. per hour after first six months' employment. (See page 387 of October GAZETTE.) Minimum time rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts varying from 2½d. to 5½d. per hour according to age. (See page 387 of October GAZETTE.) Piecework basis time rate fixed under the Trade Boards Acts at 7d. per hour; also normal number of hours in the trade fixed at 48 per week or 9 on any day other than Saturday (or the weekly short day substituted therefor) and overtime rates fixed for hours worked in excess of these numbers. (See page 387 of October GAZETTE.)
Laundering	Northern Ireland	1 Oct.		
Baking and Confectionery	Various towns in Yorkshire†	25 Oct.	<b>FOOD, DRINK, AND TOBACCO TRADES.</b> Adult male workers employed in the baking and confectionery trades by private traders	Increase† of 1s. 6d. per week. Minimum rates after change: forehands, 70s.; doughmakers and ovenmen, 65s.; tablehands, 60s.
	Liverpool, Birkenhead and Wallasey	20 Oct.	Bakers and confectioners ...	Increase† of 2s. per week for adult workers, and of 1s. per week for juniors. Daywork rates after change: forehands and ovenmen, 72s.; tablehands, 66s.
Mill Sawing	Nottingham, Derby, Leicester and Burton-on-Trent	Pay day in week beginning 13 Oct.	<b>WOODWORKING AND FURNITURE TRADES.</b> Woodcutting machinists and sawyers employed in sawmills	Uniform minimum rate of 1s. 6d. per hour adopted, resulting in an increase of ½d. per hour at Derby and Leicester, 1d. per hour at Burton-on-Trent, and no change at Nottingham.
	Londonderry ...	1 Sept.	Sawyers and labourers ... ..	Increase of 2d. per hour. Rates after change: sawyers, 1s. 7d.; labourers, 1s.
Furniture Manufacture	North-east Coast§	1st full week in Oct.	Cabinet makers, carvers, machinists, french polishers, upholsterers and upholstresses in their 4th, 5th and 6th year of employment	Increase of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: french polishers and upholsterers, 1s. 7d.; other male workers, 1s. 7d. plus ½d. per hour "tool" money; upholstresses (fully qualified), 9d.
	Birmingham, West Bromwich and Wolverhampton	Pay preceding 1st pay day in Nov.	Timeworkers:— Cabinet makers, chair-makers, woodcutting machinists, upholsterers and french polishers Female french polishers and upholstresses	Increase of ½d. per hour for adult workers and of proportionate amounts for boys and youths. Standard rate after change for skilled adults, 1s. 6½d.
	Birmingham and West Bromwich	{ 7 July } { 22 Sept. } 24 Oct	Pieceworkers ... ..	Increase of ½d. per hour for adult workers and of proportionate amounts for girls. Standard rate after change for adults, 9½d.
	Carpet and blind fitters ...		Percentage addition to pre-war piecework prices increased from 67½ per cent. to 70 per cent.	
	Lancaster ... ..	Oct.	Adult male operatives ... ..	Increase of ½d. per hour (1s. 6½d. to 1s. 7d.).
	Reading ... ..		Adult male operatives ... ..	Increase of ½d. per hour (1s. 7d. to 1s. 7½d.).
	Great Britain ...	1 Oct.	Cabinet makers, carvers, chair-makers, upholsterers and french polishers	Increase of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: carvers, 1s. 9d.; others, 1s. 6d.
			Women ... ..	Increase† of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: wood carvers, 1s. 6½d.; others, 1s. 5½d.
Workpeople employed in the perambulator and invalid carriage trade:— Timeworkers 21 and over:— Male workers ... ..			Increase† of ½d. per hour (8½d. to 8¾d.).	
Female workers ... ..			Increases† in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of the following amounts for the classes named respectively. (See page 387 of October GAZETTE.):— Increase† of ¾d. or ½d. per hour. Minimum rates after change: for general workers (excluding woodworking machinists, bodymakers, smiths, upholsterers, etc.), 1s. to 1s. 2½d.	
Perambulator and Invalid Carriage Making	Great Britain ...	1 Oct.	Timeworkers under 21:— Male workers (except porters and labourers)	Increase† of ½d. per hour. Minimum rates after change: for general workers (excluding bodymakers, painters, upholsterers, etc.), 7d. to 8d.
			Female workers ... ..	Increase† of from 6d. to 1s. 9d. per week. Minimum rates after change: 12s. 6d. at 15 years, increasing to 28s. at 18 and to 39s. at 20 years.
			Male porters and labourers...	Increase† of from 6d. to 1s. 3d. per week. Minimum rates after change: 11s. at 15 years, increasing to 22s. at 18 and to 28s. at 20 years.
			Certain classes of male and female indentured apprentices, and male and female workers under 21 who have completed an indentured apprenticeship	Increase† of ½d. or ¼d. per hour. Minimum rates after change: 18 to 19 years, 8½d.; 19 to 20, 9½d.; 20 to 21, 10½d.
Pieceworkers ... ..		Increase† proportionate to those for workers of corresponding ages, other than apprentices.	Piecework basis time rate fixed at 10 per cent. above the appropriate general minimum time rates.	

\* See note ¶ on p. 412.  
 † Barnsley, Bradford, Bridlington, Doncaster, Halifax, Dewsbury, Huddersfield, Hull, 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 Newcastle, North and South Shields, Sunderland, Gateshead, Middlesbrough, Stockton, West Hartlepool, and Darlington.



## PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING OCTOBER, 1924—(continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
<b>PAPER, PRINTING AND ALLIED TRADES.</b>				
Paper Making	Great Britain ...	1st pay day in Oct.	All classes of workpeople (except mechanics, etc., and those employed in hand-made paper mills and board mills):— Timeworkers: Men 21 years and over ...	Increase* of 3d. per hour for Class III. dayworkers and of 1d. per hour for other workers. Minimum rates after change†: Class I. occupations—shiftworkers, 1s. 6d.; Class II.—shiftworkers, 1s. 3d.; dayworkers, 1s. 1½d.; Class III.—shiftworkers, 1s. 1½d.; dayworkers, 11½d.; West of England, Scotland and Wales, 1d. per hour less.
			Boys and youths under 21 years	Increase* of from 1d. to 3d. per hour. Minimum rates after change: 3½d. at 14 years, increasing to 8d. at 18 and to 11½d. at 20; West of England, Scotland and Wales, 3d. at 14 years, increasing to 7½d. at 18 and to 10½d. at 20 years.
			Women and girls ...	Increase* of from 1d. to 1½d. per hour. Minimum rates after change: 3d. at 14 years, increasing to 6½d. at 18 and over; West of England, Scotland and Wales: 2½d. at 14 years, increasing to 6½d. at 18 and over.
	Maidstone, Wells and Totnes	Oct.	Pieceworkers ... Workpeople employed in hand-made paper mills	Increases* proportionate to those for timeworkers. Increase* of 2d. per "day's work" for journeymen, and 1d. per "day's work" for apprentices. Rates after change for journeymen per "day's work"†: vatmen, 11s. 6d.; couchers, 11s. 4d.; dryworkers and layers, 9s. 8d.
<b>BUILDING AND ALLIED TRADES.‡</b>				
Building	London District (within a 15-mile radius of Charing Cross)	25 Oct.	Bricklayers, stone and marble masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists and sawyers, slaters and tilers, plumbers, plasterers, painters, derrick drivers, crane and traveller drivers, engine drivers, boiler attendants and derrick signalmen, scaffolders and timbermen, and labourers	Increase of 1d. per hour for those working within a 12-mile radius of Charing Cross, and of ½d. per hour for those working between 12 and 15 miles from Charing Cross. Rates after change: <i>within a 12-mile radius of Charing Cross</i> —masons (fixers), 1s. 10½d.; painters, 1s. 8½d.; bricklayers, masons (banker hands), slaters and tilers, plumbers, plasterers and other craftsmen, 1s. 9½d.; marble polishers, 1s. 7½d.; derrick drivers (steam or electric), 1s. 8½d. plus "height money"; travelling crane and overhead traveller drivers (steam or electric), 1s. 7d.; portable and stationary engine drivers, winch and pump drivers, 1s. 6d.; boiler attendants, 1s. 4½d.; derrick signalmen, 1s. 4½d. plus "height money"; scaffolders and timbermen, 1s. 5½d.; labourers, 1s. 4½d.; 12 to 15-mile radius of Charing Cross—½d. per hour less than the above rates.
	Malton and Norton	18 Oct.	Building trade operatives ...	Increase of 2d. per hour for craftsmen (1s. 4½d. to 1s. 6½d.) and 1½d. per hour for labourers (1s. 0½d. to 1s. 2d.).
	Abingdon, Ascot, Didcot, Henley, Maidenhead, Oxford, Portsmouth and Reading	24 Oct.¶	Building trade operatives ...	Increase of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: craftsmen, 1s. 6d.; labourers, 1s. 1½d.
	Andover ...	24 Oct.	Building trade operatives ...	Increase of ½d. per hour for craftsmen (1s. 4d. to 1s. 4½d.) and ½d. per hour for labourers (1s. 0½d. to 1s. 0½d.).
	Horsham ...	24 Oct.	Building trade operatives ...	Increase of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: craftsmen, 1s. 5d.; labourers, 1s. 1d.
	Halton Park ...	24 Oct.	Building trade operatives ...	Rates adopted of 1s. 5d. per hour for craftsmen and 1s. 1d. per hour for labourers.
	Huntly and Inverurie	1 Oct.	Masons ...	Increase of ½d. per hour (1s. 7d. to 1s. 7½d.).
<b>TRANSPORT TRADES</b>				
Dock, Wharf, Riverside, etc., Labour	Tees ...	30 Sept.	Tugboatmen ...	Increase of 8s. per week for masters, of 4s. per week for firemen and mates, of 2s. 6d. per week for engineers, and of 2s. per week for boys. Rates after change: masters, 93s. 6d. per week; engineers, 74s. 6d.; firemen and mates, 65s. 6d.; boys, 25s. 6d.
Road Transport	Nottingham ...	1st pay day after 27 Oct.		Increase* of 1s. per week for those 18 years of age and over, and of 6d. per week for those under 18 years. Rates after change for men 21 years of age and over: one-horse drivers, 53s. per week; two-horse drivers, 58s.; petrol wagon drivers (2 tons and over), 63s.; (15 cwt. to 2 tons), 58s.; (under 15 cwt.), 53s.; electric vehicle drivers (1 ton and over), 60s.; (under 1 ton), 53s.; loaders and garage hands, 53s.
	Scotland (except Forfarshire)	Week beginning 27 Oct.	Road transport workers ...	Increase* of 1s. per week for men and of 6d. per week for boys under 18 years. Rates after change: Glasgow and Paisley—one-horse drivers, 54s. per week; petrol wagon drivers (2 tons and over), 63s.; steam wagon drivers, 73s.; secondmen on steam wagons, 68s.; Aberdeen—one-horse drivers, 51s. 6d.; petrol wagon drivers (2 tons and over), and steam wagon drivers, 57s. 6d.
	Isle of Man (Eastern Area)	1st pay day in Oct.	Carters and labourers ...	Decrease* of 1s. per week (43s. to 42s.).
<b>PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICES.</b>				
Electricity Supply Undertakings	Scarborough ...	1 Oct.	Adult male workers...	Seasonal increase of 1d. per hour previously granted for the months of July, August and September withdrawn. Rates after change: labourers, 1s. 1d. per hour; stokers, 1s. 3½d.
Non-trading Departments of Local Authorities	Birkenhead ...	16 Oct.	Manual workers (excluding those whose wages are regulated by movements in other trades)	Increases* of amounts varying from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 7d. per week. Rates after change: road sweepers, 43s. 9d. per week; refuse collectors, general road and sewer labourers, 49s.

\* The change took effect under an arrangement whereby wages fluctuate in correspondence with the Ministry of Labour index number of retail prices.  
† The new minimum rates for workers employed in *coating mills* are 1s. 4d. and 1s. 2½d. for shiftworkers and dayworkers respectively in Class I. the rates are the same as those quoted above.

‡ A "day's work" is a quantity of paper which varies according to the different sizes.  
§ In addition to the changes described above, a number of changes in the building trade which took effect from 1st October were included on page 375 of the October GAZETTE.

¶ This increase took effect as the result of a re-grading under the Grading Scheme of the National Wages and Conditions Council for the Building Industry.  
|| In the case of Portsmouth, under the terms of a local agreement, the re-grading took effect from 1st September, but was authorised to take effect from 24th October by the National Wages and Conditions Council.



## PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING OCTOBER, 1924—(continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of change. (Decreases in italics.)
Non-Trading Departments of Local Authorities (contd.)	Workington ...	30 Oct.	<b>PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICES—(continued).</b>	
	Scunthorpe and Frodingham	Week ended 22 Oct.	Manual workers in non-trading and Water Departments	Increases* of amounts varying from 6d. to 1s. per week. Rates after change: labourers and roadmen (1st class), 55s. 3d. per week; (2nd class), 52s. 9d.; carters, 53s. 9d.; scavengers, 51s. 6d. Bonus increased* from 70 to 75 per cent. on base rates. Rates after change: yard labourers, 6s. 10½d. per day; road and water labourers, 8s. 0½d.; sweepers, 5s. 10d.; refuse collectors, 9s. 7½d.
	Matlock ...	17 Oct.	Manual workers	Increase* of ¼d. per hour. Rate after change for able-bodied men, 11½d. per hour.
	Norwich ...	1 Sept.	Able-bodied male manual workers	Decrease* of 1s. 6d. per week. Minimum rate after change for labourers, 52s. 6d. per week.
	Maidenhead ...	18 Oct.	Manual workers	Increase* of 5 per cent. of pre-war wage. Rates after change: road labourers and refuse collectors, 45s. per week; other labourers and scavengers, 43s.; 1st class roadmen, 55s.
	Barnet ...	8 Oct.	Road scavengers, refuse collectors, labourers, carmen, etc.	Increase* of 1s. 5½d. per week. Rates after change: carmen, 60s. per week; other classes, 51s.
	Enfield ...	1 Oct.	Road labourers, scavengers and refuse collectors	Decrease* of 1s. 6d. per week. Rates after change: roadmen and scavengers, 55s. to 60s. per week; refuse collectors, 58s.
	Finchley ...	1 Oct.	Manual workers employed on road and sewer work, recreation ground, public baths and sewage farms	Increase* of ¼th of the original bonus. Rates after change: general labourers, 55s. 9d. per week; road sweepers, 53s. 8d.
	Surbiton ...	Week ended 23 Oct.	Manual workers	Increase* of amounts varying from 8d. per week for workpeople earning less than 40s. per week in March, 1922, to 1s. 4d. per week for those earning 75s. to 80s. per week. Rate after change for labourers, scavengers and refuse collectors, 8s. 6d. per day.
	Certain Authorities in Gloucestershire, Somerset and Wiltshire†	(See note †)	Able-bodied male manual workers	Increase* of 1s. per week. Scheduled minimum weekly rates after change: Grade A areas, 54s.; B 1, 50s.; B 2, 47s.; C 1, 42s.; C 2, 40s.; D, 35s.†
	Plymouth ...	31 July	House refuse collectors and sweepers	Increase* of 2½ per cent. (49s. 4d. to 51s. 1d. per week).
	Glamorganshire ...	1 Oct.	Manual workers employed by the County Council	Increase* of 1s. 4½d. per week. Rates after change for fillers, sweepers and roadmen, 53s. 5½d. per week.
	Dunfermline ...	26 Oct.	Manual workers	Increase* of 1s. per week. Rates after change: scavengers, 55s. per week; carters, 57s.; labourers, 1s. 2½d. per hour; skilled labourers, 1s. 2½d.; paviors, 1s. 6½d.
	Fifeshire (Dunfermline District)	20 Oct.	Tractor and roller drivers, roadmen, scavengers, carters and refuse collectors employed by the County Council	Increase* of 2s. per week. Rates after change: tractor and roller drivers, 68s. per week; roadmen, 58s.; scavengers, 53s.; carters and refuse collectors, 60s. 6d.
	County Tyrone: Omagh District, Dungannon, Cookstown and Strabane Districts	1 Oct.	Labourers employed by the County Council	Decrease of 2s. 6d. per week (30s. to 27s. 6d.). Decrease of 1s. 6d. per week (29s. to 27s. 6d.).
Mental Hospital Services	England and Wales	1st pay after 15 Oct.	Indoor staff	Increase* of ⅙th of total bonus payable on 30th September, 1921, making a total reduction of ⅙ths from bonus.
Saddlery, etc., Making	Woolwich ...	Beginning of pay week in which 26 June fell	Adult male leather workers, saddlers and cutters employed by the War Department	Increases in basic rates varying from 1s. 6d. to 8s. per week according to present rate and to new grading. Rates after change: leather workers, 61s. to 62s.; saddlers, 64s. to 65s.; cutters and brown saddlers, 66s. to 67s.
Warehousing	Manchester ...	1st pay day in Oct.	Workpeople employed in wholesale warehouses (clothing, millinery, cotton, etc.)	Increases of from 9d. to 3s. 9d. per week for male workers, and of from 9d. to 1s. 9d. per week for female workers. Minimum rates after change: male workers—14 years, 10s. 6d., increasing to 22s. 6d. at 18, 38s. 6d. at 21, and to 51s. 6d. at 23; female workers—14 years 10s., increasing to 20s. 6d. at 18, and to 29s. at 21.
Other Trades and Occupations	London† ...	1st pay day after 6 Oct.	Transport workers employed by certain large retail drapery, etc., firms	Increases in the minimum rates of 2s. per week for van-guards of horse-drawn vehicles, and of 4s. per week for all other classes.
	London ...	1st pay after 19 Oct.	Workpeople employed in the exhibition stand fitting, etc., trade	Increase* of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: skilled, 1s. 5½d.; semi-skilled, 1s. 3½d.; unskilled, 1s. 1½d.
	Great Britain ...	14 Oct.	Men employed in naval store and other supply departments and in civil engineering departments of H.M. Dockyards and other Admiralty establishments:— Storehousemen and laboratory men Storehouse assistants	Increase of 4s. per week and new scale of rates adopted, starting at 42s. per week and rising by annual increments of 2s. to 55s. per week, with a bonus of 14s. per week payable thereon. Increase of 2s. per week and new scale of rates adopted, starting at 37s. per week and rising by annual increments of 1s. to 40s. per week, with a bonus of 14s. per week payable thereon.

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

† The Authorities affected are those which follow the sliding scale agreement of the Joint Industrial Council for Gloucestershire, Somerset and Wiltshire Local Authorities' Non-trading Services, and include—Grade A: Bristol (made change from 16 October); Grade B1: Gloucester (made change from 1st pay day in November), Swindon (made change from 29 October and pay 2s 11d. per week above scheduled minimum rate); Taunton (made the above change from 30 August, and a further increase of 11d. per week from 1 November, making the rate paid 1s. 4d. above the scheduled minimum rate).

‡ The change took effect under an agreement arrived at by the London Employers' Association Limited and the Transport and General Workers' Union.

## CHANGES IN WAGES TAKING EFFECT IN NOVEMBER, 1924.

The following groups of workpeople are affected by changes in wages already reported as having been arranged to take effect in November:—*Increases*: Coal miners in Yorkshire and the East Midland Area; electric cable makers; chain makers (under Trade Board Order); workpeople employed in the textile bleaching, dyeing, printing, etc., trades in Yorkshire and Lancashire; workpeople employed in the brush and broom trade (under Trade Board Order); tramway workers; employees of various Local Authorities in Northumberland and Durham, Lancashire and Cheshire, and London. *Decreases*: Iron-ore miners in Cumberland, blastfurnace workers in Cumberland and the West of Scotland; Siemens steel makers in South-West Wales; tinplate makers in South Wales and Monmouthshire.



## 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, under which the rates of wages of the different classes of workpeople are varied in accordance with 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 selling prices of pig iron and manufactured iron in certain districts are given in the following Table, and in the paragraph below the Table are given details of the changes in rates of wages resulting therefrom.

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:	1924.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Cleveland (No. 3) ..	July-Sept.	86 3½	- 3 0½	-13 4
Cumberland ..	(July-Aug.)	97 0	- 2 11	-12 2½
(Hematite mixed numbers.)	July	97 11	- 1 1½	-13 6½
	Aug.	96 2½	- 1 8½	-10 9
North Staffordshire ..	July-Sept.	88 6	- 6 10½	- 9 8½
Nottinghamshire ..	July-Sept.	89 0½	- 2 4	- 4 7½
Lincolnshire ..	Apr.-June	90 3½	- 1 9½	+ 4 7
Northamptonshire ..	July-Sept.	82 9½	- 4 9½	- 6 9½
West of Scotland ..	July-Sept.	96 8	- 3 3	- 8 8
Manufactured Iron:				
North of England ..	July-Aug.	250 0½	+ 5 1½	+21 1½
(Bars and angles.)				
West of Scotland ..	July-Aug.	250 11½	- 0 0½	+ 8 1
(Rounds, flats, tees, angles, hoops and rods.)				

These ascertainments have resulted in reductions in the rates of wages of iron ore miners in Cumberland (1d. per shift in August and 2d. per shift in September) and in the Furness District (3d. per shift); of limestone quarrymen in West Cumberland (½d. or ¾d. per shift in August and 1d. or 1½d. per shift in September); of ironstone quarrymen in Leicestershire and the adjoining parts of Lincolnshire (1¼ per cent. on standard rates); of ironstone miners and quarrymen in Northamptonshire (5¾ per cent. on standard rates); and of blastfurnacemen in Cleveland and Durham (3 per cent. on standard rates), in West Cumberland and North Lancashire (3½ per cent. on standard rates), in North Staffordshire (8½ per cent. on standard rates), in Nottinghamshire and parts of Derbyshire (1¼ per cent. on standard rates), in North Lincolnshire (2¼ per cent. on standard rates), in Northamptonshire (5¾ per cent. on standard rates), and in West of Scotland (3 per cent. on standard rates, taking effect generally from 2nd November). An increase of 2½ per cent. in the wages of iron puddlers and millmen resulted in the North of England. In the case of iron puddlers and millmen in the West of Scotland the ascertainment resulted in no change in wages.

Detailed particulars of the changes in rates of wages reported in October are given on pages 410-415.

## ASSISTED PASSAGES UNDER THE EMPIRE SETTLEMENT ACT, 1922.

The number of assisted passages granted during October, 1924, in connection with agreed schemes under the Empire Settlement Act, and the total number of such passages granted from the inception of these schemes, together with the number of departures during the same periods, are shown in the following Table:—

Assisted Passage Schemes.	Assisted Passages Granted in Oct., 1924.	Total Assisted Passages Granted.		Departures in Oct., 1924.	Total Departures.	
		1922 and 1923.	Jan.-Oct., 1924.		1922 and 1923.	Jan.-Oct., 1924.
To Australia .. ..	1,966	32,919†	19,435†	1,848	31,067	20,418
„ New Zealand .. ..	837	7,557†	7,531†	898	6,839	6,099
„ Canada:						
Dominion of Canada ..	401	3,557	7,924†	374	3,519	7,809
Province of Ontario ..	—	1,343	24	—	1,312	44
Minor Schemes .. ..	181	1,662	1,390†	178	1,624	1,217
Total .. ..	3,385	47,038†	36,304†	3,298	44,361	35,677

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

\* Stated to the nearest farthing.

† Revised figures.

## DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.\*

In certain sections of the iron and steel industry rates of wages in Britain and Northern Ireland reported under the Factory and Workshop Act during October, 1924, was 71. Nine deaths† were reported during the month, five due to lead poisoning and four due to epitheliomatous ulceration. In addition, 5 cases of lead poisoning 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 ..	4
Plumbing and Soldering ..	...
Shipbreaking .. ..	9
Printing .. ..	...
Tinning of Metals .. ..	...
Other Contact with Molten Lead .. ..	4
White and Red Lead Works .. ..	5
Pottery‡ .. ..	8
Vitreous Enamelling ..	...
Electric Accumulator Works .. ..	6
Paint and Colour Works ..	...
Indiarubber Works ..	1
Coach and Car Painting	2
Shipbuilding .. ..	2
Paint used in Other Industries .. ..	3
Other Industries .. ..	...

TOTAL OF ABOVE .. .. 44

HOUSE PAINTING AND PLUMBING .. .. 5

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

Mercury Poisoning ..	1
Phosphorus Poisoning ..	...
Arsenic Poisoning—	
Paints, Colours and Extraction of Arsenic	2
Other Industries ..	1
Toxic Jaundice—	
Arseniuretted Hydrogen Gas .. ..	...
Benzine, etc., derivatives	...
Epitheliomatous Ulceration—	
Paraffin .. ..	...
Pitch .. ..	5
Tar .. ..	2
Oil .. ..	11
Chrome Ulceration—	
Manufacture of Bichromates ..	1
Dyeing and Finishing ..	...
Chrome Tanning ..	...
Other Industries ..	1
TOTAL, OTHER FORMS OF POISONING .. ..	24

### (c) CASES OF ANTHRAX.

Wool .. ..	1
Handling of Horsehair	1
Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins (Tanners, Fellmongers, etc.) ..	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, 1924, was 205, as compared with 189 in the previous month and with 238 a year ago:—

RAILWAY SERVICE.		Factories and Workshops (continued):	
Brakesmen and Goods Guards .. ..	1	Engineering and Machine Making .. ..	4
Engine Drivers .. ..	2	Boiler Making and Constructional Engineering	5
Firemen .. ..	2	Locomotives, Railway and Tramway Carriages, Motors, Aircraft ..	2
Guards (Passenger) ..	...	Other Metal Trades ..	...
Permanent Way Men ..	4	Shipbuilding .. ..	10
Porters .. ..	1	Wood .. ..	1
Shunters .. ..	2	Gas .. ..	2
Mechanics .. ..	...	Electric Generating Stations .. ..	2
Labourers .. ..	1	Clay, Stone, Glass, etc....	...
Miscellaneous .. ..	4	Chemicals, etc. .. ..	3
Contractors' Servants ..	1	Food and Drink .. ..	7
TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE	18	Paper, Printing, etc. ..	1
		Tanning, Currying, etc....	1
MINES.		Rubber Trades .. ..	...
Underground .. ..	101	Other Non-Textile Industries .. ..	1
Surface .. ..	7	PLACES UNDER SS. 104-106, FACTORY ACT, 1901.	
TOTAL, MINES .. ..	108	Docks, Wharves, etc. ..	4
		Buildings .. ..	8
QUARRIES over 20 feet deep .. ..		Warehouses and Railway Sidings .. ..	1
	8	TOTAL, FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS, AND PLACES UNDER SS. 104-106 ..	70
Factories and Workshops.		Construction or Repair of Railways¶ .. ..	1
Cotton .. ..	1	Total (excluding Seamen) .. ..	205
Wool, Worsted & Shoddy	4		
Other Textiles .. ..	1		
Textile Bleaching and Dyeing .. ..	1		
Metal Extracting and Refining .. ..	2		
Metal Conversion, including Rolling Mills and Tube Making .. ..	8		
Metal Founding .. ..	1		

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

† Cases include all attacks reported 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 8 persons affected in the Pottery industry 2 were females.

