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# LONDON \& CAMBRIDGE ECONOMIC SERVICE 

MONTHLY BULLETIN VOLUME XVII. BULLETIN I. JAN. 23 rd, 1939.

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# Calendar of Chief Events of Economic Importance 

## (with special reference to Great Britain)

## 1939

JAN. 3. France<br>5. U.K<br>5. U.S.A<br>6. U.K<br>20. Germany<br>26. Spain<br>27. International<br>30. U.S.A.<br>31. U.K.<br>Bank rate reduced from $2 \frac{1}{2} \%$ to $2 \%$.<br>Ban on forward gold dealing reimposed.<br>Deficit for 1938-1939 forecast at $\$ 4,000 \mathrm{Mn}$. Estimates for 1939-1940 show deficit of $\$ 3,326 \mathrm{Mn}$.<br>Gold valued at $£ 350 \mathrm{Mn}$. ( 47.1 Mn . ounces) transferred from Bank of England to Exchange Equalisation Fund.<br>Dr. Schacht relieved of Presidency of Reichsbank.<br>Fall of Barcelona.<br>British and French Governments make joint gift of $£ 8 \mathrm{Mn}$. and loan of further $£ 8 \mathrm{Mn}$. to Czechoslovakia.<br>Supreme Court refuses injunction against Tennessee Valley Authority.<br>Chancellor of Exchequer announces schemes of compensation for war property damage and of marine war risk insurance.

FEB. 1. U.K.
6. U.K
9. Belgium
15. U.K
20. U.K.
27. International
28. U.K.

Chancellor of Exchequer introduces Bill authorising Bank of England to value gold and other assets in Issue Department at current prices. Fiduciary issue to be reduced from $£ 400 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 300 \mathrm{Mn}$.
Mr. Chamberlain makes declaration of support for France against any aggressor.
Government resigns.
Chancellor of Exchequer announces intention to seek authority to raise borrowing powers for defence to $£ 800 \mathrm{Mn}$.
Chancellor of Exchequer estimates total defence expenditure in 1939-40 at $£ 580 \mathrm{Mn}$., including loan expenditure of $£ 350 \mathrm{Mn}$.
British and French Governments formally recognise General Franco's Government in Spain.
Currency and Bank Notes Act becomes law.

MAR. 8. U.K.-China Chinese Government announces intention to set up Exchange Fund of $£ 10 \mathrm{Mn}$., half to be subscribed by British overseas banks and guaranteed by H.M. Government.
9. U.S.A.-Brazil Agreement concluded arranging for U.S. credits to Brazil of $£ 120 \mathrm{Mn}$. Brazil to free exchange market for commercial transactions and to resume dollar debt service.
15. International Bohemia, Moravia and Slovakia incorporated in German Reich. Hungarian troops invade Ruthenia.
17. U.K.-Germany Mr. Chamberlain denounces German violation of Munich Agreement.
17. U.S.A.-Germany Most-favoured-nation treatment and trade agreement rights withdrawn by U.S.A. from Czecho-Slovak goods. Additional duty of $25 \%$ imposed on subsidised exports from all territories ruled by German Government.
19. France
20. U.K.-India
22. Germany-

Lithuania
23. GermanyRumania
24. Germany
28. U.K.
28. Spain Government granted plenary powers until Nov. 30th.
Trade agreement replacing Ottawa Pact concluded by U.K. and India. Indian duties on U.K. cottons to be reduced.
Lithuania cedes Memel to Germany.
Trade Agreement concluded providing for close economic co-operation between Germany and Rumania.
31. International British and French Governments announce guarantee to Poland against aggression.

APR. 7. Italy-Albania
10. Brazil
13. International
14. America
15. International
20. U.S.A.
21. France
22. New Zealand
25. U.K.
28. International

Italy invades Albania.
Relaxation of exchange restrictions decreed for commercial transactions.
British and French Governments announce guarantee to Greece and Rumania against aggression.
President Roosevelt pledges U.S. aid to other American states against outside economic pressure.
President Roosevelt appeals to German and Italian Governments to pledge non-aggression.
Secretary for Agriculture announces wheat export subsidy programme to be continued during next season.
Stringent financial decrees issued, aiming at increase of revenue by 15 milliard francs.
Government announces severe reduction of imports for second half of year.
Budget speech in Commons. Armament expenditure estimated at $£ 630 \mathrm{Mn}$., of which $£ 380 \mathrm{Mn}$. to be raised by loan. Standard rate of Income Tax unchanged.
Herr Hitler denounces Anglo-German Naval Treaty and Polish-German Pact of Non-aggression.

MAY 3. U.S.S.R.
M. Litvinov resigns office of Commissar for Foreign Affairs.
4. U.K.-U.S.A.

Mr. Chamberlain announces opening of negotiations for barter of raw materials for U.S. surplus commodities.
11. U.K.-Rumania
12. U.K.-Turkey
22. Italy-Germany
25. France
U.K. Government grants credit facilities for $£ 5 \mathrm{Mn}$. at $5 \%$ to Rumania for purchase of U.K. goods.
Announcement of pact between United Kingdom and Turkey for mutual assistance against aggression.
Italy and Germany conclude Military Alliance.
Outstanding external short-term debt consolidated. Issue of new internal 40 -year $5 \%$ loan of over 10 milliard francs, about $60 \%$ of which to fund part of existing internal debt.

JUNE 8. U.K.
14. International
20. U.K
22. U.S.A.
23. U.K.-U.S.A.
26. U.S.A.
30. Holland

Ministry of Supply Bill passes second reading in Commons.
Japanese authorities begin blockade of British Concession in Tientsin. Government announces proposals for tax of $60 \%$ on excess armament profits. Announcement of new Government programme of self-liquidating expenditure, totalling $\$ 3,860 \mathrm{Mn}$. and including $\$ 500 \mathrm{Mn}$. credits to foreign countries.
Barter agreement concluded. U.K. to exchange 80,000 tons of rubber for 600,000 bales of cotton.
Price of domestic silver raised. Beginning of series of cuts in price of foreign silver.
Dr. Colijn and his Cabinet resign.

JULY 5. U.S.A.
6. U.K.
11. U.S.A.
13. U.K.
20. U.K.-New Zealand
22. U.S.A.
26. U.S.A.-Japan

Senate extends Administration's currency devaluation powers for two years from June 30th, 1939, authorises retention of $\$ 2,000 \mathrm{Mn}$. Stabilisation Fund and fixes domestic silver price at 70 c . per ounce.
Cotton Industry (Reorganisation) Bill passes through House of Commons.
Overseas Trade Guarantees Bill introduced in Commons, providing for increase in special export guarantees to $£ 60 \mathrm{Mn}$.
Senate Foreign Relations Committee shelves Neutrality Bill until next session.
Announcement of increase of 1939-1940 defence borrowing to $£ 500 \mathrm{Mn}$. Total defence expenditure for year estimated at $£ 730 \mathrm{Mn}$.
Announcement of export credit of $£ 9 \mathrm{Mn}$. from U.K. to New Zealand.
Announcement of subsidy of $1 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{c}$. per lb . on cotton exports until June 30th, 1940.
U.S. Government denounces Treaty of Commerce and Navigation with Japan.

AUG. 2. U.K.-Poland
U.S.A.
3. France
11. International
19. GermanyU.S.S.R.
21. GermanyU.S.S.R.
22. U.K.

International
23. U.K.
24. U.K.
25. U.K.
26. U.K.
28. Australia
31. Germany
U.K. Government grants credit of $£ 8 \mathrm{Mn}$. to Poland.

House of Representatives cuts Deficiency Appropriation Bill from $\$ 216 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $\$ 53 \mathrm{Mn}$. and refuses to consider Spending-Lending Bill.
Import quotas on numerous articles abolished.
Anglo-Franco-Soviet Staff talks begin in Moscow.
Trade Pact concluded, involving German credit to U.S.S.R. of 200 Mn . marks.
Announcement of intention of German and Soviet Governments to conclude pact of non-aggression.
Government issues statement re-affirming pledge to Poland against aggression.
German Press campaign against Poland intensified. Series of meetings between Foreign Ministers of Germany, Italy and Hungary. Militarisation of Danzig admitted.
Export of certain essential commodities made subject to licence.
Threatened railway strike abandoned.
Bank rate raised from $2 \%$ to $4 \%$.
Sterling-dollar rate unpegged and falls sharply.
Anglo-Polish agreement of mutual assistance signed.
Admiralty assumes control of merchant shipping.
Exchange control imposed.
German-Soviet Pact ratified.

SEPT. 1.
U.K.
S. Africa
3. U.K.
4. U.K.
5. U.K
S. Africa
6. U.K.
7. U.K.
12. Canada
14. U.K.
15. Australia
17. Poland
18. U.K.
21. U.K. Rumania
22. Poland
27. U.K.
28. U.K.
29. U.K.

Germany Invades Poland.
Stock Exchange closed.
House of Commons votes $£ 500 \mathrm{Mn}$. War Credit.
Ministry of Transport takes control of Railways.
Currency (Defence) Act passed.
Announced that Government will take surplus above 150s. per oz. realised on sale of gold by mines.
Great Britain and France Declare War on Germany.
Ministry of Supply takes over regulation of supply and distribution of war materials.
Finance regulations come into force. Foreign Exchange dealings and New Capital Issues controlled.
Board of Trade takes over War Risk Insurance.
War Contraband Proclamation issued.
Sterling-dollar rate stabilised at 4.02-4.06.
National Registration Act passed.
General Hertzog resigns. General Smuts forms new Government.
Bank of England's gold holding transferred to Exchange Equalisation Account. Fiduciary note issue increased from $£ 300 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 580 \mathrm{Mn}$.
Stock Exchange re-opened. Minimum prices fixed for gilt-edged and certain other securities.
Revised budget presented. Heavy increases in taxation.
Treasury circular restricts capital expenditure of local authorities.
Tax imposed on gold sales above Aust. $£ 9$ per oz.
Russian troops cross frontier.
Gas, Electricity and Coal to be rationed to $75 \%$ of previous year's consumption. Munitions Supply Council established.
Prime Minister, M. Calinescu, assassinated.
Provisional agreement between Germany and Russia for partition of Poland. Emergency War Budget. Heavy Excess Profits Tax and increase in Income Tax. Revised estimates: Revenue $£ 995 \mathrm{Mn}$. ; Expenditure $£ 1,933 \mathrm{Mn}$. Bank Rate reduced from $4 \%$ to $3 \%$. National Register taken.

OCT. 1. Poland
9. U.K.
U.K.
12. U.K.
U.S.S.R.

Warsaw surrenders.
Minister of Agriculture to buy all British staple crops at prices to be fixed later.
Barter agreement signed to exchange tin and rubber for Russian timber.
Text of Prices of Goods Bill published.
Finnish-Soviet conversations open.

## OCTOBER-continued.

13. U.K.

Canada
16. U.K.
17. U.K.
18. U.K.
20. U.K.
21. U.K.
25. U.K.
26. Japan
27. U.K.
30. U.K.

British Government to buy Australian and New Zealand wool clips at fixed prices.
War Loan of $\$ 200 \mathrm{Mn} .2 \%$ notes taken up by Chartered Banks.
Official War Risk Marine Insurance rates reduced.
Weir Committee reports against possibility of war risk insurance scheme for property.
Anglo-Franco-Turkish Mutual Assistance Pact signed.
Cotton Operatives' wages increased by $12 \frac{1}{2} \%$.
Domestic rations of gas and electricity raised to $100 \%$ of previous year's consumption.
Announcement that U.K. and France will grant $£ 45 \mathrm{Mn}$. of credits to Turkey.
Cotton Yarn and Cloth prices raised to cover increased wage costs.
Yen linked to Dollar instead of sterling.
Bank rate reduced from $3 \%$ to $2 \%$.
Coal miners accept owners' offer of 8 d . per shift increase for adults and 4 d . for boys.
Board of Trade suspends exports of tin.

NOV. 1. U.K.
3. U.K
4. U.S.A.
7. U.K.
9. U.K.
11. U.K.
12. U.K.
17. U.K.
18. U.K
20. U.K
21. U.K.
22. U.K.
23. U.K.

Rumania
24. Rumania U.K. U.K.
28. U.S.S.R.
30. Finland

Iron and steel prices raised by $10 \%$.
Price of gas in London area raised by $25 \%$.
President signs Neutrality Act Amendment Bill.
National Loans Bill introduced, giving Treasury power to borrow to cover deficit for current financial year, plus additional $£ 250 \mathrm{Mn}$.
Domestic coal ration raised to $100 \%$ of previous year's consumption.
Manufacture of margarine and cooking fats decontrolled.
Government to buy W. African cocoa crop at fixed prices.
Supreme War Council at London meeting arranges full economic co-ordination between Britain and France, to be carried out by permanent executive committees.
Many neutral and other ships sunk by German submarines off East Coast.
$7 \%$ increases in wages of steel workers.
Prime Minister announces German exports in neutral ships to be liable to seizure, as reprisal for German mine-laying.
Chancellor announces new issue of Savings Certificates (limit $£ 500$ per person) and new series of $3 \% 7$-year Defence Bonds (limit $£ 1,000$ per person).
Agreement announced with U.S. film companies on dollar remittances and supply and production of films in U.K.
New Capital Issues control modified.
Amalgamation announced of Union Bank of Manchester with Barclays Bank.
Government resigns over breakdown in trade talks with German mission.
New Government formed, expected to oppose concessions to Germany.
London electricity charges raised by up to $30 \%$.
War-risk marine insurance rates increased.
Government denounces non-aggression treaty with Finland
Russian troops cross frontier. Helsinski bombed.

DEC. 4. U.K.
6. U.S.A.
11. U.K.
12. U.K.
13. U.K.
15. International
16. U.K.
21. U.K.
23. U.K.
27. U.K.

Blockade of German exports in neutral ships comes into force.
Cotton export subsidy reduced from $1 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{c}$. per lb . to $3 / 4 \mathrm{c}$. Sharp rise in Liverpool price.
Price of Tin de-controlled and rises from $£ 230$ per ton to over $£ 270$.
Chancellor announces closest financial co-operation with France.
Board of Trade prohibits imports of non-ferrous metals and iron and steel, except under licence.
Russia expelled from League of Nations.
Ministry of Supply increases prices of copper, lead and spelter nearer to world level.
Suspension of rationing of Coal, Gas and Electricity.
Mine-workers' Federation rejects coal-owners' offer of wage increase of 4 d . per shift.
War-time Trade Agreement signed with Sweden.

## LONDON $\mathfrak{E}$ CAMBRIDGE ECONOMIC SERVICE

VOL. XVII.

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A. Index of Price of Industrial Shares, see Table p. 21, col. I.
B. Board of Trade Index-Total excluding Foods, see Table p. 23, col. 5.
C. Value of Exported Manufactures ( $\star$ normal seasonal variation removed), see Table p. 27, col. 17.
D. Average of Bank Rate, Bankers' Deposit Rate, Day-to-Day Rate and Three Months' Bill Rate, see Table p. 2I, cols. 5, 6.

## EVENTS OF THE MONTH

December 20th, 1938, to January 22nd, 1939.

Tues. Dec. 20th U.K.
Thurs. „, 22nd Italy-France
Tues. Jan. 3rd France
Wed. " 4th U.S.A.

| $"$ | " | 4th | fapan |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :--- |
| Thurs. | $"$ | 5 th | U.K. |
| " | " | 5 th | U.S.A. |
| Fri. | " | 6th | U.K. |

Wed. " IIth U.K.—Italy
Fri. „ 20th Germany

Restrictions on foreign lending reimposed.
Italian Government denounces Mussolini-Laval pact of 1935.
Bank rate reduced from $2 \frac{1}{2} \%$ to $2 \%$.
In message to Congress, President declares spending programme aimed at attaining national income of $\$ 80,000 \mathrm{Mn}$. in 1939.
Cabinet resigns.
Ban on forward gold dealing reimposed.
Deficit for 1938-1939 forecast at $\$ 4,000 \mathrm{Mn}$. Estimates for 1939-1940 show deficit of $\$ 3,326 \mathrm{Mn}$.
Gold valued at $£ 350 \mathrm{Mn}$. (47.I Mn. ounces) transferred from Bank of England to Exchange Equalisation Fund.
Mr. Chamberlain and Lord Halifax meet Signor Mussolini in Rome.
Dr. Schacht relieved of Presidency of Reichsbank.

# THE GENERAL BUSINESS POSITION. <br> united kingdom.* 

19th Fanuary, 1939.
The general stationariness of the industrial situation since October is confirmed by our index of production for last quarter, which shows just the normal increase over the third quarter of the year. Sterling prices as a whole have shown little movement, the fluctuations of separate commodities nearly balancing. The Stock Exchange is inactive and our index of industrial securities is a little lower than in December. The fall in the sterlingdollar exchange from $\$ 4.82$ on October Ist to $\$ 4.62$ on November 26th and January 3rd has been effectively checked for the time being at about $\$ 4.67$.

Imports of materials have been low throughout the autumn. The value of exports in December was somewhat less than in November, but, when all known factors are taken into account, no further
immediate serious decline is anticipated. Nor, unless the hesitant recovery in the United States receives fresh momentum, is any general increase in international trade in prospect.

The employment statistics for December were favourable and showed no general spread of inactivity. No doubt, Government orders have, to some extent, compensated the loss of others, especially in shipbuilding.

There is a general check to private enterprise, owing to apprehension of adverse developments in the international situation. The fall in building contracts is particularly severe. Unless the apprehension concerning the international situation is allayed, there seems little doubt that more serious unemployment will develop in the coming months.

## FINANCE, TRADE AND INDUSTRY IN 1938, AND RECENT MOVEMENTS.

## FINANCE IN 1938.

THE recession in business, which had already seriously affected the financial indices during 1937, continued during 1938, and in the second half of the year its effects were reinforced by those of the serious tension in international affairs. Prices of industrial securities fell sharply during the first half of the year, and after a temporary recovery in July, fell again in the autumn, closing the year at almost their lowest level since 1933. Fixed interest securities, which early in the year had been firm, fell sharply in the autumn, mainly in consequence of the international situation, but perhaps also because of the realisation that Government borrowing for re-armament expenditure was likely to be increased. New capital issues for the year fell to $£_{118} \mathrm{Mn}$., as compared with $£_{171}$ Mn . in 1937 and $£ 217 \mathrm{Mn}$. in 1936. The 1938 total is the lowest since 1932. The decline in stock exchange activity is clearly reflected in the lower figures for Town clearings, while the decline in Country and Provincial clearings is an indication of the general fall in business activity.

The fall in Provincial clearings, which became less marked in the latter half of the year, was throughout the year heaviest in the cotton textile centres of Liverpool and Manchester. The decline in business was also reflected, especially in the second half of the year, in a downward trend in Bank Advances.

To follow the movements in the other Clearing Bank figures, as well as those of the Bank of England and of Treasury Bills, it is necessary to take account of two further factors, the increase in Government re-armament expenditure and the weakness of sterling, especially during the second half of the year. The Government deficit for 1938 has been substantially greater than the $£ 80 \mathrm{Mn}$. of National Defence Bonds issued during the summer, and the total Floating Debt rose from $£ 98 \mathrm{I}$ Mn. on December 18th, 1937, to $£_{1,026 ~ M n . ~ o n ~ D e c e m b e r ~}^{17}$ th, 1938, while Treasury Bills rose from $£ 939 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 974 \mathrm{Mn}$. Normally the increase in Treasury Bills would probably have been reflected in some increase in the Discounts of the Clearing Banks, but on this occasion we find that Dis-

[^0]counts declined from $£_{2} 84 \mathrm{Mn}$. in December, 1937, to $£ 243 \mathrm{Mn}$. in December, 1938. The reason for this decline is clear when we observe that, although total Treasury Bills increased, bills issued by tender to the market fell from $£_{622}$ Mn. to $£ 500 \mathrm{Mn}$., while bills through the 'tap' to Government Departments, etc., rose from $£_{3} 37 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£_{6} 474 \mathrm{Mn}$. The rise in ' tap' bills is due mainly, if not entirely, to the reinvestment by the Exchange Account* of the proceeds of heavy sales of gold in support of sterling. The purchase of the gold was originally financed mainly out of money borrowed on long term, and the Treasury has in effect more than covered its 1938 deficit out of the proceeds of long-term loans raised in previous years and temporarily invested in gold. The fall in the total of 'market' bills is likely to be intensified during the first quarter of 1939 in consequence of the seasonal revenue surplus, and anxiety has been expressed as to the effect on the banking system and on the bill market of this further reduction.

In view of the fall in the volume of market bills the rise in short-term interest rates in the last four months of 1938 is at first sight surprising. Its principal cause appears to be the temporary immobilisation in Public Deposits at the Bank of England of part of the proceeds of the gold sold by the Exchange Account. Further, as December 3ist fell on a Saturday in 1938, the bill market was this December obliged to borrow from the Bank of England the funds for the banks' year-end window-dressing, instead of so timing its applications for Treasury Bills as to make the Treasury borrow from the Bank on Ways and Means Advances. Short-term rates have now fallen back to the exceedingly low level which has been customary in recent years.

The weakness of sterling in terms of dollars, which in the second half of the year brought down the value of the $£$ from over $\$ 4.95$ at the end of June to under $\$ 4.65$ at the end ot December, may be ascribed partly to the adverse balance of payments (not only of this country, but also of 'sterling bloc' countries which have drawn on their London balances to meet payments due elsewhere), but mainly to short-term capital movements. It is believed that by far the greater part of the capital withdrawn is foreign. The capital movements are ascribed partly to the greater confidence in the franc and partly to the tension in international affairs. Now that the adverse balance of payments seems to be in process of adjustment, it can hardly be doubted that any definite improvement

[^1]in the international situation would rapidly lead to a firmer tendency in sterling.

## FINANCE.-RECENT MOVEMENTS.

Bank of England.-The Bank of England return of January IIth is the first to show the results of the transfer of approximately 47 Mn . ounces of gold from the Bank to the Exchange Account in return for $£_{2} 200 \mathrm{Mn}$. of Government securities, presumably Treasury Bills. The Fiduciary Issue has simultaneously been increased by only $£_{170} \mathrm{Mn}$., from $£_{2} 230 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 400 \mathrm{Mn}$. The other $£ 30 \mathrm{Mn}$. was already provided for by the 'temporary' increase of $\mathrm{f}_{3} 3 \mathrm{Mn}$. in the Fiduciary Issue made last November.

Notes have returned from circulation more rapidly this year than last. The circulation no January irth was $£ 475.6 \mathrm{Mn}$. as compared with £482.I Mn. on January 12th, 1938, and even after the reduction of $£_{3} 3 \mathrm{Mn}$. in the note issue, the note reserve of the Banking Department stood at the comfortable level of $£ 50.5 \mathrm{Mn}$. Since the middle of December the total of Government Securities in the Banking Department has been increased from $£ 68.4 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£_{96.2} \mathrm{Mn}$., while Discounts, at $£^{2} 22.1 \mathrm{Mn}$., have not yet fallen back to their normal level after the year-end borrowing from the Bank. The result of these increases is seen in a rise of total deposits from $£ 151.2 \mathrm{Mn}$. on December 14th to $£ 164 \mathrm{Mn}$. on January irth, and of Bankers' Deposits from $£ 99.5 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 118.1 \mathrm{Mn}$. The tendency towards dearer money which existed towards the end of last year has thus been reversed-whether by policy or accident it is impossible to say-and with the current fall in Treasury Bills offered for tender the tendency towards cheap short-term money is likely to be accentuated.

Clearing Banks.-The December average cash reserves of nine London clearing banks showed about the usual seasonal expansion, due to end-of-year window-dressing operations, from $£ 22 \mathrm{I} \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 232 \mathrm{Mn}$. Among the other assets the most noticeable feature was a heavy contra-seasonal fall in Discounts from $£ 265 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 243 \mathrm{Mn}$., though part of this was offset by a rise of $£ 7 \mathrm{Mn}$. in Call Money to $£ 147 \mathrm{Mn}$. Balances with other banks, etc., were also $£ 8 \mathrm{Mn}$. higher at $£ 63.3 \mathrm{Mn}$., and Advances showed a check to their recent decline with a rise of $£ 5 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 920 \mathrm{Mn}$., but Investments continued the downward tendency of recent months with a fall of $£ 7 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 592 \mathrm{Mn}$. The net result of these movements was a less than seasonal rise in Deposits from $£^{2}, 13 \mathrm{IMn}$. to $£ 2,135 \mathrm{Mn}$.,
and a rise in the ratio of Cash to Deposits from I0.4 \% to $10.8 \%$.

Town clearings fell slightly less than seasonally in December, but were still below the level of a year before. Country clearings rose considerably more than seasonally, though they did not fully recover the sharp decline shown in November, while Provincial clearings showed about the normal seasonal increase, but remain well below the level of December, 1938. Of the eleven provincial centres only one, Leeds, shows a rise over the year. All the others show declines, the heaviest, as usual, being in Liverpool and Manchester.

Security Prices.-Prices of industrial securities, after recovering slightly in the second half of December, have since receded to below their mid-December level. Prices of fixed interest securities have also drifted gradually downwards. Our crude index of foreign bond prices shows a further sharp fall to a level only slightly above the low point of 1932. The chief falls were in European and Far Eastern bonds. Short-term interest rates, after their year-end rise, have returned to a very low level.

Capital Issues.-New capital issues in December on home account were again fairly substantial, though lower than in any December since 1934. Issues on overseas account were negligible.

Government Finance.-The ordinary revenue of the Government for the five weeks ending January I4th was $£$ IoI. 8 Mn ., or almost exactly the same as in the corresponding period of 1937-8. A slight fall in receipts from Estate Duty was offset by revenue from the National Defence Contribution. Ordinary expenditure, at $£ 79.6 \mathrm{Mn}$., was $£ 4.6 \mathrm{Mn}$. lower than a year ago, but the decline is illusory, as $£_{16} \mathrm{Mn}$. of expenditure was charged to Defence Loan account, as against only $£ \mathrm{r} .25 \mathrm{Mn}$. last year, and total expenditure was thus $£_{\mathrm{I}} \mathrm{I} . \mathrm{I} \mathrm{Mn}$. higher and the surplus of revenue for the period only $£ 6.1 \mathrm{Mn}$., as against $£ 16.4 \mathrm{Mn}$. last year.

For the period from April Ist to January 14th ordinary revenue is $£ 10.6 \mathrm{Mn}$. higher than on January I5th last year, a fall of $£$ II .6 Mn . in Estate Duties having been more than offset by rises of $£ 9 \mathrm{Mn}$. in Income Tax and $£_{2} 14 \mathrm{Mn}$. in National Defence Contribution. Expenditure to date, including expenditure on Defence Loan account, totals $£ 799.3 \mathrm{Mn}$., as against $£ 692 \mathrm{Mn}$. on the corresponding date of last year. This year's budget estimates originally envisaged a revenue of $£ 945 \mathrm{Mn}$. and expenditure of $£_{\mathrm{I}, 034 \mathrm{Mn} \text {. It seems likely that the revenue }}$ actually realised will be less than estimated and
the expenditure greater, so that the deficit will be larger than the $£ 90 \mathrm{Mn}$. originally anticipated, perhaps by an amount of the order of $£ 40 \mathrm{Mn}$.

The Trevenue surplus ${ }^{\text {l }}$ for the month was reflected in all in the floating debt from £r,or9 Mn. on'December roth to $£_{\mathrm{I}, \mathrm{O}, 12 \mathrm{Mn} \text {. on }}$ January 14th. The decline was more than accounted for by a fall of over $£ 9 \mathrm{Mn}$. in Ways and Means Advances, and total Treasury bills rose by $£ 2 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 974 \mathrm{Mn}$. Treasury bills issued by tender, however, fell heavily from $£ 507 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 449 \mathrm{Mn}$., while ' tap ' bills rose correspondingly from $£ 465 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 525 \mathrm{Mn}$. The rise in 'tap' bills may be partly accounted for by further sales of gold by the Exchange Account, but probably mainly by the maturity of most or all of the remaining market bills held by the Account and their replacement by 'tap' bills. The total of market bills outstanding is the lowest since 1935, and with the excess of revenue during the next ten weeks is likely to fall well below $£ 400 \mathrm{Mn}$. by the end of March.

Foreign Exchanges.-Sterling was weak during the second half of December in terms of both dollars and francs, the rate on the former falling from $4.67 \frac{3}{8}$ on December 17th to $4.62 \frac{9}{16}$ on January 3rd, and on the latter from $177 \frac{37}{64}$ to $176 \frac{37}{64}$. In the first week of January the Government announced its wish for the discouragement of 'undesirable' forward exchange transactions, and at the end of the week some 47 Mn . ounces of gold was re-transferred from the Bank of England to the Exchange Account. These indications of the Government's intention to check the fall in sterling were sufficient to bring about an appreciable recovery, and by January 7 th the dollar rate had risen to $4.67 \frac{5}{8}$ and the franc rate to $177 \frac{9}{32}$, at about which levels they have since been maintained. Meanwhile the value of the franc in terms of dollars has shown little or no change on balance, and it appears that in recent weeks the value of the franc has been pegged in terms of gold rather than of sterling.

Gold Movementis.-Exports of gold were still heavy in December, total exports amounting to $£ .21 .7 \mathrm{Mn}$., of which $£ 20.9 \mathrm{Mn}$. went to U.S.A. Imports amounted to only $£ 7.5 \mathrm{Mn}$., of which $£_{2} .3 \mathrm{Mn}$. came from Holland and $£ \mathrm{I} .2$ Mn . from Russia. Exports for the whole of 1938 totalled $£ 302.3 \mathrm{Mn}$., of which $£ 221$. 1 Mn . went to U.S.A., while imports totalled $£ 239.6$ Mn . The export surplus of $£ 62.7 \mathrm{Mn}$. is far less than the estimated value of the gold sold by the Exchange Account during the year. The discrepancy may probably be accounted for

** Birmingham * Budget estimates ; on old accounting basis.
(a) including (b) Bristol, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle. $\quad t+$
(a) including, (b) excluding undertakings transferred to L.P.T. Board
partly by ear-marking operations and partly by changes in the quantity of gold held in safe custody. In particular, a large part of the £ 74.6 Mn . imported from Belgium is believed to have been sent for safe custody.

During the first half of January the volume of gold movements declined further. Exports between December 29th and January 16th totalled $£ 6.0 \mathrm{Mn}$., of which $£ 5.7 \mathrm{Mn}$. went to U.S.A., while imports amounted to only $£ 2.9$ Mn ., in which the only large item was $£ \mathrm{I} .2 \mathrm{Mn}$. from Russia. In consequence of the recent policy of ear-marking gold in S. Africa, imports from that country remain insignificant.

## PRICES, TRADE \& EMPLOYMENT.-1938. <br> PRICES AND WAGES.-Wholesale prices

 in 1938 continued with hardly a break the decline which began in the summer of 1937 . In December, 1938, the Board of Trade general index had fallen by 9\% since December, 1937, and by $12 \%$ since July, 1937, when it had reached a peak. The greater part of the decline took place in the first half of the year ; in recent months the index has been almost stationary; but this contrast between the experience of the early and late months of the year was partly due to normal seasonal influences. The Statist general index moved in similar fashion, declining by $8 \%$ over the year and by 18\% since its peak in March, 1937. The following table shows the movements of the Board of Trade Index over the last three years.| AVERAGE FOR $1930=100 \%$. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{gathered} 1936 \\ \text { June } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1936 \\ & \text { Dec. } \end{aligned}$ | 1937 June | 1937 July | 1937 Dec. | $\begin{aligned} & 1938 \\ & \text { June } \end{aligned}$ | $1933$ <br> Dec. |
| Food, \&c. | 89.3 | 99.3 | 101.6 | 102:9 | 104-4 | 99.4 | 91.8 |
| Basic Materials | $95 \cdot 9$ | 109.8 | 129.4 | 128.5 | $106 \cdot 9$ | 87-3 | $89 \cdot 9$ |
| Intermediate products | 91.5 | $100 \cdot 4$ | $110 \cdot 7$ | $118 \cdot 1$ | 107.7 | 103 | 02.5 |
| Manufactured | 915 | 1004 | 1107 |  | 1077 |  |  |
| rticles | 98.1 | $100 \cdot 9$ | 114.4 | $115 \cdot 1$ | 114.1 | 111.4 | 111.2 |
| Total | $92 \cdot 6$ | $100 \cdot 8$ | $110 \cdot 6$ | 111.5 | $107 \cdot 6$ | $100 \cdot 7$ | $98 \cdot 3$ |

In 1937 food prices lagged behind the prices of materials and manufactures, reaching their maximum in October, as compared with July. In 1938 food prices fell much more rapidly than did other prices. This was principally due to cereals, and in particular wheat.

According to the Board of Trade's calculation food prices fell over the year by $12 \%$, materials and manufactures by $7 \%$. But prices of cereals fell by $29 \%$, other foods by no more than about $4 \%$. Canadian wheat prices fell by about $50 \%$. Among the materials, coal showed a fall of some $10 \%$ between January and August. There has since been a rise of $4 \%$. Apart from seasonal influences, coal prices have moved downwards slightly in response to falling
demand. Iron and steel prices have been well maintained throughout the year at a level only slightly below that established at the end of 1937. However, on December 9th it was announced that for the first half of 1939 reductions averaging $6-8 \%$ would be made. The principal nonferrous metals showed an average decline in price of about $45 \%$ during the period MarchDecember, 1937. During the first half of 1938 their decline continued gradually. This was followed by an upward movement which has carried them a little above their level of a year ago. Cotton prices have fallen in irregular fashion by about $8 \%$ over the year, wool prices by about $9 \%$. According to the Board of Trade's classification basic materials fell by $16 \%$, intermediate products by $5 \%$ and manufactured articles by $2 \frac{1}{2} \%$. Though the classification is probably by no means a refined one, this diversity corresponds with what is normally to be expected in a time of general decline.

The basic trend of retail prices was downward in 1938, a reaction having set in in the autumn of 1937. But in the summer of 1938 the basic movement was interrupted by a substantial rise due to the effects of exceptional drought and to abnormal conditions in the market for new potatoes. Over the year the Ministry of Labour cost of living index fell by nearly $3 \%$, the food index by nearly $5 \%$. The decline in food prices accounted for the greater part of the decline in the cost of living index. The following table shows the movements of the prices of various commodities in recent years.

|  | Jan. 1 | Jan. 1 | Jan 1 | Jan. 1 | Jan. 1 | July 1 | Jan. 1 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| eef | 1924 | 1929 | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | 1938 | 1939 |
| eef | 163 | 153 | 121 | 121 | 132 | 132 | 129 |
| Imported | 123. | 127 | $105 \frac{1}{2}$ | 106 | $118 \frac{1}{2}$ | 1182 | 118 |
| *Mutton : British | 179 | 164 | 128 | 1292 | 140 | 135 | 1292 |
| Imported | $151 \frac{1}{2}$ | 148 | 116 | 1182 | $127 \frac{1}{2}$ | 126. | 126 |
| Bacon ... | $148{ }^{\circ}$ | 143 | 121 | 129 | 137 | $137{ }^{2}$ | 135 |
| Fish | 219 | 218 | 202 | 205 | 205 | 202 | 209 |
| Flour | 139 | 146 | 125 | 143 | 152 | 144 | 131 |
| Bread ... | 145 | 149 | 141 | 157 | 163 | 156 | 147 |
| 'rea. | 167 | 155 | 128 | 138 | 145 | 154 | 153 |
| Sugar ... | 328 | 149 | 112 | 115 | 126 | 122 | 122 |
| Milk ... | 198 | 189 | 190 | 190 | 199 | 191 | 198 |
| *Butter | 179 | 169 | $101 \frac{1}{2}$ | 100 | $116{ }_{2}$ | 112 | $110 \frac{1}{2}$ |
| (heese | 175 | 172 | 103 | 115 | 128 | 124 | $125^{2}$ |
| Margarine | 95 | 106 | 79 | 84 | 93 | 93 | 91 |
| Eggs ... | 273 | 231 | 181 | 173 | 193 | 132 | 175 |
| Potatoes | 161 | 136 | 145 | 153 | 130 | 258 | 118 |
| Rent ... | 147 | 152 | 158 | 159 | 159 | 160 | 161 |
| Clothing | $222 \frac{1}{2}$ | 220 | 185 | 192 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 210 | 210 | $207 \frac{1}{2}$ |
| Fuel ... | 185 | 170 | 175 | 1772 | 182 ¢ | 177. | 1825 |
| Miscellaneous | 180 | 180 | 170 | $170^{2}$ | 175 | 175 | 175 |
| Food | 175 | 159 | 131 | 136 | 145 | 146 | 138 |
| All | 177 | 167 | 147 | 151 | 159 | 159 | 155 |
| As percentage of Jan. 1st, 1924. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Food | 100 | 91 | 75 | 78 | 83 | 83 | 79 |
| All | 100 | 94 | 83 | 85 | 90 | 90 | 87.5 |

[^2]A comparison of wholesale and retail food prices shows that their general movement has been similar in timing, but that the amplitude of movement has been greater in wholesale than in retail prices. In the following table the three principal groups of the Board of Trade food classification have been reweighted in order to make a closer approximation to the Ministry of Labour food index.

\left.| FOOD |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| PRICES. |  |  |  |  |
| Wholesale |  |  |  |  |$\right) \quad$ Retail

The fluctuation of retail prices has been less than two-thirds of that of wholesale prices, whereas in former computations it was about three-quarters. There is little evidence in present figures of a time-lag, but the downward elasticity of retail prices as compared with wholesale prices may have been less than the upward elasticity.

Wage rates on the whole rose slowly throughout the period 1934 (autumn) to 1938 (spring). In the latter part of 1938 a few further increases have been nearly balanced by reductions. In the four years to May, 1938, the average increase was $10 \%$ or $11 \%$, and most industries have participated in it. There was an increase of $2 \%$ to $4 \%$ (according to the method of evaluation)* in the period September, 1937, to May, 1938, during which unemployment was increasing. During the year 1938 the increase was probably between $1 \%$ and $2 \%$.

No doubt earnings have not moved in exactly the same proportions as wages owing to the prevalence of overtime in busy periods and of short-time when trade is slack.

If the index of wage-rates is divided by that of the Cost of Living, it is found that real wages, measured on this incomplete basis, were nearly stationary from 1934 till mid-I936, that they lost ground between June, 1936, and June, 1937, and more than recovered it in the following eighteen months. In the whole period from 1934 to the end of 1938, the Cost of Living Index rose $8 \%$ (adjusted for season) and wagerates $10 \%$ or $11 \%$.

TRADE.-The total foreign trade of the United Kingdom in 1938 declined in value by $11 \%$ as compared with 1937. Retained imports fell by 10 \%, exports by $10 \%$ and re-exports by $18 \%$. Both exports and imports were greater than in 1936 as a whole, but in the last quarter

[^3]of the year they fell below the level of the corresponding quarter of 1936. The different classes of imports made an unequal showing. Net imports of food in 1938 were practically unchanged from 1937, raw materials fell by $22 \%$ and manufactures by $14 \%$. Amongst manufactures our Group A, which contains mainly semimanufactured foods, shows a decline of $23 \%$, whereas Group B, containing the rest of the manufactures classification, shows practically no change. Prominent in Group A are iron and steel and non-ferrous metal products, and these account for the greater part of the decline in the group. Amongst exports coal showed no change over the year. In the first half of 1938 coal exports were greater than in the corresponding period of 1937, in the second half less. Iron and steel manufactures fell by $14 \%$, non-ferrous manufactures by $22 \%$, cotton goods by $27 \%$, woollens by $25 \%$, and other textiles by $26 \%$. On the other hand machinery increased by nearly $12 \%$, and vehicles by $11 \%$. The increase in exports of vehicles was due to aeroplanes and locomotives. Automobiles showed a decline of $6 \%$

The following tables show the movements of retained imports and exports of U.K. produce over the past two years.


Group A contains classes C, D, H, P, Q, R, and part of S of Trade returns, viz. :-Iron, Steel, and Non-Ferrous Metals and manufactures thereof, Wood, Oils, Leather, Paper and Motor Accessories

Group B contains the rest of manufactures, principally Machinery, Textiles and Chemicals.

Data are not yet available to show the course of import and export prices and volumes for the whole of 1938 ; but in the first three quarters of the year export prices were higher than in 1937 and import prices lower. The terms of

SUMMARY OF QUARTERLY STATISTICS.

| TOTALS, | 1935 | 1936 |  |  |  | 1937 |  |  |  | 1938 |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 4th Qr. | 1st | 2nd Qr. | 3rd Qr. | 4th Qr. | 1st | 2nd Qr. | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 3rd } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 4 th } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 1st } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 2nd } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | 3 rd Qr. | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 4th } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ |
| BANK CLEARINGS : | £ Mn. | $£ \mathrm{Mn}$. | £ Mn. | £ Mn. | £ Mn. | $£ \mathrm{Mn}$. | $£ \mathrm{Mn}$. | £ Mn. | £ Mn. |  | £ Mn. | £ Mn. |  |
| Town (ex Metropolitan) ... | 8285 | $8385$ | $8243$ | 8598 | 9813 | 9734 | 9307 | 8798 | 8879 | $8677$ | 8157 | $8522$ | $8506$ |
| Country ... ... ... ... | 851 | 881 | 850 | 868 | 939 | 947 | 951 | 936 | 971 | 968 | 898 | 880 | 927 |
| Provincial (11 Towns) $\quad \cdots$ | 330 | 354 | 319 | 338 | 383 |  |  | 353 | 361 |  | 302 |  |  |
| Deposits* ${ }^{*}$... | 2018 | 2024 | 2079 | 2136 | 2178 | 2162 | 2153 | 2173 | 2201 | 2172 | 2161 | 2177 |  |
| Advances* $\quad . .$. | 761 | 790 | 828 | 836 | 848 | 865 | 911 | 926 | 938 | - 934 | $\begin{array}{r}2161 \\ \hline 940\end{array}$ | 2177 927 | $\begin{gathered} 2135 \\ 920 \end{gathered}$ |
| NEW CAPITAL ISSUES in Gt. Britain: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All .... ... ... | 28.5 | $60 \cdot 6$ | 48.4 | $40 \cdot 1$ | $68 \cdot 1$ | $49 \cdot 5$ | $47 \cdot 9$ | 29.4 | $44 \cdot 1$ | $33 \cdot 1$ | 41.0 | $19^{\circ} 0$ | $25 \cdot 0$ |
| For United Kingdom. <br> IMPORTS RETAINED: | $22 \cdot 8$ | 58.4 | $41 \cdot 3$ | $33 \cdot 1$ | 58.0 | 42.6 | $38 \cdot 1$ | $22 \cdot 9$ | $35 \cdot 2$ | $26 \cdot 7$ | 29.4 | 14.6 | 22.0 |
| IMPORTS RETAINED: Food, Drink and Tobacco ... | 102 | 86 | 88 | 88 | 109 | 95 | 98 | 100 | 126 | 103 | 102 | 105 | 109 |
| Materials :Partly Manufactured |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 7 | 7 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 12 | 13 | 12 | 10 | 8 | 7 | 7 |
| Cotton ... ... | 14 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 14 | 14 | 11 | 7 | 14 | 10 | 6 | 6 | 7 |
| Other Total | 40 | 42 | 40 | 42 | 47 | 48 | 57 | 65 | 63 | 54 | 46 | 44 | 43 |
| Total ... ... ... | 61 | 59 | 57 | 60 | 70 | 71 | 80 | 85 | 88 | 75 | 60 | 57 | 57 |
| Wholly Manufactured Goods | 39 | 39 | 39 | 43 | 44 | 44 | 52 | 53 | 55 | 50 | 44 | 44 | 45 |
| Total Retained Imports EXPORTS, BRITISH. | 203 | 184 | 186 | 192 | 226 | 211 | 232 | 240 | 271 | 229 | 207 | 208 | 214 |
| EXPORTS, BRITISH: | 14 | 12 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 17 | 17 | 16 |  |  |  |  |
| Manufactures-Cotton | 15 | 16 | 14 | 16 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 18 | 16 | 14 | 14 12 | 14 12 | 15 12 |
| Total British Exportsces | 71 | 67 | 65 | 72 | 75 | 77 | 84 | 87 | 88 | 82 | 76 | 76 | 82 |
|  | 114 | 106 | 102 | 112 | 121 | 121 | 130 | 134 | 136 | 121 | 112 | 113 | 824 |
| EXCESS OF IMPORTS : <br> Goods and Bullion $\dagger$ | 80 | 104 | 125 | 203 | 141 | 123 | 99 | 147 | 152 | 145 | 13 | , |  |
| TONNAGE OF SHIPS (with | 0000 | 0000 Tons |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| eargoes): | Tons |  |  |  |  |  |  | Tons |  |  |  |  |  |
| Entered from abroad ... | 1625 | 1491 | 1672 | 1861 | 1716 | 1545 | 1571 | 2116 | 1810 | 1578 | 1747 | 1839 | 1674 |
| Cleared for abroad ... | 1451 | 1230 | 1401 | 1538 | 1453 | 1352 | 1567 | 1694 | 1525 | 1320 | 1464 | 1610 | 1493 |
| PRODUCTION : |  | 0000 Tons |  |  |  | 6318 62000 Tons |  |  |  | $\begin{array}{r} 6572 \\ 217 \\ 325 \end{array}$ | 0000 Tons |  |  |
|  | Tons 6020 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Coal (13 weeks) <br>  | 6020 | $\begin{array}{r} 6263 \\ 181 \\ 283 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 5499 \\ 193 \\ 293 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 192 \\ 195 \\ 287 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 5993 \\ 198 \\ 308 \end{array}$ |  |  |  |  | $\begin{array}{r} 55 \leqslant 1 \\ 184 \\ 267 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 5316 \\ 138 \\ 210 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 6012 \\ 1: 8 \\ 237 \end{array}$ |
| Steel " " ... | 163 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 208 \\ & 323 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 5828 \\ 217 \\ 321 \end{array}$ |  |
|  | 000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shipbuilding (commenced) | Tons 311 |  | $$ |  | 273 | 253 | $\begin{array}{l\|r} 000 \text { Tons } \\ 368 & 219 \end{array}$ |  |  |  |  | 000 |  |  |
|  |  | 233 |  |  | 217 |  |  |  | 173 | 157 | 87 | 88 |  |  |
| INDEX OF PRODUCTION : <br> Bulletin \% of 1924 <br> Buard of Trade \% of 1930 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 116.5 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | $120 \cdot 7$ | 123.1 | 122-3 | 121.3 | $122 \cdot 2$ $131 \cdot 7$ | $131 \cdot 7$ | 126.5 $133 \cdot 6$ | $121 \cdot 3$ $130 \cdot 1$ | 128.7 136.4 | $\begin{aligned} & 122 \cdot 8 \\ & 132 \cdot 1 \end{aligned}$ | $108 \cdot 1$ $121 \cdot 7$ | $99 \cdot 3$ 116.5 | 1078 |  |

$\S$ Subject to slight modifications in annual totals.


| EXPORTS | OF | IIIS | £Mn. |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 1937 |  | 1938 |  |  |
|  |  | 3 rd | 4th | 1st | 3rd | 4th |
|  | Half | Qua | rters | Half |  |  |
| Drink | $7 \cdot 7$ | $3 \cdot 8$ | $4 \cdot 4$ | 6.4 | 3.0 | 4.4 |
| Tobacco | $2 \cdot 5$ | $1 \cdot 3$ | $1 \cdot 3$ | 2.4 | $1 \cdot 2$ | $1 \cdot 3$ |
| Food | $8 \cdot 3$ | 4.6 | $5 \cdot 2$ | 76 | 4.7 | 4.9 |
| Total | 18.2 | 9.7 | $10 \cdot 9$ | 16.4 | 8.9 | $10 \cdot 6$ |
| Materials- |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Coal | 16.6 | 10.8 | 10.2 | $18 \cdot 3$ | $9 \cdot 3$ | $9 \cdot 8$ |
| Wool | $5 \cdot 5$ | $1 \cdot 9$ | $1 \cdot 6$ | $2 \cdot 9$ | 1.5 | 1.8 |
| Oils and Fats ... | $2 \cdot 1$ | 0.8 | 0.8 | 1.5 | 0.7 | 0.7 |
| Other | 78 | 3.2 | 3.4 | $5 \cdot 0$ | 24 | $3 \cdot 0$ |
| Total | 32.0 | 16.7 | 16.0 | $27 \cdot 7$ | 13.9 | $15 \cdot 3$ |
| Manufactures- |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Non-ferrous metals | 87.5 | 3.9 | $4 \cdot 3$ | 6.0 | 2.8 | $3 \cdot 5$ |
| Iron, steel, machinery | 56.5 | $30 \cdot 6$ | 33.4 | $62 \cdot 6$ | 28.1 | 31.2 |
|  | 18.5 | $10 \cdot 2$ | $11 \cdot 3$ | 21.8 | $11 \cdot 3$ | 11.5 |
| Cotton ... | $34 \cdot 3$ | 18.0 | 16.2 | $25 \cdot 9$ | 11.8 | 12.0 |
| Wool | 17.6 | 10.0 | 7.9 | $13 \cdot 3$ | 7.2 | $6 \cdot 3$ |
| Other textiles |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| and apparel | $12 \cdot 6$ | $6 \cdot 1$ | 6.0 | 11.0 | $5 \cdot 1$ | $5 \cdot 9$ |
| Other ... | 31.2 | $17 \cdot 3$ | 17.2 | 30.5 | 15.4 | 17.5 |
| Total | 195.0 | $105 * 3$ | 104.5 | 183.5 | 88.3 | $93 \cdot 6$ |
| Total exports of U.K. Produce | 251.2 | 134.4 | $135 \cdot 9$ | 233.2 | 113:5 | 24.2 |

trade thus have moved in favour of the United Kingdom, as is shown in the following table.

RATIO OF PRICES OF U.K. EXPORTS TO PRICES OF RETAINED IMPORTS. $1935=100 \%$

\[

\]

The net debit balance of trade in commodities in 1938 was approximately $£ 388 \mathrm{Mn}$. as against $£ 43 \mathrm{I} \mathrm{Mn}$. in 1937.

The statistics of shipping laid up in Gt. Britain and Ireland reflect substantial deterioration in the position of the British shipping industry. On Jan. Ist, 1938, the total British shipping laid up was about 95,000 tons; on Jan. Ist, 1939, about 342,000 tons. About one half of this increase took place in the first quarter of the year. During the last quarter there has been little change. Foreign tonnage laid up rose during the year from 79,000 tons to i Io,000 tons.

PRODUCTION.-During 1938 the volume of industrial production showed a steady decline, apart from seasonal influences. Our quarterly index of industrial production fell from 128.7 (\% of 1924) in the fourth quarter of 1937 to 107.8 in the fourth quarter of 1938 (see page 18).

The monthly output of pig-iron and steel fell rapidly after March, 1938. When corrected for the number of working days, the monthly figures show that daily output declined after November, 1937. The average monthly output of steel during the last six months of 1938 was 745,000 tons. During the last quarter pig-iron output fell to a level midway between the levels of the corresponding quarters of 1933 and 1934. The output of coal, on the other hand,
did not fall very far short of the previous year's level, being very slightly greater than that of 1936. Nevertheless, when seasonally adjusted the coal figures show that the decline to September was steady if gradual. Since September the decline appears to have ceased. Shipbuilding for mercantile purposes has fallen very considerably, and at the end of the year the tonnage under construction was over $30 \%$ less than at the end of 1937. The figures of merchant ships commenced show a very severe decline from 1,057,000 tons in 1937 to 505,000 in 1938. The figures show an increasing rate of decline quarter by quarter from the third quarter of 1937 to the third quarter of 1938. However, naval shipbuilding appears to have compensated for this, for employment in the industry is practically unchanged over the year. The cotton industry has had a year of serious decline. The total weight of raw cotton going into the mills was nearly $25 \%$ less in 1938 than in 1937. By contrast activity in the wool industry has suffered only a small decline over the year.

The value of Building Plans Approved shows a very considerable slackening of activity. In 1937 the value of plans had fallen below that of 1935, and in 1938 it fell by more than $10 \%$ over the year. This decline was mainly due to dwelling house construction. In the fourth quarter of the year there is normally a seasonal rise. The figures for the fourth quarter of 1938 are, therefore, particularly discouraging.
ESTIMATED COST OF BUILDING PLANS APPROVED. 146 Local Authorities. £Mn.


An estimate of the complete returns for the fourth quarter of 1938 raises the figure for dwelling houses only to $£ 12.7 \mathrm{Mn}$. and leaves the total unchanged at $£ 22 \mathrm{Mn}$.

EMPLOYMENT.-The estimated number of insured persons in employment (excluding agriculture and juveniles under 16 years) began to fall off in September, 1937, and had diminished by $3 \%$ by June, 1938. In the summer of 1938 there was a slight improvement, and the numbers were nearly stationary from August to December. Actually as many were employed on December 12th, 1938, as on December 13th, 1937, but in the former year the weather was exceptionally bad and outdoor work was hindered, while the reverse was the case in 1938.

TABLE A. NET IMPORTS OF RAW MATERIALS (EXCLUDING RUBBER) AND CERTAIN PARTLY MANUFACTURED GOODS. DECLARED VALUES. $£ \mathrm{Mn}$.

|  | 1924. Quarterly Average. | $\begin{gathered} 1935 \\ \text { Qtr. } \\ 4 \end{gathered}$ | $1936$ <br> Quarters. |  |  | 4 | 1 | $\begin{gathered} 1937 \\ { }_{2}^{\text {Quarters. }} \\ 8 \end{gathered}$ |  | 4 | $1988$ <br> Quarters, <br> 2 |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Pig iron, etc. ... ... | 1.8 | $\cdot 7$ | $\cdot 9$ | - 9 | $1 \cdot 3$ | -9 | $\cdot 9$ | 1.4 | $2 \cdot 7$ | 28 |  | -9 |  | - 5 |
| Copper, tin, lead, zinc ... | $5 \cdot 4$ | 4.4 | $4 \cdot 3$ | 4.0 | 4.5 | 6.0 | 6.9 | 8.7 | 7.9 | 7.0 | $5 \cdot 6$ | $5 \cdot 3$ | 4.9 | $5 \cdot 1$ |
| Yarns ${ }_{\text {Leather }}$ | 1.8 2.9 | -2 1.8 | $\begin{array}{r}1 \\ \hline 1\end{array}$ | $-1$ | -2 | -2 | ${ }^{-2}$ | - 2 | -2 | $\cdot 2$ | - 1 | $\cdot 1$ | . 2 | - 2 |
| Leather ... | $2 \cdot 9$ | 1.8 | 1.8 | $2 \cdot 1$ | $2 \cdot 1$ | $2 \cdot 1$ | $2 \cdot 0$ | $2 \cdot 2$ | $2 \cdot 2$ | 1.7 | 1.4 | 1.2 | $1 \cdot 3$ | $1 \cdot 3$ |
| Minersls (non-metals) ... | $1 \cdot 3$ | 11 | $\cdot 9$ | 1.0 | $1 \cdot 1$ | 1.1 | 1.0 | $1 \cdot 3$ | 1.4 | 13 | $1 \cdot 1$ | 1.2 |  |  |
| Iron Ore ... ... ... | 2.1 | 1.2 | $2 \cdot 2$ | 2.4 | $2 \cdot 0$ | 1.8 | 1.8 | 3.0 | $4 \cdot 1$ | 3.7 | $5 \cdot 1$ | 2.8 | 1.8 | 1.1 |
| Other Metals | $3 \cdot 7$ | $3 \cdot 1$ | 3.0 | $2 \cdot 7$ | 3.0 | 3.8 | $3 \cdot 1$ | $5 \cdot 4$ | $4 \cdot 7$ | $5 \cdot 1$ | $4 \cdot 2$ | 4.0 | 3.5 | 3.6 |
| Wood... Oil Seeds, sc. | 12.6 | 10.0 | $5 \cdot 7$ | 8.5 | 15.6 | 13.4 | $7 \cdot 5$ | $12 \cdot 1$ | $23 \cdot 3$ | 18.6 | $7 \cdot 6$ | 9.0 | $13 \cdot 9$ | $12 \cdot 1$ |
|  | 12.1 2.0 | 6.6 2.4 | 7.4 | 7.5 | 6.2 | 6.9 | 9.2 | $9 \cdot 3$ | $7 \cdot 9$ | 8.2 | 8.8 | $8 \cdot 4$ | $71^{\text {* }}$ | $5 \cdot 8$ |
| Paper Materials ... | 2.9 | 3.1 | 2.6 | 2.9 | 3.7 | 3.1 | $2 \cdot 7$ | $2 \cdot 7$ | $4 \cdot 3$ | 3.9 | 3.8 | $\cdot 9$ | 1.4 | $2 \cdot 6$ |
| Silk ... ... ... ... | ${ }^{2} 4$ | ${ }^{3} 6$ | . 6 | - 4 | - 4 | $\begin{array}{r}3.3 \\ \hline\end{array}$ | 2.9 .5 | 3.8 .5 | $4 \cdot 1$ | 5.2 | 4.7 .8 | 3.8 | 3.5 | $4 \cdot 1$ |
| Other Textiles (except |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\cdot 7$ | - 8 | . 5 | -3 | $\cdot 4$ |
| Cotton and Wool) ... | 3.4 | $2 \cdot 5$ | 3.5 | 2.0 | 1.9 | $3 \cdot 3$ | $4 \cdot 6$ | $2 \cdot 8$ | 1.8 | $2 \cdot 7$ | 38 | $2 \cdot 2$ | 1.8 | $3 \cdot 1$ |
|  | 10.9 | $14 \cdot 3$ 60 | 10.2 11.0 | 9.8 | 9.8 | 14.9 | $13 \cdot 9$ | $11 \cdot 3$ | $7 \cdot 1$ | $14 \cdot 3$ | 9.7 | 5.8 | $6.2 *$ | 6.6 |
| Total both |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 6. |
| miscellaneous | $92 \cdot 8$ | $60 \cdot 0$ | $58 \cdot 7$ | 57.6 | $59 \cdot 9$ | $71 \cdot 1$ | $71 \cdot 7$ | 78.9 | 81.5 | $85 \cdot 6$ | 71.6 | $57 \cdot 4$ | 54.9 | 56.7 |
| Total. exol. ootton and wool | 54.4 | 397 | $37 \cdot 5$ | 38.2 | $46 \cdot 8$ | $47 \cdot 6$ | $45 \cdot 6$ | 55*2 | $68 \cdot 6$ | $63 \cdot 9$ | $52 \cdot 8$ | 41.7 | 44*2* | $43 \cdot 4$ |

* Corrected

TABLE B. EXPORTED MANUFACTURES-DECLARED VALUES. $£ \mathrm{Mn}$.


[^4]A detailed comparison of unemployment in November, 1938, with November, 1937, is to be found on page 13 below. Summary figures are :-


The increase was widely spread; each major district and nearly every industry showed deterioration.

The growth of the insured population has continued to be more rapid than that of the general population, and industry has failed to absorb the increase.

INSURED PERSONS. O00's. (ESTIMATED GREAT BRITAIN ONLY

|  |  | Total | Unemployed | Employed |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1937-September | $\ldots$ | 13453 | 1271 | 11707 |
| November | $\ldots$ | 13488 | 1432 | 11580 |
| 1938-November | 13663 | 1755 | 11428 |  |
| Sept, 1937-Nov., 1938 | +210 | +484 | -279 |  |

Here "Employed" excludes an allowance for sickness and
industrial stoppages.

## PRICES, TRADE AND EMPLOYMENT.RECENT MOVEMENTS.

PRICES AND WAGES.-Wholesale sterling food prices rose from November to December, the Statist showing an increase of $4 \%$ to the end of the month, while the Board of Trade gives $1.3 \%$ in the averages for the months. For materials both accounts show a slight decrease in most groups, but the Statist registers an increase in textile prices by the end of the month, largely owing to an advance in flax.

On the whole there has been little general change since September of this year.

In the retail food-price index there was the usual slight December fall mainly owing to a reduction in the price of eggs.

There was no change of wage-rates in December that affects our index-number.

TRADE AND OUTPUT. - Imports of food and of manufactured goods fell more than is normally expected in December, and those of materials rose less.

As regards food the principal reduction was in cereals; but the importation of wheat in the fourth quarter of this year has been greater than a year before ; that of maize was considerably less than in 1936 or 1937, and in barley there has been little change over the three years.

Among materials the lack of increase is still due to relatively small importation of cotton,

97 Mn. lbs. in December, 1938, 206 Mn. lbs. in December, 1937, and 170 Mn . lbs. in December, 1936.

The value of non-ferrous metal manufactures imported in December was nearly the same as in November, while that of unmanufactured increased a little. In most other classes of manufactures there was a reduction in December.

| IMPOR' | LESS | RE-EXPOR''S |  | . £Mn. |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 1937 |  |  | 1938 |  |
| Food, \&c.- | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. |
| Grain | 8.4 | 8.8 | 8.5 | $5 \cdot 3$ | $5 \cdot 7$ | $4 \cdot 3$ |
| Meat | 7.5 | 6.5 | 8.5 | 6.5 | 6.9 | $8 \cdot$ |
| Dairy Produce | 6.6 | 6.5 | 7.5 | 6.1 | 6.8 | 6. |
| Fruit \& Vegetabl | 3.3 | 2.9 | 3.2 | 32 | $3 \cdot 2$ | 3 |
| Tobacco ... | 2.5 | 3.4 | $2 \cdot 7$ | 3.7 | 2.8 | 2. |
| Other | $13 \cdot 9$ | 13.6 | 11.3 | 13.2 | 12.5 | 10.5 |
| Total | $42 \cdot 2$ | 41.7 | 41.7 | 38.0 | 37.9 | 34.5 |
| Materials- |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cotton | $4 \cdot 3$ | $5 \cdot 3$ | 4.9 | $2 \cdot 1$ | 2.2 | 2 |
| Wool | $2 \cdot 7$ | $2 \cdot 2$ | $2 \cdot 6$ | 1.6 | 2.4 | 2 |
| Seeds \& Oils | $3 \cdot 1$ | 2.8 | $2 \cdot 3$ | 2.4 | 1.8 |  |
| Hides \& Skins | $1 \cdot 1$ | 1.0 | 1.8 | 0.5 | 0.8 | 1 |
| Timber | 6.9 | 6.6 | $5 \cdot 1$ | 4.6 | $4 \cdot 0$ | $3 \cdot$ |
| Rubber ... | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.8 | $0 \cdot 3$ | 0 | 0 |
| Non-ferrous meta | 1.6 | 20 | 1.5 | $1 \cdot 2$ | $1 \cdot 1$ | $1 \cdot$ |
| Other | $4 \cdot 8$ | 5.6 | 5.9 | 3.9 | $4 \cdot 0$ | $4 \cdot 3$ |
| Total | $25 \cdot 5$ | 26.5 | 24.9 | 16.6 | $16 \cdot 3$ | $17 \cdot 4$ |
| Manufactures- |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| A. Iron, Steel | $2 \cdot 3$ | 2.7 | $2 \cdot 8$ | $0 \cdot 7$ | 0.8 | . |
| Non-ferrous | 3.2 | 3.6 | 3.6 | 8.8 | 2.7 | 2.6 |
| Timber ... | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| Oils | 3.6 | 4.0 | 3.7 | 3.2 | 3.5 | 3.5 |
| Other | 2.5 | 2.6 | 2.4 | $2 \cdot 1$ | 20 | 1.8 |
| Total | $12 \cdot 3$ | 13.6 | 13.2 | $9 \cdot 3$ | $9 \cdot 5$ | $9 \cdot 1$ |
| B. Total | 10.0 | $9 \cdot 7$ | $8 \cdot 5$ | $9 \cdot 1$ | 8.7 | $7 \cdot 3$ |
| All Imports (net) | 90.5 | 91.9 | $89 \cdot 3$ | $73 \cdot 6$ | 72.9 | $69 \cdot 3$ |

Under Manufactures, A includes commodities used in further manufacture and transport; 'Other' contains leather, paper and motor accessories. B includes all other manufactures.

In exports also there was more than the usual fall in December, so that there was some

reaction from the relatively high total (high as compared with recent months) in November. There was a reduction in many categories, but especially in cotton; the total of piece-goods was 108 Mn . sq. yards in December, 1938, as compared with 120 Mn . a month before and 14 I Mn. a year before.

UNEMPLOYMENT.-There was very little change in employment between November 14th and December 12th, 1938. The percentage of insured persons (excluding agriculture) was I2.9 in December, 1938, as compared with 12.I in December, 1937, and nearly the same figure in December, 1936. In December, 1938, there was some decrease among those temporarily stopped in the Textile industries. The total of those wholly unemployed was the same in December as in November, the seasonal increase in the building trade being balanced by seasonal decreases in distribution and other industries.

In 1937 there had been a considerable increase in unemployment from September, and this was
accentuated by exceptionally bad weather on December 13th when the count was taken. This year, on the other hand, the weather on December 12th was unusually mild and outdoor work was not interrupted. This must be borne in mind when the statistics for January in comparison with December are available.

INSURED MALES UNEMPLOYED.
Excluding Building, Public Works and Agriculture. (000's.)
New Basis from September, 1937.
Wholly Unemployed Temporarily Stopped

|  |  | 1936-7 | 1937-8 |  | 193s-7 | 1937-8 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| December | ... | 926 | 817 |  | 111 | 152 |
| January | $\ldots$ | 949 | 879 |  | 107 | 177 |
| February | ... | 935 | 887 |  | 99 | 177 |
| March ... | ... | 919 | 873 |  | 98 | 187 |
| April ... | ... | 859 | 864 |  | 82 | 213 |
| May | ... | 822 | 854 |  | 144 | 249 |
| June | ... | 773 | 842 |  | 142 | 297 |
| July . | $\ldots$ | 736 | 813 |  | 159 | 312 |
| August | ... | 744 | 816 |  | 125 | 278 |
| September | ... | 734* | 848 |  | 116* | 267 |
| October | ... | 769 | 895 |  | 110 | 195 |
| November |  | 798 | 917 |  | 119 | 201 |
| December | ... | 817 | 917 |  | 152 | 188 |

* On the Old Basis the total for September, 1937, was 880 instead of 850 .

INSURED PERSONS UNEMPLOYED. UNITED KINGDOM. ooo's.
Males and Females. Aged 16-65. Excluding Agriculture.
A. Wholly Unemployed.
B. Temporarily Stopped.


## STOCKS OF STAPLE COMMODITIES.

Table supplementary to the summary table, p. 2, Special Mem. 32.

| Beginning of |  | (1) American Cotton. 1,000 balet | $\begin{gathered} (2) \\ \text { Tin. } \\ 1,000 \\ \text { tons. } \end{gathered}$ | (3) Copper.$1,000$tons. | (4) <br> Lead. 1,000 tons. |  | (5) Spelter. <br> 1,000 tons, | $\begin{gathered} \begin{array}{c} (6) \\ \text { Rubber } \\ 1,000 \\ \text { tons. } \end{array} . \end{gathered}$ | (7) Sugar, 1,000 tons | (8) Tea Mn. Ibs | (9) Coffee. Mn. bags. |  | (10) Wheat. <br> Mn . bushels. | (11) <br> Petroleum <br> Mn. barrels. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | U.S. |  |  | U.K. | A |  |  |  |  | B |  |  |
| 1935 | Jtin. .. |  | 9,070 | 15.5 | 524.1 | 209.8 | 19.4 | 118 | 679 | 7,887 | 279 | 6.6 | * | 448 | 565 |
|  | April... | 8,581 | 19.2\|| | $520 \cdot 4$ | 203.2 | 18.9 | 110 | 653 | 8,058 | 267 | 6.9 | 19.0 | 411 | 570 |
|  | July .. | 8,413 | 14.4 | $517 \cdot 7$ | 206.3 | $17 \cdot 1$ | 111 | 648 | 6,170 | 225 | 7.5 | $15 \cdot 5$ | 313 | 566 |
|  | Oct. | 8,141 | 11.5 | 474.6 | $200 \cdot 6$ | $9 \cdot 3$ | 104 | 641 | 4,688 | 216 | $7 \cdot 6$ | \# | 367 | 547 |
| 1936 | Jan. .. | 7,488 | 13.5 | $433 \cdot 2$ | 198.5 | 7.0 | 83 | 576 | 6,237 | 247 | $7 \cdot 8$ | $22 \cdot 1$ | 397 | 541 |
|  | April... | 6,768 | 16.5 | 431.5 | 199.5 | $6 \cdot 3$ | 80 | 539 | 6,671 | 232 | $8 \cdot 2$ | $22 \cdot 2$ | 349 | 551 |
|  | July ... | 6,384 | $15^{\circ} 0$ | 409.8 | $205 \cdot 8$ | 6.7 | 88 | 491 | 4,990 | 199 | $8 \cdot 1$ | 20.8 | 221 | 545 |
|  | Oct. | 6,508 | $15 \cdot 1$ | $339 \cdot 2$ | 179.0 | $7 \cdot 1$ | 82 | 457 | 2,983 | 201 | $7 \cdot 8$ | * | 282 | 527 |
| 1937 | Jan. | 6,044 | 21.8 | $315 \cdot 3$ | 153.9 | 6.1 | 57 | 430 | 5,389 | 215 | $7 \cdot 9$ | * | 267 | 520 |
|  | April.. | 5,745 | 22.0 | $275 \cdot 3$ | 122.5 | $7 \cdot 1$ | 34 | 416 | 6,026 | 161 | $8 \cdot 1$ | 26.2 | 255 | 540 |
|  | July .. | 5,345 | $21 \cdot 1$ | 268.2 | 101.2 | $6 \cdot 3$ | 32 | 387 | 4,388 | 125 | 7.9 | $22 \cdot 6$ | 129 | 554 |
|  | Aug... | 5,459 | 23.7 | 279.5 | $99 \cdot 2$ | 6.2 | 33 | 399 | 3,636 | 111 | 7.6 | - | 180 | 560 |
|  | Sept .. | 6,109 | 23.5 | 293.3 | 92.4 | 8.0 | 30 | 408 | 3,165 | 119 | 7.6 | 22.4 | 227 | 559 |
|  | Oct. .. | 6,652 | $20 \cdot 9$ | 307.8 | 81.0 | $7 \cdot 9$ | 33 | 428 | 2,816 | 130 | 74 | 22.4 | 253 | 563 |
|  | Nov. . Dec. . | 7,073 | 20.8 21.9 | $341 \cdot 3$ $369 \cdot 3$ | 89.8 101.4 | 7.8 7.1 | 44 59 | 431 446 | 4,002 5,981 | 146 | 7.5 7.1 |  | 245 249 | 560 |
| 1938 | Jan. . | 8,183 | $24 \cdot 1$ | $412 \cdot 3$ | $115 \cdot 3$ | $7 \cdot 0$ | 79 | 502 | 6,067 |  | 7.0 | 28.1 | 284 |  |
|  | Feb. ... | 8,610 | $23 \cdot 1$ | 451.8 | $119 \cdot 3$ | 8.2 | 99 | 500 | 5,821 | 204 | $7 \cdot 1$ |  | 275 |  |
|  | March | 9,361 | $21 \cdot 1$ | $473 \cdot 1$ | $123 \cdot 3$ | 9.0 | 117 | 522 | 6,309 | 197 | $7 \cdot 4$ |  | 255 |  |
|  | April... | 9,839 | $24 \cdot 6$ | $482 \cdot 4$ | 128.1 | 12.0 | 125 | 537 | 6,889 | 167 | $7 \cdot 4$ |  | 229 |  |
|  | May ... | 10,543 | $25 \cdot 3$ | $492 \cdot 5$ | $139 \cdot 7$ | 12.0 | 142 | 540 | 6,521 | 144 | $7 \cdot 5$ |  | 197 |  |
|  | June... | 11,280 | $23 \cdot 7$ | 495.0 | 146.4 | $11 \cdot 2$ | 154 | 522 | 5,955 | 138 | $7 \cdot 4$ |  | 158 |  |
|  | July ... | 12,059 | $24 \cdot 3$ | $492 \cdot 4$ | 145.8 | 9.4 | 157 | 525 | 5,255 | 141 | $7 \cdot 2$ |  | 140 |  |
|  | Aug... | 12,808 | $25 \cdot 0$ | 481.2 | $137 \cdot 7$ | 9.0 | 155 | 532 | 4,713 | 141 | 7.0 |  | 198 |  |
|  | Sept.... | 13,056 | $25 \cdot 7$ | 441.5 | 125.6 | 8.8 | 153 | 520 | 4,226 | 157 | $7 \cdot 3$ |  | 264 |  |
|  | Oct. ... | 13,222 | 26.7 | 408.4 | 117.3 | $9 \cdot 3$ | 142 | 508 | 3,601 | 169 | 7.6 |  | 333 |  |
|  | Nov. .. | 13,289 | 27.2 | $379 \cdot 2$ | $104 \cdot 9$ | $9 \cdot 7$ | 143 | 498 | 4,129 | 186 | 7.5 |  | 364 |  |
|  | Dec. ... | 13,277 $\dagger$ | 27.0 | $379 \cdot 1$ | $102 \cdot 9$ | 9.5 | 132 | 470 |  | 208 | 7.4 |  | 377 |  |
| 1939 | Jan. | 13,233 $\dagger$ | 27.8 | 408.2 |  | 11.0 | ${ }_{2} 1138$ |  |  | 221 | $7 \cdot 4$ |  |  |  |

|| April, 1935, onwards includes whole buffer stock.

* Not available

Preliminary figure.
(1) Total supply seasonally corrected, exclusive of European and Asiatic mill stocks.
(2) Visible Supply plus estimate of Straits stocks.
(3) Total world stocks of refined copper only. N.B.-This is not the same series as that discontinued since Oct., 1931
(4) U.K. stocks in official warehouses
(5) Visible supply in U.K. and U.S.
(6) Crude rubber stocks (outside regulated areas) in U.K. U.S.A., Singapore, Penang, Para and Manaos plus estimated afloat as published by the International Rubber Regulation Committee.
(7) Total visible supply.
(8) Tea Brokers' Association, London stocks.
(9) (A) Visible supply. (B) Interior Brazil stock and San Paulo Pledged stock. Figures supplied by Messrs. Duuring \& Zoon.
(10) Stanford Wheat Studies Estimates of World's Visible Supply.
(II) Total crude petroleum, natural gasolene (ex at plants), refined products.

## UNEMPLOYMENT BY DISTRICTS

PERCENTAGE OF INSURED PERSONS UNBMPLOYBD．—GREAT BRITAIN AND N．IRELAND．

| Near Middle of Month． | e e e | 䋯 |  | 号 |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 識 } \\ & \text { E } \\ & \text { B } \\ & \text { ¿ } \end{aligned}$ |  | 先 | ¢ | re |  | 宫 | －${ }_{\text {did }}^{\text {¢ }}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1937 Dec | $12 \cdot 1$ | 13.1 | $9 \cdot 4$ | $7 \cdot 1$ | $8 \cdot 1$ | 8.6 | 8.5 | $12 \cdot 7$ | $15 \cdot 5$ | 18.9 | $17 \cdot 6$ | $21 \cdot 9$ | $27 \cdot 1$ | $1 \cdot 5$ |
| 1938 Jan． | $13 \cdot 2$ | $13 \cdot 7$ | 11.6 | 8.6 | $9 \cdot 6$ | $9 \cdot 6$ | 9.6 | $13 \cdot 5$ | $17 \cdot 3$ | $17 \cdot 9$ | 17.6 | $23 \cdot 8$ | $30 \cdot 0$ | 1.6 |
| Feb． | $13 \cdot 1$ | 13.5 | 11.8 | 8.6 | $9 \cdot 2$ | 9.4 | 9.6 | $13 \cdot 3$ | 17.8 | 17.6 | 17.0 | $23 \cdot 8$ | 29.5 | $1 \cdot 6$ |
| Mar | $12 \cdot 7$ | 13.1 | 11.8 | 8.2 | $8 \cdot 3$ | $8 \cdot 5$ | 9.6 | 13.0 | $17 \cdot 6$ | $17 \cdot 1$ | 16.6 | 24.4 | 29.4 | 1.7 |
| Apr．．． | $12 \cdot 7$ | $13 \cdot 1$ | 11.6 | $7 \cdot 8$ | $7 \cdot 7$ | 8.1 | 10.0 | $12 \cdot 9$ | $17 \cdot 7$ | 17.0 | 16.8 | $25 \cdot 9$ | 29.4 | 1.6 |
| May． | 12.8 | $13 \cdot 3$ | 11.7 | 7.7 | $7 \cdot 2$ | 7.6 | $10 \cdot 2$ | 13.7 | 18.5 | 17.3 | $16 \cdot 3$ | 26.9 | 28.5 | 1.6 |
| June．． | $13 \cdot 2$ | 13.6 | 11.9 | $7 \cdot 7$ | $6 \cdot 9$ | $7 \cdot 6$ | $11 \cdot 1$ | 14.0 | 2011 | 18.5 | 15.8 | $25 \cdot 8$ | $28 \cdot 7$ | 1.6 |
| July $\{$ | （a） $13 \cdot 1$ | 13.7 | 11.5 | 7.6 | 6.7 | $7 \cdot 2$ | 11.6 | 14.8 | $17 \cdot 7$ | $19 \cdot 7$ | 16.6 | 24.7 | $33 \cdot 0$ | 1.5 |
| July ？ | （b） $12 \cdot 9$ | 13.6 | 11.2 |  | － | － | 11.7 | 14.6 |  |  |  |  | 27．7 |  |
| Aug．．．． | 12.6 12.8 | $13 \cdot 2$ | 11.2 | （a） $\begin{array}{r}7 \cdot 4 \\ \hline\end{array}$ | $6 \cdot 8$ $7 \cdot 2$ | 6.9 7.4 | 11.7 11.0 | 14.6 14.7 | 18.2 19.0 | $19 \cdot 2$ 18.7 | $\begin{aligned} & 15 \cdot 5 \\ & 16 \cdot 2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 24 \cdot 2 \\ & 24 \cdot 8 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 277 \\ & 26.7 \end{aligned}$ | 1.6 1.6 |
| Sept．．．． | 12.8 | 13.5 | 110 | （a） 76 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Oct． | $12 \cdot 7$ | 13.5 | $10 \cdot 8$ | （b） $8 \cdot 3$ | 8.4 | 8.5 | 10.0 | $13 \cdot 0$ | $17 \cdot 1$ | 19.0 | 15.6 | 23.6 | 258 | 1.7 |
| Nov． | 13.0 | 13.9 | $10 \cdot 7$ | 8.6 | 9.0 | 8.8 | 9.8 | $13 \cdot 1$ | $17 \cdot 2$ | $19 \cdot 3$ | 16.2 | 24.9 | 26.0 | 1.8 |
| Dec． | 12.9 | $14^{\circ} 0$ | $10 \cdot 2$ | $8 \cdot 5$ | $9 \cdot 3$ | 8.6 | $9 \cdot 4$ | $12 \cdot 8$ | 16.9 | 19.4 | 16.7 | $25 \cdot 3$ | $25 \cdot 1$ | 1.9 |

（a）Old series．
Regional Percentages prior to October，1938，based upon numbers insured in July，1937；subsequently upon numbers insured in July， 1938 ，

IRON AND STEEL STATISTICS FOR U．K．$\infty$ tons．

|  | PIG－IRON．$\dagger$ |  |  |  |  |  | CRUDE STEEL． |  |  |  | EXPOR＇IS OF IRON \＆STEEL． |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Qrly. } \\ & \text { aver'ge } \end{aligned}$ | Produc－ tion | $\begin{aligned} & + \text { Im- } \\ & \text { ports } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { - Ex- } \\ & \text { ports } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & =\text { Home } \\ & \text { Cons'mp. } \\ & \text { tion } \end{aligned}$ | \％Imports to Home Consump－ tinn | Pro－ duction | $\stackrel{\text { * }}{\text { ports }}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Home } \\ \text { Con- } \\ \text { sumption } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { \% Imports } \\ \text { to Home } \\ \text { Con- } \\ \text { smmption } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Semi－ <br> Finished | Finished |
| $1913$ |  | 2565 | 46 | 236 | 2375 | 1.9 | 1916 | 215 | 2131 | 10 | 209 | 751 |
|  |  | 1840 | 77 | 150 | 1756 | $4 \cdot 4$ | 2054 | 271 | 2324 | $11 \cdot 7$ | 235 | 573 |
| 1925 | ＂， | 1559 | 71 | 140 | 1490 | $4 \cdot 8$ | 1849 | 289 | 2139 | 13.5 | 188 | 600 |
| 1926 | ＂ | 610 | 124 | 148 | 653 | 19.0 | 890 | 390 | 1280 | $30 \cdot 5$ | 145 | 521 |
| 1927 | ＂， | 1826 | 152 | 83 | 1895 | 8.0 | 2275 | 421 | 2695 | 15.6 | 251 | 712 |
| 1988 | ＂ | 1653 | 30 | 114 | 1569 | $1 \cdot 8$ | 2131 | 286 | 2417 | 11.8 | 245 | 702 |
| 1929 | ＂ | 1895 | 38 | 136 | 1797 | $2 \cdot 1$ | 2415 | 247 | 2662 | $9 \cdot 3$ | 252 | 699 |
| 1930 | ＂ | 1549 | 78 | 79 | 1548 | $5 \cdot 0$ | 1825 | 272 | 2097 | 13.0 | 168 | 537 |
| 1931 | ＂ | 939 | 76 | 50 | 965 | $7 \cdot 9$ | 1294 | 314 | 1608 | $19 \cdot 4$ | 97 | 344 |
| 1932 | ＂ | 893 | 39 | 32 | 931 | $4 \cdot 3$ | 1314 | 184 | 1498 | $12 \cdot 1$ | 113 | 323 |
| 1933 | 1 | 890 | 22 | 22 |  |  | 1505 | 86 | 1591 | $5 \cdot 4$ | 100 | 312 |
|  | 2 | 1010 | 31 | 27 | 1014 | 3.1 | 1678 | 57 | 1735 | $3 \cdot 3$ | 95 | 337 |
|  | 3 | 1066 | 34 | 28 | 1072 | 3．2 | 1788 | 78 | 1866 | $4 \cdot 2$ | 102 | 331 |
|  | 4 | 1157 | 34 | 34 | 1157 | 2.9 | 2032 | 93 | 2125 | $4 \cdot 4$ | 130 | 373 |
| 1934 |  | 1359 | 37 | 27 | 1369 | $2 \cdot 7$ | 2253 | 116 | 2369 | $4 \cdot 9$ | 129 | 312 |
|  | 2 | 1540 | 38 | 37 | 1541 | 2.5 | 2254 | 111 | 2365 | 4.7 | 149 | 364 |
|  | 3 | 1532 | 39 | 32 | 1539 | $2 \cdot 5$ | 2120 | 101 | 2221 | 4.6 | 154 | 394 |
|  | 4 | 1548 | 48 | 37 | 1560 | 3.1 | 2233 | 127 | 2359 | $5 \cdot 4$ | 167 | 413 |
| 1935 |  |  |  | $34$ |  |  |  | 120 |  |  | 149 | 334 |
|  | 2 | 1614 | 30 | 49 | 1596 | 1.9 | 2432 | $67$ | 2498 | $2 \cdot 7$ | 183 | 357 |
|  | 3 | 1620 | 30 | 36 | 1614 | 1.9 | 2419 | 77 | 2496 | 3.1 | 157 | 391 |
|  | 4 | 1633 | 32 | 39 | 1626 | 2.0 | 2622 | 101 | 2723 | 3.7 | 182 | 390 |
| 1936 |  | 1814 |  |  |  | 2.2 | 2830 | 170 | 3000 | $5 \cdot 7$ | 134 |  |
|  | 2 | 1935 | 57 | 27 | 1964 | 29 | 2913 | 143 | 3056 | 4.7 | 161 | 361 |
|  | 3 | 1952 | 121 | 33 | 2040 | $5 \cdot 9$ | 2874 | 163 | 3037 | $5 \cdot 4$ | 151 | 373 |
|  | 4 | 1985 | 92 | 28 | 2049 | $4 \cdot 5$ | 3081 | 77 | 3158 | 2.4 | 149 | 405 |
| 1937 |  |  |  |  |  | $3 \cdot 9$ |  |  |  | 2.5 | 178 | 413 |
|  | 2 | 2076 | 143 | 45 | 2174 | 6.6 | 3234 | 108 | 3342 | 3.2 | 190 | 452 |
|  | 3 | 2170 | 279 | 43 | 2405 | 11.6 | 3210 | 149 | 3359 | 4.4 | 157 | 417 |
|  | 4 | 2316 | 224 | 35 | 2505 | 8.9 | 3416 | 199 | 3815 | $5 \cdot 5$ | 163 | 391 |
| 1938 |  | 2169 |  | 26 |  | $11 \cdot 1$ | 3255 | 254 | 3508 | $7 \cdot 2$ | 134 |  |
|  | 2 | 1836 | 93 49 | 14 | 1915 | 4.9 3.5 | 2672 | 27 | 2699 | 1.0 | 136 | 326 |
|  | 3 | 1381 | 49 | 17 | 1412 | 3.5 | 2097 | 36 | 2133 | 1.7 | 90 | 293 |
|  | 4 | 1377 | 33 | 43 | 1367 | 2.4 | 2371 | 355 | 2406 | 1.5 | 93 |  |

＋Inc．Ferrous Alloys．
＊Blooms，Billets，Sheet and Tinplate Bars．

# THE EXCHANGE EQUALISATION ACCOUNT 

By F. W. PAISH.

THE recent publication of the Exchange Equalisation Account's gold holding as at 30th September last shows it to have been a little larger than was thought at the time. It was widely expected that it would prove to be slightly under 20 Mn . ounces, whereas the actual amount was 21.7 Mn . ounces. The net sales of gold by the Account during the six months ending September 30th were thus nearly 2I Mn. ounces. The gold holdings of the Account at the four dates for which figures have been published were as follows :-

| (Mn. ounces.) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{gathered} 31 / 3 / 37 \\ 26.7 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 30 / 9 / 37 \\ 399 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 31 / 3 / 38 \\ 42 \cdot 5 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 20 / 9 / 38 \\ 21 \cdot 7 \end{gathered}$ |

Between 30th September, 1938, and 7th January, 1939, the Account is generally believed to have sold a further substantial quantity of gold, amounting perhaps to something like io Mn . ounces, thus reducing its holding to an estimated total of under 12 Mn . ounces. This conclusion seems not unreasonable in the light of the movements in the Treasury bill figures. During the second and third quarters of 1938 little light was thrown by the Treasury bill figures on the changes in the distribution of the assets of the Account, for the reason that the Account appears to have held substantial and varying proportions of its sterling assets in the form of Treasury bills originally issued by tender. Since September, however, it seems likely that these 'market' bills have matured and been replaced in the Account's portfolio with bills issued direct through the 'tap.' The total of 'tap' bills in existence on March 3Ist, 1938, may be estimated at about $£ 295 \mathrm{Mn}$.* On January 7th, 1939, the 'tap' bill total was $£ 524 \mathrm{Mn}$., showing an increase over the period of $£ 229 \mathrm{Mn}$. The amount of sterling realised for the 31 Mn . ounces of gold which the Account is estimated to have sold since March was probably in the neighbourhood of $£ 223 \mathrm{Mn}$., or, if we allow for jobbing profits, perhaps slightly more.

In view of the relatively low level of the gold holdings of the Account, the announcement on January 7th of a re-transfer of gold from the

[^5]Bank of England to the Account was not altogether surprising, though few can have anticipated that the transfer would be so large. It appears that of the 48.4 Mn . ounces of gold bought by the Bank since March, 1932, approximately 47 Mn . ounces are now sold back to the Account. These will be paid for by the transfer of sterling assets (presumably Treasury bills) from the Account to the Bank to the value of approximately $£ 200 \mathrm{Mn}$. The market value of the gold at the dates at which the Bank bought it was about $£ 314 \mathrm{Mn}$., while its market value on the date of its re-sale was about $£ 350 \mathrm{Mn}$. Thus the Account has made a profit of about $£ 36 \mathrm{Mn}$. on this part of its transactions. Its total profits since March, 1932, may be estimated at something like $£ 65 \mathrm{Mn}$., including a potential profit of about $£ \mathrm{I} \mathrm{Mn}$. on the small amount of gold not re-transferred by the Bank. The present balance-sheet of the Account (on the assumption that its non-sterling assets consist entirely of gold) may now be something as follows :-


If the Account's sterling assets are assumed to consist entirely of 'tap' Treasury bills, this would leave $£ 35 \mathrm{I} \mathrm{Mn}$. of ' tap' bills in the hands of the Bank of England and of other Government departments, including the $£ 200 \mathrm{Mn}$. of bills assumed to have been just transferred to the Bank. The present market value of the gold (nearly 30 Mn . ounces) still held by the Bank is about $£ 220 \mathrm{Mn}$., and the total present market value of the combined holding of the Account and the Bank (estimated at 88.5 Mn . ounces) is therefore estimated at $£ 658 \mathrm{Mn}$. On 31st March last the Account and the Bank together held ir9.4 Mn. ounces, worth $£ 836 \mathrm{Mn}$. at the then price of $£ 7$ per ounce, and $£ 890 \mathrm{Mn}$. at the present market price.

## THE PHYSICAL VOLUME OF PRODUCTION.

Our Annual Index of Production appears in the Bulletin for May 23rd of each year. The quarterly index given here is on a narrower basis than the annual index, which includes building and agriculture and other information not available quarterly. The method of construction is to be found in Special Memorandum No. 8.

THE Index of Production for the fourth quarter of 1938 is 107.8 . This compares with 99.3 in the third quarter, and with I28.7 in the fourth quarter of 1937 . The rise from the level of the third quarter is what might reasonably be attributed to seasonal change ; the general trend is probably no longer downward.

The change upward from the third quarter is general in the subsidiary indices. The Coal figure is returning to the previous year's level. The Iron and Steel and Textile figures are still much below those of 1937, but the Food figure maintains a high level.


QUARTERLY INDEX NUMBERS OF PRODUCTION.
Average $1924=100$

| Group : |  | I. | II. |  |  |  |  | III. |  |  | IV. |  |  | V. |  |  |  | VI. |  | $\qquad$ | Final <br> Index. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Industry : |  | Coalmining. | Pig Iron. | Steel. | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Ship- } \\ & \text { building } \end{aligned}$ $\ddagger$ | Railway <br> Vehicles | Group <br> Index. | Copper. | Lead, Tin and Zinc | Group <br> Index. | Cotton. | Silk. $\dagger$ | Group <br> Index. | Wheat and Flour. | Cocoa. | Tobacco | Group Index. | Oil Seed crushing. | Group Index incl. heavy Chemicals.) |  |  |
| Average quarterly production, 1924. |  | $\begin{gathered} 000 \\ \text { tons } \\ 67,308 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 000 \\ & \text { tons } \\ & 1,827 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 000 \\ & \text { tons } \\ & 2,050 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 000 \\ & \text { tons } \\ & 1,373 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { tons } \\ & 9,929 \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { tons } \\ 39,626 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { tons } \\ 87,967 \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { bales } \\ 689 \end{gathered}$ |  |  | $\begin{gathered} 000 \\ \text { cwts. } \\ 31,914 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { cwts. } \\ 259,231 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 000 \\ \text { lbs. } \\ 36,477 \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} 000 \\ \text { tons } \\ 435 \cdot 3 \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & 000 \\ & \text { tons } \\ & 244 \cdot 3 \end{aligned}$ |  |
| Weights. |  | 232 | 12 | 36 | 22 | j | 341 | 65 | 59 | 25 | 82 | 10 | 216 | 50 | 17 | 24 | 209 | - | 62 | 98 | 1183 |
| 1924 | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \\ & 2 \\ & 3 \\ & 4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 107 \cdot 3 \\ 99 \cdot 3 \\ 95 \cdot 0 \\ 98 \cdot 4 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 105 \cdot 0 \\ 102 \cdot 8 \\ 97 \cdot 1 \\ 95 \cdot 3 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 111 \cdot 2 \\ 106 \cdot 0 \\ 90 \cdot 8 \\ 92 \cdot 8 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 100 \cdot 0 \\ 106.7 \\ 103.1 \\ 9.1 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 142 \cdot 7 \\ 112.9 \\ 78.3 \\ 66.1 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 109 \cdot 0 \\ 106 \cdot 2 \\ 94 \cdot 6 \\ 90.6 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 96.9 \\ 93.8 \\ 104.1 \\ 105.0 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 96.4 \\ 87.3 \\ 118.5 \\ 97.7 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 96.6 \\ 90.4 \\ 111.6 \\ 101.2 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 104 \cdot 2 \\ 90 \cdot 4 \\ 79 \cdot 7 \\ 126.0 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 746 \\ 94 \cdot 3 \\ 111 \cdot 5 \\ 119 \cdot 5 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 101 \cdot 0 \\ 90 \cdot 8 \\ 83 \cdot 2 \\ 125 \cdot 3 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 85 \cdot 4 \\ 99 \cdot 6 \\ 111 \cdot 6 \\ 103 \cdot 3 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 109 \cdot 6 \\ 89 \cdot 6 \\ 88 \cdot 7 \\ 112 \cdot 1 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 95.6 \\ 99.7 \\ 101.9 \\ 102.7 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 92.5 \\ 97.8 \\ 104.9 \\ 104.8 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 109 \cdot 9 \\ 97 \cdot 8 \\ 87.8 \\ 104.5 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 95 \cdot 4 \\ 103 \cdot 0 \\ 101 \cdot 0 \\ 101.2 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 53 \cdot 7 \\ 104 \cdot 9 \\ 127 \cdot 2 \\ 114 \cdot 2 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 98.8 \\ 99.9 \\ 97.9 \\ 103.8 \end{array}$ |
| 1928 | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \\ & 2 \\ & 8 \\ & 4 \end{aligned}$ | $97 \cdot 1$ <br> 86.1 <br> 83.8 <br> $91 \cdot 4$ | $\begin{aligned} & 93 \cdot 3 \\ & 94 \cdot 0 \\ & 85 \cdot 4 \\ & 89 \cdot 1 \end{aligned}$ | 106.5 $102 \cdot 7$ 99.2 107.4 | 104.9 87.6 79.4 90.5 | $199 \cdot 3$ $265 \cdot 1$ $154 \cdot 2$ $126 \cdot 2$ | $\begin{array}{r} 110 \cdot 1 \\ 107 \cdot 7 \\ 94.9 \\ 100.8 \end{array}$ | 125.8 126.1 120.6 118.2 | $109 \cdot 9$ $120 \cdot 0$ $94 \cdot 3$ $106 \cdot 5$ | 117.5 122.9 106.9 112.1 | 114.4 109.0 92.9 115.0 | 151.1 136.6 140.8 158.0 | 118.4 112.0 98.1 119.7 | $\begin{aligned} & 93 \cdot 2 \\ & 86 \cdot 4 \\ & 92 \cdot 7 \\ & 91 \cdot 8 \end{aligned}$ | 121.4 103.7 102.5 101.0 | 116.9 124.3 127.7 133.6 | $104 \cdot 4$ $99 \cdot 3$ $103 \cdot 5$ $104 \cdot 2$ | $\begin{aligned} & 98 \cdot 8 \\ & 99 \cdot 8 \\ & 79 \cdot 5 \\ & 72 \cdot 7 \end{aligned}$ | $104 \cdot 8$ $103 \cdot 8$ $93 \cdot 3$ $102 \cdot 7$ | $\begin{array}{r} 82 \cdot 4 \\ 118 \cdot 0 \\ 99.8 \\ 122.9 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 105.7 \\ 103^{7} \\ 95.4 \\ 105.2 \end{array}$ |
| 1989 | 1 2 3 4 | $101 \cdot 2$ $93 \cdot 1$ $93 \cdot 3$ 99.5 | 91.6 $105 \cdot 3$ $110 \cdot 5$ 107.5 | 117.0 121.1 120.0 115.4 | 98.8 105.9 105.4 113.6 | 139.9 131.6 152.8 149.9 | 109.1 114.8 116.4 115.9 | $117 \cdot 4$ $120 \cdot 8$ $114 \cdot 7$ $120 \cdot 1$ | $106 \cdot 1$ $120 \cdot 3$ $120 \cdot 4$ $109 \cdot 7$ | 111.5 120.5 $117 \cdot 7$ 114.7 | 117.6 111.4 85.8 118.6 | $147 \cdot 3$ $142 \cdot 2$ $162 \cdot 8$ $175 \cdot 0$ | $120 \cdot 8$ 114.7 $94 \cdot 1$ 124.5 | 87.0 94.9 100.1 91.4 | $115 \cdot 3$ 116.7 $103 \cdot 4$ 108.3 | $123 \cdot 3$ $139 \cdot 1$ $141 \cdot 1$ $142 \cdot 1$ | $101 \cdot 9$ $110 \cdot 6$ $111 \cdot 3$ $107 \cdot 9$ | $\begin{array}{r} 109 \cdot 2 \\ 86.0 \\ 69 \cdot 7 \\ 87 \cdot 7 \end{array}$ | $100 \cdot 1$ $102 \cdot 1$ $103 \cdot 4$ $105 \cdot 4$ | $\begin{aligned} & 111 \cdot 2 \\ & 136 \cdot 6 \\ & 139 \cdot 7 \\ & 147 \cdot 0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 108.3 \\ & 1110 \\ & 108.8 \\ & 114.8 \end{aligned}$ |
| 1930 | 1 2 3 4 | $104 \cdot 2$ 87.8 83.7 91.6 | $105 \cdot 1$ 98.4 72.7 62.9 | 118.4 97.0 82.5 64.0 | 117.6 10.4 81.4 66.2 | $149 \cdot 0$ $180 \cdot 8$ $151 \cdot 2$ $189 \cdot 8$ | $118 \cdot 1$ $104 \cdot 1$ $85 \cdot 2$ $72 \cdot 9$ | $103 \cdot 1$ $121 \cdot 1$ $129 \cdot 4$ $114 \cdot 5$ | 119.7 113.7 $100 \cdot 4$ 123.9 | $111 \cdot 8$ $117 \cdot 2$ $114 \cdot 3$ 119.4 | $107 \cdot 3$ $86 \cdot 4$ $61 \cdot 3$ $81 \cdot 3$ | $159 \cdot 0$ $125 \cdot 0$ $127 \cdot 2$ $140 \cdot 7$ | 112.9 90.6 68.4 87.7 | $\begin{array}{r} 81 \cdot 3 \\ 91.8 \\ 99 \cdot 8 \\ 101.9 \end{array}$ | 10.9 99.9 121.7 96.5 121.6 | 138.3 136.7 138.0 145.4 | $\begin{array}{r} 99 \cdot 8 \\ 110 \cdot 3 \\ 109 \cdot 3 \\ 117 \cdot 1 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 79 \cdot 7 \\ & 69 \cdot 2 \\ & 59 \cdot 1 \\ & 75 \cdot 7 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 94 \cdot 5 \\ & 88 \cdot 8 \\ & 97 \cdot 7 \\ & 84 \cdot 2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 116 \cdot 3 \\ & 127 \cdot 0 \\ & 125 \cdot 4 \\ & 122 \cdot 5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 109.6 \\ 100.9 \\ 90.7 \\ 92.7 \end{array}$ |
| 1931 | 1 2 3 4 | $\begin{aligned} & 88 \cdot 3 \\ & 81 \cdot 4 \\ & 76 \cdot 2 \\ & 86 \cdot 2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 55 \cdot 4 \\ & 54 \cdot 4 \\ & 46 \cdot 0 \\ & 49 \cdot 9 \end{aligned}$ | $67 \cdot 7$ $62 \cdot 9$ $57 \cdot 9$ $66 \cdot 8$ | 50.6 40.5 30.4 29.2 | $\begin{array}{r} 104 \cdot 9 \\ 75 \cdot 7 \\ 76.2 \\ 22.5 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 63 \cdot 2 \\ & 55 \cdot 8 \\ & 49 \cdot 1 \\ & 50 \cdot 1 \end{aligned}$ | 88.6 104.2 85.0 96.5 | 96.0 138.1 $115 \cdot 7$ 123.6 | 92.4 121.9 110.0 110.6 | $71 \cdot 7$ $78 \cdot 1$ $74 \cdot 3$ $102 \cdot 0$ | $142 \cdot 0$ $139 \cdot 7$ $145 \cdot 7$ $177 \cdot 9$ | $\begin{array}{r} 79 \cdot 3 \\ 84.8 \\ 82 \cdot 1 \\ 110 \cdot 2 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 89 \cdot 9 \\ 97 \cdot 5 \\ 110 \cdot 8 \\ 114 \cdot 2 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 151.2 \\ 95.9 \\ 118.6 \\ 99.5 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 142 \cdot 9 \\ & 122 \cdot 5 \\ & 132 \cdot 8 \\ & 128 \cdot 4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 115 \cdot 3 \\ & 103 \cdot 8 \\ & 118 \cdot 1 \\ & 115 \cdot 2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 82 \cdot 0 \\ & 86 \cdot 4 \\ & 67 \cdot 4 \\ & 75 \cdot 8 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 83 \cdot 9 \\ & 82 \cdot 5 \\ & 73 \cdot 9 \\ & 86 \cdot 5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 101 \cdot 6 \\ 94 \cdot 0 \\ 121 \cdot 1 \\ 142 \cdot 6 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 85 \cdot 1 \\ & 80 \cdot 6 \\ & 81 \cdot 1 \\ & 90 \cdot 5 \end{aligned}$ |
| 1932 | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \\ & 2 \\ & 3 \\ & 4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 85 \cdot 4 \\ & 78 \cdot 8 \\ & 69 \cdot 3 \\ & 83 \cdot 9 \end{aligned}$ | $54 \cdot 2$ <br> $51 \cdot 7$ <br> $44 \cdot 5$ <br> $45 \cdot 3$ | $67 \cdot 0$ $63 \cdot 9$ $61 \cdot 4$ $67 \cdot 0$ | $\begin{aligned} & 27 \cdot 2 \\ & 20 \cdot 5 \\ & 17 \cdot 3 \\ & 16 \cdot 5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 31 \cdot 3 \\ 18 \cdot 4 \\ 9 \cdot 2 \\ 9 \cdot 1 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 50 \cdot 9 \\ & 46 \cdot 2 \\ & 42 \cdot 3 \\ & 44 \cdot 9 \end{aligned}$ | $95 \cdot 4$ 95.8 $100 \cdot 2$ $104 \cdot 7$ | $\begin{array}{r} 115 \cdot 6 \\ 95 \cdot 2 \\ 84 \cdot 5 \\ 94 \cdot 4 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 105.9 \\ 95.5 \\ 92.0 \\ 99.3 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 100.9 \\ 94.0 \\ 73.3 \\ 87.9 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 199 \cdot 1 \\ & 215 \cdot 4 \\ & 183 \cdot 0 \\ & 208 \cdot 0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 111 \cdot 6 \\ 107 \cdot 2 \\ 85 \cdot 2 \\ 100 \cdot 5 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 98 \cdot 0 \\ 103 \cdot 0 \\ 99 \cdot 7 \\ 92 \cdot 2 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 168 \cdot 0 \\ & 106 \cdot 2 \\ & 102 \cdot 8 \\ & 138 \cdot 7 \end{aligned}$ | $121 \cdot 3$ 133.8 $125 \cdot 0$ 134.0 | $117 \cdot 2$ <br> $111 \cdot 7$ <br> $107 \cdot 0$ <br> $111 \cdot 9$ | $86 \cdot 2$ <br> $83 \cdot 8$ <br> $68 \cdot 2$ <br> $76 \cdot 3$ | $89 \cdot 2$ <br> 96.1 <br> $81 \cdot 8$ <br> $90 \cdot 1$ | $\begin{aligned} & 143 \cdot 1 \\ & 101 \cdot 5 \\ & 136 \cdot 5 \\ & 155 \cdot 6 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 91 \cdot 3 \\ & 83 \cdot 2 \\ & 77 \cdot 8 \\ & 87 \cdot 2 \end{aligned}$ |
| 1833 | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \\ & 2 \\ & 3 \\ & 4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 85 \cdot 5 \\ & 73 \cdot 0 \\ & 71 \cdot 1 \\ & 84 \cdot 4 \end{aligned}$ | $48 \cdot 7$ $55 \cdot 3$ $58 \cdot 4$ $63 \cdot 4$ | $75 \cdot 1$ $83 \cdot 7$ $87 \cdot 2$ $99 \cdot 1$ | $\begin{aligned} & 18 \cdot 4 \\ & 21 \cdot 0 \\ & 22 \cdot 1 \\ & 24 \cdot 2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 21 \cdot 2 \\ & 50.5 \\ & 30.6 \\ & 15.1 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 50 \cdot 7 \\ & 58 \cdot 6 \\ & 59 \cdot 7 \\ & 66 \cdot 2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 90.2 \\ 111.6 \\ 108.0 \\ 130.9 \end{array}$ | 84.6 119.9 112.1 116.3 | $87 \cdot 3$ $115 \cdot 9$ $110 \cdot 1$ $123 \cdot 3$ | $95 \cdot 7$ $89 \cdot 7$ $91 \cdot 3$ $99 \cdot 3$ | $211 \cdot 0$ $209 \cdot 5$ $238 \cdot 5$ $285 \cdot 2$ | $\begin{aligned} & 108 \cdot 2 \\ & 102 \cdot 7 \\ & 107 \cdot 3 \\ & 119 \cdot 5 \end{aligned}$ | $90 \cdot 6$ <br> $96 \cdot 3$ <br> $95 \cdot 4$ <br> $90 \cdot 9$ | $\begin{array}{r} 160 \cdot 7 \\ 124 \cdot 5 \\ 88 \cdot 1 \\ 142 \cdot 7 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 125 \cdot 2 \\ & 137 \cdot 1 \\ & 133 \cdot 8 \\ & 136 \cdot 2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 112 \cdot 8 \\ & 112 \cdot 3 \\ & 104 \cdot 2 \\ & 112 \cdot 5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 81 \cdot 1 \\ & 72 \cdot 8 \\ & 60 \cdot 6 \\ & 81 \cdot 0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 88 \cdot 0 \\ 94 \cdot 1 \\ 84 \cdot 4 \\ 101.1 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 126 \cdot 6 \\ & 138 \cdot 4 \\ & 144 \cdot 8 \\ & 147 \cdot 2 \end{aligned}$ | 88.0 <br> $88 \cdot 8$ $87 \cdot 9$ <br> 97.4 |
| 1834 | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \\ & 2 \\ & 3 \\ & 4 \\ & 1 \end{aligned}$ | $90 \cdot 5$ 79.6 77.6 86.4 89.4 | $74 \cdot 4$ $84 \cdot 3$ $83 \cdot 8$ $84 \cdot 8$ $85 \cdot 3$ | 109.6 112.4 $103 \cdot 4$ 111.2 | 35.0 42.8 44.0 -43.5 | $12 \cdot 9$ $23 \cdot 1$ $33 \cdot 5$ $34 \cdot 4$ | $\begin{aligned} & 75 \cdot 6 \\ & 81 \cdot 5 \\ & 78 \cdot 2 \\ & 82 \cdot 0 \end{aligned}$ | 147.5 166.2 167.7 196.4 | $132 \cdot 0$ $120 \cdot 4$ $128 \cdot 4$ 139.7 $152 \cdot 2$ | $\begin{aligned} & 139 \cdot 3 \\ & 142 \cdot 3 \\ & 147 \cdot 2 \\ & 166 \cdot 8 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 99 \cdot 0 \\ & 94 \cdot 9 \\ & 85 \cdot 8 \\ & 93 \cdot 8 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 302.4 \\ & 250.9 \\ & 227.8 \\ & 292.6 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 121 \cdot 1 \\ & 111 \cdot 9 \\ & 101 \cdot 1 \\ & 115 \cdot 4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 90 \cdot 7 \\ & 95 \cdot 6 \\ & 93 \cdot 2 \\ & 86 \cdot 7 \end{aligned}$ | $152 \cdot 68$ $141 \cdot 3$ $124 \cdot 4$ $146 \cdot 8$ | $143 \cdot 85$ $145 \cdot 8$ 145.8 150.8 | 116.3 $117 \cdot 4$ $112 \cdot 2$ 114.8 | $\begin{aligned} & 89 \cdot 1 \\ & 70 \cdot 1 \\ & 68 \cdot 0 \\ & 74 \cdot 5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 103.7 \\ 96.7 \\ 91.6 \\ 103.8 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 144 \cdot 3 \\ & 170 \cdot 8 \\ & 155 \cdot 4 \\ & 168 \cdot 0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 102.5 \\ 102.6 \\ 96.8 \\ 105.2 \end{array}$ |
| 1935 | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \\ & 2 \\ & 3 \\ & 4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 89 \cdot 4 \\ & 80 \cdot 5 \\ & 78 \cdot 0 \\ & 89 \cdot 3 \end{aligned}$ | $85 \cdot 3$ <br> 88.4 <br> 88.7 <br> 89.4 <br> 8.3 | $115 \cdot 6$ $121 \cdot 3$ $120 \cdot 6$ $130 \cdot 8$ | 40.5 40.8 38.7 54.1 | 45.0 154.6 168.7 78.8 | $84 \cdot 0$ $93 \cdot 4$ 94.7 $98 \cdot 2$ | $174 \cdot 1$ <br> 217.6 <br> 171.8 <br> 173.1 | $152 \cdot 2$ <br> $140 \cdot 3$ <br> $122 \cdot 2$ <br> $142 \cdot 6$ | $162 \cdot 7$ <br> $177 \cdot 3$ <br> $145 \cdot 9$ <br> 157.2 | $\begin{array}{r} 98.0 \\ 96.2 \\ 90.6 \\ 101.0 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 307 \cdot 0 \\ & 314 \cdot 2 \\ & 278 \cdot 1 \\ & 341 \cdot 1 \end{aligned}$ | $120 \cdot 7$ $119 \cdot 9$ $111 \cdot 2$ $127 \cdot 1$ | $84 \cdot 5$ 96.4 $87 \cdot 4$ $92 \cdot 3$ | 143.7 147.6 151.8 168.7 | $\begin{aligned} & 138 \cdot 6 \\ & 154.2 \\ & 146.9 \\ & 158 \cdot 2 \end{aligned}$ | $108 \cdot 3$ $123 \cdot 1$ $115 \cdot 1$ $123 \cdot 9$ | $\begin{array}{r} 104.4 \\ 79.9 \\ 73.2 \\ 104.5 \end{array}$ | $107 \cdot 7$ $102 \cdot 3$ $99 \cdot 6$ $120 \cdot 5$ | $144 \cdot 4$ $154 \cdot 2$ $155 \cdot 7$ $187 \cdot 3$ | $\begin{aligned} & 104.0 \\ & 108.4 \\ & 104.5 \\ & 116.5 \end{aligned}$ |
| 1936 | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \\ & 2 \\ & 3 \\ & 4 \end{aligned}$ | $93 \cdot 0$ $81 \cdot 7$ 81.5 $89 \cdot 1$ $93 \cdot 8$ | $99 \cdot 3$ $105 \cdot 9$ 106.9 108.6 105.9 | $141 \cdot 2$ $145 \cdot 3$ $143 \cdot 3$ $153 \cdot 7$ | $61 \cdot 3$ $61 \cdot 8$ $67 \cdot 7$ $70 \cdot 1$ | 70.5 60.4 44.0 34.4 | $\begin{aligned} & 106 \cdot 5 \\ & 108.8 \\ & 108.7 \\ & 114.0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 179 \cdot 1 \\ & 191 \cdot 0 \\ & 200 \cdot 0 \\ & 200 \cdot 0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 136.0 \\ & 141.9 \\ & 148.8 \\ & 146.8 \end{aligned}$ | 156.6 165.4 173.3 172.7 | 104.5 107.8 99.9 107.0 | $357 \cdot 4$ $300 \cdot 1$ $308 \cdot 7$ 305.6 | 132.0 128.7 122.6 128.6 | $84 \cdot 2$ <br> $92 \cdot 2$ <br> 88.8 <br> $88 \cdot 8$ | $\begin{aligned} & 183.8 \\ & 216.5 \\ & 166.7 \\ & 203.5 \end{aligned}$ | $148 \cdot 2$ <br> 156.5 <br> $155 \cdot 3$ <br> $165 \cdot 2$ | $\begin{aligned} & 119 \cdot 7 \\ & 132 \cdot 4 \\ & 120 \cdot 9 \\ & 130 \cdot 3 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 93 \cdot 0 \\ & 88 \cdot 2 \\ & 73 \cdot 9 \\ & 83 \cdot 9 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 112 \cdot 8 \\ & 113 \cdot 3 \\ & 104 \cdot 7 \\ & 116 \cdot 4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 155.0 \\ & 177.5 \\ & 173.9 \\ & 188.6 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 116.3 \\ & 118.4 \\ & 114.6 \\ & 122.2 \end{aligned}$ |
| 1937 | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \\ & 2 \\ & 3 \\ & 4 \\ & 1 \end{aligned}$ | $93 \cdot 8$ <br> $92 \cdot 3$ <br> 86.5 <br> 93.7 <br> $97 \cdot 6$ | 105.9 113.6 118.8 126.8 118.7 | 154.8 157.8 160.1 170.4 160.4 | $\begin{aligned} & 73 \cdot 9 \\ & 87 \cdot 4 \\ & 86 \cdot 3 \\ & 82 \cdot 0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 41 \cdot 5 \\ & 42 \cdot 8 \\ & 59 \cdot 0 \\ & 66 \cdot 2 \end{aligned}$ | $115 \cdot 7$ $122 \cdot 4$ $125 \cdot 1$ $130 \cdot 5$ | $\begin{aligned} & 214 \cdot 9 \\ & 244 \cdot 7 \\ & 238.8 \\ & 223.9 \end{aligned}$ | $139 \cdot 1$ $142 \cdot 4$ $141 \cdot 2$ $209 \cdot 0$ | $175 \cdot 4$ 191.3 187.9 178.8 | $\begin{aligned} & 116 \cdot 0 \\ & 121 \cdot 3 \\ & 105 \cdot 5 \\ & 109 \cdot 3 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 333 \cdot 1 \\ & 349 \cdot 4 \\ & 371 \cdot 5 \\ & 366 \cdot 7 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 139 \cdot 6 \\ & 146 \cdot 1 \\ & 134 \cdot 0 \\ & 137 \cdot 3 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 81 \cdot 8 \\ & 83 \cdot 4 \\ & 82 \cdot 5 \\ & 82 \cdot 3 \end{aligned}$ | 192.7 219.6 157.2 173.6 | $153 \cdot 6$ $170 \cdot 1$ $169 \cdot 1$ $179 \cdot 4$ | $121 \cdot 4$ $131 \cdot 7$ $119 \cdot 3$ $125 \cdot 0$ | 114.5 117.0 47.7 93.6 | $127 \cdot 7$ $125 \cdot 8$ 116.1 123.4 | $\begin{aligned} & 127 \cdot 2 \\ & 152 \cdot 0 \\ & 153 \cdot 3 \\ & 182 \cdot 4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 119.6 \\ & 126.5 \\ & 121.3 \\ & 128.7 \end{aligned}$ |
| 1938 | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \\ & 2 \\ & 3 \\ & 4 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 97 \cdot 6 \\ & 82 \cdot 2 \\ & 79 \cdot 0 \\ & 89 \cdot 3 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | 118.7 100.5 75.6 75.4 | 162.4 133.2 104.6 118.2 | $\begin{aligned} & 79 \cdot 3 \\ & 755 \\ & 64 \cdot 5 \\ & 56 \cdot 8 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 71 \cdot 2 \\ & 77.4 \\ & 77.9 \\ & 82 \cdot 8 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r}125.0 \\ 107.3 \\ 86.4 \\ 91.0 \\ \hline\end{array}$ | 194.0 <br> 200.0 <br> 191.0 <br> 182.1 | $\begin{array}{r} 130.0 \\ 130.0 \\ 132.0 \\ 138.9 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 163 \cdot 4 \\ & 166 \cdot 5 \\ & 160 \cdot 2 \\ & 159 \cdot 6 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 100 \cdot 7 \\ 81 \cdot 6 \\ 80.1 \\ 87 \cdot 4 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 395 \cdot 0 \\ & 290.6 \\ & 267 \cdot 8 \\ & 282.2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 132 \cdot 7 \\ & 104 \cdot 3 \\ & 100 \cdot 5 \\ & 108 \cdot 6 \end{aligned}$ | $80 \cdot 5$ <br> $85 \cdot 5$ <br> $91 \cdot 1$ <br> $82 \cdot 9$ | $\begin{aligned} & 164 \cdot 0 \\ & 185 \cdot 8 \\ & 175 \cdot 3 \\ & 198 \cdot 2 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $163 \cdot 6$ <br> $177 \cdot 0$ <br> $167 \cdot 7$ <br> $185 \cdot 3$ | 118.0 <br> $128 \cdot 4$ <br> 127.0 <br> $131 \cdot 4$ | $\begin{array}{r} 108.7 \\ 96.3 \\ 94.0 \\ 75.8 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 114.2 \\ 103.7 \\ 98.5 \\ 100.0 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 161^{\circ} \cdot \\ & 125^{\circ} \\ & 115 \cdot 7 \\ & 150 \cdot 0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 122.8 \\ 108.1 \\ 99.3 \\ 107.8 \\ \hline \end{array}$ |

[^6]§ From 1934, 1st Quarter, there is 1 month's lag in these figures.

## FOREIGN EXCHANGES.

## AVERAGE OF DAILY RATES

| Paris | Brussels | Milan | Berl | Amster- <br> dam | Warsaw | Prague | Zurich | Stockholm | NewYork <br> S to £ | Montreal \$ to £ | Buenos Aires§ p, to $£$ | Rio de <br> Janciro <br> d. per mil. | Bombay | Hong. kong <br> d. per S |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

FINANCE.



STOCKS \& SHARES-
NEW CAPITAL ISSUES- Sensitive Index. Geometric Mean of monthly percentage changes.
BANK CLEARINGS-

BANK OF ENGLAND-
PRINCIPAL BANKS-
TREASURY BILLS-
MONEYDank Notes and Currency Notes Issued by tender. Total of Bills issued by tender during

THE MIDIAND B G. Britain (a), for U.K. (b), for Abroad, excluding Government loans, etc,-As publlshed 'otal of Town Clearings (i.e., excluding Metropolitan) of London Bankers' Clearing House for 3 weeks covering tock Exchange settlement days, Consols settlement day, and 4th of following monti, Country Clearings Deposits. 11th-17th of

Current Deposit and other accounts," etc. 11th-17th of month. Issues amalgamated, November 22nd, 1928 . the National Bank, Ltd., and the District Bank). As published month of 9 clearing banks (I.e.-excluding

Day-to-Day Rate and 3. Otherwise issued. Total of Treasury Bills in existence date of Exchequer Return. Day-to-Day Rate and 3 Months' Rate, Averages for week ending 15 th of month.

## PRICES.


^ NORMAL SEASONAL CHANGE REMOVED.

PRICES AND WAGES.

|  | WHOLESALE. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | RETAIL. |  |  |  | WAGES. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Price of Gold. <br> s. per fine $o z$. | Bar Silver (Cash). <br> d. per oz. | Board <br> General <br> \% | Trade I <br> Food. <br> \% | $x$ Nos. Materials, etc. \% |  | (Sauer <br> d. \% | beck) Inde <br> Raw <br> Materials. \% | Nos. <br> Total. \% | Li | M, of st of ing. \% | Fabour \% | \% | Index of Average Weekly Wages. $\%$ |
| 1924 Av... | $93.69 \dagger$ | $34^{\circ} 0$ | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | * | 100 | 100 | 100 | $\star$ | 100 | * | 100* |
| 1929 Av... | $84.95+$ | $24 \cdot 5$ | 82.2 | $87 \cdot 4$ | $79 \cdot 4$ | 84 | - | 81 | 82 | 94 | - | 94 | - | 994 |
| 1933 Av... | 124.87† | $18 \cdot 1$ | 61.6 | $63 \cdot 1$ | $60 \cdot 7$ | 57.5 | - | 57 | 57.5 | 79.5 | - | 70.5 | - | 94 |
| 1934 Av... | $137.65 \dagger$ | 21.4 | $63 \cdot 3$ | $64 \cdot 8$ | $62 \cdot 4$ | $59 \cdot 5$ | - | 58 | 59 | 80.5 | - | 72 | - | 94 |
| 1935 Av... | $142 \cdot 10 \dagger$ | 29.0 | 64.0 | $66^{\circ}$ | $62 \cdot 7$ | 59 | - | 61.5 | 61 | 81.5 | - | 73.5 | - | 95 |
| 1936 Av... | $140 \cdot 29 \dagger$ | $20 \cdot 2$ | $67 \cdot 9$ | 69.9 | $66 \cdot 7$ | 62 | - | 65 | 64 | 84 | - | 76.5 | - | 972 |
| 1937 Av... | $140.76 \dagger$ | $20 \cdot 1$ | 78.2 | $77 \cdot 8$ | 78.0 | 71.5 | -. | 75 | $73 \cdot 5$ | 88.5 | - | 82 | - | $100 \frac{3}{4}$ |
| JULY 1935 | $140 \cdot 80$ | $30 \cdot 7$ | $63 \cdot 3$ | $64 \cdot 7$ | $62 \cdot 5$ | $58 \cdot 5$ | $58 \cdot 5$ | 61.5 | $60 \cdot 5$ | 81.5 | 82. 5 | 74 | 75.5 | 953 |
| AUG...... | 140.29 | 29.8 | 63.6 | $65 \cdot 3$ | $62 \cdot 5$ | 59 | $69 \cdot 5$ | 61.5 | $60 \cdot 5$ | 81.5 | 82 | 73.5 | 74 | 95 |
| SEPT | 140.83 | 29.3 | 64.4 | $67 \cdot 0$ | $62 \cdot 9$ | $59 \cdot 5$ | 60 | 62 | 61 | 83 | $82 \cdot 5$ | 75 | 74.5 | 95 |
| OCT. | $141 \cdot 78$ | 29.4 | $65^{\prime} 6$ | 68.1 | $64^{\circ} 0$ | 59.5 | 60 | 63 | 61.5 | 84 | $82 \cdot 5$ | 77 | 74.5 | 95 |
| NOV...... | 141.38 | $29 \cdot 3$ | 65.7 | 67.2 | $64 \cdot 6$ | $58 \cdot 5$ 59.5 | 69 $59 \cdot 5$ | 64 | 62 | 84 | 88 | 77 | 74 | 95 |
| DEC....... 1936 | $141 \cdot 10$ | 27.2 | $65 \cdot 8$ | $67 \cdot 4$ | $64 * 7$ | 59.5 | $59 \cdot 6$ | 64 | $62 \cdot 5$ | 84 | 82.5 |  | 74.5 | $95 \frac{3}{4}$ |
| JAN. ...... | 140.89 | 20.4 | $66^{\circ}$ | $67 \cdot 7$ | 65.0 | 60.5 | 60 | 63.5 | $62 \cdot 5$ | 84 | 83 | 76.5 | 75 | 964 |
| FEB. | 140.77 | $19 \cdot 9$ | $65 \cdot 9$ | $67 \cdot 1$ | 65.2 | $59 \cdot 5$ | 69 | 64 | $62 \cdot 5$ | 83.5 | 83 | $75 \cdot 5$ | 75 | 97 |
| MAR. | 141.04 | $19 \cdot 7$ | $65 \cdot 9$ | $66 \cdot 4$ | $65 \cdot 4$ | 59 | 69 | 64 | 62 | 82.5 | 83.5 | 74 | 76 | 97 |
| APRIL ... | 140.85 | $20 \cdot 5$ | $66^{\cdot 1}$ | 66.4 | 65.6 | $59 \cdot 5$ | 58.5 | 63 | 61.5 | 82.5 | 84 | 73.5 | 76 | 974 |
| MAY ...... | 140.21 | 20.5 | 66.1 | 67.1 | $65 \cdot 3$ | 60 | $59 \cdot 5$ | 62 | 61.5 | 82.5 | 84. | 74 | 76.5 | 974 |
| JUNE . | $139 \cdot 56$ | 19.9 | 66.6 | 68.0 | $65 \cdot 6$ | 60 | 60 | 61 | $60 \cdot 5$ | 83.5 | 84.5 | 75.5 | 77 | $97 \frac{1}{2}$ |
| JULY ... | 138.92 | $19 \cdot 7$ | $67 \cdot 3$ | 68.4 | 66.5 | 61 | 61 | 63 | $62 \cdot 5$ | 83.5 | 84.5 | 75.5 | 77 | 98 |
| AUG...... | 138.40 | $19 \cdot 5$ | $68 \cdot 5$ | $71 \cdot 3$ | 66.8 | 63 | 63 | 64.5 | 64 | 84 | 84.5 | 77 | $77 \cdot 5$ | 98 |
| SEPT. ... | 137.48 | 19.5 | $69 \cdot 1$ | $72 \cdot 3$ | $67 \cdot 3$ | 64 | 65 | 65 | 65 | 84.5 | 84 | 77.5 | 76.5 | 98 |
| OCT. ...... | 141.94 | 20.0 | $70 \cdot 2$ | 74.6 | $67 \cdot 7$ | $65 \cdot 5$ | 66 | 66 | 66 | 86.5 | 84.5 | 80 | $77 \cdot 5$ | 98 |
| NOV....... | $142 \cdot 55$ 141.82 | 21.7 21.2 | $70 \cdot 7$ $72 \cdot 5$ | 73.6 75.6 | 69.0 70.7 | $65 \cdot 5$ 67.5 | ${ }_{67}^{67 \cdot 5}$ | 69 | 68 | 86.5 86.5 | 84 | 80 | 77 | 98 |
| 1937 | 14182 | 212 | 725 | 75 | 707 | 67.5 | $67 \cdot 5$ | 73 | 71 | 86.5 | 85 |  | 77.5 | 98 |
| JAN. ...... | 141.60 | 21.2 | 74.0 | 75.6 | $72 \cdot 8$ | 67.5 | $67 \cdot 5$ | 73.5 | 71.5 | 86.5 | 85.5- | 79.5 | 78 | 983 |
| FEB. | 142.09 | $20 \cdot 1$ | $74 \cdot 7$ | $75^{\circ} 0$ | $74 \cdot 2$ | $68 \cdot 5$ | 68 | 76 | 73 | 86.5 | 85.54 | 79.5 | 78.5 | 99 |
| MAR... | 142.43 | 20.6 | 77.2 | 76.6 | $77 \cdot 1$ | 73 | $72 \cdot 5$ | 79.5 | 77 | 86.5 | $87 \cdot 5$ | 79.5 | 81.5 | 99 |
| APRIL | 141.61 | 20.9 | 78.2 | 77.6 | $78 \cdot 3$ | 73 | 72 | 76 | 75 | 87 | 89 | 80 | 82:5 | $100 \frac{1}{4}$ |
| MAY.. | $140 \cdot 60$ 140.54 | 20.4 20.0 | 79.6 79.6 | $77 \cdot 5$ | $80 \cdot 3$ $80 \cdot 3$ | $73 \cdot 5$ | $72 \cdot 5$ | 77.5 | 76 | 87 | 89 | 80 | 83 | 1004 |
| JUNE. | $140 \cdot 54$ | $20 \cdot 0$ | $79 \cdot 6$ | $77 \cdot 3$ | $80 \cdot 3$ | 72 | 72 | 77 | 75 | 88.5 | 90 |  | 84 | 1004 |
| JULY. | $140 \cdot 17$ | $20 \cdot 1$ | 80.2 | $78 \cdot 3$ | $80 \cdot 8$ | 73 | 73 | 77.5 | 76 | 88.5 | $89 \cdot 5$ | 82 | 83.5 | 1004 |
| AUG. | 139.45 | $19 \cdot 9$ | $80 \cdot 1$ | $78 \cdot 2$ | $80 \cdot 7$ | $72 \cdot 5$ | 73 | 76 | 75 | 88.5 | 89 | 82 | 83 | 101 |
| SEPT. | 140.47 | $19 \cdot 9$ | $79 \cdot 9$ | $78 \cdot 9$ | $80 \cdot 2$ | 72.5 | 73.5 | 75 | 74 | 90 | 89.5 | 84 | 83 | 1012 |
| OCT. | 140.42 | $20 \cdot 0$ | 79.5 | $80 \cdot 2$ | 78.8 | 72.5 | 73.5 | 72 | 72 | 91.5 | 89.5 | 85.5 | 83 | 102 |
| NOV....... | $140 \cdot 18$ $139 \cdot 84$ | 19.7 18.8 | 78.0 77.4 | 79.5 79.5 | 76.9 | 70.5 | 71.5 | 69 | $69 \cdot 5$ | 91.5 | 89 | $85 \cdot 5$ | $82 \cdot 5$ | 1022 |
| DEC...... | 139.84 | 18.8 | $77 \cdot 4$ | 79.5 | 76.0 | 71.5 | 71.5 | 69 | 70 | 91 | 89 | 85 | 82. 5 | $102 \frac{3}{4}$ |
| JAN. ...... | 139.67 139.73 | 19.8 | 77.5 | 79.9 78.7 | 75.9 | $70 \cdot 5$ | 70 | 68.5 | 69.5 | 89.5 | 88.5 | 83.5 | 82 | 1023 |
| MAR....... | 139.73 139.62 | $20 \cdot 2$ 20.3 | $76 \cdot 1$ 74.8 | 78.7 76.6 | $74 \cdot 4$ | 70 | 69 | 69 | $69 \cdot 5$ | 89 | 88.5 | 82 | 81.5 | 103 |
| APRIL ... | 139.91 | 18.8 | 74.1 | 76.3 | 73.7 | 69 | 69 68 | $66 \cdot 5$ | 68 | 88 | 89 | $80 \cdot 5$ | 82.5 | 103 |
| MAY...... | 139.87 | 18.7 | 73.4 | 76.4 | 71.5 | 68 | 68 67 | 66 | 67.5 | 89 | 91 90.5 | 81.5 | 84.5 | 1034 |
| JUNE... | $140 \cdot 61$ | $18 \cdot 9$ | $72 \cdot 4$ | $75 \cdot 6$ | 70.5 | 67.5 | 67.5 | 64.5 | 65.5 |  | 92 | 85.5 | 87.5 | 1034 |
| JULY...... | $141 \cdot 19$ | $19 \cdot 3$ | $72 \cdot 3$ | 74.4 | $70 \cdot 9$ | 65 | 65 | 65.5 | 65.5 | 89 |  |  |  |  |
| AUG....... | 142.57 144 | 19.5 19.5 | 71.5 | $72 \cdot 1$ $69 \cdot 9$ | $70 \cdot 9$ $70 \cdot 8$ | 62 | 62.5 | 64.5 | 63.5 | 89 | 89.5 | 82. | 83 | 1034 |
| SEPT....... | 144.47 146.45 | 19.5 19.7 | $70 \cdot 7$ 71.2 | $69 \cdot 9$ $70 \cdot 5$ | $70 \cdot 8$ | 61 | 62. | $65 \cdot 5$ | $63 \cdot 5$ | 88.5 | 88 | 81.5 | 80.5 | 1034 |
| NOV. ....... | 146.83 | 19.7 | 70.7 | 70.5 69.0 | $71 \cdot 3$ 71.4 | $59 \cdot 5$ 58 | $60 \cdot 5$ 58.5 | $66 \cdot 5$ | 64 |  | 87.5 |  | $79 \cdot 6$ | 1034 |
| DEC...... | 148.93 | $20 \cdot 1$ | $70 \cdot 7$ | 69.8 | $70 \cdot 8$ |  | 50.5 60.5 | ${ }^{66}$. 5 | 63 | 89 88.5 | $\begin{aligned} & 87 \\ & 87 \end{aligned}$ |  | 78.5 78.5 | 1034 |
| JAN. . | $148 \cdot 82$ | $20 \cdot 3$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 103 $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| $\dagger$ A verage of daily quotations for year. |  |  |  | * NORMAL SEASONAL CHANGE REMOVED. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | * December, 1924. |  |  |

PRICE OF GOLD-
PRICE OF SILVER-
Average (London) price Der fine oz. for week ending 15 th of month.-ECONOMST.
Arerage (cash) price of bar silver for week ending 15 th of month.-ECONOMIST,
BOARD OF TRADE INDEX-Geometric Mean of Wholesale Prices (averages for month) of 200 commodities as Dercentage of 1924 average. Based on new inder first pubbished in January, 1935.-BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL.
STATIST (SAUERBECK)
Average wholesale prices of 19 foodstuffs and 26 raw materials on last day of month, as percentage of average
INDEX-Ministry of Labour's inder showing movement since 19 living prevalent in working-class households before the war. For of maintaining unchanged the standard of month-e.g., reading for March 1 st is shown against February-to facilitate comparison with .. Statist ,"previous index.
RETAIL FOOD PRICES-
WAGES INDEX -
For description see Special Mem. No. 28.

## OUTPUT AND INTERNAL ACTIVITY.



* NORMAL SEASONAL CHANGE REMOVED

OUTPUT AND INTERNAL ACTIVITY.


OUTPUT-COAL
PIG IRON. STEEL
ELECTRICITY-
ARTIFICIAL SILK
RETAIL SALES-
POST OFFICE RECEIPTS-
MOTOR SPIRIT-
RAILWAY TRAFFIC-
WEIGHT NEIGHT

Total for 4 weeks ending approzimately at end of month.-BOARD OF TP $A D E$ JOUPNAL
Output for standard four-weet month, based upon monthly figures issued bs the BRITISH IRON AND STEEL Output of authorised undertakings.-ELECTRICITY COMOITSSION
Rason, yarn and waste, derised from Excise Statistics, -BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL
ENGLAND. Daily averages, ex telegraph, telephone, sarings bank and postal orders.-BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL imports entered for home consumption-BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL
Yonnage of goods carried on the Rallwass of Great Britain during the month, excluding free-hauled
recelpts for collection and dellivers.-MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT

## EXTERNAL TRADE.



## EXTERNAL TRADE.



IMPORTS \& EXPORTS-
of U.K. produce and manufacture. Net (c.i.f.) into U.K., re-exports of imported goods (f.o.b.) and exports (f.o.b.) mports and exports of gold bullion and coin. MONTHI imports less exports of imported goods. Value of The seasonally adjusted series for total imports is deduced from those for the \& NAVIGATION. net imports the sesson has been calculated directly from the totals.

SHIPPING, UNEMPLOYMENT.



[^7]Tonnage of British and Forelgn vessels entering and leaving British ports with cargoes during month.-BOARD
OF TRADE MONTHLY ACCOUNTS OF TRADE \& NAVIGATION.
Chamber of Shipping index number as published by "The Statist." For description see Journal of RSS, Part I,
1938.-PREPARED BY DR. ISSERLIS.
week earlier.-MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETVTE

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t. Cluments Press Ltd.

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London, W.C.2.