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

¶ Accidents occurring in the use or working of railways are included under "Railway Service."



## 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, 1924, in the thirty-one selected areas named below, was 683,229, or 1·2 per cent. less than in the previous month and 24·8 per cent. less than in October, 1923. The numbers relieved at these three dates were equivalent, respectively, to rates of 384, 389 and 508§ per 10,000 of the estimated population.

In the twenty-five selected areas in England and Wales the number of persons relieved in October, 1924, was 568,924, or 362 per 10,000 of the estimated population. In the six areas in Scotland the number relieved was 114,305, or 551 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

Recipients of indoor relief in the thirty-one districts in October numbered 121,190, or 1·3 per cent. more than in the previous month, but 1·8 per cent. less than in October, 1923. Recipients of outdoor relief numbered 562,039, or 1·8 per cent. less than in the previous month, and 28·4 per cent. less than a year ago.

Sixteen districts showed decreases and fourteen districts showed increases in the number per 10,000 relieved in October, 1924, as compared with the previous month. Districts showing the most marked decreases were Barnsley (153 per 10,000) and Glasgow (49 per 10,000); while the chief increases were in East London (53 per 10,000) and Stockton and Tees (51 per 10,000). Compared with October, 1923, all districts except Barnsley showed decreases, the most noteworthy being Paisley and Greenock (710 per 10,000), Stockton and Tees (556 per 10,000), Glasgow (398 per 10,000), Sheffield (337 per 10,000), Newcastle (288 per 10,000), and Birmingham (256 per 10,000).

Selected Urban Areas.†	Number of persons* in receipt of Poor Law Relief on one day† in October, 1924.				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.
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES.</b>						
<b>Metropolises.</b>						
West District ..	8,905	6,157	15,062	182	+ 3	− 45
North District ..	10,161	17,712	27,873	272	+ 4	− 74
Central District ..	2,308	2,503	4,811	358	− 6	− 61
East District ..	9,957	46,737	56,694	879	+ 53	− 140
South District ..	19,134	63,026	82,160	423	+ 2	− 106
TOTAL, Metropolis ..	50,465	136,135	186,600	408	+ 10	− 91
West Ham .. ..	4,495	66,924	71,419	940	+ 4	− 30
<b>Other Districts.</b>						
Newcastle District	2,494	22,943	25,437	510	− 8	− 288
Stockton and Tees District ..	1,110	11,723	12,833	470	+ 51	− 556
Bolton, Oldham, etc.	4,057	7,003	11,060	139	− 4	− 12
Wigan District ..	1,716	9,250	10,966	244	+ 1	− 50
Manchester District	8,408	23,184	31,592	304	− 3	− 109
Liverpool District ..	9,402	42,917	52,319	426	− 8	− 133
Bradford District ..	1,758	3,340	5,098	137	− 2	− 42
Halifax and Huddersfield ..	1,247	2,752	3,999	105	+ 2	− 14
Leeds District ..	2,363	7,888	10,251	208	− 1	− 43
Barnsley District ..	887	8,091	8,978	276	− 153	+ 22
Sheffield District ..	2,546	24,807	27,353	531	− 23	− 337
Hull District ..	1,683	9,601	11,284	352	− 10	− 140
North Staffordshire	2,117	5,028	7,145	171	..	− 10
Nottingham District	2,063	8,908	10,971	234	+ 9	− 18
Leicester District ..	1,178	2,646	3,824	160	+ 2	− 8
Wolverhampton District ..	3,211	15,257	18,468	252	− 11	− 168
Birmingham District	6,875	23,406	30,281	320	− 7	− 256
Bristol District ..	2,344	11,947	14,291	345	− 8	− 49
Cardiff and Swansea	2,355	12,400	14,755	310	+ 7	− 16
TOTAL, "Other Districts"	57,814	253,091	310,905	299	− 8	− 122
TOTAL, Districts in England and Wales ..	112,774	456,150	568,924	362	− 2	− 108
<b>SCOTLAND.</b>						
Glasgow District	4,684	69,843	74,527	765	− 49	− 398§
Paisley and Greenock District ..	742	10,626	11,368	589	+ 1	− 710
Edinburgh .. ..	1,446	14,542	15,988	376	− 15	− 67
Dundee and Dunfermline ..	696	2,757	3,453	157	+ 3	− 70
Aberdeen .. ..	486	2,726	3,212	201	− 6	− 184
Coatbridge and Airdrie	362	5,395	5,757	564	+ 5	− 87
TOTAL for the above Scottish Districts ..	8,416	105,889	114,305	551	− 26	− 292§
TOTAL for above 31 Districts in Oct., 1924	121,190	562,039	683,229	384	− 5	− 124§

\* Exclusive of casuals, of lunatics in Asylums, Registered Hospitals and Licensed Houses, and of persons receiving out-door medical relief only.

† The figures for England and Wales relate to 25th October, and those for Scotland to 15th 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 and Edinburgh districts.

§ The figures previously published have been revised.

## 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, 1921.	July, 1922.	July, 1923.	July, 1924.		Rise.	Date.
	Per cent. 120	Per cent. 80	Per cent. 62	Per cent. 62	Per cent. 79	Per cent. 1924.	Nov.
<b>UNITED KINGDOM ..</b>							
<b>FOREIGN COUNTRIES.</b>							
Austria (Vienna) ..	9,700†	328,600	1291000	1436100	1584400		Oct.
Czechoslovakia§ ..	1,246	1,330	821	809	808		Sept.
Denmark ..	136	84	88	100	100		July
Finland ..	1,178	1,005	868	916	989		Sept.
France (Paris)§ ..	206	197	221	260	283		Oct.
(other towns)§	250	212	249	299	299		August
Holland (The Hague) ..	113	80	60	62	61		Sept.
(Amsterdam)	80	40	36	42	46		August
Italy (Milan) ..	406	392	396	408	443		Oct.
Norway ..	195	133	118	148	164		Oct.
Sweden§ ..	132	79	60	59	72		Oct.
Switzerland ..	110	57	64	68	69		Oct.
United States ..	45	39	44	40	44		Sept.
<b>BRITISH DOMINIONS, &amp; C.</b>							
Australia ..	61	48	64	49†	46		Sept.
Canada ..	48	38	37	34	39		Oct.
India (Bombay) ..	74	60	48	51	56		Sept.
Irish Free State ..	..	85†	82	85	85		July
New Zealand ..	64	44	42	49	46		Oct.
South Africa ..	39	16	16	17	17		Sept.

\* Exceptions to this are: France (other towns), 3rd quarter of 1914; The Hague, January to July, 1914; Milan, January to June, 1914; Switzerland, June, 1914; Amsterdam, South Africa, average, 1914. † Figure for June. § Fuel and lighting are also included in these figures. || Figure for August.

## 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, 1921.	July, 1922.	July, 1923.	July, 1924.	Rise.	Date.
		Per cent. 119	Per cent. 84	Per cent. 69	Per cent. 70	Per cent. 80	1924. Nov.
<b>UNITED KINGDOM</b>	A,B,C,D,E						
<b>FOREIGN COUNTRIES.</b>							
Austria (Vienna) ..	A,B,C,D	9,872	263600	1090200	1239000	1330600	Oct.
Belgium ..	A,C,D,E	279	266	329	393	403	Sept.
Denmark ..	A,B,C,D,E	137	99	104	114	114	July
Egypt (Cairo) ..	A,D	93	72	52	48	62	August
Finland ..	A,B,C,D,E	1,039	1,018	990	1,032	1,077	Sept.
France (Paris) ..	A,B,C,D,E	195†	189†	231†	..	266	2nd Qr.
Germany ..	A,B,C,D	..	..	..	16‡	22‡	Oct.
Greece (Athens) ..	A,B,C,D,E	..	516	933	1,225	1,280	Sept.
Hungary ..	A,B,C,D,E	3,661	15,579	225,167	1635900	1626900	August
Italy (Milan) ..	A,B,C,D,E	394	388	387	412	446	Oct.
Luxemburg ..	A,C,D	234	259	340	381	403	Sept.
Norway ..	A,B,C,D,E	202§	155§	139§	151§	160	Sept.
Poland (Warsaw) ..	A,B,C,D,E	..	..	..	27‡	50‡	Oct.
Spain (Madrid) ..	A,D	84	79	72	82	89	Sept.
(Barcelona) ..	A,D	78	73	65	72	71	Sept.
Sweden ..	A,B,C,D,E	136	90	74	71	74	Oct.
Switzerland ..	A,D	..	59	66	69	69	Oct.
United States ..	A,B,C,D,E	80	67§	70§	69§	71	Sept.
<b>BRITISH DOMINIONS, &amp; C.</b>							
Australia ..	A,B	46†	43†	56†	..	49	2nd Qr.
Canada ..	A,B,D	52	46	46	44	46	Oct.
India (Bombay) ..	A,B,C,D	77	65	53	56	60	Sept.
Irish Free State ..	A,B,C,D,E	..	85§	80	83	83	July
South Africa ..	A,B,D,E	..	35	30	32	32	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; Greece, March, 1914; Milan and New Zealand, January to June, 1914; Germany, Egypt, Hungary, average, 1913-1914; Switzerland and Luxemburg, June, 1914; United States, 1913; Poland, January, 1914. ‡ Figure for 3rd Quarter. § Figure for June. || Figure for May. ¶ Based on prices calculated on a gold standard.



## 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. 398-399 to compare the actual level of employment in the United Kingdom with that of other countries. For details as to 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 persons remaining on the "live register" of Employment Exchanges on 1st November was 10,483 (6,886 men and 3,597 women). At the end of September the corresponding total was 9,510, and in October, 1923, 11,223. The total number of vacancies remaining unfilled on the same date was 8,599 (4,562 for men and 4,037 for women), as compared with 12,255 at the end of September and 10,119 in October, 1923. During the last week of October the Exchanges succeeded in placing 25,250 persons in situations, including 9,130 dock workers at seaports, and, in addition, found employment for 3,699 immigrants.

The latest returns show that five departmental and twenty-one municipal unemployment funds were in operation throughout France on 6th November, the number of persons in receipt of unemployment benefit through their agency being 404 (385 men and 19 women). The corresponding total for the preceding month was 447, and that for October, 1923, 415. 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.*—The statistical returns for August indicated a certain check in the adverse movement of the labour market; those for September, however, afford clear sign of an improvement. (Later figures covering the first half of October indicate a slight decline in employment, but not to a greater extent than is usual at the setting in of the colder season of the year.)

The paying membership‡ of the Statutory Health Insurance Societies increased during the month; returns from 5,214 societies showed 11,432,273 members on 1st September and 11,606,219 on 1st October, an increase of 1·5 per cent. During the preceding month the corresponding totals showed a falling-off of 0·1 per cent.

Returns from trade unions relating to unemployment among their members agree in recording an improved position. Out of 3,449,713 members in the 40 organisations making returns, 362,997 were unemployed at the end of the month, giving a percentage of 10·5, as compared with 12·4 at the end of August.

The following Table gives percentages for the principal unions included in the foregoing totals:—

UNIONS. S. D. = Social-Democratic H. D. = Hirsch-Duncker (non-Social-Democratic) C. = Christian	Member-ship of Unions at end of Sept., 1924.‡	Percentage Unemployed at end of Month.		
		Sept. 1924.	August, 1924.	Sept. 1923.
All Unions making Returns ..	3,829,583	10·5	12·4	9·9
Building (S. D.) ..	331,239	8·4	11·4	12·2
Metal (S. D.) ..	727,588	18·2	20·5	10·5
Textile (S. D.) ..	90,340	9·0	10·1	2·9
(C.) ..	351,095	6·8	7·2	7·2
Clothing (S. D.) ..	88,048	3·7	6·7	9·0
Boot and shoe (S. D.) ..	94,777	7·1	13·0	19·8
Transport (S. D.) ..	89,514	9·0	12·2	8·2
Printing (S. D.) ..	286,901	8·3	8·8	7·3
Bookbinding (S. D.) ..	69,950	2·9	3·9	—
Woodworking (S. D.) ..	50,570	11·9	12·5	—
Baking and confectionery (S. D.) ..	299,093	11·9	15·2	11·0
Food preparation (S. D.) ..	50,798	8·4	11·4	—
Tobacco (S. D.) ..	66,228	3·6	3·4	—
Factory workers (trades not specified) (S. D.) ..	72,327	12·9	20·2	27·5
Engine drivers and firemen (S. D.) ..	348,222	12·0	11·6	10·7
Factory and transport (C.) ..	52,313	13·7	15·9	3·9
Municipal and State workers (S. D.) ..	52,009	12·4	21·1	2·0
Porcelain (S. D.) ..	184,254	1·6	2·0	2·5
..	52,772	10·3	10·3	—

The figures in the above Table relate solely to persons entirely without employment. In addition, statistics are avail-

\* *Bulletin du Marché du Travail*, 7th November, 1924. Paris.