# LONDON \& CAMBRIDGE ECONOMIC SERVICE 

# SUPPLEMENT To MONTHLY BULLETIN 

 VOL. XVII.No. I.
FEB. 7th, 1939

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INTERNATIONAL SURVEY
U.S.A.
FRANCE
GERMANY
ITALY
BELGIUM
NETHERLANDS
POLAND
CANADA
```


## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.



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## UNITED KINGDOM.

Additional Figures published since Fan. 22nd, 1939.

STOCKS AND SHARES.

| Fixed Interest-Price <br> ,, ," -Yield |  |  |
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| Industrials |  |  |
| Sensitive Index |  |  |
| 1 st half-mo | h... |  |
| 2nd |  |  |

## NEW CAPITAL ISSUES.

For Great Britain
...

End Dec. End Jan. RAILWAYS.

| Weight carried- |  |  | Oct. 29th | Nov. 26th |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Merchandise (A) | $\ldots$ | Tons | $3,900,000$ | $5,739,000$ |  |
| Fuel $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $\prime \prime$ | $14,240,000$ | $13,731,000$ |
| Minerals $\&$ Merchandise(B) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Goods Receipts... | $\ldots$ | $3,444,000$ | $3,585,425$ |  |  |
|  |  | $\ldots$ | $\ldots 7,172,000$ | $£ 6,984,000$ |  |

## EXCHANGES.



## UNEMPLOYMENT.

Nos. on Live Register. 000's. Great Britain.

|  | Males. | Females. | Total. |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Dec. 13th, 1937 | 1315 | 351 | 1665 |
| Jan. 17th, 1938 | 1384 | 443 | 1828 |
| Feb. 14th $\ldots$ | 1362 | 449 | 1810 |
| March 14th $\ldots$ | 1312 | 437 | 1749 |
| April 4th $\ldots$ | 1316 | 432 | 1748 |
| May 16th $\ldots$ | 1344 | 435 | 1779 |
| June 13th $\ldots$ | 1371 | 432 | 1803 |
| July 18th $\ldots$ | 1369 | 404 | 1773 |
| August 15th... | 1339 | 420 | 1759 |
| Sept. 12th $\ldots$ | 1380 | 419 | 1799 |
| Oct. 17th $\ldots$ | 1370 | 411 | 1781 |
| Nov. 14th $\ldots$ | 1418 | 410 | 1828 |
| Dec. 12th $\ldots$ | 1430 | 401 | 1831 |
| Jan. 16th 1939 | 1574 | 465 | 2039 |

## INTERNATIONAL SURVEY.

February 3rd, 1939.

THE history of the world's business in the year 1938 falls into two parts. In the first half of the year the depression in the United States continued, and caused a slow downward movement in the world as a whole. In the second half of the year a sharp recovery in the United States found the rest of the world drifting further, partly under the delayed action of the American depression, and partly under the weight of the growing political tension in Europe, and the result was an uncertain movement on a very slightly rising trend. At the beginning of 1939 some renewed hesitancy has made itself evident.

For the greater part of the year the dominant element in the general world movement was thus the course of activity in the United States. In January, 1938, the seasonally adjusted Federal Reserve Board index of industrial production stood at 80 ( $\%$ of 1923-25), having fallen precipitously from II8 in May, 1937. It continued to fall until midsummer, though the rate of decline was considerably slackened, and in June it stood at 77. Steel output had fallen to exceptionally low levels in January, and the weekly index of mill activity showed no signs of improvement throughout the first half of the year, fluctuating about $30 \%$ of capacity. Automobile production fell to similarly low levels, the financial position of the railroads became progressively more serious, the utilities postponed all but the most urgent capital development and the building industry continued at the low levels of 1937. Other business indices moved in roughly similar fashion. Stocks of materials and manufactures grew rapidly.

The effect of the American depression in the first half of the year was transmitted to the rest of the world through the commodity and security markets. The downturn of 1937 had already caused a sharp fall in American consumption of non-ferrous metals and rubber, while an exceptionally heavy cotton crop combined with falling world activity to cause a slump in the cotton market. The downward movement in the markets for metals and rubber continued until May. It was hardly an increase in demand which arrested the decline. It was rather the drastic restriction of output. The rubber export quota was reduced from $90 \%$ in the last quarter of 1937 to $60 \%$ in the second quarter of 1938 , and the decision to reduce it further to $45 \%$ in the third quarter affected
prices early in June. The tin quotas were reduced from $110 \%$ of basic quotas in the last quarter of 1937 to $55 \%$ in the second quarter of 1938, and to $45 \%$ in the third quarter. A Buffer Pool to hold $10 \%$ of the basic quotas was set up for the stabilisation of prices, so that the free quota was only $35 \%$. The operation of the Federal Government cotton loan scheme tended to stay the decline in cotton prices in midsummer. Meanwhile the wheat market, which had been very firm at the end of 1937, was progressively weakened by the growth of supplies and prices began to fall with increasing speed. This decline was not arrested in midsummer.

The weakening of the commodity markets had a severely depressing influence on the trade of the primary producing countries. Australia, Argentina, New Zealand and India all showed substantial declines in exports, though, except in the case of Argentina, their imports did not decline at an equal rate. During this period the fall in American purchases made the United States balance of trade exceptionally active. Imports fell from $\$ 286 \mathrm{Mn}$. in June, 1937, to \$146 Mn. in June, 1938, whereas exports fell only from $\$ 256 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $\$ 230 \mathrm{Mn}$.

The decline in the commodity markets in the first half of the year tended to depress the level of business activity in the European industrial countries, partly through its effect on overseas purchases of manufactures and partly through its suggestion of a general downward movement to come. This latter influence was reinforced by the continued decline of security prices both in the United States and in the principal European exchanges. However, except in the case of France, which was severely disturbed by political unrest, the European countries showed considerable powers of resistance. The level of industrial production had reached high levels in 1937 in the United Kingdom, Germany, Belgium, Holland, Sweden, Switzerland and Czechoslovakia, but as yet there were few obvious signs of the maladjustment which precedes collapse. Further, the world rearmament programme began to grow apace at the turn of the year and could not fail to exert a supporting influence on the general level of activity. The result was that business in the European industrial countries tended to drift downwards only slowly under the impact of the American depression. The movement was most noticeable in the two industrial countries, Belgium and the United

Kingdom, which were most closely allied to the world economy. In Germany, where activity was largely insulated from world influences, there was little change in the volume of production, but foreign trade met with difficulties. In Sweden the high level of 1937 was almost maintained until midsummer.

Currency developments in this period mainly concerned the vicissitudes of the French franc. The value of the franc continued to decline until early in May, when the exchange was pegged to an upper limit of 178.90 to the pound sterling. The difficulties of the franc were almost entirely domestic in origin, but some of the less important currencies were affected by the decline in world trade. In the spring the downturn of activity in Belgium induced an attack on the belga, and early in summer the decline in Indian exports caused some weakness in the rupee. Both these developments, however, proved to be temporary.

The American recovery of the second half of the year first showed itself in a sharp rise in security prices in June, and this foreshadowed a rapid rise in the volume of production and employment. The immediate cause of this extraordinary change, for the upturn proved to be more rapid than that of any previous comparable cycle, was similar to the immediate cause of the even more rapid downturn of 1937. Since 1934 the directive force of the American economy has been the consumers' purchasing power distributed by public spending. Throughout the period of recovery up to 1937 private business was unable or unwilling to make substantial long-term capital investments. The total of profits yielded by the system was persistently low, failing even in 1936-37 to reach the level of a mildly depressed year such as 1924. With business dominated by short-term influences, the instability of business decisions was increased, and the tendency to disequilibrium heightened. In 1937 a sudden and unexpected decision to reduce the rate of government borrowing and to tighten credit conditions was the signal for a catastrophic decline in business activity. In April, 1938, the resumption of government spending on a large scale was announced, and in June this induced business expectations to turn sharply upward.

The seasonally adjusted index of industrial production rose steadily from 77 in June to 104 in December. The weekly index of steel mill activity rose to over $60 \%$ in November, reacting slightly in December. Automobile production, textile production, construction con-
tracts awarded and other indices showed steady improvement. The financial position of the railroads became easier and the dispute between the Administration and the utilities became less acute. About one million workers found new employment between June and December. The year ended in the United States with business approximately back to its position in the middle of 1936.

In the United Kingdom business drifted irregularly and almost imperceptibly downwards. The volume of unemployment remained more or less unchanged from June to the end of the year. But the volume of industrial production fell considerably. Coal output was fairly well maintained, but that of iron and steel declined, merchant shipbuilding became very depressed and the depression in the cotton industry deepened. In France there was no improvement until the end of the year, when confidence was restored by the removal of political hindrances to production and a plan for the restoration of the public finances was put into operation. In Belgium there was a slight recovery, in sympathy with the improvement in the United States. In Germany the volume of production was maintained, but difficulties were increasingly experienced in the supply of labour and raw materials and some dislocations appear to have resulted from the absorption of Austria and part of Czechoslovakia. In Sweden, Holland and Switzerland there was a moderate decline from a high level.

With the exception of wheat and cotton, prices of the principal commodities showed considerable improvement during the second half of the year. But for the greater part of the period this was due at least as much to restriction of output as to recovery of demand. The rubber and tin export quotas remained at $45 \%$. Near the end of the year copper restrictions outside the United States were removed, but demand failed to respond and the restrictions were quickly reimposed at $100 \%$ of basic quotas. Cotton prices continued to fall until August, since when they have been firm under the influence of loan operations. At the end of the year the Federal loan stock consisted of nearly II Mn . bales. Wheat prices continued to drop rapidly, and at the end of the year the market was weighed down by an exceptionally heavy excess of supply over normal world requirements.

International trade showed little change in general tendency after the summer in spite of the business recovery in the United States. The exports of the primary-producing countries
continued to decline by comparison with the previous year. In the case of Australia, imports declined more rapidly than exports, so that the active balance was greater than in the corresponding period of 1937. New Zealand imports declined less rapidly than exports, and in December a plan to control foreign trade was announced by the New Zealand Government. Argentine exports continued at a very low level, so that for the year as a whole the balance of trade was actually passive. The export surplus of United States trade was not reduced, for though monthly imports rose by some $15 \%$ over the summer level, exports rose by a similar percentage. British exports of manufactures and imports of foodstuffs and raw materials both declined, but the latter more than the former, so that the passive balance in the second half of the year was much less than that in the corresponding period of 1937. The external trade of Germany was marked by a persistent excess of imports over exports, so that the year ended with a passive balance of more than Rm .190 Mn . for the old Reich as against an active balance of Rm. 440 Mn . in 1937. For Greater Germany the passive balance reached the remarkable figure of Rm. 432 Mn .

During this period security markets were increasingly influenced by the political unsettlement in Europe. The result was that in spite of the sensitivity of the business of most European countries to the course of American business, improvement was confined to the New York market, where the Dow-Jones industrials index ended the year some $50 \%$ above the summer low point. In London, Paris and Amsterdam the tendency was definitely downwards, save for a transient buoyancy immediately after the settlement of the dispute between Germany and Czechoslovakia at Munich. In the case of Paris, the decline was reversed in the last six weeks of the year by the effects of the Reynaud plan.

Movements of gold and capital were governed throughout the year by fluctuations in the European political tension. With every increase in the prospect of war, there was a movement westward. There was thus a net import of gold into the United States of nearly $£ 200 \mathrm{Mn}$. as against about $£ 170 \mathrm{Mn}$. in 1937, and a net export from the United Kingdom of about $£_{60}$ Mn., as against a net import of about $£ 80 \mathrm{Mn}$. in 1937. British import and export figures, however, do not reflect the true movement of gold holdings, owing to the growth of the practice of earmarking gold instead of having it shipped. Since the Reynaud plan was announced, it is estimated
that some $£ 56 \mathrm{Mn}$. of refugee capital has returned to France.

The outflow of capital from London to New York has combined with Britain's passive balance of payments to cause a depreciation in the sterling : dollar rate from over $\$ 5$ to about $\$ 4.67$ to the $£$. In the defence of sterling the British Exchange Equalisation Fund expended about $£_{1} 180 \mathrm{Mn}$. of gold between March 3Ist and September 30th, and it is estimated that a further amount of $£ 75 \mathrm{Mn}$. was lost in the last three months of the year. On January 6th, 1939, its stock was replenished with some 47 Mn . ounces of gold, valued at $£ 350 \mathrm{Mn}$., taken from the Bank of England reserve. After its stabilisation in May, the franc: sterling rate of exchange remained almost unchanged until near the end of the year, when the Reynaud plan caused the spot franc to appreciate slightly and the forward franc to stand at a premium. The unsatisfactory state of the foreign trade of Argentina caused a progressive weakness in the free peso from early summer onwards, and at the end of the year it stood at over 20 to the $£$, as compared with about 17 to the $£$ at the beginning of the year.

At the beginning of 1939 the available statistics of activity, though not unambiguous, do not encourage hopes of an early and vigorous upswing. In the United States the upward movement in physical production has been checked in December and January. The weekly index of steel mill activity has been maintained at slightly above $50 \%$ of capacity during January, when it was expected to rise to the November level of $60 \%$. Other principal indices show a similar damped movement. It is true that seasonal influences have been at work during this period, but they may not account for the whole of the check. In other countries, except France, there is no change in tendency, so that in the world as a whole the situation appears to have slightly deteriorated during the last few weeks. In France, the financial recovery has been followed by the beginnings of an industrial recovery. Commodity markets and security markets have in recent weeks moved erratically, subject to the ebb and flow of war fears. The steady rise in the New York security markets of June to December has been broken sharply, so that at the end of January not far short of half of the gains of that period had been lost.

Apart from an underlying political malaise, there are several elements of weakness in the present situation. It is true that in the United States relations between the Administration and
the business community are now less strained than they have been, and that the rate of " pumppriming" will be neither readily reduced by a President who remembers 1937, nor lightly expanded by a somewhat critical Congress. But the basic conditions for the spontaneous development of private business do not yet appear to exist. It is unlikely that American business will deteriorate in 1939. But it is also unlikely to show as great an improvement as was hoped for at one stage in 1938. If the conditions of the rest of the world should deteriorate seriously, it would require a very powerful American upswing to offset their effect.

In the United Kingdom some disturbing signs of underlying weakness have made themselves evident. It is not merely that private investment, especially in building, has begun to contract seriously. There is also evidence that the long-continued buoyancy of the British home market has ended. It was one of the most remarkable features of the depression of 1929-32 that domestic activity was on balance only in a small degree affected, losses in some directions being largely offset by increased activity in others. The brunt of the depression was borne by the export trades. But in the present recession of trade it seems that the purchasing power of the home market has begun to decline appreciably. And in view of the budgetary problems which will soon be presented by the need for greater income at a time of declining trade, there cannot fail to be some apprehension concerning the state of the British public finances.

Further, although the primary-producing countries of the world have reduced their purchases, they have also run down their reserve balances. The American recovery has disappointed expectations that it would greatly improve their position. In Argentina the wheat crop is good, but wheat prices are low. The outlook for the maize crop appears again to be poor. In Australia the wheat crop is mediocre and the wool clip is expected to be smaller than last year. In New Zealand the recently introduced rationing of imports is likely to be continued. In South Africa the income derived from the farming industries has declined, though to some extent this has been made good
by the prosperity of the goldmining industry. In North America the governments have assumed the task of increasing the income of the wheat and cotton farmers ; but the weight of supplies in the markets is so great that, if business fails elsewhere, success will be very difficult to achieve. On the whole the industrial world can hardly hope for any great stimulus from primaryproducers in 1939.

No doubt it is true that supporting influences for business are not entirely lacking. First and foremost is rearmament. The proportion of the world's industrial capacity taken up by the rearmament programmes is increasing, and it will continue to be large even if the threat of war should become more remote. But in order to do more than offset a serious decline in private activity it seems that this proportion must approach the magnitude which it has reached in the totalitarian states. Whatever absolute magnitude armament activity in other states may become, it is unlikely that it will reach this proportionate magnitude.

A second element of strength is to be found in what appears to be a lasting stabilisation of the French franc, while a favourable factor for the United Kingdom is the downward adjustment of sterling. The depreciation of sterling by some $6 \%$ in the course of the past year should aid British exports considerably, while not imposing a too severe strain upon the tripartite currency agreement. The stabilisation of the franc and the recovery of France has probably prevented the extension of the area of exchange control, and has prolonged the opportunity for the formation of some common economic policy amongst the bloc of democratic states.

However, these elements of strength clearly do not make a brave show. The outlook for the world's business is darkened by the political cleavage between the Rome-Berlin-Tokyo axis and the rest of the world. If it continues to grow at its present rate, the influence of this factor is capable of producing an effect of cumulative depression upon private capital investment which would outweigh all opposing influences. It seems that in 1939 the course of economic activity will depend even more than in 1938 upon the international political situation.

# RECENT MOVEMENTS IN UNITED STATES 

## Information communicated by Miss DOROTHY WESCOTT, Assistant Editor of the Review of Economic Statistics, Harvard University.

Fanuary 19th, 1939.

GENERAL SUMMARY.-Business activity in the United States was well maintained in December despite some slowing-down in certain lines of industry ; stock prices advanced moderately, particularly in the second half of the month ; and money rates remained at abnormally low levels. Commodity prices continued to decline, and closed the year at levels some 5\% below a year earlier.

The year 1938 as a whole was one of marked recovery in business, but since improvement did not reach substantial proportions until late in the year, the year's average was well below that of 1937. During the first half of 1938, the swift decline of business, characteristic of the last few months of 1937, abated somewhat ; but nevertheless activity continued to drop off slightly, and all of the gains attained between late 1935 and the middle of 1937 were cancelled. The third quarter of 1938, however, was one of rapid advance in the volume of business, despite some hesitancy late in the quarter as European political developments became critical ; and by the year-end, a large part of the losses since the summer of 1937 had been regained.

Between June and December industrial production rose $35 \%$; the December adjusted index is estimated at 104 (1923-25-100\%). compared with the 1937 peak figure of 118, Although electric power output last year was about $5 \%$ under that of 1937, decided advances occurred in the last six months. Revenue freight car loadings also improved in the second half-year, but not until December did monthly loadings exceed those of the corresponding month a year earlier. Construction contract awards attained the highest totals since 1930, with both private and public work making notable gains in the last six months of the year.

A significant factor in this increase of business activity was that it was not accompanied by a corresponding advance of business loans; in fact, between the end of June and the end of December, such loans by member banks dropped close to 100 million dollars, and as the year ended they were about 750 million dollars less than a year earlier. An important stimulus to business expansion was government spending and lending. On April I4th, President Roosevelt
submitted to Congress a bill advocating an increase of federal expenditures to aid recovery, and in June both Houses of Congress passed this bill. During the following half-year, recovery and relief payments rose substantially, totalling $48 \%$ above those of the last six months of 1937.

Stock prices turned upward in April, and thereafter advanced irregularly-the only severe set-back coming late in the third quarter when markets were influenced by European developments. By the end of the year, the all-inclusive price index of the New York Stock Exchange had regained about half of the loss since the end of March, 1937, the peak of that year.

BUSINESS VOLUMES. - The adjusted debits index of general business averaged considerably lower in 1938 than in 1937, although after the early months of the year the index tended upward. On the whole, the month-tomonth movements were narrow, as the vigorous improvement in business volumes was offset by continued declines in commodity prices. An exception to this narrow monthly movement occurred in December when the advance became brisk; but the record of past years indicates that the year-end movement of this index may be affected to a great extent by speculative influences, which are not completely eliminated from the data, and by government financial transactions, for which precise statistical adjustments cannot be made. Weekly figures show that most of the December increase came in the second half of the month, and that sharp decline, to levels of late November and early December, occurred promptly in January.

The various important indicators of the physical volume of business record divergent movements for December. The New York Times weekly index of business ${ }^{\star}$ averaged moderately higher than in November, reflecting increases in car loadings, electric power production, and lumber output. Steel-ingot production declined for the first time since June; but when allowance is made for seasonal changes, the index was higher than in any other month of the half-year, except November. Adjusted cotton-

[^8]mill activity also dropped moderately below the November level, while automobile output was maintained at about the same rate as in November. Among the mining industries, December reports are available for only bituminous coal and zinc. Coal production showed about the usual seasonal decline, while zinc output increased substantially, carrying the adjusted index to the highest level since January. For industrial production as a whole, the Board of Governors of the Federal System estimates that the changes which occurred were largely of a seasonal nature, and that the adjusted index will rise only one point above the November level.

Total adjusted freight car loadings were the largest since October, 1937, with the majority of the classes showing only part of the decline that is normal for December. Those classes that fell below November levels were grains ( $3 \%$ ) and livestock ( $16 \%$ ). The two leading classes, coal loadings and miscellaneous shipments, rose $5 \%$ and $8 \%$ respectively; loadings of forest products and ore also were substantially greater than in November; and small-lot shipments increased slightly. While monthly comparisons between 1937 and 1938 of total loadings were unfavourable for all months except December, loadings for each month of the final quarter showed marked increase over the preceding month; and the three-month period as a whole averaged $I I \%$ above the third quarter of the year, although $4 \%$ below the final quarter of 1937. Department store sales made the substantial advance that is usual in December, and the seasonally adjusted index again stood at 89(1923-25-100\%), the November figure and also the figure for December, 1937.

The value of construction contracts awarded was the largest of any December since 1928. Since July, contracts each month have been above those of the corresponding month in 1937, and 1938 as a whole exceeded 1937 by 10\%. Public construction expenditures last year were $48 \%$ greater than a year earlier and represented $53 \%$ of total contracts; and although privately financed work was less than in 1937, it was above that of other recent years. Residential awards continued the gain that began in 1935, and contracts for public works and utilities were considerably larger than in 1937. Non-residential building, on the other hand, fell below that of a year earlier, principally because of decreases in commercial and industrial building, reflecting the continued unsettlement of business sentiment.

COMMODITY PRICES.-Wholesale commodity prices showed only narrow changes throughout December, with the general movement continuing downward until late in the month. Small increases in prices of farm products and foods during the final week resulted in a slight rise of the B.L.S. " all commodities " index; but the index for the entire month averaged the lowest in four years. Sensitive commodity prices, also, were generally weaker than in November, although towards the monthend a firmer tendency was evident. This firmness reflected mixed movements among the individual commodities: Hide prices, after declining for six weeks, advanced in the second half of December ; wheat prices rose early in the month, and at the close were well above end-of-November quotations; and rubber prices increased during the greater part of the month. On the other hand, marked declines occurred in prices of wool after mid-December; cotton textiles showed a net decline over the month; steel scrap prices at Chicago were reduced in the first week of the month, while the following week brought an advance in the Philadelphia market ; and domestic prices of zinc and copper remained unchanged throughout December.

From the peak level of the spring of 1937 through December, 1938, wholesale prices dropped $13 \%$. Of all the commodity groups, farm prices and foods dropped the most sharply. At the close of December, the indices for these groups were $32 \%$ and $28 \%$ respectively, below 1926 averages, compared with $4 \%$ and $12 \%$ at the high points of 1937 ; and industrial commodities, which at their 1937 maximum were $14 \%$ under the base year average, were $20 \%$ below this average at the close of last year.

MONEY AND CREDIT.-The customary year-end decline in member bank balances with the reserve banks took place in December, as the amount of currency in circulation increased substantially and the mid-month tax collections and sales of government securities swelled the total of Treasury deposits at federal reserve banks. Excess reserves, therefore, dropped some 300 million dollars for the four-week period ending December 28th. The seasonal return of currency to the banks in January, however, and a decrease in Treasury deposits, have been reflected in the rise of excess reserves during the first half of January, to a level not far below the peak of December 14th. Gold imports, although in greatly reduced volume from the high records of September and October,

FINANCE，PRICES．

|  | Basic Series |  |  |  | BankDebits |  | F．R． Banks |  | F．R．Member Banks |  |  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { INTEREST } \\ \text { RATES } \end{gathered}$ |  |  |  | PRICES |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  <br> 10 Mn ． |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  <br> Mn． |  |  <br> \％ |  |  |  | Wholesa <br>  <br> of 192 |  |  |  |
| 1924 Av． |  | 286 | 3.90 | 374 | 2196 | 1901 | 374 | 544 | 1720 |  | 494 | － | $+21.5$ | $3 \cdot 0$ | 3.08 |  | 534 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 1929 Av ． | 1490 | 386 | 5.85 | $7 \cdot 69$ | 5021 | 2768 | 950 | 449 | 2260 |  | 569 | 1117 | ＋ 14.6 | 5.2 | 761 | 283 | 966 | 97 | 1049 | 92 |  |  |
| 1983 Av． | $45 \cdot 8$ | 184 | 1.62 | 1.11 | 13＊49 | 12＊21 |  | 2133 | 1753 |  |  | 1101 | － 14.5 | $2 \cdot 5$ | 114 | 76 | 87 | 67 | 51.4 | 71.5 | 68 | $73 \cdot 5$ |
| 1984 Ar ． | 52.5 | 207 | 1.00 | 0.91 | 1383 | 1383 |  | 2457 | 1869 |  | 1033 |  | ＋ 94.6 | 1.5 | 1.00 | 90 | 183 | 76.5 | $65 \cdot 3$ | 78.5 | 76 | 78 |
| 1935 Av ． | 57.8 | 234 | 0.76 | 0.57 | 1533 | 1594 | 7.5 | 2435 | 1999 |  | 1196 | 1272 | ＋144．9 | 1.5 | ． 56 | 110 | 396 | 81.5 | 78.7 | 77.9 | 81 | 82 |
| 1936 Av ， | 79.8 | 265 | 0.75 0.94 | 1.16 1.35 | 1741 1649 | 1831 |  | 2434 | 2204 220 |  | 1358 | 1460 1510 | +93.3 +132.1 | 1.5 | －92 | 148 | 521 333 | 82．5 | $80 \cdot 9$ 86.5 |  | 82 | 84 87 |
| 1987 Av． | 77.0 | 291 | 0.94 | 1.35 | 1649 | 1959 |  | 2507 | 2220 | 460 | 1266 |  | $+132 \cdot 1$ |  |  | 152 | 333 |  |  |  | $85 \cdot 1$ |  |
| JAN. | 75.8 | 242 | 0.75 | 1.00 | 1792 | 1750 | 6 | 2435 | 2093 |  | 1285 | 1382 | ＋ 456 | 1.5 | 75 | 133 | 412 | 82 | 78 |  | 81.7 | $83 \cdot 5$ |
| FEB． | 77.3 | 242 | $0 \cdot 75$ | 1.00 | 1581 | 1577 | 8 | 2435 | 2105 |  | 1307 | 1406 | ＋ 16.6 | 1.5 | ．75 | 138 | 303 | 82 | 79.5 |  | $80 \cdot 6$ | 83 |
| MARCH | 77.4 | 247 | 0.75 | 1.00 | 1963 | 1786 | 6 | 2435 | 2145 |  | 1322 | 1388 | ＋ 5 | 1.5 | －75 | 142 | 767 | 81 | 76.5 |  | 79.5 | 83 |
| APRIL | 71.2 | 253 | 0.75 | 1.00 | 1729 | 1750 | 6 | 2435 | 2174 |  | 1338 | 1398 | ＋ 28.1 | 1.5 | －75 | 142 | 1003 | 81 | 77 | 79 | 79.7 | 83 |
| MAY | 74.4 | 260 | 0.75 | $1 \cdot 18$ | 1623 | 1700 |  | 2435 | 2183 |  | 1348 | 1437 | $+170 \cdot 0$ | 1.5 | 1.0 | 138 | 420 |  | 75 | 79 | 79.9 88 | $83 \cdot 5$ |
| JUNE | $75 \cdot 8$ | 272 | 0.75 | 1.25 | 1862 | 1888 |  | 2433 | 2237 |  | 1384 | 1456 | ＋2778 |  |  | 141 | 733 | $80 \cdot 5$ | 78 |  | $83 \cdot 8$ | 84 |
| JULY | $80 \cdot 3$ | 276 | 0.75 | 1.25 | 1620 | 1862 |  | 2433 | 2248 |  | 1411 | 1475 | ＋ 15.4 |  |  | 148 | 339 | 82 | 81.5 | 79.5 | 84 | 84 |
| AUGUST．． | $80 \cdot 9$ | 274 | 0.75 | 1.25 | 1436 | 1711 | 6 | 2433 | 2230 |  | 1393 | 1478 | ＋67．5 |  | 1.0 | 151 | 297 | 83 | 84 |  | 84 |  |
| SEP＇． | 81.5 | 268 | 0.75 | 1.25 | 1566 | 1759 | 8 | 2433 | 2252 |  | 1389 | 1496 | ＋171．8 |  | 1.0 | 153 | 409 |  | 84 |  | $84 \cdot 3$ | $84 \cdot 5$ |
| OCT． | 86.5 | 268 | 0.75 | 1.25 | 1717 | 2014 | 7 | 2433 | 2257 |  | 1385 | 1515 | ＋218．8 | 1.5 | 1.0 | 160 | 466 | 83 | 84 | 80 | $82 \cdot 8$ | 84.5 |
| NOV． | 88.3 | 280 | 0.75 | 1.25 | 1739 | 1848 | 6 | 2433 | 2244 |  | 1369 | 1536 | ＋ 75.8 | 1.5 | 1.0 | 166 | 381 | 84 | 85 |  | 82.5 | 84.5 |
| DEC． 1937 | 87.8 | 304 | 0.75 | $1 \cdot 25$ | 2266 | 2324 | 7 | 2433 | 2276 |  | 1373 | 1654 | ＋ 57.0 | 1.5 | 1.0 | 164 | 7 c 6 | 86 | 88.5 | 82.5 | 82 | 85 |
| JAN ．．． | $90 \cdot 4$ | 283 | 0.75 | 1.25 | 1910 | 2038 | 2 | 2433 | 2273 |  | 1374 | 1552 | $+121 \cdot 3$ |  | 1.0 | 167 | 618 | 87.5 | 91.5 | 83.5 | 84.6 | 85.5 |
| FEB | 90.8 | 287 | 0.75 | 1.25 | 1691 | 1762 | 3 | 2433 | 2260 |  | 1362 | 1557 | ＋120．3 | 1.5 | 1.0 | 171 | 560 |  | 91.5 | 84.5 | 84.5 |  |
| MARCH．．． | 90.2 | 293 | 0．82 | 1.25 | 2040 | 2162 | 7 | 2433 | 2261 |  | 1332 | 1543 | ＋154．3 | 1.5 | 1.0 | 172 | 384 | 89.5 | 94 | $85 \cdot 5$ | 85.4 | 86.5 |
| APRIL | 83.4 | 296 | 1.00 | 1.35 |  | 2005 |  | 2494 | 2228 |  |  | 1528 | ＋2158 |  | 10 | 163 | 321 |  |  |  |  |  |
| MAY | 82.4 78.4 | 301 | 1.00 | 1.38 1.38 | 1511 | 1929 | 16 | 2531 | 2220 |  | 1288 | 1542 | ＋155．4 | 1.5 |  | 1 | 269 | 89 | ${ }_{88}^{90} 5$ | $86 \cdot 5$ 86.5 | 86.5 86.2 | 87.5 87.5 |
| JUNE | 78.4 |  | 1.00 | 1.38 |  |  |  | 2531 | 2233 |  |  |  | ＋262\％ |  |  | 155 | 571 |  |  |  | 86.2 | 875 |
| JULY | 84.6 | 302 | 1.00 | 1.38 | 1675 | 2015 |  | 2530 | 2222 |  | 1248 | 1488 | ＋175．4 |  |  | 164 | 342 | 89.5 | 89.5 | 86.5 | 85.9 | 87.5 |
| A UGUST | $80 \cdot 3$ | 302 | 1.00 | 1.38 | 1348 | 1840 | 17 | 2529 | 2233 |  | 1240 | 1492 | ＋104．8 |  | 1.0 | 168 | 188 |  | 86.5 | 86 | 85.5 | 87.5 |
| SEP＇1．．．．． | 69.4 62.8 | 283 | 1.00 | 1.38 1.38 | 1472 | 1864 | 24 | ${ }_{2529}$ | 2219 |  | 1216 | 1484 | +145.5 +90.5 |  |  | 126 | 225 |  |  |  | 84.9 |  |
| NOV． | 57.3 | 268 | 1.00 | $1 \cdot 38$ | 1343 | 1816 | 20 | 2549 | 2156 | 474 | 1200 | 1464 | ＋+221 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 114 | 136 |  | $75 \cdot 5$ | 84.5 | 83.6 | 87.5 |
| DEC． | 54.6 | 283 | 100 | $1 \cdot 38$ | 1828 | 2083 | 16 | 2567 | 2148 | 463 | 1203 | 1457 | ＋ 180 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 114 | 180 | 83.5 | 73 | 84 | $82 \cdot 6$ | 87 |
| JAN． | 54.6 | 260 | 1.00 | $1 \cdot 38$ |  | 1760 |  | 2565 | 2128 | 446 | 1215 | 1444 | ＋ 21 |  | 1.0 | 117 | 121 | $82 \cdot 5$ | 71.5 |  | $80 \cdot 3$ | 86 |
| FEB | 57.3 | 250 | 1.00 | 1．38 | 1091 | 1462 |  | 2565 | 2121 | 439 | 1228 | 1451 | ＋ 80 |  | 1.0 | 115 | 199 |  | 70 | $83 \cdot 5$ | 78.4 | 85 |
| MARCH | 44.2 | 252 | 1.00 | $1 \cdot 38$ | 1475 | 1736 |  | 2565 | 2107 | 433 | 1219 | 1436 | ＋ $52 \cdot 9$ | 1.0 | 1.0 | 109 | 245 | 81.5 | $70 \cdot 5$ |  | 78.6 | 85 |
| APRIL | 498 | 254 | 1.00 | $1 \cdot 38$ | 1457 | 1660 | 10 | 2565 | 2082 |  | 1222 | 1444 | ＋ 71.1 |  | 1.0 | 103 | 352 |  | 68.5 |  | $7{ }^{79 \cdot 4}$ | 85 |
| MAY | 48.1 | ¢54 | 1.00 | 1.38 | 1283 | 1601 | 8 | 2565 | 2073 | 408 | 1230 | 1458 | ＋ 52.8 |  |  | 104 | 217 |  |  |  |  |  |
| JUNE | 58.3 | 254 | 1.00 | 1.38 | 1564 | 1716 |  | 2565 | 2070 | 395 | 1231 | 1493 | ＋ $55 \cdot 3$ |  |  | 108 | 506 |  |  |  | $80^{\prime}$ |  |
| JULY | 62.2 | 260 | 1.00 | $1 \cdot 38$ | 1383 | 1668 | 8 | 2565 | 2053 |  | 1232 | 1502 | ＋63．8 |  |  | 127 | 465 | 805 | 69 |  | 80.0 | 85 |
| AUG． | 60.6 | 262 | 1.00 | $1 \cdot 38$ | 1225 | 1602 | 7 | 2565 | 2068 | 389 | 1246 | 1512 | ＋166．0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 128 | 416 |  | 67 |  | 78.4 | 84.5 |
| SEP＇ | $60 \cdot 6$ | 257 | 94 | $1 \cdot 38$ | 1308 | 1644 | 8 | 2565 | 2108 | 389 | 1281 | 1538 | ＋500．9 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 125 | 197 |  | 68 |  | 78.7 | 84.5 |
| OCT． | 65.4 | 257 | 69 | 1.38 | 1514 | 1810 | 7 | 2565 | 2132 | 390 | 1304 | 1569 | ＋562．4 |  | 10 | 137 | 773 |  | 67 | 81.5 | 78.1 | 848 |
| NOV． | $64 \cdot 1$ | 257 | 69 | $1 \cdot 38$ | 1242 | 1698 |  | 2565 | 2135 | 388 | 1303 | 1582 | ＋177\％ | 10 | 1.0 | 143 | 389 |  |  |  | 77.8 |  |
| DEC． | 66.2 | 280 | 69 | 1.38 | 1888 |  |  | 2565 | 2159 |  | 1312 | 1609 |  |  |  | 137 | 453 |  |  |  |  |  |
| JAN FEB. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 134 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

INTERNAL ACTIVITY, TRADE, EMPLOYMENT.


[^9]
## United States]

continued, and the December increase of some 200 million dollars raised the country's gold stock at the close of the year to 14,500 million dollars.

Chiefly because of the government's fiscal transactions in December, member-bank earning assets expanded sharply. Over $60 \%$ of the increase in loans and investments represented larger holdings of government obligations. Loans to brokers and dealers in securities also rose sharply, but industrial loans continued to decline. Adjusted demand deposits rose to new high levels in the first half of the month, and, although some decline occurred thereafter, such deposits at the year-end were above the November average.

A notable development in the money market during December was the sale of 9I-day Treasury bills at no interest cost to the government. While special factors-such as the diversion of funds to Treasury bills by banks and business concerns for tax purposes-were the cause of this demand for Treasury bills, the transaction emphasized the unusual conditions prevailing in the money market. The extremely easy money situation persisting in the market is reflected also in the decline in yields on longterm Treasury notes and bonds and on highgrade corporate bonds.

SPECULATION AND FINANCE.-While stock prices in December moved within a narrow range, and prices for the month averaged lower than in November, a rising tendency developed in the second half of the month, and as the month closed prices of all important classes were above end-of-November levels. After the rapid decline between mid-I937 and mid-I938, the improvement in prices during the second half of this past year has been sharp. On a monthly average basis, railroad stocks in December were $40 \%$ higher than in June; industrials, $26 \%$; and utilities, $13 \%$. When comparisons are made with December, 1937, however, railroad prices for this past December are found to be slightly lower, utilities only a fraction higher, and industrials considerably above the prices of a year ago. The volume of trading for the year was some 112 million shares, or $27 \%$ below 1937. Corporate bond prices, also, have risen markedly since the middle of the year, with all classes sharing in the advance. This rise carried
prices of industrial and utility bonds by the close of 1938 to levels well above those a year earlier, but both first and second grade rails remained considerably below prices of December, 1937.

Security flotations in December, which were greater than in November, were fairly evenly divided between issues to raise new capital and those for refunding purposes. As in other months in the past year, the larger percentage of new capital issues was those of municipalities ; in fact, $78 \%$ of total new issues were public and only $22 \%$ represented those of private corporations. For refunding issues, the reverse was true: $84 \%$ were private and $16 \%$ public. Total flotations for the year were $10 \%$ above those of 1937, with the increases coming entirely in the second half of the year. The relatively larger total for 1938 reflected increases in both new and refunding public issues; corporate flotations were the smallest since 1934.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS. - Reports thus far in January indicate some declines in important branches of industry, but on the whole little change has occurred in general economic developments. The decrease in steel activity that began in December has continued, and the adjusted rate of steel operations by mid-January had fallen back to October levels; automobile output and electric power production, also, are the lowest in several weeks ; and car loadings have declined. For cotton-mill activity and lumber production, advances were recorded for the first week of the month. Sensitive commodity prices have risen above December averages, and wholesale commodity prices in general have maintained the levels of late 1938. Prices of both stocks and bonds have declined gradually, but they have remained above the averages of early December.

On January 3rd Congress convened, and on January 5 th received the annual budget message of the President, recommending continued large federal expenditures, and a special budget message, requesting substantial appropriations for relief. On January i2th, a national defence budget of $\$ 552,000,000$ was requested by the President. It is clear that government spending in 1939, as in 1938, will prove to be an important stimulus to industry, but in view of the numerous imponderable factors existing, it is impossible to predict the extent of its effect upon business in general.

## FRANCE

## Information communicated by M. MICHEL HUBER, Directeur des Etudes à l'Institut de Statistique de l'Université de Paris.

fanuary 3Ist, 1939.

THE year i938 was marked by exceptional events in the international sphere-Germany's annexation of Austria and the Sudeten lands; the Japanese invasion of China; the continuation of the Spanish civil war-and in the domestic sphere the rupture of the Popular Front and the adoption of the financial and economic recovery programme which has begun to give welcome results.

The principal facts may be recounted briefly. The Chautemps ministry constituted on January 19th, 1938, when deprived of Socialist support, resigned on March Ioth, on the eve of the Anschluss. It was replaced by the Blum ministry, which was overthrown on April 9th in the Senate, which rejected its recovery programme involving exchange control. The Daladier ministry, which succeeded it, obtained plenary powers for economic and financial rehabilitation. But in September German demands in Czecho-Slovakia brought it face to face with the most menacing external situation since the war. The Munich meeting saved the peace, thanks to heavy sacrifices. In October the Daladier ministry again obtained full powers for carrying out the Reynaud plan. On November 30th came the failure of the general strike and the outburst of a violent Italian campaign against France. The unity of French public opinion in face of these pretensions received confirmation from M. Daladier's journey to Corsica and Tunis at the beginning of January, 1939.

At the beginning of 1938 the franc had depreciated rapidly, sterling rate falling from 147 to 167 on March 15th, but reacting to 158 towards Easter. On May 4th, as a result of the monetary devaluation decided upon by the Daladier ministry, sterling rate rose from 165 to 179 ; this maximum was not exceeded even during the September crisis.

Under the influence of the devaluation of the franc and of external events, stock exchange prices showed large fluctuations, with very deep depressions in March and September.

Economic activity, hampered by the rigid application of social legislation, had declined to extremely low levels in September, but
definitely began to improve in October, owing to steps taken to give elasticity to the limitation of hours of work.

In a broadcast speech on January 29th, the Minister of Finance drew attention to the actual results of the financial and economic recovery programme pursued since the beginning of November; primarily to the excellent tone of the franc, due to steady reflux of capital, which, furthermore, led to a considerable addition to the gold holdings of the exchange equalisation fund. The Treasury position is satisfactory. In spite of recent falls, French government securities are slightly higher than at the end of October, 1938, whereas in London government securities have fallen $2 \%$, in Zurich $2 \frac{1}{2} \%$, and in Amsterdam 4\%.

The economic position is improving in spite of new taxation. From December 20th to January 20th, the production tax, in Paris, brought in 42 I Mn., whereas only 350 Mn . was hoped for when the rate was increased. Unemployment is declining, production is rising; industrialists have availed themselves of the new labour facilities which have been accorded to them.

In another vote, economies recommended by the Axe Committee have just been put in force ; a first economy of 200 Mn . is achieved in respect of credits for road maintenance.

In January, 1939, parliamentary interest was focused on the long discussion on foreign policy in the Chamber from January ioth to 27 th. The debate ended with a unanimous vote of confidence in the government " to maintain the integrity of the French Empire and the security of her imperial communications." The continuation of the non-intervention policy in Spain was approved by a vote which rejected any addition to the existing text by 360 to 264 . It may be recorded that the fall of Barcelona has led to a considerable exodus of refugees into France.

On January 3rd the Bank of France lowered the discount rate to $2 \%$ (from $2 \frac{1}{2} \%$ since November 24th). The present rate is therefore the same as those of London and Amsterdam.

According to the latest weekly return, the gold reserve remains at $87,265 \mathrm{Mn}$. ; the note


## TRADE，OUTPUT，TRANSPORT \＆EMPLOYMENT．

|  | IMPORTS．＊ |  |  |  | EXPORTS．＊ |  |  |  |  |  | OUTPUT． |  |  |  |  | SHIPPING． |  | RAILWAYS |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  <br> Mn．f． | © <br> Mn． 1 | 路 <br> Mn．f． | Manufactures <br> Mn．I． | J． से <br> Mn．f． | \％ <br> Mn．f． |  |  | Im． ports． <br> Mn．Me | ight <br> Ex－ ports． <br> tr．Tne． |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Coal } \\ \text { (excl. } \\ \text { Saar). } \\ 0008 \end{gathered}$ | Pig Iron． <br> Metric | Steel． <br> ons． | $\qquad$ | Tonn Ship Cars『 品 㽞 <br> Mn． Tons | ge of with oes． <br> Mn． <br> Tons |  |  |  |
| 1913 Av ． | 702 | 153 | 411 | 138 | 573 | 70 | 155 | 348 | 3.68 | $1 \cdot 84$ |  | 3720 | 756 | 581 |  | $2 \cdot 87$ | 2•17 |  |  |  |
| 1924 dv． | 3327 | 745 | 2158 | 424 | 3456 | 336 | 874 | 2246 | 4．71 | $2 \cdot 45$ |  | 3667 | 638 | 575 |  | 3．55 | $2 \cdot 72$ |  | 81.4 |  |
| 1933 Av． | 2369 | 800 | 1149 | 419 | 1539 | 212 | 396 | 931 | 4.04 | $2 \cdot 09$ |  | 3903 | 527 | 552 | 87 | $4 \cdot 51$ | $3 \cdot 75$ | 218 | $45 \cdot 2$ | $71 \cdot 3$ |
| 1934 Av ． | 1925 | 62.4 | 948 | 354 | 1488 | 215 | 430 | 842 | 3.79 | $2 \cdot 36$ |  | 3967 | 513 | 512 | 89 | $4 \cdot 38$ | $3 \cdot 62$ | 208 | $42 \cdot 5$ | 71.4 |
| 1935 Av ． | 17461 | 520 | 932 | 294 | 1291 | 206 | 355 | 730 | 3．72 | 2.44 |  | 3851 | 483 | 522 | 92 | $4 \cdot 25$ | $3 \cdot 70$ | 188 | $40 \cdot 1$ | 68.4 |
| 1936 Av ． | 2118 | 650 | 1149 | 318 | 1291 | 206 | 372 | 713 | $4 \cdot 01$ | 2.41 | 85 | 3769 | 520 | 558 | 95 | $4 \cdot 40$ | 3.66 | 191 | 41.7 | $70 \cdot 5$ |
| 1937 Av． | 3533 | 895 | 2098 | 540 | 1995 | 281 | 702 | 101 | 4.78 | $2 \cdot 53$ | 88 | 3693 | 660 | 658 | 105 | $4 \cdot 56$ | $3 \cdot 70$ | 242 | 41.7 | $66 \cdot 4$ |
| 1936 JAN． | 2014 | 565 | 1158 | 281 | 1203 | 191 | 331 | 681 | $3 \cdot 86$ | $2 \cdot 59$ | 86 | 4087 | 508 | 561 | 105 | $3 \cdot 86$ | 3.23 | 166 | 37.7 | 69：0 |
| FEB．．． | 2051 | 647 | 1114 | 290 | 1229 | 177 | 366 | 683 | 3.86 | 2.59 | 86 | 3855 | 501 | 535 | 95 | 3.80 | 3.09 | 175 | $41 \cdot 1$ | 69.6 |
| MAR．．． | 1959 | 565 | 1085 | 305 | 1245 | 182 | 362 | 701 | 3.98 | 2.20 | 88 | 3956 | 543 | 575 | 97 | 3.94 | 3.28 | 175 | $42 \cdot 3$ | $70 \cdot 2$ |
| APRIL． | 2128 | 676 | 1118 | 334 | 1200 | 189 | 325 | 686 | $4 \cdot 12$ | $2 \cdot 39$ | 87 | 4059 | 524 | 571 | 93 | $4 \cdot 13$ | $3 \cdot 58$ | 186 | 39•7 | $70 \cdot 1$ |
| MAY ．．． | 1968 | 614 | 1060 | 295 | 1172 | 174 | 355 | 643 | 3.99 | 2.52 | 87 | 3870 | 554 | 609 | 92 | 4.62 | 3.77 | 185 | 39.4 | $70 \cdot 4$ |
| JUNE．． | 1831 | 557 | 1002 | 272 | 1156 | 174 | 296 | 685 | 3.74 | $2 \cdot 37$ | 81 | 3434 | 470 | 503 | 84 | $4 \cdot 27$ | 3.65 | 178 | 38.6 | $70 \cdot 4$ |
| JULY ．． | 1860 | 543 | 1038 | 279 | 1104 | 168 | 308 | 628 | $3 \cdot 72$ | $2 \cdot 10$ | 83 | 3915 | 519 | 542 | 88 | 5.03 | $4 \cdot 20$ | 205 | 38.5 | 70.5 |
| AUG．．．． | 1764 | 513 | 958 | 294 | 1170 | 179 | 337 | 654 | 3.89 | $2 \cdot 37$ | 76 | 3154 | 465 | 460 | 82 | $4 \cdot 83$ | 4.04 | 208 | $37 \cdot 2$ | 70.5 |
| SEPT．．． | 1859 | 625 | 920 | 314 | 1190 | 183 | 380 | 647 | 3.98 | 2.41 | 80 | 3484 | 492 | 545 | 91 | $4 \cdot 60$ | 3.87 | 207 | $40 \cdot 3$ | $70 \cdot 8$ |
| OOT．．．． | 2243 | 760 | 1143 | 340 | 1463 | 261 | 399 | 803 | 4.01 | 2.46 | 85 | 4165 | 551 | 627 | 104 | $4 \cdot 71$ | 4.05 | 216 | $46 \cdot 3$ | 71.0 |
| NOV．．．． | 2699 | 839 | 1477 | 383 | 1710 | 299 | 527 | 884 | $4 \cdot 24$ | $2 \cdot 58$ | 88 | 3436 | 552 | 581 | 104 | 4－19 | 3.48 | 200 | $46 \cdot 3$ | $70 \cdot 7$ |
| DEC．．．． 1937 | 3039 | 882 | 1715 | 432 | 1651 | 300 | 498 | 853 | 4.75 | $2 \cdot 37$ | 91 | 3813 | 558 | 591 | 107 | 4.77 | 3.63 | 192 | $43 \cdot 2$ | 70.5 |
| JAN．．． | 3332 | 886 | 1972 | 474 | 1769 | 283 | 575 | 911 | $4 \cdot 76$ | 2.42 | 90 | 3623 | 590 | 607 | 103 | 4－19 | $3 \cdot 35$ | 187 | $40 \cdot 1$ | $70 \cdot 1$ |
| FEB．．．． | 3667 | 1004 | 2171 | 492 | 1695 | 237 | 610 | 848 | $5 \cdot 35$ | $2 \cdot 37$ | 92 | 3710 | 574 | 624 | 108 | 3.77 | 3.05 | 201 | $42 \cdot 5$ | 69.0 |
| MAR．．－ | 3216 | 785 | 1892 | 539 | 1829 | 267 | 607 | 955 | 4.60 | $2 \cdot 26$ | 93 | 4037 | 649 | 679 | 106 | $4 \cdot 44$ | 3.52 | 210 | $41 \cdot 3$ | 68.0 |
| APRIL． | 3300 3070 | 831 | 1992 | 477 | 1973 | 278 | 734 | 961 | 4.95 | 2.61 | 91 | 3910 | 654 | 684 | 101 | $4 \cdot 47$ | 3.70 | 206 | 41.9 | $67 \cdot 6$ |
| MAY ．．． | 3070 | 761 | 1856 | 452 | 1761 | 255 | 621 | 885 | 4.55 | 2.46 | 89 | 3414 | 666 | 654 | 101 | 4.81 | 3.97 | 205 | $39 \cdot 8$ | 66.8 |
| JUNE．． | 3719 | 844 | 2171 | 704 | 2003 | 245 | 744 | 1014 | $5 \cdot 16$ | 2.68 | 88 | 3509 | 685 | 685 | 98 | 4.72 | $3 \cdot 90$ | 222 | $41 \cdot 8$ | $65^{\prime} 2$ |
| JULY．． | 3204 | 777 | 1880 | 547 | 1871 | 247 | 659 | 965 | 4.57 | 2.55 | 85 | 3530 |  |  | 102 | 5.48 | $4 \cdot 38$ | 265 |  |  |
| AUG．．． | 3179 | 782 | 1878 | 519 | 1859 | 229 | 666 | 964 | $4 \cdot 47$ | 2.48 | 76 | 2587 | 645 | 559 | 93 | $4 \cdot 44$ | 3.68 | 277 | 36.9 | $64 \cdot 4$ |
| SEPT．．． | 3478 3714 | 839 959 | 2106 2200 | 533 | 2074 | 268 | 770 | 1036 | 4.56 | 2.48 | 84 | 3673 | 687 | 662 | 102 | 4.58 | $3 \cdot 78$ | 292 | 41.4 | $61 \cdot 8$ |
| NOV．．．． | 3938 | 1012 | 2339 | 587 | 2364 | 343 | 847 | 1174 | 4.57 | 2.81 | 88 | 4044 | 701 | 705 | 113 | $5 \cdot 28$ | $4 \cdot 26$ | 284 | 45.6 | 65－3 |
| 1）EC．．．． | 4574 | 1258 | 2720 | 596 | 2357 | 369 | 792 | 1196 | 4.72 5 | 2.64 2.61 | 91 | 4073 | 688 679 | 673 675 | 115 | 4.21 4.36 | 3.36 3.43 | 262 296 | 44.7 44.7 | $65 \cdot 6$ 66.0 |
| 1938 | 3892 | 965 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 62 |  | 4.56 3.55 |  |  |  |  |
| FEB．．．． | 4288 | 1139 | 2536 | 558 | 2451 | 310 289 | 869 843 | $\begin{aligned} & 1272 \\ & 1187 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 4 \cdot 22 \\ & 4 \cdot 54 \end{aligned}$ | 2.79 2.31 | 87 86 | 3613 3685 | 643 556 | 623 | 120 | 3.55 3.86 | 2.77 3.04 | 244 | $39 \cdot 8$ 41.4 | $66 \cdot 2$ $66 \cdot 3$ |
| MAR．．．． | 3527 | 902 | 2076 | 549 | 2231 | 295 | 684 | 1252 | 3.90 | 2.11 | 85 | 4294 | 553 | 562 | 113 | 3.74 | 3.87 2.87 | 262 | 41.4 42.0 | 65．6 |
| APRIL． | 3877 | 994 | 2271 | 612 | 2364. | 366 | 710 | 1288 | 4.20 | 1.97 | 82 | 4042 | 479 | 500 | 106 | $4 \cdot 37$ | 3.52 | 270 | 39.8 | 64．7 |
| JUNE． | 3878 | 1102 | 2131 | 615 | $2324{ }^{\circ}$ | 330 | 715 | 1279 | $3 \cdot 87$ | $2 \cdot 16$ | 82 | 3734 | 483 | 502 | 108 | 4.51 | 3.71 | 272 | 41.2 | 65•7 |
| JUNE．．． | 3811 | 1019 | 2235 | 557 | 2291 | 313 | 717 | 1261 | 4.04 | $2 \cdot 12$ | 83 | 3830 | 463 | 480 | 110 | $4 \cdot 85$ | $4 \cdot 16$ | 291 | $40 \cdot 6$ | $65 \cdot 9$ |
| JULY ．． | 3501 | 982 | 2003 | 511 | 2286 | 302 | 700 | 1284 | 3.54 | $2 \cdot 13$ |  | 3730 | 433 | 436 | 108 | $4 \cdot 70$ | 3.83 | 301 | 38.5 | $65 \cdot 3$ |
| AUG．．．． | 3709 | 984 | 2253 | 472 | 2486 | 300 | 814 | 1372 | $3 \cdot 87$ | 2.26 |  | 2776 | 419 | 419 | 100 | 4.69 | 4.03 | 300 | 35．5 | $65 \cdot 1$ |
| OCT． | 3878 | 1153 | 2236 | 480 | 2653 | 333 | 996 | 1324 | 3.76 | 2.21 |  | 3944 | 446 | 470 | 107 | $4 \cdot 86$ | $4 \cdot 18$ | 313 | 39.8 | $65 \cdot 2$ |
| NOV．．．． | 3871 | 1099 | 2216 | 556 | 3059 | 509 | 926 | 1624 | 4.20 3.45 | 2.20 2.38 |  | 4234 4188 | 494 521 | 511 | 119 | 4.42 4.17 | 3.65 3.53 | 310 297 | $43 \cdot 1$ $42 \cdot 9$ | 66．3 |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { DEC.... } \\ 1939 \end{gathered}$ | 4214 | 1133 | 2426 | 655 | 3292 | 594 | 999 | 1699 | 3.57 | 2．33 |  | 4430 | 560 | 534 576 | 119 | 4.27 | 3.44 3 | 303 | $42 \cdot 9$ | 67. 67.2 |
| JAN．．．． | 3978 |  |  |  | 2820 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

＊Import figures are based upon declared values．Export figures declared values since 1927，previously based on official values，


## TRANSPORT．

Shipping．－Tonnage of ships of all nationalities entered and cleared（with cargoes）during the month
Rallways．－Average weekly receipts and daily average number of trucks loaded on all the principal railways（including Alsace－Lorraine）．

## France］

circulation which had risen to III． 5 Md ．on January 5 th was down to 109.3 Md ．on 19th ； the reserve ratio is $62.75 \%$ ．
bank of france．Milliard France．

| 1937－38 | 1937 | 1938 |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 1939 \\ & \text { Jan. } \\ & \text { 12th } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Oct． | Jan． | Apr． | July | Oct． |  |
|  | 14th | 13th | 14th | 13th | 13th |  |
| Gold | 55.8 | 58.9 | 55.8 | $55 \cdot 8$ | 55．8 | 87．3＊ |
| Foreign Assets－Bills |  |  | 0.8 | 0.7 | $0 \cdot 7$ | 0.8 |
| Discounts（commercial） | $10 \cdot 1$ | 10.0 | $10 \cdot 1$ | $5 \cdot 5$ | 15.9 | $5 \cdot 7$ |
| Advances ．．．．． | 3.8 | 3.8 | 3.7 | 3.6 | $3 \cdot 9$ | 3.5 |
| Sinking Fund Bonds ．．． | $5 \cdot 6$ | $5 \cdot 6$ | 5．6 | 5．6 | $\begin{array}{r}5.6 \\ \hline 13.4\end{array}$ | 5．5 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Deposits，Treasury and Sinking Fund | $2 \cdot 3$ | 3.2 | 2.2 | $3 \cdot 3$ | $3 \cdot 7$ | $5 \cdot 3$ |
| ，，Private ．．． | 15.8 | 21.5 | 21.5 | $12 \cdot 7$ | $20 \cdot 9$ | $23 \cdot 4$ |
| Reserve Ratio（\％） | $51 \cdot 3$ | $50 \cdot 3$ | $45 \cdot 8$ | $47 \cdot 6$ | $40 \cdot 4$ | $62 \cdot 7$ |

＊After the revaluation
On the exchange market，two periods should be distinguished．As a result of the rearmament programme in England，restriction on exchange operations and the transference of $£ 200 \mathrm{Mn}$ ．gold from the Bank of England to the Exchange Equalisation Fund，the Paris rate for the $£$ rose to 177.30 on January 9th ；it was 177 on 3Ist． The dollar，quoted at 38.15 at the beginning of the month，subsequently remained stable at about 37.90 until 9 th，and afterwards at 37.85 ．

During January stock exchange activity greatly slackened，and the general level of quotations fell owing to the international situa－ tion．Thus the index of the volume of dealings in shares（\％of 1931），which exceeded 75 in the week ending December 24 th，was only 36 during that ending January 21st．For bonds the corresponding figures were 376 and 148 ．During the past week，dealings have been rather more active．The index of prices of French shares （\％of 1913）fell from 244 at the end of December

INDICES OF SECURITY PRICES．
（January，1931，as 100．）

| 1935－38 |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 汤 } \\ & \pm \\ & \text { a } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { B } \\ & \text { O } \\ & \text { H } \\ & 0 \\ & \text { 苗 } \end{aligned}$ | 䔍 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| January，1935．． | 98 | 102 | 64 | 43 | 68 | 37 | 57 | 28 |
| April ．．．．． | 90 | 92 | 60 | 39 | 62 | 36 | 56 | 24 |
| July ．．． | 90 | 91 | 59 | 38 | 62 | 34 | 51 | 25 |
| October | 88 | 93 | 55 | 37 | 55 | 35 | 49 | 26 |
| January，1936．．． | 82 | 88 | 57 | 28 | 53 | 41 | 49 | 34 |
| April ．．．．． | 78 | 85 | 55 | 37 | 48 | 39 | 46 | 31 |
| July | 78 | 85 | 44 | 33 | 37 | 24 | 32 | 22 |
| October | 91 | 93 | 51 | 41 | 51 | 36 | 41 | 31 |
| January，1937．． | 87 | 85 | 53 | 46 | 49 | 57 | 54 | 57 |
| April ．．．．．． | 77 | 78 | 50 | 47 | 45 | 54 | 44 | 44 |
| July ．．． | 82 | 83 | 45 | 42 | 37 | 53 | 40 | 42 |
| October ．．． | 86 | 81 | 46 | 41 | 39 | 52 | 43 | 42 |
| January，1938．．． | 81 | 81 | 45 | 41 | 37 | 45 | 39 | 41 |
| April ．．．．．． | 83 | 79 | 48 | 45 | 42 | 50 | 45 | 43 |
| July ．．．．． | 86 | 82 | 48 | 47 | 42 | 47 | 43 | 41 |
| October ．．． | 91 | 84 | 47 | 48 | 39 | 46 | 42 | 39 |
| January，1939．．． | 95 | 90 | 54 | 53 | 48 | 53 | 48 | 46 |

to 219 on January 28 th，and that for foreign shares from 406 to 389 ；the index for French bonds fell from 88.3 to 83.4 ．As an illustration， $3 \%$ French rentes，which were quoted at 87.50 at the beginning of the month，fell to 79.95 on 28th，but had recovered to 82.35 on January 3Ist．

The calculation of the index numbers of production has not yet been completely resumed by the Statistique Général．For seven groups，for which the results are known，there was a very sharp recovery in November to 86 compared with 80 in October and a minimum of 72 in August（at time of paid holidays）．The increase from October to November is marked in mining （93 to 99），metallurgy（66 to 74），metal working （ 72 to 79 ），motor cars（ 99 to 110 ），chemicals （ 94 to 103），paper（157 to 175）．The building index is still stationary（62）．These index numbers are all expressed as percentages of 1928．As recent decrees have made it com－ pulsory for industrialists to make returns in respect of output，it is to be hoped that publica－ tion of a more comprehensive index of production will soon be resumed．

In December，coal output reached $4,430,000$ tons，compared with $4,188,000$ in October （excluding IIO，000 tons of lignite）．In 1938 the output of coal and lignite， $47,559,000$ tons，was $2,226,000$ tons or $5 \%$ ，more than in 1937. Imports having been reduced from 30 to 22 Mn ． tons，and allowing for variations in stocks， apparent consumption was 68 Mn ．tons in 1938 compared with ${ }_{76} \mathrm{Mn}$ ．in 1937，or a diminution of over $10 \%$ ．

The improvements in the iron and steel trades noted in November continued in December；pig－iron output increased from 521 to 560 thousand tons，and steel from 534 to 576 thousand．

During November the output of electricity， I，I91 Mn．Kwh，was $2.8 \%$ higher than in the corresponding month of 1937．The rise was very great－ $18 \%$－in respect of the thermo－ electric works to compensate for a shortage of $5 \%$ from the hydro－electric works．

The number of assisted unemployed advanced very rapidly in December on account of the very cold weather，particularly in the second half． The number rose from 372,000 on December Ioth to 416,600 on January 7 th．Afterwards it fell to 414,700 on January 2Ist，as is usual at the time of year．

In establishments with over 100 employees the proportion working under 40 hours per week，which exceeded $20 \%$ from April－June，
declined steadily to $14.8 \%$ in December, i.e., to the same level as in January. Thus there has been a considerable reduction in part-time unemployment.

The receipts of the National Railway Co. have shown some improvement in the last three weeks of December, when they averaged 307 Mn . compared with 290 Mn . in the two preceding weeks. But during the first two weeks of January the amount declined again to 263 and 273 Mn .

During the last week of 1938 the average number of trucks loaded per day was 39,100, compared with 47,950 in 1937. For the year 1938 the total was 15,528,000, compared with 17,170,000, or about $10 \%$ less than in 1937. In the first week of 1939 the daily average was 38,000 , and in the next two weeks 41,600 .

As usual, for reasons connected with the method of recording the statistics, the December totals of the value of external trade are considerably higher than those for November; imports $4,2 \mathrm{I} 4 \mathrm{Mn}$. compared with $3,87 \mathrm{I}$, and exports $3,292 \mathrm{Mn}$. compared with 3,059*. The value of imports having increased rather more

[^10]than exports, the visible balance, 922 Mn ., was higher than in November ( 812 Mn .). In the twelve months the deficit was $15,395 \mathrm{Mn}$. fr. compared with $18,452 \mathrm{Mn}$. in 1937, or a reduction of more than 3 Md . fr.

DISTRIBUTION OF SPECIAL TRADE. Mn. Francs.


The average level of wholesale prices is still advancing. The index of 45 commodities (\% of July, 1914) rose from 657 at the end of November to 666 at the end of December, 1938, and 676 on January 28th, 1939. There was a more marked rise in foodstuffs, from

## WHOLESALE PRICES.

A verage $1901-10=100$.


## France]

634 to 656 , than in materials, from 678 to 693 . Likewise the advance was greater in home produce, from 678 to 705 , than in imported goods, from 620 to 624 .

In December retail prices showed a definite rise over the previous month. The index of I5 items rose from 727 to 742 , that of 34 items from 739 to 754, both on July, 1914, as base.

For the fourth quarter of 1938 the Paris index of the cost of living is estimated at 722, compared with 689 in the third quarter.

The savings banks continue to show an excess of deposits. Their operations with the Deposit Bank in December showed an excess of nearly a milliard ( 987 Mn .).

Owing to return of capital and stock exchange recovery, though checked at times by the international tension, the monetary and financial situation is now satisfactory; that is not to say that the danger is definitely over, and great
vigilance is still required. The economy programme, already curtailed, should be pursued with vigour without being compromised by large new expenditure other than that for rearmament which is justified by imperious necessity. French prices are at a level favourable to exports, unfortunately impeded by restrictions of all kinds imposed in various countries. Compared with the extremely low levels in August and September, 1938, the improvement in economic activity is considerable, although the available indices are inadequate to measure its extent precisely.

It is reassuring to note that after several years of confusion, French economy is on the way to recovery. Its development depends above all on the maintenance of a stable political situation internally, and on the direction in which the grave outstanding international problems develop in the coming months.

## GERMANY.

## Information communicated by Dr. M. J. ELSAS.

REVIEW OF 1938.

February 4th, 1939.

IN the year 1938 the German Reich absorbed Austria and part of Czechoslovakia, and the population of the country was thus increased by some ten million people. The Anschluss with Austria brought an increase in resources of metals, of which magnesium is the most important. The acquisition of the Sudetenland brought in the radium mines of Joachimstal and the hop fields of Saaz. A further gain from the Anschluss was an increase of the stock of gold and foreign exchange, covering not merely the reserves of the Austrian National Bank, but also the foreign holdings of private citizens, for exchange restrictions were immediately imposed upon the newly acquired territories.

On the opposite side of the account of the year there are the extraordinary expenses involved in the mobilisation of armed forces before the acquisition of the Sudetenland; and the fact that both the newly acquired territories require an import surplus of foods. Further, the exports, and in particular the invisible exports, of both Austria and Sudetenland have suffered from their new situation, so that a great deal of free foreign exchange was thereby lost. Many industries in the Sudetenland used to work
principally for the American market. They have now lost the benefit of most-favoured nation treatment, for this is denied to Germany by the United States.

The external trade of the old Reich closed the year with an import surplus of more than 190 Mn . marks. Whereas the total of imports was practically unchanged as compared with 1937, exports showed a decline of about 650 Mn . marks. In 1937 there was an export surplus of over 440 Mn . marks. If the new territories are included the balance of trade is even more adverse. The imports figure in 1938 is thereby raised by 600 Mn . marks, but the export figure is raised by no more than about 360 Mn . The total import surplus thus becomes 432 Mn . marks and the net position becomes 875 Mn . more adverse than in 1937. The critical aspect of this development lies in the fact that the difficulties faced by German exports have increased rather than decreased at the end of the year. In the first place the purchasing power of foreign customers has continued to decline. In the second place, the anti-Jewish policy of the German Government has placed considerable difficulties in the way of German exports. The expulsion of the Jews from economic activity in

Austria was proceeded with immediately after the Anschluss, and this caused a sharp contraction in Austrian exports. In the old Reich an assessment of Jewish property was made at the end of April, but not until November was a decree issued which prohibited Jews from conducting any businesses whatsoever.

With the absorption of the new territories the scope of the Four-Year Plan was greatly extended. New roads and canals are being projected, and this activity is combined with intensified armament and the building of fortifications on the borders of the country. The fortifications on the French frontier opposite the Maginot line are the most extensive and costly.

The Reich public debt increased further in 1938, although the total figures are not made public. However, even that part of the debt which is officially acknowledged has risen. The consolidated debt has been raised by about $6,700 \mathrm{Mn}$. marks by the issue of Reich loans. Revenue from taxation has increased, but has not kept pace with expenditure. The public finances may be temporarily eased by the fine of 1,000 Mn. marks which was imposed on the Jews, of which one quarter was collected in December.

The financing of the Reich's requirements has since March, 1938, no longer been effected by the issue of the special Reich bills, but by means of loans and non-interest bearing treasury bills, and by the issue of special delivery bills which cannot be discounted at the Reichsbank. Connected with this change is a change in the character of the "Sola" bills of the Gold Discount Bank. These are now considered to be the most liquid form of investment, and they are therefore readily accepted by the banks. These " Sola" bills previously tended to reflect the general liquidity of business and served as a barometer of credit conditions when Reich loans were contemplated. This function has now partly changed. An important result of the issue of delivery bills to industry in return for goods delivered to the State, is that the liquidity of industries working for the State has been lessened.

The financial situation of the Reich, strained though it is, does not give cause for anticipating disaster. The conditions of democratic states cannot be translated into those of totalitarian states. In the last analysis the State has full power over all economic affairs, and can direct the investment of capital wherever it thinks fit. The way in which the totalitarian
economy differs from that of liberal or semiliberal states is best illustrated by the labour market. Unemployment is now practically non-existent in Germany. At the end of November there were only 152,000 registered unemployed, and though this figure rose to about 450,000 at the end of the year, this was a purely seasonal effect. The scarcity of labour, and especially of skilled labour, continues to be very severe. If they were available hundreds of thousands of hands could easily be employed in building, agriculture and the metal trades. Whereas such a situation would be regarded as almost utopian in the democratic states, it is regarded in Germany as a matter for much anxiety; all the more because the greater part of the reserves of labour, mainly female, has been absorbed, and because working hours in the armament and manufacturing industries have been increased. The fact cannot be hidden that if there is such a shortage of labour in peace time, a very difficult labour problem must present itself in war time.

In order to meet this situation an intensive development of labour-saving machinery might be adopted, were it not that the task of meeting the financial needs of rearmament and of the other public works at the same time as those of an intensive rationalisation movement appears to be exceedingly great. The relatively simpler solution of reducing the armament output or the self-sufficiency programme, which, whatever success it may show, makes an exceptionally large demand upon the supply of labour, appears to be outside the bounds of discussion. The momentum of the prevailing system rules out any halt upon a way once started. It is therefore to be expected, and the pronouncements of the leader of the Labour Front make this very clear, that in the near future a further increase in the working period in "productive" industries will be made, and that workers who are at present employed in distributive industries will be diverted into the former industries. Here, however, the law of diminishing returns is to be reckoned with even in a totalitarian state. In mining and in the iron industry especially, it is complained that the increase in hours has not yielded a commensurate return in output. Part of the decline in labour efficiency is due to the fact that now a smaller proportion of the labour in the extractive and manufacturing industries is skilled than hitherto.

The State railways find it hard to keep pace with the increase in heavy production. The railway labour force was increased during 1938

FINANCE, PRICES and WAGES.


| FINANCE <br> Share Index.- | Index Numbers for middle of month. Based on 1924-6 average. Wirtschaft una Statistik. |
| :---: | :---: |
| Capital Issues.- | Wirtschaft und Statistik. |
| Reichsbank-Clearin | Wirtschaft und Statistik. |
| Outside Deposi | Second week of month. |
| Note Circulation. - | End of month. |
| State Debt. - | " " |
| New York Exchange.- | 1st of month. |

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PRICES.

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PRICES.
Wholesale-
Wholesale-
Silver.-
Silver.-
Pig Iron.-
Pig Iron.-
Food and All Items. -
Food and All Items. -
Retail-
Retail-
Reichs Index.-
Reichs Index.-
AGES. -

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    AGES. -
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State Debt. -

New York Exchange.- $\quad$ 1st of month.

TRADE, TRANSPORT, EMPLOYMENT.


NOTES AND SOURCES.
IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

Weight
Values in Gold Marks -
COAL OUTPUT.
SHIPPING.
RAILWAY GOODS RECEIPTS-UNEMPLOYMENT-

Wirtschaft und Statistik
Statistiches Reichsamt-Merchandise and bullion included.
Excluding Saar till April, 1935-Wirtschaft und Statistik
Statistiches Reichsamt.
Wirtschaft und Statistik
Total No. of Persons Unemployed on 1st of month. Wirtschaft und Statistik. Trade Union percentage for end of month, but given as for following month to be comparable with previous column. Series dis continued after March. 1933. Subsequently percentages of working place capacity occupied

## Germany]

by 70,000 , and freight ton-kilometres rose by II $\%$ over the year. The actual increase in freights was less than this, for during the year two small provincial railways were absorbed into the Reich system and in the last quarter of the year freights in the Sudetenland were included. Wagonloadings on the Reich railways increased on the average by only $2 \%$. For the shortage of trucks the heavy military transports of the past year, especially during the crisis of September, were partly responsible. One result of this was a shortage of household coal during the frosts, in face of a great increase in pit stocks, those in the Ruhr at 4.7 Mn. tons being more than doubled over the year.

In the autumn of 1938 the Mittelland Canal was completed as far as the Elbe. Thereby the Rhine is connected with the Elbe, and also with the Oder. This canal has become all the more important because the Hermann Goering ironworks at Salzgitter and the motorworks at Fallersleben, where the "Volkswagen" is to be manufactured, will benefit from it. The policy of locating new industries in Middle Germany for strategic reasons is likely to be carried further owing to the completion of this canal.

## RECENT MOVEMENTS.

The appointment of Dr. Funk to the Presidency of the Reichsbank in the third week of January in place of Dr. Schacht, was made because, according to official statements, the direction of the Ministry of Economic Affairs had to be united with that of the Reichsbank in the same person. The new President will be given the task of maintaining stability of wages and prices and of the value of the mark. The capital market is to serve the needs of private industry to a greater extent than hitherto. This last point appears to have been intended to suggest that the change in the Presidency was a favourable matter for industry. It is for this reason that the Bourse was able to show some improvement over the first week of January, whereas foreign markets took Dr. Schacht's dismissal to be a strong bear influence and reacted severely.

The mid-January Reichsbank statement shows a bill portfolio of $6,930 \mathrm{Mn}$. marks against one of $5,031 \mathrm{Mn}$. in mid-January, 1938. The note circulation rose to $7,425 \mathrm{Mn}$. marks, as against $4,857 \mathrm{Mn}$. a year ago* but the increase in the area

[^11]of the Reich must here be borne in mind. The published gold and foreign exchange reserve remains unchanged at 77 Mn ., but the "other assets" at I,280 Mn. marks, total 420 Mn . more than a year ago, though 95 Mn . less than in the previous month. This item is of especial importance, because it contains a holding of foreign exchange.

The money market was very liquid in the second half of January. Daily money rates fell below $2 \%$, other rates remained unchanged. The liquidity of the money market appears to have assisted the rise in security prices on the Bourse. The Reich cost of living index for December shows a very small rise, about $0.2 \%$. The Vienna cost of living index which is published by the Reich Statistical Office, remained practically unchanged in December, as compared with the previous month, but showed a fall of about $3 \frac{1}{2} \%$ as compared with May, the first month after the Anschluss. This decline in retail prices in Vienna is due to measures aimed at the assimilation of Austrian prices to those of Germany.

External trade in December closed with a passive balance of 7 Mn . marks. Imports of raw materials and manufactures increased over the month. Exports rose by 48 Mn . marks over the month, but fell by 73 Mn . as compared with December, 1937. Exports of manufactures rose over the month by nearly 50 Mn . marks, but fell over the year by a similar amount. These figures apply to the old Reich. For Greater Germany the passive balance in December was $37 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{Mn}$. marks.

At the end of December the number of unemployed rose to 456,000 . This increase was due to frost, which affected outdoor work. It is stated in the Press that many employers did not dismiss their workers in spite of the fact that the weather made work impossible, so that the unemployment figure does not show the whole effect of the weather. According to the statistics of Health Insurance, the number of people employed was $19,200,000$. This was $\mathrm{I}, 000,000$ less than one month previously. The number of female workers unemployed fell by 1,800. In Austria the number of unemployed rose by 37,000 in December to reach the figure of 150,000 ; in the Sudetenland the number rose by 22,000 to 218,000 . In Greater Germany the total number of unemployed was thus 824,000 .

Since an intensification of the shortage of agricultural labour is expected with the warmer weather, new measures were adopted in January
to meet this situation. The year's compulsory service for girls, which in 1938 applied only to certain occupations, is henceforth to apply to all girls under the age of 25 . Whenever possible the year's service is to be spent on the land. To the same end the shortening of the period of training in the schools is being contemplated. In January the course of study for medical degrees was shortened by a period of a year or a year and a half.

At the end of January a decree was issued, which allowed exceptions to the laws protecting juvenile labour. On account of the shortage of labour, the youngest boys in the mining industries may be employed until io p.m. The older boys may be employed in the night shifts in the coal industry. These boys must be medically examined, and indeed the continuance of these exceptions is made subject to a medical investigation which is now being made.

ANNUAL STATISTICS.

|  |  | 1913 | 1931 | 1982 | 1933 | 1934 | 1935 | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Finance- <br> Reichsbank Clearings | Mn. Mks. | 73634 | 85841 | 55316 | 52200 | 58251 | 58804 | 61729 | 71035 | 78734 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Notes and Coin in Circulation (Monthly Average.) | ,, | 607041587720 |  | 5965 |  | 5616 | 6017 | 6471 | 7035 | 8728208048 |
| Postal Cheque Turnover ... ... | " |  | $123189$ | 103422 | 101350 | 117021 | 128192 | 141378 | 161601 |  |
| New Capital Issues ... | , |  | 543 | 93 | 298 | 213 | - 85 | 35 | 162 | 73 |
| Public Revenue ... | , | $\begin{gathered} \text { Average } \\ 5.88 \\ 9780 \end{gathered}$ | 7928 <br> Since Dec | $7036$ | 6761 | 7792 | 9319 | 11048 | 13384 | 16507 |
|  | \% |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Reichsbank Discount Rate No. of Bankruptcies |  |  | 7 13599 | 4 8603 | 3915 | 4 2777 | 4 2919 | 4 2577 | 4 264 | 4 |
| Production \& Trade- <br> Total Imports <br> Food ... <br> Raw Materials \& semi-Manuf't'es <br> Manufactures | Mn Mks | 11206 | 7141 | 5022 | 4605 | 4743 | 4287 | 4286 | 547 | 54612106 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | " | 2808 | 1965 | 1485 | 1084 | 1066 | 996 | 1502 | 2043 |  |
|  | ", | 6280 | 3476 | 2412 | 2420 | 2612 | 2542 | 2311 | 2965 | 2899 |
|  | " | 1392 | 1225 | 726 | 669 | 750 | 558 | 397 | 394 | 402 |
| Total Exports | Mn. Mks. | $\begin{array}{r} 10199 \\ 1070 \\ 2274 \\ 6746 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 10641 \\ 360 \\ 1703 \\ 7111 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 6139 \\ 202 \\ 1013 \\ 4459 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 5698 \\ 172 \\ 903 \\ 3784 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 4662 \\ 116 \\ 788 \\ 3253 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 4305 \\ 73 \\ 773 \\ 3413 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 4777 \\ 85 \\ 876 \\ 3803 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 5890 \\ 87 \\ 1115 \\ 4699 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 5263 \\ 63 \\ 912 \\ 4284 \end{array}$ |
| Food .... ... ... ... ... | ," |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Raw Materials \& semi-Manuf't'es | " |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Manufactures . | ", |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Coal Output (new Reichs area)... | $\begin{gathered} \text { Mn.M.Tons } \\ ", \\ 000 \mathrm{M} . \text { Tons } \\ ", \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 141 \\ 87 \\ 32 \\ 10916 \\ 11466 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 119 \\ 133 \\ 23 \\ 6062 \\ 8292 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 105 \\ 122 \\ 19 \\ 3932 \\ 5745 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 109 \\ 127 \\ 21 \\ 5268 \\ 7583 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 126 \\ 137 \\ 24 \\ 8741 \\ 11882 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 142 \\ 147 \\ 29 \\ 12539 \\ 16084 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 158 \\ 161 \\ 35 \\ 15303 \\ 19148 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 184 \\ 185 \\ 40 \\ 15955 \\ 19816 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 186 \\ 195 \\ 43 \\ 18497 \\ 23219 \end{array}$ |
| Lignite Output ... ... |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Coke ", ... |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Iron ... ... ... |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Steel ... ... ... |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Tbansport- <br> Railway Receipts <br> Goods Traffic $\qquad$ $\qquad$ <br> Passenger Traffic $\qquad$ <br> Shipping (average of arrivals and departures) | $\begin{gathered} \text { Mn. Mks. } \\ ", \\ " \\ 000 \text { Tons } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2256 \\ & 1008 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 3838 \\ & 2308 \\ & 1151 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 2890 \\ 1722 \\ 900 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 2915 \\ 1807 \\ 845 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 3325 \\ 2138 \\ 916 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 3558 \\ 2311 \\ 990 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 3977 \\ & 2621 \\ & 1068 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 4400+ \\ = \end{gathered}$ | - |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | - |
|  |  | 14376 | 20794 | 18190 | 17879 | 18485 | 18421 | 18982 | 19770 | 19100* |

* First 11 months only.
$\dagger$ Estimated.


## ITALY.

## Information communicated by Professor C. OTTOLENGHI, formerly of the Royal University of Turin.

Fanuary 3Ist, 1939.

DURING 1938 Italy continued its internal and colonial development, in spite of the political uneasiness which characterised the year. Twenty thousand peasants were transferred to Lybia to cultivate farms, and much capital has been invested in Ethiopia to develop its resources.

There was a record grain harvest in Italy
in 1938, and the increase in acreage under grain is such that the next harvest is expected to reach 90 Mn . quintals. Also there was a remarkable increase in mineral output, which, according to official returns, showed increases of $36 \%, 22 \%$ and $5.5 \%$ in the years 1935, 1936 and 1937 respectively.

In spite of inevitable fluctuations, the bourse exhibited signs of strength; quotations for

FINANCE.
TRADE.

|  | EXCHANGES. |  |  | SHARES. |  | BANKING. |  |  |  |  |  | IMPORTS. |  |  |  |  | EXPORTS. |  |  | IM- EX. <br> PORTS PORTB |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Value in Italian Lire. |  |  |  |  | Bank of Italy. |  |  |  |  |  | VOLUME. |  |  |  |  | VOLUME. |  |  | VALUE.t |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | ő oi |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \dot{0} \\ & 0 \\ & i \end{aligned}$ | 南 |  |  |  | RNAL <br> DDE <br> ding <br> ious <br> tals. |
|  | $\%$ | \% | \% |  |  | \% | $\%$ | $\%$ | $\%$ |  |  | \% | \% | \% | \% | \% | \% | $\%$ | \% | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Mn. } \\ & \text { lire. } \end{aligned}$ | Mn . lire. |
| 1913 Av. | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |  | $\begin{gathered} 100 \\ \text { (mid } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 100 \\ 1913) \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 100 \\ & \text { (end } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 100 \\ 1913) \end{gathered}$ | $596+$ |  | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 303 | 209 |
| 1924 Av. | 440 | 399 | 119 | 247 | 73 | 1500 | 797 | 1218 | 401 | 605 |  | 117 | 103 | 97 | 184 | 176 | 74 | 128 | 73 | 1615 | 1196 |
| 1933 Av. | 299 | 248 | 75 | 117 | 24 | 724 | 497 | 1259 | 617 | 830 | 80 | 26 | 82 | 109 | 286 | 394 | 48 | 102 | 98 | 618 | 499 |
| 1934 Av. | 224 | 232 | 76.4 | 133 | 35 | 825 | 492 | 992 | 648 | 645 | 87 | 25 | 103 | 92 | 340 | 282 | 26 | 83 | 90 | 639 | 436 |
| 1935 Av . | 232 | 234 | 79.5 83.0 | 145 | 28 | 810 796 |  |  |  | 537 412 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 648 | 445 |
| 1986 Av. | 364 | 369 | 76.6 | 150) | 28 | 796 969 |  |  | 119 | 248 | 108 | 91 | 115 | 82 | 235 | 189 | 28 | 118 | 97 | 500 1153 | 463 869 |
| 1936 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | ** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| JAN...... | 239 | 243 | $82 \cdot 1$ | 150 | 34 | 848 |  |  | 119 | 556 | 93 | 40 | 197 | 133 | 342 | 122 | 40 | 84 | 109 | f 565 | 280 |
| FEB. . ${ }_{\text {MAR. }}$ | 238 | 245 | $82 \cdot 5$ 82.8 | 158 | 30 19 | 769 |  |  | 119 | 482 | 96 | 40 | 197 | 133 | 342 | 122 | 40 | 64 | 109 | \{ 438 | 325 |
| MAR..... | 240 243 | 245 | $82 \cdot 8$ $83 \cdot 1$ | 154 | 19 24 | 710 |  |  | 119 | 506 | 97 97 | 19 | 99 | 11 | 121 | 74 | 13 | 24 | 67 | 443 | 298 |
| MAY ... | 244 | 249 | $83 \cdot 3$ | 154 | 23 | 773 |  |  | 120 | 475 | 98 | 51 | 67 | 9 | 149 | 127 | 5 | 40 | 43 | 439 | 339 |
| JUNE | 244 | 251 | $83 \cdot 3$ | 159 | 34 | 777 |  |  | 120 | 376 | 88 | 37 | 82 | 8 | 242 | 69 | 62 | 58 | 62 | 556 | 495 |
| JULY... | 243 | 251 | 83.5 | 157 | 38 | 905 |  |  | 121 | 520 | 81 | 15 | 62 | 36 | 134 | 106 | 33 | 58 | 94 | 396 | 338 |
| AUG. ... | 243 | 251 | $83 \cdot 3$ | 160 | 46 | 743 |  |  | 122 | 323 | 88 | 11 | 80 | 170 | 342 | 79 | 26 | 53 | 97 | 471 | 487 |
| SEPT.... | 243 | 253 | 83.3 | 162 | 45 | 662 |  |  | 123 | 336 | 99 | 23 | 78 | 113 | 285 | 111 | 35 | 47 | 60 | 467 | 481 |
| OCT. | 364 | $\overline{366}$ | ৪8'2 | 177 | 13 | 872 |  |  | 123 | 338 | 102 | 38 | 78 | 25 | 306 | 90 | 52 | 73 | 108 | 446 | 578 |
| NOV...... | 364 | 365 | $87 \cdot 9$ | 176 | 12 | 750 |  |  | 118 | 276 | 103 | 43 | 74 | 48 | 272 | 85 | 46 | 48 | 97 | 596 | 722 |
| I)EC...... | 364 | 367 | 88.2 | 179 | 22 | 960 | 596 |  | 120 | 321 | 103 | 66 | 80 | 43 | 239 | 85 | 61 | 140 | 109 | 775 | 844 |
| 1937 JAN. | 364 | 367 | $88 \cdot 3$ | 189 | 990 | 1059 |  |  | 120 | 317 | 99 | 96 | 89 | 110 | 266 | 148 | 63 | 93 | 86 | 902 | 662 |
| FEB. | 364 | 366 | $88 \cdot 1$ | 192 | 21 | 890 |  |  | 120 | 317 | 107 | 112 | 94 | 76 | 239 | 159 | 29 | 123 | 108 | 922 | 774 |
| MAR...... | 364 | 365 | 86.9 | 190 | 44 | 1019 |  |  | 117 | 281 | 108 | 155 | 109 | 75 | 282 | 132 | 30 | 122 | 101 | 1082 | 828 |
| APRIL... | 364 | 367 | 85.2 | 196 | 24 | 994 | 581 |  | 116 | 283 | 112 | 152 | 106 | 66 | 307 | 307 | 19 | 138 | 77 | 1243 | 977 |
| MAY | 364 | 369 | 84.9 | 197 | 21 | 850 |  |  | 116 | 221 | 116 | 255 | 120 | 80 | 254 | 238 | 35 | 111 | 60 | 1354 | 848 |
| JUNE.... | 364 | 369 | 84.2 | 200 | 38 | 1026 |  |  | 117 | 277 | 99 | 193 | 120 | 87 | 376 | 265 | 27 | 200 | 92 | 1567 | 1162 |
| JULY | 364 | 370 | 72.0 | 209 | 933 | 1204 |  |  | 117 | 260 | 94 | 80 | 114 | 73 | 246 | 233 | 18 | 71 | 117 | 1112 | 722 |
| AUG.. | 364 | 372 | $70 \cdot 9$ | 215 | 99 | 932 |  |  | 119 | 202 | 102 | 29 | 133 | 73 | 334 | 233 | 13 | 114 | 79 | 1125 | 914 |
| SEP'T. ... | 364 | 370 | $67 \cdot 0$ | 203 | 30 | 894 |  |  | 120 | 178 | 118 | 13 | 131 | 75 | 160 | 148 | 11 | 87 | 142 | 1059 | 812 |
| OCT. ... | 364 | 370 | 63.0 | 197 | 22 | 1014 |  |  | 120 | 223 | 117 | 5 | 133 | 73 | 112 | 148 | 22 | 118 | 79 | 1142 | 851 |
| NOV. | 364 | 372 | $64 \cdot 2$ | 204 | 37 | 871 |  |  | 119 | 224 | 115 | 3 | 123 | 99 | 116 | 143 | 33 | 129 | 98 | 1146 | 846 |
| DEC. ... | 364 | 374 | 64.0 | 205 |  | 880 | 662 |  | 121 | 194 | 112 | 4 | 108 | 93 | 132 | 116 | 33 | 116 | 126 | 1182 | 1032 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 1938 \\ & \text { JAN ...... } \end{aligned}$ | 364 | 374 | 63.0 | 210 | 52 | 969 |  |  | 121 | 225 | 105 | 5 | 99 | 86 | 127 | 143 | 28 | 122 | 97 | 1135 | 824 |
| FEB. . . | 364 | 375 | 62.0 | 222 | 24 | 988 |  |  | 121 | 205 | 113 | 12 | 103 | 97 | 64 | 164 | 32 | 105 | 103 | 998 | 879 |
| MAR..... | 364 | 373 | 59.0 | 209 | 45 | 1037 | 614 |  | 121 | 220 | 115 | 6 | 129 | 99 | 75 | 169 | 68 | 78 | 23 | 1014 | 813 |
| APRIL... | 364 | 372 | $58 \cdot 4$ | 180 | 15 | 1173 |  |  | 120 | 202 | 109 | 9 | 119 | 78 | 78 | 148 | 48 | 80 | 146 | 935 | 843 |
| MAY | 364 | 371 | 53.2 | 169 | 19 | 892 |  |  | 120 | 191 | 109 | 2 | 112 | 78 | 67 | 212 | 50 | 131 | 54 | 885 | 802 |
| JUNE ... | 364 | 370 | 52.6 | 172 | 16 | 1084 |  |  | 120 | 203 | 107 | 19 | 126 | 79 | 95 | 148 | 46 | 96 | 73 | 1088 | 1000 |
| JULY | 364 | 369 | 52.4 | 176 | 15 | 1096 |  |  | 120 | 276 | 91 | 64 | 103 | 64 | 101 | 100 | 19 | 111 | 141 | 876 | 730 |
| AUG...... | 364 | 365 | 51.8 | 175 | 44 | 968 |  |  |  | 174 | 89 | 26 | 116 | 59 | 132 | 159 | 17 | 69 | 136 | 788 | 820 |
| SEPT. ... | 364 364 | 359 357 | $50 \cdot 8$ | 171 | 42 | 959 |  |  |  | 241 | 108 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 755 | 807 |
| NOV..... | 364 | 350 | 498 | 185 | 17 |  |  |  |  | 224 |  | 28 | 115 | 86 | 136 |  |  |  |  | 791 | 798 |
| DEC. ... | 364 | 349 | 49.8 | 182 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| JAN....... | 364 |  |  | 181 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | ** New series \% of 1928. |  |  |  |  |
| Il Average of first 9 months. $\begin{gathered}\text { ¢ Declared values. } \\ \end{gathered}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## FINANCE.



Industrial Shares-
New Capital IssuesBank of Italy -
Other Data-

## NOTES AND SOURCES.

Average daily rate (Direzione generale del Tesoro).
Monthly settling prices for shares of 20 industrial companies on the Milan Bourse (Bolletino della Borsa di Milano)
Investments in new companies (Confederazione generale bancaria)
Deposits on current account and note circulation at end of month.
Savings bank deposits at end of month. From $1936 \%$ of 1928 , previously \% of 1913.
Clearings-total for month.