† *Reichsarbeitsblatt*, 16th October and 1st November, 1924. Berlin.

‡ "Members" of these societies are persons under obligation to pay the insurance premiums. During unemployment they are relieved of this obligation; consequently paying members are assumed to be in employment. § Owing to a change in the method of presentation in the source, the figures in this column now show the full membership of each national union, and not (as in earlier issues of this GAZETTE) the membership only of those local lodges which actually furnished returns.

able showing the proportion of short-time workers, and here a considerable improvement is manifest. Of the 2,930,000 members of trade unions furnishing returns, 512,028, or 17·5 per cent., were working short time at the end of the month as against 27·5 per cent. of those included in the returns for August.

During September the applications for work at Employment Exchanges numbered 1,492,461 (as compared with 1,409,702 in the preceding month), while offers of situations by employers totalled 511,414 (396,169 in August). For every 100 vacancies for men there were 349 applications on an average, and 191 for every 100 for women, as compared with 435 and 220 respectively in August.

The number of totally unemployed persons in receipt of the statutory out-of-work benefit throughout Germany fell from 588,485 on 1st September to 574,424 on 15th September, 513,365 on 1st October and 473,023 on 15th October.

## AUSTRIA.

*Unemployment in September.*—According to the issue of *Statistische Nachrichten* (the journal of the Austrian Department of Statistics) for 25th October, the number of persons in receipt of unemployment benefit in Austria was 77,968 at the end of September, as compared with 74,181 at the end of the preceding month and 78,801 at the end of September, 1923. In Vienna alone there were 47,085 persons in receipt of benefit at the middle of October and 45,259 at the end of September, as compared with 52,599 at the end of September, 1923.

## HOLLAND.

*Unemployment in September.*—The issue of *Maandschrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek* (the journal of the Dutch Central Statistical Office) for 31st October publishes figures compiled by the State Department of Unemployment Insurance and Employment Exchanges, which show that out of 252,404 members of unemployment funds making returns for the week ended 27th September, 17,099 (6·8 per cent.) were unemployed during the whole week, and 5,084 (2·0 per cent.) for less than six days. In the corresponding week of the preceding month (ended 30th August) the percentages were respectively 6·7 and 2·0, and in the week ended 29th September, 1923, 10·4 and 2·9.

## SWITZERLAND.\*

*Unemployment in September.*—According to figures compiled by the Swiss Federal Labour Office, the number of applicants for work on the "live register" of Employment Exchanges at the end of September was 8,718, as compared with 8,737 at the end of the preceding month and 22,830 at the end of September, 1923.† The 8,718 applicants for work included 1,227 normally employed in commercial undertakings, shops, etc., 887 in the building trades, 872 in the metal, engineering and electrical trades, and 674 in the textile trades. The number of situations remaining unfilled at the same date was 3,262, as against 3,608 at the end of the preceding month and 2,313 at the end of September, 1923. On the last day of September, 1924, there were 498 applications for each 100 vacancies for men and 95 for each 100 for women. On 31st August the ratios were 417 and 94 respectively, and on 29th September, 1923, 2,233 and 221 respectively.

## DENMARK.‡

*Unemployment in September.*—Returns supplied to the Danish Statistical Department by trade unions and by the Central Employment Exchange show that out of 262,343 workpeople covered by the returns 5·5 per cent. were unemployed on 26th September last, as compared with 5·4 per cent. on 29th August and with 7·4 per cent. at the end of September, 1923.

## 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 was as shown below, where comparative figures are also given for the previous month and for August, 1923.

Unions.	Membership.			Percentage Unemployed.		
	Aug. 31, 1924.	July 31, 1924.	Aug. 31, 1923.	Aug. 31, 1924.	July 31, 1924.	Aug. 31, 1923.
Bricklayers and masons (Christiania) ..	746	880	859	17·4	9·6	8·7
Carpenters ..	783	797	689	4·7	3·6	3·6
Painters (Christiania) ..	364	364	575	8·2	8·2	—
Metal workers ..	7,085	6,769	6,562	5·0	2·7	15·2
Boot and shoe makers ..	1,013	997	701	1·8	2·4	6·8
Printers ..	2,553	2,569	2,378	2·9	1·2	6·3
Bookbinders (Christiania) ..	1,024	1,000	710	3·2	3·5	14·4
Cabinetmakers ..	450	452	547	1·8	0·9	15·9
Bakers (Christiania) ..	602	591	643	4·8	3·7	6·7
Total ..	14,620	14,369§	13,664	3·9	3·1§	11·2

\* *Der Schweizerische Arbeitsmarkt*, 15th October, 1924. Berne.

† Owing to a change in the method of compiling these statistics the figures for August and September, 1924, are not strictly comparable with those for September, 1923.

‡ *Statistiske Efterretninger*, 21st October, 1924. Copenhagen.

§ Revised figures. || Abnormal unemployment due to strike situation.



## SWEDEN.\*

*Unemployment in August.*—Trade unions with an aggregate membership of 191,520 reported 12,352, or 6.4 per cent., as out of work on the last day of August, as against 6.2 per cent. at the end of July and 8.6 per cent. at the end of August, 1923. The following Table gives particulars for the principal unions included in the returns:—

Unions.	Membership reporting on 31st Aug., 1924.	Percentage Unemployed.		
		31st Aug., 1924.	31st July, 1924.	31st Aug., 1923.
All Unions making Returns ..	191,520	6.4	6.2	8.6
<b>PRINCIPAL UNIONS:—</b>				
Carpenters and joiners..	5,108	6.0	5.0	..
Iron and steel ..	13,766	6.6	7.9	6.1
Foundry workers ..	3,551	11.8	8.8	11.1
Engineering ..	43,926	7.6	7.7	12.0
Textile ..	8,290	2.5	2.3	1.2
Clothing ..	4,222	5.2	4.2	8.5
Boot, shoe and leather..	7,417	6.8	9.6	4.8
Food preparation ..	5,230	7.3	4.6	5.8
Sawmilling ..	16,346	12.1	10.9	12.4
Woodworking trades ..	4,999	5.2	5.5	10.1
Paper and pulp..	15,516	2.5	1.8	2.2
Municipal workers ..	8,884	1.1	0.9	1.6
Commercial employees..	6,925	3.8	2.3	5.7
General and factory workers ..	16,502	11.8	12.5	18.7
(trades not specified)				

## UNITED STATES.†

*Employment in September.*—Preliminary figures relating to the volume of employment in September, based on returns from 8,820 establishments in 52 manufacturing industries, covering 2,548,989 workpeople, are published by the Federal Bureau of Labour Statistics. These establishments in August reported 2,495,787 persons employed, and the September figures consequently indicate a net increase of 2.1 per cent., definitely confirming the upward trend which was reported in August. The aggregate wages paid show for the same period an increase of 3.3 per cent., and the average weekly earnings an increase of 1.2 per cent. Thirty-nine of the 52 industries record increases in the number of workpeople employed in September, the largest—brought about by seasonal activity—being in the fertiliser industry (over 37 per cent.). Other large increases in numbers

\* *Sociala Meddelanden*, No. 10, 1924. Stockholm.

† *Employment in Selected Industries*, September, 1924.

employed were shown in rubber boots and shoes (19.3 per cent.), confectionery (16.1 per cent.), machine tools (12.6 per cent.) and shirts and collars (10.4 per cent.).

As regards comparison between the month under review and the corresponding month of 1923, returns from 6,423 establishments in the 52 industries show a decrease of 13 per cent. in the number of persons employed, a decrease of 14.2 in aggregate wages and a decrease of 1.4 per cent. in average weekly earnings.

Reports from the Interstate Commerce Commission show an increase, on 15th July, 1924, of 0.1 per cent. in the total number of persons employed on Class I. railways (excluding executives and officials), as compared with the total for 15th June, 1924, and a decrease of 9.4 per cent. as compared with the total for 15th July, 1923.

*Index of Employment in Manufacturing Establishments.*—If the monthly average index number of employment for 1923 be taken as 100, the corresponding index for September is 86.7, as compared with 85.0 in the preceding month and 99.8 in September, 1923. (Earlier index numbers of this series are given on p. 345 of the September GAZETTE.)

## CANADA.

*Employment in October.\**—For 1st October, 1924, returns were received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at Ottawa from 5,855 firms, with an aggregate of 771,932 upon their pay-rolls. On 1st September the same firms reported 765,422 employed, and the total for 1st October thus shows an increase of 6,510 persons. If the number 100 be assigned to the week ended 17th January, 1920, the index number of employment for 1st October, 1924, is 93.9, as compared with 93.1 at the beginning of the preceding month and 99.5 on 1st October, 1923.

*Trade Union Unemployment in September.†*—On 30th September 5.9 per cent. of the aggregate membership of trade unions making returns were unemployed, as compared with 6.5 at the end of August and 2.0 per cent. on 30th September, 1923.

## AUSTRALIA.‡

*Unemployment in Third Quarter, 1924.*—The percentage of members of trade unions unemployed in the third quarter of 1924 was 9.5, as compared with 8.3 in the preceding quarter and 7.4 in the third quarter of 1923.

\* *The October Employment Situation, 1924.* Ottawa.

† Information supplied through the courtesy of the Canadian Department of Labour.

‡ Information supplied through the courtesy of the Commonwealth High Commissioner in London.

## LEGAL CASES, OFFICIAL NOTICES, &amp;c.

## LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

## Workmen's Compensation Acts, 1906-1923.

## APPLICATION TO REDUCE WEEKLY COMPENSATION—REFUSAL TO UNDERGO OPERATION.

An application was made at the Hanley County Court for the diminution of the weekly amount of compensation being paid to a collier, on the ground that the man had unreasonably refused to undergo an operation. It was stated that the respondent met with an accident in November, 1922, which resulted in a rupture, and he had not worked since, but was drawing compensation and Unemployment Insurance benefit. The collier objected to the idea of being operated upon, and told the firm that he would not consider the matter unless the surgeon gave a written guarantee that the operation would be a success. His employers contended that this was an unreasonable attitude to take up.

Judge Ruegg, K.C., said: "I have been asked over and over again to stop compensation on the ground of a man refusing to undergo this very operation and in every case I have refused. It means that I am being asked to say that every miner who is badly ruptured and does not submit to an operation ought to have his compensation stopped. It will be a long time before I say that." His Honour added that he could not encourage these applications to stop compensation because workmen refused to submit to an operation.—*Florence Iron and Coal Company v. Whittaker.*—Hanley County Court.—September 9th, 1924.

## EMPLOYER'S RIGHT TO REJECT MEN—TRADE UNIONS AND CONTRACTS OF EMPLOYMENT.

In this case the question arose whether an employer who asks a Trade Union to supply a workman is bound in law to take into his employment the man sent. The matter came before the Court on the hearing of a claim by a machine minder, who sued his employers to recover £2 4s. 6d. payment for one night's work, for which, he alleged, he was engaged. The employee's case was that he was engaged by the firm through its manager, who telephoned to the offices of the labour department of the Trade Union, of which he was a member. The firm required four men, and he was one of those selected. He reported for work, but was told that his services would not be required.

For the defence it was contended that no contract was made with the Trade Union, and that the firm need not employ any man the Union sent unless they were satisfied with him.

Judge Cluer found that there was no contract and gave judgment for the firm.—*Alexander v. Thos. de la Rue & Co., Ltd.*—Shoreditch County Court.—November 24th, 1924.

## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS.

## DECISIONS GIVEN BY THE UMPIRE.

The Umpire is a judicial authority, independent of the Ministry of Labour, appointed by the Crown under Section 12 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, for the purpose of determining disputed claims to benefit. His decisions\* are final and conclusive.

Appeals to the Umpire may be made by the Insurance Officer or by an Association of which the claimant is a member, or, with the permission of the Court of Referees, by the claimant himself.

The following are recent decisions of general interest:—

**Case No. 7795, Section 7 (1) (iii).—Available for work—Applicant Attending Course of Lectures for Which He Had Paid a Heavy Fee—Course Preparatory to Trade Examination—Willingness to Forgo Lectures if Work Found for Him.**

The applicant, an optician's assistant, reported that he was attending a series of lectures in preparation for an examination in optics for which he was to sit on the 14th, 15th and 16th May, 1924. He stated that the course of lectures, for which he had paid a fee of ten guineas, started on 28th April, 1924, and would last until 10th May. He requested that the times at which he was required to sign the unemployed register should be amended so that he could attend the lectures without forfeiting unemployment benefit. His claim for benefit was, however, disallowed for the period 28th April to 10th May, 1924, on the ground that he was not available for work.

The applicant appealed to the Court of Referees. He stated that he had taken up the course in preference to idling his time away while unemployed. He submitted that he was available for work, and stated that he had informed the Exchange officials that he would forgo the lectures if work could be obtained for him.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim for benefit should be disallowed from 28th April to 10th May inclusive, on the ground that the applicant was not available for work in that he could not accept work when attending the lectures and was unable to sign the unemployed register at the prescribed time.

The Insurance Officer disagreed. Notwithstanding the amount of fee paid for the lectures, he thought that this

\* Volumes containing the collected decisions of the Umpire are published by His Majesty's Stationery Office.