Bankruptcies (Boll. mensile dell' Istituto centrale ai Statistica-Uficia Statistica del Consiolio pro vinciale dell' Economia di Milano).
PRODUCTION.-
EXTERNAL TRADE. -

Official index number published by the Ministry of Corporations.
Quantities imported and exported per month (Statistica del Commercio spectaie d'importantonee d'esportazione Mro delle Finanze).
Values per month (Boll. mensile dell' Istituto centrale).

|  | shipring． |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | IL． | UNE | N－ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | No |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 詬 |  | \％${ }_{\text {\％}}^{\text {\％}}$ |  |  | ¢ $\stackrel{y}{4}$ $\%$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1913 Av． 1924 Av． 1983 Av． |  | $\begin{aligned} & 345 \\ & \begin{array}{l} 494 \\ 494 \\ 3289 \end{array} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 100 \\ & \begin{array}{l} 108 \\ 258 \end{array} \\ & 264 \end{aligned}$ |  | $\left\lvert\, \begin{aligned} & 100 \\ & 906 \\ & 200\end{aligned}\right.$ | ｜l｜l｜l｜l｜l｜ |  | 100 454 354 |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 100100 \\ & 505 \\ & 5050 \\ & 5050 \end{aligned}$ | 100 672 235 | 100 <br> 527 <br> 275 | $\left[\begin{array}{l} 100 \\ 573 \\ 275 \\ 275 \end{array}\right.$ |  | $\left\lvert\, \begin{aligned} & 10011 \\ & 545 \\ & 392\end{aligned}\right.$ | ［100｜ 10051 | ） |  |
| coin |  | cis | cois | Het |  |  | cis |  |  |  |  | ${ }_{256}^{23}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | （tar | 300 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | cosis |  | ） |  |  |  | － | （inco |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 385 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 0 \\ & 0 \\ & 0 \\ & 3 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 387 \\ & \text { 307 } \\ & \hline 875 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | （1） |  |  |
|  |  | ${ }^{3} 5$ | ${ }_{\substack{364 \\ 364}}^{\substack{31 \\ \hline}}$ | ${ }_{\substack{305 \\ 395}}^{\substack{3 \\ \hline}}$ |  | ${ }_{3}{ }_{31}^{331}$ | ${ }_{\substack{1196 \\ 168}}$ | ${ }_{3}^{435}$ | ${ }_{4}^{487}$ | cole |  |  | $\substack{3.1 \\ 340 \\ 340}$ | $\xrightarrow{\substack{31 \\ 399 \\ 39}}$ | cis |  | （ex | 近 | （tar |
|  |  | ${ }^{399}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 947 |
| EEPT． |  |  |  |  | ${ }_{\substack { 346 \\ \begin{subarray}{c}{34 \\ 4{ 3 4 6 \\ \begin{subarray} { c } { 3 4 \\ 4 } } \\{\hline}\end{subarray}}$ |  |  | 432 | 50 |  |  |  |  | ${ }^{3} 5$ |  |  | （0．2 717 |  | 矿 |
|  |  |  | ${ }_{5}^{306}$ |  | （isi | ${ }_{3}^{312}$ | ${ }_{\substack{193 \\ 193 \\ 193}}$ | ${ }_{4}^{447} 4$ | 505 | 135 | cose | cil |  | $\xrightarrow{351}$ | 永1．18 |  | （20） 77.5 | 3 |  |
| JA |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | cos | ${ }_{4}^{451}$ | $\frac{1}{51595}$ |  |  |  |  | ${ }_{5}^{525}$ |  |  |  |  | （38\％ |  |  |  |  |  |
| ${ }_{\text {che }}^{\text {AREL }}$ |  | ci48 | （is |  |  |  | $\xrightarrow{\substack{29 \\ 24 \\ 20 \\ 20}}$ |  | ¢ ${ }_{5}^{525}$ | ${ }_{\substack{221}}^{231}$ | ${ }^{422} 4888$ | 372 |  | 386 | 5t5 |  |  | ${ }^{10202}$ |  |
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| ， |  |  | ） |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 480 <br> 500 <br> 185 <br> 185 | ${ }_{505}^{405}$ | ${ }_{\substack{586 \\ 568}}^{56}$ |  |  |  | 350 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 950,5 \\ & \hline 554 \\ & \hline 54 \end{aligned}$ |  | \％8 ${ }^{8}$ |  | （19920 |
|  |  | $\underset{\substack{4155 \\ 345}}{4}$ |  |  |  |  | 345 |  |  |  |  |  | 476 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | ${ }_{503}^{503}$ | ${ }^{460}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 61515 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 23 | ${ }^{1112}{ }^{1136}$ | （1248 |
|  | ${ }_{39}$ | $$ | $\begin{aligned} & 0 \\ & 0 \end{aligned}$ |  | ¢998 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | －88 ${ }^{89} 9$ | 1119 | 1129 |
|  | （tit | $\begin{gathered} 490 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | ${ }_{3}^{373} 414$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | ${ }^{334}{ }^{3} 448$ | ${ }_{4}^{465}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | ${ }^{637}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## TRANSPORT． <br> Shipping．－ <br> Railways．－ <br> PRICES WHOLESALE，

PRICES RETAIL．

UNEMPLOYMENT

Monthly Total of Goods passing through Port of Genoa．（Boll．del consorzio autonomo del Porto di Genova－Boll．statistico del comune di Genova）．
Monthly Total of Merchandise sent on the State Railways．（Rivista delle comunicaziont ferroviarie dal Ministero delle Comunicazioni）
Wholesale prices of selected commodities at end of month．（Boll．del consiglio provinciale dell＇Economia di Milano，e Listino ufficiale della Borsa merci del consiolio provinciale dell＇Economia di Genova．）．Indici generali dell＇Istituto centrale di Statistica；Indici Generale－Bachi；Indici particolari－Ottolenghi．
Prices of certain selected goods．（Boll．del Ministero dell＇Economia nazionale）
Index Nos，of the Cost of Living for working－class families（Boll．delle citta di Milano e di
National Insurance．Data for end of month．（Boll，mensile dell＇Istituto centrale di Statistica）．

## Italy]

government securities were maintained or improved. Exchange rates for the sound currencies were steady or declining in terms of lire.

Porulation.-According to the Central Office of Statistics there were 946,600 live births in the first eleven months of 1938 ( 23.6 per 1,000), or 48,400 more than in the corresponding period of 1937 (when the rate was 22.6 per 1,000 ). The death rate was 13.8 compared with 13.9, and the marriage rate 6.9 against 8.9 .

Finance.-As mentioned above exchange rates have declined. The course of the dollar, $£$ and French franc is shown in the table on p. 52 , cols. I-3. The dollar rate was unchanged, sterling declined steadily from 95.3 in February to 89 in December, the French franc from over 62 in February before the devaluation, to 50 in December, and the Swiss franc from 441 in February to 429 in December.

Apart from external monetary influences, the reductions were affected by the reduction in the trade balance. The value of the lira in relation to its 1927 gold parity (base 1929100\%), as calculated by the Fascist Industrial Confederation, was 56 throughout the year.

Movements in security prices were as
follows :-

|  |  | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. | May |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | June

[^12]In interpreting these figures it is necessary to bear in mind the great additions to the capital outstanding, which naturally in some months depressed quotations.

In 1938 there were large augmentations of capital such that total investments which in October, 1937, amounted to 47.6 Md., had increased to 52.7 Md . in October, 1938.

In the savings banks, deposits in those other than the post office diminished in the first nine months of the year from 19 to 18 Md., but on the contrary those in the post office reached high figures, rising in the same period from 25.9 to 27.4 Md .

Bankruptcies continue to be very few, not only owing to the business situation, but also on account of the structure of the corporative system. In the last three months-September to November-they numbered 241, 247 and 224 with total liabilities 78 Md . lire.

Production.-The national index of industrial production showed the following movements in 1938. Up to March it rose from ros to 114.7, and then declined seasonally to a minimum of 89 in August. In September it recovered to io8. In addition to the total index, there are the following details. The output of electricity for the first nine months of 1938 was II,254 Kwh., or an increase of 356 Kwh . compared with the corresponding period of 1937. The output of steel in the first ten months of 1938 was $2,136,000$ tons, or 198,000 more than in 1937 ; that of pig-iron and of steel sheets also showed increases.

In the same two periods the output of benzine rose from 255 to 358 thousand tons or by $40 \%$, refined petrol by $16 \%$, residual fuel oil $43 \%$ and petrol coke by $10.8 \%$.

In the first ten months, natural silk output showed a reduction from 2,202 to 2,126 tons from 1937 to 1938, chiefly owing to adverse weather, but that of cellulose showed a slight increase from 30 to 33 thousand tons, and rayon yarn and waste rose from ioi to 107 thousand. The total of all artificial fibres rose from Ior,660 to $\mathrm{I} 07, \mathrm{I} 50$ tons.

Also there was an increase in the production of lignite from 455 to $\mathrm{I}, \mathrm{II} 4$ thousand tons, that of gas coke from 483 to 522 thousand tons.

External Trade and Transport.-In 1938 Italy found herself faced with the great problem of reducing imports and increasing exports, following autarkic principles, and to reduce the adverse trade balance to protect the value of the lira. In the table on p. 52, cols. 20 and 21 will be found the monthly value of imports and exports in the first eleven months of the past year.

It will be seen that imports have definitely decreased and there has recently been an upward tendency in exports. In eleven months the aggregate value of imports was $10,043 \mathrm{Mn}$. lire in 1938 and $12,675 \mathrm{Mn}$. in 1937, and that of exports $9,265 \mathrm{Mn}$. compared with $9,405 \mathrm{Mn}$. The considerable reduction in imports was largely due to grain, of which only 259,000 tons worth 200 Mn . lire were imported, compared with 1,652,000 tons worth $1,387 \mathrm{Mn}$. lire in 1937. The increase in exports was chiefly in fresh fruit ( $2,023,000$ quintals compared with $1,791,000$ ), and in raw silk ( 22,000 quintals worth 300 Mn . lire, compared with 18,000 worth 236 Mn .). Reduced exports occurred chiefly in cotton yarn and tissues ( 520,000 quintals worth 790 Mn . lire, in place of 629,000 worth 928 Mn .), artificial fibres ( $34,785 \mathrm{Mn}$. Kg.
worth 436 Mn . lire, compared with 41,594 worth 532 Mn .), and motor cars (value 232 Mn . lire, instead of 595 Mn .).

The following table shows the value of Italian trade with four important countries in the first eleven months of 1937 and 1938 in Mn . lire :-

|  | Imports |  |  |  | Exports |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | :---: |
|  |  | 1937 | 1938 |  | 1937 | 1938 |  |
| Germany | $\ldots$ | 2895 | 2713 | $\ldots$ | 1592 | 1787 |  |
| U.S.A. ... | 1398 | 1204 | $\ldots$ | 715 | 696 |  |  |
| U.K. | 1398 | 620 | $\ldots$ | 593 | 523 |  |  |
| France $\ldots$. | $\ldots$ | 437 | 223 | $\ldots$ | 402 | 290 |  |

Wholesale Prices.-Price control in accordance with corporative principles has prevented excessive variation which would have arisen under free trade as a result of the general economic situation. This is evident from the following quarterly averages for 1938 for (a) general index ; (b) raw materials ; (c) foodstuffs.

| Qrs. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |  |  |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $(a)$ | $94 \cdot 2$ | $95 \cdot 3$ | $95 \cdot 8$ | $97 \cdot 0$ |  |  |
| $(b)$ | $90 \cdot 8$ | $91 \cdot 3$ | $90 \cdot 9$ | $92 \cdot 5^{*}$ |  |  |
| (c) | $90 \cdot 0$ | $91 \cdot 5$ | $92 \cdot 2$ | $93 \cdot 8^{*}$ |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | \# Oct.-Nov. |

## BELGIUM.

## Information communicated by l'Institut des Sciences économiques, University of Louvain.

February 3rd, 1939.

IN spite of certain signs of recovery, or at least of an arrest of the decline, economic conditions in Belgium, as in Europe generally, show the depressing effects upon business of the prevailing political tension.

This is most evident in the security markets, which, in face of ample capital supplies, remain dull. The firm tone of last October and November has given place to a slow decline during the last two months. At the beginning of January the index of share prices had returned to the low level of August, standing at 43.8 ( $1928-3 \mathrm{I}=100 \%$ ), though it was still higher than the 1938 low point of April. Fixed-interest securities have been firmer, with the exception of the rentes, which have returned to the level of the beginning of September and October. This was the lowest of the year, apart from the altogether exceptional level of the end of September.

Conditions in the money market remain easy. The treasury bill rate, which stood at $2.18 \%$ at the end of October, declined to $1.51 \%$ in January. The increase in the gold reserve of the Banque Nationale and the firmness of the belga on the foreign exchanges, give evidence of the return of large amounts of capital to Belgium since September.

The indices of industrial activity appear to reflect a paradoxical situation. Whereas the total index of production has risen, the number of unemployed has increased by an amount too large to be wholly due to seasonal influences. But it is to be understood that this could account for at most a slight worsening of the situation.

The explanation of the contradictory movement of these indices lies in the fact that the index of production does not include certain important branches of activity, such as building. Moreover, the increase in output affects those branches, notably the metal industries, where the proportion of labour to other factors of production is low, whereas in those industries where it is high output has declined.

The textile industry, although it has participated in this improvement, is faced with great difficulties. This is partly due to the effect of the depreciation of sterling and of the French franc on selling prices, and partly to the inelasticity of costs caused by internal influences.

The coal industry is maintaining activity at a level not far short of the maximum registered in 1938, but only by increasing stocks considerably.

The latest statistics of foreign trade show an interesting increase, confirming the rise in the index of industrial production. Imports show a slight upward tendency, but exports have increased to such an extent that the balance of payments is active, which is an unusual condition for Belgium. Although it is below the 1937 level, foreign trade is still running at above the average of 1936.

The structure of prices in Belgium is at present characteristic of depression and is not out of line with the general situation abroad. In January retail prices returned to the level of October, the index standing at 769 , which was higher than pre-September levels in 1938. On the other hand the index of wholesale prices fell from 617 in October to 607 in December.

|  |  |  |  |  |  | ーがッた ఆ్య $p p p p p$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { H } \\ & \text { © } \\ & \text { O } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { ↔} \\ & 0 \\ & 0 \\ & \text { p } \\ & 4 \\ & : \end{aligned}$ | so Share Prices． |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| WONWONOM | WWWHONP | 今口号 |  | NिOMONON | WOWAPAW | \＃WWWN ZWNW |  | $\sim$ |  |  |  |
| 「NָNい |  |  | F－WNONTN | ふたがNがN かけのजの氏 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { NNTNかN } \\ & \text { ONA } \end{aligned}$ | Nだっだった |  | N |  |  |  |
| Noc |  | च® |  |  | FGNMNA |  |  | co |  | New Capital Issues．$\dagger$ |  |
|  |  | NONONM W8ロN心 OWDOMN |  | さかっためコロ <br>  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { NANWん } \\ & \text { \& No } \\ & \text { Now } \end{aligned}$ | N | cis |  | Current Deposits． |  |
| NNNNO <br> NばNた。 | ONNNNN <br> プパージ |  | NTNNNN NN్NTMN工 |  | NNNNTNO जजNGMC |  | व゙ | $0^{0}$ | 38 | Note Issue． | R2 |
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| N్ర్ల్యియ |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { OMG NA } \\ & \text { NGM } \end{aligned}$ | ¢ | जल心 |  | Raw Materials． | （x） |
| ద్రిం | $\infty_{\infty}^{\infty} \underbrace{\infty}_{1}$ <br> 엉ㅋNOO |  |  | COMOMOMNOM <br> OUGOMAGM | N. |  | A ${ }_{\text {c }}$ | FN |  | Manufactures． | 10 0 10 $\square$ |
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| GNONN WMOHON |  | MONTNNT <br>  |  | NMNNNN AGMONOO | GNNNMN WNNWNOAN | NNONTNO | ¢ | ちら |  | Coal Output． |  |
| NNNON WOMOCO |  | कणNM |  |  | NNNNNT かMNOOO |  | F | ¢ुل |  | Coal Stocks． | 号 |
|  |  | Nawora <br>  | WHWNNN <br> ANTOOOMJ | NNNNNN ๙o゚ | $\square \mathrm{NNON}$ <br> コNコヨココか | GNNON GNNWO | N | No\％ | \％ | Pig－iron Output． |  |
| जु介 |  |  | 今』忒忒 のたNG゚N |  <br>  | WWWRNW <br> に電NON |  | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{F} \\ & \mathrm{C} \end{aligned}$ | 앙 | \％ | Railway Wagons Loaded． |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | co | N0 | $Z$ 0 0 | Unemployment． Days lost per 1,000 workers per week． |  |

Dates of Series．－Cols．1，2，1st of month；4，5，4th－10th；6，7，Average；8，Average second half of month；9，15th； 16 ，for 25 working days ； 17，at end of month or year；18，30－day month；19，calendar month．
Ministry of Labour index for 3rd category budgets
Net issues since Jan．． 1931.
i March－December．

Among the various wholesale prices, however, it is noticeable that coal and agricultural prices have remained firm. This is due to the Government's policy with regard to coal mining and agriculture.

As in our last report, our conclusion is that the general situation is stable at a fairly depressed
level. The present situation is not worse than that of the spring of 1938. It is true that the pressure upon prices persists, but it is quite moderate. The increase of production in the basic industries shows that general business activity has suffered no further contraction as a result of the development of prices.

## NETHERLANDS.

## (Joint report from the Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek and the Netherlands Economic Institute.)

FOURTH QUARTER, 1938.

Fanuary 23 rd, 1939.

THE trend of business has been rather hesitating during the fourth quarter of 1938.

The reaction which took place in the second half of 1937 and the first half of 1938, after the revival of 1936-7, was superseded by a slight recovery during the summer months. The evidence at our disposal, however, is not sufficient to permit of an estimate regarding the scope of the recovery. The uncertainty was emphasised in the fourth quarter.

The labour market showed some improvement. So far as the demand side is concerned, this is largely due to increased government orders. Offers declined, as a greater number of men have been kept under the colours and opportunities for work in Germany increased. Yet unemployment remains considerable. Improvement in some industries was partly offset by deterioration in others.

Production of capital goods was generally maintained. Imports of machines were rather high, but on the whole imports of raw materials were under the 1937 level. It is, however, very probable that large portions of the goods imported in that year were for stock, which might account for the lower figures of 1938. Activity in the metal trades was satisfactory. Apart from shipbuilding, where the outlook is definitely worse though the tonnage under construction is still considerable, the improvement in most other departments has been maintained.

Building slackened somewhat in the summer, but recovered afterwards, as is shown by the number of houses commenced, seasonally adjusted. On the whole, activity in this trade was satisfactory and better than in 1936 and 1937.

The general stationariness of the business situation was reflected by conditions in the consumption goods industries. Some improvement is shown in the foodstuffs, woollen and clothing trades, but output seems chiefly for the home market as exports have been generally declining.

Agricultural conditions, after a conspicuous improvement till midsummer, have since been deteriorating considerably in nearly every branch. Both prices and exports of many agricultural products were unsatisfactory in the last quarter of the year. Cattle breeding suffered heavy losses from foot and mouth disease, and the severe frost was highly detrimental to horticulture.

The increase in exports which began in the first quarter of 1938 came to an end in the fourth, when exports to most countries were lower than in the corresponding period of 1937. Exports to the U.S.A., however, were slightly better. On the whole, no great importance can be attached to the small rise in total exports which did not attain the level of the foregoing year. In imports, too, the slump was superseded by a slight increase.

The small and only partial improvement in the shipping situation was not maintained. Some indices even show a reaction. The fall of the sterling exchange rate constitutes an adverse factor from the point of view of competition, but, generally speaking, it seems that our country could well maintain its position. Prospects, however, are not so favourable. The quantity of transit goods from the sea up the Rhine showed some increase, owing to increased activity in Germany. Down-stream traffic, however, has been decreasing.

|  | STOCKS \& SHARES. |  |  | BANK OF THE NETHERLANDS. |  |  | MONEY. |  | PRICES. |  | TRADE, OUTPUT, EMPLOYMENT, |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \dot{5} \\ & \text { E } \\ & \text { E } \\ & \text { © } \\ & \text { O } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Index No. of imported } \\ & \text { Materials (net). } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  | Output of Coal. |  |
|  | $\begin{gathered} 1921 / 25 \\ =100 \end{gathered}$ | $\mathrm{Mn} .$ | $\begin{aligned} & 0000 \\ & \text { G1d. } \end{aligned}$ |  | Mn. Gla |  | \% | \% | $\left\lvert\, \begin{gathered} 1930 \\ =100 \end{gathered}\right.$ | Oct. 23 - <br> Sep. 24 $=100$ |  |  | $\begin{gathered} 1922 / 25 \\ =100 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \% \text { of } \\ 1925-7 \end{gathered}$ | Mn. tons. | $000$ | $000$ | \% |
| 1913 Av. |  |  |  | 316 |  | $4 \cdot 8$ | 4.65 |  |  | $\dagger$ |  |  |  |  |  |  | 156 |  |
| 1924 Av... | 90 | 28 | 30 | 975 | 2331 | 38 | 4.94 | 3.96 |  |  | 197 | 138 | 102 | 85 | 3.57 |  | 490 | 8.8 |
| 1933 Av... | 35 | 22 | 28 | 926 | 1445 | 175 | 2.87 | $1 \cdot 11$ | $62 \cdot 9$ | $78 \cdot 9$ | 101 | 60 | 112 | 57 | 3.21 | 365 | 1049 | 27.8 |
| 1934 Av... | 32 | 22 | 27 | 891 | 1444 | 132 | $2 \cdot 50$ | - 87 | 63.0 | $73 \cdot 1$ | 87 | 59 | 111 | 63 | 3.95 | 329 | 1028 | $28.0 \S{ }^{\text {c }}$ |
| 1935 Av. | $30 \cdot 4$ | 3 | 26 | 819 | 1542 | 59 | $3 \cdot 99$ | $3 \cdot 15$ | 61.5 | $77 \cdot 1$ | 78 | 56 | 107 | 65 | $4 \cdot 10$ | 253 | 990 | 31.7 |
| 1936 Av... | $35 \cdot 3 a$ | 13 | 49 | 760 | 1564 | 78 | $2 \cdot 84$ | 1.73 | $63 \cdot 8$ | $75 \cdot 0$ | 85 | 62 | 116 | 63 | $4 \cdot 86$ | 243 | 1067 | 32.7 |
| 1937 Av... | 66.0 | 6 | 75 | 818 | 1863 | 498 | 2 | -28 | $76 \cdot 1$ | $77 \cdot 7$ | 129 | 96 | 147 | 84 | 6.19 | 256 | 1193 | 26.9 |
| 1936 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| JAN.... | 36.0 37.2 | 66 1 | 42 | 763 | 1425 | 62 58 | 3.24 2.55 | 2.39 1.27 | $62 \cdot 4$ 62.0 | 7 | 79 | 50 | 110 | 51 | 6.02 | 243 | 1058 | 37.8 36.6 |
| MAR | $35 \cdot 7$ | - | 29 | 762 | 1222 | 73 | $2 \cdot 50$ | 1.21 | 61.5 |  | 79 | 55 | 113 | 60 | $4 \cdot 26$ | 262 | 1015 | 33.9 |
| APRIL | $34 \cdot 2$ | 1 | 28 | 759 | 1137 | 88 | 2.50 | 1.16 | $61 \cdot 1$ |  | 81 | 57 | 120 | 60 | 4.61 | 237 | 1020 | 32.5 |
| MAY | $33 \cdot 5$ | - | 30 | 764 | 1488 | 80 | 2.56 | 2.17 | 61.0 | $74 \cdot 2$ | 76 | 53 | 115 | 52 | 4.59 | 224 | 979 | $31 \cdot 7$ |
| JUNE | $34 \cdot 4$ | - | 29 | 752 | 1529 | 42 | 4.28 | 4.02 | 61.6 |  | 77 | 53 | 110 | 52 | 4.01 | 245 | 985 | 31.1 |
| JULY..... | $34 \cdot 9$ | - | 32 | 747 | 1643 | 50 | 3.10 | 2.04 | $62 \cdot 3$ |  | 80 | 60 | 103 | 62 | 5.74 | 219 | 1120 | 31.4 |
| AUG....... | $35 \cdot 7$ | 3 | 23 | 744 | 1333 | 54 | 3.00 | 1.36 | $62 \cdot 7$ | $74 \cdot 7$ | 82 | 63 | 108 | 59 | 4.93 | 219 | 1077 | $30 \cdot 9$ |
| SEPT. | $36.2{ }^{\circ}$ | 3 | 44 | 761 | 1379 | 77 | 3.00 | 1.32 | $62 \cdot 6$ |  | 82 | 72 | 112 | 76 | 4.47 | 237 | 1131 | 31.0 |
| OC'T. | $48 \cdot 4$ | 4 | 133 | 765 | 1856 | 69 | $2 \cdot 83$ | 1.95 | 68.2 | $75 \cdot 5$ | 92 | 76 | 120 | 82 | 5.00 | 272 | 1182 | 31.1 |
| NOV. | $54 \cdot 9$ | 55 | 99 | 775 | 1963 | 102 | 2.50 | -96 | 69.5 | 75.8 | 101 | 77 | 129 | 75 | $4 \cdot 86$ | 248 | 1141 | 31.2 |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { DEC. ...... } \\ 1937 \end{gathered}$ | 56.5 | 21 | 54 | 777 | 2294 | 178 | 2.03 | -82 | 71.0 | $75 \cdot 5$ | 114 | 80 | 148 | 75 | 5.28 | 273 | 1134 | $32 \cdot 7$ |
| JAN. . | $64 \cdot 4$ | 7 | 94 | 780 | 2121 | 204 | 2 | 62 | 73.0 | 75.9 d | 106 | 73 | 149 | 66 | 5•32 | 233 | 1096 | $34 \cdot 3$ |
| FEB. | $68 \cdot 7$ | 11 | 115 | 772 | 1596 | 259 | 2 | -41 | 74.0 | $75 \cdot 8$ | 105 | 79 | 152 | 74 | $5 \cdot 45$ | 246 | 1090 | $31 \cdot 9$ |
| MAR. | $71 \cdot 7$ | 3 | 106 | 786 | 1805 | 296 | 2 | - 31 | 76.0 | 76.0 | 125 | 94 | 152 | 77 | $5 \cdot 98$ | 267 | 1228 | 29.5 |
| APRIL | $69 \cdot 4$ | 20 | 78 | 792 | 2039 | 318 | 2 | -25 | $77 \cdot 1$ | $77 \cdot 0$ | 142 | 101 | 157 | 95 | 6.82 | 261 | 1208 | 26.5 |
| MAY | $66 \cdot 5$ | 2 | 46 | 812 | 1598 | 462 | 2 | -25 | 76.7 | $77 \cdot 1$ | 128 | 90 | 158 | 90 | 6.05 | 239 | 1090 | $24 \cdot 5$ |
| JUNE | 65.2 | 6 | 61 | 805 | 1680 | 567 | 2 | - 25 | 76.3 | $78 \cdot 1$ | 140 | 95 | 158 | 85 | 6.46 | 255 | 1207 | $23 \cdot 4$ |
| JULY | $67 \cdot 9$ | 2 | 77 | 825 | 2138 | 554 | 2 | - 22 | 77.5 | 78.5 | 146 | 102 | 166 | 86 | 6.48 | 264 | 1246 | 23.9 |
| AUG.. | 726 | 6 | 59 | 822 | 1460 | 598 | 2 | -19 | $77 \cdot 6$ | $78 \cdot 7$ | 122 | 98 | 151 | 82 | 6.47 | 248 | 1209 | 24.0 |
| SEPT | 68.5 | 3 | 73 | 829 | 1659 | 581 | 2 | 20 | 76.9 | 78.5 | 130 | 113 | 135 | 90 | 5.71 | 250 | 1238 | $23 \cdot 9$ |
| OCT. | $60 \cdot 1$ | 10 | 78 | 864 | 2258 | 674 | 2 | -20 | 77.0 | 791 | 149 | 106 | 123 | 91 | $7 \cdot 46$ | 285 | 1260 | 24.5 |
| NOV...... | 58.0 | 4 | 24 | 873 | 2169 | 778 | 2 | -24 | $76 \cdot 3$ | $79 \cdot 1$ | 130 | 98 | 128 | 89 | 5.62 | 268 | 1225 | 26.6 |
| DEC....... | $59 \cdot 1$ | 1 | 87 | 858 | 1835 | 688 | 2 | 24 | 75.6 | 78.9 | 128 | 98 | 139 | 84 | 6.41 | 254 | 1224 | $29 \cdot 8$ |
| 1938 JAN. . | $62 \cdot 0$ | 3 | 44 | 860 | 1721 | 591 | 2 | 19 | $75 \cdot 2$ | 78.7 | 119 | 82 | 141 | 74 | 6.14 | 245 | 1158 | 31.9 |
| FEB. | 61.5 | 3 | 42 | 869 | 1440 | 718 | 2 | '16 | 74.2 | 78.5 | 118 | 82 | 144 | 73 | $5 \cdot 15$ | 208 | 1041 | 29.7 |
| MAR | $60 \cdot 0$ | 4 | 55 | 888 | 1553 | 820 | 2 | 16 | $73 \cdot 2$ | 78.1 | 120 | 90 | 132 | 80 | $5 \cdot 95$ | 232 | 1239 | 26.8 |
| APRIL ... | $58 \cdot 1$ | 0 | 29 | 908 | 1412 | 839 | 2 | -16 | $72 \cdot 5$ | 78.2 | 115 | 81 | 123 | 76 | 6.15 | 217 | 1112 | $24 \cdot 8$ |
| MAY ...... | 58.4 | 1 | 29 | 420 | 1537 | 739 | 2 | -16 | 71.3 | 78.7 | 110 | 83 | 112 | 74 | 5.72 | 244 | 1086 | 23.9 |
| JUNE ... | $57 \cdot 8$ | 4 | 31. | 906 | 1477 | 807 | 2 | 18 | 71.6 | $79 \cdot 5$ | 119 | 81 | 111 | 77 | 6.06 | 253 | 1029 | $22 \cdot 9$ |
| JULY ... | $61 \cdot 3$ | 3 |  |  | 1630 | 771 | 2 | '19 | $71 \cdot 3$ | 78.5 | 120 | 78 | 113 | 71 | 6.21 | 253 | 1136 | 22.3 |
| AUG...... | $61 \cdot 2$ | 2 | 23 | 912 | 1512 | 730 | 2 | -19 | $70 \cdot 8$ | $78 \cdot 3$ | 116 | 90 | 121 | 72 | $7 \cdot 20$ | 260 | 1126 | 21.8 |
| SEPT. ... | 58.5 | 3 | 32 | 1005 | 1709 | 648 | 2 | 42 | $70 \cdot 5$ | 78.5 | 117 | 101 | 120 | 84 | 6.66 | 272 | 1086 | 21.8 21.9 |
| OCT. ...... | 61.8 | 4 | 42 | 1033 | 1451 | 658 | 2 | -31 | $70 \cdot 9$ | 78.4 | 127 | 98 |  | 80 92 | 6.81 6.50 |  | 1143 | 21.9 23.3 |
| NOV....... | $62 \cdot 3$ $61 \cdot 8$ | 6 5 | 41 | 994 978 | 1717 1516 | 726 | 2 | -20 | 70.2 70.6 | 77.9 78.4 | 119 117 | 82 92 |  | 92 73 | 6.50 6.46 |  | 1143 1161 | $23 \cdot 3$ |
| * Jan. to June figures include Pernis and Vonderlingerplaat. <br> §\$ New Series, excluding Agriculture. <br> * Amsterdam. + Without gold \& silver, bullion \& cash. t+ Last month of Quarter. © Up to Sept. 27th when gold standard was abandoned. <br> § \{ Number of days lost divided by total number of possible working days. Trade Union members only. <br> \{ Note.-Pottery and Agriculture not always included. <br> a First 9 months. <br> f Based on new index in 1987. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

The slump in wholesale prices during the first three quarters of the year was checked. Prices of raw materials continued to decline, but prices of food products were a little higher. Prices of manufactured goods remained practically unchanged. There was hardly any change in the cost of living.

The level of income and consumption was still satisfactory, doubtless owing to the favourable years 1936 and 1937. This, obviously, constitutes a favourable factor for the home market.

Great ease and general dullness were still predominant features of the money market. Capital issues were rather low and money rates, after a temporary rise in September, fell back to the former level.

The general impression is one of stagnation in many spheres without definite indications for the better or for the worse. In view of the influences now at work, it is hardly probable that this phase has already been overcome.

Surveying the general background against which the business situation of the Netherlands is developing, some rather favourable factors may be detected, though others may suggest the probable continuance of the prevailing uncertainty.

A favourable factor of the first order is clearly the revival in the U.S.A. which, after its commencement in June, 1938, has been proceeding at a fair pace. (Though of late growing uncertainty may be noted.) In England, too, a slight recovery is noticeable. Developments in these countries are very important for the economic situation in the Netherlands. In
the case of England the influence is more direct while the situation in the U.S.A. reacts rather through the intermediacy of the international business situation. More particularly the situation in our colonies is closely connected with that in the U.S.A., the U.S.A. being an important buyer of their products. Of course, as there is a certain lag between the changes in the international business situation and adjustment to this in our country, one may perhaps expect that the influence of the recovery in the U.S.A. has yet to make itself largely felt here.

Another positive factor is the greater governmental activity with regard to public works and armaments, the stimulating influences of which, both direct and indirect, are not to be overlooked. Moreover, as an after-effect of the revival in 1936 and 1937, there is still much buying power on the home market, which may perhaps equalise the influence of possibly adverse factors.

The latter may be seen, first, in the political tension throughout the world. Then, it should be kept in mind that the revival in the U.S.A. has been of too short duration as yet to have any appreciable influence on business life here. Moreover, this revival, based mainly on Government expenditure, is still problematic in many respects.

Another factor, tending to delay the conformation of developments in this country to those in the U.S.A., is the fall in sterling in the last quarter of 1938 which may be detrimental to our shipping position and our exports. With regard to the latter, the export campaigns both from the side of Germany and of England will possibly prove equally detrimental.

## POLAND.

Information supplied by the Polish Institute for Economic Research.

## THE ECONOMIC SITUATION OF POLAND IN OCTOBER-DECEMBER, 1938.

## Fanuary 30th, 1939.

A$S$ a result of political events, there were large withdrawals of deposits from credit institutions in September, 1938, especially of savings belonging to small depositors. During that month some $10 \%$ of total deposits were withdrawn. At the same time there was a great demand for credits. The Bank of Poland came to the aid of the banks in this difficult situation, and considerably extended its discount and collateral credits, thus enabling the banks to
overcome the temporary difficulties without any important friction arising in the functioning of the credit system. However, this caused monetary circulation to rise by about $25 \%$ to a record level of 2 Md . zlotys. The atmosphere of unrest which prevailed during that time had, however, no marked effect on stock prices.

The clearing up of the political situation at the beginning of October caused a general return of confidence. During the period under review, the money market again became more

liquid. Deposits began to return to the banks and, as may be judged from the figures available for December, total deposits at the end of 1938 will have exceeded the figure registered at the end of August, i.e., before the withdrawals started. At the same time, the demand for credits decreased, enabling the banks to reduce their indebtedness to the Bank of Poland, so that there was also a considerable reduction of the Bank's credits and of monetary circulation. The gold and foreign currency reserves of the Bank of Poland showed a definite increase, due to an active balance of trade during the period under review, rising from zl. 45 I Mn . at the end of September, to zl. 463 Mn . at the end of December.

The index of bond prices rose from 98.7 in September to 100.2 in December, remaining a little below the August figure of IO2.6. On the other hand, the index of industrial stock prices rose well above the August level of 46.9 ; in September it was 45.2 and in December it reached 49.0 . This is principally due to the favourable development of industrial production, which took place in the quarter under review.

The general index of wholesale prices was unchanged. The slight downward movement in the prices of grain and of livestock continued. At the same time there was an insignificant rise of the index of industrial goods, which was mainly the effect of a seasonal rise in the price
of timber. The cost of living and wages did no show any important changes.

Public investments and industrial investments remained at a high level. Building activity increased considerably, mainly as a result of amendments to the existing building regulations. During the first half of the year, this had had a restrictive influence on building activity. Its increase towards the end of the year is due to the fact that, from January Ist, 1939, new buildings do not benefit from tax exemptions to the same extent as before.

Industrial production continued to show a slight rising trend. For the period under review the general index of industrial production was 120.3, as compared to 119.5 for July-September, 1938 ; thus, there was a rise of about $\mathrm{I} \%$ from the third to the fourth quarter of 1938. Owing to the high level of building activity there was a larger rise in the production of producers' goods than in that of consumers' goods.

Imports remained at a high level, and showed only a slight seasonal drop from zl. 321 Mn . in July-September to zl. 316 Mn . in OctoberDecember. Simultaneously, exports rose from zl. 283 Mn . to zl. 346 Mn . This large increase is mainly due to a rise of grain exports. Thus, there was an excess of exports of zl. 30 Mn ., as compared to an excess of imports of zl. 39 Mn . during the preceding quarter.

## CANADA.

Information communicated by Prof. D. C. MACGREGOR, of the University of Toronto

## ANNUAL SURVEY.

## Toronto, fanuary 20th, 1939.

IN December, 1937, and the first quarter of 1938 was decisively registered a downturn in most series, the stability of retail sales and bank credit being an important exception. Although most rapid in the first quarter, the downward movement persisted until the early summer. Over this period the value of construction contracts increased. In comparison with the United States the decline was delayed and of small proportions, notwithstanding the supposed importance of movements in the security markets which necessarily paralleled those in New York. The cumulative aspects of recession have had scarcely enough time to manifest themselves, but recent downturns of exports to other parts of the Empire and a marked
decline in retail sales in rural areas of Canada are significant.

At the end of the summer signs of an upturn became noticeable, and a definite improvement had been registered in a number of series before the end of the year. In comparison with years before 1937 the price structure appears to justify a larger industrial output than is currently reported from most industries.

Available monthly data indicate that the national money income for 1938 was at least $5 \%$ below 1937. The sharpest losses of income were in the forest industries, woods operations and newsprint output having been sharply curtailed. Income from wheat was no larger, if as large, in the aggregate, but was much more evenly distributed than for some years owing to higher

Canada]


Dates of Series : Cols. 4, 5, 16-18, end of month; 1-2, 6-9, averages. Source : Dominion Bureau of Statistics.
Notes on Series
Col. 1.-"Investors' Index." Index of current market valuation of shareholders' equity in about 100 companies.
2.-Weighted index of yield to maturity or call date (whichever gives lowest) of 6 taxable federal issues maturing in not less than 7 years.
3.-From 32 banking centres, comprising about $85 \%$ of total debits. Excludes debits to accounts of central bank since its founding in April, 1935. Largely influenced by financial transactions.
4.-Refers to operations in Canada only. Includes loans to pro vincial and municipal governments.
,, 5.-Includes governmental deposits. Excludes all deposits with provincial, postal and Quebec savings banks, and with trust companies.
6-9.-Col. 6 comprises 70 items ; col. 7, 322 items ; col. 8, 567 items; col. 9 comprises separate groups for food, fuel, rent, clothing, sundries (including services)
11.-Excludes most exports of both monetary and non-monetary gold ; includes gold in small quantities only, shipped as dust, quartz, etc.
12.-Comprises "animal products" and "vegetable products" groups : includes partly and fully manufactured products in
some cases made from imported raw materials, e.g., rubber products
Col. 13.-Adjusted for seasonal variation. Includes 41 weighted series largely representing foreign trade in raw materials. Tends to overstate amplitude of cyclical fluctuations, probably with an upward bias
14.-Based on value of contracts awarded, deflated annually for changes in union rates of wages, and monthly for changes in prices of building materials.
15.-Revenue freight only; excludes cars received from U.S. connections.
16. - Index of value, comprising 13 groups adjusted for number of business days and for seasonal variation. Refers to department, " variety," and chain stores only, representing chiefly urban sales. Base-Av. $1930=100 \%$. Monthly series commenced January, 1929. Annual estimates from 1923.
17.-Includes workers on relief projects.
19.-Establishments with over 15 employees only. Includes parttime workers on same basis as full-time. Excludes farm labourers and civil servants, and underweights the service industries.
yields. Other crops were generally plentiful. Exports to the United States were naturally the first to decline in value. The decline in sales to Great Britain was registered more gradually, but still persists. Sales to other Empire countries continued to expand until the autumn, but the depression has now extended to this group also. Meanwhile sales to the United States have risen above those of a year ago. The continued shrinkage of imports has, however, been the major factor in the steady expansion of the positive visible balance.

Tourist exports to the United States fell, perhaps $8 \%$. International movements of existing securities departed farther from balance than in 1937, sales exceeding purchases by $\$_{36} \mathrm{Mn}$. in the first II months. All in all the foreign exchange position remains highly satisfactory. Canada's historic position as an arsenal of the Empire is being revived, in terms of base metals, aircraft and possibly oil, while her importance as a source of foodstuffs diminishes.

PRICE STRUCTURE.- Further readjustment of the price structure took place during the year, as indicated in the accompanying table.* It will be noted that the most recent figures present relationships closely resembling those at June, 1936, just prior to the rise of prices which culminated in April, 1937, the principal differences being the persistence of somewhat higher levels of manufacturers' selling prices, retail prices and construction materials. The relationship of export to import prices is now less favourable from the Canadian standpoint than in the middle of 1936.

| \% of 1926. | June 1936 | $\begin{gathered} \text { Dec. } \\ 1936 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { April } \\ 1937 \end{gathered}$ | Nov. 1938 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Manufacturers' costs for materials | 62.9 | 77.6 | 87.1 | 60.9 |
| Manufacturers' selling prices: fully and chiefly manuf'tured goods | 71.9 | 77.3 | 80.5 | 74.0 |
| Wholesale prices of consumers' goods ... | 73.7 | 76.9 | 78.9 | 74.8 |
| Retail prices of consumers' goods (excludes rent)... | 74.8 | 77.1 | 78.0 | 78.6 |
| Export prices... | 62.5 | 75.7 | 83.8 | 60.7 |
| Import prices... | 78.4 | 83.4 | 94.5 | 82.5 |
| Cost of Building and construction mat'ls | 84.8 | 88.0 | 97.9 | 89.3 |
| Interest rates on high grade bonds* | 66.9 | 64.1 | 73.2 | 61.5 |
| Rent of dwellings ... | 83.8 | 84.9 | 84.9 | 90.1 |

* On the comparative rigidity of the interest rate on small mortgages, which is more relevant to the cost of private building thin the above figures, see Can. J1. of Econ. \& Polit Science, August, 1937.

[^13]DISTRIBUTION.-The maintenance of the value of retail trade (excluding automobiles) at or near the high levels of 1937, at a time when measures of exports, production and employment were falling, was the most interesting exception to the downward movement and in marked contrast with the decline of retail trade in 1929-30.

After allowance for seasonal variations, a slight fall of the index of urban sales during the summer was offset by revival in the autumn. Sales of country general stores were less buoyant and by October had fallen considerably below the high levels of 1937, and in most areas below those of 1936. Thus the lower incomes of farmers are being reflected in smaller purchases which may be expected to react in turn upon industrial employment. Unusually sharp declines after a brief advance in the prairies indicate either exhaustion of cash received from wheat sales or diversion to purchases of automobiles, debts, etc.

The omission of automobiles from the indexes blurs the picture. Sales of passenger cars (especially in Saskatchewan and Alberta) fell less rapidly than usual in August and September and rose, contrary to the usual tendency, in October.

PRODUCTION AND EMPLOYMENT.The extremely volatile index of industrial production, which had fallen roughly $20 \%$ between November, 1937, and February, 1938, recovered more than half of this loss during the autumn, the gains being of particular importance in automobiles and newsprint.

The curve of construction contracts, which had sagged during the latter part of 1937, rose rapidly during the last three quarters, particularly for residential and public building. Employment in this field also expanded, along with a marked increase of highway work. Federal assistance to private enterprise in housing is being utilized more freely.

During the first half of the year seasonally corrected measures of employment (cols. I8 and 19) declined to approximately the levels at the close of 1936. During the autumn, slight upturns took place in most industrial groups, sufficient to indicate a response to the revival in the United Stares.

The number of unemployed and their dependants on relief during October was 478,000 , ${ }^{\star}$ or about I. $5 \%$ more than in October, 1937. During the first eight months of the year the

[^14]Canada]
numbers on relief had been less than in 1937. In addition, 48,500 farmers and 175,000 of their dependents (four-fifths of whom were in Saskatchewan) received agricultural aid for subsistence, a reduction of $32.5 \%$ from October, 1937. $\dagger$

Confirmation of a general upturn of activity in the latter part of the year is provided by statistics of outside bank debits (i.e., exclusive of Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg and Ottawa) which recovered noticeably, especially in the prairie provinces.

FINANCE.-The expansion of bank credit was renewed in the second quarter and by midyear a new maximum of loans plus security holdings had been attained. After a decline in midsummer a still higher figure was reached in October and November, I. $3 \%$ above the maximum of 1937. Most of the increase took the form of current loans, a substantial part of which doubtless reflected larger stocks of wheat. Security holdings, though slightly higher than in 1937, have not changed appreciably. The cash ratio of the commercial banks has averaged somewhat higher than in previous years, chiefly as a result of the Central Bank's larger purchases of foreign exchange. The ratio of total bank debits to deposits in Canada has fallen almost to the levels of 1932-3.

During the year, prices of Dominion government bonds tended upward. Yields of medium term issues, which reached new minima in the early summer and again in November, have now been continuously lower than comparable issues of the United Kingdom for almost two years. Treasury bill rates remain higher than early in 1938.

A graph in the Bank of Canada's " Statistical Summary " (October, 1938, p. 158) calls attention to the fact that the net increase in outstanding bonds of the Dominion and the provinces is no longer being equalled by the growth of security holdings of the chartered banks. The strong bond markets of the past year have nevertheless been sustained indirectly by further extensions of central bank credit through purchase of foreign exchange which has permitted the commercial banks to increase current loans without reducing their holdings of government bonds. As neither the federal nor provincial governments have been in a position to repay maturing issues held by the banks out of current revenue, this support has doubtless been important.

[^15]Greatly improved figures of bond issues, which eliminate duplication arising from refunding issues, etc., are now published quarterly by the Bank of Canada in its Statistical Summary. The following are extracted from the October number, p. 16I. Corporate refunding has been resumed successfully in recent weeks.


NEW ISSUES.-The financial position of the Federal Government has been adversely affected in several directions. As shown below, there has been a smaller surplus on ordinary account (arising from lower revenues and heavier defence expenditures) and a larger deficit on the government railways.

|  | Apr. 1 to <br> Dec. 31, <br> 1938 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Apr. } 1 \text { to } \\ & \text { Dec. } 31 \text {, } \\ & 1397 \end{aligned}$ | Apr. 1 to <br> Dec. 31, <br> 1936 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Ordinary revenue | \$395 Mn. | S 102 Mn. | \$339 Mn. |
| Ordinary expenditure | 288 | 283 | 277 |
| Capital expenditure ... | 4 | 3 | 3 |
| Special expenditure (for relief) ... | 28 | 39 | 50 |
| Governm't enterprises (chiefly railway |  |  |  |
| deficit) ... ... | 46 | 35 | 31 |
| Loans and investments | 48 | 23 | 67 |

Losses arising from purchasing wheat from prairie farmers at more than market prices have not yet appeared in the accounts. Steady increases in the outlays on defence are reported.

Further reductions in outstanding arrears of property taxes, and in the ratio of arrears to the current levy, were recorded by most municipalities for 1937.* A further improvement has been reported for 1938.


[^16]Annual statistics were published in earlier letters as follows :-

Balance of International Payments for 1937
Analysis of Bank Loans for 1937 National Income

Political reactions to economic events have recently been concentrated in the field of federalprovincial relations, which are being examined by a Royal Commission. Certain provincial governments have been inclined to regard themselves as entitled to almost unlimited sovereignty, but the absence of wide public support for their views, the pressure of events
abroad and the swift turn of opinion in favour of more adequate defences have tended to obscure their claims at least temporarily.

The Federal Government has acquired the remaining shares of the Central Bank.

Reciprocal trade agreements with the United Kingdom and the United States were concluded in the autumn and came into force on January Ist, 1939. Canadian markets for natural products in the United States were extended in return for appreciably lower duties on manufactured articles and surrender of certain preferential treatment in other parts of the Empire.

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B. Board of Trade Index-Total excluding Foods, see Table p. 87, col. 5.
C. Value of Exported Manufactures ( $\star$ normal seasonal variation removed), see Table p. 91 , col. 17.
D. Average of Bank Rate, Bankers' Deposit Rate, Day-to-Day Rate and Three Months' Bill Rate, see Table p. 85 , cols. 5, 6.

## EVENTS OF THE MONTH

January 23rd—February 22nd, 1939.

Thurs. Jan. 26th
Fri. „ 27th

Mon. „, 30th
Spain
International

Germany
U.S.A.

Tues. „ 3Ist U.K.
Wed. Feb. Ist U.K.

Mon. „ 6th U.K.
Thurs. „, 9th Belgium
Wed. „ I5th U.K.
Thurs. , 20th U.K.

Fall of Barcelona.
British and French Governments make joint gift of $£ 8 \mathrm{Mn}$. and loan of further $£ 8 \mathrm{Mn}$. to Czechoslovakia.
Herr Hitler addresses Reichstag.
Supreme Court refuses injunction against Tennessee Valley Authority.
Chancellor of Exchequer announces compensation scheme for war property damage and marine war risk insurance.
Chancellor of Exchequer introduces Bill authorising Bank of England to value gold and other assets in Issue Department at current prices. Fiduciary issue to be reduced from $£ 400 \mathrm{Mn}$. to £ 300 Mn .
Mr. Chamberlain makes declaration of support for France against any aggressor.
Government resigns.
Chancellor of Exchequer announces intention to seek authority to raise borrowing powers for defence to $£ 800 \mathrm{Mn}$.
Chancellor of Exchequer estimates total defence expenditure in 1939-40 at $£ 580 \mathrm{Mn}$., including loan expenditure of $£ 350 \mathrm{Mn}$.

# THE GENERAL BUSINESS POSITION. 

## UNITED KINGDOM.^

Feb. 21st, 1939.
In some respects the situation has improved a little during recent weeks. External trade in January increased so as partly to compensate the low figures of December; the value both of imports and of exports was very nearly the same as in January, 1937. The index of industrial securities has recovered a few points. Output of iron and steel and the quantity of electricity consumed have increased. Wholesale prices, apart from the arranged fall in steel, have been nearly stationary, as has the sterling-dollar exchange. Provincial bank clearings, though they remain lower than in previous years, have increased. The high figure for unemployment for January was not unexpected, and the increase since the autumn, due to seasonal and weather influences, has been normal ; but with the continued reduction
in new building contracts, it must be doubtful whether the reduction in unemployment that usually occurs from January to May will be as great as usual.

Employment, generally, however, must in a longer view be favourably influenced by the large Government programme of re-armament, since the expenditure on defence in 1939 is estimated to be nearly


Some diminution of exports may occur in the coming months, both because the low level of importation of raw materials last autumn indicates a contraction of activity, and because some of the countries which supply materials are less able to import.

Even a moderate further improvement in sentiment regarding the international situation might well bring some resumption of new enterprise.

# ANALYSIS OF RECENT MOVEMENTS. UNITED KINGDOM. 


#### Abstract

FINANCE.-Bank of England.-The New Bank Bill.- On February ist the Chancellor of the Exchequer introduced a bill to revalue at current market prices the gold still held by the Bank of England, and simultaneously to reduce the fiduciary issue from $£ 400 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 300$ Mn . The value of the gold will be increased from $£ 126.4 \mathrm{Mn}$. to about $£ 22 \mathrm{I} \mathrm{Mn}$. and the note issue will thus be reduced by about $£ 5 \mathrm{Mn}$. Of the increase of about $£ 95 \mathrm{Mn}$., $£ 9 \mathrm{Mn}$. will be used to write off an accumulated loss on the securities held by the Banking Department, and the remainder, about $£ 86 \mathrm{Mn}$., transferred to the Exchange Equalisation Fund. Of this, about $£ 9 \mathrm{Mn}$. represents the original cost to the Exchange Fund of the balance of the gold sold by it to the Bank, and not re-transferred in January, about $£ \mathrm{I}$ Mn., the Fund's profit on this gold, and about $£ 76 \mathrm{Mn}$. the profit on the gold originally held by the Bank. This will now be added to the Exchange Fund's own profit,


bringing the total profit to perhaps $£ 140$ or
 in repaying the credits raised abroad in 1931. The net amount of $£_{110}$ or $£ 120 \mathrm{Mn}$. represents the Government's net sterling profit on the whole series of transactions.

The bill also provides for the assets of the Issue Department, both gold and securities, to be revalued weekly, and any profit or loss transferred to or from the Exchange Fund. Thus the value of the assets of the Issue Department will continue to be returned at the same figure, unless altered as a deliberate act of policy, though their quantity will fluctuate with market prices. The other profits of the Issue Department will in future be credited to the Exchange Fund, instead of being included, as hitherto, in the Miscellaneous Revenue of the Treasury.

The changes to be made by the new bill are more formal than real. They bring the legal form into accordance with the present practice,

[^17]whereby the assets of the Issue Department are adjusted to the requirements of the note circulation, and not vice versa, as under the gold standard. They will, however, facilitate present methods of procedure on at least two points. In future, if the Fund wishes to sell gold to the Bank it will receive the full price at once, and avoid locking up two-fifths of its value ; and the Bank will be able to vary the securities covering the fiduciary issue more freely, for the knowledge that any losses so incurred will automatically be transferred to the Exchange Fund, to be offset there against the accumulated profit.

Bank of England - Recent Movements. Since the new bill has not yet become law its terms are not reflected in the Bank Return of February 15 th. The fall in the note circulation since January IIth, from $£ 475.6 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 473.2$ Mn ., has been smaller than usual for the period, and it has been suggested that the commercial banks have been replenishing their holdings of till money. Government securities in the Banking Department have been reduced by $£ \mathrm{I} 3.7 \mathrm{Mn}$. to £86.5 Mn., while discounts have fallen by $£ 4 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ \mathrm{I} 8$.i Mn ., and Other Securities are also slightly lower. Total Deposits have fallen from $£ 174.0 \mathrm{Mn}$. to a normal level of $£_{15} 15.5 \mathrm{Mn}$., but as Government Deposits have also fallen from $£_{19.2} \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£_{\mathrm{I} 2.5} \mathrm{Mn}$., Bankers' Deposits have declined by only $£, 7.6 \mathrm{Mn}$. to the still very comfortable level of $£_{1}$ IIO. 5 Mn .

Clearing Banks.-The rise in Bankers' Deposits at the Bank of England during January was reflected in an increase in the average cash reserves of nine London clearing banks from $£ 23 \mathrm{I} .7 \mathrm{Mn}$. in December to $£ 236.7 \mathrm{Mn}$. in January. Of the other assets, Discounts rose by $£ 5.3 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 248$. I Mn., but the shortage of Treasury Bills in the market was reflected in a decline of $£ 16.6 \mathrm{Mn}$. in Call Money to $£$ I 33.0 Mn . Advances were very slightly higher at $£ 922 \mathrm{Mn}$., but Investments showed a sharp further drop of $£$ Io.I Mn . to $£ 58 \mathrm{I} .4 \mathrm{Mn}$. Balances with Other Banks and Items in Transit showed their usual seasonal decline with a fall of $£ 8 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 57.9 \mathrm{Mn}$. Deposits fell by $£_{23.3} \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£_{2, \text { IIII }} 8 \mathrm{Mn}$., and the ratio of Cash to Deposits rose to the high level of II. $2 \%$. It has been suggested that the decline in Investments may be due, at least in part, to official purchases of securities, and especially of $4 \frac{1}{2} \%$ Conversion Loan, 1940-44. Such purchases would have the double effect of facilitating conversion operations when the Conversion $4 \frac{1}{2}$ 's mature next year and of helping to relieve the present acute shortage of Treasury bills.

Town Clearings declined from December to

January, whereas normally there is a fairly substantial rise. On the other hand, Country clearings showed considerably more than a seasonal increase, and Provincial clearings rose appreciably in a month when they usually show little change. The decline in the latter as compared with twelve months earlier is now narrowing, and three of the eleven centres showed increases, two of them-at Leeds and Bristolbeing appreciable. The individual declines in the other centres were generally smaller, only that at Sheffield exceeding 10\% over the year. Declines in Liverpool and Manchester were noticeably less than in recent months.

Security Prices.-Prices of Industrial Securities continued to fall until nearly the end of January. There was then a fairly sharp recovery, and our mid-month index stands slightly higher than in either December or January. Our index of fixed interest securities, on the other hand, has fallen further, and now stands at its lowest point since the War Loan conversion of June, 1932. Our crude index of foreign bond prices shows a small recovery of rather more than $2 \%$, mainly in consequence of rises in the price of Czecho-Slovakian and Spanish bonds. Short-term interest rates remain extremely low.

Capital Issues.-New Capital Issues on home account in January reached the fairly satisfactory total of $£ 10.3 \mathrm{Mn}$., mainly in consequence of the Southern Railway's issue of $\AA_{7} \mathrm{Mn}$. of debentures. Issues on overseas account also showed an improvement.

Government Finance.-For the four weeks ending February 12th, the ordinary revenue of the Government was $£_{1} 175.22 \mathrm{Mn}$., or nearly $£ 20 \mathrm{Mn}$. more than in the corresponding period of 1938. There was a further small fall in Estate Duties, from $£ 6.5 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 5.9 \mathrm{Mn}$., but almost all the other taxes showed larger yields, the principal increase being in Income Tax ( $£ 92.1 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 106.4 \mathrm{Mn}$ ). Ordinary expenditure for the period, at $£ 55.5 \mathrm{Mn}$., was about the same as last year, but expenditure on Defence Loan account increased from $£ 7 \frac{3}{4} \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 22 \frac{1}{4} \mathrm{Mn}$. Total expenditure was therefore $£ 77 \frac{3}{4} \mathrm{Mn}$., as against $£ 63 \mathrm{Mn}$. last year. The surplus of revenue over total expenditure for the period was $£ 97.4 \mathrm{Mn}$., or nearly $£ 5 \mathrm{Mn}$. more than last year.

For the period April ist to February inth ordinary revenue was $£ 734.6 \mathrm{Mn}$. as compared with $£ 704.3 \mathrm{Mn}$. for the corresponding period of 1937-8, while expenditure, including expenditure on loan account, rose from $£ 754.9$ to $£ 877.0 \mathrm{Mn}$. The deficit to date is thus $£ 132.4$

Mn . as against $£ 50.6 \mathrm{Mn}$. one day later last year.
It now seems certain that ordinary revenue for the year 1938-9 will fall short of the estimates. To equal the estimates, revenue would have to show an expansion over last year of about $26 \%$ for the period February IIth to March 3Ist, whereas the increase in the receipts from April ist to February IIth has been only $8 \%$, and for the four weeks ending February IIth only I3 $\%$. On the basis of the experience of the last month the short-fall will probably be in the neighbourhood of $£ 20 \mathrm{Mn}$. The official estimates of loan expenditure for the year 1938-39 now amount to $£_{\mathrm{I} 32} \mathrm{Mn}$., and for the year 1939-40 to $£ 350 \mathrm{Mn}$.

The excess of revenue over expenditure for the month was reflected in a fall of $£ 89 \mathrm{Mn}$. in the floating debt to $£ 922 \mathrm{Mn}$., and of $£ 91 \mathrm{Mn}$. in Treasury bills outstanding, from $£, 974 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 883 \mathrm{Mn}$. Of the latter decline, $£ 68 \mathrm{Mn}$. took place in market bills, which fell from $£ 449 \mathrm{Mn}$. on January 14th to $£ 38 \mathrm{I} \mathrm{Mn}$. on February IIth, and $£ 23 \mathrm{Mn}$. in 'tap' bills, which fell from $£ .525 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 502 \mathrm{Mn}$. It is unlikely that the decline in ' tap' bills is due to Exchange Fund purchases of gold, and the likeliest explanation seems to be that mentioned above, namely, that official (probably Bank of England) holdings of Treasury Bills are being exchanged for longer-dated securities. But for this, the fall in market bills would have been even heavier. Even as it is, their total stands only a little above the low point of $£ 358 \mathrm{Mn}$. reached in March, 1935, and may well fall below it before the end of the financial year, thus accentuating further the acute shortage of bills which already exists in the market.

Foreign Exchanges.-The principal foreign exchange rates have recently been steadier than for many months past. The sterling-dollar rate declined slightly from $4.68 \frac{3}{8}$ on January 18th to $4.67 \frac{1}{2}$ on January 24 th, but later recovered to $4.67 \frac{13}{16}$ on January 3Ist and $4.68 \frac{5}{8}$ on February 8th, at about which level it has since been maintained. The British Exchange Fund has intervened in the market from time to time in both directions, but its net sales of gold during the month are believed to have been small. The French franc has been firm in terms both of sterling and of dollars, the former rate falling from $177^{\frac{15}{6} \frac{5}{4}}$ francs per $£$ on January 18 th to $176 \frac{61}{64}$ on February 2nd, and 177 on February 2Ist, and the latter rising from $2.64 \frac{1}{4}$ cents per franc on January 18th to $2.64 \frac{13}{16}$ on February 7 th, and $2.64 \frac{7}{8}$ on February 21st. Belgian francs and Dutch guilders, on the other hand, have recently been under some pressure and have weakened slightly.

Gold Movements.-International gold movements were smaller in January than they have been for many months. Exports totalled $£ \mathrm{I} 2.5$ Mn ., of which $£ \mathrm{ro.9} \mathrm{Mn}$. went to U.S.A., while imports amounted to only $£ 4.7 \mathrm{Mn}$., in which the only large item was $£ \mathrm{r} .2 \mathrm{Mn}$. from Russia. Imports from S. Africa, where gold is now being earmarked for account of the British Government, totalled only $£ 122,000$, as compared with over $£ 6 \mathrm{Mn}$. in January, 1938.

During the first half of February exports of gold increased sharply, the total for the fortnight ending February 16th being $£ 21.5 \mathrm{Mn}$., almost all to the United States. Imports, at under £I Mn., were exceptionally small. A large proportion of the shipments to the United States seem to have been made on arbitrage account out of the re-sales of gold by holders in London, who have been obliged to realise their holdings by the discontinuance of facilities for forward transactions in gold. These re-sales of gold have undoubtedly provided important, though temporary, support for the $£$ during recent weeks.

PRICES AND WAGES. - Owing to a reduction of about $7 \%$ in the prices of steel and iron the general index-number of wholesale sterling prices fell by about $\mathrm{I} \%$ from December to January. If the iron and steel group were excluded an increase of about $\mathrm{I} \%$ is found. Increases in the prices of wheat, butter and potatoes brought the food index up slightly. Among materials there were several small changes, up or down, which apart from iron and steel, nearly balanced.

Since the Statist Index gives less weight to iron and steel than does the Board of Trade, its index shows almost no change from December 3Ist to January 3Ist.

The Cost of Living Index was the same on January 3Ist as on December 30th though normally there is a slight fall during January.

There was no change in wages that affected our index number between April 15th, 1938, and February 15th, 1938.

TRADE AND OUTPUT. - The Board of Trade's estimates of changes in the volume and average price of imports and exports are now available for the fourth quarter of 1938. In the table relating to imports which is given below, manufactures are divided into groups A and B. As nearly as possible they contain respectively articles which undergo further processes and finished goods. The indices of volume and of price are obtained by revaluing

## Value of Exports of the Produce and Manufactures of the United Kingdom in the Years 1924, 1937 and 1938.



As values are given to two decimal places only, the totals are not always identical with the sum of the items.

## EXPORTS OF MANUFACTURES

Value of chief articles exported in the Years $1937 \& 1938$ to the principal countries concerned.

all items at the average 1935 values of similar goods.

| RETAINED IMPORTS.$\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{a}=\text { Declared Value, £Mn. } \\ & \mathrm{b}=\text { Index of Volume }(1935 \text { Quarterly Average }=100) \\ & \mathrm{c}=\text { Index of Price }(1935 \text { Average values }=100) \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1936 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Qrs. 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Food, \&c. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. $108 \cdot 3$ | 94.5 | 98.4 | $100 \cdot 4$ | 125:9 | $103 \cdot 1$ | 101.9 | $105 \cdot 3$ | 108.8 |
| b. 114.4 | 97.2 | 98.5 | $97 \cdot 6$ | 118.4 | $100 \cdot 3$ | $100 \%$ | 1083 | 116.7 |
| c. $110 \cdot 6$ | 113.5 | 116.6 | $120 \cdot 1$ | $122 \cdot 3$ | $120 \cdot 0$ | 118.9 | 113.5 | $108 \cdot 9$ |
| Materials- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. $61 \cdot 3$ | 61.7 | $67 \cdot 9$ | 72.2 | 76.7 | 64.4 | 52.5 | 50.4 | 49•1 |
| b. 121.6 | 114.7 | 113.3 | 1171 | $138 \cdot 3$ | 120.9 | 1049 | 101.0 | 1007 |
| c. $110 \cdot 1$ | 117.5 | $130 \cdot 8$ | 134.6 | 121.0 | $116 \cdot 3$ | 109*2 | 108.9 | 108.8 |
| Manufactures. Group A- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. 27.8 | $27 \cdot 7$ | 36.6 | 37.5 | 38.4 | 33.8 | $27 \cdot 4$ | 26.8 | 27.0 |
| b. 111 | 98.5 | 121 | 122 | 130 | 114 | 107 | 104.5 | 103 |
| c. 111 | 125 | 134 | 136 | 131 | 131 | 116 | 114.5 | 117 |
| Manufactures. Group B- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. $25 \cdot 3$ | 25.7 | 27.9 | 28.2 | 28.5 | 26.7 | 24.6 | $23 \cdot 8$ | $25 \cdot 6$ |
| b. 130 | 133 | 139.5 | 138 | 139 | 134 | 121 | 116 | 129 |
| c. 96 | 95.5 | 99 | 101 | 101 | 98.5 | 98 | 101.5 | $\theta 8$ |

Total Retained Imports-

| a. | $224 \cdot 7$ | $210 \cdot 7$ | $232 \cdot 1$ | $239 \cdot 7$ | $271 \cdot 4$ | $229 \cdot 4$ | $207 \cdot 3$ | $208 \cdot 0$ | $214 \cdot 1$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

b. 118.1 c. |  | 108.6 | 113.5 | 119.9 | 123.7 | 120.4 | 117.6 | 113.4 | 111.3 | $108 \cdot 8$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

The movement of retained imports of foodstuffs continues to show considerable differences from that of retained imports of materials and semi-finished goods. The volume of food imports in the fourth quarter of 1938 was only slightly less than in the fourth quarter of 1937, when it reached an exceptionally high level. Prices of food imports, however, fell substantially below the level of the fourth quarter of 1937 and slightly below that of the fourth quarter of 1936. Imports of materials and of semi-finished (Group A) manufactures showed substantial falls over the year in both volume and average price. In the case of materials price and volume were below the level of the fourth quarter of 1936, price only slightly so, but volume by $17 \%$. In the case of semi-finished manufactures, volume was well below the 1936 level, but price was still above it. Imports of finished (Group B) manufactures showed moderate declines in volume and price as compared with 1937, and stood at roughly the same level as in the fourth quarter of 1936.

The period shown in the table is approximately bisected by the peak of business activity in 1937. It is now possible to see how the various classifications of imports have responded to the turn of business. The amplitude of the up and down movement of volume and price has been greatest in the case of materials and semi-finished manufactures. The movement of foodstuffs shows a very distinct lag behind that of the other classifications, volume having begun to fall only in the last quarter of 1938. The movement of finished manufactures shows a
considerable swing in volume, timed similarly to that of materials and semi-finished manufactures, but a very slight and irregular movement in price.

Similar calculations for exports of U.K. produce show that the volume of exports of materials and manufactures continued below the level of 1936. Prices, however, were only slightly below the level of 1937, and well above that of 1936. In the case of coal, prices continued to exceed substantially the level of 1937, though volume was only slightly above that of 1936.

## EXPORTS OF U.K. PRODUCE.

| 1936 |  | 1937 |  |  | 1938 |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| rs. |  |  | 3 | 4 | 1 | , | 3 |  |
| Food, etc |  | $9 \cdot 2$ | 9.8 |  |  |  |  |  |
| b. 131.9 | 110.2 | 111.5 | 1172 | 1300 | $106 \cdot 9$ | 99.6 | 1097 | 12 |
| 104•1 | 103.7 | 104.0 | 105.5 | 105.8 | 1017 | 99.7 | $103 \cdot 1$ | 104 |
| Materials. Coal- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 93.3 | 85.3 | $100 \cdot 8$ | 114.9 | 103.7 | 84.4 | 91. | 91.6 | 95 |
| 106.5 | 110.8 | 115.5 | 119.4 | 124.6 | $132 \cdot 6$ | 131.5 | 129.0 | 9 |
| Materials. Total- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 14.2 | $15 \cdot 3$ | 16.8 | 16.6 | 16 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 15 |
| b. $100 \cdot 7$ | $100 \cdot 2$ | 1044 | 1014 | 98.9 | 88.7 | $86 \cdot 7$ | 88.2 | $98 \cdot 9$ |
| $106 \cdot 9$ |  | $121 \cdot 5$ | 124.2 | 122.2 | $122 \cdot 5$ | 1210 | 18.9 | 981 |
| Manufactures- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. $91 \cdot 1$ | 93.8 | $101 \cdot 3$ | 105•3 | 104.5 | 95.8 | 87.7 | 88. | $3 \cdot 9$ |
| b. 108.5 | 1097 | 113.9 | 1137 | 112.0 | 1019 | $95^{\circ}$ | $95 \cdot 5$ | $102 \cdot 3$ |
|  | 1040 | $108 \cdot 1$ |  | 研 | 11. | $112 \cdot 3$ | 1121 | 111.6 |
| Total Exports- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. $120 \cdot 5$ | 121.1 | $130 \cdot 1$ | $134 \cdot 4$ | 135.9 | $120 \cdot 9$ | $112 \cdot 3$ | 113.5 | 124.2 |
|  |  |  |  | $112 \cdot 7$ | 99.7 | 943 |  | 10 |
| c. $102 \cdot 9$ | 105.2 | 112 | 1116 | 112 | 99*9 |  |  |  |

The table of the geographical distribution of United Kingdom exports on p. 72 shows the following principal changes in total values in 1938 as compared with $1937:-$ U.S.A. (-36\%) and Canada (-18\%); France and Belgium ( $-28 \%$ ) and Norway, Sweden and Denmark (-10\%); West Africa (-36\%) and British India ( $\mathbf{7} \%$ ); Latin America (except Argentina and Uruguay) ( $-21 \%$.) Other important regional markets, such as Australia and New Zealand, South Africa, Argentina and Uruguay, Eire and Germany, showed little change over the year. Exports to Russia increased by more than $100 \%$, but the absolute amount is not large. In 1937 exports to British countries measured $48.3 \%$ of all exports. In 1938 this proportion rose slightly to $49.9 \%$.

There was some recovery in imports in January, while normally there is a seasonal reduction, but the total value of materials and manufactures, after all allowance for price and season, are lower than in the autumn, and much lower than a year ago. For food the (adjusted) increase in January compensated the low amount

## A. TOTAL IMPORTS OF RAW MATERIALS-REVALUED AT 1935 AVERAGE PRICES. $\dagger$ WITH CERTAIN PARTLY MANUFACTURED GOODS BUT EXCLUDING RUBBER. £Mn.

| Qrs. | 1936 |  |  |  | 1937 |  |  |  | 1938 |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Pig-iron, \&c. | -9 | 1.0 | $1 \cdot 3$ | 8 | $\cdot 9$ | 12 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 22 | $\stackrel{6}{ }$ | 5 | 4 |
| Copper, tin, lead, zinc ... | $4 \cdot 8$ | $5 \cdot 4$ | 4.7 | $5 \cdot 0$ | $4 \cdot 9$ | 6.7 | $7 \cdot 5$ | 6.8 | $5 \cdot 5$ | 6.7 | $5 \cdot 2$ | 54 |
| Yarns $\ldots$... ... ... | -1 | $\cdots$ | 2 | -2 | - 2 | 1 1.9 | -2 | -2 | -2 | -2 | - 3 | . 3 |
| Leather ... ... | 1.8 | $2 \cdot 2$ | $2 \cdot 1$ | $2 \cdot 1$ |  |  |  |  |  | $1 \cdot 3$ | 1.5 | 14 |
| Minerals (non-metals) | 9 | $1 \cdot 1$ | 1.2 | 1.2 | $1 \cdot 1$ | 1.4 | 1.5 | $1 \cdot 3$ | $1 \cdot 2$ | 1.2 | $1 \cdot 1$ | 1.2 |
| Iron Ore ... ... | $2 \cdot 1$ | $2 \cdot 2$ | 1.9 | 1.6 | $1 \cdot 6$ | $2 \cdot 2$ | $2 \cdot 4$ | $2 \cdot 3$ | 2.9 | $1 \cdot 7$ | 1.0 | 7 |
| Non-Ferrous Metals | $3 \cdot 3$ | 3.0 | 3.4 | 3.2 | 3.0 | $4 \cdot 5$ | 3.7 | 45 | 3.6 | 4.3 | 3.6 | $3 \cdot 3$ |
| Wood ... ... | $5 \cdot 8$ | 8.4 | $15 \cdot 1$ | $12 \cdot 1$ | 6.6 | $9 \cdot 1$ | $16 \cdot 3$ | $12 \cdot 9$ | 5.6 | 6.8 | $10 \cdot 9$ | $10 \cdot 0$ |
| Oil Seeds, \&c. | $7 \cdot 0$ | $7 \cdot 1$ | $5 \cdot 9$ | $6 \cdot 1$ | $7 \cdot 7$ | $7 \cdot 4$ | 6.2 | $6 \cdot 8$ | $8 \cdot 1$ | 8.4 | 7.2 | 6.1 |
| Hides $\quad . .$. | $4 \cdot 3$ | $4 \cdot 3$ | 4.2 | 4.8 | 4.8 | 4.2 | 4.7 | 3.8 | 3.9 3.4 | $3 \cdot 3$ | 4.0 | 3.4 |
| Paper Materials ... | 2.7 | 3.0 | 3.0 | $3 \cdot 3$ | $2 \cdot 7$ | 3.4 | 3.5 | 4.0 | 3.4 | $2 \cdot 7$ | 2.5 | $3 \cdot 2$ |
| Textiles (other than Cotton and Wool) | 3.8 | 2.5 | 2.4 | $3 \cdot 7$ | 4.8 | 2.9 | $1 \cdot 9$ | 2.9 | 4.2 | 2.5 | $2 \cdot 3$ | 3.5 |
| Cotton ... ... | 10.8 | $10 \cdot 5$ | 9.9 | $13 \cdot 5$ | 13.2 | $10 \cdot 3$ | $7 \cdot 2$ | $17 \cdot 1$ | 11.8 | $7 \cdot 3$ | $7 \cdot 8$ | 8.2 |
| Wool | 13.0 | 11.7 | $4 \cdot 7$ | $9 \cdot 3$ | $10 \cdot 8$ | $10 \cdot 9$ | $4 \cdot 9$ | 7.2 | $10 \cdot 3$ | 12.4 | $6 \cdot 1$ | $8 \cdot 7$ |
| All sbove groups, and Miscellaneous | $63 \cdot 9$ | $64 \cdot 3$ | $62 \cdot 9$ | 70*1 | 668 | $68 \cdot 3$ | $66 \cdot 9$ | $76 \cdot 1$ | $67 \cdot 1$ | $61 \cdot 3$ | 56.9 | 58.4 |
| Excl. cotton and woolTotal Imports | $40 \cdot 1$ | $42 \cdot 1$ | $48 \cdot 3$ | 47•3 | $42 \cdot 8$ | 47'1 | $54 \cdot 8$ | 51.8 | 44.9 | 41.6 | $43 \cdot 0$ | $41 \cdot 5$ |

B. EXPORTS OF U.K. MANUFACTURES—REVALUED AT 1935 AVERAGE PRICES. £Mn. $\dagger$

in December. Among materials there was a considerable importation of wool.

QUANTITY OF WOOL IMPORTED, LESS RE-EXPORTS |  |  | Mn. lbs. |  |  |  |  | $1936-7$ | $1937-8$ | $1938-9$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| December | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | 66 | 45 | 59 |  |  |  |  |
| January | $\ldots$ | $\cdots$ | 77 | 67 | 103 |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | $-\frac{143}{143}$ | $\overline{112}$ | $\overline{162}$ |  |  |  |  |

There was little change, other than seasonal, in other materials or in manufactures from December to January.

| IMPOR'S |  | LESS RE-EXPORTS |  |  | £Mn. |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 1937 |  | 1938 | 1938 |  | 1939 |
| Food, \&c.- |  | Nov. | Dec. | Jan. | Nov. | Dec. | Jan. |
| Grain | ... | 8.8 | $8 \cdot 5$ | 6.9 | $5 \cdot 7$ | $4 \cdot 3$ | 4.6 |
| Meat | ... | 6.5 | 8.5 | $7 \cdot 4$ | 6.9 | $8 \cdot 3$ | $7 \cdot 3$ |
| Dairy Produce |  | 6.5 | $7 \cdot 5$ | $5 \cdot 7$ | 6.8 | 6.0 | 6.5 |
| Fruit \& Vegetabl |  | 2.9 | 3.2 | $2 \cdot 9$ | $3 \cdot 2$ | $3 \cdot 1$ | 3.3 |
| Tobacco ... |  | $3 \cdot 4$ | $2 \cdot 7$ | $2 \cdot 7$ | $2 \cdot 8$ | $2 \cdot 3$ | $2 \cdot 1$ |
| Other |  | $13 \cdot 6$ | $11 \cdot 3$ | $9 \cdot 5$ | $12 \cdot 5$ | $10 \cdot 5$ | $10 \cdot 3$ |
| Total |  | $41 \cdot 7$ | 41.7 | $35 \cdot 1$ | $37 \cdot 9$ | 34.5 | $34 \cdot 1$ |
| Materials- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cotton | . | $5 \cdot 3$ | 4.9 | 3.5 | 2.2 | $2 \cdot 4$ | $2 \cdot 2$ |
| Wool | ... | $2 \cdot 2$ | $2 \cdot 6$ | 3.6 | 2.4 | 2.7 | 4.6 |
| Seeds \& Oils | ... | $2 \cdot 8$ | $2 \cdot 3$ | 27 | 1.8 | 1.7 | 1.9 |
| Hides \& Skins | .. | 1.0 | 1.8 | 1.7 | 0.8 | $1 \cdot 3$ | 1.6 |
| Timber |  | 6.6 | $5 \cdot 1$ | $3 \cdot 3$ | $4 \cdot 0$ | $3 \cdot 5$ | $2 \cdot 7$ |
| Rubber ... |  | 1.0 | 0.8 | $1 \cdot 1$ | 0 | $0 \cdot 3$ | $0 \cdot 1$ |
| Non-ferrous meta |  | 2.0 | 1.6 | 1.4 | $1 \cdot 1$ | 1.2 | $1 \cdot 3$ |
| Other |  | 5.6 | 5.9 | 6.4 | 4.0 | $4 \cdot 3$ | $4 \cdot 5$ |
| Total | ... | 26.5 | $24 \cdot 9$ | $23 \cdot 7$ | $16 \cdot 3$ | $17 \cdot 4$ | 18.9 |
| Manufactures- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| A. Iron, Steel | ... | 2.7 | $2 \cdot 8$ | 2.8 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 0.8 |
| Non-ferrous | ... | 3.6 | $3 \cdot 6$ | 2.5 | $2 \cdot 7$ | 2.6 | 2.6 |
| Timber ... | ... | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| Oils |  | 4.0 | 3.7 | 4.2 | 3.5 | 3.5 | 3.7 |
| Other |  | 2.6 | $2 \cdot 4$ | $2 \cdot 1$ | 2.0 | 1.8 | 1.9 |
| Total | .. | 13.6 | 13.2 | 12.2 | 9.5 | $9 \cdot 1$ | 9.5 |
| B. Total | . | $9 \cdot 7$ | 8.5 | $8 \cdot 5$ | $8 \cdot 7$ | $7 \cdot 3$ | 7.7 |
| All Imports (net) | ... | 91.9 | $89 \cdot 3$ | $80 \cdot 2$ | $72 \cdot 9$ | $69 \cdot 3$ | 71.0 |

Under Manufactures, A includes commodities used in further manufacture and transport; 'Other' contains leathor, paper and motor accessories. B includes all other manufactures.

| EXPORTS | OF B | 1937 | PRO 1938 | E. | £Mn. | 1939 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Nov. | Dec. | Jan. | Nov. | Dec. | Jan. |
| Beverages* ... |  | $1 \cdot 3$ | $1 \cdot 3$ | 1.5 | $1 \cdot 3$ | $1 \cdot 3$ |
| Tobacco | $0 \cdot 4$ | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 |
| Food ... | $1 \cdot 9$ | 1.8 | 1.3 | 1.9 | $1 \cdot 3$ | 1.4 |
| Total | 4.0 | $3 \cdot 5$ | 3.0 | 3.8 | 30 | $3 \cdot 1$ |
| Materials- |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Coal | $3 \cdot 4$ | 30 | 3.0 | $3 \cdot 4$ | $2 \cdot 8$ | $2 \cdot 9$ |
| Wool | 0.5 | $0 \cdot 5$ | 0.5 | 0.6 | $0 \cdot 6$ | 0.6 |
| Oils and fats | 0.3 | $0 \cdot 2$ | 0.2 | 0.2 | $0 \cdot 2$ | $0 \cdot 2$ |
| Other | $1 \cdot 1$ | $1 \cdot 2$ | 1.0 | 1.2 | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| Total | $5 \cdot 3$ | $4 \cdot 9$ | 4.7 | $5 \cdot 4$ | $4 \cdot 6$ | 4.7 |
| Manufactures- |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Non-ferrousmetals | 1.3 | 11 | 11 | $1 \cdot 1$ | $1 \cdot 1$ | $1 \cdot 3$ |
| Iron, steel, machinery | 11.1 | 11.2 | $10 \cdot 9$ | 10.8 | 10.4 | 8.9 |
| Vehicles ... | $3 \cdot 7$ | $3 \cdot 9$ | $3 \cdot 3$ | $4 \cdot 3$ | $3 \cdot 8$ | $4 \cdot 8$ |
| Cotton ... | $5 \cdot 4$ | $5 \cdot 0$ | $4 \cdot 9$ | $4 \cdot 2$ | 3.7 | $4 \cdot 1$ |
| Wool | 2.5 | $2 \cdot 6$ | $2 \cdot 8$ | $2 \cdot 1$ | $2 \cdot 0$ | $2 \cdot 6$ |
| Other textiles and apparel... |  | 2.4 | 2.5 | $2 \cdot 3$ | 2.0 | 2.3 |
| Chemicals ... | $2 \cdot 1$ | 1.8 | 1.9 | $2 \cdot 0$ | 1.6 | 1.8 |
| Other | $5 \cdot 9$ | $5 \cdot 3$ | $5 \cdot 2$ | $5 \cdot 7$ | 4.8 | 4.8 |
| Total | $34 \cdot 7$ | $33 \cdot 3$ | 32.6 | $32 \cdot 5$ | $29 \cdot 4$ | $30 \cdot 4$ |
| Total exports of |  |  |  |  |  | $39 \cdot 5$ |
| * Beer, Spirits, Cocoa, etc. |  |  |  |  |  |  |

The value of exports was nearly the same in January as in December. There was some increase in vehicles, cotton and wool, but a reduction in iron and steel manufactures and machinery. Compared with January, 1938, there was a fall of $4 \%$ in the total value of exports, part of which is attributable to changes in prices.

The output of pig-iron increased in January, nearly to the level of last July, but was only twothirds of the quantity in January, 1938. That of steel also recovered and was as great as in last June, but was only $71 \%$ of the output a year ago. There was little change in coal. The consumption of electricity increased in January and was about $13 \%$ greater than a year ago.

The estimated cost of buildings for which plans were passed in January 1939 was $£ 3.2 \mathrm{Mn}$. for houses and $£ 2.8 \mathrm{Mn}$. for other buildings, compared with $£ 5.3 \mathrm{Mn}$. and $£ 3.2 \mathrm{Mn}$. in January 1938. The reductions of $39 \%$ in respect of housing and $29 \%$ in the total compare with $28 \%$ and $16 \%$ respectively in the fourth quarter of last year.

UNEMPLOYMENT.-There was a considerable increase in unemployment in the New Year and the general percentage of insured persons unemployed was 14.3, as compared with $13.2,12.4$ and 16.2 in the January of 1938, 1937 and 1936. There is always a considerable increase at this time of year, the amount depending on weather conditions; these can be partly eliminated by subtracting the persons " temporarily stopped."

INSURED PERSONS WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED. (000's.)


The movement as a whole has been normal for a general stationary condition of industry, more favourable than last winter when there was a general decline, less favourable than in the winter of 1936-7 when trade was improving. In engineering, where the numbers of unemployed have increased considerably since 1937, the percentage is still low; in general engineering (8.5), and electrical (5.7); but in marine (10.0) and especially in constructional (14.0) it is relatively high.

The importance now attached to unemployment is not due to any unusual change in its volume, but to an increasing realisation of that volume, and of the persisting severity of unemployment in certain industries and districts.

INSURED MALES UNEMPLOYED
Excluding Building, Public Works and Agriculture. (000's.)

| Wholly Unemployed |  |  |  |  | Temporarily Stoppe |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year |  |  |  |  | 1937 | 1938 |  |
|  |  | 1937 | 1938 |  |  |  |  |
| September | $\ldots$ | 734 | 848 | $\ldots$ | 116 | 267 |  |
| October | $\ldots$ | 769 | 895 | $\ldots$ | 110 | 195 |  |
| November | $\ldots$ | 798 | 917 | $\ldots$ | 119 | 201 |  |
| December | $\ldots$ | 817 | 917 | $\ldots$ | 152 | 188 |  |


|  | Year | 1938 | 1939 |  | 1938 | 1939 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| January | ... | 879 | 957 | ... | 177 | 216 |
| February | ... | 887 | - | ... | 177 |  |
| March ... | ... | 873 | - | ... | 187 |  |
| April ... | ... | 864 | - | ... | 213 | - |
| May |  | 854 | - | $\ldots$ | 249 |  |
| June |  | 842 | - | $\ldots$ | 297 |  |
| July |  | 813 | - | ... | 312 |  |
| August | ... | 816 | - | ... | 278 |  |

INSURED PERSONS UNEMPLOYED. UNITED KINGDOM. ooo's.
Males and Females. Aged 16-65
A. Wholly Unemployed

Excluding Agriculture.
B. Temporarily Stopped.

|  |  | December, 1937 |  |  | January,$1938$ |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { December, } \\ 1938 \end{gathered}$ |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { January } \\ 1939 \end{gathered}$ |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B |
| Building |  | 218 | 173 | 46 | 201 | 189 | 13 | 196 | 189 | 7 | 251 | 220 | 31 |
| Public Works |  | 123 | 114 | 9 | 119 | 116 | 3 | 124 | 122 | 2 | 134 | 128 | 7 |
| Cosl |  | 100 | 82 | 18 | 98 | 83 | 15 | 124 | 84 | 40 | 111 | 84 | 27 |
| Cotton |  | 65 | 32 | 33 | 82 | 35 | 47 | 83 | 50 | 34 | 84 | 47 | 38 |
| Wool |  | 40 | 10 | 30 | 47 | 12 | 35 | 29 | 13 | 16 | 33 | 13 | 20 |
| Other Textiles |  | 87 | 46 | 41 | 103 | 52 | 51 | 80 | 47 | 32 | 83 | 46 | 37 |
| Clothing ... |  | 78 | 42 | 35 | 88 | 48 | 40 | 73 | 45 | 29 | 85 | 49 | 37 |
| Distribution |  | 173 | 163 | 10 | 205 | 192 | 13 | 195 | 186 | 9 | 225 | 211 | 14 |
| Other Industries |  | 532 | 442 | 91 | 614 | 489 | 123 | 642 | 523 | 119 | 716 | 558 | 157 |
| Hotels |  | 79 | 76 | 2 | 83 | 81 | 2 | 94 | 92 | 2 | 97 | 94 | 3 |
| Commerce, Professions, \&c. |  | 170 | 159 | 11 | 178 | 169 | 9 | 187 | 178 | 8 | 198 | 186 | 12 |
| Totals |  | 1665 | 1339 | 326 | 1818 | 1466 | 351 | 1827 | 1523 | 298 | 2017 | 1635 | 382 |
| Males |  | 1310 | 1104 | 206 | 1376 | 1184 | 193 | 1425 | 1227 | 197 | 1558 | 1304 | 254 |
| Females |  | 355 | 235 | 120 | 441 | 283 | 159 | 403 | 302 | 101 | 459 | 331 | 128 |

UNEMPLOYMENT BY DISTRICTS
PERCENTAGE OF INSURED PERSONS UNEMPLOYED.-GREAT BRITAIN AND N. IRELAND.

| Near Middle of Month. | E O E | $\stackrel{\text { ex }}{\text { ¢ }}$ |  | ¢ O O |  | ix i is |  |  |  | 先 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { : } \\ & \text { 틀 } \\ & \stackrel{0}{0} \\ & \text { © } \end{aligned}$ | 官 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 13.2 | $13 \cdot 7$ | 11.6 | 8.6 | 9.6 | $9 \cdot 6$ | $9 \cdot 6$ | $13 \cdot 5$ | $17 \cdot 3$ |  | $17 \cdot 6$ | 23.8 | 30.0 | 16 |
|  | $13 \cdot 1$ | 13.5 | 11.8 | 8.6 | $9 \cdot 2$ | 9.4 | 9.6 | 13.3 | 17.8 | 17.6 | 17.0 | 23.8 | 29.5 | 1.6 |
|  | $12 \cdot 7$ | 13.1 | 11.8 | 8.2 | $8 \cdot 3$ | 8.5 | 9.6 | 13.0 | 17.6 | $17 \cdot 1$ | 16.6 | 24.4 | 29.4 | 1.7 |
|  | $12 \cdot 7$ | $13 \cdot 1$ | 11.6 | $7 \cdot 8$ | $7 \cdot 7$ | 8.1 | 10.0 | $12 \cdot 9$ | 17.7 | 17.0 | 16.8 | 25.9 | 29.4 | 16 |
|  | $12 \cdot 8$ | $13 \cdot 3$. | 11.7 | 7.7 | $7 \cdot 2$ | $7 \cdot 6$ | $10 \cdot 2$ | 13.7 | 18.5 | 17.3 | $16 \cdot 3$ | 26.9 | 28.5 | 1.6 |
|  | 13.2 | $13 \cdot 6$ | 11.9 | 7.7 | 6.9 | 7.6 | $11 \cdot 1$ | 14.0 | $20 \cdot 1$ | 18.5 | $15 \cdot 8$ | $25 \cdot 8$ | 28.7 | 1.6 |
|  | (a) $13 \cdot 1$ | (a) $13 \cdot 7$ | (a) 11.5 | $7 \cdot 6$ | 6.7 | $7 \cdot 2$ | 11.6 | 14.8 | $17 \cdot 7$ | 19.7 | 16.6 | 24.7 | 33.0 | 1.5 |
|  | (b) 12.9 | (b) 13.6 | (b) 11.2 | $7 \cdot 4$ | - 6 | 6.9 | - 11.7 | - 14.6 | - 18.2 | - $19 \cdot$ | $15 \cdot 5$ | - | 27.7 | 1.6 |
|  | 12.8 12.8 | $13 \cdot 2$ 13.5 | 11.0 | (a) $7 \cdot 6$ | 6.8 7.2 | 6.9 $7 \cdot 4$ | 11.0 | 14.6 14.7 | 18.2 19.0 | 19.2 18.7 | 15.5 16.2 | 24.2 24.8 | 27.7 26.7 | 1.6 1.6 |
|  |  |  |  | (b) $8 \cdot 3$ | 8.4 | 8.5 | $10 \cdot 0$ | 13.0 | $17 \cdot 1$ | 19.0 | 15.6 | $23 \cdot 6$ | 25.8 | 1.7 |
|  | 13.0 | $13 \cdot 9$ | $10 \cdot 7$ | 8.6 | 9.0 9.3 | 8.8 | 9.8 | $13 \cdot 1$ | $17 \cdot 2$ | 19.3 | 16.2 | 24.9 | 26.0 | 1.8 |
|  | $12 \cdot 9$ | $14 \cdot 0$ | $10 \cdot 2$ | 8.5 | 9.3 | 8.6 | $9 \cdot 4$ | $12 \cdot 8$ | 16.9 | 19.4 | 16.7 | $25 \cdot 3$ | $25 \cdot 1$ | $1 \cdot 9$ |
| 1939 J | $14 \cdot 3$ | $15 \cdot 3$ | 11.6 | 96 | 11.1 | $9 \cdot 6$ | 10.5 | 14.7 | $18 \cdot 3$ | 21.2 | 18.4 | 25.7 | 282 | 2.0 |

(a) Old series
(b) New series including certain domestic workers.

Regional Percentages prior to October, 1938, based upon numbers insured in July, 1937; subsequently upon numbers insured in July, 1938.

## QUARTERLY STATISTICS-SUPPLEMENTARY TABLE.

|  | 1935 | 1936 |  |  |  | 1937 |  |  |  | 1938 |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 4th | 1st | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 2nd } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 3rd } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 4th } \\ & \mathrm{Qr} . \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 1st } \\ & \mathrm{Qr} . \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 2nd } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 3rd } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 4th } \\ & \mathrm{Qr} . \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 1st } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | 2nd Qr. | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 3rd } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 4th } \\ & \mathrm{Qr} . \end{aligned}$ |
| BUILLDING PLANS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| APPROVED : Houses ... ... £Mn | $20 \cdot 5$ | $18 \cdot 6$ | $20 \cdot 9$ | $17 \cdot 7$ | $17 \cdot 8$ | 15.7 | 18.6 | 15.5 | $17 \cdot 9$ |  |  |  |  |
| Other ... ... , | 9.0 | $10 \cdot 1$ | $11 \cdot 9$ | $10 \cdot 1$ | $9 \cdot 9$ | 13.4 | $11 \cdot 1$ | $9 \cdot 6$ | 92 | 9.7 | 9.1 | 14.1 9.0 | 12.9 9.8 |
| Total $\ldots$... | 29.5 | 28.7 | $32 \cdot 8$ | $27 \cdot 8$ | $27 \cdot 7$ | $29 \cdot 1$ | 29.7 | $25 \cdot 1$ | $27 \cdot 1$ | 25.4 | 26.4 | $23 \cdot 1$ | 22.7 |
| PRODUCTION : |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Board of Trade Index <br> \% of 1930 | $120 \cdot 7$ | $123 \cdot 1$ | $122 \cdot 3$ | $121 \cdot 3$ | 131.7 | $131 \cdot 1$ | 133.6 | $130 \cdot 1$ | 136.4 | $132 \cdot 1$ | 121.7 |  |  |
| Electricity Mn. Units | 5337 | 5557 | 4345 | 4289 | 6050 | 6194 | 5027 | 4869 | 6814 | 6637 | 5315 | 5207 | 7216 |
| Artificial Silk Mn. lbs. | $34 \cdot 3$ | 36.0 | 36.2 | 36.9 | 36.2 | 36.0 | $39 \cdot 9$ | 39.8 | $39 \cdot 1$ | 38.0 | 35.1 | $32 \cdot 7$ | 34.5 |
| Private Cars \& Taxis 000 | 82 | 97 | 99 | 76 | 96 | 107 | 106 | 81 | 86 | 98 | 92 | 67 | 84 |
| Commercial Vehicles 000 | 23 | 31 | 27 | 27 | 30 | 31 | 30 | 27 | 26 | 31 | 25 | 23 | 24 |
| Motor Spirit for Consump- tion $\ldots$ Mn. galls. | 290 | 278 | 328 | 352 | 306 | 294 | 345 | 346 | 312 | 299 | 351 | 389 | 309 |
| SHIPPING LAID UP : |  |  |  |  |  |  | End of | Quarter |  |  |  |  |  |
| Foreign $\ldots$ | 12 | 45 | 46 | 373 30 | 193 | 75 | 5 | 53 | 95 | 233 | 245 | 363 | 342 |
| Total | 436 | 474 | 502 | 403 | 212 | 90 | 61 | 99 | 174 | 339 | 332 | 456 | 452 |
| EXCHANGE EQUALISATION ACCOUNT: <br> Gold held Mn. fine oz. |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { March } \\ & 31 \text { st. } \\ & 26.67 \end{aligned}$ |  | Sept. 30th. 39.85 |  | March 31 st 42.55 |  | Sept. 30 th 21.68 |  |

## STOCKS OF STAPLE COMMODITIES.

Table supplementary to the summary table, p. 2, Special Mem. 32.

| Beginning of |  | (1) American Cotton. | (2) | (3) Copper. |  |  | (5) Spelter. | (6) <br> Rubber | (7) Sugar, <br> 1,000 | $\begin{gathered} \text { (8) } \\ \text { Tea. } \end{gathered}$ |  |  | (10) Wheat. Mn . | $\begin{array}{\|c\|} \hline(11) \\ \text { Petroleum } \\ \mathrm{Mn} \end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 1,000 bsales | 1,000 | tons. | U.S. | U.K. | tons. | tons. | tons | Mn. 1bs. | A | B | bushels. | barrels. |
| 1935 | Jan. | 9,070 | 15.5 | $524 \cdot 1$ | 209:8 | $19 \cdot 4$ | 118 | 679 | 7,887 | 279 | 6.6 | * | 448 | 565 |
|  | Jan | 8,581 | 19.2] | $520 \cdot 4$ | $203 \cdot 2$ | 18.9 | 110 | 653 | 8,058 | 267 | 6.9 | 19.0 | 411 | 570 |
|  | uly | 8,413 | 14.4 | $517 \cdot 7$ | $206 \cdot 3$ | $17 \cdot 1$ | 111 | 648 | 6,170 | 225 | 7.5 | $15 \cdot 5$ | 313 | 566 |
|  | Oct. | 8,141 | 11.5 | 474.6 | $200 \cdot 6$ | $9 \cdot 3$ | 104 | 641 | 4,688 | 216 | $7 \cdot 6$ | * | 367 | 547 |
| 1936 | Jan. | 7,488 | $13 \cdot 5$ | 433.2 | 198.5 | $7 \cdot 0$ | 83 | 576 | 6,237 | 247 | $7 \cdot 8$ | $22 \cdot 1$ | 397 | 541 |
|  | Apr | 6,768 | 16.5 | 431.5 | 199.5 | $6 \cdot 3$ | 80 | 539 | 6,671 | 232 | 8.2 | 22.2 | 349 | 551 |
|  | July | 6,384 | $15^{\circ} 0$ | 409•8 | $205 \cdot 8$ | 6.7 | 88 | 491 | 4,990 | 199 | $8 \cdot 1$ | $20 \cdot 8$ | 221 | 545 |
|  | Oct. | 6,508 | $15 \cdot 1$ | $339 \cdot 2$ | 179.0 | $7 \cdot 1$ | 82 | 457 | 2,983 | 201 | $7 \cdot 8$ | \# | 282 | 527 |
| 1937 | Jan. | 6,044 | 21.8 | $315 \cdot 3$ | 153.9 | $6 \cdot 1$ | 57 | 430 | 5,389 | 215 | $7 \cdot 9$ | * | 267 | 520 |
|  | Apr | 5,745 | 22.0 | $275 \cdot 3$ | $122 \cdot 5$ | $7 \cdot 1$ | 34 | 416 | 6,026 | 161 | $8 \cdot 1$ | 26.2 | 255 | 540 |
|  | July ... | 5,345 | $21 \cdot 1$ | 268.2 | 101.2 | $6 \cdot 3$ | 32 | 387 | 4,388 | 125 | 7.9 | $22 \cdot 6$ | 129 | 554 |
|  | Aug. ... | 5,459 | 23.7 | 279.5 | 99.2 | 6.2 | 33 | 399 | 3,636 | 111 | $7 \cdot 6$ | \% | 180 | 560 |
|  | Sept ... | 6,109 | 23.5 | 293.3 | 92.4 | 8.0 | 30 | 408 | 3,165 | 119 | $7 \cdot 6$ | * | 227 | 559 |
|  | Oct. ... | 6,652 | $20 \cdot 9$ | 307.8 | 81.0 | $7 \cdot 9$ | 33 | 428 | 2,816 | 130 | $7 \cdot 4$ | $22 \cdot 4$ | 253 | 563 |
|  | Nov. ... | 7,073 | $20 \cdot 8$ | $341 \cdot 3$ | 89.8 | $7 \cdot 8$ | 44 | 431 | 4,002 | 146 | $7 \cdot 5$ | * | 245 | 560 |
|  | Dec. | 7,878 | $21 \cdot 9$ | 369-3 | 101.4 | $7 \cdot 1$ | 59 | 446 | 5,981 | 177 | $7 \cdot 1$ | * | 249 |  |
| 1938 | Jan. . | 8,183 | $24 \cdot 1$ | $412 \cdot 3$ | $115 \cdot 5$ | $7 \cdot 0$ | 79 | 502 | 6,067 | 198 | 7.0 | 28.1 | 284 |  |
|  | Feb. | 8,610 | $23 \cdot 1$ | 451.8 | $119 \cdot 3$ | 8.2 | 99 | 500 | 5,821 | 204 | $7 \cdot 1$ |  | 275 |  |
|  | March | 9,361 | $21 \cdot 1$ | 473-1 | $123 \cdot 3$ | 9.0 | 117 | 522 | 6,309 | 197 | $7 \cdot 4$ |  | 255 |  |
|  | April... | 9,839 | $24 \cdot 6$ | $482 \cdot 4$ | 128.1 | 12.0 | 125 | 537 | 6,889 | 167 | $7 \cdot 4$ |  | 229 |  |
|  | May ... | 10,543 | $25 \cdot 3$ | 492.5 | $139 \cdot 7$ | 12.0 | 142 | 540 | 6,521 | 144 | $7 \cdot 5$ |  | 197 |  |
|  | June... | 11,280 | $23 \cdot 7$ | 495.0 | $146 \cdot 4$ | 11.2 | 154 | 522 | 5,955 | 138 | $7 \cdot 4$ |  | 158 |  |
|  | July | 12,059 | $24 \cdot 3$ | $492 \cdot 4$ | 145.8 | 9.4 | 157 | 525 | 5,255 | 141 | $7 \cdot 2$ |  | 140 |  |
|  | Aug.... | 12,808 | $25^{\circ}$ | 481.2 | 137.7 | 9.0 | 155 | 532 | 4,713 | 141 | 7.0 |  | 198 |  |
|  | Sept.... | 13,056 | $25 \cdot 7$ | $441 \cdot 5$ | 125.6 | 8.8 | 153 | 520 | 4,226 | 157 | $7 \cdot 3$ |  | 264 |  |
|  | Oct. .. | 13,222 | $26 \cdot 7$ | 408.4 | $117 \cdot 3$ | $9 \cdot 3$ | 142 | 508 | 3,601 | 169 | $7 \cdot 6$ |  | 333 |  |
|  | Nov. ... | 13,289 | 27.2 | 379:2 | 104.9 | 9.7 | 143 | 498 | 4,129 | 186 | 7.5 |  | 364 |  |
|  | Dec. ... | 13,277 | 27.0 | $379 \cdot 1$ | $102 \cdot 9$ | $9 \cdot 5$ | 132 | 470 | 5,958 | 208 | $7 \cdot 4$ |  | 430 |  |
| 1939 | Jan. ... | 13,233 $13,323+$ | $27 \cdot 8$ $30 \cdot 9$ | 408.2 428.6 | 1029 | $\begin{aligned} & 11.0 \\ & 12 \cdot 9 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 138 \\ & 139 \end{aligned}$ | 441 |  | $\begin{aligned} & 221 \\ & 231 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 7.4 \\ 7.9 \end{array}$ |  |  |  |
| \| April, 1935, onwards includes whole buffer stock. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | * Not available. |  |  |  | elimi | y figure. |  |
| (1) Total supply seasonally corrected, exclusive of European and Asiatic mill stocks. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | (7) Total visible supply. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| (2) Visible Supply plus estimate of Straits stocks. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | (8) Tea Brokers' Association, London stocks. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| (3) Total world stocks of refined copper only. <br> N.B.-This is not the same series as that discontinued since Oct., 1931. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | (9) (A) Visible supply. (B) Interior Brazil stock and San Paulo Pledged stock. Figures supplied by Messrs. Duuring \& Zoon. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| (4) U.K. stocks in official warehouses. <br> (5) Visible supply in U.K. and U.S. <br> (6) Crude rubber stocks (outside regulated areas) in U.K., U.S.A., Singapore, Penang, Para and Manaos plus estimated afloat as published by the International Rubber Regulation Committee. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\text { (10) } \mathrm{St}$ | Stanford Wheat Studies Estimates of Supply. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | (II) T | Total crude petroleum, refined products. |  | nat | gasol | (ex at | lants), |

## THE WAGE INDEX.

IN the December Bulletin (p. 527) it was pointed out that the Ministry of Labour's Wage Index showed a greater rise in recent years than did ours. In consequence of this discrepancy some of the items in our Index have been reconsidered, and the index recalculated. No essential difference has been made till the beginning of 1937, but from that date it has been found necessary to raise the index for coal,
which has considerable weight in the average. Early in 1936 a considerable increase was made in coal-miners' wages, partly by a change in the percentage additions to standard rates, partly by flat increases of so much per shift, partly by revised minima. Since these alterations it has not been possible to compute the changes, as in the past, by observing the percentage additions to the standards, and in the absence of evidence
little addition was made in 1937 or 1938 to the index．But for each quarter the average earnings per shift are published，some months in retard， and they show a considerable increase between the second quarter of 1936 and the second quarter of 1938．It has been decided to utilise these figures in computing the monthly index－ number，assuming that the average for each quarter is applicable to the second month of the quarter．For the months that elapse after each published statement of average rates it will be necessary to extrapolate on any available evidence， and to regard the most recent index－numbers as provisional．

Table I shows details of the revised index for December in each year from 1933．It will be remembered that these numbers apply in general to wage－rates，not to actual earnings， but there has always been some reference to earnings in industries where piece－rates are prevalent，since changes in piece－rates are often not reflected in earnings in exact proportion． In the future the number will be more hybrid， since the coal index will depend entirely on earnings．

TABLE I．CONSTRUCTION OF INDEX NUMBER OF WAGE RATES．
 $\ddagger$ Provisional．
Originally the industries were selected on the basis of their importance，with reference also to accessibility of data．The weights assigned were not strictly in accordance with the wage－bill in each industry，but were chosen so as to give what appeared to be due relative importance to different types of work．

The Ministry of Labour index equally applies to changes of rates of wages，not to earnings．No doubt average earnings increased more rapidly than rates in 1936－37，and are not improbably now losing that excess．The Ministry of Labour＇s index includes more industries than does ours，and assigns different weights．It is based on the average of 1924 and for comparison with ours，which is based on December，1924， needs reduction throughout by about $\mathbf{I} \%$ since the December wage was higher than the average in 1924．The two series march very well together， except in the increase from the fourth quarter of 1937 to the first quarter of 1938，when there were increases especially in industries not included in our numbers．It is to be noticed that the Ministry of Labour index is given to the nearest half－unit only，and this makes some roughness in comparison．

Our original and revised index－numbers are compared quarter by quarter with the Ministry of Labour Index in Table II．

|  |  |  | TABLE II． |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Bulletin Index Original Revised |  | Ministry of Labour |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Average， 1924 <br> December， 1924 |  |  | 100 | 100 |  |  |  |
| 1935，1st quarter |  | r | 944 | 944 | ．．． | 95 | 94 |
| 2nd | ， |  | $94 \frac{1}{2}$ | $94 \frac{1}{2}$ | $\ldots$ | 95 | 94 |
| 3 rd | ， | ．．． | 95 | 959 |  | 96 | 95 |
| 4th | ，＂ |  | 95 震 | 95 | ．．． |  | 95 |
| 1936，1st | ＂ | ．．． | 95 | 97 | $\ldots$ | $97 \frac{1}{2}$ | $96 \frac{1}{2}$ |
| 2nd | ＂， | $\ldots$ | $97 \frac{7}{4}$ | 97.4 | $\ldots$ | $98{ }^{2}$ | 97 |
| 3 rd | ，＂ | $\ldots$ | 98 | 98 | $\ldots$ | 982 | $97 \frac{1}{2}$ |
| 4th | ＂ |  | 98 | 98.1 | ．．． | $99{ }^{2}$ | $98{ }^{2}$ |
| 1937，1st | ＂， | ．． | 994 | 99.6 | $\ldots$ | 100 | 93 |
| 2nd | ＂ | ．．． | 1004 | $100 \cdot 6$ | ．．． | 101古 | $100 \frac{1}{2}$ |
| 3 rd | ＂， |  | 101 | 101.4 | ．．． | $102 \frac{1}{2}$ |  |
| 4th | ，＂ | ．．． | $102 \frac{1}{2}$ | 102.8 | ．．． | 103 $\frac{1}{2}$ | $102 \cdot 7$ |
| 1938，1st | ，＂ | ．．． | 103 | $103 \cdot 8$ | ． | 105⿺⿸⿻𠃋丿乚⿱亠乂⿱一土儿 | 104－2 |
| 2nd | ，＂ |  | $103 \frac{1}{4}$ | $104 \cdot 5$ |  | 106 | 105 |
| 3rd | ， | ．．． | 103 ${ }^{\frac{1}{4}}$ | $104 \cdot 5$ | ．．． | 106 | 105 |
| 4th | ， | ．．． | $103 \frac{1}{4}$ | $101 \cdot 6$ |  | 106 | 105 |

Table III gives our original and revised index monthly from January， 1937 ；no change is made for earlier dates．


# SCANDINAVIA AND ANGLO-GERMAN TRADE COMPETITION 

By A. Sheinfield.

THERE is reason to believe that the year 1938 marked the end of a chapter in the development of the German Government's foreign trade policy. The ultimate aim of this policy, the increase of the power of the German State through the central control of the economic activity of the nation, remains unaltered. But its more immediate aims, and the methods of application adopted, are likely henceforth to show important changes.

Since 1933 German foreign trade has been dominated by the barter principle. As nearly as possible current debit items of external payment have balanced current credit items. The origin of the policy of barter was the desire to safeguard the currency against depreciation to world parity by an external drain, but it has without doubt also recommended itself to the authorities because it is a powerful instrument of national economic planning. The result of this policy has been to promote German trade in those regions where governments could be induced to expand sales and purchases on a barter basis. These have been principally the weak currency countries of South-East Europe and of South America. Thus until 1937 it served Germany well enough to take some share, where possible, in the rising trade of the freecurrency countries, but to rely for exceptional expansion on her power to exploit the weakness of controlled-currency countries. There was indeed a considerable shift, except in the case of certain raw material imports, away from the creditor and free-currency countries to the controlled-currency countries. This shift was masked by the effect of the rise in the total trade of the former which came to an end in 1937.

In 1938 German exports fell heavily, whereas imports were approximately maintained at the 1937 level. Though the possibility of further expansion in South-East Europe and in South America by barter methods may still exist, it appears to be insufficient to meet Germany's future needs. Moreover, during 1938 imports from certain free-currency countries were substantially increased. According to the barter system these must be liquidated at a later stage by increased German exports to those countries, or alternatively, German imports from them
must be reduced. It is likely, therefore, that 1939 will see the beginning of a new campaign to force German exports in the free markets of the world.

The countries lying to the north of Germany form an obvious mark for such a campaign. It is true that the share of world trade taken by the four Scandinavian countries is not large, though it has grown considerably in recent years. The following table is extracted from the Review of World Trade of the League of Nations' Economic Intelligence Service.
PERCENTAGE OF WORLD TRADE, VALUED IN U.S.A. (OLD) GOLD DOLLARS.

|  |  | ImPORTS |  |  |  | Exports |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | 1929 | 1937 |  | 1929 | 1937 |
| Sweden | $\ldots$ | .. | $1 \cdot 3$ | $2 \cdot 0$ | ... | 1.5 | 2.0 |
| Denmark | ... | ... | $1 \cdot 3$ | $1 \cdot 3$ | ... | $1 \cdot 3$ | $1 \cdot 3$ |
| Norway | ... | ... | 0.8 | 1.2 | ... | 0.6 | 0.8 |
| Finland | ... | ... | 0.5 | 0.7 | ... | 0.5 | 0.8 |
| Total of a |  | $\ldots$ | 3.9 | $5 \cdot 2$ | ... | 3.9 | 4.9 |
| World | ... | ... | 100 | 100 | ... | 100 | 100 |

Nevertheless their markets are very important to Great Britain and Germany, as is shown in the following table:-

| Imports from- |  | United King dom £ Mn. |  |  | Germany <br> Rm. Mn. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 1929 | 1938 | ... | 1929 | 1938 |
| Sweden |  | 23 | 25 | ... | 350 | 262 |
| Denmark | ... | 54 | 38 | $\ldots$ | 370 | 166 |
| Norway |  | 12 | 11 | ... | 143 | 99 |
| Finland |  | 13 | 19 | ... | 114 | 89 |
| Total above | . | 101 | 93 | ... | 977 | 615 |
| All countries. | ... | 1,221 | 920 | ... | 13,435 | 5,449 |
| Exports to- |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sweden | $\ldots$ | 10 | 12 | ... | 476 | 267 |
| Denmark |  | 10 | 16 |  | 483 | 202 |
| Norway |  | 13 | 8 |  | 227 | 123 |
| Finland |  |  | 6 | $\cdots$ | 188 | 82 |
| Total above |  | 35 | 41 |  | 1,374 | 674 |
| All countries ... | ... | 729 | 471 |  | 13,482 | 5,257 |

Thus these four countries, with a total population of some 16 million people, took about $8 \%$ of British exports and about $13 \%$ of German exports in 1938.

Both Great Britain and Germany have sought to regulate their Scandinavian trade in a manner as nearly as possible suited to the enew economic policies which they adopted early in the present decade. But whereas Great Britain has been successful in expanding her share of the trade of these countries, Germany has been successful in little more than the establishment of clearing systems on the barter principle.

The following table shows the development of the shares taken by Britain and Germany in the imports and exports of Sweden, Denmark, Norway and Finland. The percentage shares taken by Britain and Germany in the region as a whole have been obtained by weighting the figures for each country according to the percentage share taken by it in the total imports and exports of the world, as measured in old gold dollars by the Economic Intelligence Section of the League of Nations.


GERMANY'S PERCENTAGE OF TRADE OF OTHER COUNTRIES.

|  | Imports. |  |  | Exports. |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1929 | 1932 | 1937 | 1929 | 1932 | 1937 |
| Sweden | $30 \cdot 8$ | 29-3 | 22.5 | 15.2 | 9.5 | $15 \cdot 5$ |
| Denmark | $32 \cdot 9$ | $25 \cdot 9$ | $23 \cdot 9$ | 19.9 | 13.2 | 18.6 |
| Norway | $24 \cdot 4$ | $21 \cdot 3$ | 16.5 | 13.0 | $12 \cdot 1$ | 13 |
| Finland | $38 \cdot 3$ | 28.7 | 19.4 | 14.4 | $8 \cdot 3$ | $13 \cdot 1$ |
| Total of above | 310 | 26.5 | 210 | 16.5 | 11.0 |  |

* Explanation of table. Of Sweden's imports in 1929, 17.3\% in value came from the United Kingdom, and of her exports $24.8 \%$ went to the United Kingdom ; and so on.

It is seen that in each case the relative importance of imports from Great Britain has grown, in the case of Denmark and of Finland by a very large proportion. At the same time the relative importance of imports from Germany has declined, in each case by a large proportion. The year 1937 was by far the best year for German exports since 193I. Nevertheless the share taken by Germany in the Scandinavian market declined by about one fifth between 1932 and 1937.

During the first nine months of 1938 German imports from these countries, showed a noticeable increase, quite out of proportion to the trend of imports from all countries.

| GERMAN |  | N TRADE. "OLD REICH." JRm. 000,000's. |  |  |  | JAN.-SEPT. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Imports. |  |  | Exports. \% |  |  |
|  |  | 1937 | 1938 | change | 1937 | 1938 | \% ${ }^{\text {\% }}$ |
| Sweden |  | $164 \cdot 3$ | 2059 | $+25$ | $203 \cdot 6$ | $190 \cdot 1$ | $-6$ |
| Norway |  | $74 \cdot 7$ | 76.9 | $+3$ | $102 \cdot 7$ | 86.1 | -16 |
| Denmark |  | 108.4 | 123.6 | +14 | 162.6 | $145 \cdot 1$ | -11 |
| Finland | ... | $42 \cdot 5$ | $66 \cdot 3$ | +56 | $54 \cdot 3$ | 59.6 | $+10$ |
| All Countr | ies | 3899 | 4021 | $+3$ | 4195 | 3858 | - 8 |

Since the rapid progress of German exports to the weak-currency countries has been founded on the debts incurred on account of heavy imports, it was feared in some quarters that
a substantial increase in German exports to balance the increase in imports might follow. A more detailed examination of the circumstances, however, shows that on this particular score there is little for British exporters to fear. In the case of Sweden, the German authorities have the responsibility to direct their trade in such a way that clearing balances do not accumulate. In spite of the increased German purchases from Sweden during the first nine months of 1938, there were no delays in payment. And indeed, during the last three months of the year, Germany cut her purchases from Sweden sharply. In the case of Denmark, trade with Germany is governed by the principle that the value of Danish exports to Germany in any quarter is determined by the payments made in the preceding quarter in respect of imports of German goods. The magnitude of German imports from Denmark is thus principally decided by Danish import needs from Germany, and not vice versa. The increase of German imports from Denmark in 1938 was partly due to the fact that in 1937 Germany paid off some debts to Denmark by deliveries in kind. Denmark was thus entitled to increase her exports to Germany in respect of these payments. In the case of Norway, German imports declined in the last quarter of the year. In the case of Finland, however, it is true that some increase of German exports may be expected. On July 13th, 1938, an agreement was signed between Germany and Finland whereby provision was made for an increase in German payments for imports from Finland.

The method of the import surplus thus does not appear to be available to Germany in this case for the purpose of preparing an export drive on a large scale. Nor would the mere offer of bulk buying in the future appear likely to promise greater success. For all four Scandinavian countries are at present in an economic and financial position sound enough to withstand a decline in foreign demand for a considerable time without recourse to such doubtful expedients as long-term contracts with Germany which would be made at the expense of their interests in other countries. It seems therefore, that if it is to be successful, a German export drive in these countries must take the form of pricecutting, so substantial and prolonged that they will be induced to turn their trade into new channels. To appraise the likelihood of success for such a policy we must take into account the ability of Germany to subsidise exports at a sufficient rate for a sufficient time ; the existing agreements which govern Scandinavian trade
with other countries, especially Great Britain ; and the development of the export policy of the British Government.

There can be no doubt that it is possible for Germany to resort to very heavy dumping for a short time. But it is at least doubtful that she will be able to do so for a prolonged period. The full effects of the Four Year Plan on German industry cannot yet be foreseen, but there is no evidence to suggest that it will so alter the cost and price structure of German industry as to strengthen its competitive power. At this stage it would be wise not to rate Germany's power to carry on a lengthy pricecutting campaign too highly.

Since 1933 British trade with each of these countries has been governed by an agreement, whereby a guaranteed percentage of coal imports is taken from Britain and certain British manufactures are favoured with preferential tariffs. Sweden has agreed to take $47 \%$ of her foreign coal requirements from Britain, Denmark $80 \%$, Norway $70 \%$ and Finland $70 \%$. Up to the present time these agreements have been loyally kept, subject to adjustments necessary to make good a deficiency in one calendar year in the next year. The benefit to British coal exports is shown in the following table.

| K. COAL EXPORTS. Mn. Ton |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 1929 |  | 1932 |  | 1937 |  | 1938 |
| Sweden | $\ldots$ | $2 \cdot 3$ |  | 1.4 | ... | $3 \cdot 3$ |  | 2.7 |
| Denmark |  | $2 \cdot 2$ |  | $2 \cdot 1$ | $\ldots$ | $3 \cdot 3$ |  | 3.0 |
| Norway |  | 1.4 |  | 0.9 |  | $1 \cdot 6$ |  | 1.4 |
| Finland | ... | 0.5 | ... | 0.5 |  | 1.4 |  | $1 \cdot 1$ |

From 1932 to 1937 British exports of coal to these countries showed a steady increase, whereas total exports of coal showed very little improvement. In 1938 there was a setback, partly owing to a slight decline in business activity in Scandinavia, but mainly owing to the continued rise of British coal prices. A similar movement is shown in the figures of exports of British manufactures.

In view of the advantages offered by the free currency obtainable in the British market,
the Scandinavian countries are not likely to divert their trade unless the disparity between British and other prices is substantial and likely to be permanent. If this appears to be the case, the British authorities may adopt one of three policies. In the first place they may decide to oppose Germany with her own methods. To this policy there would be many grave objections even if it were efficacious. But in fact the yield of this policy may be much less than is commonly anticipated. In the case of coal it is doubtful whether domestic prices can be raised in order to subsidise exports without seriously hampering other industries. No doubt in the case of manufactures the home consumer could bemade to provide a substantial fighting fund for exports. But in the case of both coal and manufactures, to enter into a competition in subsidies is to induce some customers to hold up purchases in the hope that the competitors will raise the rate of subsidy. This might well outweigh the gains among customers whose requirements are urgent. Secondly, they may agree to share markets in third countries in fixed proportions. It is reported that the British and German coal interests have agreed to this in principle. Whether or no this leads to an agreement in fact, there must be some doubt as to the wisdom of this policy. It is not yet certain that Germany can maintain a heavy export offensive for long. If agreement to share markets is indeed reached, it may be regarded as presumptive evidence that she cannot ; for agreement on the basis of past exports will not enable her to cover her current volume of imports. Moreover in the case of coal a third competitor, Poland, with large supplies of cheap coal lately increased by the Teschen output of some six million tons annually, is to be considered. Before either of these two policies is precipitately decided upon, it might be well to re-examine the third policy of giving imports into Britain a greater measure of freedom, without, however, excluding the right to discriminate against those countries which discriminate against British goods.

FINANCE.



* Bank Rate 2 per cent. since June 30th, 1932.
+ Exclusive of Investments in Affiliated Banks. For Table of Exchanges see p. 94. $\quad$ i.e. excl. Metropolitan.

STOCKS \& SHARES-
NEW CAPITAL ISSUESBANK CLEARINGS-

BANK OF ENGLAND-
PRINCIPAL BANKS-
TREASURY BILLS-
MONEY-

Inder Nos, of Prices and Yleld as percentage of 1924 level; on 15th of month.
Sensitive Index.-Geometric Mean of monthly percentage changes. For end of month figures see Supplements, Issues during month in Gt. Britain (a), for U.K. (b), for Abroad, excluding Government loans, etc.-As published borie Town Clearinann, LTD,
Stock Eown Clearitan) of London Bankers Clearing House for 3 weeks covering - Lond Emenange, setlement days, Consols settlement day, and 4th of following month. Country Clearings Deposits 11th-17th of Deposits.
"Current Deposit and other accounts," etc. 11th-17th of month. Issues amalgamated, November 22nd, 1928. he National Bank, Ltd., and the District Bank) - As published by THE MIDL clearing banks (i.e.-excluding ssued by tender. Total of Bills issued by tender during 13 peeks preceding date of LTD
(11th to 17 th of month). Otherwise issued. Total of Treasury Bills in existence less those isgued by tender. Day-to-Day Rate and 3 Months' Rate. Averazes for week ending 15th of month.

## PRICES.



* NORMAL SEASONAL CHANGE REMOVED.

|  | WHOLESALE. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | RETAIL. |  |  |  | WAGES. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Price of | Bar | Board of Trade Index Nos. |  |  | Statist (Sauerbeck) Index Nos. |  |  |  | M. of Labour. |  |  |  | Index of Average Weekly Wages. \% |
|  | Gold. | Silver <br> (Cash). | General | Food. | Materials, |  |  | Raw |  |  | ing. |  |  |  |
|  | s. per fine oz. | d. per oz. | \% | \% | \% | \% | \% | caterials. | \% | \% | \% | \% | \% |  |
| 1924 Av... | $93 \cdot 69 \dagger$ | 34.0 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | * | 100 | 100 | 100 | $\star$ | 100 | $\star$ | 100* |
| 1929 Av... | $84.95 \dagger$ | 24.5 | 82.2 | $87 \cdot 4$ | $79 \cdot 4$ | 84 | - | 81 | 82 | 94 | - | 94 | - | 994 |
|  | 124.87† | 18.1 | 61.6 | $63 \cdot 1$ | 60.7 | 57.5 | - | 57 | 57.5 | 79.5 | - | 70.5 | - | 94 |
| 1933 Av... 1934 Av... | $137.65 \dagger$ | 121.4 | $63 \cdot 3$ | $64 \cdot 8$ | $62 \cdot 4$ | 59.5 | - | 58 | 59 | 80.5 | - | 72 | - | 94 |
| 1935 Av... | $142 \cdot 10 \dagger$ | 29.0 | $64^{\circ}$ | $66^{\circ}$ | $62 \cdot 7$ | 59 | - | 61.5 | 61 | 81.5 | - | 73.5 | - | 95 |
| 1936 Av... | $140.29 \dagger$ | 20.2 | $67 \cdot 9$ | 69.9 | $66^{\prime} 7$ | 62 | - | 65 | 64 | 84.5 | - | 765 | - | $100 \frac{3}{4}$ |
| 1937 Av... | 140.76† | $20 \cdot 1$ | 78.2 | $77 \cdot 8$ | $78^{\circ} 0$ | 71.5 | - | 75 | 73 |  |  |  |  |  |
| ${ }_{\text {JULY }}^{1935}$ |  |  | $63 \cdot 3$ | 64•7 | $62 \cdot 5$ | $58 \cdot 5$ | 58.5 | $61 \cdot 5$ | $60 \cdot 5$ | 81.5 | $82 \cdot 5$ | 74 | 75.5 | 95 |
| JULY ... | 140.80 140.29 | $30 \cdot 7$ 29.8 | $63 \cdot 6$ | $65 \cdot 3$ | $62 \cdot 5$ | 59 | $59 \cdot 5$ | 61.5 | $60 \cdot 5$ | 81.5 | 82 | 73.5 | 74 | 95 |
| SEP' | 140.83 | $29 \cdot 3$ | $64 \cdot 4$ | $67 \cdot 0$ | $62 \cdot 9$ | $59 \cdot 5$ | 60 | 62 | 61 | 83 | 82.5 | 75 | 74.5 | 95 |
| OCT. ...... | $141 \cdot 78$ | 29.4 | $65 \cdot 6$ | 68.1 | $64^{\circ}$ | 59.5 | 60 | 63 | $61^{\circ} 5$ | 84 | 82.5 | 77 | 745 | 95 |
| NOV....... | 141.38 | $29 \cdot 3$ | $65 \cdot 7$ | 67.2 | $64 \cdot 6$ | 58.5 59.5 | 59 $59 \cdot 5$ | 64 | 62.5 | 84 84 | 82.5 | 77 | 74.5 | 95 |
| DEC...... | $141 \cdot 10$ | 27.2 | $65 \cdot 8$ | 67.4 | $64^{*} 7$ | 59.5 | 9'5 |  | 625 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1936 | $140 \cdot 89$ | $20 \cdot 4$ | $66^{\circ}$ | $67 \cdot 7$ | $65^{\circ} 0$ | $60 \cdot 5$ | 60 | 63.5 | $62 \cdot 5$ | 84 | 83 |  |  | 984 |
| FEB. ...... | 140.77 | $19 \cdot 9$ | $65 \cdot 9$ | $67 \cdot 1$ | 65.2 | $59 \cdot 5$ | 69 | 64 | $62 \cdot 5$ | 83.5 | 83 88.5 |  | 75 | 97 |
| MAR...... | 141.04 | $19 \cdot 7$ | $65 \cdot 9$ | $66 \cdot 4$ 66.4 | $65 \cdot 4$ $65 \cdot 6$ | 59.5 | 69 68.5 | 64 | 61.5 | 82.5 | 84 | 73.5 | 76 | 97 i |
| APRIL ... | 140.85 140.21 | 20.5 20.5 | $66^{\prime} 1$ | $67 \cdot 1$ | $65 \cdot 3$ | 60 | $59 \cdot 5$ | 62 | 61.5 | 82.5 | 84 | 74 | 76.5 | 974 |
| JUNE . | 139.55 | 19.9 | 66.6 | 68.0 | $65 \cdot 6$ | 60 | 60 | 61 | $60 \cdot 5$ | 83.5 | 84.5 | $75 \cdot 5$ | 77 | 971 |
| JULY ... | 138.92 | $19 \cdot 7$ | $67 \cdot 3$ | 68.4 | 66.5 | 61 | 61 | 63 | 62.5 | 83.5 | 84.5 | 75.5 | ${ }_{7 \%}^{7 \%}$ | 98 |
| AUG....... | 138.40 | 19.5 | $68 \cdot 5$ | $71 \cdot 3$ | 66.8 | 63 | 63 | $64 \cdot 5$ | 64 |  | 84.5 | 77 | 77.5 | 98 |
| 8EPT. ... | 137.48 | $19 \cdot 5$ | $69 \cdot 1$ | $72 \cdot 3$ | $67 \cdot 3$ | 64 | 65 | 65 | 65 | 84.5 | 84 | 77.5 | 76.5 77.5 | 98 |
| OCT. ...... | 141.94 | $20 \cdot 0$ | $70 \cdot 2$ | 74.6 | $67 \cdot 7$ | 65.5 | 66 | 66 | 66 | 86.5 | 84 | 80 | 77 | 98 |
| NOV....... | 142.55 | 21.7 | $70 \cdot 7$ 72.5 | 73.6 75.6 | 69.0 70.7 | $65 \cdot 5$ 67.5 | ${ }_{6}^{66} \cdot 5$ | 69 73 | 68 71 | 86.5 |  | 80 | $77 \cdot 5$ | 98 |
| DEC...... | 141.82 | 21.2 | 72.5 | 756 75.6 | 70.8 | 67.5 | 67.5 67.5 | 73.5 | 71.5 | 86.5 |  |  |  | $99 \pm$ |
| JAN. ...... | 141.60 | 21.2 $20 \cdot 1$ | 74.0 74.7 | 75.6 75.0 | $72 \cdot 8$ 74.2 | 67.5 68.5 | $67^{6}$ | $73 \cdot 5$ 76 | 73 | 86.5 | 85.6 - | 79.5 | 78.5 | 100 |
| MEB. | 142.09 142.43 | $20 \cdot 1$ $20 \cdot 6$ | $77 \cdot{ }^{7} \cdot 1$ | 76.6 | $77 \cdot 1$ | 73 | 72.5 | 79.5 | 77 | 86.5 | 87.5 | 79.5 | 81.5 | 100 |
| APRIL | 141.61 | 20.9 | 78.2 | 77.6 | $78 \cdot 3$ | 73 | 72 | 76 | 75 | 87 | 89 | 80 | 82.5 | 1004 |
| MAY... | 140.60 | 20.4 | 79.6 | $77 \cdot 5$ | $80 \cdot 3$ | 73.5 | 72.5 | $77 \cdot 5$ | 76 | 87 | 89 | 80 | 83 | 1007 |
| JUNE. | $140 \cdot 54$ | $20 \cdot 0$ | $79 \cdot 6$ | $77 \cdot 3$ | $80 \cdot 3$ | 72 | 72 | 77 | 75 | 88.5 | 90 | 82 | 84 | 1003 |
| JULY | $140 \cdot 17$ | $20 \cdot 1$ | 80.2 | $78 \cdot 3$ | $80 \cdot 8$ | 73 | 78 | $77 \cdot 5$ | 76 | 88.5 | $89 \cdot 5$ | 82 | 83.5 | 101 |
| AUG. | 139.45 | $19 \cdot 9$ | $80 \cdot 1$ | 78.2 | $80 \cdot 7$ | 72.5 | 73 | 76 | 75 | 88.5 | 89 |  | 83 | 101 ${ }^{4}$ |
| SEP' | $140 \cdot 47$ | $19 \cdot 9$ | $79 \cdot 9$ | 78.9 | $80 \cdot 2$ | 72.5 | 73.5 | 75 | 74 | 90 | $89 \cdot 5$ |  | 83 | $101 \frac{3}{4}$ |
| OC'T. | 140.42 | 20.0 | 79.5 | $80 \cdot 2$ | 78.8 | 72.5 | 73.5 | 72 | 72 | 91.5 | 89.5 | 85.5 | ${ }_{83}^{83.6}$ | 1024 |
| NOV. ...... | $140 \cdot 18$ $139 \cdot 84$ | $19 \cdot 7$ 18.8 | 78.0 77.4 | $79 \cdot 5$ $79 \cdot 5$ | 76.9 76.0 | 70.5 71.5 | 71.5 71.5 | 69 69 | $69 \cdot 5$ 70 | $91 \cdot 5$ 91 | 89 89 | $85 \cdot 5$ 85 | $82 \cdot 5$ 82.5 | 103 103 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 1938 \\ & \text { JAN. ... } \end{aligned}$ | 139.84 139.67 | 18.8 19.8 | $77 \cdot 4$ 77.5 | 79.5 79.9 | 76.0 75.9 | 71.5 70.5 | 715 70 | 69 68.5 | 70 $69 \cdot 5$ | 91 89.5 | 8.9 88.5 | 85 83.5 | 825 82 | 1034 |
| FEB. | $139 \cdot 73$ | 20.2 | 76.1 | 78.7 | 74.4 | 70 | 69 | 69 | $69 \cdot 5$ | 89 | 88.5 | 82 | 81.5 | 104 |
| MAR. | 139.62 | $20 \cdot 3$ | $74 \cdot 8$ | 76.6 | $73 \cdot 6$ | 69 | 69 | 66.5 | 68 | 88 | 89 | 80.5 | $82 \cdot 5$ | 104 |
| APRIL | 139.91 | 18.8 | $74 \cdot 1$ | 76.3 | $72 \cdot 7$ | 69 | 68 | 66 | 67 | 89 | 91 | 81.5 | 84.5 | $104 \frac{1}{2}$ |
| MAY | 139.87 | $18 \cdot 7$ | $73 \cdot 4$ | 76.4 | 71.5 | 68 | 67 | 64 | 65.5 | 88.5 | 90.5 |  | 84 | $104 \frac{1}{2}$ |
| JUNE | $140 \cdot 61$ | 18.9 | $72 \cdot 4$ | $75 \cdot 6$ | $70 \cdot 5$ | 67.5 | $67 \cdot 5$ | 64.5 | $65 \cdot 5$ | 91 | 92 | 85.5 | $87 \cdot 5$ | 1041 |
| JULY. | $141 \cdot 19$ | $19 \cdot 3$ | $72 \cdot 3$ | 74.4 | $70 \cdot 9$ | 65 | 65 | 65.5 | 65.5 | 89 | 90 | 83 | 84.5 | $104 \frac{1}{2}$ |
| AUG. | 142.57 | $19 \cdot 5$ | 71.5 | $72 \cdot 1$ | $70 \cdot 9$ | 62 | 62.5 | 64.5 | $63 \cdot 5$ | 89 | $89 \cdot 5$ | 82. | 83 | $104 \frac{1}{2}$ |
| SEPT. | 144.47 | $19 \cdot 5$ | $70 \cdot 7$ | 69.9 | 70.8 | $\stackrel{61}{59} 5$ | 62. | $65 \cdot 5$ | $63 \cdot 5$ | 88.5 | 88 | 81.5 | 80.5 | $104 \frac{1}{2}$ |
| NUV | 146.45 146.83 | $19 \cdot 7$ 19.7 | 71.2 70.7 | 70.5 69.0 | $71 \cdot 3$ 71.4 | $59 \cdot 5$ 58 | 60.5 58.5 | $66 \cdot 5$ | 64 | 89 | $87 \cdot 5$ 87 |  | 79.5 78.5 | $104 \frac{1}{2}$ |
| DEC. | 148.93 | $20 \cdot 1$ | $70 \cdot 6$ | $69 \cdot 8$ | $70 \cdot 8$ | $60 \cdot 5$ | 60.5 | 66.5 | 64 | 88.5 |  |  | 78.5 | $104 \frac{1}{2}$ |
| JAN. | 148.82 148.33 | $\begin{aligned} & 20 \cdot 3 \\ & 20 \cdot 3 \end{aligned}$ | $69 \cdot 9$ | $70 \cdot 4$ | $69 \cdot 3$ | 61 | $60 \cdot 5$ | $65 \cdot 5$ | 64 | 88.5 | 87.5 |  | 79.5 | $\begin{aligned} & 104 \frac{1}{2} \\ & 104 \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$ |
| $\dagger$ Average of daily quotations for year. |  |  |  | * NORMAL SEASONAL CHANGE REMOVED. $\ddagger$ Lines revised from 1937; see article p. 79 . |  |  |  |  |  |  | * December, 1924. |  |  |  |

PRICE OF GOLD-
Average (London) price per fine oz. for week ending 15 th of month.-ECONOMIST.
PRICE OF SILVER- Average (cash) price of bar silver for week ending 15 th of month.-ECONOMIST.
BOARD OF TRADE INDEX—Geometric Mean of Wholesale Prices (averages for month) of 200 commodities as jercentage of 1924 average. Based on new inder first published in January, 1935.-BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL.
8TATIST (SAUERBECK) Average wholesale prices of 19 foodstuffs and 26 raw materials on last day of month, as percentage of average INDICES-for 1924.-STATIST

COST OF LIVING INDEX - Ministry of Labour's index showing movement since 1924 in cost of maintaining unchanged the standard of living prevalent in working-class households before the war. For 1 st of month, but placed against previous -e.g., reading for March 1st is shown against February-to facilitate comparison with " Statist " index

## OUTPUT AND INTERNAL ACTIVITY.



OUTPUT AND INTERNAL ACTIVITY．

|  | OUTPUT． |  |  |  |  | RETAIL SALES． |  |  |  |  | RAILWAYS．＊ |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Coal． <br> Tons <br> Mn ． | Pig Iron <br> Tons <br> 000 | Steel． <br> Tons <br> 000 | Elec－ tricity． <br> Mn ． <br> Units． |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { जू․ . } \\ & \text { 由్ } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  | reight ard Ga Weight $\begin{aligned} & \text { தं } \\ & \text { 品 } \end{aligned}$ $0000 \text { to }$ | s． | ilways． Re － ceipts All Goods $\boldsymbol{2 M n}$ ． |
| 1924 Av．．． | 21.2 | 520 | 641 | 508 | $2 \cdot 11$ |  |  |  | 115 |  | 544 | 1743 | 551 | 8.89 |
| 1929 Av．． | 20.7 | 581 | 756 | 858 | 4.74 | － | － | － | 132 | $71 \cdot 1$ | 515 | 1722 | 545 | 8.91 |
| 1983 Ar ．．． | 16.7 | 316 | 551 | 1130 | 7.01 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 135 | 90.1 96.4 | 353 375 | 1270 1329 | $\begin{aligned} & 333 \\ & 392 \end{aligned}$ | 6.23 6.57 |
| 1934 Av ．．． | 17.8 | 458 | 694 | 1289 | 7.76 10.32 | 103 | 103 | 103 109 | 137 140 | $96 \cdot 4$ $101 \cdot 3$ | 375 375 | 1329 1335 | $\begin{aligned} & 392 \\ & 391 \end{aligned}$ | 6.57 6.62 |
| 1935Av．． | 18.0 18.3 | 493 586 | 775 912 | 1464 | 10.32 12.11 | 1108 | 111 | 119 | 147 | $105 \cdot 3$ | 398 | 1362 | 421 | 6．93 |
| 1937 Av．．．． | 19.4 | 651 | 1019 | 1909 | 12.90 | 119 | 131 | 125 | 154 | 109＊8 | 416 | 1442 | 454 | $7 \cdot 29$ |
| $\begin{aligned} & 1935 \\ & \text { JULY ... } \end{aligned}$ | 15.7 | 494 | 707 | 1216 | 10.91 | 113 | 105 | 109 | 135 | 117.2 | 349 | 1068 | 358 | 5.77 8.45 |
| AUG．．．．．． | $16.7^{\circ}$ | 491 | 711 | 1189 | 7.54 | 81 | 107 | 94 | 129 | 115.9 | 371 | 1287 | 371 | 6．45 |
| SEPT． | $17 \cdot 3$ | 494 | 818 | 1320 | 9.74 | 99 | 110 | 104 | 140 | 105•1 | 391 | 1325 | 378 426 | 6.72 7.27 |
| OCT．．．．． | 17.7 | 492 | 798 | 1650 | 12.52 | 114 | 112 | 113 | 144 | $104 \cdot 3$ | 421 | 1514 |  | 7.27 7.48 |
| NOV．．．．．． | 19.1 20.20 | 494 | 8846 | 1758 1929 | 11.83 9.95 | 1115 | 116 133 | 1115 | 145 190 | 96.1 89 | 419 | 1475 1433 |  | 7.88 6.80 |
| $\underset{1986}{\text { DEC...... }}$ | $20 \cdot 2^{\circ}$ | 505 | 812 | 1929 | 9.95 | 160 | 133 | 146 | 190 | 89.8 | 360 | 1527 |  |  |
| JAN．．．．．． | 20.0 19.6 | 538 | 802 917 | 1970 | 11.94 | 118 | 115 116 | 116 | 139 135 | 94.5 86.9 | 366 | 1527 | 388 | 6.99 7.14 |
| FEB．．．．． | 19.6 18.8 | 565 | 917 899 | 1824 | $11 \cdot 70$ 12.40 | 88 97 | 116 | 102 | 135 | 86.9 96.2 | 384 400 | 1444 | 435 | 7.24 |
| APR． | $18.0{ }^{18}$ | 588 | 888 | 1554 | 10.87 | 113 | 121 | 117 | 141 | 104.4 | 377 | 1259 | 415 | 7.58 |
| MAY． | 17.9 | 597 | 901 | 1457 | 12.97 | 121 | 116 | 118 | 140 | 111.7 | 398 | 1349 | 449 | 7.05 |
| JUNE ．． | $17.1^{\circ}$ | 601 | 924 | 1334 | 12.32 | 109 | 119 | 114 | 140 | 112．0 |  | $\begin{aligned} & 1205 \\ & 1240+ \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 432 \\ & 424 \dagger \end{aligned}$ | 6.48 $6.50+$ |
| JULY | $16 \cdot 3$ | 601 | 857 | 1403 | 13.81 | 116 | 115 | 115 | 142 | 121.5 | 378 | 1156 | 381 | ${ }^{6} \cdot 29$ |
| AUG．．．．．． | $17.9{ }^{\circ}$ | 574 | 853 | 1332 | 9.86 | 85 | 116 | 101 | 135 | 116.2 | 401 | 1298 | 409 | 6.80 |
| SEPT．．．． | 17.7 | 607 | 941 | 1544 | 13.24 | 100 | 118 | 109 | 149 | 113.9 |  |  |  |  |
| OCT．． | 18.5 | 588 | 952 | 1860 | 13.49 | 123 | 120 | 121 | 151 | 108.5 | 436 | 11377 | 452 | 7.41 7.47 |
| NOV．．． | 18.8 $18.8 \pm$ | 600 606 | 927 959 | 2010 2180 | 11.76 10.95 | 122 | 123 142 | 123 154 | 155 | 97.0 100.6 | 437 403 | 1463 1476 | 429 | 7.47 $7 \cdot 10$ |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { DEC... } \\ 1937 \end{gathered}$ | $18.8 \pm$ 19.3 | 606 | 959 935 | 2180 | 10.95 11.74 | 167 | 142 119 | 154 119 | 201 | 100.6 96.0 | 403 | 1476 | 422 | 7.89 6.89 |
| FEB． | 19.3 | 588 604 | 935 996 | 1944 | 11.72 | 95 | 123 | 110 | 146 | 93.5 | 404 | 1542 | 415 | $7 \cdot 40$ |
| MAR． | 19.8 §ु | 614 | 1061 | 2074 | 12.52 | 111 | 137 | 124 | 149 | 104.1 | 419 | 1572 | 422 | $7 \cdot 60$ |
| APR．．． | 20.4 | 635 | 991 | 1832 | 13.67 | 115 | 122 | 119 | 152 | $115 \cdot 1$ | 418 | 1446 | 440 | 7.29 |
| MAY． | $19.9{ }^{\circ}$ | 629 | 1072 | 1621 | $12 \cdot 18$ | 130 | 139 | 134 | 145 | 109．3 | 414 | 1441 | 457 | 7.23 |
| JUNE ．．． | 18.8 | 653 | 1014 | 1574 | 14.06 | 114 | 125 | 119 | 146 | 121.0 | 411 | $1367$ | $\begin{aligned} & 465 \\ & 470+ \end{aligned}$ | 7.02 7.03 |
| JULY ．．． | 17.3 | 659 | 951 | 1588 | 14.60 | 123 | 127 | 125 | 144 | 128.1 | 386 | 1244 | 434 | 6.40 |
| AUG．．．．．． | $18.8{ }^{\circ}$ | 645 | 945 | 1529 | 10.80 | 89 | 126 | 108 | 141 | $120 \cdot 1$ | 422 | 1370 | 463 | $7 \cdot 11 \cdot 1$ |
| SEPT． | 19.2 | 678 | 1066 | 1752 | 14.40 | 108 | 128 | 118 | 152 | 117.9 | 442 | 1446 | 470 | 7.46 |
| OCT．．．．．． | $19 \cdot 6$ | 695 | 1061 | 2029 | 13.57 | 122 | 130 | 127 | 156 | 108.9 | 442 | 1439 | 487 | 7.87 7 |
| NOV．．．． | 19.9 | 711 | 1080 | 2285 | 13.72 | 128 | 134 | 131 | 157 | 103.6 | 429 | 1515 | 496 | 7.99 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { DEC....... } \\ & 1938 \end{aligned}$ | $20 \cdot 1 \pm$ | 707 | 1056 | 2497 | 11.83 | 178 | 157 | 167 | 207 | 99.7 | 413 | 1569 | 459 | 7.61 |
| JAN ．．．．． | $20 \cdot 3$ | 688 | 1050 | 2382 | 12.51 | 125 | 129 | 127 | 151 | $97 \cdot 4$ | 375 | 1457 | 440 | $7 \cdot 19$ |
| FEB．．．． | 20.6 | 693 | 1058 | 2144 | $12 \cdot 19$ | 95 | 133 | 115 | 146 | 92.4 | 392 | 1540 | 458 | 7.25 |
| MAR． | 20.0 | 645 | 982 | 2111 | 13.27 | 103 | 135 | 120 | 150 | 108.8 | 399 | 1500 | 458 | 7.66 |
| APR． | 18.58 | 617 | 961 | 1849 | 10.56 | 123 | 141 | 132 | 149 | 119.7 | 382 | 1295 |  | 6.92 |
| MAY | $18.1{ }^{1}$ | 571 | 877 | 1854 | $13 \cdot 38$ | 119 | 133 | 126 | 147 | 1097 | 367 | 1256 | 398 | 6.74 |
| JUNE．． | $17.4{ }^{\circ}$ | 506 | 742 | 1612 | $11 \cdot 11$ | 122 | 138 | 130 | 145 | 121.4 |  | $1184$ |  | 6.26 6.26 .1 |
| JULY ．． | 16.6 | 459 | 640 | 1656 | 11.64 | 126 | 133 | 129 |  |  | 324 | 1069 | 293 | 5.58 |
| AUG， | $17.1{ }^{\circ}$ | 401 | 604 | 1679 | 9.31 | 90 | 132 | 111 | 141 | 127.9 | 350 | 1199 | 314 | 6.24 |
| SEPT． | 17.4 | 401 | 692 | 1872 | 11.78 | 104 | 134 | 120 | 155 | $133 \cdot 8$ | 375 | 1289 | 316 | 6.76 |
|  | $19 \cdot 1$ | 424 | 800 | 2195 | 11.75 | 123 | 135 | 129 | 157 | $102 \cdot 4$ | 390 | 1424 | 344 | 717 |
| NOV． | 18.8 19.1 | 431 403 | 789 | 2346 | 12.41 10.39 | 125 | 134 | 130 | 159 | $105 \cdot 4$ | 374 | 1373 | 359 | 6.98 |
| DEC．．．．． 1939 | 19.1 | 403 | 614 | 2675 | $10 \cdot 39$ | 181 | 159 | 170 | 210 | 1016 |  |  |  |  |
| JAN | 19.2 | 452 | 744 | 2704 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## OUTPUT－COAL

PIG IRON，STEEL
PINGOTS
ELECTRICITY－
ARTIFICIAL SILK
RETAIL SALES－
POST OFFICE RECEIPTS－
MOTOR SPIRIT－
WEIGHT
RECEIPTS $\qquad$ Output of authorised undertakings．－ELECTRICITY COMMISSION
Rayon，yarn and waste，derived from Excise Statistics，－BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL
Inder or value of sales in Dedartment Stores，Co－oderatives，multiple and independent shops．－BANK OE ENGLAND． Dally averages，ex telegraph，telephone，savings bank and postal orders．－BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL Imports entered for home consumption．－BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL．
Tonnage of goods carried on the Rallways of Great Britain during the month，excluding free－hauled．
Monthly Recedpts for goods traffic，excluding cost of collection and dellvery till January．1928，then excludin： recelpts for collection and delivers．－MINISTR $\bar{Y}$ OV TRANSPORT．

EXTERNAL TRADE.


## EXTERNAL TRADE.

|  | TOTAL IMPORTS (Values). |  |  |  |  |  | NET IMPORTS Total. $£ \mathrm{Mn}$. |  | EXPORTS OF U.K. GOODS (Values). |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | GOLD. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Food, Drink and Tobacco. £Mn. | Raw Materials. $£ \mathrm{Mn}$. | Manufactures. $£ \mathrm{Mn}$. | Total (including Miscellaneous) $£ \mathrm{Mn}$. |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Fo } \\ & \text { Drink } \\ & \text { Tobs } \\ & £ \mathrm{Mn} \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  | M fac ¢Mn |  |  | al ding neous | Imports | Exports £Mn |
| 1924 A | 47.6 大 | 33.3 大 | $25^{\circ} 0$ * | 106.4 | * $\dagger$ | 11.7 | $94 \cdot 8$ | * $\dagger$ | $4 \cdot 7$ | * | 8.9 | $\star$ | 51.6 |  | 66.8 | $\star$ | 3.0 | 4.1 |
| 1929 A | 44.8 | $28 \cdot 3$ | $27 \cdot 9$ | 101.9 | - | $9 \cdot 1$ | 92•8 | - | $4 \cdot 6$ | - | 6.6 | - | 47.8 |  | 60.8 | - | $5 \cdot 2$ | 6.5 |
| 1933 Av | 28.5 | 15.0 | 12.6 | 56.5 | - | $4 \cdot 1$ | 52.4 | - | $2 \cdot$ | - | 3.8 | - | 23.4 | - | 30.6 | - | 21.0 | $5 \cdot 0$ |
| 1934 A | 29.1 | 17.5 | $14 \cdot 3$ | $61 \cdot 3$ |  | $4 \cdot 3$ | $57 \cdot 1$ |  | $2 \cdot 5$ |  | 4.0 | - | 25.4 |  | 33.0 | - | $21 \cdot 9$ | $10 \cdot 7$ |
| 1935 Av... | 29.9 | 17.8 | 15.4 | 63.5 | - | 4.6 | 58.9 | - | $2 \cdot 5$ | - | 4.4 | - | $27 \cdot 4$ | - | $35 \cdot 5$ | - | $20 \cdot 3$ | 14.5 |
| 1936 Av... | $32 \cdot 2$ | 20.8 | 17.8 | $71 \cdot 1$ | - | $5 \cdot 1$ | $66^{\circ} 0$ | - | 3. | - | $4 \cdot 3$ |  | 28.4 | - | 36.8 |  | 26 |  |
| 1987 Av... | $35 \cdot 9$ | $26 \cdot 3$ | $22 \cdot 9$ | $85 \cdot 7$ | - | 6.3 | 79.4 | - | 3.2 | - | $5 \cdot 4$ | - | $33 \cdot 7$ | - | $43 \cdot 4$ | - | $24 \cdot 6$ | 18.0 |
| $\begin{array}{r} 1935 \\ \text { JULY } \end{array}$ | 29.0 $30 \cdot 1$ | 17.0 18.2 | $\begin{array}{lll}15 \cdot 5 & 15.8\end{array}$ | $61 \cdot 8$ | 64 | 4.0 | 57.9 | $60 \cdot 8$ | $2 \cdot 6$ | $2 \cdot 7$ | 4.6 | 4.6 | 28.4 | $27 \cdot 3$ | $36 \cdot 4$ | 35.4 | 12.0 | 9.0 |
| AUG. | 27.0 28.4 | 16.0 | $\begin{array}{ll}15 \cdot 8 & 15 \cdot 4\end{array}$ | $59 \cdot 1$ | 61.3 | 4.2 | $55^{\circ} 0$ | $57 \cdot 7$ | 2.5 | 2.6 | 4-1 | 4.5 | 27.2 | 28.0 | $34 \cdot 9$ | 36.2 | 14.6 | 7.4 |
| SEP' | $\begin{array}{ll}29.6 & 29.8\end{array}$ | $15 \cdot 3 \quad 17 \cdot 7$ | $15.515 \cdot 7$ | $60 \cdot 8$ | 63.6 | 3.8 | 57.0 | $57 \cdot 9$ | 2.8 | $2 \cdot 7$ | 3.7 | 3.9 | 26.7 | $27 \cdot 5$ | $34 \cdot 1$ | $35^{\circ} 0$ | $13 \cdot 0$ | 20.4 |
| OC'. | 37.5182 .1 | $\begin{array}{lll}18.0 & 19 \cdot 3\end{array}$ | $17 \cdot 516 \cdot 1$ | 73.4 | $67 \cdot 9$ | $4 \cdot 7$ | 68.7 | 61.6 | 3.4 | 2.9 | 4.7 | 43 | 30.6 | 28.6 | $39 \cdot 9$ 39 | 36.9 | 13.2 | $20 \cdot 7$ |
| NOV. | $34.4 \quad 50.6$ | $\begin{array}{lll}19 \cdot 8 & 19 \cdot 1\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ll}16.8 & 16.2\end{array}$ | 71.5 | 66.4 | 4.6 | $66^{\circ} 9$ | $60 \cdot 7$ | 3.8 | 3.0 9.6 | $5 \cdot 1$ | 4.7 | $29 \cdot 3$ | 28.8 26.8 | $39 \cdot 4$ $34 \cdot 9$ | $37 \cdot 6$ $35 \cdot 3$ | 16.0 | 12.5 8.0 |
| DEC. 1936 | $34.4 \quad 31.1$ | $23.6 \quad 20.0$ | 15.916 .2 | $74 \cdot 4$ | $67 \cdot 7$ | $5 \cdot 4$ | $69 \cdot 0$ | $62 \cdot 3$ | $2 \cdot 7$ | 2.5 | $4 \cdot 2$ | 42 | 26.2 | 26.8 | $34 \cdot 9$ | $35 \cdot 3$ | $15 \cdot 9$ | 8.0 |
| JAN... | $\begin{array}{lll}31.2 & 31.4\end{array}$ | 22.419 .2 | $\begin{array}{lll}16.0 & 16.9\end{array}$ | $70 \cdot 0$ | $67 \cdot 9$ | $4 \cdot 3$ | 65.6 | 62.9 | $2 \cdot 8$ | $2 \cdot 7$ | $4 \cdot 1$ | 42 | 26.6 | 26.6 | 34.5 | 34.5 | $12 \cdot 2$ | 3.8 |
| FEB. | $27.5 \quad 29.7$ | 18.919 .5 | 15.716 .8 | $62 \cdot 3$ | 66.2 | $5 \cdot 7$ | 56.7 | $59 \cdot 4$ | $2 \cdot 5$ | 2.6 | $4 \cdot 1$ | 42 | 27.6 | 28.6 | $35 \cdot 1$ | 36.4 | 9.7 | 2.4 |
| MAR. | 30.230 .9 | 19.618 .9 | $\begin{array}{lll}17.9 & 17 \cdot 1\end{array}$ | 68.0 | $67 \cdot 2$ | 5.9 | $62 \cdot 1$ | 68.6 | $2 \cdot 9$ | 3.1 | $4 \cdot 1$ | $4 \cdot 1$ | 28.6 | $27 \cdot 6$ | 36.5 | 35.7 | 12.9 | 3.9 |
| APR. | 28.4 | $20.0 \quad 20 \cdot 4$ | $17.9 \quad 18.2$ | $66 \cdot 7$ | $70 \cdot 1$ | $5 \cdot 9$ | $60 \cdot 7$ | 66.5 | 2.4 | 2.7 | 3.9 | $4 \cdot 1$ | 26.0 | 26.9 | 33.4 | $34 \cdot 8$ | 18.0 | 3.0 |
| MAY | $\begin{array}{llll}31.6 & 31.9\end{array}$ | $19 \cdot 9 \quad 19 \cdot 9$ | $17.2 \quad 17 \cdot 1$ | $69 \cdot 2$ | 69.4 | $5 \cdot 6$ | $63 \cdot 5$ | 64.5 | $2 \cdot 7$ | 2.9 | $4 \cdot 5$ | $4 \cdot 3$ | 28.2 | $27 \cdot 8$ | 36.4 | 36.0 | 21.8 | $7 \cdot 7$ |
| JUNE | 31.5 32.5 | $19 \cdot 3 \quad 20 \cdot 2$ | $\begin{array}{lll}16.4 & 17 \%\end{array}$ | $67 \cdot 6$ | $70 \cdot 1$ | 50 | $62 \cdot 6$ | $66^{\circ} 0$ | $2 \cdot 6$ | 3.0 | 3.5 | 3.7 | $24 \cdot 9$ | 26.6 | $32 \cdot 1$ | $34 \cdot 5$ | $19 \cdot 3$ | 6.4 |
| JULY | $29.9 \quad 31.1$ | 20.121 .5 | $\begin{array}{lll}18.2 & 18.5\end{array}$ | 68.7 | $71 \cdot 6$ | 5.0 | 63.7 | 66.9 | 3.0 | 3.2 | 4.6 | 46 | 31.5 | $30 \cdot 3$ | $40 \cdot 1$ | $39 \cdot 1$ | 41.5 | 3.2 |
| AUG. | 29.0 | $\begin{array}{ll}18.8 & 20.1\end{array}$ | 17.817 .4 | $66 \cdot 1$ | 68.6 | 4.4 | 61.6 | 64.6 | $2 \cdot 8$ | 2.9 | $4 \cdot 0$ | $4 \cdot 3$ | 27.5 | $28 \cdot 3$ | $35 \cdot 3$ | 36.5 | 60.0 | 4.6 |
| SEPT. | $\begin{array}{ll}32.9 & 38.1\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{lll}19.6 & 22.7\end{array}$ | 19.1193 | $71 \cdot 9$ | 75.5 | 3.9 | 68.0 | $69 \cdot 1$ | $3 \cdot 0$ | 2.9 | $4 \cdot 3$ | $4 \cdot 5$ | 28.8 | $29 \cdot 6$ | 37.0 | $37 \cdot 9$ | 33.6 | 3.9 |
| OCT. | $\begin{array}{lll}38.9 & 38.2\end{array}$ | 21.5 | $\begin{array}{lll}19 \cdot 8 & 18 \cdot 2\end{array}$ | 80.5 | 74.7 | 4.5 | $76 \cdot 1$ | 68.2 | 3.6 | $3 \cdot 1$ | 4.8 | 44 | $32 \cdot 2$ | $30 \cdot 1$ | 41.8 | 38.7 | 19.8 | $18 \cdot 9$ |
| NOV. | 37.1 | $\begin{array}{ll}22.8 & 22.1\end{array}$ | 18.417 .7 | 78.7 | 73.2 | $4 \cdot 3$ | $74 \cdot 3$ | $67 \cdot 4$ | $3 \cdot 8$ | 3.0 | $4 \cdot 6$ | 42 | 28.9 | 28.3 | 38.4 | 36.5 | 29.4 | 12.9 |
| DEC. | 37.7174 | $26.1 \quad 22 \cdot 1$ | $19.2 \quad 19.5$ | 83.7 | 76.4 | 6.1 | 77.6 | 70.4 | 3.4 | 3.3 | $4 \cdot 9$ | $4 \cdot 9$ | 30•3 | $30 \cdot 9$ | $40 \cdot 5$ | $41 \cdot 0$ | $35 \cdot 8$ | $15 \cdot 8$ |
| JAN. | $32.0 \quad 32 \cdot 2$ | 25.7 22.0 | 17.618 .6 | $75 \cdot 7$ | 73:2 | 51 | $70 \cdot 6$ | $67 \cdot 7$ | 30 | 2.9 | $5 \cdot 1$ | 5.2 | 29.9 | $29 \cdot 9$ | $39 \cdot 1$ | $39 \cdot 1$ | 11.8 | 17.0 |
| FEB. | 30.7184 .4 | 22.122 .9 | $18.6 \quad 20.6$ | $71 \cdot 7$ | 78.1 | 6.9 | $64 \cdot 8$ | $70 \cdot 2$ | $3 \cdot 1$ | 3.4 | 4.9 | 5.2 | 29.7 | 31.6 | 38.6 | $41 \cdot 2$ | 41.7 | 17.3 |
| MAR. | $35 \cdot 3 \quad 35 \cdot 8$ | 25.024 .2 | $22 \cdot 121 \cdot 1$ | $82 \cdot 9$ | $81 \cdot 6$ | 6.7 | 76.2 | 78.0 | $2 \cdot 9$ | 3.0 | $5 \cdot 3$ | $5 \cdot 3$ | 34-2 | 32.9 | $43 \cdot 5$ | $42 \cdot 3$ | 37.6 | 21.9 |
| APR. | 32.986 .1 | 26.026 .4 | 23.624 .0 | 83.0 | $87 \cdot 1$ | $7 \cdot 3$ | $75 \cdot 7$ | 83.0 | $3 \cdot 1$ | 3.5 | $5 \cdot 6$ | $5 \cdot 9$ | 33.4 | 34.5 | $43 \cdot 0$ | $44 \cdot 8$ | $33 \cdot 1$ | 31.0 |
| MAY | 34.234 .4 | $25.6 \quad 25.6$ | 22.922 .7 | 83.2 | 83.2 | 7.4 | $75 \cdot 8$ | 77.0 | $3 \cdot 1$ | $3 \cdot 3$ | $5 \cdot 5$ | $5 \cdot 2$ | $33 \cdot 3$ | 32.8 | $42 \cdot 7$ | $42 \cdot 1$ | 11.7 | 21.7 |
| JUNE | $\begin{array}{llll}35.8 & 36.9\end{array}$ | $27.4 \quad 28.7$ | $24.4 \quad 25 \cdot 3$ | 88.2 | 91.5 | $7 \cdot 1$ | $81 \cdot 1$ | 85.4 | 3.0 | $3 \cdot 4$ | $5 \cdot 7$ | $5 \cdot 9$ | 34-7 | $37 \cdot 0$ | $44 \cdot 4$ | 47.4 | 32.0 | $27 \cdot 7$ |
| JULY | 34.0 | $\begin{array}{ll}26 \cdot 3 & 28 \cdot 1\end{array}$ | 24.6 | 85.5 | 86.2 | 6.8 | $78 \cdot 7$ | 82.7 | $3 \cdot 3$ | 3.5 | 6.0 | $5 \cdot 5$ | 37.4 | 36.0 | 476 | $46 \cdot 3$ | $44 \cdot 1$ | 18.9 |
| AUG. | $34.8 \quad 36.6$ | $26.7 \quad 28.6$ | 24.7 24.1 | 86.6 | $89 \cdot 8$ | 6.9 | 80.0 | 84.0 | 30 | 3.2 | $5 \cdot 3$ | 5.7 | 33.4 | 34.4 | 42.5 | $44 \cdot 1$ | $30 \cdot 7$ | 6.6 |
| SEPT | $\begin{array}{ll}36.2 & 36.4\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ll}26.5 & 30.8\end{array}$ | 24.684 .9 | 87.8 | $92 \cdot 7$ | 5.2 | $82 \cdot 6$ | 83.9 | $3 \cdot 4$ | 3.4 | $5 \cdot 4$ | $5 \cdot 7$ | 34.5 | 35.5 | $44 \cdot 3$ | 45.6 | $15 \cdot 4$ | 21.6 |
| OCT | $43 \cdot 437 \cdot 1$ | 27.929 .9 | 24.422 .4 | 96.2 | $89 \cdot 9$ | $5 \cdot 7$ | 90.5 | 81.1 | $3 \cdot 4$ | 2.9 | $5 \cdot 8$ | $5 \cdot 3$ | 36.7 | 34.4 | 47.2 | $43 \cdot 8$ | $12 \cdot 7$ | 14.6 |
| NOV. | $\begin{array}{ll}43 \cdot 1 & 38.4 \\ 42.8 & 38.7\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ll}28.3 & 27.4 \\ 27.3 & 23.1\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ll}25 \cdot 3 & 24.3 \\ 23.3 & 43.6\end{array}$ | 97•3 | 90.7 | $5 \cdot 3$ | 91.9 | 82.0 | 4.0 | 3.2 | $5 \cdot 3$ | 5.0 | 34-7 | 34.0 | $45^{\circ} 2$ | $43 \cdot 4$ | 12.9 | 90 |
| $\begin{array}{r} \text { DEC. } \\ 1938 \end{array}$ | $42.8 \quad 38.7$ | $27.3 \quad 23 \cdot 1$ | $23 \cdot 3 \quad 23.6$ | $94 \cdot 3$ | $86 \cdot 3$ | 5.0 | $89 \cdot 3$ | 80.6 | 3.5 | 3.3 | 4.9 | $4 \cdot 9$ | $33 \cdot 3$ | 34.0 | 43.9 | 44.4 | $11 \cdot 3$ | 8.3 |
| JAN... | $\begin{array}{lll}36.1 & 36.3\end{array}$ | 25.7 22.0 | $22.5 \quad 23.8$ | 84.9 | 82.2 | 4.8 | $80 \cdot 1$ | 70.7 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 4.7 | 47 | 32.6 | $32 \cdot 6$ | 41.2 | $41 \cdot 2$ | $12 \cdot 7$ | $7 \cdot 3$ |
| FEB | 33.2 | $22.5 \quad 23.3$ | $19.5 \quad 21.6$ | $75 \cdot 7$ | 82.6 | $5 \cdot 5$ | $70 \cdot 2$ | 76.1 | 2.8 | 3.0 | $4 \cdot 2$ | 4.5 | 29.7 | 31.5 | 37.5 | $39 \cdot 8$ | 14.8 | 4.6 |
| MAR | $\begin{array}{ll}37 \cdot 1 & 38.0 \\ 32.1 & 35.2\end{array}$ | 24.0 <br> 21.5 <br> 23.3 <br> 1.9 | $\begin{array}{ll}13.2 & 22.1\end{array}$ | 84.9 | 84.0 | 5.5 | 79.4 | 81.3 | 2.8 | 2.9 | 4.9 | 4.9 | 33.5 | $32 \cdot 3$ | 42.2 | $41 \cdot 1$ | 28.8 | 13.0 |
| APR. | $\begin{array}{ll}32.1 & 35.2 \\ 35.2\end{array}$ | 21.5 | $\begin{array}{ll}19.7 & 20.0 \\ 19.4 & 19.3\end{array}$ | $73 \cdot 7$ | 77.5 | 5.0 | 68.7 | $75 \cdot 3$ | $2 \cdot 4$ | $2 \cdot 7$ | $4 \cdot 5$ | $4 \cdot 7$ | $29 \cdot 3$ | $30 \cdot 4$ | $37 \cdot 3$ | 38.9 | $20 \cdot 6$ | 9.9 |
| MAY | $\begin{array}{ll}35 \cdot 2 & 35 \cdot 5 \\ 38 \cdot 4 & 89 \cdot 7\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ll}20.4 & 20.3 \\ 19.4 & \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ll}19 \cdot 4 & 19.3\end{array}$ | 75.4 | 75.5 | 7.2 | 68.2 | $69 \cdot 3$ | $2 \cdot 8$ | 3.0 | 4.9 | 47 | 29.5 | $29 \cdot 2$ | 38.2 | $37 \cdot 9$ | 27.4 | $7 \cdot 8$ |
| JUNE | $38 \cdot 4$ 89.7 | $19.420 \cdot 4$ | $18.1 \quad 18.7$ | 76.5 | 79.4 | $5 \cdot 0$ | 71.5 | 75\%\% | $2 \cdot 7$ | 3.0 | $4 \cdot 5$ | 47 | 28.8 | $30 \cdot 7$ | 36.9 | $39 \cdot 3$ | 29.6 | 11.5 |
| JULY | $\begin{array}{ll}36 \cdot 4 & 37 \cdot 9 \\ 35 \cdot 1 & \end{array}$ | 19.220 .5 | 17.718 .0 | 73.9 | 77.0 | 4.6 | 69.4 | 72.9 | 2.9 | 3.0 | 4.7 | 4.7 | 29.0 | $27 \cdot 9$ | 37.5 | S6.5 | 16.0 | $11 \cdot 1$ |
| AUG. | $\begin{array}{ll}35 \cdot 1 & 37 \cdot 0 \\ 37 \cdot 7 & 38.0\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ll}20.3 & 21.8 \\ 18.0 & 20.9\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ll}18.0 & 17.6 \\ 18.7 & 18.9\end{array}$ | $74 \cdot 1$ | 777 | $5 \cdot 0$ | $69 \cdot 1$ | 72.5 | 3.0 | $3 \cdot 1$ | 4.5 | $4 \cdot 9$ | 28.0 | 28.9 | $36 \cdot 3$ | $37 \cdot 7$ | $12 \cdot 9$ | 27.9 |
| SEPT | 37.7 39.3 38.0 | 18.0 19.0 20.9 | $\begin{array}{lll}18.7 & 18.9 \\ 20.2 & 18.6\end{array}$ | $75^{\circ} 0$ | 78.4 | 4.0 | 71.0 | $72 \cdot 1$ | $3 \cdot 1$ | $3 \cdot 0$ | $4 \cdot 6$ | 49 | 31.1 | $32 \cdot 0$ | 39.8 | 40.9 | 36.4 | 90-3 |
| NOV. | $\begin{array}{ll}39.1 & 34.8\end{array}$ | 18.718 .1 | $\begin{array}{lll}19.7 & 18.9\end{array}$ | 78.0 | 78.0 72.3 | $5 \cdot 4$ $5 \cdot 1$ | 73.6 72.9 | $65 \cdot 9$ 66.1 | 3.7 3.8 | 3.8 3.0 | 5:3 | 4.8 | $32 \cdot 3$ | 30.3 31.8 | 42.6 | $39 \cdot 7$ | 29.4 | $73 \cdot 5$ |
| DEC. 1939 | $\begin{array}{ll}35 \cdot 4 & 32 \cdot 1\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{lll}19.8 & 16.8\end{array}$ | 17.818 .1 | $74 \cdot 1$ | $68 \cdot 1$ | $4 \cdot 8$ | $69 \cdot 3$ | 62.6 | 3.0 | 3.9 2.9 | 4.6 | 46 | 29.4 | 31.8 30.0 | $39 \cdot 1$ | 41.0 39.6 | 3.9 7.5 | $24 \cdot 4$ 21.7 |
| JAN. | $35.0 \quad 35^{\prime} \mathrm{z}$ | 21.518 .4 | 18.419 .4 | $75 \cdot 6$ | 73.7 | $4 \cdot 6$ | 71.0 | $68 \cdot 1$ | $3 \cdot 1$ | 3.0 | 4.7 | 4.7 | $30 \cdot 4$ | $30 \cdot 5$ | 39.5 | $39 \cdot 5$ | 4.7 | 12.5 |

* NORMAL SEASONAL CHANGE REMOVED

IMPORTS EXPORTS-
Declared values of imports (c.1.f.) into U.K., re-exports of imported goods (f.o.b.) and exports (f.o.b.) of U.K. produce and manufacture. Net imports =Total imports less exports of imported goods. Value of Imports and exports of sold bullion and coin.-MONTHLY ACCOUNTS OF TRADE \& NAVIGATION.
net imports the sesson has been calculated directly from the totals. those for the 3 component groups. For

## SHIPPING, UNEMPLOYMENT.



UnBMPLoymeit, Other Industries.-Cole. 11 to 13, opposite.


[^18]
## FOREIGN EXCHANGES.

|  | AVERAGE OF DAILY RATE |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Paris f. to £ | Brussels <br> b. to $£$ | Milan <br> 1. to $£$ | Berlin Rm.to£ | Amsterdam <br> fl. to £ | $\begin{gathered} \text { War- } \\ \text { saw } \\ \text { z. to } £ \end{gathered}$ | Prague <br> kc. to £ | Zurich <br> f. to £ | Stockholm <br> kr . to £ | $\begin{gathered} \text { NewYork } \\ \$ \text { to } £ \end{gathered}$ |  | Buenos Aires§ p. to £ | Rio de Janeiro a. per mil. | Bombay d. per rup. | Hong. kong <br> d. per 8 | Kobe <br> d. peryen. |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | For 19 | 919 то | 34 Ra | kS Ske | Rlitr B | Bulleti |  |  |  |  |  |
| $1935$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| JAN. | $74 \cdot 36$ | 20.99 | 57.47 | $12 \cdot 22$ | 7.26 | 25.97 | $117 \cdot 33$ | $15 \cdot 15$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.895 | 4.867 | 19.41\| | 321 |  |  |  |
| FEB. | 73.92 | 20.89 | 57.43 | 12.15 | 7.21 | 25.82 | 116.66 | 15.06 | 19.40 | 4.875 | 4.878 | 18.98 | 3.28 | 18.107 18.156 | 21.21 21.87 | 14.00 14.01 |
| MAR. | $72 \cdot 11$ | 21.01 | $57 \cdot 17$ | 11.82 | $7 \cdot 03$ | 25.20 | 113.74 | 14.68 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.776 | 4.820 | 18.88 | 3.15 | 18.127 | 24.13 | 14.01 14.09 |
| APR. | 73.28 | 28.49 | $58 \cdot 28$ 59.37 | 12.00 | $7 \cdot 17$ | 2561 | 115.57 | 14.93 | 19.40 | 4.835 | 4.856 | 18.90 | 3.01 | 18.117 | 26.28 | 14.09 14.10 |
| MAY JUNE | $74 \cdot 19$ $74 \cdot 68$ | 2885 $29 \cdot 13$ | 59.37 59.75 | 12.22 12.21 | 7.23 | 25.96 | $117 \cdot 30$ | $15 \cdot 13$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.890 | $4 \cdot 892$ | 18.91 | 2.72 | 18.128 | $29 \cdot 18$ | 14.14 |
| JUNE | 74.68 | $29 \cdot 13$ | 59.75 | 12.21 | 7.27 | $26 \cdot 16$ | $117 \cdot 94$ | $15 \cdot 10$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.936 | $4 \cdot 939$ | 18.70 | $2 \cdot 61$ | $18 \cdot 126$ | 28.02 | 14.13 |
| JULY | $74 \cdot 79$ | 29.30 | 60.25 | 12.27 | 7.29 | $26 \cdot 18$ | 118.77 | $15 \cdot 13$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 956$ | $4 \cdot 963$ | 18.65 | $2 \cdot 62$ |  |  |  |
| AUG. | 75.01 | 29.43 | 60.49 | $12 \cdot 32$ | $7 \cdot 33$ | 26.21 | 119.46 | $15 \cdot 19$ | 19.40 | 4.971 | 4980 | 18.52 | 2.62 2.58 | 18.125 18.125 | $25 \cdot 80$ 24.33 | $14 \cdot 14$ 14.18 |
| SEPT. | 74.84 | 29.25 | 60.46 | 12.25 | $7 \cdot 30$ | 26.20 | 119.20 | $15 \cdot 17$ | 19.40 | 4.933 | 4.967 | 18.37 18.37 | 2.68 2.62 | 18.125 18.125 | 24.33 24.37 | 14.18 14.11 |
| OCT. | 74.49 | $29 \cdot 13$ | 60.30 | $12 \cdot 20$ | 7.24 | 26.06 | 118.48 | 15.08 | 19.40 | 4.908 | 4.976 | 18.01 | $2 \cdot 75$ | 18.125 | 24.09 | 14.05 |
| NOV. DEC. | $74 \cdot 77$ 74.69 | $29 \cdot 15$ $29 \cdot 24$ | * | 12.24 | 7.26 7.27 | 26.20 | 119.06 | $15 \cdot 18$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 925$ | $4 \cdot 976$ | 18.09 | $2 \cdot 72$ | 18.125 | 17.91 | 14.02 |
| 1936. | 74.69 | 29.24 | * | 1225 | 7.27 | $26 \cdot 15$ | 118.89 | $15 \cdot 20$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.929 | 4.975 | 18.06 | $2 \cdot 68$ | $18 \cdot 126$ | 16.04 | 14.01 |
| JAN. | 74.86 | 29.29 | 61.71 | 12.28 | 7.28 | 26.20 | $119 \cdot 19$ | $15 \cdot 19$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.960 | 4.963 | 18.24 | $2 \cdot 68$ | $18 \cdot 152$ | $15 \cdot 66$ | 14.04 |
| FEB. | 74.84 | $29 \cdot 34$ | $62 \cdot 15$ | 12.29 | $7 \cdot 28$ | 26.20 | $119 \cdot 21$ | $15 \cdot 14$ | 19.40 | 4.996 | 4.993 | 18.07 | $2 \cdot 74$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 15.74 | 14.08 |
| MAR. | 74.92 | 29.28 | $62 \cdot 35$ | 12.29 | 7.27 | 26.21 | 119.31 | 15.14 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.971 | 4.977 | 18.04 | 2.73 | 18.125 | 15.93 | 13.98 |
| APR. | 75.00 75.47 | 29.22 29.35 | 62.66 63.03 | 12.28 | 7.28 | 26.24 | 119.50 | 15.17 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.944 | $4 \cdot 967$ | 17.98 | $2 \cdot 71$ | 18.125 | 15.80 | 14.03 |
| MAY | 75.47 76.14 | $29 \cdot 35$ $29 \cdot 70$ | 63.03 63.84 | 12.34 12.46 | 7.35 7.42 | 26.55 | 119.92 | $15 \cdot 36$ | 19.40 | 4.971 | 4.979 | 18.00 | $2 \cdot 71$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | $15 \cdot 71$ | 14.08 |
| JUNE | $76 \cdot 14$ | $29 \cdot 70$ | 63.84 | 12.46 | $7 \cdot 42$ | 26.71 | 121.28 | 15.48 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 5.020 | 5.032 | $18 \cdot 13$ | $2 \cdot 72$ | 18.125 | 15.44 | 14.07 |
| JULY | $75 \cdot 86$ | 29.72 | 63.65 | 12.45 | $7 \cdot 38$ | 26.59 | 120.97 | $15 \cdot 35$ | 19.40 | 5.023 | $5 \cdot 027$ | 18.42 | $2 \cdot 77$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 15.33 | 14.03 |
| AUG. | $76 \cdot 33$ | 29.81 | 63.84 | 12.49 | $7 \cdot 40$ | 26.73 | $121 \cdot 59$ | $15 \cdot 42$ | 19.40 | 5.028 | 5.026 | 18.02 | $2 \cdot 80$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 14.90 | 14.05 |
| SEP. | $76 \cdot 74$ | 29.84 | 64.26 | 12.57 | $7 \cdot 58$ | 26.78 | $122 \cdot 17$ | 16.01 | 19.40 | 5.041 | 5.039 | 17.76 | $2 \cdot 81$ | 18.125 | 14.86 | 14.04 |
| OCT. | 105.09 | $29 \cdot 10$ | 92.96 | 12.19 | 9.13 | 26.16 | $134 \cdot 39$ | 21.31 | 19.40 | 4.900 | 4.898 | 17.56 | 2.87 | $18 \cdot 125$ | 14.88 | 14.03 |
| NOV. | 105.17 | 28.91 | $92 \cdot 86$ | $12 \cdot 15$ | 9.05 | 26.00 | 138.09 | 21.27 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.888 | 4.880 | 17.54 | $2 \cdot 89$ | 18.125 | 14.95 | 14.03 |
| DEC. | $905 \cdot 14$ | 29.03 | $93 \cdot 19$ | $12 \cdot 19$ | 8.99 | 26.00 | $139 \cdot 26$ | 21.35 | 19.40 | $4 \cdot 907$ | 4.903 | 16.42 | $2 \cdot 93$ | 18.144 | 14.93 | 13.96 |
| JAN. | 105•14 | $29 \cdot 11$ | 93.23 | $12 \cdot 19$ | 8.96 | 26.00 | 140.48 | 21.39 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.908 | 4.909 | $16 \cdot 16$ | 2.95 | 18.151 | 14.95 | 13.95 |
| FEB. | $105 \cdot 11$ | 29.02 | 92.99 | $12 \cdot 16$ | 8.95 | 25.89 | $140 \cdot 30$ | 21.44 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.891 | 4.895 | 16.24 | 3.01 | $18 \cdot 142$ | 14.94 | 13.98 |
| MAR. | $106 \cdot 31$ | 28.99 | 92.81 | 12.15 | 8.93 | 25.72 | $140 \cdot 00$ | 21.43 | 19.40 | 4.885 | 4.882 | 16.23 | 3.01 | 18.125 | 14.94 | 14.00 |
| APR. | 109.31 | $29 \cdot 15$ $29 \cdot 28$ | 93.40 93.85 | 12.22 | 8.98 | 25.89 | 141:01 | 21.54 | 19.40 | 4.916 | 4.909 | 16.17 | 3.07 | 18.125 | 14.94 | 14.00 |
| MAY JUNE | $110 \cdot 32$ 110.82 | $29 \cdot 28$ $29 \cdot 26$ | 93.85 93.80 | $12 \cdot 30$ 12.31 | 8.99 8.98 | 26.07 | 141.71 | 21.60 21.57 | 19.40 | 4.939 | 4.931 | 16.24 | $3 \cdot 13$ | 18.125 | 14.91 | 14.00 |
| JUNE | 110.82 | $29 \cdot 26$ | 93.80 | $12 \cdot 31$ | 8.98 | 26.03 | 141.63 | 21.57 | 19.40 | 4.935 | $4 \cdot 937$ | 16.20 | 322 | $18 \cdot 125$ | 14.78 | 13.98 |
| JULY | 130.34 132.85 | 29.50 29.59 | 94.34 | 12.35 | 9.01 | 26.22 | 142.41 | 21.67 | 19.40 | 4966 | $4 \cdot 972$ | 16.43 | $3 \cdot 22$ | 18.125 | 14.68 | 13.97 |
| AUEPT. | $132 \cdot 85$ 140.37 | 29.59 29.42 | 94.67 94.14 | 12.39 12.34 | 9.03 8.98 | 26.36 | 142.83 | 21.70 <br> 1.57 | 19.40 | $4 \cdot 983$ | $4 \cdot 983$ | 16.49 | $3 \cdot 15$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 14.92 | 14.00 |
| OCT, | 147.97 | 29.39 | 94.18 | 12.33 | 8.96 | 26-25 | 141.56 | 21.57 21.52 | 19.40 19.40 | 4.961 4.956 | 4.954 4.954 | 16.50 | 3.12 | $18 \cdot 125$ | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| NOV. | $147 \cdot 19$ | 29.37 | 94.91 | 12.37 | 9.01 | 26.37 | 142.06 | 21.58 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.994 | 4.990 | 16.86 | 2.77 | 18.125 | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| DEC. | $147 \cdot 16$ | 29.41 | 94.99 | 12.40 | 8.99 | 26.37 | $142 \cdot 20$ | 21.61 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.997 | 4.998 | 17.01 | 2.64 | $18 \cdot 125$ | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| JAN. | 149.89 | 29.53 | 95.00 | 12.41 | 8.97 | 26.37 | 142.43 | 21.62 | 19.40 | 5.000 | 5.001 | 17.04 | *2.83+ $\dagger$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| FEB. | 152.87 | 29.56 | $95 \cdot 37$ | 12.41 | 8.97 | 26.43 | $142 \cdot 71$ | 21.60 | $19 \cdot 40$ | $5 \cdot 018$ | 5.016 | 18.83 | * $2.82+$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| MAR. | 159.63 | 29.53 | $94 \cdot 75$ | $12 \cdot 39$ | 8.97 | 26.39 | $142 \cdot 29$ | 21.63 | 19.40 | 4.985 | 4.997 | $19 \cdot 39$ | $2.81 \pm+$ | 18.125 | 14.92 | 13.96 |
| APR. | $160 \cdot 90$ | 29.54 | 94.63 | $12 \cdot 38$ | 8.96 | 26.39 | 142.86 | 21.67 | 1940 | 4.979 | 5.006 | 19.46 | $2.81 \pm+$ | 18.051 | 14.84 | 14.00 |
| MAY | 17514 | 29.50 | 94.42 | 12.36 | 8.97 | 26.35 | $142 \cdot 76$ | 21.75 | 19.40 | 4.965 | 5.007 | 19.00 | $2.81 \pm+$ | 17.910 | 14.91 | 14.00 |
| JUNE | $178 \cdot 17$ | 29:23 | $94 \cdot 22$ | 12.31 | 8.96 | $26 \cdot 29$ | 142.61 | 21.66 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.960 | 5.012 | 19.02 | $2 \cdot 81+\dagger$ | $17 \cdot 795$ | 14.94 | 14.00 |
| JULY | $178 \cdot 15$ | 29.14 | 93.71 | 12.27 | 8.95 | 26.20 | 142.51 | 21.54 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.931 | 4.959 | 18.94 | $2.83 \pm+$ | 17.904 | 14.99 | 14.00 |
| AUG. | 178.55 | 28.92 | 92.75 | $12 \cdot 17$ | 8.94 | 25.93 | 141.32 | 21.32 | 19.40 | 4.881 | 4.897 | 18.87 | $2.88 \pm+$ | 17.897 | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| SEPT. | 178.42 | 28.45 | 91.27 | 12.02 | 8.90 | 25.50 | $139 \cdot 36$ | 21.25 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.805 | 4.831 | 19.00 | $2.93 \dagger \dagger$ | 17.902 | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| OCI. | 178.71 | 28.20 | 90.64 | 11.90 | 8.77 | 25.36 | 138.60 | 20.99 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.769 | 4.812 | 18.99 | $2.981+$ | 17.933 | 14.97 | 14.00 |
| NOV. | 178.68 177.48 | $27 \cdot 84$ 27.72 | 89.51 | 11.76 | 8.67 8.59 | 25.04 | 137.34 | 20.79 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.710 | 4.742 | 20.09 | $3 \cdot 02 t+$ | $17 \cdot 936$ | 14.94 | 14.00 |
| DEC. | 177.48 | 27.72 | 88.75 | 11.65 | 8.59 | $24 \cdot 78$ | $136 \cdot 36$ | 20.65 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.671 | 4-706 | 20.55 | $3 \cdot 66 \pm \dagger$ | 17.923 | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { Veek } \\ & 1939 \end{aligned}$ | ding |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Jan. 7 | 176.82 | 27.53 | 88.30 | 11.57 | 8.54 | 24.54 | 135.62 | 20.57 | 19.40 | 4.646 | 4.686 | 20.32 | $3.06 \pm+$ | 17.037 | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| ,. 14 | $177 \cdot 21$ | 27.65 | 88.77 | 11.65 | 8.59 | 24.75 | $136 \cdot 31$ | 20.67 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.672 | 4.712 | $20 \cdot 39$ | $3.06 \pm+$ | 17.937 | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| " 21 | $177 \cdot 68$ | 27.67 | 88.92 | 11.67 | 8.62 | 24.75 | 136.54 | $20 \cdot 71$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 678$ | 4.712 | 20.37 | $3.06{ }^{+}+$ | 17.937 | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| Feb ${ }^{28}$ | $177 \cdot 00$ 176.97 | 27.65 27.69 | 88.86 | 11.67 | 8.66 | $24 \cdot 75$ | 135.50 | 20.71 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.675 | 4.707 | $20 \cdot 32$ | $3.06+$ | 17.937 | 14.99 | 14.00 |
| Feb. 4 | 176.97 | 27.69 | 88.90 | 11.66 | 8.69 | 24.75 | $136 \cdot 50$ | $20 \cdot 72$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.679 | 4706 | 20.37 | $3.06 \pm+$ | 17.937 | 14.96 | 14.00 |
| " 11 | 176.99 | 27.75 27.79 | 89.05 | 11.68 11.68 | 8.70 | 24.83 | 136.92 | 20.70 | 19.40 | 4.686 | $4 \cdot 709$ | $20 \cdot 37$ | $3.06 \pm$ | 17.937 | 14.94 | 14.00 |
| ,, 18 | 176.97 | $27 \cdot 79$ | 89.05 | 11.68 | $8 \cdot 74$ | 24.87 | $136 \cdot 88$ | 20.65 | 19.40 | 4.687 | 4•708 | $20 \cdot 35$ | $306+\dagger$ | 17.937 | 1494 | 14.00 |

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INTERNATIONAL SURVEY<br>INTERNATIONAL PRICE INDEX<br>U.S.A.<br>FRANCE<br>GERMANY<br>SOUTH AFRICA

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From 1938 see Supplements for March, fune, September and December; before 1938 see Bulletins for these months.
The table below gives comparable index-numbers of wholesale prices, based upon a list of commodities as nearly identical as possible for all the countries, and the same method of calculation and weighting is applied in each case. The index-numbers were described in detail in Special Memorandum No. 24.

|  | Base $1925=100$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Base $1913=100$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1937 |  |  |  | 1938 |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 1939 \\ & \hline \text { Jan. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Year } \\ & 1925 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Jan, } \\ & 1939 \end{aligned}$ |
|  | Mar. | June | Sept. | Dec. | Mar. | June | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. |  |  |  |
| FOOD- <br> United Kingdom <br> U.S.A. $\qquad$ <br> Sweden $\qquad$ <br> Holland* $\qquad$ <br> Germany $\qquad$ <br> Belgium $\qquad$ <br> France $\qquad$ <br> Italy $\dagger$ $\qquad$ <br> Canada $\qquad$ <br> New Zealand.. <br> $\ddagger$ S. Africa $\qquad$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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Revised Figures.

## INTERNATIONAL SURVEY.

March 6th, 1939.

DURING the past month there has been some improvement in sentiment concerning the international political situation. This has caused improvement in business expectations, more especially in the United Kingdom. The latest available statistics of business activity, after allowance for seasonal factors, show little change either for the better or for the worse in the world as a whole.

In the United States the rise in business activity slackened in December, and in January there appears to have been a perceptible decline. The seasonally-adjusted Federal Reserve Board index of industrial production (\% of 1923-25) fell from 104 in December to IOI in January. The Annalist index of business activity fell from 94.6 in December to 9 I .8 in January. The weekly index of steel mill activity was stable during January at about $50 \%$ of capacity, thus failing to show the normal improvement over December. Seasonally-adjusted figures for textile activity, freight loadings and electricity consumption showed similar movements. Automobile output and construction contracts, however, showed more buoyant tendencies. Preliminary data for February suggest that a slight upward movement began early in the month, but this has not yet given evidence of more than seasonal factors. For the week commencing February 27th steel mill activity is estimated at $56 \%$. In the week commencing December i2th this index stood at $58 \%$.

In the United Kingdom the principal indices of business showed stability or slight improvement in January, with the exception of the unemployment percentage. The total number of registered unemployed surpassed the figure of two millions, but it is reasonable to suppose that the increase over the month was due to seasonal influences. In February, the number fell well below two millions, but showed an increase of nearly io0,000 as compared with February, 1938. Exports of British manufactures, after adjustment for exceptional items, were stable, while there was a partial recovery in imports of raw materials. Output of steel improved on account of a reduction in prices; but statistics of building plans approved foreshadow a heavy future decline in private building activity. In France the recovery of business appears to have made further progress, though as yet this has not worked a great change in the physical volume of
business. Employment is steady in spite of the lengthening of the weekly working period. In Germany, according to published statistics of internal activity, the high level of production has been maintained, but there are signs that it is becoming difficult to maintain this level owing to the shortage of labour and materials. In general, other European industrial countries show little change. In Canada there was a slackening in January, hardly less than that in the United States.

The commodity markets have shown no regular trend since late in 1938, when the rapid rise of metal and rubber prices and the rapid fall of wheat prices came to an end. Prices of the non-ferrous metals have been fairly stable, but stocks have increased. On February 22nd copper producers outside the United States reduced their output from $100 \%$ to $95 \%$ of basic quotas. In December they had hoped to make it $110 \%$ for this period of the year. The statistical position of rubber, however, has improved owing to the maintenance of export quotas at $50 \%$ for the second quarter of the year, and prices have been firm. Supplies of wheat continue to increase and prices continue to sag. The second estimate of the new Argentine crop is some 8.7 Mn . tons, as compared with an average of 5.6 Mn . tons for the years 1933-1938. Plans for the international control of wheat supplies and prices continue to receive the consideration of the governments of both exporting and importing countries. Cotton prices have been generally stable at a low level, but the U.S. Federal loan stock continues to increase. Wool prices on the other hand have been firm on steady European and Japanese demand, and Australian shipments for the first half of the season show an increase of about $15 \%$ in volume over the previous year.

The statistics of international trade for January show some changes from the prevailing tendencies of last year, but it is not yet possible to say whether these will persist. United States imports were slightly greater than in January, 1938, whereas exports showed a very considerable decline. A large element in this decline was a severe, and possibly temporary, reduction in shipments of raw cotton. The active balance for the month, some $\$ 35 \mathrm{Mn}$. was the smallest recorded for any month since the beginning of the rapid decline of exports in mid1937. The balance of German trade, for the

## International Survey]

" old" Reich alone, was active, the level of imports being considerably reduced. The trade of the United Kingdom continued to show a remarkable degree of stability. Both the exports and imports of the principal raw material countries are still running below the levels of a year ago.

Security markets have shown a reversal of tendencies during recent weeks. All the principal markets were weak during January, the depression being most marked in London. Since the beginning of February, however, the change of sentiment regarding the international situation has caused a pronounced upswing in London, and lesser improvement in the other European markets. But the New York market has moved irregularly, though generally upwards, partly on account of a less hopeful view of the international situation and partly on account of the failure of American business to continue the recovery of the second half of 1938.

Gold and capital movements were of small dimensions in January, but there was an increase of shipments from the United Kingdom to the United States in February as a result of the discontinuance of facilities for forward transactions in gold on the London market. Of the principal currencies of the world, the pound sterling,
and the franc, have been stable in terms of the dollar during the past month, but the belga and the guilder have been subject to heavy speculative attack. The forward discount on the belga has widened very considerably. The movement of gold from the United Kingdom to the United States during February has exerted a supporting influence on sterling.

Since the beginning of the year the rearmament programmes of all the major countries have been expanded. During 1938 rearmament was unable to prevent a recession of activity in most parts of the world outside the totalitarian states, though it is possible that the stability of business in the United Kingdom during the second half of the year was due to its influence. In 1939 it appears that the volume of armament work in hand may be sufficient to offset even a very severe decline in private activity in the European countries. In the United States, armaments are now being planned to take an important part in the Administration's " pumppriming " programme.

Although there is little hope of recovery in private activity, such as was expected at one time in 1938, there is little likelihood of a serious turn for the worse this year in the total volume of business.

# RECENT MOVEMENTS IN UNITED STATES. 

## Information communicated by Miss DOROTHY WESCOTT, Assistant Editor of the Review of Economic Statistics, Harvard University.

February 18th, 1939.
GENERAL SUMMARY. - The slowingdown of industrial activity in the United States that was evident in December continued into January, a month when some improvement usually is the rule. Thus, while the actual volume of output was about the same as in December, the failure to make the customary January advance resulted in a drop of three points in the Federal Reserve Board adjusted index of industrial production-the first month-to-month decline since last May. Retail trade declined as usual in January, and wholesale commodity prices fluctuated within a narrow range. The irregular tendencies in business activity at home, and the increasing tension in Europe, contributed to the sharp reaction in the stock market last month. By January 26th the drop in prices had been considerable, but in
the final days a large part of these losses was regained. The month-end figure for the allinclusive index of the New York Stock Exchange, however, was $5 \%$ under that at the end of 1938.

BUSINESS VOLUMES.-The majority of indices of the volume of business, after allowance is made for seasonal changes, dropped in January below December levels, but in no case was the decline severe. Seasonally corrected bank debits were slightly higher than in November, and showed no set-back in the gradual upward movement in progress since the first half of last year. Adjusted electric power output also, while somewhat less than in December, was above other months in 1937; and weekly figures reveal improvement in late January and early February over the opening weeks of the year. The adjusted index for steel production dropped to $96(1923-25=100), 8$ points below

[United States

the December figure and 16 points under that for November, the high point for 1938. Caution in the placing of orders for steel by all major consuming industries ruled throughout the month, and the rate of activity at steel mills was slightly lower than in December. The adjusted index for pig iron was under that for the two preceding months. Automobile output, which had not begun to expand sharply until October of last year, decreased less than usual in January. While cotton-mill activity averaged higher than in December, the rate of operations was progressively downward after the first week of the new year. Lumber production also declined between the first week of January and the first week of February, but early February figures remained above those for most weeks of 1938. Output of both bituminous coal and zinc was greater than in December, but the increases were less than seasonal. Incomplete reports for factory employment and pay rolls indicate that little more than the customary DecemberJanuary changes occurred, and that the levels attained by the close of last year were fairly well maintained in January.

Daily average shipments of commodities by rail, after adjustment for seasonal changes, fell in January slightly below those for December, but on the whole car loadings compared favourably with those in the second half of 1938. The several classes of freight showed only minor changes, with coal and coke, grains, livestock, and forest products falling somewhat below December averages, and small-lot shipments, miscellaneous loadings, and ore increasing a little.

The adjusted index for contracts awarded dropped in January from the peak of December to the November level. A large portion of the December total comprised contracts for Public Works Administration projects, which by law had to be awarded before December 3ist. Thus the December increase in public construction expenditures-and also total contract awards -was considerable, and the January decline was equally sharp. Residential awards failed to drop as much as usual in January, and privatelyowned projects for this class of building are reported to be $91 \%$ above those for January, 1938. Non-residential awards also were substantially higher than a year earlier, although the increase was not so great as that for residential building. The distribution of total contracts between publicly-owned and privately-owned projects continued to be about the same as in
the second half of 1938 , with public construction the greater of the two classes.

COMMODITY PRICES.—Wholesale commodity prices moved within a narrow range during January, with the slight tendency towards firmness, evident at the close of 1938, giving way to further declines. The Bureau of Labor Statistics general index was for the last week of January a little lower than for the week ending December 3Ist, but not below the levels of midDecember. This downward movement of average prices reflected declines in most of the commodity groups; in fact, textile products and building materials were the only indices that were higher at the close of January than a month earlier, and the increases in these indices were very slight. The largest decreases were shown by farm products and foods. Sensitive prices of industrial commodities drifted to lower levels in January, until at the end of the month they were the lowest since early summer.

Following a sharp increase in December, maize prices declined in January ; and wheat prices fluctuated irregularly, although the month's average was above December. Hide prices fell very sharply and weakness also developed in crude rubber markets. Steel scrap prices held fairly steady throughout the month, and no change was reported in spot quotations for zinc and copper.

MONEY AND CREDIT. - The money market in January continued in a state of extreme ease, with the huge volume of funds available for investment, an important influence in maintaining very low interest rates. In addition, the market for Treasury bills was affected by special demands, due to tax assessments ; in the first half of the month particularly, the demand for 9I-day bills was so great that issues were disposed of at par (that is, at no interest yield to the buyer) or at prices above par (a negative rate of interest if the exemptions from taxation derived from holding the Treasury bills are not taken into consideration). Quotations on certain classes of commercial paper were reduced slightly, while rates on stock-exchange time loans and on bankers' acceptances remained unchanged. The average yield on Treasury notes and bonds declined for the month as a whole, although a small advance occurred in the last full week of the month as prices decreased. In the closing days, however, prices recovered part of the losses of the preceding week.

The customary return of currency to the banks, further moderate additions to the gold

## FINANCE, PRICES.



INTERNAL ACTIVITY, TRADE, EMPLOYMENT.


- Provisional.


## United States]

stock, and a sharp reduction in Treasury deposits with the reserve banks were largely responsible for an increase of 589 Mn . dollars in memberbank reserve balances during the four weeks from December 28th to January 25 th. Excess reserves rose to $3,600 \mathrm{Mn}$. dollars, the largest total on record. In the early weeks of February, gold imports continued on a moderate scale, but small increases in currency circulation and in the Treasury account with the reserve banks reduced reserve balances slightly below mid-January levels. They still remained above $9,000 \mathrm{Mn}$. dollars, however, and of this amount approximately $3,500 \mathrm{Mn}$. were in excess of legal requirements.

Total earning assets of reporting member banks declined continuously in the four weeks from December 28th to January 25th, the net decline amounting to 22 I Mn . doliars. About two-thirds of this decline represented a drop in loans and one-third, a drop in investments. While the decline in loans was about equally divided between banks in New York City and those outside New York, the drop in security holdings was due entirely to reductions in holdings of direct government obligations by New York City banks. Largely because of the special demand for tax-exempt Treasury bills mentioned above, investment holdings of " outside banks " increased, particularly those in the Chicago reserve district (which includes the state of Illinois, where bank deposits are assessed for taxation on April 1st). In early February, direct Treasury obligations of New York City banks continued to decline, but substantial increases in fully-guaranteed government securities and other securities raised total investment holdings of these banks above January figures. Since investments of "outside" banks also were larger than in January, total holdings of weekly reporting banks advanced to the highest level since the first quarter of 1937. The drop in loans since the end of 1938 has been greatest among business loans; but loans to brokers and dealers in securities, which had been rising in the second half of last year, fell considerably in the first six weeks of 1939 , and other loans for purchasing or carrying securities continued the decline in progress last year.

## SPECULATION AND FINANCE.-The

 gradual decrease in stock prices noted in the first half of January became pronounced after the middle of the month ; and by January 26th the Dow-Jones daily index of industrial shares had fallen $12 \%$ below levels at the opening of themonth, while rails had dropped $19 \%$. At its low figure for January the industrial average was only $5 \%$ above the low figure reached during the Czechoslovakian crisis in September. Although recovery was sharp in the last few days of January, prices of both industrials and rails closed the month at levels considerably under those for the end of December. Fluctuations in utility stocks were small throughout the month, with prices between the end of December and the end of January showing little net change and the average for the month rising moderately above the December average.

In the corporation bond market, prices of industrial and public-utility bonds tended to advance in the first three weeks of January, while rails-particularly second-grade railsfell below levels prevailing at the opening of the month. This irregularity in average prices gave way to sharp decline in the fourth week of the month. The largest decreases occurred in railroad bond prices, but all classes shared in the decline and in one week the general average dropped more than $I_{\frac{1}{2}}^{\frac{1}{2}}$ points. Recovery in the last few days of the month was sharp, however, and utilities and industrials closed the month at levels above the end of December; railroads remained lower than a month earlier.

Total security flotations in January were more than double those for January, 1938, but of the total less than $6 \%$ represented issues of corporations. Corporate flotations during the month amounted to $15 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{Mn}$. dollars, of which 10 Mn . were for refunding purposes and $5 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{Mn}$. for new capital requirements. New public issues comprised over three-fourths of all flotations for the month, and of these the largest was an offering by the Treasury Department of United States Housing Authority notes, the first public offering for that agency.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS. - Little change in the general economic situation appears to have taken place thus far in February, although there are reports of some'improvement in certain important industries, such as automobiles and steel. Orders from automobile manufacturers have continued to be a major factor in steel-mill operations, and recently important demand from railroads has been reported. Cotton-mill activity dropped fairly sharply in the first week of February, and declines occurred also in freight car loadings and lumber production.

Stock prices have risen above the low levels of late January, but changes thus far this month have not been important. On February 6th,
prices of utility shares rose rather sharply, following the announcement that the Tennessee Valley Authority would purchase private utility properties, but declines followed immediately,
although not to the earlier low levels. Unsettlement of business opinion at home and the persistent international strain abroad continue to dominate domestic markets.

## FRANCE

Information communicated by M. MICHEL HUBER, Directeur des Etudes à l'Institut de Statistique de l'Université de Paris.

February 28th, 1939.

FEBRUARY was a quiet month in Parliament. In spite of the campaign led by the extreme left parties in favour of the Republican Spanish Government, the recognition of the Burgos government, prepared for by the two missions of $M$. Leon Bérard, was approved by the Chamber on February 25th by 323 votes to 26 I .

Since the fall of Barcelona on January 26th the exodus of the civilian population and of the army into France has been accelerated. The French authorities have had to face an enormous task to succour the masses pouring across passes of the Pyrenees. The total number of refugees is estimated at 400,000 . The civilians, mainly women, children and old men, have been distributed over nearly all the departments; the combatants, disarmed at the frontier, have been sent to camps improvised in the departments of the Western Pyrenees and l'Aude. About 50,000 have already gone back to Nationalist Spain via Irun.

The great political, social and economic problems which are entailed by the sojourn of these refugees in France will no doubt be more readily solved after the recognition of the Burgos government which was made by Great Britain and France simultaneously on February 27th. Since the resignation of President Azana it seems that the end of the Spanish civil war is imminent.

Since the death of Pope Pius XI, on February Ioth, the violent campaign against France in the Italian press has somewhat declined. But the international situation remains strained and little favourable to development of economic activity. Also the improvement which was observed in France in November has not developed as rapidly as might have been hoped.

The yield of indirect taxes, etc., exceeded the budget estimates by 215 Mn . in November and 56 Mn . in December, allowing for the
effects of the decree-laws of April, 1938. For the whole year there was a short-fall of 475 Mn .

After the parliamentary vote of various supplementary credits, the total deficit for the 1939 financial year is of the order of $9,600 \mathrm{Mn}$.

According to the inheritance statistics for 1937, recently published, the net value of declared successions remains remarkably steady -I4.9 Md. fr. in 1935, 14.8 in 1936 and 14.9 in 1937. The volume of inheritance is thus reduced to about $\mathrm{I}_{\frac{1}{2}} \mathrm{Md}$. gold francs per annum, as compared with 5 Md . before the war.

In January the total of public issues of securities was 390 Mn . compared with 76 Mn . in December and 26 Mn . in November. A fall is to be noted in the average rate for new debentures to $5 \frac{3}{4} \%$ and $5.4 \%$ in the first two months of this year, compared with $7 \%$ since April, 1938.

There were further reductions in the rates for short-term investments in February. On the 15th Caisse National bonds for 18 months were lowered from $3 \frac{1}{4}$ to $3 \%$; a few days later six months Treasury bonds were reduced from $2 \frac{1}{4}$ to $2 \%$, and one-year bonds from $2 \frac{3}{4}$ to $2 \frac{1}{2} \%$. It should be remembered that since December 12th the rate for three-months Treasury bonds has been only $\mathrm{I}_{2} \%$ and the Bank rate $2 \%$ since the beginning of the year. Repatriation of capital has made it possible for these rates to be brought very low, whilst the exchange equalisation fund has built up a gold reserve estimated to be between io and 15 Md .

From January 12th to February 16th the weekly position of the Bank of France calls for little comment. The gold reserve remains at $87,265 \mathrm{Mn}$., the note issue around III Md., and the reserve ratio at about $63 \%$.

On the exchange market, quotations have been stable; sterling has hardly deviated from 177 fr.; the dollar, quoted at 37.83 at the beginning of the month, has been fixed at about 37.76 since February 7th.


* July, 191

1st Qr.. 1914.
Including Sinking Fund since 1928
a From May.
NANCE
Value of Stocks and Shares - Index numbers for end of month
Clearing House Returns.-
Exchanses.-
Bank of France.
PRICES.
Wholesale. -
Retail,

Total clearings during the month at the Bankers' Clearing House of Paris
Monthly average of daily rates in Paris
Middle of month
ndex calculated by the Statistique Génerale de la France for 45 commodities at the end of the month
Index for Paris calculated (1) for 34 commodities by the Statistique Generale during the month, giving each commodity a weight corresponding to the consimption of a family of four persons. (2) for all expenses of a working-olass home according to the Paris Commission on the Cost of Living

## TRADE, OUTPUT, TRANSPORT \& EMPLOYMENT.



[^19] Saar transferred 18/2/35.

Shipping.-Tonnage of ships of all nationalities entered and cleared (with cargoes) during the month
Rallways.-A verage weekly receipts and daily average number of trucks loaded on all the principal railways (including Alsace-Lorraine)