Cases after No. 2,000 are not 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 His Majesty's Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown on the front cover of this GAZETTE.



was a type of case in which it was undesirable to put any obstacle in the way of an applicant who desired to qualify himself for the purpose of more readily obtaining employment in his trade, unless it was clear that he was not in a position to take suitable employment when offered.

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

"The Court of Referees disallowed in accordance with the second paragraph of the decision on Case No. 4903."

"As is pointed out in that paragraph, claims in circumstances resembling those of this case have been disallowed on the ground that the applicants were not available, but I am not anxious to press the principle of those decisions further than it is necessary to protect the Unemployment Insurance Fund from abuse by allowing benefit to persons who are not really trying to get work, and would not take it if it was offered to them."

"This case appears to me to be that of an applicant who, whilst unemployed and genuinely seeking employment, is trying to improve his chances by a course of education. He says he would forgo the lectures if he could get work, and I think that statement may be accepted and that he is available for work."

**Case No. 8011.—Section 7 (1) (ii).—Not Unemployed—Additional Occupation—Labourer adopted evening work as theatre attendant during unemployment—Evening work carried on later concurrently with work in usual occupation for 19 days—Definition of "ordinarily."**

It was reported that the applicant had been drawing benefit from 10th April to 30th October, 1922, and from 1st April, 1923, to 16th February, 1924, periods during which he had in fact worked as a theatre attendant. His claim for benefit was therefore disallowed under Section 7 (1) (ii) in respect of these periods, on the ground that he was not unemployed.

The applicant admitted that he had been employed during the periods referred to, but a representative of his Association submitted that the applicant was entitled to benefit for the second of the periods because the work as theatre attendant had by that time become an additional occupation from which the applicant derived only 19s. per week, or less than 3s. 4d. on the daily average.

The Umpire's decision shows the essential dates and other information in the case.

*Recommended* by the Court of Referees that the claim for benefit should be disallowed in respect of both periods. The Court held that the occupation as theatre attendant had not by 1st April, 1923, become an additional occupation within the meaning of the Act.

The applicant's Association appealed to the Umpire and attended an oral hearing of the case.

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

"This case and No. 8021 raise the difficult question as to what constitutes "ordinarily" following an occupation in addition to a usual employment."

"In a large number of cases my predecessor and I have held that an applicant must show that for a substantial time he has followed the additional occupation whilst employed in his usual employment, and it has generally been held that from three to six weeks is the least time that can be considered substantial."

"It is obvious, however, that there can be no justification for laying down any period of time as a minimum, as the Act does not declare that the two occupations must have been followed together for three or any other number of weeks. The question to be considered in each case is not so much whether the applicant has followed the two occupations concurrently for any number of weeks as whether he shows that he has as an ordinary practice, and not in exceptional or special circumstances, followed the additional occupation with a view to supplementing the wages he obtains when at work and not as an alternative to his usual employment."

"Accordingly one important matter for consideration is whether the additional occupation was taken up as a temporary expedient because the applicant was out of work, or on short time, or whether he took it up whilst in regular work with a view to continuing it indefinitely as an occupation to be followed in addition to employment in his usual occupation."

"Another matter to be considered is whether the additional occupation is of a kind which a man would be likely to follow whilst fully employed in his usual employment."

"In this case the applicant obtained evening work as a theatre attendant in April, 1922, having then been unemployed for three months. He continued to act as theatre attendant for six months whilst he was not employed in his usual occupation as a builder's labourer."

"Shortly after losing his work at the theatre he obtained a month's job as a labourer, and when he lost that job he again applied for evening work at the theatre, but was referred by the theatre people to a contractor who was demolishing a theatre, and in March, 1923, he obtained about six weeks' work as a labourer with the contractor. Whilst he was in this job he again got evening work as a theatre attendant, and he followed the two occupations concurrently for 19 days. Since then he has worked regularly as a theatre attendant, but has only had two days' work as a labourer."

"The usual hours of work as a labourer are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and the applicant's work as theatre attendant occupies the greater part of every evening and Saturday afternoons, so that a man who ordinarily followed both occupations concurrently would be working for 11 or 12 hours a day on six days in each week. Though it is possible that some men may work for such long hours, I think it improbable that a man would volun-

tarily do so in an ordinary way, and I am not prepared to say that a man who has worked in this way for three weeks shows that he has ordinarily done so."

"Accordingly, whilst I am satisfied that the applicant has during the last two years ordinarily followed the occupation of theatre attendant when not employed as a labourer, and that he has continued to do so when he occasionally got work as a labourer, I agree with the Court of Referees that he has not ordinarily followed the occupation of theatre attendant in addition to that of labourer."

**Case No. 8021.—Section 7 (1) (ii).—Not unemployed—Additional occupation—Carried on concurrently with work in usual occupation for two weeks—Applicant accustomed to do some spare time work to supplement earnings in usual occupation.**

The applicant, who had last been employed as a deal porter by a firm of timber merchants for the period 12th to 24th May, 1924, lodged, on 26th May, 1924, a claim for benefit which was, however, disallowed under Section 7 (1) (ii) on the ground that he was following an occupation, as a theatre attendant at a wage of 2s. per night, which had not ordinarily been followed by him in addition to his usual occupation.

The applicant stated that he had been employed irregularly by the firm of timber merchants for the last 20 years. Owing to injuries sustained during the war his earning capacity as a deal porter had been impaired, and he had had, therefore, to supplement his earnings on day work by undertaking any additional job which became available. In this way he had done various odd jobs, such as boot repairing, in his spare time. He secured the work as theatre attendant, which he was still carrying on, on 12th May, 1924, working nightly from 6.40 p.m. to 10.30 p.m., and he had carried on the work concurrently with work in his usual occupation during the periods 12th to 24th May and 3rd to 14th June, 1924. He submitted, therefore, that the work at the theatre was an additional occupation within the meaning of the Act.

*Recommended* by the Court of Referees that the claim for benefit should be allowed on the ground that the occupation as theatre attendant was an additional occupation within the meaning of Section 7 (2) (a).

The Insurance Officer disagreed with the Court. He did not think that up to the date of his claim the applicant had followed the occupation as theatre attendant concurrently with work in his usual occupation sufficiently long enough to say that he had *ordinarily* carried on the two occupations concurrently.

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

"This case at first sight appears to be much like No. 8011. But there are material differences."

"The applicant has for the last 20 years worked on and off for a certain firm as a deal porter. His employment, I gather, has been irregular owing to injuries received in the war; he has not been able to earn much in his usual employment, and he has since the war always supplemented his earnings by some evening occupation."

"On the 12th of May he obtained evening work as a theatre attendant, and he is still following that occupation. And since then he has continued to be irregularly employed as before by the firm for whom he has worked for 20 years."

"He worked at the two occupations concurrently from May 12th to May 24th and again from June 3rd to June 14th."

"Having regard to the special circumstances of this case I think there is not sufficient ground for differing from the Court of Referees, who were of opinion that the applicant had shown that on May 25th he had ordinarily followed the occupation of theatre attendant in addition to his usual employment."

**Case No. 8038.—Section 7 (1) (iii).—Suitable employment, refusal of—Proviso B—Different rates of pay in force for applicant's occupation in same district—Had habitually obtained higher rate—Definition of "continued to be so employed"—Applies not to continued employment with same employer or with employer paying same rate but to continued employment in usual occupation.**

The applicant, an armature winder, who had last been employed for one year by an electric railway company, had been unemployed for 26 days when, on 2nd April, 1924, he was offered employment as an armature winder with a firm of engineers situated about eight miles from his home. The standard rates of wages for the work, viz., 50s. 10½d. plus 10s. per week would have been paid, plus premium commission.

The applicant refused the offer on the ground that he had no money to pay his fare to the work. He admitted that he did not know and that he did not enquire how far away the work was situated. If he had been accepted for the work he could not have paid his daily fares to and from it.

*Recommended* by the Court of Referees that the claim for benefit should be disallowed. The Court thought the applicant should have made an effort to obtain his fare or have asked for an advanced railway warrant.

The applicant's Association appealed to the Umpire and attended an oral hearing of the case. The Umpire's decision shows the Association's contention and the result of further information obtained.

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

"Before the Court of Referees the applicant gave as his reason for not accepting employment offered to him that he had not the small sum of money required to travel to the place of employment, and I agree with the Court of Referees that in the circumstances this was not sufficient reason."

"At a hearing before me it was argued that the employment



offered was not suitable having regard to Section 7 (1) (b) of the Act of 1920.

"The applicant is an armature winder, and since he became a fully qualified man, seven years ago, he has always obtained one of the rates for the time being payable to armature winders in accordance with agreements made between the Electrical Trades Union and various employers or federations of employers. This rate I may call the 'electrical trades' rate. There is, however, another considerably lower rate paid by engineering firms to armature winders in the same district. This rate I may call the 'engineering' rate.

"Both rates are fully recognised, but the majority of armature winders in the district obtain the electrical trades rate. The applicant was offered employment as an armature winder in his own district at the engineering rate, and I have to consider whether it was unsuitable employment by reason of its being at a rate lower than that which the applicant had habitually obtained in his usual employment in the district, or would have obtained had he continued to be so employed.

"I am satisfied that the employment offered was at a rate lower than those which the applicant had habitually obtained, but it is not so clear that it is lower than that which he would have obtained had he continued to be employed in his usual employment in the district. The rate offered was lower than that which he would have obtained had he continued to be employed as an armature winder by the particular employers with whom he has been employed, or by other employers paying the 'electrical trades' rate; but it was not lower than that which he would have obtained had his continued employment as an armature winder been with employers who pay the 'engineering' rate.

"I am of opinion that the expression 'continued to be so employed' in Section 7 (1) (b) does not mean 'continued to be employed by the same employer or an employer paying the same rate,' but means 'continued to be employed in his usual employment in the same district' that is in this case 'continued to be employed as an armature winder.' And, inasmuch as both the rates in question are rates recognised by agreements and paid by a substantial number of employers in the district in which the applicant was last ordinarily employed, I am not prepared to say that, had the applicant continued to be employed as an armature winder in the same district he would have obtained the higher rate.

"The applicant, therefore, failed to show that by reason of Section 7 (1) (b) of the Act of 1920 the employment offered was unsuitable."

## RECENT CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION CASES.

### INDUSTRIAL COURT DECISIONS.

**ENGINEERING STAFF.**—The Joint Trades Tramways Movement (comprising certain Trade Unions) *v.* The London County Council. *Difference.*—That restitution be made of the third instalment of 5s. 6d. p.w. by which war wage advances in the engineering trades (mechanical) were reduced in 1922. *Decision.*—The claim has not been established. Issued 6th October, 1924. (985.)

**ELECTRICIANS.**—The Electrical Trades Union *v.* The Metropolitan Railway. *Difference.*—Are the Metropolitan Railway justified in applying Decision No. 728 in view of all the circumstances? *Decision.*—The Company are justified in applying Decision No. 728. Issued 8th October, 1924. (986.)

**RAILWAY SHOPMEN—PAINTERS, CHARING CROSS BRIDGE.**—The National Union of Railwaymen *v.* The Southern Railway. *Difference.*—Claim for "dirty and dangerous money" under Condition 11 of Schedule F to Decision No. 728. *Decision.*—When the men concerned, in the course of painting, have to work on their backs or in other awkward positions, under the arch of the bridge and above the river, and do their own scaffolding, an extra payment at the rate of 2s. p.w. should be allowed. Effective as from 27th June, 1924. Issued 8th October, 1924. (987.)

**RAILWAY SHOPMEN—DIPPER, PLATER AND BRONZER IN THE SIGNAL AND TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT AT CREWE.**—The National Union of Railwaymen *v.* The London Midland and Scottish Railway. *Difference.*—Rate of pay under paragraph 43 of Decision No. 728. *Decision.*—Having regard to the nature of the work and the skill and experience of the man concerned, the rate should be 44s. p.w. Effective as from the beginning of the first full pay period following 16th September, 1924. Issued 8th October, 1924. (988.)

**RAILWAY SHOPMEN—TRIMMERS' ASSISTANTS.**—The National Union of Railwaymen *v.* The London Midland and Scottish Railway. *Difference.*—Should two men engaged in "stripping" work preparatory to the work of trimmers be classified by the Company as labourers (Grade I.) or as "Trimmers' Assistants"? *Decision.*—The men are entitled to be classified as "Trimmers' Assistants," and to receive rates of pay accordingly. Effective as from the beginning of the first full pay period following the date of the decision. Issued 14th October, 1924. (989.)

**RAILWAY SHOPMEN—DIRTY OR DANGEROUS WORK.**—The National Union of Railwaymen *v.* The London Midland and Scottish Railway and the London and North Eastern Railway. *Difference.*—Claim for payment of and allowance for dirty or dangerous work to men employed in engine sheds, tunnels and on ships at Holyhead. *Decision.*—*Engine sheds and tunnels.* The Court explained at some length the true intent and meaning of Condition 11 of Schedule F to Decision No. 728, and remitted the cases concerned for further consideration by the parties. The decision is to apply as from and after 1st April, 1924. *Men employed on ships.* The men in question are from

time to time employed on work of a "dirty or dangerous character," and should receive an extra payment of 6d. p.d. or part of a day when working on repair or maintenance on board ship. Effective as from the beginning of the first full pay period following the date of the decision. Issued 14th October, 1924. (990.)