## France]

Activity in the stock market, which at the end of January showed slight recovery, afterwards progressively declined to exceptionally low levels at the end of February. Thus the index of the volume of dealings (\% of 193I) which was 55 for ordinary shares for the last week in January, dropped to $40,28,23$ and 15 in subsequent weeks. For bonds the corresponding indices were $182,140,127,99$ and 75.

Security prices, after the set-back at the end of January, recovered slightly and then stabilised at levels comparable with those for January. For 300 French shares the index (\% of 1913) went from 219 at the end of January to 230 , 232, 232 and 233 in the four weeks of February; for 25 foreign shares the corresponding index numbers were $359,374,377,373$ and 377 ; for 30 rentes and French bonds the index recovered from 83.4 at the end of January to $85.7,86.0,86.0$ and 86.5 in February.

The Statistique Générale de la France has still not yet resumed the full calculation of its index of production which was suspended in March, 1938. But it will do so soon, from the returns which industries are compelled to make as a result of a decree law of June 17th, 1937. Meanwhile the following figures are published for the months from July-November, 1938 , on the basis of 1928 as $100-8 \mathrm{I}, 7 \mathrm{I}, 80,8 \mathrm{I}, 86$. In spite of the progress since August, the figure is still below the November, 1937, level of 91 and the 1937 average of 88 . From November to December there was slight progress in six groups for which subsidiary indices are available ; metallurgy from 73 to 74 , metal trades 78 to 8 I , automobiles 103 to IO6, chemicals 103 to 104, textiles 86 to 87 , paper 168 to 173 ; the following industries showed declines-mining from 97 to 96 and building from 62 to 6 I . These month-to-month comparisons are somewhat uncertain, for seasonal corrections and allowance for variations in the number of working days cannot be made with as much certainty as could be desired. Compared with December, 1937, the figures are down, except that for automobiles, which had risen from 87 to 106.

The output of coal and lignite was $4,311,000$ tons in January, 1939, compared with 4,531,000 in December, 1938. There was renewed progress in pig iron, from 560,000 tons in December to 571,000 in January, and in steel, from 576,000 to 593,000 . In December, 1938, the output of electricity, $\mathrm{I}, 303 \mathrm{Mn}$. Kwh., was $3.5 \%$ more than in December, 1937; that from thermoelectric works had increased by $32 \%$, whilst
that from the hydro-electric works had fallen $10 \%$. For the whole year, the total output of $13,483 \mathrm{Mn}$. Kwh. was $5 \%$ up, $14 \%$ in respect of thermo works and $2.4 \%$ for the hydro works.

The number of assisted unemployed stood at about 415,000 in January, advanced to 420,000 at the beginning of February, and then fell to 418,000 by 18th, compared with 410,000 a year before. In works employing over 100 persons the proportions of those working under 40 hours per week had fallen from $20 \%$ to $13 \%$ during the second half of 1938.

Weekly receipts of the National Railway Co., which were low in the first week of the year ( 263 Mn .), stood between 273 and 280 Mn . in following weeks. The aggregate to February IIth reached I, 643 Mn . or 132 Mn . more than in 1938. The number of trucks loaded showed a slight improvement to about 42,000 per week.

For reasons largely attributable to the method of compilation of the statistics, the value of January foreign trade was smaller than that of December-imports, $3,978 \mathrm{Mn}$. compared with 4,214; exports, 2,820 Mn. compared with 3,292 ; so that the excess of exports reached I, I57 Mn. compared with 922 Mn . in December.

The rise in wholesale prices slackened in February. The index of 45 commodities ( $\%$ of July, 1914) had risen io points in January from 666 to 676 , but the weekly figures for February were 678, 679, 675 and 676 . From January 28th to February 25th the index for raw materials rose from 693 to 699 and that for foodstuffs fell from 656 to 650 .

In retail prices the rise was smaller in January than in the previous month. The index of 13 articles in Paris (\% of July, 1914) rose from 727 in November to 742 in December and 748 in January. For 34 articles the corresponding figures were 739,754 and 761 .

The transactions of the ordinary savings banks with the deposit banks showed an excess of deposits amounting to 392 Mn . in January, and again in the first half of February.

Generally speaking, the situation remains satisfactory in the monetary and financial sphere. The tenour of the franc no longer inspires misgiving; treasury requirements are assured; but stock exchange recovery has been overcome by difficulties abroad. Internal industrial production, sustained in certain sectors by armament work, has declined in others owing to the international tension. No general economic recovery can be counted upon until the anxieties of the present time are dispelled.

## GERMANY.

## Information communicated by Dr. M. J. ELSAS.

March 2nd, 1939.

THE number of persons unemployed, which was 455,000 at the beginning of the year, fell to 301,000 at the end of January. Of these only about 95,000 are fully employable. The remainder either are not fully employable for physical reasons or are unable to leave their homes for employment elsewhere. They include males and females in the proportion of 5 to I . The reserves of female labour now appear to have been used up. The decline in the unemployment total in January is entirely due to the re-employment of males. On February ist there were only 3,000 unemployed females who were fully capable of employment.

The number of persons employed rose by 247,000 between the end of December and the end of January, whereas in 1938 there was a decline during January. As compared with the end of January, 1938, there was an increase of $1,400,000$. This increase is accounted for to a roughly equal extent by the absorption of unemployed and by the employment of people who were formerly not members of the labour force. The supply of labour, in particular of skilled labour, continues to fall short of the demand, and this has become one of the gravest problems of the Reich. The shortage of labour has now spread to salaried workers. The demand for engineers and other technicians cannot be satisfied. As for agriculture, it is intended to introduce at least 200,000 foreign labourers to work on the land in Germany this year. A great many more would be brought in were it not for the shortage of foreign exchange.

As a way out of the labour shortage it will be necessary either to increase the hours of work or to undertake a further rationalisation of industry. To some extent it is possible that the intensity of work might be increased, while the re-employment of disabled workers, now receiving compensation, is also contemplated.

In the middle of February a new decree was issued controlling the turnover of labour. This is intended to reduce fluctuations on the labour market. In future employees may give notice of termination of employment only with the permission of the authorities. Hitherto, only the engagement of labour has been subject to control. It is stated that on the average about one million and a-half workers have been changing their jobs per month.

The labour problem is the result of the gigantic tasks which the State has undertaken.

The labour shortage is thus mainly to be found in the armament industries, and especially in the metal and construction industries. Everything that is now being done in Germany suggests that as far as can be seen ahead there will be no change in the aims of State policy. Under such conditions it is difficult to see how the export problem can be solved. It hardly seems that the labour for the increase of production for export is available. It may be added that apart from labour difficulties, German exports are meeting with increasing resistance abroad for a number of reasons.

The foreign trade of the "old Reich" showed an active balance of 9 Mn . marks in January, but by comparison with January, 1938, when a passive balance of 37 Mn . marks was recorded, the total value of foreign trade showed a marked decline. Exports in January totalled 419 Mn . marks, or 27 Mn . less than in January, 1938. Exports of raw materials, in particular of coal, showed an especially marked decline. Imports totalled 410 Mn . marks, or 76 Mn . less than in December and 73 Mn . less than in January, 1938. Imports of foodstuffs fell by 5I Mn. marks over the month, of raw materials by 20 Mn . Both imports and exports showed especially large declines in the trade with European and South American countries.

For Greater Germany there was a passive balance of 31 Mn . marks in January. Thus the foreign trade of the new territories of Austria and the Sudetenland showed a passive balance of 40 Mn . marks. These figures show how grave a problem those who direct Germany's foreign trade have been set by the extension of the Reich in 1938.

There have been no noteworthy changes on the money market during the past month. The market was liquid after repayments on account of special delivery bills which fell due, but daily money rates were mainly unchanged.

The mid-February Reichsbank statement showed a bill portfolio of $6,712 \mathrm{Mn}$. marks as against $4,940 \mathrm{Mn}$. a year previously, a note circulation of $7,335 \mathrm{Mn}$. marks as against 4,777 Mn., and daily maturing obligations of 1,028 Mn. marks as against 76 I Mn . "Other assets," which include foreign exchange, totalled 1,389 Mn. marks as against 796 Mn . a year previously, which was before the Anschluss with Austria was effected.

The revenue from taxes and customs totalled I,430 Mn. marks in January, or 335 Mn . more

FINANCE，PRICES and WAGES．

|  | STOCKS \＆SHARES． |  |  | BANKING． |  |  |  |  |  | ジ | $\begin{aligned} & \dot{d} \\ & \stackrel{y}{0} \\ & \hline 0 \end{aligned}$ | WHOLESALE． |  |  |  | REE | REAL |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Capital } \\ & \text { Issues by } \end{aligned}$ |  | Reichsbank． |  | Note Circulation． |  |  |  |  |  |  | 岡め5 | $\underset{\text { Inde }}{\text { Pr }}$ | Nos．of ces of |  |  |
|  |  |  |  <br> Mke． <br> Mn ． | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 曾 } \\ & \text { \#ँ } \\ & \text { Ó } \\ & \text { Mks. } \\ & \text { Mn. } \end{aligned}$ |  | Marks Mn． |  |  |  |  |  | 产 <br> Mks． <br> p．Kg． |  | \％ \% |  |  |  |
| Pre－War Average |  |  |  | 6100 |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Aug., } \\ & 1914, \\ & 4500 \end{aligned}$ |  |  | 4.2 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { July, } \\ & 1914 \\ & 3.15 \end{aligned}$ | 815 | 81.0 |  | 100 | 100 | 100 | ${ }_{100} 1913$ |
| 1933 Av ． | $67 \cdot 3$ | 24.9 | $49 \cdot 4$ | 4350 | 377 | 3500 | $5 \cdot 56$ | 11715 | 3.44 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1934 Av． | 77.5 90.4 | $17 \cdot 7$ | $20 \cdot 1$ | 4854 | 606 | 3727 | $5 \cdot 62$ | 11759 | $2 \cdot 52$ | 4.47 | 234 | ${ }_{42} 1$ | 63 63 | 86.7 95.9 | 93.4 98.4 | $118 \cdot 5$ | 111.2 |
| 1935 Av ． 1936 Av | 90.4 99.9 | 7.1 2.9 | $22 \cdot 2$ 49.6 | 4899 | 805 | 3920 | 6.02 | 13178 | 2.485 | $3 \cdot 61$ | 243 | 55.2 | 63 | 102．2 | 101.8 | 123.0 | 1106 105 |
| 1937 Av ． | 111.7 | $13 \cdot 5$ | $34 \cdot 3$ | 5146 5920 | 672 715 | 4478 5073 | 6.47 7.03 | 14840 16735 | 2．485 | 3.22 3.04 | 189 | 41.0 40.4 | 63 63 | 104.9 | 104．1 | 124.5 | 103•9 |
| 1936 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $105 \cdot 9$ | 125.1 | 103•3 |
| JAN ．．． | 91.8 | 0.4 | 21.8 |  |  |  | 6.09 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FEB．．． | $93 \cdot 8$ 93.3 | 0．1 | 14．8 | 4597 | 605 | 4172 | 6.20 | 14457 | 2.458 | 3．25 | 230 | 54．5 | 63 63 | $105 \cdot 2$ 104.8 | $103 \cdot 6$ $103 \cdot 5$ | $124 \cdot 3$ 124 | $104 \cdot 2$ $104 \cdot 0$ |
| MAR． | $93 \cdot 3$ 96.2 | 11.4 2.0 | 13.0 14.2 | 4824 4989 | 572 776 | 4267 4348 | 6.27 6.75 | 14372 | 2.462 | 3.0 | 226 | 39.0 | 63 | $104 \cdot 5$ | 103.6 | 124.3 | 1040 104.0 |
| MAY． | 99.3 | $4 \cdot 2$ | 10.7 | 4849 | 650 | 4348 4430 | 6.35 6.44 | 14429 | 2.459 | 3.37 3.37 | 181 | 39.5 | 63 | $105 \cdot 0$ | $103 \cdot 8$ | $124 \cdot 3$ | 103.9 |
| JUNE | 1016 |  | 8.5 | 5203 | 677 | 4389 | 6.44 6.35 | 14735 | 2.490 | $3 \cdot 37$ $3 \cdot 0$ | 234 208 | 40.5 40.0 | 63 | $105 \cdot 3$ | 103.7 | $124 \cdot 3$ | $104 \cdot 0$ |
| JULY | $103 \cdot 1$ | $7 \cdot 6$ | 197.6 | 5371 | 804 | 4471 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $104 \cdot 0$ | $124 \cdot 5$ | 104\％ |
| AUG．．． | $101 \cdot 8$ |  | 68.5 | 4815 | 640 | 4540 | 6.54 | 14654 | 2.484 2.488 | 3.0 | 193 | $39 \cdot 5$ 39.5 | 63 | 106.1 | 104.2 | $125 \cdot 3$ | 103.8 |
| SEPT． | $100 \cdot 1$ | $7 \cdot 3$ | 22.0 | 5288 | 669 | 4657 | $6 \cdot 65$ | 15417 | 2.490 | $3 \cdot 12$ | 178 | 40.5 | 63 63 | $106^{\circ} 4$ | 104．8 | 125.4 | 103.2 |
| OCT | 106.0 | $2 \cdot 2$ | 18.1 | 5928 | 694 | 4713 | 6.71 | 15017 | $2 \cdot 495$ | $3 \cdot 37$ | 199 | 39.9 | 63 63 | 105.0 103 | $104 \cdot 2$ | 124．4 | $103 \cdot 9$ |
| NOV． | 106.6 | 0.1 | 194.0 | 5089 | 622 | 4674 | 6.65 | 15245 | $2 \cdot 491$ | $3 \cdot 37$ | 212 | 39.6 | 63 | 103．2 | $104 \cdot 3$ | $124 \cdot 4$ 124 | $104 \cdot 1$ $104 \cdot 2$ |
| DEC．．． | $105 \cdot 4$ | 0.1 | $12 \cdot 4$ | 5834 | 667 | 4980 | 6.96 | 15246 | $2 \cdot 490$ | 3.0 | 235 | 41.5 | 63 | 103.6 | 1050 | 124－3 | 104＊1 |
| JAN ．．． | 106.6 | $80 \cdot 3$ | $86 \cdot 7$ | 5405 | 775 | 4799 | 6.72 |  |  | $3 \cdot 37$ | 226 | 42.2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| FEB．．． | 108.1 | $49 \cdot 1$ | 72.5 | 5018 | 731 | 4816 | 6.74 | 15300 | $2 \cdot 490$ | 3.0 | 206 | $40 \cdot 2$ | ${ }_{63}^{63}$ | 103.4 | $105 \cdot 5$ | 124.5 124.8 | $104 \cdot 1$ $103 \cdot 9$ |
| MAR．${ }_{\text {APR ．．．}}$ | $109 \cdot 3$ $110 \cdot 6$ |  | 13.3 8.8 | 5800 6263 | 716 | 4938 | 6．84 | 16058 | 2.490 | 2.87 | 235 | $39 \cdot 9$ | 63 | 103.9 | 106.2 | $125 \cdot 0$ | 103.9 |
| MAY．．． | 111.8 | 0.7 | $10 \cdot 3$ | 5552 | 736 | 4979 | 6.94 6.83 | 16156 | 2.490 2.490 |  | 234 | $41 \cdot 3$ $40 \cdot 7$ | 63 | 103.9 | 105.9 | $125 \cdot 1$ | $103 \cdot 5$ |
| JUNE | 112．8 |  | 6.7 | 6048 | 715 | 4991 | 6.94 | 16904 | 2.497 | 2.75 3.0 | 180 | 40.7 40.5 | 63 63 | $104 \cdot 1$ $104 \cdot 6$ | $105 \cdot 8$ | $125 \cdot 1$ | 103．4 |
| JULY | 114.6 | 17.5 | 33.4 | 6119 | 707 | 5111 |  |  | 2.498 | 3.25 | 177 | $40 \cdot 1$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| AUG．．． | 1157 | 9.8 | 14.4 | 5747 | 625 | 5115 | 7.09 | 16926 | $2 \cdot 491$ | 3.0 | 151 | $40 \cdot 3$ | 63 63 | $105 \cdot$ 106 | 106.4 106.7 | 126.2 | $103 \cdot 3$ $102 \cdot 5$ |
| OCT．．． | 113.2 | $2 \cdot 7$ | 13.4 29.6 | 5979 | 649 675 | 5256 5275 | 7.26 7.28 | 17602 | 2.494 | 3.12 | 163 | 39.8 | 63 | $105 \cdot 4$ | 106.2 | 125.1 | $102 \cdot 7$ |
| N0V．． | 112.0 | $1 \cdot 0$ | 10.7 | 5965 | 729 | 5196 | $7 \cdot 18$ | 17655 | 2.494 | 3.25 2.87 | 177 | 39.9 40.0 | 63 63 | 1050 | 105.9 | 124.8 | $102 \cdot 9$ |
| DEC．．． | 111.3 | 1.5 | 111.6 | 6762 | 732 | 5493 | 7.50 | 17570 | $2 \cdot 483$ | 3.0 | 159 | 49.6 | 63 63 | 1046 | $105 \cdot 5$ 105.5 | $124 \cdot 9$ $124 \cdot 8$ | $102 \cdot 8$ $102 \cdot 9$ |
| 1938 | 1138 | 5.8 | $41 \cdot 9$ | 6110 |  | 5199 | 714 | 18910 | 2.486 | $3 \cdot 37$ | 179 | 397 37 | 63 63 | 105 | 105.5 | $124 \cdot 8$ $124 \cdot 9$ | ${ }_{102 \cdot 9}{ }^{*}$ |
| FEB ．．． | 113.6 | $12 \cdot 3$ | 4.2 | 5431 | 761 | 5278 | $7 \cdot 24$ | 18975 | 2.479 | 3.25 | 183 | 37.7 40.7 | 63 63 | 105.0 105.7 | 105.5 105.5 | $124 \cdot 9$ 125 | $103 \cdot 7$ $103 \cdot 5$ |
| MAR． | $113 \cdot 9$ | 7.5 1.7 | 10.4 | 6685 | 823 | 5621 | 7.57 | 19098 | 2.473 | 3.0 | 185 | 40.7 | 63 | $105 \cdot 6$ | $105 \cdot 8$ | $125 \cdot 5$ | 103.7 |
| MAY． | 112.7 | 13：2 | 57.5 4.4 | 6105 | 1221 955 | 6086 6268 | 8.09 8.23 | 20739 | 2.493 | 3．25 | 151 | 38.1 | 63 | $105 \cdot 7$ | $105 \cdot 6$ | $125 \cdot 6$ | $103 \cdot 7$ |
| JUNE | $110 \cdot 5$ |  | 192 | 6495 | 1010 | 6440 | 8 |  |  | 3.12 | 166 | 37.7 38.2 | $\begin{aligned} & 63 \\ & 63 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 105 \cdot 8 \\ & 106 \cdot 0 \end{aligned}$ | $105 \cdot 4$ 105 | $125 \cdot 9$ | $103 \cdot 7$ |
| JULY | 1079 | $5 \cdot 5$ | 83.6 | 6539 | 941 | 6650 | 8.72 | 22936 | 2.485 | $3 \cdot 37$ | 174 | $38 \cdot 3$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| AUG．．． | $102 \cdot 2$ | 1.9 | 409.4 | 6779 | 863 | 6863 | 8.95 | 23763 | $2 \cdot 490$ | 3.12 | 165 | 38.7 | 63 | 106.6 | 106.1 | 126.5 |  |
| SEPT． | 103.2 | 3.5 | 71 | 7091 | 902 | 8023 | $10 \cdot 17$ | 23827 | 2.496 | 2.75 | 139 | 38.1 | 63 | $105 \cdot 6$ | $105 \cdot 6$ | 125.2 |  |
| OCT．．．． | 107.5 | 1.0 | 1078 | 6962 | 901 | 7753 | 9．86 | 25676 | 2.499 | 2.75 | 141 | 37.9 | 63 | 1057 | 105.9 | $124 \cdot 9$ |  |
| DEC． | 103•1 | － | 19.8 | 7617 | 949 | 7743 | 9.86 | 25660 | $2 \cdot 497$ | 3.00 | 155 | 38.1 | 63 | 106．8 | 106.0 | 1250 |  |
| 1939 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 10.40 |  | $2 \cdot 496$ | 3.12 | 180 | 38.2 | 63 | 107．2 | 106.7 | $125 \cdot 3$ |  |
| JAN．．．． |  | 1.0 | 48.0 |  | 916 | 7816 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 63 |  | 106.6 | 125.8 |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { FEB ... } \\ & \text { MAR... } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  | 6258 | 1028 | 7939 |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 2.493 \\ & 2483 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2.87 \\ & 3.8 \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & 38.1 \\ & 39.2 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Base | 4－6 ave | e． |  | $\dagger$ Nev | ew Index． | Aug．， |  |  |  | ew I | x，\％ | of Dec | r， 1935. |  |  |



[^20]TRADE, TRANSPORT, EMPLOYMENT.


NOTES AND SOURCES

## IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

Weight
Values in Gold Marks-
COAL OUTPUT
SHIPPING.
RAILWAY GOODS RECEIPTS-
UNEMPLOYMENT-

[^21]than in January, 1938. Property and turnover taxes increased sharply, rising to 957 Mn . marks as against 694 Mn . in the previous year. Customs revenue and consumption taxes totalled 473 Mn . marks as against 412 Mn . in the previous year. Emigration tax brought in 30 Mn . marks in January as against $5 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{Mn}$. in the previous year. From April, 1938, to the end of January, 1939, nearly I4,450 Mn. marks have been received in tax and customs revenue.

In the middle of February a decree was issued concerning income tax which will affect taxation in the coming year. The most important change is the raising of income tax on unmarried people by $12 \frac{1}{2} \%$, subject to the condition that the tax should not exceed $55 \%$ of the income. Married people who after five years of marriage are still childless and who have incomes of more than 4,000 marks, will also be taxed on a higher scale, though not on as high a scale as unmarried people. The tax on their incomes must not exceed $45 \%$. On the other hand the existing allowances for children are extended to stepchildren and adopted children.

The Bourse was fairly firm until the middle of February, although there was not a great deal of business. This was due to the new policy relating to the capital market which is intended to facilitate the raising of capital for industry. In the third week of February the index of security prices fell by more than I $\%$.

As a result of the favourable harvests of last year, and of the large imports of foreign grain, the food situation is better than it was at this time last year. According to the Press, stocks of grain are four million tons greater than they were a year ago.

In the middle of February the Reich Transport Ministry announced that the Kiel Canal, which unites the North Sea and the Baltic Sea,
was to be doubled in width. The reason for this was announced to be the fact that the size of ships had greatly increased since the canal was built, and that it was necessary to permit of two lines of traffic even for big ships.

The statistics of building activity in 1938 are now to hand. Whereas building permits increased as compared with 1937, the number of dwellings completed in the large and medium-sized towns, fell by $17 \%$. The share taken by building societies in the building of new dwellings rose from $39 \%$ of the whole to $44 \%$. Building other than of dwelling-houses increased further, in the large and medium-sized towns by about $10 \frac{1}{2} \%$.

In the middle of February detailed provisions were announced regarding the law of December 3rd which provided for the "aryanisation" of Jewish real estate and other property. For the time being "aryanisation" will be enforced only as far as business undertakings are concerned, while that of shares and other securities in Jewish hands will not be pressed. It is laid down that if the price offered for Jewish landed property is much under its value, the transaction may be completed only if the difference is handed over to the Reich. The same provision covers the "aryanisation" of businesses, except that the Reich is to take only $70 \%$ of the profits which the buyer makes by the transaction.

In February a new trade agreement was concluded between Germany and Italy. Owing partly to the visits of German tourists to Italy the payments between the two countries have not matched, a balance being shown in favour of Italy. In future German exports to Italy will be increased and the visit of Italian tourists to Germany will be facilitated. Further, Germany has agreed to make more use of the port of Trieste than hitherto.

## SOUTH AFRICA

## Information communicated by Mr. G. F. Thirlby, of the University of Cape Town.

## 14th February, 1939.

THE year 1938 opened with falling values of exports other than gold. With the prospect of continued deficiencies under the previous year's realisations, the maintenance intact of the country's large monetary reserves seemed to depend upon the expansion of gold output and the cutting down of imports. In the event, the anticipated decline in export proceeds has occurred, the preliminary trade returns showing the total non-gold exports for

1938 to be down to the 1936 level, or about $£_{10} \mathrm{Mn}$. below that of 1937 . But the increased output and steadily rising price of gold have secured an output value for the year of some £. 4 Mn . in excess of that of 1937. At the same time, imports have been cut by some $£ 7.6 \mathrm{Mn}$., so that the export surplus (over $£_{23} \mathrm{Mn}$.) available to cover interest and other payments which the country has to make abroad is nearly $f_{2} 2 \mathrm{Mn}$. greater than was the surplus for 1937. The danger to the reserves seems, therefore, to
Excl. extraordinary shipments of gold specie, May-July, £2'7 Mn.

## South Africa]

have been largely removed, and, in the absence of any serious decline in the prices of gold or other exports, to be unlikely to recur during 1939. Over the year, the Reserve Bank's gold and foreign bills, probably affected by capital import, appear to have increased by the equivalent of some $£ 7 \mathrm{Mn}$. or $£ 8 \mathrm{Mn}$.; and bankers' balances with the Reserve Bank have steadily gained ground.

The official analysis of imports for the first 9 months of 1938 shows that, as compared with the same period of 1937, motor cars were down
 Motor trucks and vans showed a slight increase (or a decline of $£ 0.17 \mathrm{Mn}$. if parts and chassis were included). The decline in textiles had increased since June to $£^{2} .31 \mathrm{Mn}$., cotton piece-goods having replaced woollen piecegoods as the greatest contributor to the decline, these two groups being followed in order by apparel, bags and textile fur. Iron and steel goods were $£ \mathrm{I} .47 \mathrm{Mn}$. down, and leather and rubber goods showed further falls. The increase in imports of machinery as a whole had fallen since the half-year to $£ 0.35 \mathrm{Mn}$. Declines (from the 1937 level) in machinery listed as " industrial " and " agricultural " largely offset increases in electrical and gas machinery and materials, and in mining equipment. (Monthly tonnages of machinery carried by the railways showed almost continuously increasing declines as compared with 1937 tonnages, from May to October.) Wood, cane and wicker, and their manufactures, showed a conspicuous decline of $£_{0} 0.62 \mathrm{Mn}$. The increase in imports of Government stores had jumped to $£_{2.18} \mathrm{Mn}$. Imports of foodstuffs, increased by $£ 0.23 \mathrm{Mn}$., included a wheat import of nearly $£ 0.5 \mathrm{Mn}$. not appearing in the previous year.*

In the last two months of the year, export realizations of diamonds, wool and wattle were greater than those of the corresponding period of 1937, and in December hide and skin exports also went ahead. The year's realizations were respectively $73 \%, 71 \%, 90 \%$ and $60 \%$ of those of 1937. Maize export realizations for 1938 were only about a third of the 1937 total. The issue of export permits has, since the last report, been increased from 3 Mn . to 4.5 Mn . bags. In view of a census figure of I Mn. bags higher than the final crop estimate, and of the anticipated heavy crop for the year to 3Ist August, 1939 (which may reach the 1937 record

[^22]of 28 Mn . bags), grain brokers and growers were, before the price decline of the last few weeks, pressing for still further permits. Sugar exports fell at the year-end, and brought the total value for the year slightly below that for 1937. Fruit and copper yields were $88 \%$ and $75 \%$ resptetively of the 1937 values; but coal exports were well ahead.

The conspicuous indexes show some (but not a very serious) decline of internal trade in 1938, after several years of increase. Railway revenue will apparently be only about $£ 0.5 \mathrm{Mn}$. less than in 1937, in spite of the decreased maize traffic. New building construction begun has declined less than $£_{2} \mathrm{Mn}$. (first II months) and, outside the Transvaal, it has even increased. (Building material tonnage carried by the railways was less in arrear of 1937 tonnage at the end of October than at the end of July.) Though official returns suggest that industrial employment outside mining and transport was falling throughout the first in months, the general indexes were in November still above the level of December, 1937. For the calendar year, State revenue ( $£ 43 \cdot 4 \mathrm{Mn}$.) was only $£_{\mathrm{I}}^{\mathrm{Mn} .}$ lower than for 1937, Customs and Inland Revenue being down $f_{1} 1 \mathrm{Mn}$. and $£ 0.3 \mathrm{Mn}$. respectively, excise being approximately the same, and post, telegraph and telephone revenue having increased by $£ 0.3 \mathrm{Mn}$. The average monthly bank clearings for 6 towns outside Johannesburg was at approximately the same level as the 1937 average, and above that of 1936. The suggestion in these movements that the effect of the decline in external trade upon internal trade was not great may be explained partly by the modifying influence of the increased expenditure by the gold-mining companies: working costs declared by the Transvaal Chamber of Mines increased from $£ 48.5 \mathrm{Mn}$. in 1937 to $£ 52.2 \mathrm{Mn}$. in 1938.

The fall of $£_{20} \mathrm{Mn}$. in the value of new company capital, on the other hand, is heavy, and it reflects the state of doubt about present and future business prospects, as does also the fall in the commercial banks' advances, coinciding with a rise in deposits to a record height. A resumption of the upward movement in the indexes would seem likely to depend upon a revival of external trade and the improvement of the international political relations upon which that revival will in turn be largely dependent. The state of doubt outside the country is suggested by the increasing amount of gold left "earmarked" with the Reserve Bank of the Union: the amount was $£ 20.7 \mathrm{Mn}$. at 3rst December, 1938.

St. Olicmarnts Prisis Lid.,

## ortagal St., Kirigsivay.

 London, W.O.2.

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K. C. Smith (Statistician),

## Annual Subscription for the Full Service, $£ 6$.

For particulars, apply to the Secretary, London \& Cambridge Economic Service, Houghton Street, Aldwych, W.C.2. Telephone: Holborn 9783-7.

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D. Average of Bank Rate, Bankers' Deposit Rate, Day-to-Day Rate and Three Months' Bill Rate, see Table p. I2 I, cols. 5, 6.

## EVENTS OF THE MONTH

February 23rd-March 22nd, 1939.

Mon., Feb. 27th International
Tues. , 28th U.K.
Wed., Mar. 8th U.K.-China

Thurs.
", 9th U.S.A.-Brazil

| Wed. " 15th International |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Thurs. ", 16th U.K.-Germany |  |
| Fri. | 17th U.K.-Germany |

$$
\text { " } \quad \text {, U.S.A.- }
$$

Germany
Sun. ", 19th France
Mon. ", 20th U.K.-India

British and French Governments formally recognise General Franco's Government in Spain. Currency and Bank Notes Act becomes law.
Chinese Government announces intention to set up Exchange Fund of $£ 10 \mathrm{Mn}$., half to be subscribed by British overseas banks and guaranteed by H.M. Government.
Agreement concluded arranging for U.S. credits to Brazil of \$I20 Mn. Brazil to free exchange market for commercial transactions and to resume dollar debt service.
Bohemia, Moravia and Slovakia incorporated in German Reich. Hungarian troops invade Ruthenia.
Federation of British Industries signs trade cooperation pact with Reichsgruppe Industrie.
Mr. Chamberlain denounces German violation of Munich Agreement.
Most-favoured-nation treatment and trade agreement rights withdrawn by U.S.A. from Czecho-Slovak goods. Additional duty of $25 \%$ imposed on subsidised exports from all territories ruled by German Government.
Government granted plenary powers until Nov. 30th.
Trade agreement replacing Ottawa Pact concluded by U.K. and India. Indian duties on U.K. cottons to be reduced.
Lithuania cedes Memel to Germany.

# THE GENERAL BUSINESS POSITION. <br> UNITED KINGDOM.* 

March 14 th, 1939.
The improvement noticed last month was confirmed by the February statistics. Unemployment diminished considerably, not only in trades affected by the season. Output of steel rose to a high figure. The total value of exports (adjusted for seasonal changes) kept up to the level of recent months, though allowance must be made for the sale of ships ( $£ 2.3 \mathrm{Mn}$.) included in the February figures ; imports of food and of materials, however, fell back a little. The Stock Exchange was optimistic, and the index of industrial securities nearly reached on March I4th the figure of February, 1938.

The estimated cost of buildings for which plans were approved, especially
houses, was greater than a year before. On the other hand, Bank Clearings, town and provincial, fell off, and New Capital Issues were of only moderate amount.

This moderately favourable record is probably due rather to Government expenditure than to any substantial independent revival of enterprise.

## March 20th, 1939.

With the rapid changes in the international situation, and the shock given to confidence by Germany's occupation of Czecho-Slovakia, it is not possible to make any forecast for the future.

## ANALYSIS OF RECENT MOVEMENTS.

## UNITED KINGDOM.

finance. - Bank of England. - The Bank Return of March ist reflected for the first time the effect of the new Banking and Currency Act. The Bank's gold holding was written up from $84 / \mathrm{II} \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$. per fine ounce to $148 / 5 \mathrm{~d}$., or from $£ 126.4 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 220.9 \mathrm{Mn}$. At the same time the Exchange Account sold to the Bank some 750,000 ounces of gold, worth at present prices about $£ 5 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{Mn}$. As a result, the total value of the gold holding of the Bank increased by almost exactly $£ 100 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 226.4 \mathrm{Mn}$. The return of March 8th provided a surprise, because a fall of 3 d . per ounce in the price of gold was adjusted, not by a transfer of $£ 400,000$ of gold from the Exchange Account to the Bank, but by a transfer of cash, which involved falls of $£ 400,000$ each in the note issue and in the value of the Bank's gold holding. On March 15 th a recovery of 3d. in the price of gold was adjusted by a transfer of gold from the Bank to the Account. Thus, though the price of gold was the same as it had been a fortnight earlier, the Bank's gold was
valued at only $£ 226.0 \mathrm{Mn}$. It is to be presumed that adjustments by transfers of cash will be exceptional. Otherwise the note issue would rise whenever sterling fell in terms of gold, and fall whenever sterling rose, thus tending to stimulate either movement, instead of checking it, as under the gold standard. To facilitate cumulative disequilibrium in this way would be most undesirable.

Of the other movements between February 15th and March 15th, the most noticeable was a fall in Discounts and Advances from $£$ I8.I Mn . to the very low figure of $£ 1.7 \mathrm{Mn}$., partly in consequence of the repayment by the Government of the £ro Mn. Czech credit. This decrease was largely offset by a rise of $£ 15 \mathrm{Mn}$. in Government Securities in the Banking Department to $£ 97.5 \mathrm{Mn}$. Meanwhile the note circulation rose by $£ 4 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 477.2 \mathrm{Mn}$. and, as noted above, the note issue was reduced by $£ 400,000$, so that the note reserve of the Banking Department fell by $£ 4.4 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 48.8 \mathrm{Mn}$.

[^23]Total Deposits were therefore $£ 6 \mathrm{Mn}$. lower at £152.5 Mn., but as Government Deposits fell by $\AA_{2} \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ \mathrm{io} .5 \mathrm{Mn}$., Bankers' Deposits were only $£ 4 \mathrm{Mn}$. down at the still comfortable level of $£ 106.5 \mathrm{Mn}$.

Clearing Banks.-Bankers' Deposits at the Bank of England remained at a high level during February, and the cash reserves of nine London clearing banks fell only slightly below the January peak, from $£ 236.7 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 23 \mathrm{I} .4 \mathrm{Mn}$. The abnormally low level of Treasury bills issued by tender was reflected in a fall in Call Money from $£_{133.0} \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£_{\mathrm{I}} \mathrm{I} 29.0 \mathrm{Mn}$., and in Discounts from $£ 255.6 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 205.8 \mathrm{Mn}$. This latter figure was the smallest recorded for any month since April, 1935.

Advances rose by nearly $£ 9 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 930 \mathrm{Mn}$., but Investments fell by over $£ 8 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 573.2$ Mn ., so that the combined total of these two assets showed little change. Deposits fell by $£ 52 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 2,060 \mathrm{Mn}$. The ratio of Cash to Deposits was unchanged at the high level II. $2 \%$, but the ratio to Deposits of the combined total of Cash, Call Money and Discounts fell to $27.5 \%$, the lowest figure on record.

All categories of bank clearings showed more than seasonal declines in February, the fall in Town Clearings, though less than in February last year, being particularly marked. Of the II provincial centres, nine showed declines over the year, the heaviest being in Nottingham, Leeds, Liverpool and Sheffield. Birmingham and Bristol alone showed small increases.

Security Prices.-Prices of industrial securities continued the improvement noted last month until about March ioth. Thereafter the development of the new Czecho-Slovakian crisis caused a moderate set-back, but our mid-month index still stands appreciably above the level of the last three months. Our index of prices of fixed interest securities is also higher on the month, despite some decline in the last few days. Our mid-month index of foreign bond prices also showed a small improvement on the month. Since March I5th prices of nearly all types of securities have declined further. Short money rates remain extremely low.

Capital Issues.-Capital issues on home account in February were again appreciable at $£_{6} \mathrm{Mn}$., though lower than in February in most recent years. They consisted mainly of industrial issues, largely to shareholders. Issues on overseas account were small.

Government Finance.-For the four weeks ending March IIth, the ordinary revenue of the Government totalled $£ 125.1 \mathrm{Mn}$., as compared
with £III. 9 Mn . in the four weeks ending March 12th, 1938. The increase of $£ 13.2 \mathrm{Mn}$. was mainly due to increases in receipts from Income Tax, Sur-tax and N.D.C. For the year to date ordinary revenue totals $£ 859.7 \mathrm{Mn}$., as compared with $£ 816.2 \mathrm{Mn}$. to March I2th last year.

The available evidence still indicates that total ordinary revenue for the financial year will fall about $£_{20 \mathrm{Mn} \text {. short of the original estimate }}$ of $£ 944.65 \mathrm{Mn}$. Of this short fall, about half is expected to occur under the heading of Estate Duties, while Income Tax, Customs, Excise and Stamp Duties are also expected to yield less than estimated. On the other hand, Sur-tax, N.D.C., and Miscellaneous Receipts may show small increases over the estimates.

Ordinary expenditure for the month was nearly $£_{7} \mathrm{Mn}$. less than last year at $£ 53.3 \mathrm{Mn}$., but defence expenditure on loan account, at $£ 35.5 \mathrm{Mn}$., was nearly $£ 14 \mathrm{Mn}$. higher. Total expenditure for the period was thus about $£ 7 \mathrm{Mn}$. higher than a year ago, but in consequence of the increase in revenue the surplus for the period, at $£ 36.3 \mathrm{Mn}$., was over $£ 6 \mathrm{Mn}$. higher than last year.

If present expectations concerning revenue, and original and supplementary estimates of ordinary and loan expenditure are fulfilled, ordinary revenue for the remainder of the financial year will be about equal to ordinary expenditure, so that the deficit for the period will be about equal to the $£ 50 \mathrm{Mn}$. which has still to be spent on loan account.

The revenue surplus for the month was reflected in a fall of $£ 20 \mathrm{Mn}$. in the floating debt from $£ 922 \mathrm{Mn}$. on February ith to $£ 902 \mathrm{Mn}$. on March inth. The discrepancy between the figures of the revenue surplus and the decline in the floating debt is largely accounted for by the repayment by the Treasury to the Bank of England of the $£$ ro Mn. Czech credit.

Treasury bills outstanding fell by more than the total floating debt, from $£ 883 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 854$ Mn . The whole of the decline occurred in tender bills, which fell from $£ 381 \mathrm{IM}$. to $£ 35 \mathrm{I} \mathrm{Mn}$., while 'tap' bills, at $£ 503 \mathrm{Mn}$., showed an increase of $£ \mathrm{IMn}$. The stationary 'tap' bill figure may well conceal changes in the bill holdings of the Exchange Fund and of the other departments, but the movements have probably been moderate. The tender bill total reached its lowest point, $£ 346 \mathrm{Mn}$., on March 4th. This is the lowest figure recorded since issues by tender were resumed in 192I. The tender issue is now rising, and in view of the expected deficit for the remainder of the financial
year is likely to reach more normal levels in the near future.

Foreign Exchanges.-Until the development of the new Czech crisis, the pound was firmer in terms of dollars, the rate rising gradually from $\$_{4} .68 \frac{1}{2}$ per $£$ February 16th to $\$ 4.69 \frac{3}{16}$ on March 13th. Thereafter it declined to $4.68 \frac{1}{4}$ on March I8th. The franc also appreciated in terms of dollars, the rate rising from $\$ 2.64 \frac{3}{4}$ per 100 francs on February 16th to $\$ 2.65^{\frac{1}{4}}$ on March I3th, since when it has also weakened slightly to $2.64 \frac{3}{4}$ on March 18th. Meanwhile the pound has remained steady in terms of francs at about $176 \frac{7}{8}$.

Gold Movements.-Exports of gold in February showed a sharp increase to the very large total of $£ 47.6 \mathrm{Mn}$., of which $£ 45.1 \mathrm{Mn}$. went to U.S.A. Imports amounted to only $£ 8.2 \mathrm{Mn}$., in which the only large single item was $£ 2.4 \mathrm{Mn}$. from Russia.

During the first half of March the movements were similar though on a smaller scale. For the fortnight ending March 16th exports were $£$ II. 4 Mn ., of which $£_{\text {III. }} \mathrm{Mn}$. went to U.S.A., and imports $£ 3.7 \mathrm{Mn}$., of which $£^{2.4}$ Mn . came from Russia.

The heavy net exports of gold at a time when the net gold losses of the British Exchange Fund are believed to have been small or negative may be accounted for partly by shipments from earmark and hoards, both on owners' and on arbitrage account, and partly by the fact that an increasing amount of the Exchange Fund's gold is accumulated on earmark overseas, especially in S. Africa, so that net sales by the Fund in London do not necessarily represent a net loss of gold by the Fund.

PRICES AND WAGES.-There was very little change in the general index numbers of sterling wholesale prices from January to February. A fall in the price of cereals and some kinds of meat brought the food index down about $\mathrm{I} \%$. Among materials there was a slight reduction in the prices of cotton and of wool, and an increase in silk and jute ; in the aggregate of materials there was a trifling rise. In the first half of March the prices of non-ferrous metals increased.

After seasonal correction the retail priceindex of food and the Cost of Living index are seen to be the same on March ist as on December ist and January ist. On February ist the numbers had not shown the usual small seasonal fall. Food prices on March Ist were $4 \%$ lower than a year before.

There have been no changes in wage-rates that affect our index.

TRADE AND OUTPUT.-The reduction in the total value of Imports from January to February was greater than is attributable to the season or the shortness of the month. In the Food group the reduction compensates relatively large imports in January. Among Materials there was the now familiar reduction in cotton imports, while for most other goods the position was similar to that in January.

Compared with a year before, imports of partly finished manufactures have been at a rather low level for some months, owing to the reduction in the importation of iron and steel. In Group B (finished goods) on the other hand, imports have increased a little and their value in February was the same as a year ago.

On the whole the statistics for January and February taken together show little change from the position, discussed in previous issues of the Bulletin, in the fourth quarter of 1938.


Under Manufactures, A includes commodities used in further manufacture and transport; 'Other' contains leather, paper and motor accessories. B includes all other manufactures.

The total value of British Exports in February (when corrected for season, etc.) was higher than in January or December. There was some diminution in exports of coal and of beverages. In manufactures alone the value was a little greater than in any February since 1930. On closer examination, however, it is seen that the increase over previous Februaries is due to the sale of ships this year, $£ 2.3 \mathrm{Mn}$., an increase of about $£_{2} \mathrm{Mn}$. over the previous year ; there was a decrease in some other categories, as shown in the following table.

EXPORTS OF BRITISH PRODUCE. £Mn.

| Beverages ${ }^{\text {+ }}$... | 1937 | 1938 |  | 1938 | 1939 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Dec. | Jan. | Feb. | Dec. | Jan. | Feb |
|  | $1 \cdot 3$ | $1 \cdot 3$ | 1.2 | $1 \cdot 3$ | $1 \cdot 3$ | 0.9 |
| 'Tobacco | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 |
| Food ... | 1.8 | $1 \cdot 3$ | 1.2 | $1 \cdot 3$ | 1.4 | 1.2 |
| Total | 3.5 | 3.0 | 2.8 | 3.0 | $3 \cdot 1$ | 2.5 |
| Materials- $\quad 10$ l |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Coal | 3.0 | 3.0 | 2.7 | 2.8 | 2.9 | 26 |
| Wool | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.5 |
| Oils and fats | $0 \cdot 2$ | 0.2 | $0 \cdot 3$ | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Other | 1.2 | 1.0 | 0.8 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| Total ... | $4 \cdot 9$ | 4.7 | 4.2 | $4 \cdot 6$ | $4 \cdot 7$ | $4 \cdot 3$ |
| Manufactures - 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Non-ferrous metals | 11 | $1 \cdot 1$ | 0.9 | $1 \cdot 1$ | $1 \cdot 3$ | 1.2 |
| Iron, steel, machinery | 11.2 | $10 \cdot 9$ | $9 \cdot 9$ | 10.4 | 8.9 | 90 |
| Vehicles ... | $3 \cdot 9$ | $3 \cdot 3$ | 3.2 | 3.8 | 4.6 | 5.2 |
| Cotton | $5 \cdot 0$ | 4.9 | $4 \cdot 3$ | 3.7 | $4 \cdot 1$ | 3.8 |
| Wool | $2 \cdot 6$ | 2.8 | 2.6 | 2.0 | $2 \cdot 6$ | 26 |
| Other textiles and apparel... | 2.4 | 2.5 | $2 \cdot 3$ | 2.0 | $2 \cdot 3$ | 2.2 |
| Chemicals ... | 1.8 | 1.9 | 1.7 | 1.6 | 1.8 | 17 |
| Other | $5 \cdot 3$ | $5 \cdot 2$ | $4 \cdot 8$ | 4.8 | 4.8 | 4.7 |
| Tutal | $33 \cdot 3$ | 32.6 | 29.7 | 29.4 | $30 \cdot 4$ | $30 \cdot 4$ |
| Total exports of |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| British Produce | $43 \cdot 9$ | 41.2 | $37 \cdot 6$ | $39 \cdot 1$ | $39 \cdot 5$ | 381 |
|  | Beer, S | pirits, | Cocoa |  |  |  |

The output of coal, of iron and especially of steel increased in February, but not to the level of a year before.

The estimated cost of New Building Plans approved in February was $7 \%$ higher than a year before, the recent tendency to reduction being thus checked or reversed. The increase was in plans for houses and factories; there was some falling off in those for Public Buildings, Shops, etc.

UNEMPLOYMENT.-There was a general improvement in employment in February, and the percentage of insured persons unemployed dropped from 14.3 in January to 13.4. Part of this improvement was due to normal seasonal influences, but industries that are little affected by the winter also were busier. The steel and engineering industries recovered partly from the fall in recent months. In general, employment was at about the same level as in February, 1938 ; about 70,000 more insured persons were at work in February, 1939, but owing to the increase in the insured population, the percentage unemployed was $0.3 \%$ greater than a year ago. Textiles generally are more active than in 1938, but the proportion unemployed is still heavy.

The usual details are shown in the tables below.

INSURED MALES UNEMPLOYED.
Excluding Building, Public Works and Agriculture. ( 000 's.)


INSURED PERSONS UNEMPLOYED. UNITED KINGDOM. ooo's.
Males and Females. Aged 16-65. Excluding Agriculture.
A. Wholly Unemployed.
B. Temporarily Stopped.

| Building .... | January, |  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { February, } \\ 1938 \end{gathered}$ |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { January, } \\ 1939 \end{gathered}$ |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { February, } \\ 1939 \end{gathered}$ |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total |  | B | Total | A | B |
|  | ... | 201 | 189 | 13 | 179 | 169 | 10 | 251 | 220 | 31 | 211 | 199 | 12 |
|  |  | 119 | 116 | 3 | 116 | 113 | 3 | 134 | 128 | 7 | 124 | 121 | 3 |
| Coal |  | 98 | 83 | 15 | 97 | 82 | 15 | 111 | 84 | 27 | 116 | 82 | 33 |
| Cotton |  | 82 | 35 | 47 | 95 | 39 | 56 | 84 | 47 | 38 | 78 | 47 | 31 |
| Wool | $\ldots$ | 47 | 12 | 35 | 46 | 13 | 32 | 33 | 13 | 20 | 29 | 12 | 17 |
| Other Textiles | $\ldots$ | 103 | 52 | 51 | 102 | 53 | 50 | 83 | 46 | 37 | 78 | 46 | 32 |
| Clothing ... | $\ldots$ | 88 | 48 | 40 | 71 | 44 | 27 | 85 | 49 | 37 | 69 | 45 | 23 |
| Distribution | $\ldots$ | 205 | 192 | 13 | 213 | 200 | 12 | 225 | 211 | 14 | 226 | 214 | 13 |
| Other Industries |  | 614 | 489 | 123 | 627 | 503 | 125 | 716 | 558 | 157 | 666 | 548 | 119 |
| Hotels |  | 83 | 81 | 2 | 87 | 81 | 2 | 97 | 94 | 3 | 98 | 95 | 3 |
| Commerce, Professions, \&c. |  | 178 | 169 | 9 | 178 | 170 | 9 | 198 | 186 | 12 | 193 | 184 | 9 |
| Totals |  | 1818 | 1466 | 351 | 1808 | 1467 | 341 | 2017 | 1635 | 382 | 1888 | 1593 | 295 |
| Males |  | 1376 | 1184 | 193 | 1358 | 1168 | 190 | 1558 | 1304 | 254 | 1452 | 1258 | 194 |
| Females |  | 441 | 283 | 159 | 449 | 298 | 151 | 459 | 331 | 128 | 436 | 335 | 101 |

## UNEMPLOYMENT BY DISTRICTS

PERCENTAGE OF INSURED PERSONS UNEMPLOYED.-GREAT BRITAIN AND N. IRELAND.

(b) New series including certain domestic workers.

Regional Percentages prior to October, 1938, based upon numbers insured in July, 1937; subsequently upon numbers insured in July, 1938 .
STOCKS OF STAPLE COMMODITIES.
Table supplementary to the summary table, p. 2, Special Mem. 32.

| B-xinning of |  | (1) American Cotton. 1,000 bales | $\begin{gathered} (2) \\ \text { Tir. } \\ 1,000 \\ \text { tons. } \end{gathered}$ | (3) Copper. $1,000$ <br> tons. | (4) <br> Lead. 1.000 tons. |  | $\begin{array}{c\|} \hline(5) \\ \text { Spelver. } \\ 1,000 \\ \text { tons. } \\ \hline \end{array}$ | (6) <br> Rnboer. <br> 1,000 <br> tons. | (7) <br> Sugar, <br> 1,000 <br> tons | (8) <br> Tes <br> Mn lbs | (9) <br> Coffee. <br> Mn. bags. |  | (10) Wheat. <br> Mn. bushels. | $\begin{gathered} \text { (11) } \\ \text { Petroleum } \\ \text { Mn. } \\ \text { barrels. } \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | U.S. |  |  | U.K. | A |  |  |  |  | B |  |  |
| 1955 | Jali. |  | 9,070 | 15.5 | 524.1 | 209.8 | 19.4 | 118 | 679 | 7,887 | 279 | 6.6 | * | 448 | 565 |
|  | April... | 8,581 | 19.2 | $520 \cdot 4$ | 203.2 | $18 \cdot 9$ | 110 | 653 | 8,058 | 267 | 6.9 | $19 \cdot 0$ | 411 | 570 |
|  | Juls | 8,413 | 14.4 | 517.7 | $206 \cdot 3$ | 17.1 | 111 | 648 | 6,170 | 22 | 7.5 | $15 \cdot 5$ | 313 | 566 |
|  | Oct. | 8,141 | 11.5 | 474.6 | $200 \cdot 6$ | $9 \cdot 3$ | 104 | 641 | 4,688 | 216 | 7.6 | * | 367 | 547 |
| 1936 | Jall. | 7,488 | 13.5 | 433.2 | 198.5 | $7 \cdot 0$ | 83 | 576 | 6,237 | 247 | 7.8 | $22 \cdot 1$ | 397 | 541 |
|  | April... | 6,768 | 16.5 | $431 \cdot 5$ | 199.5 | $6 \cdot 3$ | 80 | 539 | 6,671 | 232 | 8.2 | $22 \cdot 2$ | 349 | 551 |
|  | July ... | 6,384 | 15.0 | 409.8 | $205 \cdot 8$ | 6.7 | 88 | 491 | 4,990 | 199 | $8 \cdot 1$ | 20.8 | 221 | 545 |
|  | Oct. | 6,509 | 15.1 | 339 -2 | 179.0 | $7 \cdot 1$ | 82 | 457 | 2,983 | 201 | 7.8 | * | 282 | 527 |
| 1937 | Jan. | 6,044 | 21.8 | $315 \cdot 3$ | $153 \cdot 9$ | $6 \cdot 1$ | 57 | 430 | 5,389 | 215 | $7 \cdot 9$ | * | 267 | 520 |
|  | A pril.. | 5,745 | $22 \cdot 0$ | $275 \cdot 3$ | 122.5 | $7 \cdot 1$ | 34 | 416 | 6,026 | 161 | $8 \cdot 1$ | 26.2 | 255 | 540 |
|  | July | 5,345 | $21 \cdot 1$ | 268.2 | 101.2 | $6 \cdot 3$ | 32 | 387 | 4,388 | 125 | 7.9 | $22 \cdot 6$ | 129 | 554 |
|  | Aug. ... | 5,459 | 23.7 | 279.5 | 99.2 | 6.2 | 33 | 399 | 3,636 | 111 | $7 \cdot 6$ | * | 180 | 560 |
|  | Sept ... | 6,109 | 23.5 | $293 \cdot 3$ | 92.4 | 8.0 | 30 | 408 | 3,165 | 119 | 7.6 | * | 227 | 559 |
|  | Oct | 6,652 | $20 \cdot 9$ | 307.8 | 81.0 | $7 \cdot 9$ | 33 | 428 | 2,816 | 130 | $7 \cdot 4$ | 22.4 | 253 | 563 |
|  | Nov... | 7,073 | 20.8 | $341 \cdot 3$ | 89.8 | 7.8 | 44 | 431 | 4,002 | 146 | 7.5 | * | 245 | 560 |
|  | Dec. . | 7,878 | $21 \cdot 9$ | $369 \cdot 3$ | 101.4 | $7 \cdot 1$ | 59 | 446 | 5,981 | 177 | $7 \cdot 1$ | * | 249 | 565 |
| 1938 | Jan. | 8,183 | $24 \cdot 1$ | $412 \cdot 3$ | $115 \cdot 3$ | $7 \cdot 0$ | 79 | 502 | 6,067 | 198 | 7.0 | 28.1 | 284 | 575 |
|  | Feb. ... | 8,610 | 23.1 | 451.8 | $119 \cdot 3$ | $8 \cdot 2$ | 99 | 500 | 5,821 | 204 | $7 \cdot 1$ |  | 275 | 583 |
|  | March | 9,361 | $21 \cdot 1$ | $473 \cdot 1$ | $123 \cdot 3$ | 9.0 | 117 | 522 | 6,309 | 197 | $7 \cdot 4$ |  | 255 | 588 |
|  | April... | 9,839 | $24 \cdot 6$ | 482.4 | 128.1 | 12.0 | 125 | 537 | 6,889 | 167 | 7.4 |  | 229 | 592 |
|  | May | 10,543 | $25 \cdot 3$ | 492.5 | $139 \cdot 7$ | 12.0 | 142 | 540 | 6,521 | 144 | 7.5 |  | 197 | 590 |
|  | June | 11,280 | $23 \cdot 7$ | $495 \cdot 0$ | 146.4 | 11.2 | 154 | 522 | 5,955 | 138 | $7 \cdot 4$ |  | 158 | 584 |
|  | July | 12,059 | 24.3 | 492.4 | 145.8 | $9 \cdot 4$ | 157 | 525 | 5,255 | 141 | $7 \cdot 2$ |  | 140 | 584 |
|  | Aug... | . 12,808 | $25^{\circ} 0$ | 481.2 | $137 \cdot 7$ | 9.0 | 155 | 532 | 4,713 | 141 | 7.0 |  | 198 | 578 |
|  | Sept... | . 13,056 | 25.7 | 441.5 | 125.6 | 8.8 | 153 | 520 | 4,226 | 157 | $7 \cdot 3$ |  | 264 | 576 |
|  | Uct. .. | . 13,2 2 | 26.7 | 408.4 | 117.3 | $9 \cdot 3$ | 142 | 508 | 3,601 | 169 | $7 \cdot 6$ |  | 333 | 570 |
|  | Nov... | 13,289 | 27.2 | 379.2 | 104.9 | $9 \cdot 7$ | 143 | 498 | 4,129 | 186 | 7.5 |  | 364 | 563 |
|  | Dec. .. | . 13,277 | 27.0 | $379 \cdot 1$ | 102.9 | 95 | 132 | 470 | 5,958 | 208 | 7.4 |  | 430 | 555 |
| 1939 |  |  |  |  | 1029 | 11.0 | 138 | 441 | 6,064 | 221 | $7 \cdot 4$ |  |  |  |
|  | Feb.... | 13,323* | $30 \cdot 9$ | 428.6 | 104.6 | $12 \cdot 9$ | 139 | 456 | 6,064 | 231 | 7.9 |  |  |  |
|  | March | $13.423 \uparrow$ | $32 \cdot 1$ | $440 \cdot 3$ |  | $14^{\circ} 0$ | 139 |  |  | 215 | 7.8 |  |  |  |

\|April, 1935, onwards includes whole buffer stock.
(1) Total supply seasonally corrected, exclusive of European and Asiatic mill stocks.
(2) Visible Supply plus estimate of Straits stocks
(3) Total world stocks of refined copper only N.B.-This is not the same series as that discontinued since Oct., 1931
(4) U.K. stocks in official warehouses
(6) Crude rubber stocks (outside regulated areas) in U.K U.S.A., Singapore, Penang, Para and Manaos plus estimated afloat as published by the International Rubber Regulation Committee.

* Not available.
(7) Total visible suppls.
(8) Tea Brokers' Association, London stocks.
(9) (A) Visible supply. (B) Interior Brazil stock and San Paulo Pledged stock. Figures supplied by Messrs. Duuring \& Zoon.
(10) Stanford Wheat Studies Estimates of World's Visible Supply.
(II) Total crude epetroleum, natural gasolene (ex at plants) refined products.

FINANCE.


|  | STOCKS \& SHARES |  |  |  | MONEY* |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { NEW } \\ & \text { CAPITAL } \\ & \text { ISSUES } \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { BANK } \\ & \text { CLEARINGS. } \end{aligned}$ |  |  | OTHER BANKING. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | TREASURY BILLS. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Industrials |  | Fixed <br> Interest |  |  |  |  |  | London Bankers' Clearing House. |  |  | Bank of England. |  |  | 9 Clearing Banks. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | \% |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { for } \\ & \text { U.K. } \\ & \text { £ Mn. } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  | 8. ${ }^{\text {d }}$ |  | $\dot{\Phi}$ | is |  | To in | $\stackrel{i}{0} \dot{\infty}$ |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { ion } \\ & \text { E } \\ & \text { E } \\ & \text { E } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { B } \\ & \text { E } \\ & \text { E } \\ & 0 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 159 |
| 1924 | 100 |  |  | 100 | 2.43 | 3.45 | $7 \cdot 4$ | 11.2 | 2070 |  |  | 147 | $390$ |  |  |  |  |  |  | 11.7 | 48.5 |  | 442 |
|  | 139 | - | 96.3 | 104.0 | $4 \cdot 57$ | $5 \cdot 31$ | $13 \cdot 3$ | $7 \cdot 9$ | 2360 | 241 | 125 | 62 | 50 | 361 | 1762 | 226 | 974 | 242 | 10.7 | $55 \cdot 3$ | 521 | 239 |
| 1929 | 103 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1660 |  | 98 | 102 | 55 | 371 | 1914 | 352 | 746 | 519 | 10.9 | $39 \cdot 0$ | 582 | 327 |
| 1933 Av. | 103 |  | 124.4 132.5 | $80 \cdot 7$ 75 | 66 | 81 | 79 8.9 | 3.6 | 1830 | 233 | 101 | 102 | 54 | 378 | 1842 | 228 | 740 | 543 | $11 \cdot 3$ | $40 \cdot 2$ | 473 | 377 |
| 1934 Av.... | 125 139 | - | 132. 136.2 | 75 | . 73 | 57 | 13.5 | 1.7 | 1790 | 252 | 101 | 98 | 51 | 394 | 1961 | 264 | 755 | 598 | 10.8 | 38.5 | 473 | 393 |
| 1935 Av . 1936 Av . | 139 | - | 136.9 | 73.6 73.2 | 75 | 61 | 15.9 | $2 \cdot 2$ | 2093 | 276 | 109 | 96 | 54 | 432 | 2104 | 312 | 825 | 598 | $10 \cdot 3$ | 39.2 | 576 | 225 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 1936 \mathrm{Av} . \\ & 1937 \mathrm{Av} . \end{aligned}$ | 150 | - | $12^{\prime} \cdot 7$ | 78.4 | -75 | -59 | 11.6 | $2 \cdot 7$ | 2180 | 299 | 116 | 97 | 58 | 479 | 2172 | 276 | 910 | 607 | $10 \cdot 3$ | $41 \cdot 9$ | 560 | 229 |
| 1935 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 3.9 | 1810 | 267 | 105 | 104 | 47 | 400 | 1982 | 272 | 761 | 599 | $10 \cdot 9$ | 38.4 | 490 | 397 |
| JULY | 141 | -0.8 $+\quad 52$ | 137.6 137.5 | 72.9 73.0 | .75 .75 | 63 | 50.0 4.8 | 1.9 | 1770 | 238 | 105 | 86 | 54 | 406 | 1976 | 285 | 751 | 599 | 10.6 | 38.0 | 515 | 365 |
| AUG. | 148 | +5.2 $+\quad 52$ | 137.5 | 73.0 75.0 | .75 | . 59 | 7.3 | - 4 | 1820 | 236 | 91 | 91 | 54 | 400 | 1986 | 298 | 749 | 602 | $10 \cdot 3$ | 37.7 | 530 | 363 |
| SEPT. | 139 | - 0.5 | 131.0 | 76.5 | -75 | . 63 | 3.9 | 8 | 1860 | 266 | 99 | 79 | 70 | 400 | 1998 | 295 | 760 | 610 | $10 \cdot 1$ | 38.0 | 549 | 353 |
| NOV | 149 | + 8.8 | 136.4 | 73.5 | -75 | -56 | $9 \cdot 2$ | $3 \cdot 3$ | 1990 | 255 | 100 | 93 | 53 | 401 | 2002 | 292 | 760 | 604 | $10 \cdot 5$ | 0 | 5 | 346 |
| DEC. | 147 | - 1.3 | 136.4 | 73.5 | -75 | $\cdot 67$ | $9 \cdot 7$ | 1.5 | 1950 | 276 | 111 | 91 | 44 | 411 | 2054 | 320 | 767 | 589 | 10.6 |  |  | 333 |
| 1936 | 154 | $+3.8$ | 137.4 | $73 \cdot 0$ | -75 | 56 | 33.0 | 9 | 1960 | 281 | 109 | 110 | 51 | 398 | 2055 | 335 | 774 | 585 | 106 | 37.7 | 556 | 339 |
| FEB. | 159 | +3.7 +3 | 137.0 | 73.2 | -75 | . 55 | 18.5 | $1 \cdot 2$ | 2080 | 268 | 110 | 104 | 47 | 399 | 2015 | 287 | 785 | 585 | $10 \cdot 8$ | $39 \cdot 0$ | 525 | 271 |
| MAR | 155 | -3.5 | 136.2 | $73 \cdot 6$ | 75 | 56 | 6.9 | $\cdot 1$ | 1950 | 263 | 107 | 92 | 50 | 405 | 2001 | 217 | 811 | 59 | $10 \cdot 3$ | $40 \cdot 5$ | 505 | 257 |
| APR. | 160 | $+1.9$ | $137 \cdot 4$ | 72.9 | -75 | -56 | 8.8 | 1.6 | 2020 | 279 | 105 | 105 | 47 | 422 | 2045 | 262 | 825 | 592 | 10.6 | $40 \cdot 3$ | 498 | 197 |
| MAY | 154 | - 3.4 | 137.6 | $72 \cdot 8$ | -75 | -59 | $17 \cdot 2$ | $2 \cdot 3$ | 1940 | 272 | 103 | 83 | 50 | 425 | 2075 | 303 | 825 | 595 | $10 \cdot 1$ | 39.8 | 548 | 212 |
| JUNE | 154 | + 0.9 | $135 \cdot 8$ | $73 \cdot 8$ | 75 | -83 | $15 \cdot 3$ | 3.1 | 2200 | 265 | 98 | 91 | 51 | 432 | 2117 | 321 | 834 | 597 | $10 \cdot 1$ | 39.4 | 578 | 215 |
| ULY | 157 | $+1.3$ | $135 \cdot 7$ | $73 \cdot 9$ | -75 | 59 | $20 \cdot 7$ | 3.7 | 1860 | 285 | 110 | 91 | 61 | 443 | 2132 | 340 | 839 | 594 | 10.0 | 39.4 | 615 | 191 |
| AUG. | 165 | + 4.6 | $136 \cdot 8$ | $73 \cdot 3$ | -75 | . 55 | $4 \cdot 3$ | 1.8 | 2030 | 260 | 101 | 98 | 55 | 450 | 2133 | 336 | 832 | 597 | $10 \cdot 4$ | 39.0 | 630 | 173 |
| SEP' | 166 | + 0.8 | $137 \cdot 4$ | 73.1 | -75 | . 55 | 8.0 | 1.5 | 2230 | 256 | 101 | 102 | 54 | 445 | 2143 | 334 | 837 | 604 | $10 \cdot 2$ | 39.0 | 621 | 188 |
| OCT. | 170 | + 3.7 | 138.4 | $72 \cdot 4$ | 75 | 55 | $22 \cdot 7$ | $4 \cdot 2$ | 2250 | 289 | 115 | 82 | 73 | 446 | 2164 | 341 | 847 | 611 | 100 | $39 \cdot 1$ | 615 | 224 |
| NOV. | 169 | $+0.2$ | 137.6 | 72.8 | 75 | 56 | $18 \cdot 3$ | 2.6 | 2330 | 289 | 121 | 98 | 57 | 447 | 2171 | 320 | 851 | 611 | 10.2 | 39.2 | 603 | 235 |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { DEC. } \\ 1937 \end{gathered}$ | 167 | $-1.2$ | $135 \cdot 5$ | $74 \cdot 0$ | -75 | 90 | 17.0 | 3.2 | 2270 | 301 | 123 | 96 | 49 | 468 | 2199 | 314 | 846 | 615 | $10 \cdot 6$ | 38.5 | 617 | 205 |
| JAN. | 169 | $+16$ | $134 \cdot 5$ | 74.5 | -75 | 56 | 24.8 | $2 \cdot 8$ | 2375 | 316 | 122 | 107 | 51 | 455 | 2193 | 338 | 840 | 624 | $10 \cdot 3$ | $38 \cdot 3$ | 588 | 164 |
| FEB. | 165 | + 0.3 | 129.2 | $77 \cdot 6$ | -75 | 55 | 80 | $2 \cdot 6$ | 2500 | 297 | 125 | 91 | 61 | 453 | 2161 | 301 | 862 | 626 | $10 \cdot 1$ | 39.9 | 540 | 166 |
| MAR. | 156 | - $5 \cdot 3$ | $126 \cdot 3$ | 79.2 | -75 | 55 | 9.8 | 1.5 | 2250 | 296 | 129 | 94 | 60 | 464 | 2131 | 243 | 892 | 622 | 101 | 41.9 | 505 | 173 |
| APR. | 156 | + 0.2 | $127 \cdot 3$ | 78.6 | -75 | 55 | $7 \cdot 1$ | 4.8 | 2280 | 303 | 118 | 97 | 60 | 466 | 2139 | 237 | 904 | 616 | $10 \cdot 2$ | $42 \cdot 2$ | 510 | 171 |
| MAY | 154 | - 1.9 | $127 \cdot 8$ | 78.2 | -75 | 55 | $8 \cdot 3$ | $3 \cdot 1$ | 2085 | 306 | 117 | 88 | 70 | 480 | 2143 | 241 | 909 | 611 | $10 \cdot 4$ | $42 \cdot 4$ | 533 | 141 |
| JUNE | 148 | $-3.7$ | 126.7 | 79.0 | -75 | 73 | $22 \cdot 6$ | 1.9 | 2430 | 293 | 112 | 104 | 47 | 480 | 2178 | 255 | 920 | 608 | 10.6 | 42.2 | 538 | 137 |
| JULY | 150 | $-0.2$ | 126.1 | $79 \cdot 3$ | $\cdot 75$ | 56 | 14.6 | $5 \cdot 7$ | 2105 | 304 | 117 | 89 | 60 | 493 | 2178 | 277 | 925 | 602 | $10 \cdot 3$ | 42.4 | 548 | 307 |
| AUG | 152 | + 2.2 | 126.0 | $79 \cdot 5$ | -75 | . 55 | 6.5 | - 6 | 1910 | 284 | 107 | 99 | 55 | 498 | 2168 | 272 | 924 | 600 | $10 \cdot 3$ | $42 \cdot 6$ | 558 | 303 |
| SEPT | 146 | -4.9 | 125.2 | 79.9 | -75 | -55 | 1.9 | -1 | 2000 | 276 | 103 | 108 | 49 | 488 | 2172 | 276 | 928 | 596 | $10 \cdot 4$ | $42 \cdot 7$ | 573 | 291 |
| OCT. | 139 | $-4.7$ | 126.1 | 79.4 | -75 | -55 | $13 \cdot 1$ | $\cdot 7$ | 2110 | 308 | 116 | 93 | 62 | 490 | 2197 | 291 | 939 | 595 | $10 \cdot 1$ | $42 \cdot 7$ | 595 | 299 |
| NOV. | 138 | $-2.5$ | 129.0 | $77 \cdot 5$ | -75 | -55 | 11.4 | 1.0 | 2090 | 299 | 109 | 87 | 69 | 481 | 2193 | 292 | 942 | 590 | $10 \cdot 2$ | $42 \cdot 7$ | 612 | 250 |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { DEC. } \\ 1938 \end{gathered}$ | 133 | $-51$ | 128.2 | $78 \cdot 1$ | -75 | $\cdot 79$ | $10 \cdot 7$ | $7 \cdot 2$ | 2025 | 301 | 112 | 103 | 48 | 502 | 2213 | 294 | 934 | 591 | 10.5 | $42 \cdot 3$ | 622 | 305 |
| JAN. | 135 | $+1.3$ | 129.8 | $77 \cdot 1$ | 75 | 55 | 6.5 | 9 | 2140 | 322 | 114 | 123 | 50 | 482 | 2212 | 323 | 920 | 592 | $10 \cdot 8$ | 41.6 | 612 | 309 |
| FEB. | 128 | -60 | 129.8 | $77 \cdot 1$ | 75 | 53 | 13.8 | $5 \cdot 4$ | 1975 | 295 | 108 | 106 | 51 | 474 | 2165 | 281 | 934 | 589 | $10 \cdot 7$ | $43 \cdot 1$ | 557 | 277 |
| MAR. | 120 | $-68$ | 127.0 | 78.8 | -75 | -53 | $6 \cdot 3$ | $\cdot 1$ | 2000 | 286 | 102 | 119 | 47 | 479 | 2140 | 234 | 949 | 590 | $10 \cdot 9$ | $44 \cdot 3$ | 517 | 284 |
| APR. | 129 | + +3 | 128.6 | 77.8 | . 75 | - 53 | $4 \cdot 7$ | 3 | 1905 | 299 | 99 | 104 | 54 | 497 | 2153 | 243 | 948 | 594 | $10 \cdot 9$ | $44 \cdot 0$ | 522 | 307 |
| MAY | 123 | +5.7 $-\quad 54$ | 127.6 | 78.4 | -75 | 53 | 16.6 | $10 \cdot 8$ | 1860 | 287 | 97 | 88 | 72 | 482. | 2147 | 274 | 936 | 587 | 10.2 | $43 \cdot 6$ | 570 | 278 |
| JUNE | 118 | $-5.4$ | 127.6 | 78.5 | 75 | 62 | 8.1 |  | 2140 | 275 | 94 | 109 | 55 | 486 | 2184 | 284 | 935 | 586 | 10.8 | $42 \cdot 8$ | 580 | 311 |
| JULY | 125 | + 75 | $130 \cdot 1$ | $76 \cdot 9$ | 75 | 52 | 11.2 | 40 | 1890 | 294 | 101 | 113 | 49 | 488 | 2193 | 295 | 934 | 589 | 106 | $42 \cdot 6$ | 568 | 302 |
| AUG. | 122 | -24 | $\div 28.6$ | 77.9 | 75 | . 53 | 1.8 | , | 1885 | 264 | 86 | 106 | 54 | 483 | 2183 | 298 | 925 | 598 | 10.5 | 42.4 | 555 | 303 |
| SEPT | 117 | -65 | 121.2 | 81.0 | -75 | 72 | 1.6 | - | 2030 | 255 | 85 | 100 | 58 | 479 | 2154 | 283 | 923 | 602 | $10 \cdot 3$ | $42 \cdot 8$ | 537 | 334 |
| OCT. | 119 | + +14 +2.7 | 123.7 123.8 | $80 \cdot 9$ $80 \cdot 9$ | 75 | . 72 | 1.8 10.9 | 8 | 1930 | 293 | 99 | 95 | 65 | 496 | 2140 | 261 | 923 | 602 | $10 \cdot 4$ | $43 \cdot 1$ | 526 | 384 |
| NOV. | 123 | $+2.7$ | 123.8 | $80 \cdot 9$ 82.3 | 75 | 55 | 10.9 | $1 \cdot 9$ | 2060 | 266 | 95 | 89 | 70 | 479 | 2131 | 265 | 915 | 599 | 10.4 | 43.0 | 517 | 407 |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { DEC. } \\ 1939 \end{gathered}$ | 116 | $-4.5$ | 1217 | $82 \cdot 3$ | 75 | 95 | $9 \cdot 3$ | 3 | 1970 | 288 | 101 | 100 | 52 | 495 | 2135 | 243 | 920 | 592 | $10 \cdot 8$ | $43 \cdot 1$ | 507 | 465 |
| JAN. | 115 | $-0.5$ | 121.4 | 82.5 | -75 | 56 | $10 \cdot 3$ | 3.6 | 1930 | 316 | 107 | 118 | 56 | 476 | 2112 | 248 | 922 | 581 | 112 | $43 \cdot 6$ | 449 | 525 |
| FEB. | 118 | + + + +97 | 119.2 120.5 | 84.2 83.2 | 75 -75 | . 53 | $7 \cdot 0$ | 1.2 | 1860 | 290 | C102 | 111 | 48 | 473 | 2060 | 206 | 930 | 573 | 11.2 | $45 \cdot 1$ | 381 | 502 |
| MAR. | 126 | $+9.4$ | $120 \cdot 5$ | 83-2 | -75 | 5 |  |  |  |  | , | 106 | 46 | 477 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 351 | 503 |

Exclusive of * Bank Rate 2 per cent. since June 30th, 1932

STOCKS \& SHARES-
NEW CAPITAL ISSUESBANK CLEARINGS-

BANK OF ENGLAND-
PRINCIPAL BANKS-
TREASURY BILLS-
MONEY-

Index Nos. of Prices and lield as percentage of 1924 level; on 15 th of month. For end of month figures Sensitivelements.
Sensitive Index.-Geometric Mean of monthly percentage changes.
Issues during month in Gt. Eitain (a), for U.K. (b), for Abroad, excluding Government loans, etc.-As published
by THE MIDLAND BANK, LTD
Total of Town Clearings (i.e., excluding Metropolitan) of London Bankers' Clearing House for 3 weeks covering
f London Bankers, Cettement days, Consols settlement day, and 4th of following month. Country Clearings Deposits. 11th-17th of month ase Provincial Clearings for 11 towns-Proportionate totals for 24 working days. Bank Notes and Currency Notes
"Current Deposit and other accounts," etc. 11th-17th of month. Issues amalgamated, November 22 nd, 1928. the National Eank, Ltd, and the District Bank). Averages for the month of 9 clearing banks (i.e.-exclueting Issued by tender. Total of Blls issued by tender during 13 wy THE MIDLAND BANK, LTD.
Day-to. Day Rats and ) Otherwise issued. Total of Treasury Bills in existence less those issued by tenden Day-to-Day Rate and 3 Months' Rate. Averages for week ending 15th of month.

PRICES.


[^24]PRICES AND WAGES.


PRICE OF GOLD-
Average (London) price per fine oz. for week ending 15 th of month.-ECONOMIST.
PRICE OF SILVER- Arerage (cash) price of bar silver for week ending 15th of month.-ECONOMIST.
BOARD OF TRADE INDEX-Geometric Mean of Wholesale Prices (averages for month) of 200 commodities as Dercentage of 1924 average. Geometric Mean of Wholesale Prices (averages for month) of 200 commodities as jercer
Based on new inder first published in Januars, 1935 .-BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL.

8TATIST (SAUERBECK) Average wholesale prices of 19 foodstuffs and 26 raw materials on last day of month, as percentage of average INDICES-for 1924.-STATIST.

COST OF LIVING INDEX-Ministry of Labour's index showing movement since 1924 in cost of maintaining unchanged the standard of living prevalent in working-class households before the war. For factintate comparison with .. Statist... index.

RETAIL FOOD PRICES-
As above, for food onls
WAGES IEDEX-
For description see Special Mem. No, 28

OUTPUT AND INTERNAL ACTIVITY.


[^25]
## OUTPUT AND INTERNAL ACTIVITY.



[^26]EXTERNAL TRADE.


* normal seasonal change removed.


## EXTERNAL TRADE.



* NORMAL SEASONAL CHANGE REMOVED

Declared ralues of imports (c.i.f.) into C.K., re-exports of imported goods (f.o.b.) and poods. Value of of U.K. produce and manufacture.
el imports = Total imports less exports
impo mports and exports of gold bullion and coin.-MONTHLY ACCOUNTS OF seasonally adjusted series for total imports is deduced from

## SHIPPING, UNEMPLOYMENT.



SHIPPING.
UNEMPLOYMENT.
 16-65 years. Ex. Agriculture and any disqualifled for venefit by trade dispute, N.B.-Changes in method of ent

TRANSPORT
SHIPPING-ENTERED
SHIPPING FREIGHTS

## UNEMPLOYMENT-

INSURED PERSONS-

Tonnage of British and Foreign vessels entering and leaving British ports with cargoes during month.-BOARD
OF TRADE MONTHLY ACCOUNTS OF TRADE \& NAVIGATION. For description see Journal of RSS, Part I. Chamber of Shipping index number as
month to September, 1937, thereafter one
Number of books lodged at Labour Exchang on
week earlier.-MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE

## FOREIGN EXCHANGES.

|  | AVERAGE OF DAILY RATES. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Paris } \\ & \text { f. to } £ \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Brus- } \\ \text { sels } \\ \text { b.to } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Milan } \\ & \text { 1. to } £ \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Berlin } \\ \text { Rm.to£ } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Amster- } \\ & \text { damm } \\ & \text { fl. to } £ \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { War- } \\ \text { saw } \\ \text { z. to } £ \end{gathered}$ | Prague kc. to $£$ | Zurich <br> f. to £ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Stock- } \\ & \text { holm } \\ & \text { kr. to } £ \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { NewYork } \\ \$ \text { to } £ \end{gathered}$ | Montreal \$ to $£$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Buenos } \\ & \text { Aires } \\ & \text { D. to } £ \end{aligned}$ | $\left\|\begin{array}{c} \text { Rio de } \\ \text { Janeiro } \\ \text { d. per mil. } \end{array}\right\|$ | Bombay <br> d. per rup. | Hong. <br> kong <br>  | $\left\lvert\, \begin{gathered} \text { Kobe } \\ \text { d. per yen } \end{gathered}\right.$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | For 1 | 19 то 1 | 934 Rat | s Sex E | R | LL |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1935 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| JAN. | $74 \cdot 36$ 73.92 | 20.99 20.89 | $57.47$ $57 \cdot 43$ | 12.22 12.15 | $\begin{aligned} & 7.26 \\ & 7.21 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 25 \cdot 97 \\ & 25 \cdot 82 \end{aligned}$ | 117.33 116.66 | $15 \cdot 15$ 15 | 19.40 19.40 | 4.895 | 4.867 4.878 | 18.98 | 3.28 | 18.156 | 21.21 21.87 | 14:00 |
| MAR. | $72 \cdot 11$ | 21.01 | 57-17 | 11.82 | 7.03 | $25 \cdot 20$ | 113.74 | 14.68 | 19.40 | 4.776 | 4.820 | 18.88 | 3.15 | 18.127 | $24 \cdot 13$ | 14.09 |
| APR. | 73.28 | $28 \cdot 49$ | $58 \cdot 28$ | 12.00 | $7 \cdot 17$ | 2561 | 115.57 | 14.93 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.835 | 4.856 | $18 \cdot 90$ | 3.01 | $18 \cdot 117$ | 26.28 | 14:10 |
| MAY | $74 \cdot 19$ | 28.85 | 59.37 | 12.22 | 7.23 | 25.96 | $117 \cdot 30$ | $15 \cdot 13$ | 19.40 | 4.890 | 4.892 | 18.91 18.70 | $2 \cdot 72$ $2 \cdot 61$ | ${ }^{18 \cdot 128}$ | 29.18 | $14 \cdot 14$ |
| JUNE | $74 \cdot 68$ | $29 \cdot 13$ | 59.75 | 12.21 | 7.27 | $26 \cdot 16$ | 117.94 | $15 \cdot 10$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.936 | 4.939 | 18.70 | $2 \cdot 61$ | $18 \cdot 126$ | 28.02 | $14 \cdot 13$ |
| JULY | $74 \cdot 79$ | 29.30 | $60 \cdot 25$ | 12.27 | 7.29 | $26 \cdot 18$ | 118.77 | $15 \cdot 13$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.956 | 4.963 | 18.65 | $2 \cdot 62$ | 18.125 | 25.80 | $14 \cdot 14$ |
| AUG. | 75.01 | $29 \cdot 43$ | $60 \cdot 49$ | 12.32 | 7.33 | 26.21 | 119.46 | $15 \cdot 19$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.971 | 4.980 | 18.52 | $2 \cdot 58$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | $24 \cdot 33$ | $14 \cdot 18$ |
| SEPT. | 74.84 | 29.25 | $60 \cdot 46$ | 12.25 | $7 \cdot 30$ | 26.20 | 119.20 | $15 \cdot 17$ | 19.40 | 4.933 | 4.967 | $18 \cdot 37$ | $2 \cdot 62$ | 18.125 | $24 \cdot 37$ | 14.11 |
| OCT. | 74.49 | $29 \cdot 13$ | $60 \cdot 30$ | 12.20 | $7 \cdot 24$ | 26.06 | 118.48 | $15 \cdot 08$ | 19.40 | $4 \cdot 908$ | 4.976 | 18.01 | $2 \cdot 75$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 24.09 | 14.05 |
| NOV. | 74.77 | 29•15 |  | 12.24 | $7 \cdot 26$ | 26.20 | 119.08 | $15 \cdot 18$ | 19.40 | 4.925 | 4.976 | 18.09 | 2.72 | 18.125 | 17.91 | 14.02 |
| DEC. | $74 \cdot 69$ | 29.24 | * | 12.25 | $7 \cdot 27$ | $26 \cdot 15$ | 118.89 | $15 \cdot 20$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.929 | $4 \cdot 975$ | 18.06 | $2 \cdot 68$ | $18 \cdot 126$ | 16.04 | 14.01 |
| 1936 | 74:86 | 29.29 | $61 \cdot 71$ | 12.28 | 728 | 26.20 | 119•19 | $15 \cdot 19$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.960 | 4.963 | 18.24 | $2 \cdot 68$ | $18 \cdot 152$ | 15.66 | 14.04 |
| FEB. | 74.84 | $29 \cdot 37$ | $62 \cdot 15$ | 12.29 | 7.28 | 26.20 | 119.21 | $15 \cdot 14$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.996 | 4.993 | 18.07 | 2.74 | $18 \cdot 125$ | 15.74 | 14.08 |
| MAR. | 74.92 | 29.28 | $62 \cdot 35$ | 12.29 | 7.27 | 26.21 | 119.31 | $15 \cdot 14$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.971 | 4.977 | 18.04 | $2 \cdot 73$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 15.93 | 13.98 |
| APR. | 75.00 | 29.22 | $62 \cdot 66$ | 12.28 | 7.28 | 26.24 | 119.50 | 15.17 | 19.40 | $4 \cdot 944$ | $4 \cdot 967$ | 17.98 | $2 \cdot 71$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 15.80 | 14.03 |
| MAY | $75 \cdot 47$ | $29 \cdot 35$ | 63.03 | $12 \cdot 34$ | $7 \cdot 35$ | 26.55 | 119.92 | $15 \cdot 36$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.971 | 4.979 | 18.00 | 2.71 | 18.125 | 15.71 | 14.06 |
| JUNE | $76 \cdot 14$ | $29 \cdot 70$ | 63.84 | $12 \cdot 46$ | $7 \cdot 42$ | 26.71 | $121 \cdot 28$ | $15 \cdot 48$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | 5.020 | 5.032 | 18.13 | $2 \cdot 72$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 15.44 | 14.07 |
| JULY | 75.86 | 29.72 | 63.65 | 12.45 | 7.38 | 26.59 | 120.97 | 15.35 | 19.40 | $5 \cdot 023$ | 5.027 | 18.42 | 2.77 | $18 \cdot 125$ | 15.33 |  |
| AUG. | 76.33 | 29.81 29.84 | $63 \cdot 84$ 64.26 | 12.49 | 7.40 7.58 | 26.73 | 121.59 | 15.42 | $19 \cdot 40$ 19.40 | 5.028 5.041 | 5.026 5.039 | 18.02 17.76 | 2.80 2.81 | ${ }^{18} 18 \cdot 125$ | 14.90 14.86 | 14.05 14.04 |
| SECT | 105.09 | 29-10 | ${ }^{64} 926$ | 12.19 | 9.13 | ${ }_{26}{ }^{26} 16$ | $134 \cdot 39$ | ${ }_{21} \cdot 31$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.900 | 4.898 | 17.56 | $2 \cdot 87$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 14.88 | 14.03 |
| NOV. | $105 \cdot 17$ | 28.91 | $92 \cdot 86$ | 12.15 | 9.05 | 26.00 | 138.09 | 21.27 | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 888$ | $4 \cdot 880$ | 17.54 | $2 \cdot 89$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 14.95 | 14.03 |
| DEC. | $105 \cdot 14$ | $29 \cdot 03$ | 93'19 | $12 \cdot 19$ | 8.99 | 26.00 | 139.26 | 21.35 | 19.40 | 4.907 | 4.903 | 16.42 | $2 \cdot 93$ | 18.144 | 14.93 | 13.96 |
| 1937 | 105•14 | 29•11 | $93 \cdot 23$ | 12.19 | 8.96 | 26.00 | $140 \cdot 48$ | 21.39 | 19.40 | 4.908 | 4.909 | $16 \cdot 16$ | $2 \cdot 95$ | $18 \cdot 151$ | 14.95 |  |
| FEB. | 105•11 | $29 \cdot 02$ | 92.99 | $12 \cdot 16$ | 8.95 | 25.89 | $140 \cdot 30$ | 21.44 | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 891$ | 4•895 | 16.24 | 3.01 | $18 \cdot 142$ | 14.94 | 13.98 |
| MAR. | 106.31 | 28.99 | 92.81 | $12 \cdot 15$ | 8.93 | 25.72 | $140 \cdot 00$ | 21.43 | 19.40 | $4 \cdot 885$ | 4.882 | 16.23 | 3.01 | 18.125 | 14.94 | 14.00 |
| APR. | 109.31 | 29-15 | $93 \cdot 40$ | 12.22 | 8.98 | 25.89 | 141:01 | 21.54 | 19.40 | $4 \cdot 916$ | 4.909 | 16.17 | 3.07 | 18.125 | 14.94 | 14.00 |
| MAY | 110.32 | 29.28 | 93'85 | $12 \cdot 30$ | 8.99 | 26.07 | $141 \cdot 71$ | 21.60 | 19.40 | 4.939 | 4.931 | 16.24 | $3 \cdot 13$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 14.91 | 14:00 |
| JUNE | 110.82 | 29-26 | 93.80 | 12.31 | 8.98 | 26.03 | 141.63 | 21.57 | 19.40 | 4.935 | 4.937 | $16 \cdot 20$ | $3 \cdot 22$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 14.78 | 13.98 |
| JULY | $130 \cdot 34$ | 29.50 | $94 \cdot 34$ | 12.35 | 9.01 | 26.22 | $142 \cdot 41$ | 21.67 | 19.40 | $4 \cdot 986$ | 4.972 | 16.43 | $3 \cdot 22$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 14.68 | 13.97 |
| AUG. | $132 \cdot 85$ | 29.59 | 94.67 | 12.39 | 9-03 | $26 \cdot 36$ | 142:83 | 21.70 | 18.40 | $4 \cdot 983$ | 4.983 | 16.49 | 3.15 | $18 \cdot 125$ | 14.92 | 14.00 |
| SEPT. | $140 \cdot 37$ | 29.42 | $94 \cdot 14$ | 12.34 | $8 \cdot 98$ | 26.25 | 141.75 | 21.57 | 19.40 | 4.961 | 4.954 | 16.50 | $3 \cdot 12$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| OCT. | 147.97 | 29-39 | $94 \cdot 18$ | 12.33 | 8.96 | 26.25 | 141.56 | 21.52 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.956 | 4.954 | 16.56 | $2 \cdot 83$ | 18.125 | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| NOV. | $147 \cdot 19$ | $29 \cdot 37$ | 94.91 | 12.37 | 9.01 | 26.37 | 142.06 | 21.58 | 19.40 | 4.994 | 4.990 | 16.86 | $2 \cdot 77$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| DEC. | $147 \cdot 16$ | $29 \cdot 41$ | 94.99 | 12.40 | $8 \cdot 99$ | $26 \cdot 37$ | 142.20 | 21.61 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.997 | 4.998 | 17.01 | $2 \cdot 64$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| 1938 | 149.89 | 29.53 | 95:00 | 12.41 | 8.97 |  |  |  | $19 \cdot 40$ |  | 5.001 | 17.04 | *2.83才 $\dagger$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| FEB. | 152:87 | 29:56 | $95 \cdot 37$ | 12.41 | 8.97 | 26.43 | 142.71 | 21.60 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 5.018 | $5 \cdot 016$ | 18.83 | * $2 \cdot 82+$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| MAR. | 159.63 | 29.53 | 94.75 | 12.39 | 8.97 | $26 \cdot 39$ | $142 \cdot 29$ | 21.63 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.985 | 4.997 | $19 \cdot 39$ | $2.81 \dagger \dagger$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 14.92 | 13.96 |
| APR. | $160 \cdot 90$ | $29 \cdot 54$ | 94.63 | 12.38 | $8 \cdot 96$ | 28.39 | $142 \cdot 86$ | 21.67 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.979 | $5 \cdot 003$ | 19.46 | $2.81 \pm \dagger$ | 18.051 | 14.84 | 14.00 |
| MAY | 175.14 | 29.50 | 94.42 | $12 \cdot 36$ | 8.97 | $26 \cdot 35$ | 142.76 | 21.75 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.965 | 5.007 | $19 \cdot 00$ | $2 \cdot 81 \pm+$ | 17.910 | 14.91 | 14.00 |
| JUNE | $178 \cdot 17$ | $29 \cdot 23$ | 94:22 | $12 \cdot 31$ | 8.96 | 26-29 | 142.61 | 21.66 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.960 | 5.012 | 19.02 | $2 \cdot 81+\dagger$ | 17.795 | 14.94 | 14.00 |
| JULY | 178.15 | $29 \cdot 14$ | 93.71 | 12.27 | 8.95 | 26.20 | $142 \cdot 51$ | 21.54 | 19.40 | 4.931 | 4.959 | 18.94 | $2.835+$ | 17.504 | 14.99 | 14.00 |
| AUG. | $178 \cdot 55$ | 28.92 | 92.75 | 12.17 | 8.94 | 25.93 | 141.32 | $21 \cdot 32$ | 19.40 | $4 \cdot 881$ | 4.897 | 18.87 | $2.88{ }^{+}+$ | 17.897 | $15 \cdot 00$ | 14.00 |
| SEPT. | 178.42 | 28.45 | $91 \cdot 27$ | 12.02 | 8.90 | 25.50 | 139.36 | 21.25 | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 805$ | 4.831 | 19.00 | $2.93 \pm \dagger$ | 17.902 | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| OCIT. | 178.71 | 28.20 | 90.64 | 11.90 | 8.77 | $25 \cdot 36$ | 138.60 | 20.99 | 19.40 | $4 \cdot 769$ | 4.812 | 18.99 | $2.98{ }^{+}+$ | 17.933 | 14.97 | 14:00 |
| NOV. | 178.68 | 27.84 | 89:51 | 11.76 | 8.67 | 25.04 | $137 \cdot 37$ | $20 \cdot 79$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 710$ | 4.742 | 20.09 | $3.02+\dagger$ | 17.936 | 14.94 | 14.00 |
| DEC. | 17748 | $27 \cdot 72$ | 88.75 | 11.65 | $8 \cdot 59$ | $24 \cdot 78$ | $136 \cdot 36$ | 20.65 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.671 | 4.706 | $20 \cdot 55$ | $3.06 \ddagger \dagger$ | 17.923 | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| JAN. | $177 \cdot 49$ | $27 \cdot 63$ | 88.73 | 11.64 | 8.61 | $24 \cdot 70$ | 136.26 | $20 \cdot 67$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 669$ | 4.705 | $20 \cdot 35$ | 3.06さt | 17.937 | 1500 | 14.00 |
| Week en | ding |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Feb. 4 | $176 \cdot 97$ | 27.69 | $88 \cdot 90$ | 11.66 | 8.69 | 24.75 | 136.50 | $20 \cdot 72$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4-679 | 4.706 | 20.37 | $3.06+\dagger$ | 17.937 | 14.96 | 14.00 |
| , 11 | $176 \cdot 99$ | 27.75 | 89.05 | 11.68 | $8 \cdot 70$ | 24.83 | 136.92 | $20 \cdot 70$ | 19.40 | $4 \cdot 686$ | $4 \cdot 709$ | $20 \cdot 37$ | $3.06 \pm \dagger$ | 17.937 | 14.94 | 14.00 |
| , 18 | $176 \cdot 97$ | 27.79 | 89.05 | 11.68 | 8.74 | 24.87 | $136 \cdot 88$ | 20.65 | 19.40 | $4 \cdot 687$ | 4.708 | $20 \cdot 35$ | 3.06: $\dagger$ | 17.937 | 1494 | 14.00 |
| ,. 25 | 176.99 | 27.85 | $89 \cdot 11$ | 11.68 | 8.78 | 24.87 | 136.83 | 20.63 | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 688$ | 4709 | $20 \cdot 35$ | $3.06 \pm+$ | 17.937 | 14.91 | 14.00 |
|  | 176.93 | 27.87 | 89•12 | 11.68 | 8.82 | 24.87 | $137 \cdot 00$ | $20 \cdot 63$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 689$ | 4.705 | $20 \cdot 34$ | $3.06 \pm+$ | 17.950 | 14.93 | 14:00 |
| , 11 | $176 \cdot 90$ | 27.88 | 89•14 | 11.68 | 8.83 | 24.87 | $137 \cdot 00$ | $20 \cdot 63$ | 19:40 | $4 \cdot 690$ | 4.703 | $20 \cdot 30$ | 3.06+ $\dagger$ | 17.971 | $14 \cdot 92$ | 14.00 |
| ,, 18 | 176.85 | $27 \cdot 85$ | 89:09 | 11.68 | 8.83 | 24.90 | (a) | 20.64 | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 686$ | 4.703 | $20 \cdot 29$ | $3 \cdot 06 \pm+$ | 17.968 | 14.91 | 14.00 |

St. Climents Prese Led.
Portugal St., Kingsway,
London, w.o.2.

# LONDON \& CAMBRIDGE ECONOMIC SERVICE 

SUPPLEMENT TO MONTHLY BULLETIN<br>VOL. XVII.<br>No. III.<br>APRIL 7th, 1939

INTERNATIONAL SURVEY
WORLD TRADE, 1937.38
U.S.A.

FRANCE
GERMANY
DENMARK
ROUMANIA

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## UNITED KINGDOM.

Additional Figures published since March 22nd, 1939.


## INTERNATIONAL SURVEY.

April 4th, 1939.

THE latest available statistics of business activity show a marked degree of stability for the world as a whole, slight improvement in Europe being balanced by slight deterioration in the United States of America. They refer, however, to a period prior to the annexation of Czecho-Slovakia by Germany. The effect of this event is as yet incalculable, but the latest statistics of speculative activity show that there has been some resistance to its depressing influence on expectations.

In the United States business failed to make the normal seasonal advance in February, and the seasonally adjusted Federal Reserve Board index of industrial production fell from IOI (\% of 1923/25) in January to 99 in February. This is the lowest level reached since last October. The Annalist monthly index of business activity fell from 92 in January to less than 90 in February. In November, 1938, it stood above 95. The weekly index of steel mill activity was steady throughout February at about $54 \%$ of capacity. Automobile production, freight car-loadings and other principal indices showed no change of importance, but construction contracts awarded stood at a higher level than at any time during this decade and foreshadowed increasing activity to come. Some preliminary data for March show a little improvement, the steel mill activity index moving up a point or two and cotton activity showing a considerable rise, but this is probably due to season and the general situation appears to be stable at a not inconsiderably lower level than at the end of 1938. An unfavourable sign for the near future is the fact that the automobile industry is reducing production programmes.

In the United Kingdom unemployment fell progressively in February and March, and this not only in trades affected by the season. It is estimated that on March I3th about 180,000 more people were employed than on the corresponding date of March, 1938. Output of steel rose to a high figure in February and the value of exports continued to be stable. The volume of raw cotton going into the mills and coal consumption improved a little.

In France business continued to make headway in February and early March. The improvement is widespread and unemployment has declined in spite of the lengthening of the
working week. In Germany there was no change and production continued to be limited only by the shortage of labour and raw materials. Other industrial countries, in Europe and overseas, showed no significant improvement or deterioration.

The commodity markets have shown only minor and irregular movements during the past month, and give no sign of any definite trend. The position of the base metals has on the whole deteriorated slightly, and for the second quarter of the year the tin export quota has been reduced from $45 \%$ to $40 \%$. The tin buffer pool is reported to have acquired the full amount of metal originally contemplated, but total stocks, after rising appreciably in January and February, fell again in March. On April 3rd the United States copper price was cut by $\frac{1}{2}$-cent, thus reflecting the decline in the business situation. Cotton prices have been weak owing to reports that a portion of the United States loan stock might be set free. Wheat has been slightly firmer, but remains at a very low price. Stocks of rubber have declined, but there has been little change in price. Demand for wool remains firm.

The statistics of international trade for February do not confirm the changes in tendency which were suggested by the previous month's figures. After an increase in January, United States' imports were slightly less in February than in the corresponding period of last year, and exports continued to decline. The improvement in the German balance of trade, which was noticed last month has not persisted, and in February it was substantially passive for both the old and the new Reich. United Kingdom exports were stable, but imports of food and raw materials fell off a little. The United Kingdom balance of payments is now much less passive than it was at this time last year. The trade of the principal primary-producing countries shows no improvement.

Security markets were everywhere buoyant during February and the first half of March, and in London prices rose above the levels established immediately after the Munich Agreement. The German annexation of Czecho-Slovakia dealt exchanges outside Germany a severe blow, but it is noteworthy that in spite of the increasing international tension, the gains registered on the

London market in the previous six weeks have not yet been wiped out. The Berlin market has been depressed by the announcement of a new plan for the anticipation of tax payments which gives new signs of Reich financial difficulties.

Gold movements have once again become important, with the rapid deterioration of the international political situation. In the last two weeks of March more than $£ 50 \mathrm{Mn}$. of gold is estimated to have gone to the United States from Europe. Capital movements have not been large, consisting mainly of transfers of
official funds. Panic movements of private funds have been conspicuously absent. Developments on the foreign exchanges have been unimportant, irregular movements against Belgian and Swiss currency being the most noteworthy.

The state into which international political relations have degenerated makes any forecast of the future of business impossible. It is only possible to say that the relative importance of government expenditure in the economic system must now rapidly rise all over the world, even above the high levels already established.

## WORLD TRADE, 1937-38.

By A. Sheinfield.

THE prevailing world policy of economic insulation along political boundaries has been partially successful. The course of economic activity within the various political units has been less uniform in the present decade than it was in the last one. But the developments of the past two years have shown that it is still possible for a turn in the trend of business to transmit itself over the greater part of the world through the medium of international trade. The international recession of 1937-38 came upon a world which was free from international credit maladjustment. In so far as it can be traced to one generating centre, the United States of America, it was spread to other centres mainly by the decline in the demand for certain articles of international commerce and its effects upon prices and purchasing power.

In 1937 the quantum of world trade, as measured by the Economic Intelligence Service of the League of Nations, rose to $97 \%$ of that of 1929. In 1938 it fell to $88.5 \%$. The peak of the 1932-37 rise in the quantum of world trade appears to have been reached in the late summer of 1937 , if the normal seasonal increase in the last quarter of the year is discounted. In the second quarter of 1938 the quantum fell to less than $85 \%$ of the corresponding quarter of 1929 , and a trough appears to have been marked out then, for there has since been an improvement which is probably rather greater than that due to normal seasonal influences. The average price, measured in terms of gold, of goods internationally traded rose from $43.5 \%$ of the 1929 average in 1936 to $47.5 \%$ in 1937, but fell to $45.5 \%$ in 1938. A price peak was established at about the same period in 1937 as the quantum peak, but there was no trough in 1938 and the
fall has continued steadily into 1939. The influence of quantum appears to have been rather greater than that of average price upon the total value of trade throughout 1937 and 1938, so that the movement of value followed that of quantum fairly closely.

However, the movement of average prices masks the important changes in the interrelation of prices which took place during this period. This


Chart I.
is shown by movements in the United Kingdom where the index of the price of 33 basic industrial materials (excluding fuel) reached a maximum in April, 1937, according to the estimates of the Board of Trade, and fell thereafter by $34 \%$ until a minimum was reached in June, 1938, since when there has been a slight rise. Food prices, however, continued to increase until January, 1938, after which a decline set in and by November brought them down by $14 \%$. Food prices were dominated by cereals, which fell in price by $32 \%$ between January and November, 1938. Prices of manufactured articles rose until the late summer of 1937, since when there has been an almost continuous but very gentle fall.

The change in the structure of prices was both a result and a cause in the sequence of events which reduced the quantum and value of the world's trade by so considerable a proportion during the last eighteen months. In March, 1937, the value of the imports of the United States reached the highest monthly figure


For period after March, 1938, separate curves are shown for the old and new Reich areas.

Chart II.
since 1930. The quarterly peak was reached in the second quarter of the year, the rise to March having been very rapid. Thereafter the value fell rapidly, so that the total for the second quarter of 1938 was some $45 \%$ less than that of the second quarter of 1937. But the incidence of the decline was far heavier upon raw material imports than upon other imports, and far heavier upon certain materials, notably tin, rubber and wool, than upon other materials. This is clearly brought out in Charts II and III, which show the course of United States total imports, imports of raw materials and imports from certain selected raw material countries. Thus imports of raw materials fell between the spring of 1937 and that of 1938 by about $55 \%$, while total imports from Argentina and Uruguay, Chile, Dutch East Indies, British Malaya, Australia and New Zealand fell by nearly $70 \%$. This group of primary-producing countries has been selected for illustration for three reasons. The Dutch East Indies and British Malaya export tin and rubber. United States imports of tin and rubber normally account for about half of raw material imports in value. During this period they fell by more than two-thirds. Australia and New Zealand do not normally do a substantial trade with the United States. In the main their products go to the European market, where they compete with some American products. But as trade improved in the United States in 1936 and early 1937, imports of wool increased rapidly, so that in the first quarter of 1937 wool accounted for a greater value than tin