**RAILWAY SHOPMEN—WHEEL AND AXLE TURNERS** in the Carriage and Wagon Department, Horwich.—The Amalgamated Engineering Union *v.* The London Midland and Scottish Railway. *Difference.*—Rates of pay under the terms of Decision No. 728. *Decision.*—*Wheel turners.* The claim for the payment of the full turners' rate to the men concerned is not one that can be conceded. The Company should, however, if satisfied that the men are qualified to undertake general turners' work, give them, as soon as may be, the opportunity of employment as such. *Axle turner.* The claim for the turners' full rate is not made out. Issued 29th October, 1924. (991.)

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

**ELECTRICITY SUPPLY WORKERS: GREAT BRITAIN.**—Trade Union Side *v.* Employers' Side of the National Joint Industrial Council for the Electricity Supply Industry. *Difference:* Application by the Trade Union side for a general advance of 10s. per week. Conciliation Committee appointed under Section 2 (1) (b) of the Conciliation Act, 1896: Mr. W. Addington Willis, C.B.E. (Independent Chairman), and an equal number of representatives of each side of the Council. Recommendation: That a Tribunal be constituted to examine and report upon all facts material to the issues between the employers and workers. (See next paragraph and page 392.) (I.R.133/17/1924.)

**ELECTRICITY SUPPLY WORKERS: GREAT BRITAIN.**—Trade Union Side *v.* Employers' Side of the National Joint Industrial Council for the Electricity Supply Industry. *Difference:* Application by the Trade Union side for a general advance of 10s. per week. Special Tribunal appointed under Section 2 (1) (c) of the Conciliation Act, 1896. Independent Chairman (Mr. W. Addington Willis, C.B.E.) and two representatives nominated by the Employers' side (Mr. W. B. Woodhouse and Mr. S. Fedden) and two representatives nominated by the Workers' side (Alderman G. F. Dean and Mr. John Turner). Recommendations: (See page 392.) (I.R.133/16/1924.)

**ALKALI WORKERS: GATESHEAD.**—National Union of General and Municipal Workers *v.* United Alkali Company, Limited. *Difference:* Application by the Union on behalf of their members employed at the Allhusen Works, Gateshead, for an increase of 1s. 6d. per shift for top and bottom men at the High Works Mechanical Bleaching Plant. Arbitrator: Mr. W. H. Stoker, K.C. Award: It was held that the claim as made had not been established. Dated 14th October, 1924. (I.R.1583/2/1924.)

**SHIP-REPAIRING INDUSTRY: RIVER THAMES.**—Boilermakers' and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society *v.* River Thames Dry Dock Proprietors' and Ship-repairers' Association. *Difference:* To determine what rate should be paid to men engaged on work outside tanks on oil-carrying vessels. Board of Arbitration: Sir William W. Mackenzie, K.B.E., K.C. (Chairman), Mr. D. Milne Watson (Employers' Representative), and Mr. George J. Rowe, O.B.E., J.P. (Workpeople's Representative). Award: The Board were of opinion that the question should be considered nationally by the appropriate representative bodies. In the meantime the Board decided that, having regard to the practice prevailing in the principal ports of Great Britain, when men are engaged on or in connection with the tanks in any vessel which on her last voyage carried fuel oil for her own consumption, the rate of time and a half should be paid. Issued 4th October, 1924. (I.R.440/8/1924.)

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

**STONEWORKERS AND SETTMAKERS: CALDERCRUIX, NEAR AIRDRIE.**—Stoneworkers' and Settmakers' Union *v.* Forest Hill Quarry Company. *Difference:* Complaint by Union over employment of apprentices. Agreement: Satisfactory arrangements made about present and future applications. Agreed 13th October, 1924. (I.R.1500/1924.)

**BUILDING TRADE WORKERS: TORRINGTON.**—National Federation of Building Trade Operatives *v.* Master Builders of Torrington. *Difference:* Employment of a non-union plumber at a rate lower than the district rate. Agreement: Grievance over payment of lower rate removed. Signed 8th October, 1924. (I.R.1635/1924.)

**ENGINEERS: DERBY.**—Amalgamated Engineering Union *v.* The Internal Combustion Engineering Company, Derby. *Difference:* Dismissal of three members by firm on account of their refusal to work overtime. Agreement: Men to be reinstated and put on new machines when ready. Signed 20th October, 1924. (I.R.1659/1924.)

**BAKERS: OXFORD.**—The Amalgamated Union of Operative Bakers, Confectioners and Allied Workers *v.* The Oxford Co-operative Industrial Society. *Difference:* Refusal of Society to agree to joint negotiations to discuss a new agreement. Agreement: Joint negotiations agreed upon for discussion of new agreement. Agreed 21st October, 1924. (I.R.1661/1924.)

**TAILORING MACHINISTS: LONDON.**—The United Ladies' Tailors' Trade Union *v.* Messrs. Brown and Lipman, Tailors, London. *Difference:* Refusal of firm to allow machinists to employ and



pay boy assistants, to whom they taught trade. Agreement: Machinists reinstated and Union recognised as negotiators when necessary. Signed 27th October, 1924. (I.R.549/2/1924.)

### CHAIRMAN OF THE INDUSTRIAL COURT.

The Minister of Labour has appointed Mr. Charles E. Dyer, K.C., Recorder of Northampton, to be a Chairman of the Industrial Court.

### TRADE BOARDS ACTS.

Orders, Notices, etc., Issued During October.

#### I.—CONFIRMING ORDERS.

##### Shirtmaking Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Order N.I.S. (14), dated 4th October, 1924, confirming general overtime rates as fixed for female workers and specifying the 20th October, 1924, as the date from which these rates become effective.

#### II.—NOTICES OF PROPOSAL.

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

PROPOSAL J. (36), dated 8th October, 1924, to fix general minimum piece-rates and guaranteed time-rates and to vary general minimum time-rates and overtime rates for certain classes of male workers employed on Hessian weaving.

##### Flax and Hemp Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal F.H. (18), dated 14th October, 1924, to vary minimum rates of wages for certain classes of female spinners.

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

Proposal C. (20), dated 29th October, 1924, to vary certain general minimum piece-rates in the hand-hammered chain trade.

##### Laundry Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Proposal N.I.L. (N.4), dated 1st October, 1924, to fix general minimum time-rates, a piece-work basis time-rate and general overtime rates for male workers.

##### Shirtmaking Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Proposal N.I.S. (N. 15), dated 22nd October, 1924, to fix general minimum time-rates, and a piece-work basis time-rate for male workers engaged in certain branches of the trade to which the rates at present effective do not apply, also general overtime rates for male workers.

### CHANGES IN MINIMUM RATES OF WAGES DUE TO AN ALTERATION IN THE "COST-OF-LIVING" FIGURE.

Higher wage rates have become operative as from 1st November, 1924, in the undermentioned trades. The minimum rates of wages now applicable are those appropriate to the "Cost of Living" figure of 76, and are set out in the confirming orders quoted, which may be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office, price 3d. net:—

Brush and Broom (Great Britain), M. (35), (36) and (37), col. 9.

Chain (Great Britain), C. (17) and (19), Col. 10.

Coffin Furniture and Cerement Making (Great Britain), U. (13), Col. III.

### TRADE BOARDS INSPECTORATE.

THE Trade Boards Inspectorate has been re-organised on a decentralised basis. The country has been divided into seven territorial divisions, in each of which there is a divisional office in charge of a senior officer. All Trade Boards inspection is undertaken locally from the appropriate divisional office. There are sub-offices in the South Western and North Eastern Divisions at Plymouth and Newcastle respectively.

The addresses and telephone numbers of the divisional and sub-offices are given below:—

#### South Eastern Division:—

Ministry of Labour (Trade Boards Division),  
Montagu House, Whitehall, London, S.W. 1.  
(Tel. No.: Victoria 9200.)

#### South Western Division:—

Ministry of Labour (Trade Boards Division),  
"Parklands," Woodland Road, Bristol.  
(Tel. No.: Bristol 5515.)

Sub-Office: Barclays Bank Chambers, Princes Square,  
Plymouth.

(No telephone.)

#### Midland Division:—

Ministry of Labour (Trade Boards Division),  
174, Corporation Street, Birmingham.  
(Tel. No.: Birmingham Central 2511.)

#### North Eastern Division:—

Ministry of Labour (Trade Boards Division),  
Quebec Chambers, Quebec Street, Leeds.  
(Tel. No.: Leeds Central 20801.)

Sub-Office: 63, Westgate Road, Middle Staircase, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

(Tel. No.: Not yet allocated.)

#### North Western Division:—

Ministry of Labour (Trade Boards Division),  
270, Oxford Road, Manchester.  
(Tel. No.: Rusholme 1868.)

#### Scottish Division:—

Ministry of Labour (Trade Boards Division),  
44, Drumsheugh Gardens, Edinburgh.  
(Tel. No.: Edinburgh Central 9060.)

#### Welsh Division:—

Ministry of Labour (Trade Boards Division),  
Principality Buildings, Queen Street, Cardiff.  
(Tel. No.: Cardiff 5252.)

### FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

*Draft Revised Regulations for the Manufacture or Repair of Electric Accumulators.*

THE Home Secretary has issued a notice, dated 17th October, 1924, that he proposes to make Regulations under Section 79 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in substitution for the Regulations dated 21st November, 1903, for the manufacture or repair of electric accumulators or parts thereof.

The main alterations in the existing code are as follows:—

(1) The application of the Regulations has been extended to cover works in which accumulators are repaired, and

(2) the requirements for securing the application of exhaust ventilation and the maintenance of cleanly conditions have been strengthened so as to bring them up to the standard required in recent codes of Regulations for other industries where danger of lead poisoning occurs.

Copies of the draft Regulations may be obtained on application to the Factory Department, Home Office, London, S.W. 1; and any objection to them by or on behalf of any person affected thereby must be sent to the Secretary of State within 30 days of the date of the notice.

#### Notification of Diseases.

The Home Secretary has also issued a draft Order,\* which it is proposed shall come into force on 1st January, 1925, extending the provisions of Section 73 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, to all cases of poisoning by carbon bisulphide or by anilin and its compounds, and of chronic benzene poisoning, occurring in a factory or workshop.

### OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

BLIND PERSONS EMPLOYMENT.—*Second Report of Proceedings of the Scottish Advisory Committee on the Welfare of the Blind, 1921-24.* Scottish Board of Health. (S.O. publication: price 1s.)

EX-SERVICE MEN.—*Report of Proceedings under the Small Holding Colonies Acts, 1916 and 1918, and Sailors and Soldiers (Gifts for Land Settlement) Act, 1916, for the two years 1921-22 and 1922-23.* Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. (S.O. publication: price 3s. 6d.)

FAMILY ALLOWANCES.—*Family allowances. The remuneration of labour according to need.* Studies and reports, Series D (Wages and Hours) No. 13. International Labour Office. (Geneva: price 3s.) (See page 396.)

MINES AND QUARRIES.—(1) *Reports of H.M. Inspectors of Mines and Quarries under the Quarries Act, 1894, for the year 1923.* Board of Trade, Mines Department. (S.O. publication: price 9d.) (2) *Output and employment at metalliferous mines, quarries, etc., during the quarter ended 30th June, 1924.* Board of Trade, Mines Department. (S.O. publication: price 4d.) (3) *Report on miners' "beat knee," "beat hand" and "beat elbow."* Medical Research Council. (S.O. publication: price 1s. 6d.) (4) *Third annual report of the Secretary for Mines for the year ending 31st December, 1923, and the annual report of H.M. Chief Inspector of Mines for the same period, with a statistical appendix to both reports.* Board of Trade, Mines Department. (S.O. publication: price 6s. 6d.) (See page 393.)

POOR LAW RELIEF.—*Statement showing the number of persons in receipt of Poor Law Relief in England and Wales in the quarter ending June, 1924, with some particulars as to the number of unemployed persons in receipt of such relief.* Ministry of Health. (S.O. publication: price 4d.)

SHIPPING CASUALTIES.—*Return of shipping casualties to and deaths on vessels registered in the United Kingdom, so far as reported to the Board of Trade, in the year ending 31st December, 1922, with comparative figures . . . for the years ending 30th June, 1900-1914, and those ending 31st December, 1920 and 1921.* (S.O. publication: price 3s.)

VITAL STATISTICS.—*Sixty-ninth Annual Report of the Registrar-General for Scotland, 1923.* (S.O. publication: price 10s. 6d.)

\* Factory and Workshop (Notification of Diseases) Draft Order.



## GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

## LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, OCTOBER, 1924.

## ADMIRALTY.

## (Civil Engineer-in-Chief's Department.)

*Devonport:* **Portland Cement:** The Cement Marketing Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—*Pembroke:* **Limestone,** Colley & Sons, Pembroke.—**Three Steel Oil Fuel Tanks:** The Tees Side Bridge & Engineering Works, Ltd., Middlesbrough.—*Portsmouth District:* **Portland Cement:** The Cement Marketing Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—*H.M. Naval Establishments Abroad:* **Steelwork:** Horseley Bridge & Engineering Co., Ltd., Tipton, Staffs.—**Portland Cement:** The Cement Marketing Co., Ltd., London, E.C.