and nearly as great a value as rubber and sugar. Thereafter imports of wool fell off almost to nothing, American production being practically sufficient for the home demand. This illustrates the extreme instability of international trade when the world market is split up into areas of greater and less preference. A rise and fall in American business produced a much greater rise and fall in that section of Australian and New Zealand exports which was affected by it. American imports from Argentina and Uruguay fell off partly because of the general decline in business, but also because of the failure of production in that area after the spring of 1937.

The statistics thus show that the decline in world trade began with the decline in American imports of raw materials. This caused the decline in the prices of materials, and depressed the exports of the Dutch East Indies and British Malaya in particular. But the prices of foodstuffs were well maintained until early in 1938. This helped to offset the considerable fall in the volume of American food imports, coming principally from Cuba, Brazil and the Philippines. Those raw material countries, such as Australia and New Zealand, which were important exporters of foods to Europe and which did not suffer crop failures, underwent only a fairly moderate decline in the total value of their exports. In South Africa the continued rise in exports of gold went far to offset the fall in exports of farm produce; while in the case of India, a greater raw material exporter than any other country mentioned here, the particular materials exported, such as jute, rice, tea and cotton, did not suffer the same fall in price as most other materials. Chart II shows that the value of British imports of food was well maintained until late in 1938, whereas that of imports of materials fell considerably. The course of the imports of other European countries which buy considerably from the world market was, with the exception of Germany, much the same as that of British. Germany's purchases were well maintained throughout this period, food imports being substantially increased in the last quarter of 1938. Chart IV shows how the differential incidence of fall in price, fall in volume of demand, and crop failures caused the share of world trade taken by one group of raw material countries, the Dutch East Indies, British Malaya and Argentina, to fall much more than that of another principal group, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and India.

The decline in American purchases did not produce a decline in the imports of the principal
raw material countries, with the exception of Argentina, nor in the exports of the European industrial countries until late in 1937 or early in 1938. In the case of the raw material countries, other than Argentina, there had been accumulated banking reserves sufficient to offset a considerable worsening of the balance of trade for some time. There was a marked, but in some respects erratic, time-lag in the operation of the depressing influence from the United States. In the case of Australia, where banking reserves were not exceptionally great, imports nevertheless did not begin to decline until the middle of i938. In the case of South Africa, where reserves were high and exports tolerably good, some apprehension concerning the future of gold checked the rise in business activity so that imports declined earlier than in the case of Australia. In New Zealand imports were allowed to continue at a high level until


April-May, 1938, after which the deteriorating export position rapidly brought the country into difficulties regarding its external payments.

The exports of most of the European industrial countries began to decline early in 1938 But except in the case of Belgium and France, the fall did not develop serious dimensions. Belgium suffered more severely from the international recession than any other European country, until late in 1938. The difficulties of France were of domestic origin, and caused a decline earlier than in other countries.

Chart IV shows the development of the shares of world exports, as estimated in terms of gold by the League of Nations Economic Intelligence Service, which were taken during this period by the United States, the United Kingdom, Germany, France and certain selected primary-producing countries. According to these estimates, the share of the United States has risen, that of the United Kingdom, like that of Germany, has remained stable, while that of France, after declining severely in 1937, showed a rising tendency in the second half of 1938. Estimation of these quantities in terms of gold introduces a certain bias which distorts the results considerably. The shares of the United Kingdom and of France, whose currencies were depreciated after the spring of 1938, appear less than they really were, for not all of the increase in money value due to currency depreciation ought to be discounted when the progress of exports is considered. Contrariwise the shares of the United States and Germany receive an upward bias. The case of Germany is complicated by the fact that a large portion of her trade is conducted on the basis of a mark value considerably less than the official value. Exactly how great a proportion of Germany's total trade is conducted on such terms, and what the terms are, it is not possible to say. But it is certain that the calculations of the Economic Intelligence Service seriously over-estimate the gold value of a considerable portion of Germany's exports.

The upshot of the comparison between the export shares of these four countries appears to be as follows: The share of the United States has increased during the past two years. The absolute level of United States exports declined during 1938, but the balance of trade became heavily active. The share of the United Kingdom has been well maintained. The share of France began to improve several months before the

Reynaud Plan was announced, and this improvement is only partly discounted by the depreciation of the franc. The share of Germany has probably declined moderately during the past eighteen months. However, a comparison of Charts II and IV suggests that the greater part of Germany's foreign trade difficulties arises from the maintenance, and even increase, of imports, and that the annexation of Austria has accentuated this difficulty.

There is reason to believe that the outlook for world trade in 1939 is not very bright, though there is no reason to anticipate a serious decline. Two major factors are opposed to each other. On the one hand, the level of United States imports has ceased to decline. On the other hand, the imports of some of the major primary-producing countries are fairly certain to continue to decline for some months ahead, for in most cases their reserve balances were largely depleted before imports were cut in 1938. South Africa and Argentina are likely to show a different development from the others, the former because her reserve position is sound, the latter because her imports are now down to a level which can be maintained even with the current minimum level of exports. For the moment the influence of primary-producing countries appears to be likely to outweigh recovery in the United States, which has slackened. As for the trade of the United Kingdom and of the other European industrial countries, it now appears that it will be subject to overseas influences to a relatively smaller degree than in 1937 and 1938. Henceforth armament programmes are likely to become sufficiently large to have a major influence upon foreign trade everywhere in Europe. In the case of the United Kingdom imports of materials ought thereby to be stimulated, though it is worthy of notice that so far rearmament has failed to prevent a considerable decline in imports of materials. If imports of materials were indeed stimulated there would normally be beneficial repercussions upon exports of manufactures. But the rearmament programme is likely to have a harmful effect upon the cost structure of British industry, which is already out of line with world conditions. The way out which is likely to be chosen appears to be the financing of foreign buyers of British goods. But it is doubtful whether the financial resources are available for an export drive of this kind which would raise the volume of the world's trade to a substantial extent.

# RECENT MOVEMENTS IN UNITED STATES 

## Information communicated by Miss DOROTHY WESCOTT, Assistant Editor of the Review of Economic Statistics, Harvard University.

March I8th, 1939.

GENERAL SUMMARY.-Business activity during February failed to make the usual seasonal advance, and the Harvard index of general business dropped $2 \%$ below the January level. Industrial production, as measured by the adjusted index of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, was the lowest since October ; and wholesale commodity prices fluctuated very narrowly, averaging slightly below January figures. Stock prices, likewise, showed only small changes, but as the month closed prices were rising and end-of-February quotations were higher than a month earlier. The volume of corporate financing for the construction of new plant and equipment remained practically negligible.

The business situation continues to be dominated by uncertainty and confusion regarding legislative matters, and considerable publicity has been given to statements of Administration officials that the Government's desire is to further business recovery and to emphasize recovery rather than reform. As to actual governmental legislation, the most important development in February was the passage early in the month of the $\$ 725,000,000$ Emergency Relief Appropriation.

BUSINESS VOLUMES.-After allowance is made for the customary seasonal changes, the volume of business in all major lines of industry dropped off again during February, but, as in January, most of the decreases that occurred were minor. Seasonally adjusted bank debits in selected centres outside New York City varied little from week to week; and the corrected index of electric power output-another general measure of business v́olumes-also moved within narrow limits. For the month as a whole, however, both indices averaged slightly below January. Steel-ingot production failed to make the usual February gain, and the adjusted index dropped rather sharply, to the lowest level since September. Demand for steel was diversified among the various consuming industries, with railroad buying one of the major factors of interest, but the volume of new business placed was small. Daily average output of pig iron rose a little more than seasonally, and the number of
furnaces in blast increased from II8 on February ist to I2I on March ist. Adjusted Automobile production was slightly less than in January, with labour disputes in some factories causing a rather sharp drop in the final week of February. Demand for cotton goods is reported to have fallen off, and the rate of operations in cotton mills was reduced. Slab zinc output failed to make even the small advance that usually takes place in February ; but bituminous-coal production, which generally begins its seasonal decline in February, rose moderately, probably in anticipation of labour difficulties arising on the expiration at the close of March of the present wage and working agreement between operators and miners.

Advance buying of coal was reflected also in the February figures for revenue freight car loadings. This class of shipments was the only one for which seasonally-adjusted figures showed an increase. As a result of declines in all the other commodity groups, total car loadings dropped $4 \%$ below the January figure. Depart-ment-store trade failed to make the customary seasonal rise, the adjusted index for February falling to the lowest level since last October.

The adjusted value of construction contract awards dropped sharply from January to February, principally because of declines in non-residential building. Residential construction, which has been stimulated to a large extent by the liberal mortgage terms established by the Federal Housing Administration, remained practically the same as in the opening month of the year. Publicly-owned contracts were considerably under those of January, while private projects advanced, so that total construction was about equally divided between the two classes. Compared with February a year ago, total awards were nearly twice as great, with all classes of construction showing substantial increases.

COMMODITY PRICES.-Wholesale commodity prices in general showed only very small changes throughout February, the Bureau of Labor Statistics weekly index averaging slightly lower than in January. Indices for all of the commodity groups fluctuated narrowly; and in the last week of February, these group indices differed little from those a month earlier.

## FINANCE，PRICES．

|  | Basio Series |  |  |  | Bank |  | $\underset{\text { Finks }}{\text { B．R．}}$ |  | F．R．Member Banks |  |  |  | $\text { Mn. } 8$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { INTEREST } \\ & \text { RATES } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  | PRICES |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Bank Debits $\dagger$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\%$ |  <br> \％ |  |  |  | Wholes <br>  <br> $\%$ of 19 |  |  | 粯 $\frac{5}{3}$ 0 0 0 0 <br> 924 |
| 1924 |  | 86 | $3 \cdot 90$ | 74 | 2196 | 1901 | 374 | 4544 | 1720 |  | 494 |  | $+21.5$ | $3 \cdot 0$ | 3.08 |  | 534 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 1929 A | 1490 | 386 | 5.85 | $7 \cdot 69$ | 5021 | 2768 | 950 | 449 | 2260 |  | 569 | 1117 | ＋ 14.6 | $5 \cdot 2$ | $7 \cdot 61$ | 283 | 966 | 97 | $104 \cdot 9$ | 92 |  |  |
| 1933 | 45.8 | 184 | 1.62 | 1.11 | ${ }_{1}^{13 * 49}$ | $\begin{aligned} & { }^{* 2} 2 * 1 \\ & 12283 \end{aligned}$ | $282$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2133 \\ & 2457 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1753 \\ & 1869 \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{array}{r} 838 \\ 1033 \end{array}$ | 1101 | $\begin{array}{r} 14.5 \\ +94.6 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2.5 \\ & 1.5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \cdot 14 \\ & 1: 00 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 76 \\ & 90 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 87 \\ 183 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 67 \\ & 76 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 51 \cdot 4 \\ & 65 \cdot 3 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 71 \cdot 5 \\ & 78 \cdot 5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 68 \\ & 76 \end{aligned}$ | $73 \cdot 5$ 78 |
| 1934 | 52.5 57.8 | 207 | 1.00 0.76 | 0.91 0.57 | 1383 | $\begin{aligned} & 1383 \\ & 1594 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 36 \\ & 7.5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{rl} 2457 \\ 5 & 2435 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1869 \\ & 1999 \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & 1033 \\ & 1196 \end{aligned}$ | 1272 | $\begin{aligned} & +94 \cdot 6 \\ & +144 \cdot 9 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1.5 \\ & 1.5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 1.00 \\ .56 \end{array}$ | 110 | 183 | $76 \cdot 5$ | $\begin{aligned} & 65 \cdot 3 \\ & 78 \cdot 7 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 78.5 \\ & 77.9 \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & 78 \\ & 82 \end{aligned}$ |
| 1936 Av | 79.8 | 265 | $0 \cdot 75$ | $1 \cdot 16$ | 1741 | 1831 |  | 2434 | 2204 |  | 1358 | 1460 | ＋93．3 | 1.5 | 92 | 148 | 521 |  | $80 \cdot 9$ | 79.6 |  | 84 |
| 1937 Av ． | 77.0 | 291 | 0.94 | $1 \cdot 35$ | 1649 | 1959 |  | 2507 | 220 | 460 | 12 | 1510 | ＋132 1 | 1.3 | 1.00 | 152 | 333 |  | 86.5 | 85.5 | $85 \cdot 1$ | 87 |
| ${ }_{\text {JAN．}} 1936$ | 75.8 | 242 | 0.75 | 00 | 1792 | 1750 | 6 | 35 | 2093 |  | 1385 | 1382 | ＋ 45.6 | 1.5 |  | 33 | 12 |  |  |  |  | 3 |
| FEB． | 77.3 | 242 | 0.75 | 1.00 | 1581 | 1577 |  | 2435 | 2105 |  | 1307 | 1406 | － 16.6 | 1.5 | 75 | 138 | 03 | 82 |  |  |  |  |
| MARCH | 77.4 | 247 | $0 \cdot 75$ | 1.00 | 1963 | 1786 | 6 | 2435 | 2145 |  | 1322 | 1388 | ＋ 5.5 | 1.5 | 75 | 142 | 767 | 81 |  |  | 79.5 | 3 |
| APRIL | 71.2 | 253 | 0.75 | 1.00 | 1729 | 1750 | 6 | 2435 | 2174 |  | 1338 | 1398 | ＋28．1 | 1.5 | －75 | 142 | 1003 | 81 | 77 | 79 | 79.7 |  |
| MAY | 74.4 | 260 | 0.75 | $1 \cdot 18$ | 1623 | 1700 |  | 2435 2433 | ${ }_{2237} 2183$ |  | 1348 | 1437 | +170.0 +277.8 | 1.5 |  | 138 | 720 |  | 75 78 | $\begin{aligned} & 79 \\ & 79 \end{aligned}$ | 79.9 83.8 | 84 84 |
| JUNE | $75 \cdot 8$ | 272 | $0 \cdot 75$ | $1 \cdot 25$ |  | 1888 |  |  |  |  |  |  | ＋277．8 |  |  |  | 733 |  |  |  |  |  |
| JULY | $80 \cdot 3$ | 276 | 0.75 | $1 \cdot 25$ | 1620 | 1862 |  | 2433 | 22 |  | 1411 | 1475 | ＋ 15.4 | 1 | 1.0 | 148 | 339 | 82 | 81.5 | 79.5 | 84 | 4 |
| AUGUST．． | $80 \cdot 9$ | 274 | $0 \cdot 75$ | 1.25 | 1436 | 1711 | 6 | 2433 | 2230 |  | 1393 | 1478 | ＋67．5 |  | 1.0 | 151 | 297 | 83 |  |  |  |  |
| SEPT | 81 | 268 | 0.75 | 125 | 1566 | 1759 |  |  | 2257 |  | 1385 | 1515 | ＋+218.8 |  | 1.0 | 160 | 466 |  |  |  | 82.8 | 84.5 |
| NOV． | 88.3 | 280 | $0 \cdot 75$ | 1.25 | 1739 | 1848 |  | 2433 | 2244 |  | 1369 | 1536 | ＋ 75.8 |  |  | 166 | 381 | 84 |  |  | 82 | 84.5 |
| DEC． | 87.8 | 304 | 0.75 | 1.25 | 2266 | 2324 | 7 | 2433 | 2276 |  | 1373 | 1554 | ＋ 57.0 | 1.5 | 1.0 | 164 | 726 | 86 | 88.5 | 82.5 | $82 \cdot 9$ | 25 |
| 1937 JAN．．． | 90 | 283 | 0.75 | 25 | 1910 | 2038 | 2 | 2433 | 2273 |  | 1374 | 1552 | ＋121．3 |  |  | 167 | 618 | 87.5 | 91.5 |  |  | 5 |
| FEB | 90 | 283 |  | 1.25 | 1691 | 1762 | 3 | 2433 | 2260 |  | 1362 | 1557 | ＋120 |  | 1.0 | 171 | 562 |  | 91.5 | $84 \cdot 5$ | 845 |  |
| MARCH | $90 \cdot 2$ | 293 | 0.82 | 125 | 2040 | 2162 |  | 2433 | 2261 |  | 1332 | 1543 | ＋154．3 |  | 1.0 | 172 | 384 | 89.5 | 94 | $85 \cdot 5$ | $85 \cdot 4$ | $86 \cdot 5$ |
| APRIL | 83.4 | 296 | 1.00 | $1 \cdot 35$ | 1708 | 2005 | 10 | 2494 | 2228 |  | 1288 | 1528 | ＋215 8 | 1.5 | 1.0 | 163 | 321 | 89.5 | 92 | 86.5 | $85 \cdot 6$ |  |
| MAY | $82 \cdot 4$ | 301 | 1.00 | $1 \cdot 38$ | 1511 | 1929 |  | 2531 | 2220 |  | 1268 | 1542 | ＋155．4 |  |  | 162 | 269 |  |  | $86 \cdot 5$ | 86.5 | 87.5 |
| JUNE | 78.4 | 301 | 1.00 | $1 \cdot 38$ | 1643 | 2002 |  | 2531 | 233 | 430 | 1263 | 1530 | ＋262\％ | 1.5 | 1.0 | 155 | 571 | 89 | 88.5 | 86 | 86.2 | 87.5 |
| JULY | 84.6 | 302 | 1.00 | 1.38 | 1675 | 2015 |  | 2530 | 2222 | 440 | 1248 | 1498 | ＋ |  | 1.0 | 164 | 342 | 89.5 | $89 \cdot 5$ | 86.5 |  |  |
| AUGUST．． | 89.4 | 293 | 1.00 | 1.38 | 1348 | 1840 | 17 | 2529 | 2233 | 456 | 1240 | 1492 | ＋104．8 | 1.5 | 1.0 | 168 | 188 | 89 | 86.5 | 86 | ${ }_{85}^{85.5}$ | $87 \cdot 5$ 88 |
| SEPT． | 69.4 62.8 | 293 | 1.00 1.00 | $1 \cdot 38$ <br> 1.38 | 1472 | 1864 | 24 | 2529 | 2219 | 473 | 1216 | 1484 | +145 +90 |  | 1.0 | 146 | 225 206 | 89 | ${ }_{80} 8.5$ | $\begin{aligned} & 86 \\ & 85 \cdot 5 \end{aligned}$ | $85 \cdot 8$ 84.9 | ${ }^{88} 8$ |
| NOV． | 57.3 | 268 | 1.00 | 1．38 | 1343 |  |  | 2549 | 2156 | 474 | 1200 | 1464 | ＋ 22.1 |  |  | 114 | 136 |  | $75 \cdot 5$ | $84 \cdot 5$ | 83.6 | 87.5 |
| DEC． | 54.6 | 283 | 100 | $1 \cdot 38$ | 1828 | 2083 | 16 | 2567 | 2148 | 463 | 1203 | 1457 | ＋ 180 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 114 | 180 | 83.5 | 73 | 84 | 82.6 | 87 |
| ${ }_{\text {JAN }} 1938$ | 54 | 260 | 1.00 |  | 1448 |  |  |  | 2128 | 446 | 1215 | 1444 |  |  |  | 117 |  |  | $71 \cdot 5$ |  |  |  |
| FEB | 57.3 | 250 | 1．00 | 1.38 | 1091 | 1462 | 10 | 2565 | 2121 | 439 | 1228 | 1451 | $+\quad 20$ $+\quad$ | 1.0 | 1.0 | 115 | 200 |  |  | ， |  | 5 |
| MARCH | 44.2 | 252 | 1.00 | 1．38 | 1475 | 1736 |  | 2565 | 2107 | 433 | 1219 | 1436 | ＋ 52.9 |  | 1.0 | 109 | 245 | 81.5 | $70 \cdot 5$ | 83 | 78.6 | 85 |
| APRIL | 49.8 | 254 | 1.00 | 1.38 | 1457 | 1660 | 10 | 2565 | 2082 | 423 | 1222 | 1444 | ＋ 71.1 |  | 1.0 | 103 | 352 |  | 68.5 | 8 | $79 \cdot 4$ | 85 |
| MAY | 48.1 | 254 | 1.00 | 1.38 | 1283 | 1601 | 8 | 2565 | 2073 | 408 | 1230 | 1458 | ＋ 52.8 |  | 1.0 | 104 | 217 |  | 68． |  | 79.1 |  |
| JUNE | 58.3 | 254 | 1.00 | 1.38 | 1564 | 716 | 9 | 2565 | 2070 | 395 | 1231 | 1483 | ＋ 55.3 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 108 | 506 |  | 68.5 |  |  |  |
| JULY | 62.2 | 260 | 1.00 | 1.38 | 1383 |  |  |  | 2053 | 388 | 1232 |  |  |  |  | 127 | 465 | $80 \cdot 5$ | 69.5 |  | 80.0 |  |
| AUG． | $60 \cdot 6$ | 262 | 1．00 | 1.38 | 1225 | 1602 |  | 2565 | 2068 | 389 | 1246 | 1512 | ＋166．0 |  | 1.0 | 128 | 416 |  | $67 \cdot 5$ | 815 | 78.4 | 5 |
| SEPT | $60 \cdot 6$ | 257 | 94 | 1.38 | 1308 | 1644 |  | 2565 | 2108 | 389 | 1281 | 1538 | ＋520．9 |  | 1.0 | 125 | 197 | 80 | 68 | 81.5 | 78.7 |  |
| OCT． | 65.4 | 257 | 69 | 1.38 | 1514 | 1810 | 7 | 2565 | 2132 | 390 | 1304 | 1569 | ＋562 |  | 1.0 | 137 | 763 | 79 | 67 | 81.5 | 78.1 | 84.5 84.5 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { NOV. } \\ & \text { DEC } \end{aligned}$ | $64 \cdot 1$ 66.2 | 257 | 69 | 1.38 1.38 | 1242 | 1698 | 7 | 2565 | 2135 | 388 | 1303 | 1582 | ＋177 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 143 137 | 389 453 |  |  |  | 77.8 78.6 | 84．5 |
| 1939 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 256 | 2159 | 386 | 1312 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| JAN．．．．． | $\begin{gathered} 62 \cdot 6 \end{gathered}$ | $262$ |  | 1.38 |  |  | 4 | 2565 | 2147 | 380 | 1313 | 1605 | ＋156．3 |  |  | 134 | 276 |  | 67 | 0.5 | $\begin{aligned} & 77 \cdot 5 \\ & 76 \cdot 8 \end{aligned}$ | 84 |
|  | $64 \cdot 4$ | $257$ |  |  | 238 | 1511 |  | 565 | $2153 b$ | 376 | 1333 | 1604 |  | 1.0 1.0 | 1.0 1.0 | $\begin{aligned} & 132 \\ & 132 \end{aligned}$ | 541 |  | 67 |  |  |  |
| APRIL |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1.0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

INTERNAL ACTIVITY, TRADE, EMPLOYMENT.


* Provisional
$\dagger 1938$ revised


## United States]

With a few exceptions, prices of commodities sensitive to changing industrial conditions likewise showed only small variations. An outstanding exception, however, was a sharp rise in raw silk prices, which were affected by the apparent scarcity of raw silk supplies for the balance of the current silk year. Crude rubber prices declined in the first half of February and then rose substantially following the announcement on February 14th by the International Rubber Regulations Committee that the rubber export quota for the second quarter would remain unchanged at $50 \%$ of basic quotas. Hide prices were considerably lower than in January, although some advance in quotations occurred after the middle of the month. Among the metals, spot prices of zinc and copper were unchanged throughout the month, while lead and tin prices dropped sharply. Steel scrap prices reached the highest level since the third quarter of 1937, increases being made in the Chicago market during February and in the Pittsburgh market early in March.

MONEY AND CREDIT. - The money situation has continued very easy, and shorttime interest rates have remained at previous low levels. While excess reserves of member banks, which had risen on January 25 th to a record high total, dropped more than 400 million dollars in the three following weeks, they still amounted to 3,166 million dollars on February 15th. The decrease was due largely to government fiscal operations. To the ordinary revenue collections of the government were added substantial receipts from the sales of securities issued by governmental credit agencies and from social security taxes, which increased substantially the Treasury balances with the reserve banks. The disbursement of some of these funds after the middle of the month resulted in a lowering of the Treasury balances; and largely because of these decreases, together with continued imports of gold, the advance in excess reserves was renewed, although the January high figure was not reached. The uninterrupted net import of gold in February added 194 million dollars to the country's gold stock, raising it to 14,888 million dollars on March ist.

Increased purchases by reporting member banks of securities fully guaranteed by the government were reflected in a substantial rise for February of total earning assets of weekly reporting banks. Because of a re-classification during the month of certain assets of the banks,
an exact comparison of January and February figures cannot be made, but the new classification is reported to underestimate the extent of the February increase. While loans declined again in February, the drop amounted to about onefourth of the January decrease and reflected mostly reductions in " other loans for purchasing and carrying securities" and in "real estate loans" ; business loans and loans to brokers and dealers in securities advanced a trifle.

SPECULATION AND FINANCE.-Stock prices in February fluctuated narrowly about the levels prevailing in the closing days of the preceding month. For February as a whole, the Dow-Jones indices for industrial share prices and for rails were lower than in January, while utilities averaged somewhat higher than in the earlier month. The announcement early in February that the Tennessee Valley Authority would purchase private utility properties resulted in a sharp rise on February 6th in prices of utility stocks; and while the following days brought declines from this peak figure, prices remained above the January level. The volume of trading was about half that in January and the lowest of any month in several years.

Corporation bond prices advanced irregularly, strength in second-grade rails being particularly marked. High-grade rails and utilities, also, at the close of February were above end-ofJanuary figures, while industrials were somewhat lower. The government bond market was strong throughout the month, and on February 28th yields on Treasury bonds and notes were at record low levels.

Total security flotations in February were about twice as great as in January and considerably higher than in February, 1938. Over $50 \%$ of the total represented the sale of Reconstruction Finance Corporation Notes, and approximately $25 \%$ was for corporate refunding operations, principally those of one company. Corporate demand for new capital requirements remained very small-about $4 \%$ of total issues.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS.-During the first week of March, the volume of business changed very little, the rate of activity in most important industries remaining close to levels of late February. One notable exception was the cotton textile industry, where activity rose fairly sharply as cotton sales expanded and prices advanced. Stock prices moved upward, and by the second week of March prices of industrials
and rails were close to the levels of early January, while utilities were at new highs for the year. On March 15th, however, prices broke sharply
on the development of the new crisis in Central Europe, and in the next few days all of the gains made earlier in the month were lost.

## FRANCE

## Information communicated by M. MICHEL HUBER, Directeur des Etudes à l'Institut de Statistique de l'Üniversité de Paris.

## March 31st, 1939.

RELATIVE calm in the international situation barely continued till after the enthronement of the Pope on March I2th. Immediately after, disagreement between Slovakia and the Prague government furnished Germany with the pretext for military intervention in Czecho-Slovakia. German troops entered Prague on March 15th; Bohemia and Moravia were practically incorporated in the Reich and Slovakia placed under German protection, whilst Hungary seized sub-Carpathian Ruthenia. Soon after, Germany annexed Memel.

After having refused, together with Great Britain and the U.S.A., to recognise the legality of the annexation of Czecho-Slovakia, on March 19th the French Government obtained from Parliament authority until November 30th to take the necessary steps for national defence by decree-law.

The first batch of decree-laws was published on March 21st ; most of them relate to military matters-utilisation of effectives, acceleration of armament manufacture. Others are economicloans to enterprises working for national defence; powers to extend working time, to fix rates of payment for overtime, restricted to a $10 \%$ increase when extended from 40 to 45 hours and $5 \%$ beyond 45 hours; compulsion upon the unemployed to accept work offered them, under penalty of loss of assistance benefit. Other decrees introduce economies; no new entrants into the civil service, amalgamation of 16 financial departments into a single administration, reorganisation of the administration of Marseilles.

On March 27 th there was a second series of decree-laws relating to effectives, to recruitment for the navy and to defence of frontier regions. One authorises credits amounting to 7 Md . francs for industrial mobilisation.

Furthermore, the fiscal economy measures taken to encourage economic recovery should
be noted. Several decrees of March Ist offer facilities for the construction of new houses or business premises and for repairs or maintenance. Four decrees of March 24th allow tax rebates in respect of goods exported. Four of March 3rst relate to reductions in respect of company taxation; a fifth gives exemption from turnover tax in respect of excess receipts in 1939 and 1940 as compared with 1938.

On March 28th the Chämber adopted the principle of complete proportional representation in Parliamentary elections. Parliamentary attention is now concentrated upon the election on April 5 th of the President of the Republic.

Amongst other important events of the month were the visit of the President to London and the end of the Spanish civil war. FrancoItalian tension subsists; in speeches on March 23 rd and 29th the heads of the two governments successively announced the respective attitudes of their countries.

The yield of indirect taxation was 298 Mn . below the Budget estimates in January, but 52 Mn . above in February. Compared with 1938 receipts they were 500 and 619 Mn . higher respectively.

The turnover tax yielded 993 Mn . in January and $\mathrm{I}, 002$ in February, or 30 and 17 Mn . above the estimates.

There was little change of importance in the weekly statements of the Bank of France ; the note circulation, which exceeded II4 Md. on March 2nd, receded to $113,414 \mathrm{Mn}$. on 16th, but reached nearly il6 Mn. on 23rd. The discount portfolio increased by $1,200 \mathrm{Mn}$. with the approach of the monthly settlement; the reserve ratio weakened from over 63 to $62.5 \%$.

Events of March 15th have not affected the reflux of capital ; in his speech of March 29th M. Daladier announced that on the previous day the equalisation fund had received 4 tons of gold. Thus, events have not weakened the position of the franc. Sterling, which was quoted at

|  | STOCKS \＆SHARES． |  |  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { EXCHANGE } \\ \text { Monthly } \\ \text { Averages. } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  | BANK OF FRANCE． |  |  |  | WHOLESALE． |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Index Nos．of Prices of |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { ro } \\ & 0 \\ & 0 \\ & \text { per } \\ & \text { kilo } \\ & 0001 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { 炭 } \\ \stackrel{\rightharpoonup}{7} \\ \text { per } \\ \text { per } \\ \text { kilo } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Index Nos. } \\ \text { for } \end{gathered}$ |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Index Nos, } \\ \text { (Paris) } \\ \text { for } \end{gathered}$ |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { む. } \\ \text { ค. } \\ \text { t } \\ \text { to } \\ 8 \end{gathered}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 珨 } \\ & \text { \% } \\ & \text { o } \\ & \text { \% } \end{aligned}$ |  |  | ロ́ |
| 1913 Av ． | 100 | 100 | 100 | 160 | 15 | 25.2 | $5 \cdot 18$ | 57 | 6 |  | 4 | 3.44 | 102 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100＊ | 10 |
| 1924 Av ． | 208 | 298 | 66.0 | 658 | 306 | 85.0 | $19 \cdot 3$ | 399 | 21 |  | 6 | 12.82 | 434 | 486 | 450 | 520 |  | 369 |
| 1933 Av． | 232 | 218 | $81 \cdot 3$ | 300 | 315 | $84 \cdot 60$ | 20.57 | 828 | 178 | 78.4 | 2.5 | 17.08 | 243 | 379 | 423 | 347 | 519 | 520 |
| 1934 Av ． | 194 | 189 | 82.1 | 341 | 270 | 76.72 | 15.22 | 806 | 177 | $79 \cdot 3$ | $2 \cdot 7$ |  | 259 | 357 | 398 | 328 | 491 | 516 |
| 1935 Av． | 186 | 194 | 85．5 | 232 | 283 | 74.27 | 15.15 | 818 | 153 | 76.6 | $3 \cdot 5$ | 1715a | 335 | 339 | 351 | 332 | 440 | 483 |
| 1936 Av． | 180 | 252 | $76 \cdot 3$ | 94 | 243 | 75.59 | $15 \cdot 13$ | 836 | 98 | 63.6 | $3 \cdot 5$ | ，，b | 261 | 395 | 436 | 366 | 480 | 507 |
| 1937 Av． | 227 | 392 | $75 \cdot 1$ | 178 | 285 | 124.42 | $25 \cdot 14$ | 877 | 171 | 53.8 | $3 \cdot 8$ | $2 \cdot 11$ | 380 | 549 | 566 | 541 | 611 | 619 |
| $\begin{gathered} 1936 \\ \text { JAN. ... } \end{gathered}$ | 195 | 211 | $78 \cdot 9$ | 119 | 268 | 74.89 | 15•10 | 805 | 110 | 72.4 | 4 |  | 233 | 355 | 377 | 340 | 454 |  |
| FEB．．．． | 202 | 226 | $77 \cdot 9$ | 61 | 247 | $74 \cdot 84$ | 14.97 | 801 | 112 | $71 \cdot 1$ | $3 \cdot 5$ | ，＂， | 233 | 368 | 405 | 341 | 454 | 486 |
| MAR． | 196 | 223 | $75 \cdot 2$ | 70 | 271 | 74.93 | 15.07 | 801 | 105 | 70.8 | $3 \cdot 5$ | ，＂， | 233 | 370 | 411 | 340 | 452 |  |
| APR． | 193 | 214 | 75．8 | 39 | 272 | 75.05 | $15 \cdot 17$ | 830 | 103 | 66.8 | 5 | ＂， | 233 | 365 | 402 | 339 | 451 |  |
| MAY． | 166 | 214 | $74 \cdot 7$ | 78 | 257 | 75.48 | $15 \cdot 18$ | 835 | 85 | $62 \cdot 3$ | 6 | ，＂ | 243 | 368 | 413 | 336 | 459 |  |
| JUNE | 154 | 209 | 73.8 | 155 | 253 | $76 \cdot 16$ | $15 \cdot 17$ | 848 | 73 | 58.5 | 4 | ＂， | 238 | 363 | 404 | 337 | 461 | ） |
| JULY． | 138 | 204 | 732 | 13 | 205 | 75.83 | $15 \cdot 10$ | 853 | 75 | 58.8 | 3 | ， | 233 | 379 | 429 | 342 | 461 |  |
| AUG． | 137 | 214 | 73.2 | 56 | 169 | $76 \cdot 32$ | $15 \cdot 18$ | 844 | 77 | 59.2 |  |  | 233 | 386 | 438 | 347 | 477 | 50 |
| SEPT | 153 | 245 | 75.2 | 74 | 216 | 76.78 | $15 \cdot 19$ | 838 | 79 | 57.4 | $3 \cdot 5$ | $\bigcirc$ | 233 | 397 | 456 | 354 | 494 |  |
| OCT． | 195 | 3399 | 80.8 78.8 | 82 | ${ }_{234}^{262}$ | 105．15 | 21.47 | 854 | 99 | 54.1 |  | 24.25 | 328 | 441 | 482 | 411 | 515 |  |
| DEC． | 221 | 375 | 78.4 | 1209 | 234 256 | 105．15 | 21.52 21.42 | 863 866 | 127 | 64.2 60.4 | ＇，＇ | ＂ | 343 | 482 | 493 523 |  | 553 | 54 |
| 1937 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| JAN．． | 267 | 403 | 77.5 | 200 | 243 | $105 \cdot 15$ | 21.42 | 875 | 172 |  |  |  |  | 500 | 539 | 475 | 567 |  |
| FEB．． | 264 | 416 | $75 \cdot 1$ | 212 | 241 | $105 \cdot 11$ | 21.48 | 854 | 174 | 55.3 | ＂ | 24.0 | 325 | 505 | 516 | 500 | 577 | 581 |
| APRIL ${ }^{\text {M }}$ | 225 | 346 | 74.6 72.6 | 190 | 302 | 106.20 109.39 | 21.73 22.25 | 854 | 185 | 55.1 | ， | 24.4 | 335 | 524 | 531 | 523 | 576 |  |
| MAY | 221 | 367 | $72 \cdot 3$ | 327 | 262 | $110 \cdot 39$ | $22 \cdot 35$ | 860 | 162 | 55．5 | ＂， | 24.9 | 338 | 520 | 532 | 514 | 588 | \} 60 |
| JUNE | 219 | 365 | $74 \cdot 6$ | 107 | 300 | 110.81 | 22.46 | 858 | 185 | 54.9 | $\dddot{6}$ | 250 | 338 | 525 | 542 | 516 | 590 |  |
| JULY．． | 211 | 420 | 75.0 | 108 | 283 | 130.46 | 26.26 | 884 | 112 | 486 | 5 | 28.85 | 393 | 565 | 565 | 572 | 600 |  |
| AUGE．．． |  | 426 | 77.2 74.8 | 122 | 232 | $132 \cdot 85$ | 26.66 | 882 | 165 | 53.1 | 4 | 29.85 | 403 | 577 | 585 | 575 | 615 | 630 |
| OCT．． | 214 | 405 | $75 \cdot 6$ | 145 | 336 | 147.92 | 28.36 29.85 | 888 | 187 | 51.8 | 3.5 | 32．55 | 438 | 603 | 627 | 590 | 64 |  |
| NOV． | 210 | 378 | 76.4 | 646 | 292 | 147.19 | 29.44 | 900 | 180 | 51.3 | ${ }_{3}$ | 33.25 | 445 | 596 | 606 | 594 | ${ }_{6}^{657}$ |  |
| DEC． | 204 | 399 | 75.5 | 22 | 306 | 147．17 | $29 \cdot 45$ | 904 | 188 | 53.9 |  | $33^{\prime} \cdot 15$ | 415 | 536 | 627 | 560 | 676 |  |
| 1938 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| JAN． | 198 | 402 | $75 \cdot 1$ | 114 | 324 | 149.57 |  | 926 |  |  |  |  | 455 | 597 | 632 |  |  |  |
| FEB．． | 197 | 406 | 74.7 | 1056 | 274 | 152.95 | 30.49 | 919 | 221 | 489 | ，＇， | 34.45 | 460 | 599 | 637 | 574 | 692 | 688 |
| MAR．．． | 191 | 374 397 | $73 \cdot 2$ | 96 | 340 849 | 159.71 | $32 \cdot 06$ | 942 | 235 | 47.4 |  | $37 \cdot 1$ | 505 | 604 | 629 | 591 | 690 |  |
| MAY | 216 | 394 | 76.3 | 430 | $\stackrel{3}{455}$ | 160.54 176.25 | 32.23 | 981 | 237 | 45.8 |  | 35．7 | 445 | 604 | 635 | 585 | 691 |  |
| JUNE．． | 213 | 414 | ＇772 | 246 | 345 | 178.17 |  |  |  |  | $2 \cdot 5$ |  |  | 628 637 | 672 |  |  | $\}^{\text {ES }}$ |
| JULY．．． | 207 | 439 | 76.5 |  |  |  |  | 1011 | 154 | 47.6 |  |  | 515 | 636 | 651 | 630 | 690 |  |
| AUG．．．． | 204 | 437 | 76.6 | 44 | $331$ | $178.52$ | 36.57 | 993 | 185 | $47 \cdot 2$ | ，＂， | $41 \cdot 1$ | 520 | 628 | 641 | 625 | 695 |  |
| SEPT．．． | 195 | 422 | 75.6 | 12 | 243 | 178.40 | $37 \cdot 17$ | 1082 | 191 | 43.7 |  | 41.4 | 520 | 631 | 641 | 629 | 708 |  |
| NOV． | 214 | 417 | 80．6 | 107 | 248 | 178.81 | 37.51 | 1134 | 232 | $40 \cdot 4$ | 3 | 42.2 | 530 | 638 | 648 | 637 | 727 |  |
| DEC． | 244 | 406 | 88.3 | 75 | 386 | 178.67 177.45 | 37.95 37.99 | 1073 | 338 | $60 \cdot 1+$ | 30 | 42.6 | 530 | 641 | 647 | 643 | 739 |  |
| 1939 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 37.99 | 1080 | 288 | $61 \cdot 9$ | 2 | $42 \cdot 5$ | 530 | 650 | 661 | 647 | 754 |  |
| JAN．．．． |  | 369 |  |  |  | $177 \cdot 03$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { FEB. ... } \\ & \text { MAR.... } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 233 \\ & 228 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 377 \\ & 350 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 86 \cdot 5 \\ & 85 \cdot 3 \end{aligned}$ | 378 | 322 | $\begin{aligned} & 176.99 \end{aligned}$ | $37.77$ | $1108$ | $242$ | $63.2$ | 2 | 42.2 | 535 | 661 | 654 | 664 | 755 |  |

[^27]
## TRADE，OUTPUT，TRANSPORT \＆EMPLOYMENT．

|  | IMPORTS．＊ |  |  |  | EXPORTS．＊ |  |  |  |  |  | OUTPUT． |  |  |  |  | SHIPPING． |  | RAILWAYS |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | E． ث <br> Mn．f． | ＇ <br> Mn． 1 | Raw Materials． <br> Mn．f． | Manufactures． <br> Mn．f． | E． $\stackrel{0}{0}$ से <br> Mn．f． | ＇ס <br> Mn．f． |  |  |  | ight <br> Ex． norts． <br> tr．Tns． |  | Coal <br> （excl． <br> Saar）． <br> 000 | Pig Iron． <br> Ietric | Steel． |  | Tonna Ships Carg <br>  Mn． Tons | ge of with oes． |  |  |  |
| 1913 Av． | 702 | 153 | 411 | 138 | 573 | 70 | 155 | 348 | 3.68 | 1.84 |  | 3720 | 756 | 581 |  | $2 \cdot 87$ | $2 \cdot 17$ |  |  |  |
| 1924 dv． | 3327 | 745 | 2158 | 424 | 3456 | 336 | 874 | 2246 | 4．71 | $2 \cdot 45$ |  | 3667 | 638 | 575 |  | $3 \cdot 55$ | $2 \cdot 72$ |  | 61.4 |  |
| 1933 Av． | 2369 | 800 | 1149 | 419 | 1539 | 212 | 396 | 931 | 4.04 | 2.09 |  | 3903 | 527 | 552 | 87 | $4 \cdot 51$ | $3 \cdot 75$ | 218 | $45 \cdot 2$ | $71 \cdot 3$ |
| 1934 Av． | 1925 | 62.4 | 948 | 354 | 1488 | 215 | 430 | 842 | $3 \cdot 79$ | $2 \cdot 36$ |  | 3967 | 513 | 512 | 89 | $4 \cdot 38$ | 3.62 | 208 | $42 \cdot 5$ | 71.4 |
| 1935 Av ． | 17461 | 520 | 932 | 234 | $1291 \pm$ | 206 | 355 | 730 | 3.72 | 2.44 |  | 3851 | 483 | 522 | 92 | $4 \cdot 25$ | $3 \cdot 70$ | 188 | $40 \cdot 1$ | 68.4 |
| 1936 Av． | 2118 | 650 | 1149 | 318 | 1291 | 206 | 372 | 713 | 4.01 | 2.41 | 85 | 3769 | 520 | 558 | 95 | 4.40 | 3.66 | 191 | 41.7 | 70.5 |
| 1937 Av ． | 3533 | 895 | 2098 | 540 | 1995 | 281 | 702 | 101 | $4 \cdot 78$ | $2 \cdot 53$ | 88 | 3693 | 660 | 658 | 105 | $4 \cdot 56$ | $3 \cdot 70$ | 242 | 41.7 | 66.4 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 1936 \\ & \text { JAN. } \end{aligned}$ | 2014 | 565 | 1158 | 281 | 1203 | 191 | 331 | 681 | 3.86 | 2 | 86 | 4087 | 508 | 561 | 105 | 3．86 | 3.23 | 166 | 37.7 | 69：0 |
| FEB．． | 2051 | 647 | 1114 | 290 | $1<29$ | 177 | 366 | 686 | $3 \cdot 86$ | 2.59 | 86 | 3855 | 501 | 535 | 95 | $3 \cdot 80$ | 3.09 | 175 | $41 \cdot 1$ | $69 \cdot 6$ |
| MAR． | 1959 | 565 | 1085 | 306 | 1245 | 182 | 362 | 701 | 3.98 | 2.20 | 88 | 3956 | 543 | 575 | 97 | 3.94 | 3.28 | 175 | $42 \cdot 3$ 39 | $70 \cdot 2$ |
| APRIL． | 2128 | 676 | 1118 | 334 | 1200 | 189 | 325 | 686 | 412 | $2 \cdot 39$ | 87 | 4059 | 524 | 571 | 93 | $4 \cdot 13$ | $3 \cdot 58$ | 186 | ． 7 | $0 \cdot 1$ |
| MAY | 1968 | 614 | 1060 | 295 | 1172 | 174 | 355 | 643 | 3.99 | 2.52 | 87 | 3870 | 554 | 609 | 92 | 4.62 | $3 \cdot 77$ | 185 | 3 | $70 \cdot 4$ |
| JUNE．．． | 1831 | 557 | 1002 | 272 | 1156 | 174 | 296 | 685 | 3.74 | $2 \cdot 37$ | 81 | 3434 | 470 | 503 | 84 | $4 \cdot 27$ | 365 | 178 | 38.6 | $70 \cdot 4$ |
| JULY | 1860 | 543 | 1038 | 279 | 1104 | 168 | 308 | 628 | $3 \cdot 72$ | $2 \cdot 10$ | 83 | 3915 | 519 | 542 | 88 | 5.03 | 4.20 | 205 | 38.5 |  |
| AUG． | 1764 | 513 | 958 | 294 | 1170 | 179 | 337 | 654 | 3.89 | $2 \cdot 37$ | 76 | 3154 | 465 | 460 | 82 | 4.83 | 4.04 | 208 | 37.2 $40 \cdot 3$ | 70.5 70.8 |
| SEPT．．． | 1859 | 625 | 920 | 314 | 1190 | 183 | 360 | 647 | 3.98 | 2.41 | 80 | 3484 | 492 | 545 | 91 | $4 \cdot 60$ | 3.87 4.05 | 207 | $40 \cdot 3$ $46 \cdot 3$ | 70.8 71.0 |
| OCT． | 2243 | 760 | 1143 | 340 | 1463 | 261 | 399 | 803 | 4.01 | 2.46 | 85 | 4165 | 551 | 627 | 104 | $4 \cdot 19$ | 3 | 200 | 46.3 | 70.7 |
| NOV． | 2699 | 839 | 1477 | 383 | 1710 | 299 | 527 | 884 | 4.24 | $2 \cdot 58$ | 88 | 3436 | 552 | 581 | 104 | $4 \cdot 19$ | 3.48 | 192 | 43.2 | $70 \cdot 5$ |
| DEC．．．． | 3039 | 892 | 1715 | 432 | 1651 | 300 | 498 | 853 | 4.75 | $2 \cdot 37$ | 91 | 3813 | 558 | 591 | 107 | 4.77 | 3.63 | 192 | $43 \cdot 2$ | $70 \cdot 5$ |
| 1937 JAN． | 3332 | 886 | 1972 | 474 | 1769 | 283 | 575 | 911 | 4．76 | 2.42 | 90 | 3623 | 590 | 607 | 103 | $4 \cdot 19$ | $3 \cdot 35$ | 187 | $40 \cdot 1$ | $70 \cdot 1$ |
| FEB．．．． | 3667 | 1004 | 2171 | 492 | 1695 | 237 | 610 | 848 | 5．35 | 2．37 | 92 | 3710 | 574 | 524 | 98 | 3.77 | 3.05 | 201 | $42 \cdot 5$ | 69．0 |
| MAR． | 3216 | 785 | 1892 | 539 | 1829 | 267 | 607 | 955 | 4.60 | 2.26 | 93 | 4087 | 649 | 679 | 106 | 4.44 | 3.52 | 210 | 41.3 | 68.0 |
| APRIL． | 3300 | 831 | 1992 | 477 | 1973 | 278 | 734 | 961 | 4.95 | 2.61 | 91 | 3910 | 654 | 684 | 101 | 4.47 | $3 \cdot 70$ | 206 | $41 \cdot 9$ | 67.6 |
| MAY ．．． | 3070 | 761 | 1856 | 452 | 1761 | 255 | 621 | 885 | 4.55 | 2.46 | 89 | 3414 | 666 | 654 | 101 | 4.81 | 3.97 | 205 | 39.8 41.8 | 66.8 65.2 |
| JUNE | 3719 | 844 | 2171 | 704 | 2003 | 245 | 744 | 1014 | 5．16 | 2.68 | 88 | 3509 | 685 | 685 | 98 | 4.72 | $3 \cdot 90$ | 222 | 41.8 | 652 |
| JULY | 3204 | 777 | 1880 | 547 | 1871 | 247 | 659 | 965 | $4 \cdot 57$ | 2.55 | 85 | 3530 | 699 | 685 | 102 | 5.48 | 4.38 | 265 | 397 36.9 | 64．4 |
| AUG．．． | 3179 | 782 | 1878 | 519 | 1859 | 229 | 666 | 964 | 4.47 | 2.48 | 76 | 2587 | 645 | 559 | 93 | 4.44 | 3.68 3.78 | 277 | 36.9 41.4 | $64 \cdot 4$ $64 \cdot 8$ |
| SEPT． | 3478 | 839 | 2106 | 533 | 2074 | 268 | 770 | 1036 | 4.56 | 2.48 | 84 | 3673 | 687 | 662 | 102 | 4.58 $5 \cdot 28$ | $3 \cdot 78$ 4.26 | 284 | 41.4 45.6 | $65 \cdot 8$ $65 \cdot 3$ |
| OCT． | 3714 | 959 | 2200 | 555 | 2364 | 343 | 847 | 1174 | $4 \cdot 57$ | 2.81 | 88 | 4044 | 701 688 | 705 | 113 | $5 \cdot 28$ 4.21 | 4.26 $3 \cdot 36$ | 284 | $45 \cdot 7$ | 65．6 |
| NOV． | 3938 | 1012 | 2339 | 587 | 2385 | 354 | 802 | 1229 | 4.72 | 2.64 | 91 | 4073 | 688 679 | 673 | 115 | 4.21 4.36 | 3.36 3.43 | 296 | 44.7 | 66．0 |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { I) EC. .... } \\ 1938 \end{gathered}$ | 4574 | 1258 | 2720 | 596 | 2357 | 369 | 792 | 1196 | $5 \cdot 15$ | 261 | 91 | 4161 | 679 | 675 | 124 | $4 \cdot 36$ | $3 \cdot 43$ | 296 | $44^{7}$ | 66.0 |
| 1938 | 3885 | 962 | 2367 | 556 | 2439 | 310 | 867 | 1262 | $4 \cdot 12$ | $2 \cdot 79$ | 87 | 3613 | 643 | 623 | 120 | 3.55 3.06 | 2.77 | 253 | $39 \cdot 8$ $41 \cdot 4$ | $66 \cdot 2$ $66 \cdot 3$ |
| FEB． | 4287 | 1127 | 2543 | 617 | 2309 | 288 | 843 | 1178 | 4.43 | $2 \cdot 31$ | 86 | 3685 | 556 | 564 | 107 | 3.86 3.74 | 3.04 2.87 | 257 | 41.4 42.0 | 65．6 |
| MAR．．． | 3527 | 902 | 2076 | 549 | 2231 | 295 | 684 | 1252 | 3.90 | 2.11 | 85 | 4294 4042 | 553 479 | 562 500 | 113 | 3.74 4.37 | 2.87 3.52 | 270 | 39.8 | 64.7 |
| APRIL | 3877 | 994 | 2271 | 612 | 2364 | 366 | 710 | 1288 | 4.20 | 1.97 | 82 | 3042 | 483 | 500 | 108 | 4.51 | 3.71 | 272 | 41.2 | $65 \cdot 7$ |
| MAY ．． | 3878 | 1102 | 2131 | 615 | 2324 | 330 313 | 715 | 1279 | 3.87 4.04 | 2．16 $2 \cdot 12$ | 82 83 | 3734 3830 | 483 463 | 480 | 110 | $4 \cdot 85$ | $4 \cdot 16$ | 291 | 40.6 | $65 \cdot 9$ |
| JUNE．．． | 3811 | 1019 | 2235 | 5.7 | 2291 | 313 | 717 | 1261 | 4.04 | $2 \cdot 12$ | 83 | 3830 | 463 | 480 | 110 | 485 | 416 | 291 | 406 | 65 |
| JULY | 3501 | 982 | 2003 | 511 | 2286 | 302 | 700 | 1284 | 3.54 | $2 \cdot 13$ | 81 | 3730 | 433 | 436 | 108 | 4.70 | 3.83 | 301 | 385 | 3 |
| AUG． | 3709 | 984 | 2253 | 472 | 2486 | 300 | 814 | 1372 | $3 \cdot 87$ | $2 \cdot 26$ | 71 | 2776 | 419 | 419 | 100 | 4.69 | 4.03 4.18 | 300 | 38.5 39.8 | $65 \cdot 1$ |
| SEPT． | 3534 | 1027 | 2027 | 480 | 2653 | 333 | 996 | 1324 | 3.76 | 2.21 | 80 | 3944 | 446 | 470 | 107 | 4.86 4.42 | 3.65 | 310 | $43 \cdot 1$ | $66 \cdot 3$ |
| OCT． | ？ 878 | 1153 | 2736 | 489 | 2830 | 456 | 863 | 1505 | 4.20 3.45 | 2.50 2.38 | 81 | ＋ 4234 | 494 521 | 511 | 119 | 4.42 4.17 | 3.53 | 297 | 42.9 | 67.0 |
| NOV． | 3871 | 1099 | 2216 | 556 | 3059 | 509 | 926 | 1624 | 3.45 3.57 | 2.38 2.33 | $85 \dagger$ | ＋ 4188 | 521 560 | 534 576 | 119 130 | 4.27 | 3.44 | 303 | $40 \cdot 3$ | $67 \cdot 2$ |
| DEC． | 4214 | 1133 | 2426 | 655 | 3292 | 594 | 999 | 1699 | 3.57 | $2 \cdot 33$ | $86 \dagger$ | 4430 | £60 | 576 | 130 | 4.27 | 344 |  |  |  |
| 1939 | 3978 | 1109 | 2290 | 579 | 2820 | 423 | 830 | 1567 | 3.24 | 1．95 | 87巾 | － 4214 | 571 | 593 | 143 | 3.47 | 2.78 | 272 | $40 \cdot 8$ | 68.8 |
| FEB． | 4519 | 1217 | 2597 | 705 | 2036 | 404 | 1012 | 1620 | 3.88 | 2.53 |  | 3932 | 539 | 572 |  | 3.65 | 3.04 | 281 | $41 \cdot 9$ |  |
| ＊Import figures are based upon declareả values．Export figures declareả values since 1927，previously based on official values． <br> ；Saar transferred 18／2／35． <br> $\dagger$ Provisional． |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

TRANSPORT．
Shipping．－Tonnage of ships of all nationalities entered and cleared（with cargoes）during the month
Rallways．－Average weekly receipts and daily average number of trucks loaded on all the principal railways（including Alsace－Lorraine）

## France]

176.90 at the beginning, reacted to 176.66 at the end of the month ; the dollar hardly varied from 37.75.

But securities were rather seriously affected on the Paris Bourse ; the lowest quotations were recorded on March 20th. For example, $4 \frac{1}{2} \%$ Rentes (A) dropped from 90.30 on 13 th to 83.20 on 20th, and recovered to 86.85 on 30th. The indices of the average levels of prices (\% of 1913) advanced, for 300 French shares, from 233 at the end of February to 239 on March IIth, but returned to 230 and 228 in the next two weeks; for 25 foreign shares, the advance was smallfrom 377 to 379 -and afterwards there was a fall to 359 and 350 . For 36 fixed interest securities, the corresponding indices were 86.5 , $87.2,85.5$ and 85.3 .

The volume of stock exchange dealings, which increased a little after the stagnation of the second half of February, has been small. The index of dealings in shares (\% of 193I), which was down to 15 at the end of February, advanced to $33,27,33,43$ in the four weeks of March. For bonds the corresponding indices were 75 and then $148,122,123$ and 132.

In January the index of industrial production was at the same level as a year before, viz., $87 \%$ of the 1928 average. The lowest month in 1938 was September at 80 . Compared with January, 1938, the most noticeable advances were automobiles from 88 to IO6, textiles from 83 to 92 , building from 58 to 65 , and mines from 89 to 94 . Metallurgy (at 75 compared with 83) and metal-working trades (at 83 compared with 89) have not recovered their activity of a year before.

In February the general index of production gained two points-to 89 -and was $5 \%$ higher than in February, 1938.

The total output of electricity, $\mathrm{I}, 430 \mathrm{Mn}$. Kwh., was $8 \%$ greater than in January, 1938 ;
that of thermo works had increased $12.5 \%$, that of hydraulic works $5.6 \%$.

The number of unemployed receiving assistance declined from 4II,000 on March 4th to 400,000 on 25 th, which was the same level as a year before. On March Ist, in establishments with over 100 employees, the percentage of persons working more than 40 hours per week rose from 17 to 19 .

In the past weeks the receipts of the National Railway Company have been 286, 28I, 289 and 282 Mn . francs. The weekly averages of wagons loaded per day remained at about 42,000 , or of the same order as a year before.

In February total imports, at $4,519 \mathrm{Mn}$. francs, were much higher than in January, 3,978 Mn. ; likewise exports, 3,036 Mn., compared with $2,820 \mathrm{Mn}$. But this is largely due to the fact that the January figures relate to the period January ist to 25 th and those for February to January 26th to February 25th.

The average level of wholesale prices has been nearly stationary. The index for 45 items (\% of July, 1914) has stood successively at $678,678,679$ and 680 in the four weeks ending March 25th. That for foodstuffs rose from 651 to 654 , that for raw materials from 702 to 703 .

The retail price indices have been showing a slight seasonal decline since January, that of 13 items from 748 to 744 , that of 34 items from 761 to 755 .

Transactions of the ordinary savings banks with the deposit bank resulted in an excess of deposits amounting to 591 Mn . francs in February and 210 Mn . in the first half of March.

The restoration of economic activity continues, but more than ever, in the gravity of the present European situation, economic perspectives are obscured by the uncertainties of international conditions.

# GERMANY. 

Information communicated by Dr. M. J. ELSAS.

$$
\text { March } 3 \text { rd, } 1939 .
$$

IN March the state of Czecho-Slovakia was taken under the "protection" of Germany and the provinces of Bohemia and Moravia were constituted a Protectorate within the German Reich. The Czech people is to be allowed its autonomous development, subject to the following limitations. The defence of the Protectorate is the function of the Reich, which has the right to maintain garrisons and military establishments in the area. It will belong to the customs area of the Reich and the reichsmark is to become the legal currency, for the time being side by side with the Czech crown. All measures necessary for the maintenance of order will be taken by the Reich Government. The existing legal system in Bohemia and Moravia will remain in force, except where it conflicts with the political and economic needs of the Reich. The province of Slovakia is also taken under the "protection" of the Reich, but its status seems as yet uncertain.

The Czecho-Slovak State thus terminates its independent existence, and the interests of its people are from now onward subject to those of Germany. With the inclusion of Bohemia and Moravia the population of the Reich exceeds $85,000,000$. The economic consequences of this acquisition of population and territory are very considerable. The new provinces do not produce a surplus of food over their own requirements, but they bring a substantial increase to the industrial resources of the Reich. Of especial importance are the coal and iron industries of the Ostrau-Karwin district. The Skoda armament works raise the war potential of the Reich very considerably. Amongst finished goods industries the most important acquisitions are the textile industry, the shoe industry (here the Bata factories deserve special mention), the brewing industry, including the famous Pilsen breweries, the sugar-refining industry, and finally the glass and porcelain industry. It should be noticed, however, that the finished goods industries to some extent compete with industries in Germany. This is especially true of the Bata shoe factories, whose products have hitherto been largely kept out of Germany in order to protect the shoe industry in Pirmasens.

There is no doubt that the annexation of Bohemia and Moravia has greatly increased Germany's capacity for war. The shortage of labour is eased by the increase in skilled industrial workers, and the stocks of raw material which are acquired will cause a very welcome saving of foreign exchange. Further, the acquisition of actual war material, especially aeroplanes, must not be overlooked. Whether all these things will mean as much to the Reich as has been anticipated is, however, another question. With these territorial changes the Czecho-Slovak industries lose their most-favoured-nation and trade agreement rights in the U.S.A. The United States Government has placed an additional tariff of $25 \%$ on all German goods as from the 23 rd April. This additional tariff will prove prohibitive to the import of many German goods. The Czecho-Slovak exports to America, which last year amounted to about 90 Mn . marks, will henceforth be subject to the same tariff as German exports. It is probable therefore that the export difficulties of the Reich will be increased rather than decreased by the annexation of Bohemia and Moravia.

One week after these events the Memelland returned to the Reich. This, however, is of no economic significance to the Reich, though the port of Memel is of outstanding importance to Lithuania. In an agreement which Germany made with Lithuania after the return of the territory, it was agreed to establish a free harbour in Memel for Lithuania. The harbour facilities which the Lithuanians will use will be administered by a harbour company holding a 99 -year lease.

Early in the fourth week in March an agreement was made with Roumania, laying down an economic plan for several years ahead. In future Roumanian agricultural production is to be more closely adapted to the needs of the Reich. With this end in view more animal foods and oil-seeds are to be produced. The Roumanian timber trade also will be more intensively developed. Joint German-Roumanian companies are to be established, especially in order to undertake ore mining, and also in order to tap new oil wells. Germany is to deliver to Roumania mining machinery and war material for her army, navy and air force. Both

## FINANCE, PRICES and WAGES.

|  | STOCKS \& SHARES. |  |  | BANKING. |  |  |  |  |  <br> Mks. to |  |  | wholesale. |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { RE- } \\ & \text { TAIL } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { REAL } \\ \text { WAGES } \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Capital } \\ & \text { Issues by } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |  | Reichsbank. |  | Note Circulation. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Index Nos. of } \\ & \text { Prices of } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  <br> Mks. <br> Mn. |  |  <br> Marks <br> Mn. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { © } \\ & \text { ¢ } \\ & \text { \% } \\ & \text { \% } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |
| Pre-War Average |  |  |  | 6100 |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Aug. } \\ & 1914 \\ & 4500 \end{aligned}$ |  |  | $4 \cdot 2$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { July, } \\ & 1914 \\ & 3.15 \end{aligned}$ | 815 | 81.0 |  | 100 | 100 | 100 | 190 100 |
|  |  |  | $49 \cdot 4$ | 4350 | 377 | 3500 | $5 \cdot 56$ | 11715 | 3.44 | 4.87 | 326 | 39.6 | 63 | 86.7 | 93.4 | 118.5 | $111 \cdot 2$ |
| 1933 Av. | 77.5 | 17.7 | $20 \cdot 1$ | 4854 | 606 | 3727 | $5 \cdot 62$ | 11759 | $2 \cdot 52$ | $4 \cdot 47$ | 234 | $42 \cdot 1$ | 63 | $95 \cdot 9$ | 98.4 | + | $106 \cdot 6$ |
| 1935 Av . | $90 \cdot 4$ | $7 \cdot 1$ | $22 \cdot 2$ | 4899 | 805 | 3920 | 6.02 | 13178 | $2 \cdot 485$ | 3.61 | 243 | 55.2 | 63 | 102.2 | 101.8 | 123.0 | $105 \cdot 4$ |
| 1936 Av. | 99.9 | $2 \cdot 9$ | $49 \cdot 6$ | 5146 | 672 | 4478 | 6.47 | 14840 | $2 \cdot 485$ | 3.22 | 215 | 41.0 | 63 | 104.9 | $104 \cdot 1$ | $124 \cdot 5$ | 103.9 |
| 1937 Av . | 111.7 | 13.5 | $34 \cdot 3$ | 5920 | 715 | 5073 | $7 \cdot 03$ | 16735 | $2 \cdot 491$ | 3.04 | 189 | $40 \cdot 4$ | 63 | $104 \cdot 6$ | $105 \cdot 9$ | $125 \cdot 1$ | 103-3 |
| 1936 | $91 \cdot 8$ | 0.4 | $21 \cdot 8$ | 4962 | 690 | 4097 | 6.09 | 14397 | $2 \cdot 488$ | 3.62 | 263 | 54.5 | 63 | $105 \cdot 2$ | 103.6 | 124 | $104 \cdot 2$ |
| FEB. | 93.8 | $0 \cdot 1$ | $14 \cdot 8$ | 4597 | 605 | 4172 | $6 \cdot 20$ | 14457 | $2 \cdot 458$ | $3 \cdot 25$ | 30 | 38.5 | 63 | 104.8 | $103 \cdot 5$ | 124:3 | 104:0 |
| MAR. | $93 \cdot 3$ | $11 \cdot 4$ | 13.0 | 4824 | 572 | 4267 | 6.27 | 14372 | $2 \cdot 462$ | 3.0 | 226 | 39.0 | 63 | $104 \cdot 5$ | $103 \cdot 6$ | 124-2 | 104:0 |
| APR. | 96.2 | $2 \cdot 0$ | $14 \cdot 2$ | 4989 | 776 | 4348 | 6.35 | 14429 | 2.4-9 | $3 \cdot 37$ | 181 | 39.5 | 63 | 1050 | 103.8 | $124 \cdot 3$ | $103 \cdot 9$ |
| MAY. | 99.3 | 4.2 | 10.7 | 4849 | 650 | 4430 | 6.44 | 14649 | 2.490 | $3 \cdot 37$ | 234 | $40 \cdot 5$ | 63 | $105 \cdot 3$ | $103 \cdot 7$ | $124 \cdot 3$ | 104.0 |
| JUNE | 101.6 |  | 8.5 | 5203 | 677 | 4389 | $6 \cdot 35$ | 14735 | $2 \cdot 489$ | 3.0 | 208 | $40 \cdot 0$ | 63 | 1057 | 104.0 | $124 \cdot 5$ | 104.0 |
| JULY | $103 \cdot 1$ | 76 | 197.6 | 5371 | 804 | 4471 | 6.45 | 14654 | $2 \cdot 484$ | 3.0 | 218 | 39.5 | 63 | $106 \cdot 1$ | 104.2 | 125.3 | $103 \cdot 8$ |
| AUG.. | 101.8 |  | 68.5 | 4815 | 640 | 4540 | 6.54 | 15463 | 2.488 | $3 \cdot 37$ |  | $39 \cdot 5$ | 63 | 106.4 | 104.8 | 125.4 | 103.2 |
| SEP' | 100.1 | $7 \cdot 3$ | 22.0 | 5288 | 669 | 4657 | 6.65 | 15417 | 2.490 | $3 \cdot 12$ |  | $40 \cdot 5$ | 63 | $105 \cdot 0$ | 104.2 | $124 \cdot 4$ | $103 \cdot 9$ |
| OCT'. | $106 \cdot 0$ | $2 \cdot 2$ | 18.1 | 5928 | t94 | 4713 | 6.71 | 15017 | 2.495 | $3 \cdot 37$ | 199 | 39.9 | 63 | 103.8 | $104 \cdot 3$ | $124 \cdot 4$ | $104 \cdot 1$ |
| NOV... | 106.6 | $0 \cdot 1$ | 194.0 | 5089 | 622 | 4674 | $6 \cdot 65$ | 15245 | 2.491 | $3 \cdot 37$ | 212 | 39.6 | 63 | 103.2 | 104.3 | $124 \cdot 3$ | 104.2 |
| DEC... | $105 \cdot 4$ | 0.1 | $12 \cdot 4$ | 5834 | 667 | 4980 | 6.96 | 15246 | $2 \cdot 490$ | 3.0 | 235 | 41.5 | 63 | $103 \cdot 6$ | 1050 | 124:3 | 104-1 |
| 1937 | 106.6 | $80 \cdot 3$ | 86.7 | 5405 | 775 | 4799 | 6.72 | 15311 | $2 \cdot 490$ | 3.37 | 6 | 42.2 | 63 | 103.2 | 105•3 | 124.5 | $104 \cdot 1$ |
| FEB ... | 108.1 | $49 \cdot 1$ | 72.5 | 5018 | 731 | 4816 | 6.74 | 15300 | $2 \cdot 490$ | 3.0 | 206 | $40 \cdot 2$ | 63 | $103 \cdot 4$ | $105 \cdot 5$ | $124 \cdot 8$ | $103 \cdot 9$ |
| MAR. | 109•3 |  | $15 \cdot 3$ | 5800 | 716 | 4938 | $6 \cdot 84$ | 16058 | $2 \cdot 490$ | $2 \cdot 87$ | 235 | $39 \cdot 9$ | 63 | $103 \cdot 9$ | $106 \cdot 2$ | 125.0 | $103 \cdot 9$ |
| APR. | $110 \cdot 6$ | - | 8.8 | 6263 | 789 | 4979 | 6.94 | 16156 | $2 \cdot 490$ | 3.0 | 234 | $41 \cdot 3$ | 63 | $103 \cdot 9$ | $105 \cdot 9$ | 125.1 | 103.5 |
| MAY.. | 111.8 | 0.7 | $10 \cdot 3$ | 5552 | 736 | 4902 | $6 \cdot 83$ | 16907 | $2 \cdot 490$ | 2.75 | 180 | 40.7 | 63 | 104.1 | $105 \cdot 8$ | $125 \cdot 1$ | 103.4 |
| JUNE | 112.8 | - | 6.7 | 6048 | 715 | 4991 | 6.94 | 16904 | $2 \cdot 497$ | 3.0 | 181 | $40 \cdot 5$ | 63 | $104 \cdot 6$ | 1060 | $125 \cdot 3$ | 103.4 |
| JULY | 114.6 | 17.5 | 33.4 | 6119 | 707 | 5111 | 7-10 | 16857 | 2.498 | 3.25 | 177 | $40 \cdot 1$ | 63 | 1057 | 1064 | 126.2 | $103 \cdot 3$ |
| AUG | 1157 | 98 | 14.4 | 5747 | 625 | 5115 | 7.09 | 16326 | $2 \cdot 491$ | 30 | 151 | $40 \cdot 3$ | 63 | 106.4 | $106 \cdot 7$ | 126.0 | $102 \cdot 5$ |
| SEPT. | 114.8 |  | 13.4 | 5979 | 649 | 5256 | 7.26 | 17602 | 2.494 | $3 \cdot 12$ | 163 | 39.8 | 63 | $105 \cdot 4$ | 106.2 | $125 \cdot 1$ | $102 \cdot 7$ |
| OCT... | 113.2 | 2.7 | $29 \cdot 6$ | 6377 | 675 | 5275 | 7.28 | 17574 | 2.494 | $3 \cdot 25$ | 175 | 39.9 | 63 | 105:0 | $105 \cdot 9$ | 124.8 | $102 \cdot 9$ |
| NoV... | 112.0 | 1.0 | $10 \cdot 7$ | 5965 | 729 | 5196 | $7 \cdot 18$ | 17655 | $2 \cdot 490$ | $2 \cdot 87$ | 177 | $40 \cdot 0$ | 63 | 1047 | 105.5 | $124 \cdot 9$ | 102.8 |
| DEC... | 111.3 | 1.5 | 111.6 | 6762 | 732 | 5493 | $7 \cdot 50$ | 17570 | $2 \cdot 483$ | 3.0 | 159 | 39.6 | 63 | $104 \cdot 6$ | $105 \cdot 5$ | $124 \cdot 8$ | $102 \cdot 9$ |
| 1938 | 113:8 | 5.8 | $41 \cdot 9$ | 6110 | 826 | 5199 | 714 | 18910 | 486 | 3.37 | 179 | 37.7 | 63 | 1050 | $105 \%$ | $124 \cdot 9$ | $103 \cdot 7$ |
| FEB ... | 113.6 | $12 \cdot 3$ | $4 \cdot 2$ | 5431 | 761 | 5278 | $7 \cdot 24$ | 18975 | 2.479 | 3.25 | 183 | $40 \cdot 7$ | 63 | 105.7 | 105.5 | 125.2 | $103 \cdot 5$ |
| MAR. | $113 \cdot 9$ | 7.5 | 10.4 | 6685 | 823 | 5621 | $7 \cdot 57$ | 19098 | 2.473 |  | 185 | $40 \cdot 7$ |  | $105 \cdot 6$ | 105.8 | 125.5 | $103 \cdot 7$ |
| APR | 114.8 | 1.7 | $57 \cdot 5$ | 6105 | 1221 | 6086 | 8.09 | 20739 | $2 \cdot 493$ | $3 \cdot 25$ | 151 | $38 \cdot 1$ | 63 | 1057 | 1056 | $125 \cdot 6$ | 103.7 |
| MAY. | 112.7 | 33.2 | 4.4 | 6157 | 955 | 6268 | $8 \cdot 23$ | 21593 | $2 \cdot 489$ | 3.12 | 156 | 37.7 | 63 | $105 \cdot 8$ | $105 \cdot 4$ | $125 \cdot 9$ | $103 \cdot 7$ |
| JUNE | 110.5 | 1.0 | 192 | 6495 | 1010 | 6440 | 8.48 | 22445 | $2 \cdot 492$ | $3 \cdot 12$ | 166 | $38 \cdot 2$ | 63 | 106.0 | 1056 | 126.0 | 104.1 |
| JULY | 107.9 | $5 \cdot 5$ | 83.6 | 6539 | 941 | 6650 | 8.72 | 22936 | $2 \cdot 485$ | 3.37 | 174 | $38 \cdot 3$ | 63 | 105.6 | 105.5 | 126.8 |  |
| AUG. | 102.2 | 1.9 | 409.4 | 6779 | 863 | 6863 | $8 \cdot 95$ | 23763 | 2.490 | 3.12 | 165 | 38.7 | 63 | 106.6 | $106 \cdot 1$ | $126 \cdot 5$ |  |
| SEPT | 103.2 | 3.5 | 71 | 7091 | 902 | 8023 | $10 \cdot 17$ | 23827 | 2.496 | 2.75 | 139 | 38.1 | 63 | $105 \cdot 6$ | 105.6 | 125.2 |  |
| OCI | $107 \cdot 5$ | 1.0 | 1078 | 6962 | 901 | 7753 | 9.86 | 25676 | 2.499 | 2.75 | 141 | 37.9 | 63 | $105 \cdot 7$ | $105 \cdot 9$ | 124.9 |  |
| NOV | $106 \cdot 0$ |  | 11.0 | 6723 | 949 | 7743 | 9.86 | 25660 | 2.497 | 3.00 | 155 | 38.1 | 63 | 106.8 | 106.0 | $125^{\circ}$ |  |
| DEC. | 103.1 | - | $19 \cdot 8$ | 7617 | 1027 | 8222 | $10 \cdot 40$ |  | $2 \cdot 496$ | $3 \cdot 12$ | 180 | 38.2 | 63 | 107.2 | 106.7 | $125 \cdot 3$ |  |
| 1939 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| JAN | $103 \cdot 9$ | 1.0 | $\begin{aligned} & 480.0 \\ & 19.5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 6877 \\ & 6258 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 916 \\ 1028 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 7816 \\ & 7939 \end{aligned}$ | 9.94 |  | 2.493 2.493 | 2:87 | 152 | 37.9 38.1 | $\begin{aligned} & 63 \\ & 63 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 107.8 \\ & 107.6 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 106 \cdot 6 \\ & 106 \cdot 5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 125 \cdot 8 \\ & 185 \cdot 7 \end{aligned}$ |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { MAR } \\ & \text { APR } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  | 964 |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 2483 \\ & 24493 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 3.0 \\ & 3 \cdot 10 \end{aligned}$ |  | $39 \cdot 2$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| : Base 1924-6 average. $\dagger$ New Index. Aug. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | -* New Index, \% of December, 1935. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FINANCE Share Index.- |  |  | Index Numbers for midale of month. Based on 1924-6 average. Wirtschaft uni Statistik. |  |  |  |  |  | ICES. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | holes Silve |  |  |  | month |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Capital Issues.- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Wirtschaft und Statistik, |  |  |  |  |  | ig iron | - |  | Monthly average. Wirtschatt und Statisulik, |  |  |  |  |  |
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| Note Circulation. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Wirtschaft und teictatistik. Weighted average for |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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TRADE, TRANSPORT, EMPLOYMENT.


NOTES AND SOURCES.

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Values in Gold Marks-
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## SHIPPING.

RAILWAY GOODS RECEIPTS-
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Excluãing Saar till April, 1935-Wirtschaft und Statistih
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Wirtschaft und Statistib
Total No. of Persons Unemployed on 1 st of month. Wirtschaft und Statistik. Trade Union percentages
, gien dis . Subsequently percentages of working place capacity occupied.

## Germany]

road and water transport services are to be greatly developed.

In the last week of March a new finance plan became law. According to the plan deliveries of goods to the Reich, the provinces and the local authorities, and also to the state railways and the Post Office, are to be paid for with tax certificates up to $40 \%$ of their value. With the issue of these tax certificates future revenue is tapped for current purposes. The tax certificates are of two classes, issued in equal quantities. One class is discountable and bears interest and is to be redeemed at $112 \%$ after three years. The other class bears no interest. Undertakings which have received these certificates from the Reich may use them to settle accounts with their creditors. The non-interest bearing certificates are thus additional currency. It should be noticed that apart from the name they have little in common with the tax certificates which were issued in 1932. At that time the issue was made in order to ease the situation of industry by means of tax refunds and allowances, whereas now the aim is to finance the armament and other exceptional expenditure of the Reich by means of a forced loan.

Under normal conditions these certificates would necessarily be of an inflationary character. In the present circumstances this may not be so, for the prices of all important articles are fixed. With this finance plan the methods of Dr. Schacht, which were considered to be conservative, are abandoned; but it is not yet possible to tell how the experiment will fare. Too great significance, however, should not be attached to the details of the plan, for the financial methods of the Reich have been changed several times during the last year, and it is not impossible that sooner or later new methods will be adopted if the results of this plan are not satisfactory.

One of the decrees forming part of the plan makes the annual increase of a person's income taxable apart from the regular operation of the income tax. This special tax amounts to $30 \%$. It will not be levied on employees' incomes if increased by seniority or promotion, or by allowances for children and if the total income is less than 3,000 marks.

The mid-March statement of the Reichsbank showed a bill portfolio of $7,058 \mathrm{Mn}$. marks as against $5,178 \mathrm{Mn}$. in March, I938. The note circulation totalled 7,573 Mn. marks as against 4,950 Mn. " Other Assets," which item includes gold and foreign exchange, totalled $\mathrm{I}, 262 \mathrm{Mn}$. marks. The weekly statement of the 23 rd March
shows about the same total for " Other Assets." This means that the gold and foreign exchange which was found in Prague had not yet been entered into the books of the Reichsbank.

The Bourse was weaker in March than in February on account of political events, but the fall in security prices was very small. However, business in securities is very quiet indeed. Fixed interest securities showed hardly any change.

According to the Reich Statistical Office the total debt of the Reich was $27,180 \mathrm{Mn}$. marks at the end of December, 1938, or nearly 10,000 Mn. marks more than at the end of December, 1937. The external debt declined over the year by about 100 Mn . marks. Long and middle term internal debt rose by more than $7,000 \mathrm{Mn}$. marks, while short-term internal debt rose by nearly $3,000 \mathrm{Mn}$. marks.

External trade in February closed with a passive balance of 37 Mn . marks. Imports rose by 16 Mn . marks as compared with the previous month, but exports fell by 30 Mn . marks. Exports of finished manufactures fell by 25 Mn . marks over the month and were 38 Mn . less than in February, 1937. For the whole of the Reich imports totalled 47 I Mn . marks in February and exports 4 II Mn. marks, so that there was a passive balance of 60 Mn . marks. Exports of machinery and electrical goods show a particularly large decline.

In order to meet the shortage of rolling stock on the State Railways a programme has been adopted by which 6,000 locomotives, 10,000 passenger carriages and II2,000 goods waggons are to be built in the next four years. Deliveries will begin in 1940. For this purpose a sum of $3,500 \mathrm{Mn}$. marks is to be expended. The provision of the raw materials and the labour necessary for this programme will present the Reich with some very difficult problems.

At the Leipzig Fair, which was held in March, a new artificial fibre made out of coal and lime, was exhibited by I.G. Farben industrie. The importance of this is due to the fact that the necessary sources of material lie within Germany and cause no need for foreign exchange.

The number of persons unemployed at the end of February totalled 196,000, 146,000 being males and 50,000 females. The total was 105,000 less than that of the end of January. The number of persons employed rose from $20,300,000$ to $20,500,000$ over the month. Altogether there are now only 42,000 people
unemployed who are fully capable of employment. In Austria the number of persons unemployed at the end of February was 121,000 as against 156,000 at the end of January. In the Sudetenland the number of unemployed was 138,000 , or 50,000 less than a month previously. In the whole of the Reich there was thus a total of 456,000 unemployed as against 647,000 at the end of January.

Already before the arrival of spring, with its normal increase in the demand for labour, the reserves of labour have been used up. The shortage continues to be most acute in the case of skilled labour, and great efforts are being made to find new sources. The most promising source for new labour is held to be provided by the craftsmen and independent workers, who are
declared to be superfluous. It is intended to reduce the number of independent bakers, butchers, cobblers and tailors, and to force many of them into industries producing for the State. The first decree with this intent was issued at the beginning of March, whereby such people are obliged to show that there is a need for their continued independence.

The output of coal is to be increased, and since this will accentuate the shortage of mineworkers, a decree was issued in March which permits the working period in mines to be lengthened. From April ist underground shifts are to be lengthened by three-quarters of an hour, subject to a maximum of $8_{4}^{3}$ hours. This measure is justified on grounds of defence and the need to carry out the Four-Year Plan.

## DENMARK.

## Information communicated by the Copenhagen Institute of Economics and History.

## March 27th, 1939.

UNTIL the autumn of 1938 Denmark benefited from the relatively favourable position which often falls to her lot at the beginning of a recession abroad: falling prices of imported raw materials, a steady level of exports, and consequently a steady market for domestic trade and industry, an improved balance of trade, and an improving exchange position.

In the last quarter of 1938 the course of development was, however, in several respects reversed. Imports were rather heavy, and our foreign balances were reduced by $20 \%$ from September to the end of the year. Import prices ceased to fall in August, and the prices of butter, bacon and eggs as well as the value of exports were lower during the last quarter of 1938 than in the corresponding period of the previous year. The question therefore presented itself whether the terms of trade were turning against Denmark and whether her exports had entered upon a declining spiral. As a rule, a fall in the prices of grain and feeding-stuffs leads, after a certain time lag, to a decline in prices of animal produce, and a further recession abroad would reduce the demand for our export commodities.

No greater danger seems imminent, however. In the first quarter of 1939 the price of butter has recovered relatively to the same period in 1938 owing to unfavourable weather conditions in Australia and New Zealand (and, perhaps, to reduced Danish exports). Bacon prices have been close to last year's level, and the quota of bacon exports to Great Britain has been increased twice since the beginning of the year. (The second time, however, Denmark was not able to supply the quantity needed to fill the increased quota.)

The adverse turn in the trade balance and the deterioration of the exchange position last autumn was caused mainly by increased imports of German goods. According to the DanishGerman trade agreement this would entitle us to larger exports to Germany in the first quarter of 1939, and the decline in our holdings of foreign exchange could, thus far, be relied upon to be temporary. The quota of exports to Germany has been fixed at about 88 Mn . kroner for the first quarter of 1938 as against 79 Mn . kroner in the corresponding quarter of last year and 82 Mn . kroner in the last quarter of 1938. (The increase of the amount in Danish kroner is a result partly of the depreciation of the krone vis-a-vis the mark last

autumn parallel with the pound.) The DanishGerman trade agreement was prolonged in November. It was stipulated that the total value of Danish exports to Germany in I939 should be the same as was agreed upon for 1938 (but not fully reached).

The foreign trade figures for the last two months are not yet available. In January the value of agricultural exports was slightly higher and that of total exports practically the same as last year. Imports, on the other hand, were down by about $10 \%$, mainly owing to smaller imports of grain (the good crops of 1938). The increase of imports during the autumn seems, in the main, to have been of a temporary character.

The index of industrial production has,
since October, been stable at the level of the peak of 1937. The textile and clothing industries have shown a rising tendency, whereas the production of cement, bricks, and glass has declined.

In building, a revival set in last autumn after a year of rather severe decline, and further improvement is likely to follow. On January 3Ist, 1939, the number of dwellings under construction was nearly $50 \%$ higher than last year.

The Nationalbank has supported the bond market by purchases in the open market, and in February it lowered its discount rate from $4 \%$ to $3 \frac{1}{2} \%$.

The number of unemployed is practically the same as in 1938.

## ROUMANIA

Information communicated by the Roumanian Association for the Study of Economic Conditions.

## ECONOMIC ACTIVITY IN ROUMANIA DURING FOURTH QUARTER, 1938.

$$
\text { March } 27 \text { th, } 1939 .
$$

## WHOLESALE COMMERCIAL TRANS-

 ACTIONS.-Whereas during the first three quarters of 1938, the total value of wholesale commercial transactions decreased persistently in comparison with the corresponding periods of 1937, there was an increase of $7.9 \%$ during the last quarter of the year. This recovery was due to an expansion of internal transactions, which increased by $21.5 \%$ in the fourth quarter of 1937, while external transactions remained $26.4 \%$ lower, during the same period. The increase of the value of internal transactions during the last quarter of 1938 may be explained by the rise in wholesale prices, but it is also to a certain extent due to an unusually large decrease which took place at the end of 1937, the period with which comparison is made, as a result of the political events at that time, which caused a noticeable drop in business.EXTERNAL COMMERCE.-The value of exports during the fourth quarter was $6,354 \mathrm{Mn}$. lei, in comparison with $8,658 \mathrm{Mn}$. during the corresponding period in 1937. The quantities of exported cereals were greater, in comparison with preceding years, during this period than during July-September, because of the recent
conclusion of commercial conventions with countries of strong currencies, England, Switzerland, Holland and Belgium (which were especially directed towards cereal exports) by means of the new price system of export-direct and monetary premiums.

The quantities exported from July-December, i.e., after the new harvest, were :-

| July-Dec. | July-Dec. <br> 1937 | 1938 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 00 tons |  |  |  |
| 6022 | $\cdots$ | 6831 |  |  |
| 1714 | $\cdots$ | 48 |  |  |
| 411 | $\cdots$ | 1755 |  |  |
| 1771 | $\cdots$ | 1177 |  |  |
| 439 | $\cdots$ | 482 |  |  |
| 540 | $\cdots$ | 474 |  |  |

During the same period the export of petroleum oil products was $8.2 \%$ lower than in the preceding year. Also timber and cattle exports decreased respectively by $11.7 \%$ and $13 \%$. The value of imports remained at a lower level than that of 1937 (by $28.7 \%$ ). The balance of trade, therefore, remained active at 2225 Mn . lei, ${ }^{\text {, }}$ in comparison with 2866 Mn . from OctoberDecember, 1937.

With regard to the direction of external commerce the share of Roumanian exports taken by countries with free currencies increased from $41.3 \%$ during October-December, 1937,

## Roumania]

$t_{0} 49.5 \%$ during 1938. At the same time, the share of exports taken by autarchic countries decreased from $44.6 \%$ to $34.9 \%$. On the other hand, the share of Roumanian imports derived from countries with free currencies remained stationary, at $34.8 \%$, because of the pressure exerted upon the national money.

During the first months of 1939 an increase in exports to autarchic countries is anticipated, as a result of the putting in force of the commercial agreement with Germany and Italy.

INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITY.-The manufactures index, during the fourth quarter of 1938, was $9 \%$ greater than during October-December, 1937. As in the preceding quarters, the output was sustained almost entirely by State orders.

The depression did not cease in the sections supplying export or private home markets.

During December, 1938, the daily output of crude oil reached 1,75I wagons, the lowest level registered since 1932. Timber production during this quarter was $4.4 \%$ lower than in the corresponding period of 1937. Textiles and paper also decreased by respectively $13.3 \%$ and $16.7 \%$. In general, the depression is more accentuated in the sphere of consumption goods.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC shows contrasting movements in home and foreign commerce. The number of truck-loads for abroad declined from 239,100 during 1937 to 230,800 in 1938 ; but the number of loaded truck loads for the

internal market increased during the same period, from 700,600 to 741,900 . The number of passengers on the railways in October and November was $15.7 \%$ higher than in the corresponding period of the preceding year.

PRICES.-The falling tendency of wholesale and retail prices first noticed during the second half of 1937, was checked during 1938, and in the third quarter of the year a recovery set in, especially in retail prices. The general index of wholesale prices (\% of 1929) rose from 77.2 in September to 80.5 in December, and that of cost of living (\% of 1929) from 74.4 to 75.5 during the same period. Real wages have been continually on the decrease since July, I937.

MONEY AND CREDIT.-At the end of the September crisis, capital began to flow back towards the banks and savings institutions, causing a reduced fiduciary circulation, from $35,700 \mathrm{Mn}$. lei at the end of September to $33,700 \mathrm{Mn}$. at the end of November. During December, however, the value of notes in circulation again reached $34,900 \mathrm{Mn}$. lei. Simultaneously with the expansion of the fiduciary circulation, the value of coin and deposits at the National Bank reached the highest level registered till now. For that reason, the total value of visible means of payment was 48,800 Mn . lei at the end of December, 1938, in comparison with $4 \mathrm{I}, 900 \mathrm{Mn}$. during the same period in 1937.

The increase in the means of payment was accompanied as much by increased advances by the National Bank to the market as by a perceptible increase of deposits and credit accounts at banks and savings-institutions. On 3Ist December, 1938, they reached 31,500 Mn. lei, the highest level registered since 1930. In general they are deposits "at sight" in safe banks.

As a result of the pressure exerted by the demand for imports and the withdrawal of

Jewish capital, not only from our country, but also from Hungary and Czechoslovakia, upon the proportion of full currencies, allowedby the new system of money regulations-to be negotiated nearly free by exporters, the rates for these negotiable "currencies" rose by about $30 \%$ from October until January, and the rates on the black exchange by about $90 \%$. This capital found a means of transfer owing to the relaxation of currency regulations in Roumania. The registered rise of currency rates have influenced the level of internal wholesale and retail prices perceptibly, and maintain its rising tendency.

The volume of new issues and capital increases reached I,33I Mn. lei during October-December, 1938, in comparison with $\mathrm{I}, 226 \mathrm{Mn}$. during the same period of 1937. As in preceding years, most of the issue is due to augmentation of the capital of existing companies ( $63.4 \%$ ).

BUDGET RECEIPTS.-Total budget receipts were 9470.6 Mn . lei, during the last quarter of 1938, $10.1 \%$ more than during OctoberDecember, 1937, whereas during the two preceding budgetary quarters there was an increase of $15 \%$. The revenue from indirect taxes was down in comparison with the preceding year (by $6.3 \%$ ). On the other hand, the revenue from direct taxes increased $(+55.8 \%)$. As a result, while the economic depression outweighed the effect of increased rates of indirect taxation, the yield of direct taxes was satisfactory.

CONCLUSION.-The slight rise in cereal exports, together with the intensification of activity in enterprises working for national defence, were the only upward forces. The stagnation in private initiative, the decrease in crude oil production, the depreciation in the national currency as well as the expenditure necessary for national defence, are hindrances to a recovery in business activity as long as world prices remain depressed.

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For particulars, apply to the Secretary, London E' Cambridge Economic Service, Houghton Street, Aldwych, W.C.2. Telephane: Holborn 9783-7.

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B. Board of Trade Index-Total excluding Foods, see Table p. 175, col. 5.
C. Value of Exported Manufactures ( $\star$ normal seasonal variation removed), see Table p. 179, col. 17.
D. Average of Bank Rate, Bankers' Deposit Rate, Day-to-Day Rate and Three Months' Bill Rate, see Table p. 173, cols. 5, 6.

# EVENTS OF THE MONTH 

March 23rd-April 22nd, I939.

Thurs.Mar. 23rd
Germany-
Rumania
Fri. „, 24th Germany
Tues. „, 28th U.K.
Fri. " " 3Ist International
Fri. April 7th Italy-Albania
Mon. „, 10th Brazil
Thurs. " 13th International
Fri. ", 14th America
Sat. " 15th International
Thurs. „, 20th U.S.A.
Fri. „ 2Ist France
Sat. „ 22nd New Zealand

Trade Agreement concluded providing for close economic cooperation between Germany and Rumania.
New financial plan announced, including payment of taxes in advance.
Government's plans for shipping announced. Include subsidy of $£ 2 \frac{3}{4} \mathrm{Mn}$. per annum for five years for tramps.

## Fall of Madrid.

British and French Governments announce guarantee to Poland against aggression.

## Italy invades Albania.

Relaxation of exchange restrictions decreed for commercial transactions.
British and French Governments announce guarantee to Greece and Rumania against aggression.
President Roosevelt pledges U.S. aid to other American states against outside economic pressure.
President Roosevelt appeals to German and Italian governments to pledge non-aggression.
Secretary for Agriculture announces wheat export subsidy programme to be continued during next season.
Stringent financial decrees issued, aiming at increase of revenue by 15 milliard francs.
Government announces severe reduction of imports for second half of year.

# THE GENERAL BUSINESS POSITION. 

UNITED KINGDOM.^

## April 20th, 1939.

The most striking feature of recent statistics is the improvement in employment in February and March, so that the number of insured persons employed in March was some $\mathrm{I} \frac{1}{2} \%$ greater than a year ago. The improvement since February is found in all districts and nearly every industry, and in trades influenced by the season it is greater than was to be anticipated. No doubt the growing expenditure by the Government is responsible, directly or indirectly, for a considerable part of the increase, since there are few signs of independent revival, except perhaps in cotton and wool. The available statistics generally, apart from those relating to employment, are imperfect in that they do not give sufficient weight to Government activity; for example, the returns for shipbuilding are exclusive of warships. It is certain that Government expenditure will increase further, and that it cannot fail to materialise in increased employment in the trades affected. It is doubtful how far this will be rendered difficult by a lack of specialised labour and how iar labour in the special areas can be mobilised for effective production. The alternative is the transfer
of labour from private enterprise by priority regulations or otherwise. The experience of recent years suggests that it is difficult, in the present regional and occupational distribution of labour, to reach a lower level of unemployment than $10 \%$ or about $1,400,000$ persons. This is rather more than 300,000 less than the present unemployment total. Since it is estimated that many more than these will be needed, transference from private enterprise or greater mobility of labour than has hitherto been possible will be necessary.

In any case we may anticipate a considerable, but not spectacular, diminution of unemployment in the next few months, greater than is usually found in the spring and early summer.

The external trade statistics for March indicate little change, but both imports of materials and exports as a whole are rather greater than in recent months. The adverse balance of trade (merchandise only) was $£_{109 \mathrm{Mn} \text {. in the first quarter of }}$ 1938, but only $£ 85 \mathrm{Mn}$. in that of 1939.

Wholesale sterling prices on the whole have been stabilised for several weeks at about the level of the autumn of 1936.

## FINANCE, TRADE \& INDUSTRY IN FIRST QUARTER, 1939, AND RECENT MOVEMENTS.

## FINANCE.-FIRST QUARTER, 1939.

DEVELOPMENTS in the financial position during the first quarter of 1939 were dominated by the international political situation. After declining early in the year, prices of all types of securities recovered in February and the first half of March, only to relapse shortly after the occupation of Czechoslovakia on March I5th. Long-term interest rates have risen to their highest point since June,

1932, and new capital issues, which in January and February were fairly well maintained, fell to a very low figure in March. Even short-term interest rates, after being at an extremely low level for many years, have recently risen quite appreciably, despite the fairly high level of the clearing banks' cash reserves and the unusually small amount of Treasury bills issued to the market. The falls in Treasury bills and in market. Tlearing bank Discounts and Deposits during the
quarter have been no more than seasonal ; the lower levels now existing are due to the absence of the normal seasonal rise in the last quarter of 1938 caused by the heavy withdrawals of foreign capital and sales of Exchange Account gold.

During the present year the Exchange Account's net sales of gold are not believed to have been heavy. Its gold holdings as at December 3Ist have been estimated at io Mn. or II Mn . ounces. Some 47 Mn . ounces of gold were transferred to the Account by the Bank of England in January, and about 750,000 ounces re-transferred to the Bank at the end of February. After allowing for probable net sales for the quarter, it seems likely that the Account's holdings at the end of March will prove to have been over 50 Mn . ounces, and perhaps not far below 55 Mn . ounces.

The renewed rise in Bank Advances, which increased more than seasonally during the first quarter, no doubt reflects the increased requirements of industry for financing rearmament.

Apart from the technical alterations necessitated by the transfer of part of the Bank of England's gold to the Exchange Account and the re-valuation of the remainder, the Bank of England's statements showed no important changes during the quarter. If anything, total deposits have been allowed to fall slightly, and as Government and Other Deposits have recently increased, Bankers' Deposits at the end of March were appreciably lower than a year before. In view of the increased demand for liquidity on the part both of the banks and of other institutions, some surprise has been expressed at the Bank of England's credit policy. In the light of the Government's need for heavy borrowing, whether on long or short term, to finance the increasing cost of re-armament, it would not be surprising to see the Bank take steps to expand the credit base in the near future. If so, the present level of short-term interest rates may prove to be temporary.

## FINANCE.-RECENT MOVEMENTS.

Bank of England.-During the four weeks ending April I2th the price of gold used by the Bank for valuation purposes rose by Id. to 148/6. The consequent increase of $£ 130,000$ in the Bank's gold was transferred to the Exchange Account ' in cash,' so that the value of the Bank's gold and the total of notes issued each rose by this amount, the former to $£ 226.16 \mathrm{Mn}$., and the latter to $£ 526.16 \mathrm{Mn}$. This small rise n notes issued was far outweighed by a seasonal rise of $£_{\mathrm{I} 2.4 \mathrm{Mn} \text {. in the note circulation, and }}$ the Note Reserve of the Banking Department
dropped by $£ 12.3 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 36.5 \mathrm{Mn}$. The effect of the fall in the Note Reserve on the total of Deposits was fully offset by rises of $£$ II.I Mn . in Government Securities to $£ 108.7 \mathrm{Mn}$. and of $£ 4.6 \mathrm{Mn}$. in Discounts to $£ 6.3 \mathrm{Mn}$. Total Deposits rose by $£ 3.8 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 156.3 \mathrm{Mn}$., but as Government Deposits rose by $£ 7.2 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 17.7 \mathrm{Mn}$., and Other Deposits by $£ 5.4 \mathrm{Mn}$ * to $£ 40.9 \mathrm{Mn}$., Bankers' Deposits fell from $£ 106.5 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 97.6 \mathrm{Mn}$. Some surprise has been expressed that the Bank of England should have refrained from offsetting, by purchases of securities, the accumulation of funds in Government and Other Deposits, and should have allowed the cash reserves of the clearing banks to be depleted at a moment when uncertainty about the international situation is tending to increase the demand for liquidity. There is little doubt that the recent rise in short-term interest rates would have been less marked if the cash reserves of the clearing banks had been maintained at the February level.