## (Contract and Purchase Department.)

**Badges, Embroidered:** R. Z. Bloomfield, Ltd., London, S.W.; Firmin & Sons, Ltd., London, W.; Hobson & Sons (London), Ltd., London, S.E.; H. James, London, W.; George Kenning & Son, London, E.C.; William Porteous (Executor of R. Stevenson, deceased), London, E.C.; Stephen Simpson, Preston, Stokoe & Co., London; R. Virgo & Co., London, S.W.—**Balancing Machine:** Joshua Buckton & Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**Bar Iron:** Darlington Rolling Mills Co., Ltd., Darlington; Scottish Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Butterley Co., Ltd., Derby.—**Bar Steel:** Cargo Fleet Iron Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough; Dorman, Long & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough; Earl of Dudley's Round Oak Works, Ltd., Brierley Hill; Frodingham Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Scunthorpe; Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Blooms, Steel:** Lanarkshire Steel Co., Ltd., Motherwell; Cammell, Laird & Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—**Boats: 50 ft. Motor Pinnaces:** J. S. White & Co., E. Cowes; J. I. Thornycroft & Co., Southampton; S. E. Saunders, Ltd., E. Cowes.—**42 ft. Steam Life Barge:** J. S. White & Co., E. Cowes.—**27 ft. Whalers:** Walter Cook, Maldon, Essex.—**Boiler Plates, Steel:** Steel Co. of Scotland, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Bolts and Nuts, Steel:** C. Richards & Sons, Ltd., Darlaston; Stones Bros., Ltd., West Bromwich.—**Brass Sheets and Bars:** Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Williams, Foster & Co. & Pascoe, Grenfell & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Brushes, Shaving:** C. H. Leng & Sons, Birmingham.—**Brushes, Shoe, Clothes, Hair and Pastry:** Vale & Bradnack, Walsall; W. H. Vowles & Sons, Ltd., Stonehouse, Glos.; J. Root & Son, London, N.—**Calico:** Aston Bros. & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Fothergill & Harvey, Ltd., Manchester; James Hoyle, Ltd., Hebden Bridge; G. I. Sidebottom & Co., Manchester.—**Caps, Blue Cloth, with Peaks:** Zeffertt & Son, Portsmouth.—**Castings and Forgings, Steel:** W. Beardmore & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Castings, Steel:** J. Lysaght, Ltd., Bristol; F. H. Lloyd & Co., Ltd., Wednesbury.—**Cells:** Premier Accumulator Co. (1921), Ltd., Northampton.—**Chain, Mooring and Fittings:** Earl of Dudley's Round Oak Works, Ltd., Brierley Hill; H. Wood & Co., Ltd., Chester.—**Compressors, Air (Motor-Driven):** G. & J. Weir, Ltd., Glasgow; Fullerton, Hodgart & Barclay, Ltd., Paisley.—**Compressors, Air (Steam-Driven):** Peter Brotherhood, Ltd., Peterborough.—**Cranes, Electric Overhead Travelling:** Marshall, Fleming & Co., Ltd., Motherwell.—**Crane, 10 cwt., Electric Runabout:** Chatteris Engineering Co., Ltd., Chatteris, Cambs.—**Damask Table Linen:** McCrum, Watson & Mercer, Ltd., Belfast; Ulster Weaving Co., Ltd., Belfast; York Street Flax Spinning Co., Ltd., Belfast.—**Drawers, Brown Cotton:** Simpkin, Son & Emery, Hinckley.—**Earthenware (Basins and Plates):** Bovey Pottery Co., Ltd., Bovey Tracey, Devon; Bishop & Stonier, Ltd., Hanley; W. T. Copeland & Sons, Stoke-on-Trent; Keeling & Co., Ltd., Burslem; Minton, Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent.—**Earthenware (Miscellaneous):** W. Adams & Sons, Tunstall; Adderleys, Ltd., Longton; Bishop & Stonier, Ltd., Hanley; W. T. Copeland & Sons, Stoke-on-Trent; George Jones & Sons, Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent; Keeling & Co., Ltd., Burslem; Minton, Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent; Myott, Son & Co., Cobridge.—**Enamels:** R. Ingham, Clark & Co., Ltd., Stratford, E.; Gross, Sherwood & Heald, Ltd., Barking; R. Kearsley & Co., Ltd., Ripon.—**Enamelware:** Anglo-Enamelware, Ltd., West Bromwich; Welsh Tinplate & Metal Stamping Co., Ltd., Llanelli.—**Felt, Brown:** Bury Felt Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Bury.—**Files:** T. Firth & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield; Cammell, Laird & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; Sanderson Bros. & Newbould, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Firehearth and Spare Parts:** Carron Company, Falkirk; Darwin, Yeardley & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; Moorwoods, Ltd., Sheffield; C. Portway & Son, Halstead, Essex; Smith & Wellstood, Ltd., Bonnybridge.—**Flannel, White:** John Sandiford & Sons, Rochdale.—**Flour:** E. Marriage & Son, Ltd., Felixstowe; Wingent & Kimmins, Ltd., Chatham; W. Vernon & Sons, Ltd., Liverpool; J. Rank, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Frameworks:** Westminster Engineering Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—**Glass, Table:** Stevens & Williams, Ltd., Brierley Hill; Stuart & Sons, Ltd., Stourbridge; T. Webb & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; T. Webb & Corbett, Ltd., Stourbridge.—**Handkerchiefs, White Cotton:** R. P. Gorman & Co., Belfast.—**Helmets, Sun:** J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.; Everitt W. Vero & Co., London, S.E.—**Hoists and Valves:** MacTaggart, Scott & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh.—**Hoses, Bronze (Oil Fuel):** Power Flexible Tubing Co., Ltd., London, N.—**Jute Goods:** Craiks, Ltd., Forfar.—**Leather Straps or Millbands:** S. E. Norris & Co., Ltd., London, E.; Harbord & Poole, Ltd., London, S.E.; Patent Anhydrous Leather Co., Ltd., Portsmouth.—**Linen Goods:** A. Blyth & Co., Kirkcaldy; Castle Island Linen Co., Ltd., Belfast; Thos. McLaren & Sons, Kirkcaldy; W. Lumsden & Son, Freuchie.—**Machinery, Rangar Door Operating:**

Brown Bros. & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh.—**Machinery, Propelling: For 34 ft. Cutters:** Parsons Motor Co., Southampton; Atlantic Engine Co., Wishaw. **For 34 ft. Cutters and 36 ft. Pinnaces:** A. G. Mumford, Colchester; Dixon Bros. & Hutchinson, Southampton.—**For 50 ft. Motor Pinnaces:** A. G. Mumford, Colchester; The Green Engine Co., Twickenham; Norris, Henty & Gardners, Patricroft, Lancs.—**Malt:** J. Henderson & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Motor Generators, Starters and Spare Parts:** Newton Bros. (Derby), Ltd., Derby.—**Motors, Main Turbine Turning:** Berkeley & Young, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Paint, Black:** Colthurst & Haring, Ltd., Bristol.—**Paint, Oxide of Iron:** Golden Valley Ochre & Oxide Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Porcelain China (Breakfast Ware):** John Aynsley & Sons, Longton; Crown Staffordshire Porcelain Co., Ltd., Fenton; George Jones & Sons, Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent.—**Propellers:** J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Pumps:** W. H. Allen, Sons & Co., Ltd., Bedford.—**Rations:** J. Moir & Son, Ltd., London, E.—**Rivets:** Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham; Newport Rivet Co., Ltd., Newport; Rivet, Bolt and Nut Co., Ltd., Glasgow; T. D. Robinson & Co., Ltd., Derby.—**Screws:** T. Eaves, Ltd., Birmingham; A. Stokes & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham; The British Screw Co., Ltd., Leeds; Henry Cox Screw Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Sectional Materials, Angles, etc.:** Dorman, Long & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough; Pease & Partners, Ltd., Saltburn-by-Sea.—**Shalloon, Red and White:** J. Clough & Son, Shipley.—**Shoes, Gymnasium:** North British Rubber Co., Ltd., Edinburgh.—**Silk (Braid):** G. Hattersley & Sons, Ltd., Keighley.—**Silk, Sewing:** Brough, Nicholson & Hall, Ltd., Leek.—**Spirit, Methy-lated:** H. Green & Co., Ltd., Hull.—**Steel Bottles (Oxygen Storage):** Chesterfield Tube Co., Ltd., Chesterfield.—**Steel Plating, Perforated:** W. Barns & Son, London, N.; G. A. Harvey & Co. (London), Ltd., London, S.E.—**Steel Tubes:** Tubes, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Steel Wire Rope:** Edwin Ellis & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Steering Gear:** Brown Bros. & Co., Edinburgh; J. Hastie & Co., Ltd., Greenock.—**Suet, Beef:** Wiles & Lewis, St. Albans.—**Suits, Bluett Combination:** Johnson & Sons, Ltd., Great Yarmouth.—**Switches:** Bertram Thomas, Manchester; Whipp & Bourne, Ltd., Manchester.—**Telephone Receivers and Headgear:** S. G. Brown, Ltd., London, W.—**Tiles:** Gibbons, Hinton & Co., Ltd., Brierley Hill, Staffs; Campbell Tile Co., Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent.—**Tractors, Fordson:** Knutsford Motors, Ltd., Cheshire.—**Trailers, "Eagle" 5 Ton:** Eagle Engineering Co., Ltd., Warwick.—**Transformers:** Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Tubing, Canvas Hose:** Richards, Ltd., Aberdeen.—**Turbo-Generator and Condensing Sets:** W. H. Allen, Sons & Co., Ltd., Bedford.—**Watchcoats:** John Hammond & Co. (1922), Ltd., Newcastle, Staffs.; H. Lotery & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Water Tubes and Fittings:** E. Lewis & Sons, Ltd., Wolverhampton; Scottish Tube Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Harry W. Wyld, West Bromwich.—**Web Equipment:** Mills Equipment Co., Ltd., Tottenham.—**Wood Goods, Manufactured:** R. Groom, Sons & Co., Ltd., Wellington; John Brown & Sons (Thatcham), Ltd., Thatcham; C. W. Clinch & Sons, Newbury; R. Charnley & Sons, Ulverston; Rudders & Paynes, Ltd., Birmingham; Stephen Pinnock, Thatcham; Kendal, Handle Co., Ltd., Kendal; J. Nicholls & Sons, Wolverhampton; E. & W. Coward, Ulverston; East & Son, Ltd., Great Berkhamsted.—**W/T Note Magnifiers:** Gambrell Bros., Ltd., London, S.W.

## WAR OFFICE.

**Ablution Ranges:** Wilmer & Sons, Ltd., London, E.—**Alteration to Batteries:** Pritchett & Gold & E.P.S. Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Aluminium:** British Aluminium Co., Ltd., Warrington.—**Bedsteads, Camp, and Stands for Basins:** E. Atkins, Ltd., London, E.—**Blinds and Accessories:** Waring & Gillow, Ltd., London, W.—**Boiler, Steam:** Riley Bros. (Boilermakers), Ltd., Stockton-on-Tees.—**Brass Foundry, Plumbers, and Accessories:** Marley & Regulus, Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Brass Tubes:** J. Wilkes, Sons & Mapplebeck, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Canvas, Packing Hessian:** Craiks, Ltd., Forfar; D. Smith & Sons, Ltd., Alyth.—**Caps, S.D.:** L. Silberston, London, E.—**Cloth, Wool:** W. A. & F. Priestley, Ltd., Haworth, Yorks.—**Coats, Great:** J. Hammond & Co. (1922), Ltd., Newcastle, Staffs.—**Conduits and Conduit Fittings:** The Electric Conduits, Ltd., Walsall.—**Cylinders:** Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Harness-Collars Head:** Barrow, Hepburn & Gale, Ltd., London, S.E.; D. Mason & Sons, Birmingham.—**Ironmongery Builders, Locks, etc.:** Comyn, Ching & Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Lagging, Supply and Erection:** Kitson's Insulations, Ltd., London, E.—**Lathes:** Wm. Muir & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Liquor Cresoli Saponatus:** Newton Chambers & Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—**Locomotives, Electric, and Spares:** The English Electric Co., Ltd., Preston.—**Metal Rod:** King's Norton Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Sir W. G. Armstrong Whitworth & Co., Ltd., Newcastle.—**Overall Trousers:** J. Hammond & Co., Ltd., Newcastle, Staffs.—**Pig Iron:** Barrow Hematite Steel Co., Ltd., Barrow-in-Furness.—**Piping, Iron, etc.:** Clay Cross Co., Ltd., Chesterfield; Stanton Ironworks Co., Ltd., Nottingham.—**Presses, Hydraulic:** J. Shaw & Sons, Ltd., Salford.—**Rings, Clutch:** W. H. Dorman, Ltd., Stafford.—**Silk, Sewing:** Brough, Nicholson & Hall, Ltd., Leek.—**Sleepers, Creosoted:** Wm. Christie & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Soda:** East Lancs. Chemical Co., Fairfield, Manchester.—**Steel Billets:** Darlington Forge, Ltd., Darlington; Vickers, Ltd., Sheffield; Wm. Jessop & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Steel Carbon, Plate:** Park Gate Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., Rotherham.—**Steel, Tool:** S. Osborn & Co., Ltd.,



Sheffield.—**Stockinette:** N. Corah & Sons, Ltd., Leicester.—**Tents, Strappings, Leather:** H. Gibbs & Son, London, E.C.—**Tartan, Highland:** D. Store: C. Groom, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Zinc:** Ballantyne Bros. & Co., Ltd., Peebles and Innerleithen.—**British Metal Corpn., Ltd., London, E.C.; H. Gardner & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Halesowen.—****Works Services: Maintenance Works at:** Blackdown and Deepcut: E. C. Hughes, Wokingham, Berks. S. Aldershot: G. Kemp, Stroud & Co., Ltd., Aldershot. Freshwater: W. G. H. Simmonds, Freshwater. Sandown: H. Moger, E. Cowes, Isle of Wight. Sheerness: G. E. Wallis & Sons, Ltd., Maidstone.—**Building Works and Services at:** Didcot—Foxhall Camp: J. E. Billings & Co., Ltd., Oxford. Devonport—Raglan Barracks: Carkeek & Sons, Ltd., Plymouth. Colchester: Chambers & Son, Colchester. Chester, Castle Barracks Cookhouse: T. Collier & Sons, Leigh, Lancs. Warley: S. Cronin & Sons, Brentwood. Ayr Barracks: J. Dunbar & Co., Glasgow. Norwich—Repairs to Roads: H. C. Greengrass, Norwich. N. Aldershot: G. Kemp Stroud, Aldershot. Strensall: A. Robinson, Idle, Bradford. Maryhill Barracks—Resurfacing Parade Ground: W. G. Walker & Sons, Glasgow. Chelsea Barracks: West's Rotinoff Piling & Construction Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Didcot: A. & S. Wheeler (London), Ltd., London, W.C.—**Painting:** Sheerness Barracks: S. Lupton & Sons, Bradford, Yorks.—**Installations:** Chatham—Electric Light at Brompton and St. Mary's Barracks: The Alpha Electrical & Manufacturing Co., London, S.W. Bristol—Horfield Barracks: A. E. Sudlow & Co., Manchester.

## AIR MINISTRY.

**Aircraft:** De Havilland Aircraft Co., Ltd., Edgware.—**Aircraft Spares:** Blackburn Aeroplane & Motor Co., Ltd., Leeds; Westland Aircraft Works, Yeovil; Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; Blackburn Aeroplane & Motor Co., Ltd., Leeds; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes, Middlesex; S. E. Saunders, Ltd., East Cowes.—**Aircscrews and Cases:** Airscrew Co., Weybridge.—**Ash, 4 in.:** W. Mallinson & Sons, Ltd., London, E.—**Bombs and Detonators, Filling, etc.:** Nobel Industries, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Bombs, Repair and Filling of:** Vickers, Ltd., Dartford.—**Boxes, Voltage:** Pyne Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Teddington.—**Buildings and Works Services:** Airship Shed Extension (Cardington): Cleveland Bridge & Engineering Co., Darlington. Engines Diesel (Felixstowe): Mirless Bickerton & Day, Stockport. Heating Scheme (Halton Park): Manley & Regulus, Wolverhampton. Lathes, Workshop Lorry (Kidbrooke): Denham Engineering Co., Ltd., Halifax. Lockers and Cupboards (Wittering): Waddell & Wilson, London, E. Married Quarters (Northolt): William Willett, Ltd., London, S.W. Motors, Electric (Middle East): Electric Construction Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton. Sanitary Fittings (Halton, Gosport and Northolt): J. Duckett & Sons, Ltd., Burnley. Soot Blowers (Kidbrooke): Babcock & Wilcox, Ltd., London, E.C. Spares, Vickers, Petters (Iraq): Vickers, Petters, Ltd., Ipswich. Switchboard (Felixstowe): Drake & Gorham, London, S.E. Switchboard (Spittlegate): General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Trusses, Roof, Steel (Malta): Horseley Bridge & Engineering Co., Ltd., Tipton. Well-Digging of (Upper Heyford): Le Grand Sutcliffe & Gell, Ltd., Southall, Middlesex.—**Carriers, Bomb Skeleton Tubular:** G. A. Harvey & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Coal (Milton):** The Tredegar Associated Collieries & Shipping Co., Ltd., Cardiff.—**(Milton) for General Purposes:** Dinham, Fawcus & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**(Cranwell):** A. Blackman & Co., London, E.C.—**(Henlow):** The Tredegar Associated Collieries & Shipping Co., Ltd., Cardiff.—**(R.A.E., Farnborough):** Cleveles Western Valleys Anthracite Collieries, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Coal and Coke (Uxbridge):** Dinham, Fawcus & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**(Halton):** Peake, Oliver & Peake, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Coal (Kidbrooke):** Judd, Budd, Ltd., London, E.C.; Dinham, Fawcus & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Cocking Handles:** Brinjes & Goodwin, Ltd., Reading.—**Coke (Pulham):** T. McLeod & Partners, Ltd., London, E.C.—**(Milton):** Peake, Oliver & Peake, Ltd., London, E.C.—**(Manston):** P. Hawksfield & Son, Ltd., Dover.—**Crankcase Castings:** D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—**Curtains, Mosquito:** Waring & Gillow, Ltd., London, W.; Taylor Bros. (Sandiacre), Ltd., Sandiacre.—**Engines, Aircraft:** Armstrong, Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry; W. Beardmore & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Armstrong, Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry.—**Engines, Rectification of:** Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Engines, Repair of:** Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Engine, Repairs to:** E.L.S. Engines, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Engine Spares:** D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.; Peter Hooker, Ltd., London, E.; Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Gas Starter Fittings:** Pyne Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Teddington, Middlesex.—**Gas Starter Spares; Gas Starter Units:** Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Generators Hand Driven:** Evershed & Vignoles, Ltd., London, W.—**Jackets, Blue:** H. Lotery & Co., Ltd., London, E.; Dixon & Gaunt, Ltd., Leeds.—**Magnetos, Repair of; Magneto Spares:** British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., Coventry.—**Oil, Mineral Lubricating:** Silvertown Lubricants, Ltd., London, E.—**Pantaloons, Blue:** H. Lotery & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Plant, Liquid Oxygen:** W. A. Holk Machine-en-Zurnstaffabrik, Holland.—**Rollers, Motor:** Barford & Perkins, Ltd., Peterborough.—**Skins, Goldbeater:** C. G. Spencer & Sons, Ltd., London, N.—**Storage Battery (Pulham), Reconditioning of:** Pritchett & Gold & E.P.S. Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Timber, Imported Swedish:** Denny, Mott & Dickson, Ltd., London, E.C.; Witney, Hine & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Harding & Vick, London, E.C.—**Tool Kits:** D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—**Trigger Guards:** B.S.A. Guns, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Trucks, Ford:** A. E. Gould, Ltd., London, W.—**Wheels, Shields and Tyres:** Palmer Tyres,

Ltd., London, W.C.—**Wind Balaunce Ring Mountings:** Vickers, Ltd., London, S.W.; Monarch Engineering Co., Ltd., London, S.E.

## POST OFFICE.

**Apparatus, Telephonic:** Automatic Telephone Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Liverpool; British L.M. Ericsson Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Beeston; General Electric Co., Ltd., Coventry; International Electric Co., Ltd., London, N.; Siemens Bros. and Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Sterling Telephone & Electric Co., Ltd., Dagenham; Telephone Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Western Electric Co., Ltd., London, E. and N.—**Apparatus, Mail Bag Exchanging:** J. T. Davis, Limited, London, E.—**Apparatus, Testing and Protective:** Walters Electrical Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, W.; Western Electric Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Apparatus, Wireless:** Morgan Crucible Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Brackets:** Bert Birks & Co., Cradley Heath.—**Bicycles, parts for:** Components, Limited, Bournbrook; New Hudson, Limited, Birmingham.—**Bolts, Arm:** Burton, Delingpole & Co., Ltd., Old Hill, Staffs.—**Chains, Bicycle:** Coventry Chain Co., Ltd., Coventry.—**Cable:** British Insulated & Helsby Cables, Ltd., Prescott; W. T. Glover & Co., Ltd., Trafford Park; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Western Electric Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Canvas, Sailcloth:** Woods, Sons & Co., London, E.C.—**Cells, Secondary, parts for:** Pritchett & Gold & E.P.S. Co., Ltd., Dagenham Dock.—**Channels & Covers:** Britannia Lathe & Oil Engine Co., Ltd., Colchester; Willesden Foundry, Limited, Alper-ton.—**Cleaners, Vacuum:** Pulvo Engineering Co., London, W.C.—**Clocks:** Grimshaw, Baxter & Elliott, Limited, Coventry.—**Cloth:** W. Baines' Sons, Limited, Morley, Leeds; Henry Booth & Sons, Gildersome, Leeds; Jas. Casson, Limited, Elland; Colbeck Bros., Ltd., Wakefield; Co-operative Wholesale Society, Limited, Buckfastleigh, Devon; Fox Bros & Co., Ltd., Wellington, Somerset; R. Gaunt & Sons, Limited, Farsley, Leeds; Greengates Worsted Co., Apperley Bridge; A. W. Hainsworth & Sons, Limited, Farsley, Leeds; J. Halliday & Co., Ltd., Pudsey, Leeds; J. Harper & Sons, Calverley, Leeds; W. and T. Huggan, Bramley, Leeds; J. J. L. & C. Peate, Limited, Guiseley; J. and S. Rhodes, Ltd., Morley; P. Womersley & Sons, Pudsey, Leeds.—**Coils, Loading:** Western Electric Co., Limited, London, E.—**Combinations, Motor Cycle:** B.S.A. Cycles, Limited, Redditch and Birmingham; H. Collier & Sons, Limited, London, S.E.—**Compound:** W. H. Keys, Limited, West Bromwich.—**Drill, Cotton:** Fothergill & Harvey, Limited, Littleborough, Lancs.—**Ducts:** Albion Clay Co., Limited, Woodville; Jas. Oakes & Co., Jacksdale, Notts.—**Lamps, Switchboard:** Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End, Middlesex.—**Oil:** Scottish Oil Agency, Limited, Uphall.—**Paper, Telegraph:** Waterlow & Sons, Limited, Dunstable.—**Pipe, W.I.:** Russell Bros. (Walsall), Limited, Walsall.—**Rope, Steel Wire:** Wilkins Wire and Wire Ropes, Ltd., Eastwood, Notts.—**Seals, Lead:** Dunham, White & Co., Ltd., London, E.; I. N. Lyons & Co., Ltd., London, N.—**Sleeves, Jointing:** Dugard Bros., Birmingham; C. M. Powell Bros., Birmingham.—**Sleeves, Lead:** Geo. Farmiloe and Sons, Limited, London, E.—**Spindles:** Bullers, Limited, Tipton; Richards & Sons, Limited, Darlaston.—**Valves, Thermionic:** General Electric Co., Limited, London, W.—**Winches, Motor:** Lacy-Hulbert & Co., Ltd., Beddington.—**Wire, Bronze:** F. Smith & Co., incorporated in the London Electric Wire Co. and Smiths, Ltd., Manchester; Shropshire Iron Co., Ltd., Hadley, Salop.—**Wire, Bronze, Insulated:** Johnson & Phillips, Limited, Charlton.—**Wire, G.I. Strand:** Dorman, Long & Co., Limited, Middlesbrough; Rylands Bros., Limited, Warrington.—**Wire, Copper, Hard Drawn:** F. Smith & Co., incorporated in the London Electric Wire Co. and Smiths, Limited, Manchester.—**Conveyance of Mails:** Sellers and Co., Exmouth; H. & G. Duffield, London, E.

**Cable, Tunnel:** Guildhall Exchange: J. Mowlem & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Cable—Manufacture, Supply, Drawing-in and Jointing:** Uxbridge-Oxford: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. Taunton-Plymouth: Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. Bristol-Taunton: British Insulated & Helsby Cables, Ltd., London, W.C. Norwich-North Walsham: Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E. Ipswich-Halesworth: Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., S.E. Halesworth-Bungay-Norwich: Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E. Johnston-Kilbarchan: Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E. Bungay-Lowestoft-Great Yarmouth: W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.C. Liverpool-Ormskirk: W. T. Glover & Co., Ltd., Trafford Park, Manchester. **Calorifiers—Provision of:** Mount Pleasant: G. N. Haden & Sons, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Conduits—Laying:** Liverpool (Lark Lane-Mossley Hill-Garston Junction): W. Pollitt & Co., Ltd., Bolton. Hyde (Cheshire): W. Pollitt & Co., Ltd., Bolton. Wilshire (Lancs.): W. Pollitt & Co., Ltd., Bolton. Manchester-Knutsford (Timperley-Altrincham): W. Pollitt & Co., Ltd., Bolton. Bangor-Menai Bridge: The Norwest Construction Co., Ltd., Bootle, Liverpool. Grosvenor-Mayfair Junction: Greig & Matthews, London, E.C. Leicester (Western): Whittaker Ellis, Ltd., London, S.W. Kimberley (Notts.): Langley Mill (Derbyshire): Whittaker Ellis, Ltd., London, S.W. Edinburgh (Morningside and Newington): Fisher Bros., Edinburgh. West Ham Lane, E.: A. Thomson & Co. (London), Ltd., W.C. Kidsgrove, Leek and Hanley-Alsager Junction: Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Northfield, Birmingham. Guildford: Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Northfield, Birmingham. Tenterden, Paddock Wood (Kent) and Northiam (Sussex): Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Northfield, Birmingham. Birmingham-Selly Oak-King's Norton and Hagley (Worcestershire): Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Northfield, Birmingham. Newark-Lincoln (Section I.): Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Northfield, Birmingham. Newark-Lincoln (Section II.): Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Northfield, Birmingham. St. Albans:



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