## Clearing Banks.-The fall in Bankers'

 Deposits at the Bank of England in the second half of March was reflected in a fall of about $£_{\mathrm{I} O}^{\mathrm{Mn}}$. in the cash reserves of nine London clearing banks to $£ 22$ I. 2 Mn . Of the other short-term assets, Call Money increased slightly to $£_{132.8} \mathrm{Mn}$., but Discounts fell by a further $£ 20 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 185.7 \mathrm{Mn}$., the lowest figure recorded since March, 1930. The fall in Discounts paralleled the decline in the monthly average of the total of Treasury bills issued by tender. The decline in Discounts since December is no more than seasonal ; the present abnormally low figure is due to the absence of the usual seasonal rise last autumn.Of the longer - term assets, Investments declined by a further $£ 5.7 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 567.3 \mathrm{Mn}$., but Advances showed almost their full seasonal increase with a rise of $£$ II. 4 Mn . to $£ 94 \mathrm{I} .4 \mathrm{Mn}$. Deposits fell by about the usual seasonal amount, from $£ 2,060 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 2,038 \mathrm{Mn}$. The ratio of Cash to Deposits fell from II. $2 \%$ to $10.8 \%$, and the combined ratio to Deposits of Cash, Call Money and Discounts fell to the new low level of $26.5 \%$. Despite the smallness of this figure and the still comparatively comfortable cash ratio, the banks during April are reported not to have been keen buyers of bills, and have thus helped to contribute to the rise in short-term interest rates.

Bank clearings showed no improvement in March. Town clearings were unchanged, Pro-

[^28]vincial clearings showed the usual seasonal decline, and Country clearings fell more than seasonally. Since in March last year Provincial clearings fell a good deal more than seasonally, the fall over twelve months is less at $2.1 \%$. Of the eleven centres six show declines over the year, of which only two, Hull and Liverpool, are substantial, while five show small increases, of which the largest are at Leeds and Bradford.

Security Prices.-A further sharp set-back has occurred in prices of all classes of securities. Our mid-month index of prices of industrial securities has fallen back to the January level, while our index of fixed interest securities has fallen by a further $5 \%$ to the lowest level recorded since June, 1932. Our crude index of foreign bond prices shows a further fall of about 10\% to the lowest figure since 1932 .

Short-term interest rates have shown a more marked tendency to rise than at the time of the crisis of last September, and the three months rate has risen from just over $\frac{1}{2} \%$ to over $1 \frac{1}{2} \%$, the highest rate since the spring of 1932. This rise is attributed not only to the increased demand for liquidity due to the international situation, but also to certain special factors, such as the reduced competition from foreign funds in London, the premium on the forward dollar, and the (no doubt temporary) sterilisation of funds in Government and Other Deposits at the Bank of England.

Capital Issues.-New capital issues on home account for March (as computed by the Midland Bank) were extremely small-the smallest for March for twenty years-and issues on overseas account were negligible.

Government Finance.-Revenue receipts during the last half of March were slightly better than anticipated, and the total collections for $1938-9$, at $£ 927.3 \mathrm{Mn}$., fell only $£ 17.4 \mathrm{Mn}$. short of the original estimates. Ordinary expenditure, at $£ 940 \mathrm{Mn}$., fell $£ 4.4 \mathrm{Mn}$. short of the original estimates, so that the realised deficit on ordinary account was $£_{12}$.7 Mn. The figure for expenditure includes an appropriation of $£ 13.2$ for Sinking Funds, but does not make provision for accrued interest on National Savings Certificates. Defence expenditure on Loan Account was $£_{128} \mathrm{Mn}$., or $£ 4 \mathrm{Mn}$. less than the revised estimate, making a total deficit of $£ 14 \mathrm{I} M \mathrm{Mn}$. For next year it has been announced that Defence expenditure on Loan Account is expected to reach $£ 350 \mathrm{Mn}$.

During the five weeks ending April 15th Ordinary Revenue totalled $£ 95.54 \mathrm{Mn}$., or $\oint 10.7 \mathrm{Mn}$. more than during the corresponding
weeks of last year. The chief increases were in receipts from Income Tax, N.D.C., and Customs Duties. Ordinary expenditure amounted to $£_{63 \text {.I }} \mathrm{Mn}$., or $£ 2 \mathrm{I} .5 \mathrm{Mn}$. more than last year, while expenditure out of Defence Loans was $€ 45.8 \mathrm{Mn}$., as compared with $£ 34 \mathrm{Mn}$. a year ago. Total expenditure for the period was therefore $£ 39.9 \mathrm{Mn}$. in excess of Ordinary Revenue, as compared with $\AA_{18} 8.5 \mathrm{Mn}$. last year.

The effect of the excess of expenditure is seen in a rise in the Floating Debt from $£ 900 \mathrm{Mn}$. on March iIth to £941 Mn. on April 15th. Ways and Means Advances fell by over $£_{1}$ Io Mn., and total Treasury Bills rose by nearly $£_{52} \mathrm{Mn}$. to nearly $£ 906 \mathrm{Mn}$. Of the increase, $£ 43 \mathrm{Mn}$. took place in bills issued by tender, which increased from $£ 351 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 394 \mathrm{Mn}$., and $£_{9} \mathrm{Mn}$. in 'tap ' bills, which rose to $£_{512} \mathrm{Mn}$. The rise in ' tap' bills is probably less than the Exchange Account's net sales of gold for the period, which are believed to have been of the order of $£ 25 \mathrm{Mn}$. The balance of the sterling proceeds of these gold sales has probably been used, partly to increase Government Deposits at the Bank of England, and partly to buy bills in the market, as was done last year.

Foreign Exchanges, etc.-Since the middle of March sterling has been rather weak in terms of dollars. The decline in the spot rate has been kept to very small dimensions by means of periodical support by the Exchange Account, but the three-months' premium on forward dollars has widened from $\mathrm{I}_{\frac{1}{4}} \mathrm{c}$. on March $\mathrm{I} 4^{\text {th }}$ to about ${ }_{23} \frac{3}{4}$., which is equivalent to an interest rate of over $2 \frac{1}{4} \%$ p.a. The widening of the forward premium on the dollar is believed to be one reason for the rise in short-term interest rates in London. Fluctuations in the sterling-franc rate have been extremely small.

Gold Movements.-The heavy exports of gold, which in the first half of March had shown signs of slackening, were resumed with increased intensity in the second half of the month, and the total for March reached the remarkable figure of $£ 68.3 \mathrm{Mn}$., of which $£ 65.5 \mathrm{Mn}$. went to U.S.A. Imports also showed some increase at $£_{12.8} \mathrm{Mn}$., of which $£ 5 \mathrm{Mn}$. came from Belgium and $£_{3} .6 \mathrm{Mn}$. from Russia.

During the first half of April the movement of gold continued on a very slightly smaller scale. Imports totalled $£ 21.7 \mathrm{Mn}$., of which $£_{19} \mathrm{Mn}$. came from Belgium, and exports $£^{28.6} \mathrm{Mn}$., almost all to U.S.A.

Only a relatively small proportion of the gold exports is believed to represent net sales of gold by the British Exchange Fund. The bulk of both imports and exports consists of gold

SUMMARY OF QUARTERLY STATISTICS.


* Mean weekly averages.
$\dagger$ Including sovereigns at their face value.
§ Subject to slight modifications in annual totals.

owned by private individuals and foreign central banks which, in view of the international situation, is being moved to places of greater safety.

The amount of gold held on ear-mark in South Africa (apparently for the British Exchange Account) is stated to have reached a total of $£ 43 \mathrm{Mn}$. Shipments of gold from South Africa to London are now being resumed.

## PRICES, WAGES, TRADE*, OUTPUT AND EMPLOYMENT. FIRST QUARTER, 1939.

PRICES AND WAGES.-During the first quarter of the year there was very little change in general indices of wholesale sterling prices. In December, 1938, the Board of Trade average monthly index stood at 98.3 (\% of 1930) and then fell by easy stages to 96.6 in March. The Statist index, which refers to the end of each month, was practically the same in March as in December, though it fell slightly in January and February. The Board of Trade index of cereal prices fell from 92.6 in December to 89.2 in March, that of meat, fish and egg prices from 87.6 to 83.8 . Apart from iron and steel, prices of which were cut by about $6 \%$ at the beginning of the year and then remained stable, there was little change recorded by industrial materials and manufactures.

Between March, 1938, and March, 1939, the Board of Trade general index fell by $7 \%$. The greater part of this decline was due to foodstuffs, principally cereals, and took place during the first half of this period. Thus for a considerable period prices have on the whole been exceptionally slow moving, with a slight downward tendency.

The retail food index and the Cost of Living Index fell during the quarter, but in neither case was the fall quite as great as the normal seasonal movement. At the end of March, 1939, each index was slightly lower than at the end of March, 1938.

There has been no important change in wages during the quarter. Our index of average weekly wage rates stood at 104 $\frac{1}{2}$ (\% of December, 1924) throughout the quarter. During the first quarter of 1938 it averaged between IO3 and IO4.

TRADE.-The value of retained imports of merchandise in the first quarter of 1939 was
 1938 and $£ 211.2 \mathrm{Mn}$. in 1937. The value of exports of British merchandise was $£$ II 19.1 Mn . as compared with $£ 120.9 \mathrm{Mn}$. in 1938 and $£_{121 . I} \mathrm{Mn}$. in 1937. The value of exports of

[^29]imported merchandise was $£ 14.3 \mathrm{Mn}$. as compared with $£ 15.8 \mathrm{Mn}$. in 1938 and $£ 18.8 \mathrm{Mn}$. in 1937.

During this quarter the balance of trade was considerably less adverse than in the corresponding period of 1938 , being $£ 85.2 \mathrm{Mn}$. as against $£ 108.6 \mathrm{Mn}$. The value of exports of coal and manufactures fell much less than that of imports of foodstuffs and materials. The data are not yet available to judge precisely how much of these changes in values has been due to price changes, but it is certain that the great decline in the prices of cereals and the lesser declines in the prices of other foods and of materials have had a heavier incidence on imports than on exports.

Among retained import values, the total for foodstuffs and tobacco declined by $5 \frac{1}{2} \%$ over the year, that for materials by $22 \frac{1}{2} \%$ and manufactures by $9 \%$. Among the sub-groups the following changes were noteworthy. Grain and flour ( $-26 \%$ ), iron ore and scrap ( $-72 \frac{1}{2} \%$ ), raw cotton ( $-27 \%$ ), raw wool ( $+12 \%$ ), iron and steel manufactures ( $-61 \%$ ). The decrease in grain and flour was entirely due to price, for the quantity of wheat imported rose by $\mathrm{I} 3 \frac{1}{2} \%$. The decrease in iron and steel manufactures and that in raw cotton was entirely due to quantity, while that in iron ore and scrap was about equally due to quantity and price. The increase in raw wool was entirely due to quantity. The value of imports of foodstuffs, other than grain and flour, was practically unchanged over the year in spite of a not inconsiderable fall in price.

Among export values materials were practically unchanged, while manufactures fell by about $2 \frac{1}{2} \%$. The main movements amongst materials were a fall of $4 \frac{1}{2} \%$ in coal and a rise of $I I \%$ in raw wool. Among manufactures the following were the principal changes. Iron and steel manufactures ( $-25 \frac{1}{2} \%$ ); non-ferrous manufactures ( $+12 \%$ ); machinery ( $-3 \frac{1}{2} \%$ ); vehicles $(+29 \%)$; cotton yarns (- II \%). The large increase in the value of vehicle exports was due mainly to ships and aircraft, for road vehicles showed a moderate decline. The increase in the exports of ships was mainly due to the sale of six warships early in the year.

The trade returns for the first quarter of the year are of special interest because they cover the first three months' operation of the Anglo-American Trade Agreement of 1938. Substantial increases are shown in exports to the United States of textiles, cutlery, hardware and earthenware. Exports of cotton piecegoods to the United States rose from $£ 150,000$ in the first quarter of 1938 to $£_{166,000}$ in 1939 ;

TABLE A. NET IMPORTS OF RAW MATERIALS (EXCLUDING RUBBER) AND CERTAIN PARTLY MANUFACTURED GOODS. DECLARED VALUES. $£ \mathrm{Mn}$.

|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { 1924. } \\ \text { Quarterly } \\ \text { Average. } \end{gathered}$ | 1936 <br> Quarters. <br> 2 |  |  |  | 1957 <br> Quarters <br> 3 |  |  | 4 | $\begin{gathered} 19: 8 \\ \text { Quarters. } \\ 2 \end{gathered}$ |  |  |  | 1999 Qtr. 1 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Pig iron, etc. ... | 1.8 | $\cdot 9$ | 9 | $1 \cdot 3$ | -9 | -9 | 1.4 | 27 | 2.8 | 3.4 | -9 | 6 | 5 |  |
| Copper, tin, lead, zinc . | $5 \cdot 4$ | 4.3 | $4 \cdot 0$ | 4.5 | 6.0 | 6.9 | 8.7 | $7 \cdot 9$ | 7.0 | 56 | 53 | $4 \cdot 9$ | $5 \cdot 1$ | $5 \cdot 3$ |
| Yarns ... ... | 1.8 | $\cdot 1$ | -1 | -2 | -2 | -2 | $\cdot 2$ | $\cdot 2$ | $\cdot 2$ | -1 | $\cdot 1$ | $\stackrel{2}{2}$ | -2 | $\cdot 2$ |
| Leather ... ... | $2 \cdot 9$ | 1.8 | $2 \cdot 1$ | $2 \cdot 1$ | $2 \cdot 1$ | 2.0 | $2 \cdot 2$ | $2 \cdot 2$ | $1 \cdot 7$ | 1.4 | 12 | $1 \cdot 3$ | $1 \cdot 3$ | 1.6 |
| Minerals (non-metals) | $1 \cdot 3$ | -9 | 1.0 | $1 \cdot 1$ | 11 | 1.0 | $1 \cdot 3$ | 1.4 | 13 | $1 \cdot 1$ | 12 | 1.0 | 10 | 1.0 |
| Iron Ore ... ... | $2 \cdot 1$ | $2 \cdot 2$ | $2 \cdot 4$ | $2 \cdot 0$ | $1 \cdot 8$ | 1.8 | 3.0 | $4 \cdot 1$ | $3 \cdot 7$ | $5 \cdot 1$ | $2 \cdot 8$ | 1.8 | $1 \cdot 1$ | 14. |
| Other Metals ... | 3.7 | 3.0 | $2 \cdot 7$ | 3.0 | $3 \cdot 2$ | 3.1 | $5 \cdot 4$ | $4 \cdot 7$ | 51 | 42 | 4.0 | 3.5 | 3.6 | 38 |
| Wood... | $12 \cdot 6$ | $5 \cdot 7$ | $8 \cdot 5$ | 15.6 | $13 \cdot 4$ | $7 \cdot 5$ | $12 \cdot 1$ | 23.3 | 186 | 76 | 9.0 | 13.9 | $12 \cdot 1$ | 6.4 |
| Oil Seeds, \&c. | $12 \cdot 1$ | $7 \cdot 4$ | 75 | 6.2 | 6.9 | $9 \cdot 2$ | $9 \cdot 3$ | $7 \cdot 9$ | 8.2 | 88 | 8.4 | $7 \cdot 1$ | $5 \cdot 8$ | 7.0 |
| Hides ... ... | 2.0 | $2 \cdot 3$ | $2 \cdot 1$ | $2 \cdot 7$ | $3 \cdot 1$ | $2 \cdot 7$ | 27 | $4 \cdot 3$ | 39 | $3 \cdot 8$ | $\cdot 9$ | 1.4 | 26 | 27 |
| Paper Materials | $2 \cdot 9$ | $2 \cdot 6$ | $2 \cdot 9$ | 3.0 | $3 \cdot 3$ | $2 \cdot 9$ | 3.8 | 4.1 | $5 \cdot 2$ | $4 \cdot 7$ | 3.8 | 35 | $4 \cdot 1$ | $3 \cdot 3$ |
| Silk ... ... | - 4 | 6 | 4 | -4 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | -5 | 3 | 4 | 4 |
| Other Textiles (except Cotton and Wool) | 3.4 | 35 | 2.0 | 1.9 | $3 \cdot 3$ | 4.6 | $2 \cdot 8$ | 1.8 | $2 \cdot 7$ | 38 | $2 \cdot 2$ | 1.8 | 31 | 3.5 |
| Cotton ... ... .. | $27 \cdot 5$ | 102 | $9 \cdot 8$ | $9 \cdot 8$ | 14.9 | 13.9 | $11 \cdot 3$ | $7 \cdot 1$ | $14 \cdot 3$ | $9 \cdot 7$ | 58 | 62 | 66 | 62 |
| Wool ... | $10 \cdot 9$ | 110 | 9.6 | $3 \cdot 5$ | 86 | $12 \cdot 2$ | 12.4 | $5 \cdot 8$ | $7 \cdot 4$ | 91 | $9 \cdot 9$ | 4.5 | 6.7 | 11.0 |
| Total, both groups and miscellaneous | $92 \cdot 8$ | 58.7 | $57 \cdot 6$ | 59.9 | $71 \cdot 1$ | $71 \cdot 7$ | $78 \cdot 9$ | 81.5 | 856 | 71.6 | 51.4 | 54.9 | 56.7 | $56 \cdot 7$ |
| Total, exol, ootton and wool | 54.4 | $37 \cdot 5$ | 38.2 | 46.8 | 47.6 | 45.6 | $55 \cdot 2$ | 68.6 | 639 | $52 \cdot 8$ | 417 | 44.2 | 43.4 | $39 \cdot 5$ |

TABLE B. EXPORTED MANUFACTURES—DECLARED VALUES. $£ \mathrm{Mn}$.

|  |  | $\begin{gathered} 1924 \\ \text { Qrly. } \\ \text { Av. } \end{gathered}$ | 1 |  | 6 ers. 3 | 4 | 1 |  | $7 \text { ers. }$ | 4 | 1 | Qua | . 3 | 4 | $\begin{gathered} 1939 \\ Q \operatorname{tr} . \\ 1 \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Coke |  | 1.6 | -8 | $\cdot 5$ | 8 | $\cdot 9$ | $\cdot 9$ | 10 | 13 | 11 | 10 | - 4 | - 8 | $1 \cdot 1$ | '9 |
| Earthenware |  | $3 \cdot 2$ | 2.0 | $2 \cdot 1$ | $2 \cdot 3$ | $2 \cdot 3$ | $2 \cdot 2$ | 2.6 | 2.6 | $2 \cdot 7$ | $2 \cdot 3$ | 2.5 | 2.4 | $2 \cdot 5$ | $2 \cdot 2$ |
| Iron \& Steel |  | 18.5 | $8 \cdot 2$ | 8.9 | $9 \cdot 1$ | $9 \cdot 9$ | $10 \cdot 6$ | 12.6 | $12 \cdot 3$ | $12 \cdot 9$ | 11.6 | 10.7 | $9 \cdot 0$ | 10.4 | $8 \cdot 6$ |
| Other Metals |  | 3.9 | $3 \cdot 3$ | $2 \cdot 9$ | 3.0 | 3.0 | $3 \cdot 7$ | $3 \cdot 8$ | 3.9 | $4 \cdot 3$ | $3 \cdot 1$ | 3.0 | $2 \cdot 8$ | 3.4 | $3 \cdot 7$ |
| Cutlery |  | $2 \cdot 2$ | 1.9 | $1 \cdot 9$ | $2 \cdot 1$ | $2 \cdot 2$ | $2 \cdot 1$ | $2 \cdot 5$ | 2.6 | 26 | $2 \cdot 3$ | $2 \cdot 2$ | $2 \cdot 2$ | 23 | $2 \cdot 2$ |
| Electrioal Goods... |  | 2.7 | $2 \cdot 3$ | $2 \cdot 4$ | $2 \cdot 5$ | 2.9 | 2.6 | 3.2 | 32 | 3.5 | 3.6 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 35 | 32 |
| Machinery ... |  | $11 \cdot 2$ | 101 | 9.8 | 10.4 | 10.9 | 10.9 | 12.1 | $12 \cdot 4$ | 14.4 | $14 \cdot 7$ | 14.5 | 13.8 | 15.0 | 14.2 |
| Wood . |  | . 5 | . 3 | - 3 | . 3 | . 3 | . 3 | . 3 | . 3 | 14 | ${ }^{14} 3$ | - 3 | . 3 | . 3 | 3 |
| Cotton |  | 49.8 | 15.7 | $13 \cdot 9$ | $15 \cdot 7$ | $16 \cdot 3$ | 16.7 | 17.6 | 18.0 | 16.2 | $14 \cdot 1$ | 11.7 | 11.8 | $12 \cdot 1$ | 12.6 |
| Wool |  | $17 \cdot 0$ | 8.6 | 6.7 | $9 \cdot 1$ | 7.9 | $9 \cdot 4$ | 8.3 | 10.0 | 7.9 | 8.0 | $5 \cdot 3$ | 7.2 | 6.3 | 7.9 |
| Silk |  | . 5 | $\cdot 3$ | - 3 | 3 | - 4 | $\cdot 3$ | . 4 | . 4 | - 4 | $\cdot 4$ | - 3 | -3 | -3 | 3 3 |
| Other Textiles ... |  | 6.9 | $4 \cdot 3$ | $4 \cdot 0$ | $4 \cdot 4$ | 4.6 | $4 \cdot 9$ | $5 \cdot 4$ | $5 \cdot 3$ | $4 \cdot 8$ | $4 \cdot 1$ | 3.6 | 3.5 | 3.7 | 3.9 2.9 |
| Apparel \& Footwear | ... | $7 \cdot 5$ | 3.1 | $2 \cdot 4$ | $3 \cdot 3$ | 3.0 | 3.2 | 2.7 | 3.5 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 2.0 | 2.8 | $2 \cdot 6$ | 2.9 |
| Chemicals... | ... | 6.4 | $5 \cdot 2$ | $5 \cdot 1$ | $5 \cdot 2$ | $5 \cdot 7$ | 6.0 | 6.6 | $6 \cdot 1$ | 6.0 | $5 \cdot 6$ | $5 \cdot 4$ | $5 \cdot 1$ | 6.6 | 5.5 |
| Leather | $\ldots$ | $2 \cdot 2$ | $1 \cdot 2$ | $1 \cdot 2$ | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.6 | $1 \cdot 3$ | 1.4 | $1 \cdot 3$ | $1 \cdot 3$ | $1 \cdot 3$ | $1 \cdot 2$ |
| Leather | $\ldots$ | 1.8 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.2 | $1 \cdot 3$ | 1.5 | $1 \cdot 3$ | $1 \cdot 3$ | $\cdot 9$ | -9 | 1.0 | $1 \cdot 1$ | 1.1 |
| Vehicles* ... |  | 6.7 | 7.1 | 7.9 | 8.3 | $1 \cdot 9$ | 1.7 8.7 | 2.0 9.8 | 2.1 10.2 | $2 \cdot 2$ $11 \cdot 3$ | 18 105 | 11.6 | 11.3 | 11.6 | 13.5 |
| Rubber $\dagger$. |  | 1.5 | , | ${ }^{4}$ | . 4 | . 4 | 8 | -5 | - 4 | 11.4 | $\begin{array}{r}10.4 \\ \hline\end{array}$ | - 5 | +4 | - 4 | . 4 |
| Total, including Miscellaneous |  | 154.7 | $82 \cdot 8$ | $79 \cdot 1$ | 87*7 | $91 \cdot 3$ | 93.8 | $101 \cdot 3$ | $105 \cdot 3$ | 1045 | 95.8 | 877 | 880 | 939 | 93•5 |

* Including rubber tyres after 1924.
† Excluding rubber tyres after 1924.
woollen and worsted manufactures from $£ 312,000$ to $£ 513,000$; linen piece-goods from $£ 224,000$ to $£ 324,000$; jute piece-goods from $£ 98,000$ to $£_{1} 171,000$; cutlery and hardware from $£_{6} 50,000$ to $£ 67,000$; earthenware from $£ 57,000$ to £66,000.

The Chamber of Shipping index of tramp shipping freights fell moderately during the quarter. In December, 1938, it stood at I24.I (\% of 1935), in March, I939, at II7.5. The index is still above the 1936 average, though slightly below the 1938 average and far below the 1937 average.

PRODUCTION.-The output of coal in the first quarter of the year was considerably less than in 1938 and almost exactly the same as in 1937. The output of iron and steel recovered from the low level of the fourth quarter of 1938. In December, 1938 (calendar month), the output of steel was 656,000 tons. In March, 1939, it was $1,171,000$ tons, this figure being very nearly equal to the highest monthly production ever recorded. The output of pig iron rose from 446,000 tons in December to 604,000 tons in March, the latter figure being about 100,000 tons below the peak levels of the end of I937. The output of electricity has been very well maintained, so that in spite of normal seasonal movement the total output was rather more in the first quarter of 1939 than in the fourth quarter of 1938 and very considerably more than in the first quarter of 1938. The highest monthly output ever recorded was shown in January. The tonnage of merchant shipping commenced, 71,000 tons, was less than that of any quarter since the third quarter of 1933. It compares with 173,000 tons in the first quarter of 1938 and a quarterly average of 264,000 tons in 1937 when shipbuilding reached its peak of activity. However, there is considerable activity in naval shipbuilding, and the net decline over the year is probably of moderate dimensions, for unemployment in the industry has not increased substantially. The tonnage under construction at the end of March was 597,000 tons. This was 193,000 tons less than at the end of December, 1938, and 492,000 tons less than at the end of March, 1938.

Our index of industrial production for the first quarter of the year shows a rise of more than $2 \%$ over the level of the preceding quarter, in spite of the fact that normal seasonal influences favour the fourth quarter as against the first. The index is still about $10 \%$ below the level of the corresponding quarter of 1938, but it was then not far short of the peak established in 1937. The improvement over the preceding
quarter was principally due to coal and iron and steel. There was little change in other important groups.

The total value of building plans approved during the quarter was about $5 \%$ less than in the corresponding period of 1938 . This was entirely due to plans for dwelling houses, which fell by about $1 \mathrm{I} \frac{1}{2} \%$, whereas plans for other buildings increased by about $6 \%$.

| VALUE OF BUILDING | PLANS | APPROVEI, | \&MN. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Houses | Other | Total |  |
| 1938-1st Quarter | $\ldots$ | $15 \cdot 6$ | 9.6 | $25 \cdot 2$ |
| 1939-1st Quarter | $\ldots$ | 13.8 | 10.1 | 23.9 |

The March constituents of the above figures are defective owing to the omission of a small number of districts. The London County area is omitted throughout. The January figures were very low, probably owing to apprehensions concerning the international situation, but the February and March totals were both above those of the previous year.

EMPLOYMENT.-The estimated number of insured persons in employment (excluding persons under sixteen years of age) rose from 12,263,000 on December 12th, 1938, to 12,403,000 on March I3th, 1939. There was a considerable fall in January, mainly or possibly entirely due to seasonal influences, but in February and March there was a very sharp recovery. This was substantially larger than the improvement that normally occurs after January, and all but a very few industries shared in it. The number employed on March 13th was estimated to be about 180,000 more than on the corresponding date in the previous year.

The number of unemployed persons on the registers of employment exchanges in Great Britain was also favourably affected during this period, and the unemployment percentage fell from I2.9 in December, 1938, to 12.3 in March, 1939.

## PRICES, WAGES, TRADE \& EMPLOYMENT. RECENT MOVEMENTS.

PRICES AND WAGES.-There has been very little movement of wholesale sterling prices during the past six weeks or longer. The Statist shows some increase in the prices of meat during March, while the Board of Trade gives a further decline. Otherwise the indexnumbers agree in indicating a generally stationary position, about $6 \%$ or $7 \%$ lower than a year ago.

Retail food and the Cost of Living indexnumbers were the same in March as in February, and very little lower than a year ago. Usually there is a fall during March, the only exception in recent years being in 1937.

During recent weeks there was no change in wage-rates that affects our index-number.

TRADE AND OUTPUT. - Imports increased in March, more than the normal seasonal change accounts for, in food, in materials and in manufactures. The total value of imports was about $8 \%$ lower than a year ago, the fall being nearly the same as in wholesale prices. But whereas the quantity of food was greater than a year ago, that of materials was less, owing partly to a reduction in the importation of iron ore and of cotton. Among manufactures imports of iron and steel were lower than a year ago, but the total quantity of all manufactures was nearly the same.


Under Manufactures, A includes commodities used in further manufacture and transport; 'Other' contains leather, paper and motor accessories. B includes all other manufactures.

The value of exports, when corrected for season, was nearly the same as in February and a little higher than the two previous months. When allowance is made for some fall in prices, the total quantity appears to be about the same as in March, 1938, and there was little change in the main groups. The statistics for March do not differ significantly in the total or in detail from those for February.

The output of steel in March ${ }^{\star}$ again increased, to within $5 \%$ of the record of September, 1937; that of pig-iron also increased. The output of coal was nearly the same as in February.

[^30]EXPORIS OF BRITISH PRODUCE. £Mn.

|  | Jan. | ${ }_{\text {Feb }}^{1938}$ | Mar. | Jan. | 1939 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Beverages* ... | $1 \cdot 3$ | 1.2 | 0.9 | ${ }_{1} \mathrm{Jan}$. | Feb. | Mar |
| Tobacco | $0 \cdot 4$ | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 |
| Food ... | 1.3 | 1.2 | 1.5 | 1.4 | 1.2 | 1.5 |
| Total | 3.0 | 2.8 | $2 \cdot 8$ | 3.1 | $2 \cdot 5$ | $3 \cdot 1$ |
| Materials- |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Coal | 30 | 2.7 | $3 \cdot 1$ | 2.9 | 26 |  |
| Wool | 0.5 | $0 \cdot 4$ | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.6 |
| Oils and fats | 0.2 | $0 \cdot 3$ | $0 \cdot 3$ | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Other | 1.0 | 0.8 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | $1 \cdot 1$ |
| Total | 4.7 | 4.2 | 4.9 | 4.7 | $4 \cdot 3$ | $4 \cdot 8$ |
| Manufactures- |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Non-ferrous metals | 11 | 09 | 11 | $1 \cdot 3$ | 1.2 | $1 \cdot 3$ |
| Iron, steel, machinery | $10 \cdot 9$ | 9.9 | $11 \cdot 3$ | 8.9 |  |  |
| Vehicles | $3 \cdot 3$ | 3.2 | $4 \cdot 1$ | $4 \cdot 6$ | $5 \cdot 2$ | 3.7 |
| Cotton | 4.9 | $4 \cdot 3$ | 4.9 | $4 \cdot 1$ | 3.8 | $4 \cdot 6$ |
| Wool | 2.8 | $2 \cdot 6$ | $2 \cdot 5$ | $2 \cdot 6$ | 26 | $2 \cdot 7$ |
| Other textiles and apparel... | 2.5 | $2 \cdot 3$ | 2.6 | $2 \cdot 3$ |  |  |
| Chemicals | 1.9 | 1.7 | 2.0 | $1 \cdot 8$ | 1.7 | 2.1 |
| Other | $5 \cdot 2$ | $4 \cdot 8$ | 5.0 | 4.8 | 4.7 | $5 \cdot 5$ |
| Total | $32 \cdot 6$ | 29.7 | 33.5 | $30 \cdot 4$ | $30 \cdot 4$ | 32.7 |
| Total exports of |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| British Produce | 41.2 | 37.6 | 42.2 | 39.5 | $38 \cdot 1$ | $41 \cdot 6$ |

The estimated cost of buildings for which plans were approved in March was greater than in March, 1938 ; there was a slight decrease for houses and increases for factories and public buildings.

UNEMPLOYMENT.-There was a general improvement in employment from February to March, so that the percentage unemployed (at the middle of the month) fell from 13.4 to 12.3 . In March last year it was 12.7, as compared with I3.I in February.

The decrease from February to March is greater than the usual seasonal change. Improvement took place in the great majority of industries, many of which are not affected by the season, nor directly by the rearmament programme.

INSURED MALES UNEMPLOYED.
Excluding Building, Public Works andAgriculture. ( 000 's.)


Over twelve months there has been a good deal of variation, as indicated by the following table. Unemployment in the Textile Industries has diminished considerably, while that in

Shipbuilding has increased. In most of the other groups the change has been small.


(Continued)-

In consequence of the growth of the insured population it is computed that the number of insured persons (aged 16-64) at work (excluding agriculture) increased from II,399,000 in March, I938, to II,586,000 in March, 1939.

INSURED PERSONS UNEMPLOYED. UNITED KINGDOM. ooo's.
Males and Females. Aged 16-65. Excluding Agriculture.
A. Wholly Unemployed.
B. Temporarily Stopped.


## UNEMPLOYMENT BY DISTRICTS

PERCENTAGE OF INSURED PERSONS UNEMPLOYED.-GREAT BRITAIN AND N. IRELAND.

|  | E゙ँ O H |  | ¢ |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { d } \\ & \text { 4 } \\ & \text { 4 } \\ & \text { z } \end{aligned}$ | 先 |  | - |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1938 Mar. 14 | $12 \cdot 7$ | $13 \cdot 1$ | 11.8 | 8.2 | $8 \cdot 3$ | 8.5 | 9.6 | 13.0 | $17 \cdot 6$ | $17 \cdot 1$ | 16.6 | 24.4 | 29.4 29.4 | 1.7 1.6 |
| Apr. 4 | 12.7 | 13.1 | 11.6 | $7 \cdot 8$ | $7 \cdot 7$ | $8 \cdot 1$ | $10 \cdot 0$ | $12 \cdot 9$ | $17 \cdot 7$ | 17.0 | 16.8 | $25 \cdot 9$ | 29.4 | 1.6 |
| May 16 | 12.8 | $13 \cdot 3$ | 11.7 | 7.7 | $7 \cdot 2$ | $7 \cdot 6$ | 10.2 | $13 \cdot 7$ | $18 \cdot 5$ | 17.3 | 16.3 | 5 9 | 28.5 28.7 | 1.6 |
| June 13 | 13.2 | 13.6 | 11.9 | $7 \cdot 7$ | 6.9 | $7 \cdot 6$ | $11 \cdot 1$ | 14.0 | $20 \cdot 1$ | 18.5 | 15.8 16.6 | 24.7 | 33.0 | 1.5 |
| July $\{$ | (a) 13.1 | (a) 13.7 | (a) 11.5 | $7 \cdot 6$ | 6.7 | 7.2 | 11.6 | 14.8 | $17 \cdot 7$ | 197 | 16 | 24 | , | - |
| 18 ? | (b) 12.9 | (b) $13 \cdot 6$ | (b) 11.2 | - | - | 6.9 | - 11.7 | $14 \cdot 6$ | $\overline{18.2}$ | $\overline{19} \cdot 2$ | $15 \cdot 5$ | 24.2 | $27 \cdot 7$ | 1.6 |
| Aug. 15 | 12.6 | $13 \cdot 2$ | 11.2 | 7.4 | 6.8 7.2 | 6.9 7.4 | 11.7 11.0 | 14.6 14.7 | 18.2 19.0 | 18.7 | 16.2 | 24.8 | 26.7 | 16 |
| Sept. 12 | 12.8 | 13.5 | 11.0 | (a)7*6 | $7 \cdot 2$ | $7 \cdot 4$ | 11.0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Oct. 17 | $12 \cdot 7$ | $13 \cdot 5$ | $10 \cdot 8$ | (b) $8 \cdot 3$ | 8.4 | 8.5 | 10.0 | 13.0 | $17 \cdot 1$ | 19.0 | 15.6 | 23.6 24.9 | 25.8 26.0 | 1.7 1.8 |
| Nov. 14 | 13.0 | 13.9 | 10.7 | - 8.6 | 9.0 | $8 \cdot 8$ | $9 \cdot 8$ | $13 \cdot 1$ | $17 \cdot 2$ | $19 \cdot 3$ | 16.2 16.7 | $25 \cdot 3$ | 25.1 | 1.9 |
| 1939 Dec. 12 | 12.9 | 14.0 | $10 \cdot 2$ | 8.5 | $9 \cdot 3$ | 8.6 | 9.4 10.5 | $12 \cdot 8$ | 16.9 18.3 | 19.4 21.2 | 18.4 | $25 \cdot 7$ | 28.2 | 2.0 |
| 1939 Jan. 16 | 14.3 13.4 | $15 \cdot 3$ $14 \cdot 3$ | 11.6 | 9.6 $9 \cdot 1$ | $11 \cdot 1$ $10 \cdot 1$ | 96 9.0 | 10.5 9.5 | 14.7 13.1 | $18 \cdot 3$ 17.2 | 20.1 | $17 \cdot 1$ | 25.9 | $25 \cdot 9$ 26.3 | 1.9 1.9 |
| Mar. 13 | $12 \cdot 3$ | 13.1 | 10.2 | $8 \cdot 3$ | 8.6 | $7 \cdot 9$ | 8.5 | 12.0 | 16.1 | 19.0 | 16.2 | $23^{\circ}$ |  |  |

a) Old series
(b) New series including certain domestic workers

Regional Percentages prior to October, 1938, based upon numbers insured in July, 1937 ; subsequently upon numbers insured in July, 1938 ,

## STOCKS OF STAPLE COMMODITIES.

Table supplementary to the summary table, p. 2, Special Mem. 32.

| Beginning of |  | (1) <br> American Cotton. <br> 1,000 bales | (2) Tin. <br> 1,000 <br> tons. | (3) Copper.$\begin{aligned} & 1,000 \\ & \text { tons. } \end{aligned}$ | (4) <br> Lead. <br> 1,000 tons. |  | (5) Spelter. <br> 1,000 tons. | (6) <br> Rubber $\begin{aligned} & 1,000 \\ & \text { tons. } \end{aligned}$ | (7) <br> Sukar. <br> 1,000 <br> tons | (8) <br> T'es. <br> Mn lbs | (9) Coffee. Mn. bags. |  | (10) Wheat. <br> Mn . bushels. | (11) <br> Petroleum <br> Mn. barrels. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | U.S. |  |  | U.K. | A |  |  |  |  | B |  |  |
| 1935 | Jan. |  | 9,070 | $15 \cdot 5$ | $524 \cdot 1$ | 2098 | 19.4 | 118 | 679 | 7,887 | 279 | 6.6 | * | 448 | 565 |
|  | April... | 8,581 | $19 \cdot 2 \mid$ | $520 \cdot 4$ | 203.2 | $18 \cdot 9$ | 110 | 653 | 8,058 | 267 | 6.9 | 19.0 | 411 | 570 |
|  | July ... | 8,413 | 14.4 | 517.7 | $206 \cdot 3$ | $1 / 1$ | 111 | 648 | 6,170 | 225 | 7.5 | $15 \cdot 5$ | 313 | 566 |
|  | Oct. ... | 8,141 | 11.5 | 4746 | 200.6 | $9 \cdot 3$ | 104 | 641 | 4,688 | 216 | 7.6 | * | 367 | 547 |
| 1936 | Jan. ... | 7,488 | 13.5 | $433 \cdot 2$ | 198.5 | $7 \cdot 0$ | 83 | 576 | 6,237 | 247 | 7.8 | $22 \cdot 1$ | 397 | 542 |
|  | April... | 6,768 | 16.5 | 431.5 | 199.5 | $6 \cdot 3$ | 80 | 539 | 6,671 | 232 | 8.2 | $22 \cdot 2$ | 349 | 551 |
|  | July ... | 6,384 | $15 \cdot 0$ | 409.8 | $205 \cdot 8$ | 6.7 | 88 | 491 | 4,990 | 199 | $8 \cdot 1$ | $20 \cdot 8$ | 221 | 546 |
|  | Oct. ... | 6,508 | $15 \cdot 1$ | 339.2 | 179.0 | $7 \cdot 1$ | 82 | 457 | 2,983 | 201 | $7 \cdot 8$ | * | 282 | 528 |
| 1937 | Jan. | 6,044 | $21 \cdot 8$ | $315 \cdot 3$ | 153.9 | $6 \cdot 1$ | 57 | 430 | 5,389 | 215 | 7.9 | * | 267 | 521 |
|  | April.. | 5,745 | 22.0 | $275 \cdot 3$ | $122 \cdot 5$ | $7 \cdot 1$ | 34 | 416 | 6,026 | 161 | $8 \cdot 1$ | 26.2 | 255 | 511 |
|  | July ... | 5,345 | 21.1 | 268.2 | 101.2 | $6 \cdot 3$ | 32 | 387 | 4,388 | 125 | 7.9 | $22 \cdot 6$ | 129 | 554 |
|  | Oct. | 6,652 | 20.9 | 307.8 | 81.0 | $7 \cdot 9$ | 33 | 428 | 2,816 | 130 | $7 \cdot 4$ | $22 \cdot 4$ | 253 | 561 |
|  | Nov. . | 7,073 | 20.8 | $341 \cdot 3$ | $89 \cdot 8$ | $7 \cdot 8$ | 44 | 431 | 4,002 | 146 | 7.5 | \# | 245 | 563 |
|  | Dec. . | 7,878 | $21 \cdot 9$ | $369 \cdot 3$ | 101.4 | $7 \cdot 1$ | 59 | 446 | 5,981 | 177 | $7 \cdot 1$ | \# | 249 | 565 |
| 1938 | Jan. ... | 8,183 | $24 \cdot 1$ | $412 \cdot 3$ | 115.3 | $7 \cdot 0$ | 79 | 502 | 6,067 | 198 | 70 | $28 \cdot 1$ | 284 | 575 |
|  | Feb. ... | 8,610 | $23 \cdot 1$ | 451.8 | $119 \cdot 3$ | $8 \cdot 2$ | 99 | 500 | 5,821 | 204 | 71 |  | 275 | 583 |
|  | March | 9,361 | $21 \cdot 1$ | $473 \cdot 1$ | $123 \cdot 3$ | $9 \cdot 0$ | 117 | 522 | 6,309 | 197 | $7 \cdot 4$ |  | 255 | 588 |
|  | April... | 9,839 | 24.6 | 482.4 | $128 \cdot 1$ | 12.0 | 125 | 537 | 6,889 | 167 | $7 \cdot 4$ |  | 229 | 592 |
|  | May ... | 10,543 | $25 \cdot 3$ | 492.5 | $139 \cdot 7$ | 12.0 | 142 | 540 | 6,521 | 144 | 7.5 |  | 197 | 590 |
|  | June. | 11,280 | $23 \cdot 7$ | 495.0 | 146.4 | 11.2 | 154 | 522 | 5,955 | 138 | $7 \cdot 4$ |  | 158 | 584 |
|  | July ... | 12,059 | $24 \cdot 3$ | 492.4 | 1458 | 9.4 | 157 | 525 | 5,255 | 141 | 7.2 |  | 140 | 584 |
|  | Aug.... | 12,808 | 25.0 | 481.2 | $137 \cdot 7$ | $9 \cdot 0$ | 155 | 532 | 4,713 | 141 | $7 \cdot 0$ |  | 198 | 578 |
|  | Sept.... | 13,056 | $25 \cdot 7$ | $441 \cdot 5$ | 125.6 | 8.8 | 153 | 520 | 4,226 | 157 | $7 \cdot 3$ |  | 264 | 576 |
|  | Oct. . | 13,222 | 26.7 | 408.4 | $117 \cdot 3$ | $9 \cdot 3$ | 142 | 508 | 3,601 | 169 | $7 \cdot 6$ |  | 333 | 570 |
|  | Nov. ... | 13,289 | 27.2 | 379-2 | 104.9 | $9 \cdot 7$ | 143 | 498 | 4,129 | 186 | 7.5 |  | 364 | 583 |
|  | Dec. | 13,277 | 27.0 | 379•1 | $102 \cdot 9$ | 95 | 132 | 470 | 5,958 | 208 | 7.4 |  | 377 | 554 |
| 1939 | Jan.... | 13,230 | $27 \cdot 8$ | 408.2 | 1029 | $11 \cdot 0$ | 138 | 441 | 6,064 | 221 | $7 \cdot 4$ |  | 430 | 554 |
|  | Feb. ... | 13,326 | $30 \cdot 9$ | 428.6 | 104.6 | 129 | 139 | 456 | 5,819 | 231 | 7.9 |  | 417 |  |
|  | March | 13,423 | $32 \cdot 1$ | $440 \cdot 3$ | 109.0 | $14^{\circ} 0$ | 139 | 443 |  | 215 | 7.8 |  | 389 |  |
|  | April... | 13,329 $\dagger$ | 31.1 | 452.1 |  | 13.5 | 139 |  |  | 187 | 7.8 |  |  |  |

$\dagger$ Preliminary figure.
\|April, 1935, onwards includes whole buffer stock.

* Not available.
(I) Total supply seasonally corrected, exclusive of European and Asiatic mill stocks.
(2) Visible Supply plus estimate of Straits stocks
(3) Total world stocks of refined copper only
N.B.-This is not the same series as that discontinued since Oct., 1931
(4) U.K. stocks in official warehouses

5) Visible supply in U.K and U. S
(6) Crude rubber stocks (outside regulated areas) in U.K., U.S.A., Singapore, Penang, Para and Manaos plus estimated afloat as published by the International Rubber Regulation Committee.
(7) Total visible supply
(8) Tea Brokers' Association, London stocks.
(9) (A) Visible supply. (B) Interior Brazil stock and San Paulo Pledged stock. Figures supplied by Messrs. Duuring \& Zoon.
6) Stanford Wheat Studies Estimates of World's Visible Supply.
(iI) Total crude petroleum, natural gasolene (ex at plants), refined products.

IRON AND STEEL STATISTICS FOR U.K. 000 tons.

|  | PIG-IRON. $\dagger$ |  |  |  |  |  | CRUDE STEEL. |  |  |  | EXPORTS OF IRON \& STEEL |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Qrly. | Produc | $\underset{\text { ports }}{+\mathrm{Im}}$ | $\underset{\text { ports }}{\text { - Ex. }}$ | $\begin{aligned} & =\text { Home } \\ & \text { Cons'mp } \\ & \text { tion } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { \% Imports } \\ \text { to Home } \\ \text { Consump. } \\ \text { tion } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Pro- } \\ & \text { duction } \end{aligned}$ | $\stackrel{\text { ports }}{\text { im. }}$ | Home Con- sumption | $\begin{gathered} \text { \$ Imports } \\ \text { to Home } \\ \text { Con- } \\ \text { sumption } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | SemiFinished | Finished |
| $1913$ |  | 2565 | 46 |  |  | 1.9 | 1916 | 215 | 2131 | 10 | 209 | 751 |
|  | aver'ge |  | 77 | 150 | 1756 | $4 \cdot 4$ |  | 271 | 2324 | 11.7 | 235 | 573 |
| 1925 |  | 1559 | 71 | 140 | 1490 | 4.8 | 1849 | 289 | 2139 1280 | 13.5 30.5 | $\begin{aligned} & 188 \\ & 145 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 600 \\ & 521 \end{aligned}$ |
| 1926 | " | 610 | 124 | 148 | 653 | 19.0 8.0 | 890 | 390 421 | 2695 | 15.6 | 251 | $712$ |
| 1927 | , | 1826 | 152 30 | 83 | 1895 | 80 1.8 | 2131 | 286 | 2417 | 11.8 9 | 245 |  |
| 1928 | " | 1653 | 38 | 114 | 1797 | $2 \cdot 1$ | 2415 | 247 | 2662 | 9.3 | 252168 | 699537 |
| 1929 | , | 1895 | 78 | 136 79 | 1548 | 5.0 | 1825 | 272 | 2097 |  |  |  |
| 1931 | ., | 939 | 76 | 50 | 965 | 7.9 | 1294 | 314 | 1608 | 19.4 | 168 97 | 344 |
| 1932 | . | 893 | 39 | 32 | 901 | $4 \cdot 3$ | 1314 | 184 | 1498 | $12 \cdot 1$ | 113 | 323 |
| 1933 | 3 | $\begin{array}{r} 890 \\ 1010 \\ 1066 \\ 1157 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 22 \\ & 31 \\ & 34 \\ & 34 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 22 \\ & 27 \\ & 28 \\ & 34 \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & 2.5 \\ & 3.1 \\ & 3.2 \\ & 2.9 \end{aligned}$ | 1505 | $\begin{aligned} & 86 \\ & 57 \\ & 78 \\ & 93 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1591 \\ & 1735 \\ & 1866 \\ & 2125 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 5 \cdot 4 \\ & 3 \cdot 3 \\ & 4 \cdot 2 \\ & 4 \cdot 4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 100 \\ 95 \\ 102 \\ 130 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 312 \\ & 337 \\ & 331 \\ & 373 \end{aligned}$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1678 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2032 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1934 | 1234 | $\begin{aligned} & 1359 \\ & 1540 \\ & 1532 \\ & 1548 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 37 \\ & 38 \\ & 39 \\ & 48 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 27 \\ & 37 \\ & 32 \\ & 37 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1369 \\ & 1541 \\ & 1539 \\ & 1560 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2.7 \\ & 2.5 \\ & 2.5 \\ & 3.1 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2253 \\ & 2254 \\ & 2120 \\ & 2233 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 116 \\ & 111 \\ & 101 \\ & 127 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2369 \\ & 2365 \\ & 2221 \\ & 2359 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 4.9 \\ & 4.7 \\ & 46 \\ & 5.4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 129 \\ & 149 \\ & 154 \\ & 167 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 312 \\ & 364 \\ & 394 \\ & 413 \end{aligned}$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1935 | 1234 | $\begin{aligned} & 1558 \\ & 1614 \\ & 1620 \\ & 1633 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 36 \\ & 30 \\ & 30 \\ & 32 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 34 \\ & 49 \\ & 36 \\ & 39 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1560 \\ & 1596 \\ & 1614 \\ & 1626 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2 \cdot 3 \\ & 1 \cdot 9 \\ & 1 \cdot 9 \\ & 2 \cdot 0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2369 \\ & 2432 \\ & 2419 \\ & 2622 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 120 \\ 67 \\ 77 \\ 101 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2489 \\ & 2499 \\ & 2496 \\ & 2723 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 4.8 \\ & 2.7 \\ & 3.1 \\ & 3.7 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 149 \\ & 183 \\ & 157 \\ & 182 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 334 \\ & 357 \\ & 391 \\ & 390 \\ & 780 \end{aligned}$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1936 | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \\ & 2 \\ & 3 \\ & 4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1814 \\ & 1935 \\ & 1952 \\ & 1985 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 40 \\ 57 \\ 121 \\ 92 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 23 \\ & 27 \\ & 33 \\ & 28 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1831 \\ & 1964 \\ & 2040 \\ & 2049 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2 \cdot 2 \\ & 29 \\ & 5 \cdot 9 \\ & 4.9 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2830 \\ & 2913 \\ & 2874 \\ & 3081 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 170 \\ 143 \\ 163 \\ 77 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 3000 \\ & 3056 \\ & 3037 \\ & 3158 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 5.7 \\ & 4.7 \\ & 5.4 \\ & 2.4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 134 \\ & 161 \\ & 151 \\ & 149 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 332 \\ & 361 \\ & 373 \\ & 405 \end{aligned}$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 3185 \\ & 3342 \\ & 3359 \\ & 3615 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2.5 \\ & 3.2 \\ & 4.4 \\ & 5.5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 178 \\ & 190 \\ & 157 \\ & 163 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 413 \\ & 452 \\ & 417 \\ & 391 \end{aligned}$ |
| 1937 | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \\ & 2 \\ & 3 \\ & 4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1935 \\ & 2076 \\ & 2170 \\ & 2316 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 77 \\ 143 \\ 279 \\ 224 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 44 \\ & 45 \\ & 43 \\ & 35 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1967 \\ & 2174 \\ & 2405 \\ & 2535 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 3.9 \\ 6.6 \\ 11.6 \\ 8.9 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 3104 \\ & 3234 \\ & 3210 \\ & 3416 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 80 \\ 108 \\ 149 \\ 199 \end{array}$ |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | $\begin{array}{r} 268 \\ 93 \\ 49 \\ 33 \\ \hline 15 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 26 \\ & 14 \\ & 17 \\ & 43 \\ & 22 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2411 \\ & 1915 \\ & 1412 \\ & 1367 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 11.1 \\ 4.9 \\ 3.5 \\ 2.4 \\ 2.7 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 3255 \\ & 2672 \\ & 2097 \\ & 2371 \\ & 2954 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 254 \\ 27 \\ 36 \\ 35 \cdot 5 \\ 79 \\ 79 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 3508 \\ & 2699 \\ & 2133 \\ & 2406 \\ & 3033 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 7.2 \\ & 1.0 \\ & 1.7 \\ & 1.5 \\ & 2.6 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 134 \\ 136 \\ 90 \\ 93 \\ 98 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 354 \\ & 326 \\ & 293 \\ & 354 \end{aligned}$ |
| 1938 | 1234 | $\begin{aligned} & 2169 \\ & 1836 \\ & 1381 \\ & 1377 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1939 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 298 |

† Inc. Ferrous Alloys.

* Blooms, Billets, Sheet and Tinplate Bars.


## THE WORLD WHEAT SITUATION.

By A. Shenfield.

SINCE the beginning of the present crop year, August, 1938, to July, 1939, the price of wheat has fallen precipitately. In July, 1938, Liverpool October futures were running at nearly $6 /-$ per 100 . lbs. In April, I939, July futures have been stable at about $4 / 3$ per Ioo lbs. October futures at Winnipeg were somewhat under 80 cents per bushel in July, 1938, but at the end of March, May futures were about 60 cents. A year ago they stood at about 125 cents. Chicago quotations have fallen by a considerably lesser proportion, September futures being about 75 cents per bushel last July and May futures about 68 cents at the end of March. But the general movement has clearly been at some time in] the season
steeply downward. Indeed, the angle of descent has been steeper than in the 1930-3I season or at any time in the period of depression of 1930-33. The descent has not proceeded uniformly since July, by far the greater part of it having occurred in the very early part of the season, and during the past three months prices have been stable at a very low level.

World supplies at the end of 1937-38 were small, but the prospective supplies of the new crop year had already been estimated to be exceptionally large. The prices of about 75 to 80 cents per bushel in North America and of about 6/- per 100 lbs . in London and Liverpool were thus quoted during last July-August in the light of fairly accurate knowledge of future
supply, and they represented the dominant opinion of near future values. The dominant opinion held at that time has proved to have been mistaken to an exceptional degree. But this has been due principally not to startling errors in the estimates of future supplies and requirements, but to the largely unforeseen effects of the renewal of governmental efforts to safeguard the interests of wheat producers. Until the present moment these efforts have been made independently by the various governments. But the menacing character of the present situation for producers all over the world has induced a demand for common action. The International Wheat Advisory Committee is now examining the possibility of an international wheat conference for the near future. Meanwhile it may be useful to examine the present situation and the mixture of accident and policy which has produced it.

The world wheat area sown in 1938 was exceptionally large. At 289 Mn . acres (excluding Russia, China and certain minor countries) it was about $5 \%$ greater than the average of the preceding five years and about $20 \%$ greater than the 1923-27 average. In the four principal exporting countries, Canada, the United States, Argentina and Australia, the acreage sown was about $57 \%$ greater than the 1923-27 average. The magnitude of the 1938 area was the culmination of a persistent, if irregular, expansion all over the world, and especially in the great exporting countries, during the past twenty years. The wheat-producing capacity of the world has not ceased to grow since the extraordinary impetus given by the Great War. Even the European importing countries have increased their capacity, in spite of the great expansion overseas. The effect of the large acreage on supplies was increased by an exceptionally good yield in 1938. This was the reverse of the experience of previous years when a decline in unit yield offset an increase in the area sown. The result was that total production for 1938-39 was more than $25 \%$ greater than the 1933-37 average and nearly $30 \%$ greater than the 1923-27 average.

The increase in production was fairly evenly spread over the majority of exporting and importing countries. Thus while exporters' surpluses increased very substantially, importers' requirements increased only slightly. World exportable stocks at the beginning of the 1938-39 season totalled 330 Mn . bushels. This was a fairly low figure, the result of a series of poor yields in exporting countries, and about $40 \%$ below the average carryover during the
previous five years. But the exportable surplus of the new crop is estimated to be about 850 Mn . bushels, or nearly three times that of the previous five-year average. Thus total exportable supplies this year reach the figure of $\mathrm{I}, \mathrm{I} 80 \mathrm{Mn}$. bushels, which is not far short of the record average of the period 1928-29 to 1932-33. Of the four principal exporting countries the United States have about 300 Mn . bushels to dispose of, Canada about 250 Mn ., Argentina about 250 Mn ., and Australia about 125 Mn . The Australian crop has been poor in comparison with those of the other exporters. As against a total exportable surplus for the season of 1,180 Mn. bushels, total import requirements are estimated at 570 Mn . bushels, leaving an estimated carryover in exporting countries for the next season of over 600 Mn . bushels in addition to about 160 Mn . bushels for seed requirements. This is well above annual world import requirements in recent years. For the world as a whole, including both importing and exporting countries (but always excluding Russia and China), total available supplies this season are estimated at $5,080 \mathrm{Mn}$. bushels, while consumption is put at $3,900 \mathrm{Mn}$. Thus there is anticipated a world carryover of $\mathrm{I}, 180 \mathrm{Mn}$. bushels, or nearly one-third of recent annual consumption.

The disparity between exportable surpluses and importers' requirements which became apparent at the beginning of this season was bound to cause severe pressure on prices. But other causes have been at work to produce the precipitate decline which has taken place. Early in August, 1938, the Canadian Government fixed a minimum price to farmers of 80 cents per bushel, and undertook to pay a subsidy to producers in the Western Provinces equal to the difference between the minimum price and the market price. At the same time Mr. Mackenzie King declared that "notwithstanding the internal price of 80 cents per bushel, the Canadian Wheat Board will continue its work of encouraging the use of Canadian wheat, which will at all times be competitive on the world's markets." Winnipeg prices were then running at about 85 cents for spot wheat and about 75 cents for October futures. With the announcement of the Government's policy the market broke, and futures and spot wheat began to tumble down. By the first week of September Winnipeg spot and futures prices were below 60 cents, the drop in spot thus being greater than in futures. Now the general level of commodity prices declined only very moderately during this period. There was special weakness in wheat, and among the various wheats special
weakness in Canadian wheat. American prices fell by less than half the proportion shown by Canadian. Indeed Canadian No. I Northern, which is normally at a premium owing to its superior quality, actually fell to a discount under some of the other leading wheats. Winnipeg prices fell below Chicago prices for the first time since in 1937 the United States became once more a net exporter of wheat.

The rapid decline in Canadian prices had clearly been precipitated by the Government's announcement. The Canadian Government had announced its intention to sell wheat at a loss, and without limit. With an exportable surplus of perhaps 250 Mn . bushels in its hands, nearly one-half of world import requirements was to be put on the market under weak selling conditions. Further, the plan was such that producers would be induced to rush delivery and so put a large part of this wheat on the market in the very early months of the season. It was therefore a natural reaction for holders of stocks elsewhere to reduce them and for purchasers to reduce forward commitments to a minimum.

The Canadian plan was not slow to cause reactions in other countries. The United States Government quickly decided that it was necessary to ensure the export of 100 Mn . bushels per annum, even, if necessary, by dumping. That this decision was solely a reaction to the Canadian plan is shown by the fact that in 1937-38 the United States had succeeded in exporting more than 100 Mn . bushels and was at the time exporting at a considerably greater rate. Before the end of August the Premiers' Conference in Australia recommended Commonwealth and State action to fix an internal minimum price at $4 / 8$ per bushel ; and in Argentina the President was empowered to fix such domestic and export prices for the new crop as he considered to be in the interests of the country. Meanwhile some of the minor exporters of the world, notably Roumania, raised their export bounties; while the principal European importers, with the exception of the United Kingdom, imposed further taxes on wheat, or raised its price directly or, in some cases, prohibited imports without special licence. The Canadian Government had thus rapidly induced government action on behalf of producers in both exporting and importing countries, and the combined effect of the actions of all the governments involved was to reduce prices by more than a quarter within the first few weeks of the season.

The decline in prices has hardly induced a
comparable change in quantities moving into consumption. It is true that during the first two months shipments were about $20 \%$ greater than those of the corresponding period in the previous year, to some extent owing to war fears, though they were still about $15 \%$ less than the 1933-37 average. But in the six months October to March shipments were only about $15 \%$ greater than in the previous year and $5 \%$ less than the 1933-37 average ; and this in spite of the fact that there has been some stocking of wheat by European governments, probably on a considerable scale, in order to meet a war situation. The efforts of the governments of the exporting countries may have succeeded in maintaining producers' incomes, but mainly at the expense of taxpayers and/or domestic consumers, for the governments of the importing countries have hindered the expansion of the sale of their product apart from their own stocking needs. The fall in prices has largely failed to get through to the consumer.

The near-outlook for wheat is not promising. During the rest of the present season, some I60 Mn. bushels are estimated to be required by importing countries. To some extent this figure has been swollen by the withholding of supplies from Argentina, which has so far shipped only half of the amount estimated for the season. However, it is quite insufficient to make serious inroads into stocks, and failing the actual outbreak of war or the announcement of concerted international action to reduce supplies, the markets are likely to remain listless for some time. Data relating to sowings for the coming season indicate that the 1939-40 acreage may be much the same as that of 1938-39, except in the United States, where a decline of nearly $20 \%$ is anticipated. Even if the yield proves to be considerably less than it has been this year, world supplies will remain far in excess of permitted demand. The disparity between the world's productive capacity and the present level of requirements is the result of many years' growth and much ill-advised government action. The reversal of the dominant European policy of restricting consumption is extremely unlikely. Nor are there signs that the governments of the great exporting countries are ready to cease competitive subsidisation. It is not certain that the proposed international wheat conference will be called at all. If it is, its task will no doubt be to discover the least painful downward adjustment of productive capacity.

## THE PHYSICAL VOLUME OF PRODUCTION.

Our Annual Index of Production appears in the Bulletin for May 23rd of each year. The quarterly index given here is on a narrower basis than the annual index, which includes building and agriculture and other information not available quarterly. The method of construction is to be found in Special Memorandum No. 8.

THE index of production for the first quarter of 1939 is III.4, an increase of 2.6 points on the figure for the last quarter, but II. 4 points below the figure of the first quarter of 1938. The change from the fourth quarter of 1938 is probably not all due to seasonal movement, and it suggests that in the past three months the trend of production has been slightly on the upgrade.

The Coal figure is higher than in the first quarter of 1937, which was comparatively a good year. The Iron and Steel figures show some recovery from the low levels which were reached in 1938. The Non-ferrous metal figure is maintained at the 1938 level, and the Food, Drink and Tobacco index still keeps a high level.


QUARTERLY INDEX NUMBERS OF PRODUCTION.
Average 1924=100

| Group : |  |  | II. |  |  |  |  | III. |  |  | IV. |  |  | V. |  |  |  | VI. |  | VII. <br> Paper. | Final <br> Index. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 1. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Group |  |  |
| Industry : |  | Coalmining. | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Pig } \\ & \text { Iron. } \end{aligned}$ | Steel. | Shipbuilding $\ddagger$ | Railway Vehicles | Group <br> Index. | Copper. | Lead, Tin and Zinc. | Group Index. | Cotton. | Silk. $\dagger$ | Group Index. | Wheat and Flour. | Cocoa. | Tobacco | Group Index. | Seed crush ing. | heavy Chemi- cals.) |  |  |
| Average quarterly production, 1924. |  | $\begin{gathered} 000 \\ \text { tons } \\ 67,308 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 000 \\ & \text { tons } \\ & 1,827 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 000 \\ & \text { tons } \\ & 2,050 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 000 \\ & \text { tons } \\ & 1,373 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { tons } \\ & 9,929 \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { tons } \\ 39,626 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { tons } \\ & 87,967 \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { bales } \\ 689 \end{gathered}$ |  |  | $\begin{gathered} 000 \\ \text { cwts. } \\ 31,914 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { cwts. } \\ 259,231 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 000 \\ \text { lbs. } \\ 36,477 \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} 000 \\ \text { tons } \\ 435 \cdot 3 \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & 000 \\ & \text { tons } \\ & 244 \cdot 3 \end{aligned}$ |  |
|  |  | 67,308 |  | 36 |  |  |  |  | 69 | 25 | 82 | 10 | 216 | 50 | 17 | 24 | 209 | - | 62 | 98 | 1183 |
| Weights. |  | 232 | 12 |  | 2. | $j$ | 341 | 55 | 59 | 25 | 82 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 98.8 |
| 1924 |  |  | 105.0 | 111.2 | $100 \cdot 0$ | 142.7 | $103^{\circ} 0$ | 96.9 | 96.4 | 96.6 | 104.2 | 74.6 | 101.0 90.8 | $85 \cdot 4$ 99.6 | 109.6 89.6 | $95 \cdot 6$ 97.7 | 92.5 97.8 | $109 \cdot 9$ 97.8 | $95 \cdot 4$ $103 \cdot 0$ | $53 \cdot 9$ 104.9 | 98.8 99.9 |
|  | 1 | 107 99 | $102 \cdot 8$ | 106.0 | 106.7 | 112.9 | 106.2 94.6 | 93•8 | $87 \cdot 3$ 118.5 | 90.4 111.6 | $90 \cdot 4$ 79.7 | $94 \cdot 3$ 111.5 | 90.8 83.2 | 99.6 111.6 | 89.6 88.7 | 93.7 101.9 | 97. 104 | 97.8 87 | 101.0 | 127.2 | 97.9 |
|  | 3 | $95 \cdot 0$ | $97 \cdot 1$ | 90.8 | $103 \cdot 1$ | $78 \cdot 3$ 66.1 | $94 \cdot 6$ 906 | $104 \cdot 1$ 105.0 | 118.5 97.7 | 1101.2 | 726.0 | 119.5 | 125.3 | $103 \cdot 3$ | $112 \cdot 1$ | $102 \cdot 7$ | $104 \cdot 8$ | 104.5 | 101.2 | 114.2 | $103 \cdot 8$ |
|  | 4 | 98.4 | $95 \cdot 3$ | 92.8 | 90.1 | $66^{1}$ | 906 | 105.0 | 97 |  | 126 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1929 |  | $\begin{array}{r} 101 \cdot 2 \\ 93 \cdot 1 \\ 93 \cdot 3 \\ 99 \cdot 5 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 91 \cdot 6 \\ 105 \cdot 3 \\ 110 \cdot 5 \\ 107 \cdot 5 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 117 \cdot 0 \\ & 121 \cdot 1 \\ & 120^{\circ} \cdot \\ & 115 \cdot 4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 98.8 \\ 105.9 \\ 105.4 \\ 113.6 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 139 \cdot 9 \\ & 131 \cdot 6 \\ & 152.8 \\ & 149 \cdot 9 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 109 \cdot 1 \\ & 114 \cdot 8 \\ & 116 \cdot 4 \\ & 115 \cdot 9 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 117.4 \\ & 120.8 \\ & 114.7 \\ & 120.1 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 106 \cdot 1 \\ & 120 \cdot 3 \\ & 120 \cdot 4 \\ & 109 \cdot 7 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 111.5 \\ & 120.5 \\ & 117.7 \\ & 114.7 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 117.6 \\ 111.4 \\ 85.8 \\ 118.6 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 147 \cdot 3 \\ & 142 \cdot 2 \\ & 162 \cdot 8 \\ & 175 \cdot 0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 120 \cdot 8 \\ 114.7 \\ 94 \cdot 1 \\ 124 \cdot 5 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 87 \cdot 0 \\ 94 \cdot 9 \\ 100 \cdot 1 \\ 91 \cdot 4 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 115 \cdot 3 \\ & 116 \cdot 7 \\ & 103 \cdot 4 \\ & 108 \cdot 3 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 123 \cdot 3 \\ & 139 \cdot 1 \\ & 141 \cdot 1 \\ & 142 \cdot 1 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 101 \cdot 9 \\ & 110.6 \\ & 111.3 \\ & 107.9 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 109.2 \\ 86.0 \\ 69.7 \\ 87 \cdot 7 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 100 \cdot 1 \\ & 102 \cdot 1 \\ & 103 \cdot 4 \\ & 105 \cdot 4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 136.6 \\ & 139.7 \\ & 147.0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 108.3 \\ & 1110 \\ & 108.2 \\ & 114.8 \end{aligned}$ |
|  | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1930 | 1 | $\begin{array}{r} 104 \cdot 2 \\ 87 \cdot 8 \\ 83 \cdot 7 \\ 91 \cdot 6 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 105.1 \\ 98.4 \\ 72.7 \\ 62.9 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 118.4 \\ 97.0 \\ 82.5 \\ 64.0 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 117.6 \\ 101.4 \\ 81.4 \\ 66.2 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 149.0 \\ & 180.8 \\ & 151.2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 118 \cdot 1 \\ 104 \cdot 1 \\ 85 \cdot 2 \\ 72 \cdot 9 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 103 \cdot 1 \\ & 121 \cdot 1 \\ & 129 \cdot 4 \\ & 114 \cdot 5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 119.7 \\ & 113.7 \\ & 100.4 \\ & 123.9 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 111 \cdot 8 \\ & 117 \cdot 2 \\ & 114 \cdot 3 \\ & 119 \cdot 4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 107 \cdot 3 \\ 86 \cdot 4 \\ 61 \cdot 3 \\ 81 \cdot 3 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 159 \cdot 0 \\ & 125 \cdot 0 \\ & 127 \cdot 2 \\ & 140 \cdot 7 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 112.9 \\ 90.6 \\ 68.4 \\ 87.7 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 81 \cdot 3 \\ 91 \cdot 8 \\ 99 \cdot 8 \\ 101 \cdot 8 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 99.9 \\ 121.7 \\ 96.5 \\ 121.6 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 138 \cdot 3 \\ & 136 \cdot 7 \\ & 138 \cdot 0 \\ & 145 \cdot 4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 99 \cdot 8 \\ 110 \cdot 3 \\ 109 \cdot 3 \\ 117 \cdot 1 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 79 \cdot 7 \\ & 69 \cdot 2 \\ & 59 \cdot 1 \\ & 75 \cdot 7 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 94 \cdot 5 \\ & 88 \cdot 8 \\ & 97 \cdot 7 \\ & 84 \cdot 2 \end{aligned}$ | 116.3 | $\begin{array}{r} 109.6 \\ 100.9 \\ 907 \\ 92.7 \end{array}$ |
|  | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 125.4 |  |
|  | 3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 122.5 |  |
|  | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 83 \cdot 9 \\ & 82 \cdot 5 \\ & 73 \cdot 9 \\ & 86 \cdot 5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 101.6 \\ 94.0 \\ 121.1 \\ 142.6 \end{array}$ | $85 \cdot 1$ |
| 1931 | 1 | $\begin{aligned} & 88 \cdot 3 \\ & 81 \cdot 4 \\ & 76 \cdot 2 \\ & 86 \cdot 2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 55 \cdot 4 \\ & 54 \cdot 4 \\ & 46 \cdot 0 \\ & 49 \cdot 9 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 67 \cdot 7 \\ & 62 \cdot 9 \\ & 57 \cdot 9 \\ & 66 \cdot 8 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 50.6 \\ & 40.5 \\ & 30.4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 104 \cdot 9 \\ 75 \cdot 7 \\ 76 \cdot 2 \\ 22.5 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 63 \cdot 2 \\ & 55 \cdot 8 \\ & 49 \cdot 1 \\ & 50 \cdot 1 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 88.6 \\ 104.2 \\ 85.0 \\ 96.5 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 96.0 \\ 138.1 \\ 115.7 \\ 123.6 \end{array}$ | 92.4 121.9 <br> 101.0 | $\begin{array}{r} 71 \cdot 7 \\ 78 \cdot 1 \\ 74 \cdot 3 \\ 102 \cdot 0 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 142 \cdot 0 \\ & 139.7 \\ & 145.7 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 79 \cdot 3 \\ 84 \cdot 8 \\ 82 \cdot 1 \\ 110 \cdot 2 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 89.9 \\ 97.5 \\ 110.8 \\ 114.2 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 151.2 \\ 95.9 \\ 118.6 \\ 99.5 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 142.9 \\ & 122.5 \\ & 132.8 \\ & 128.4 \end{aligned}$ | $115 \cdot 3$ 103.8 <br> $118 \cdot 1$ <br> 115.2 | $\begin{aligned} & 82 \cdot 0 \\ & 86 \cdot 4 \\ & 67 \cdot 4 \\ & 75 \cdot 8 \end{aligned}$ |  |  | 80.6 |
|  | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $81 \cdot 1$ |
|  | 3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1932 | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 89 \cdot 2 \\ & 96 \cdot 1 \\ & 81 \cdot 8 \\ & 90 \cdot 1 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 143 \cdot 1 \\ & 101 \cdot 5 \\ & 136 \cdot 5 \\ & 155 \cdot 6 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 91 \cdot 3 \\ & 83 \cdot 2 \\ & 77 \cdot 8 \\ & 87 \cdot 2 \end{aligned}$ |
|  | 1 | $\begin{aligned} & 85 \cdot 4 \\ & 78 \cdot 8 \\ & 69 \cdot 3 \\ & 83 \cdot 9 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 54 \cdot 2 \\ & 51 \cdot 7 \\ & 44 \cdot 5 \\ & 45 \cdot 3 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 67 \cdot 0 \\ & 63 \cdot 9 \\ & 61 \cdot 4 \\ & 67 \cdot 0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 27 \cdot 2 \\ & 20 \cdot 5 \\ & 17 \cdot 3 \\ & 16 \cdot 5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 31 \cdot 3 \\ 18 \cdot 4 \\ 9 \cdot 2 \\ 9 \cdot 1 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 50 \cdot 9 \\ & 46 \cdot 2 \\ & 42 \cdot 3 \\ & 44 \cdot 9 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 95 \cdot 4 \\ 95 \cdot 8 \\ 100 \cdot 2 \\ 104 \cdot 7 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 115 \cdot 6 \\ 95 \cdot 2 \\ 84 \cdot 5 \\ 94 \cdot 4 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 105 \cdot 9 \\ 95 \cdot 5 \\ 92 \cdot 0 \\ 99 \cdot 3 \end{array}$ | $100 \cdot 9$ $94^{\circ}$73.3 $87 \cdot 9$ | $\begin{aligned} & 199 \cdot 1 \\ & 215 \cdot 4 \\ & 183 \cdot 0 \\ & 208 \cdot 0 \end{aligned}$ | 111.6 <br> 107.2 $85^{\circ} 2$ $100 \cdot 5$ | $\begin{array}{r} 98.0 \\ 103.0 \\ 99.7 \\ 92.2 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 168.0 \\ & 106.2 \\ & 102.8 \\ & 138.7 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 121 \cdot 3 \\ & 133 \cdot 8 \\ & 125 \cdot 0 \\ & 144 \cdot 0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 117.2 \\ & 111.7 \\ & 107.0 \\ & 111.9 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 86 \cdot 2 \\ & 83 \cdot 8 \\ & 68 \cdot 2 \\ & 76 \cdot 3 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |
|  | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 4 |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 18 \cdot 4 \\ & 21 \cdot 0 \\ & 22 \cdot 1 \\ & 24 \cdot 2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 21 \cdot 2 \\ & 50 \cdot 5 \\ & 30 \cdot 6 \\ & 15 \cdot 1 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 50 \cdot 7 \\ & 58 \cdot 6 \\ & 59 \cdot 7 \\ & 66 \cdot 2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 90 \cdot 2 \\ 111 \cdot 6 \\ 108 \cdot 0 \\ 130.9 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 84 \cdot 6 \\ 119 \cdot 9 \\ 112 \cdot 1 \\ 116 \cdot 3 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 87 \cdot 3 \\ 115 \cdot 9 \\ 110 \cdot 1 \\ 123 \cdot 3 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 95 \cdot 7 \\ & 89 \cdot 7 \\ & 91 \cdot 3 \\ & 99 \cdot 3 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 211 \cdot 0 \\ & 209 \cdot 5 \\ & 238 \cdot 5 \\ & 285 \cdot 2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 108 \cdot 2 \\ & 102 \cdot 7 \\ & 107 \cdot 3 \\ & 119 \cdot 5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 90 \cdot 6 \\ & 96 \cdot 3 \\ & 95 \cdot 4 \\ & 90 \cdot 9 \end{aligned}$ | $160 \cdot 7$ 124.5 <br> 88.1 142.7 | $\begin{aligned} & 125 \cdot 2 \\ & 137 \cdot 1 \\ & 133 \cdot 8 \\ & 136 \cdot 2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 112 \cdot 8 \\ & 112 \cdot 3 \\ & 104 \cdot 2 \\ & 112 \cdot 5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 81 \cdot 1 \\ & 72 \cdot 8 \\ & 60 \cdot 6 \\ & 81 \cdot 0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 88 \cdot 0 \\ 94 \cdot 1 \\ 84 \cdot 4 \\ 101 \cdot 1 \end{array}$ | 138.4 <br> 144.8 147.2 <br> $147 \cdot$ | $\begin{aligned} & 88 \cdot 8 \\ & 87.9 \\ & 97.4 \end{aligned}$ |
| 1933 |  | $\begin{aligned} & 85 \cdot 5 \\ & 73 \cdot 0 \\ & 71 \cdot 1 \\ & 84 \cdot 4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 48 \cdot 7 \\ & 55 \cdot 3 \\ & 58 \cdot 4 \\ & 63 \cdot 4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 75 \cdot 1 \\ & 83 \cdot 7 \\ & 87 \cdot 2 \\ & 99 \cdot 1 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1934 | 1 | $\begin{aligned} & 90 \cdot 5 \\ & 79 \cdot 6 \\ & 77 \cdot 6 \\ & 86 \cdot 4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 74 \cdot 4 \\ & 84 \cdot 3 \\ & 83 \cdot 8 \\ & 84 \cdot 8 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 109 \cdot 6 \\ & 112 \cdot 4 \\ & 103 \cdot 4 \\ & 111 \cdot 2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 35 \cdot 0 \\ & 42 \cdot 8 \\ & 44 \cdot 0 \\ & 43 \cdot 5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 12 \cdot 9 \\ & 23 \cdot 1 \\ & 33 \cdot 5 \\ & 34 \cdot 4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 75 \cdot 6 \\ & 81 \cdot 5 \\ & 78 \cdot 2 \\ & 82 \cdot 0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 147 \cdot 5 \\ & 166 \cdot 2 \\ & 167 \cdot 7 \\ & 196 \cdot 4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 132 \cdot 0 \\ & 120 \cdot 4 \\ & 128 \cdot 4 \\ & 139 \cdot 7 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 139 \cdot 3 \\ & 142 \cdot 3 \\ & 147 \cdot 2 \\ & 166 \cdot 8 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 99 \cdot 0 \\ & 94 \cdot 9 \\ & 85 \cdot 8 \\ & 93 \cdot 8 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 302 \cdot 4 \\ & 250 \cdot 9 \\ & 227 \cdot 8 \\ & 292 \cdot 6 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 121 \cdot 1 \\ & 111 \cdot 9 \\ & 101 \cdot 1 \\ & 115 \cdot 4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 90 \cdot 7 \\ & 95 \cdot 6 \\ & 93 \cdot 2 \\ & 86 \cdot 7 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 152 \cdot 6 \S \\ & 141 \cdot 3 \\ & 124 \cdot 4 \\ & 146 \cdot 8 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 143 \cdot 8 \$ \\ & 145 \cdot 8 \\ & 145 \cdot 8 \\ & 150 \cdot 8 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 116 \cdot 3 \\ & 117 \cdot 4 \\ & 112 \cdot 2 \\ & 114 \cdot 8 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 89 \cdot 1 \\ & 70 \cdot 1 \\ & 68 \cdot 0 \\ & 74 \cdot 5 \end{aligned}$ | 103.796.791.6 91.6 $103 \cdot 8$ |  | 102.5 102.6 |
|  | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $155.4$ | 102.8 96.8 |
|  | 3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $168.0$ | 105.2 |
|  | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 104.4 |  | $144 \cdot 4$ | 104.0 |
| 1935 | 1 | $89 \cdot 4$ | $85 \cdot 3$ | 115.6 | 40.5 | $45 \cdot 0$ | 84.0 93.4 | $174 \cdot 1$ $217 \cdot 6$ | $152 \cdot 2$ $140 \cdot 3$ | $162 \cdot 7$ $177 \cdot 3$ | 98.0 96.2 | $307 \cdot 0$ 314.2 | 120.7 119.9 | 84.5 96.4 | $143 \cdot 7$ $157 \cdot 6$ | 138.6 154.2 | 108.1 | 104.4 79.9 | 102.3 | $154 \cdot 2$ | 108.4 |
|  | 2 | $80 \cdot 5$ | $88 \cdot 4$ | $121 \cdot 3$ | 40.8 | 154.6 | $93 \cdot 7$ | $217 \cdot 6$ $171 \cdot 8$ | 122.2 |  | 96.2 90.6 | 278.1 | 111.2 | 87.4 | 151.8 | 146.9 | 115.1 | $73 \cdot 2$ | 99.6 | $155 \cdot 7$ | 104.5 |
|  | 3 | $78 \cdot 0$ | 88.7 | 120.6 | $38 \cdot 7$ 54.1 | 168.7 78.8 | 98.2 | $\frac{171 \cdot 8}{173 \cdot 1}$ | $\frac{122 \cdot 2}{142 \cdot 6}$ | $\frac{145 \cdot 9}{157 \% 2}$ | $90 \cdot 6$ 101.0 | 3781.1 | $127 \cdot 1$ | $92 \cdot 3$ | 168.7 | $158 \cdot 2$ | 123.9 | 104.5 | $120 \cdot 5$ | $187 \cdot 3$ | 116.5 |
|  | 4 | $89 \cdot 3$ | $89 \cdot 4$ | $130 \cdot 8$ | 54.1 | 78.8 |  | 1701 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 155.0 | 116.3 |
| 1936 | 1 | 93.0 | 99.3 | 141.2 | $61 \cdot 3$ 61.8 |  | 106.5 108.8 | $179 \cdot 1$ 191.0 | 136.0 141.9 | 156.6 $165 \cdot 4$ | $104 \cdot 5$ $107 \cdot 8$ | 357.4 $300 \cdot 1$ | 132.0 128.7 | 84.2 92.2 | 183.8 216.5 | 148.2 | $1132 \cdot 4$ | 88.2 | 1113.3 | 177.5 | 118.4 |
|  | 2 | 81.7 | 105.9 | $145 \cdot 3$ | 61.8 67.7 | $60 \cdot 4$ 44.0 | 108.8 108 | 191.0 200 | 141.9 148.8 | $165 \cdot 4$ $173 \cdot 3$ | 107.8 99.9 | 300.7 | 122.6 | 98.8 | 166.7 | $155 \cdot 3$ | 120.9 | 73.9 | 104.7 | 173.9 | 114.6 |
|  | 3 | $81 \cdot 5$ $89 \cdot 1$ | $106 \cdot 9$ 108.6 | $143 \cdot 3$ $153 \cdot 7$ | 67.7 70.1 | 44.0 34.4 | 114.0 | $200 \cdot 0$ 200.0 | 148.8 146.8 | $173 \cdot 3$ 172.7 | 99.9 107.0 | 305.6 | 128.6 | 88.8 | $203 \cdot 5$ | $165 \cdot 2$ | $130 \cdot 3$ | 83.9 | 116.4 | 188.6 | 122.2 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $175 \cdot 4$ | 116.0 | $333 \cdot 1$ | $139 \cdot 6$ | 81.8 | $192 \cdot 7$ | 153.6 | 121.4 | 114.5 | 127.7 | 127.2 | 119.6 |
| 1937 |  | $93 \cdot 8$ $92 \cdot 3$ | $105 \cdot 9$ $113 \cdot 6$ | 154.8 $157 \cdot 8$ | 73.9 87.4 | 41.5 42.8 | 115.7 | 214.9 | $142 \cdot 4$ | $191 \cdot 3$ | 121.3 | 349.4 | 146.1 | 83.4 | 219.6 | $170 \cdot 1$ | 131.7 | 117.0 | 125.8 | $152 \cdot 0$ | 126.5 |
|  |  | 86.5 | 118.8 | $160 \cdot 1$ | $86 \cdot 3$ | 59.0 | $125 \cdot 1$ | 238.8 | 141.2 | $187 \cdot 9$ | $105 \cdot 5$ | 371.5 | 134.0 | $82 \cdot 5$ | $157 \cdot 2$ | $169 \cdot 1$ | 119.3 | $47 \cdot 7$ | $116 \cdot 1$ | $153 \cdot 3$ | 121.3 |
|  |  | 93.7 | 126.8 | $170 \cdot 4$ | 82.0 | 66.2 | $130 \cdot 5$ | $223 \cdot 9$ | 209.0 | $178 \cdot 8$ | $109 \cdot 3$ | 366.7 | $137 \cdot 3$ | $82 \cdot 3$ | 173.6 | $179 \cdot 4$ | 125.0 | 93.6 | $123 \cdot 4$ | $182 \cdot 4$ | 128.7 |
| 1938 |  |  | 118.7 |  | $79 \cdot 3$ | 71.2 | 125.0 | 194.0 | 130.0 | 163.4 | $100 \cdot 7$ | 3950 | $132 \cdot 7$ | $80 \cdot 5$ | $164 \cdot 0$ | 163.6 | 118.0 | 108.7 | 114.2 | 161.0 | 122.8 |
| 1938 |  | $82 \cdot 2$ | $100 \cdot 5$ | 133.2 | 755 | $77 \cdot 4$ | $107 \cdot 3$ | $200 \cdot 0$ | $130 \cdot 0$ | 166.5 | 81.6 | 2906 | $104 \cdot 3$ | 85.5 | 185.8 | $177 \cdot 0$ | 128.4 | 96.3 | 103.7 | 125.0 | $108 \cdot 1$ |
|  |  | 79.0 | 75.6 | 104.6 | 64.5 | $77 \cdot 9$ | 86.4 | 191.0 | 132.0 | $160 \cdot 2$ | 80.1 | $267 \cdot 8$ | $100 \cdot 5$ | $91 \cdot 1$ | $175 \cdot 3$ | $167 \cdot 7$ | 127.0 | 94.0 | 98.5 | 115.7 | 99.3 |
|  |  | 89.3 | 75.4 | 118.2 | 56.8 | $82 \cdot 8$ | 91.0 | $185 \cdot 1$ | 136.0 | 159.5 | $87 \cdot 4$ | 291.0 | 109.5 | $82 \cdot 9$ | 198.2 | $185 \cdot 3$ | 31 | $75 \cdot 8$ | 116 | $150 \cdot 0$ | 108.8 |
| 1939 | 1 | $94 \cdot 3$ | 88.7 | $147 \cdot 3$ | $43 \cdot 5$ | $61 \cdot 5$ | 101.8 | $182 \cdot 1$ | $139 \cdot 9$ | $160 \cdot 2$ | $89 \cdot 8$ | 308.5 | 113.6 | $93 \cdot 9$ | 191.4 | 168.4 | 131.8 | $92 \cdot 3$ | $110 \cdot 0$ | 124.7 | 111.4 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

* Partly Estimated.

FINANCE.


FINANCE．

|  | STOCKS \＆SHARES |  |  |  | MONEY＊ |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { NEW } \\ & \text { CAPITAL } \\ & \text { ISSUES } \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { BANK } \\ \text { CLEARINGS. } \end{gathered}$ |  |  | OTHER BANKING． |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | TREASURYBILLS． |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Industrials |  | Fixed Interest |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { London } \\ \text { Bankers' } \\ \text { Clearing } \\ \text { House. } \end{gathered}$ |  |  | Bank of England． |  |  | 9 Clearing Banks． |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\stackrel{\text { for }}{\mathrm{U} . \mathrm{K} .}$ <br> $£ \mathrm{Mn}$ ． |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\left\|\begin{array}{c} \text { 宮 } \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \text { £Mn. } \end{array}\right\|$ |  |  |  |  | 茄 ® <br> £Mn． |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { 号 } \\ \text { 先 } \\ £ \mathrm{Mn} . \end{gathered}$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1924 A | 100 | － | 100 | 100 | 2.43 | 3.45 | $7 \cdot 4$ | 11.2 | 2070 | 226 |  | 147 |  |  | 390 | 1632 | 242 | 791 | 324 | $11 \cdot 7$ | $48 \cdot 5$ | 442 | 159 |
| 1929 | 139 | － | 96.3 | 104.0 | $4 \cdot 57$ | $5 \cdot 31$ | $13 \cdot 3$ | $7 \cdot 9$ | 2360 | 241 | 125 | 62 | 50 | 361 | 1762 | 226 | 974 | 242 | $10 \cdot 7$ | $55 \cdot 3$ | 521 | 239 |
| 1933 | 103 |  | 124.4 | $80 \cdot 7$ | 66 | 71 | $7 \cdot 9$ | $3 \cdot 3$ | 1660 | 217 | 98 | 102 | 55 | 371 | 1914 | 352 | 746 | 519 | $10 \cdot 9$ | 39.0 | 582 | 327 |
| 1934 Av ． | 125 |  | 132.5 | 75.7 | 81 | 81 | $8 \cdot 9$ | 3.6 | 1830 | 233 | 101 | 102 | 54 | 378 | 1842 | 228 | 740 | 543 | $11 \cdot 3$ | $40 \cdot 2$ | 473 | 377 |
| 1935 Av．．．． | 139 |  | 136.2 | 73.6 | 73 | 57 | $13 \cdot 5$ | 1.7 | 1790 | 252 | 101 | 98 | 51 | 394 | 1961 | 264 | 755 | 598 | $10 \cdot 8$ | 38.5 | 473 | 393 |
| 1936 Av | 161 |  | 136.9 | 73.2 | 75 | 61 | $15 \cdot 9$ | $2 \cdot 2$ | 2093 | 276 | 109 | 96 | 54 | 432 | 2104 | 312 | 825 | 598 | 10 | 39.2 | 576 | 22 |
| 1937 Av | 150 |  | $12^{\prime} \cdot 7$ | 78.4 | 75 | 59 | $11 \cdot 6$ | $2 \cdot 7$ | 2180 | 299 | 116 | 97 | 58 | 479 | 2172 | 276 | 910 | 607 | 10 | 41 | 560 | 229 |
| 1935 | 141 | － 0.8 | 13 | $72 \cdot 9$ | 75 | 63 | 50.0 | $3 \cdot 9$ | 1810 | 267 | 105 | 104 | 47 | 400 | 1982 | 272 | 761 | 599 | $10 \cdot 9$ | $38 \cdot 4$ | 0 | 397 |
| AUG． | 148 | ＋ $5 \cdot 2$ | $137 \cdot 5$ | $73 \cdot 0$ | 75 | 61 | $4 \cdot 8$ | 1.9 | 1770 | 238 | 93 | 86 | 54 | 406 | 1976 | 285 | 751 | 599 | $10 \cdot 6$ | $38 \cdot 0$ | 515 | ？ 65 |
| SEPT | 141 | － 5.2 | $132 \cdot 6$ | $75 \cdot 0$ | 75 | 59 | $7 \cdot 3$ | 4 | 1820 | 236 | 91 | 91 | 54 | 400 | 1986 | 298 | 749 | 602 | $10 \cdot 3$ | 37.7 | 530 | 363 |
| 0 CT ． | 139 | － 0.5 | 131.0 | $76 \cdot 5$ | 75 | 63 | 3.9 | －8 | 1860 | 266 | 99 | 79 | 70 | 400 | 1998 | 295 | 760 | 610 | $10 \cdot 1$ | 38.0 | 549 | 353 |
| NOV． | 149 | ＋ 8.8 | 136.4 | 73.5 | 75 | 56 | $9 \cdot 2$ | $3 \cdot 3$ | 1990 | 255 | 100 | 93 | 53 | 401 | 2002 | 292 | 760 | 604 | $10 \cdot 5$ | 38.0 | 555 | 346 |
| DEC． | 147 | － 1.3 | $136 \cdot 4$ | $73 \cdot 5$ | 75 | 67 | $9 \cdot 7$ | 1.5 | 1950 | 276 | 111 | 91 | 44 | 411 | 2054 | 320 | 767 | 58 | $10 \cdot 6$ | 37.3 | 565 | 333 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 1936 \\ & \text { JAN. } \end{aligned}$ | 154 | ＋3．8 | $137 \cdot 4$ | 73.0 | 75 | 56 | 33.0 | －9 | 1960 | 281 | 109 | 110 | 51 | 398 | 2055 | 335 | 774 | 585 | $10 \cdot 6$ |  | 556 | 339 |
| FEB． | 159 | ＋ 3.7 | 137.0 | 73.2 | 75 | 55 | $18 \cdot 5$ | 1.2 | 2080 | 268 | 110 | 104 | 47 | 399 | 2015 | 287 | 785 | 585 | $10 \cdot 8$ | 39．0 | 525 | 271 |
| MAR | 155 | －3．5 | 136.2 | $73 \cdot 6$ | 75 | 56 | 6.9 | $\cdot 1$ | 1950 | 263 | 107 | 92 | 50 | 405 | 2001 | 217 | 811 | 590 | $10 \cdot 3$ | $40 \cdot 5$ | 505 | 257 |
| APR． | 160 | ＋19 | $137 \cdot 4$ | $72 \cdot 9$ | 75 | 56 | 8.8 | 1.6 | 2020 | 279 | 105 | 105 | 47 | 422 | 2045 | 262 | 825 | 592 | $10 \cdot 6$ | $40 \cdot 3$ | 498 | 197 |
| MAY | 154 | － 3.4 | 137.6 | $72 \cdot 8$ | 75 | 59 | $17 \cdot 2$ | $2 \cdot 3$ | 1940 | 272 | 103 | 83 | 50 | 425 | 2075 | 303 | 825 | 595 | $10 \cdot 1$ | 39.8 | 548 | 212 |
| JUNE | 154 | ＋ 0.9 | $135 \cdot 8$ | 73.8 | 75 | 83 | $15 \cdot 3$ | $3 \cdot 1$ | 2200 | 265 | 98 | 91 | 51 | 432 | 2117 | 321 | 834 | 597 | 10.1 | 39.4 | 578 | 215 |
| JULY | 157 | $+13$ | $135 \cdot 7$ | $73 \cdot 9$ | 75 | 59 | $20 \cdot 7$ | $3 \cdot 7$ | 1860 | 285 | 110 | 91 | 61 | 3 | 2132 | 340 | 839 | 594 | 10.0 | 39. | 615 | 191 |
| AUG | 165 | ＋ 4.6 | $136 \cdot 8$ | 733 | 75 | 55 | $4 \cdot 3$ | 1.8 | 2030 | 260 | 101 | 98 | 55 | 450 | 2133 | 336 | 832 | 597 | 10.4 | 39.0 | 630 | 173 |
| SEPI | 166 | ＋ 0.8 | $137 \cdot 4$ | $73 \cdot 1$ | 75 | 55 | 8.0 | 1.5 | 2230 | 256 | 101 | 102 | 54 | 445 | 2143 | 334 | 837 | 604 | 10.2 | 39.0 39.1 | 621 | 188 |
| OCT | 170 | ＋ 3.7 | 138.4 | $72 \cdot 4$ | 75 | 55 | 22.7 | 4.2 | 2250 | 289 | 115 | 82 | 73 | 446 | 2164 | 341 | 847 | 611 | 10.0 |  | 615 | 224 |
| NOV | 169 | ＋ 0.2 | 137.6 | $72 \cdot 8$ | 75 | 56 | 18.3 | 2.6 3.2 | 2330 2270 | 289 | 121 | 98 | 57 49 | 447 | 2171 2199 | 320 | 851 | 611 | 10.6 |  | 603 | 205 |
| JAN． | 169 | $+16$ | 134.5 | 74.5 | 75 | 56 | 24.8 | 2.8 | 2375 | 316 | 122 | 107 | 51 | 455 | 2193 | $338$ | 840 | 624 |  |  |  |  |
| FEB． | 165 | ＋ 0.3 | 129.2 | $77 \cdot 6$ | ． 75 | 55 | 8.0 9.8 | 2.6 1.5 | 2500 | 297 | 125 | 91 | 61 | 453 | 2161 | 301 243 | 862 892 | 626 | 10.1 10.1 | 39.9 41.9 | $\begin{aligned} & 540 \\ & 505 \end{aligned}$ | 173 |
| MAR | 156 | － 5.3 +0.2 | $126 \cdot 3$ | 79.2 78.6 | ． 75 | 55 | 9．8 | 1.5 4.8 | 2250 | 296 | 129 | 94 97 | 60 60 | 464 | 2131 | 243 | 892 | 622 | 10.2 | $42 \cdot 2$ | 510 | 171 |
| APR | 156 | ＋ 0.2 -1.9 | $127 \cdot 3$ | 78.6 78.2 | $\begin{array}{r}.75 \\ .75 \\ \hline\end{array}$ | 55 | $7 \cdot 1$ 8.3 | 4.8 3.1 | 2280 | 303 | 118 | 97 88 | 60 70 | 480 | 2143 | 241 | 909 | 611 | 10.4 | 42.4 | 533 | 141 |
| JUNE | 148 | － 37 | 126.7 | 79.0 | .75 | 73 | $22 \cdot 6$ | $1 \cdot 9$ | 2430 | 293 | 112 | 104 | 47 | 480 | 2178 | 255 | 920 | 608 | $10 \cdot 6$ | $42 \cdot 2$ | 538 | 137 |
| JULY | 150 | －0．2 | $126 \cdot 1$ | 79•3 | 75 | 56 | 14.6 | 5.7 |  |  |  |  |  | 493 | 2178 | 277 | 925 | 602 | $10 \cdot 3$ |  |  |  |
| AUG | 152 | ＋ $2 \cdot 2$ | 126.0 | $79 \cdot 5$ | 75 | 55 | $6 \cdot 5$ | $\cdot 6$ | 1910 | 284 | 107 | 99 | 55 | 498 | 2168 | 272 | 924 | 600 | $10 \cdot 3$ | $42 \cdot 6$ | 558 | 303 |
| SEPT | 146 | －4．9 | 125.2 | 79.9 | 75 | －55 | 1.9 | － 1 | 2000 | 276 | 103 | 108 | 49 | 488 | 2172 | 276 | 928 | 596 | 10.4 | $42 \cdot 7$ 42.7 | 573 505 | 299 |
| OCT． | 139 | － 4.7 | 126.1 | 79.4 | 75 | 55 | $13 \cdot 1$ | 7 | 2110 | 3 | 116 | $\bigcirc 3$ | 62 | 490 | 2197 | 291 | 939 | 595 |  |  |  |  |
| NOV． | 138 | $-2.5$ | 129.0 | 77.5 | 75 | 55 | 11.4 | 1.0 | 2090 | 299 | 109 | 87 | 69 | 481 | 2193 | 292 | 949 | 590 591 | $10 \cdot 2$ 10.5 | $\begin{aligned} & 42 \cdot 7 \\ & 42 \cdot 3 \end{aligned}$ | 612 | 290 |
| DEC． | 133 | － 51 | 128.2 | 78.1 | 75 | 79 | $10 \cdot 7$ | 7.2 | 2025 | 301 | 112 | 103 | 48 | 502 | 2213 | 294 | 934 | 591 |  |  |  |  |
| JAN． | 135 | ＋ 1.3 | 129．8 |  | 75 | 55 | 6.5 | 9 | 2140 | 322 | 114 | 123 | 50 | 482 | 2212 | 323 | 920 | 592 | 10.8 | 41.6 |  | 309 |
| FEB． | 128 | －6．0 | 129.8 | 77.1 | 75 | 53 | $13 \cdot 8$ | $5 \cdot 4$ | 1975 | 295 | 108 | 106 | 51 | 474 | 2165 | 281 | 934 | 589 | 10.7 | $43 \cdot 1$ | 557 | 277 |
| MAR． | 120 | －6．8 | 127.0 | 78.8 | 5 | 53 | $6 \cdot 3$ | $\cdot 1$ | 2000 | 286 | 102 | 119 | 47 | 479 | 2140 | 234 | 949 | 590 | $10 \cdot 9$ | $44 \cdot 3$ | $\begin{aligned} & 517 \\ & 522 \end{aligned}$ | 284 |
| APR． | 129 | ＋ $5 \cdot 3$ | 128.6 | 77.8 | 75 | 53 | $4 \cdot 7$ | 3 | 1905 | 299 | 99 | 104 | 54 | 497 | 2153 | 243 | 948 | 594 | $10 \cdot 9$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & 522 \\ & 570 \end{aligned}$ |  |
| MAY | 123 | －47 | 127.6 | 78.4 | 75 | 53 | 16.6 | $10 \cdot 8$ | 1860 | 287 | 97 | 88 | 72 | 488 | 2147 | 274 | 936 935 | 588 | 10.2 10.8 | $\begin{aligned} & 436 \\ & 42.8 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 570 \\ & 580 \end{aligned}$ | 278 |
| JUNE | 118 | － 54 | 127.6 | $78 \cdot 5$ | 75 | 62 | $8 \cdot 1$ | $\cdot 4$ | 2140 | 275 | 94 | 109 | 55 | 486 | 2184 | 284 | 935 |  |  |  |  |  |
| JULY | 125 | ＋ 75 | $130 \cdot 1$ | $76 \cdot 9$ | 75 | 52 | 11.2 | 4.0 | 1890 | 294 | 101 | 113 | 49 | 488 | 2193 | 295 | 334 | 89 |  | $\begin{aligned} & 42 \cdot 6 \\ & 42.4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 68 \\ & 55 \end{aligned}$ | 302 303 |
| AUG | 122 | －2．4 | $\geq 28.6$ | $77 \cdot 9$ | 75 | 53 | 1.8 | 4 | 1885 | 264 | 86 | 106 | 54 | 483 | $\begin{aligned} & 2183 \\ & 2154 \end{aligned}$ | 283 | ${ }_{9}^{925}$ | 698 | $10 \cdot 3$ | $\begin{aligned} & 42 \cdot 4 \\ & 42 \cdot 8 \end{aligned}$ | 537 | 334 |
| SEPT． | 117 | － 65 +1.4 | $121 \cdot 2$ | 81.0 | 75 | 72 | 1.6 | － | 2030 | 255 | 85 | 100 95 | 58 65 | 4 | 2140 | 261 | 923 | 602 | $10 \cdot 4$ | $43 \cdot 1$ | 526 | 384 |
| NOV | 123 | ＋ 14 +27 | 1237 | 80.9 | 75 | 72 | 18 | 1.9 | 12660 | 266 | 95 | 89 | 70 | 479 | 2131 | 265 | 915 | 599 | $10 \cdot 4$ | 43.0 | 517 | 407 |
| DEC． | 116 | ＋ 27 | 121.7 | 82.3 |  | 95 | 10 | ${ }^{-3}$ | 1970 | 288 | 101 | 100 | 52 | 495 | 2135 | 243 | 920 | 592 | $10 \cdot 8$ |  | 507 | 465 |
| 1939 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Jan． | 115 | －0．5 | $121 \cdot 4$ | 82.5 | 75 | 6 | $10 \cdot 3$ | $3 \cdot 6$ | 1930 | 316 | 107 | 118 |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 2112 \\ & 2060 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 248 \\ & 206 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 922 \\ & 930 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 581 \\ & 573 \end{aligned}$ | 11.2 | $\begin{aligned} & 43 \cdot 6 \\ & 45 \cdot 1 \end{aligned}$ | 381 | 502 |
| FEB． | 118 | ＋ 0.7 | 119．2 | 84.2 | 75 | 53 | 7.0 | 1.2 | 1860 | 290 | 102 | 111 | 48 46 | 473 477 | 2060 |  |  |  | 10.8 |  | 351 | 503 |
| MAR． APR． | 126 |  | $120 \cdot 5$ $114 \cdot 3$ | 83.2 87.6 | 75 75 | $\begin{array}{r}53 \\ 1.57 \\ \hline\end{array}$ | 26 | ＇2 | 1860 | 284 | 100 | 106 98 | 46 59 | 477 490 | 2038 |  |  |  |  |  | 394 | 512 |

＊Bank Rate 2 per cent．since June 30th， 1932

STOCKS \＆SHARES－

NEW CAPITAL ISSUES－ BANK CLEARINGS－

BANK OF ENGLAND－
PRINCIPAL BANKS－
TREASURY BILLS－ MONEY－
see Supplements，
Sensitive Index．－Geometric Mean of monthly percentage changes．
esues during month in Gt．Eritain monte，As published
THE MIDLAND BANK，LTD，Clating Hetropolitan）of London Bankers＇Clearing weeks covering Total of Town Clearings（i．e．，excluding Metropolitan）of London Bankers flearing month．Country Clearings stock Exchange settlement days，Consols settlement day，
Deposits．Bankers＇Clearing House and Provincial 11 th of month． Deposits．11th－17th of month．in circulation 11th－17th of month．Issues amalgamated，November 22 nd ， 1928. Current Deposit and other accounts，＂etc．Averages for the month of 9 clearing banks（i．e．－exclucung Current Deposit and other accounts，Lita and the District Bank）．As published by THE MIDLAND BANK，LID． Issued by tender．Total of Bills issued by tender during 13 weeks preceding date of Exchequer by tender． （11th to 17 th of month）．Otherwise issued．Total of Treasury Bills in existence

## PRICES.



PRICES AND WAGES.


PRICE OF GOLDPRICE OF SILVERBOARD OF TRADE INDEX Average (cash) price of bar silver for week ending 15 th of month.-ECONOMIST
-Geometric Mean of Wholesale Prices (averages for month) of 200 commodities as yercentage of 1924 average Based on new inder first published in Januars, 1935.-BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL.

STATIST (SAUERBECK) Average wholesale pric

## OUTPUT AND INTERNAL ACTIVITY.



[^31]|  | OUTPUT． |  |  |  |  | RETAIL SALES． |  |  |  |  | RAILWAYS． |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Coal． <br> Tons <br> Mn． | Pig <br> Iron． <br> Tons <br> 000 | Steel． <br> Tons <br> 000 | Elec－ tricity． <br> Mn ． <br> Units． |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 末̈ } \\ & \text { 由̈ } \\ & \text { \% } \end{aligned}$ |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \begin{array}{r} \text { Fr } \\ \text { Stana } \\ \text { W } \\ \text { 葡 } \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{array} \\ 0 \end{gathered}$ | reight Veight． |  | ilways． Re－ ceipts． All $\mathfrak{\&}$ Mn． |
| 1924 Av．．． | 21.2 | 520 | 641 | 508 | $2 \cdot 11$ |  |  |  | 115 |  | 544 | $1 / 43$ | 551 | ช．४४ |
| 1929 Av．． | $20 \cdot 7$ | 581 | 756 | 858 | 4.74 | － | － | － | 132 | 71.1 | 515 | 1722 | 545 | 8.91 |
| 1988 Av．． | 16.7 17.8 | 316 458 | 551 | 1130 | 7.01 7.76 | $\begin{aligned} & 83 \\ & 87 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 76 \\ & 79 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 80 \\ & 82 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 135 \\ & 137 \end{aligned}$ | $90 \cdot 1$ 96.4 | $\begin{aligned} & 353 \\ & 375 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1270 \\ & 1329 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 333 \\ & 392 \end{aligned}$ | 6.23 6.57 |
| 1984 Av ．．． 1985 Av ． | 178 180 | 493 | 694 775 | 1464 | 10.32 | 90 | 85 | 87 | 140 | $101 \cdot 3$ | 375 | 1335 | 391 | 6.62 |
| 1936 Av ．．． | $18 \cdot 3$ | 586 | 912 | 1685 | $12 \cdot 11$ | 95 | 92 | 93 | 147 | $105 \cdot 3$ | 398 | 1362 | 421 | 6．93 |
| 1937 Av ．． | 19.4 | 651 | 1019 | 1909 | 12.90 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 154 | 109：8 | 416 | 1442 | 454 | $7 \cdot 29$ |
| JULY． | 15.7 | 494 | 707 | 1216 | 10.91 | 98 | 81 | 89 | 135 | 117.2 | 349 | 1068 | 358 | $5 \cdot 77$ |
| AUG．． | $16.7{ }^{\circ}$ | 491 | 711 | 1189 | 7.54 | 69 | 80 | 75 | 129 | 115.9 | 371 | 1287 | 371 | 8.45 |
| SEPT | 17.3 | 494 | 818 | 1320 | 9.74 | 84 | 83 | 83 | 140 | $105 \cdot 1$ | 391 | 1325 | 378 | 6．72 |
| OCT．． | 17.7 | 492 | 798 | 1650 | 12.52 | 95 | 86 | 90 | 144 | $104 \cdot 3$ | 421 | 1514 | 426 | 7.27 |
| NOV． | 19.1 | 494 | 846 | 1758 | 11.83 | 94 | 88 | 91 | 145 | 96.1 | 419 | 1475 | 441 | 7.48 6.80 |
| DEC..... | $20.2^{\circ}$ | 505 | 812 | 1929 | 9．95 | 136 | 101 | 118 | 190 | 89.8 |  | 1433 |  | 6.80 |
| JAN．．． | 20.0 | 538 | 802 | 1970 | 11.94 | 93 | 88 | 90 | 139 | 94.5 | 366 | 1527 | 388 | 8.99 |
| FEB．．．．． | $19 \cdot 6$ | 565 | 917 | 1824 | $11 \cdot 70$ | 71 | 88 | 80 | 135 | $86 \cdot 9$ | 384 | 1500 | 397 | 7.14 |
| MAR．．．．． | 18.8 | 572 | 899 | 1753 | $12 \cdot 40$ | 79 | 89 | 84 | 141 | $98 \cdot 2$ | 400 | 1444 | 435 | 7.24 |
| APR．．． | $18.0^{\circ}$ | 588 | 984 | 1554 | 10.87 | 94 | 94 | 94 | 141 | 104.4 | 377 | 1258 | 415 449 | 7.58 7.05 |
| MAY．．．． | 17.9 | 597 | 901 924 | 1457 | 12.97 12.32 | 102 | 89 | 95 93 | 140 | 1112.0 | 373 | 1205 | 432 | 6.48 |
| JUNE ．． | $17.1{ }^{\circ}$ | 601 | 924 | 1334 | 12.32 |  |  |  |  |  | $395+$ | $1240+$ | $424+$ | $6.50+$ |
| JULY | $16 \cdot 3$ | 601 | 857 | 1403 | 13.81 | 100 | 88 | 94 | 142 | 121.5 | 378 | 1156 | 381 | 6.29 |
| AUG．．．．． | $17.9^{\circ}$ | 574 | 853 | 1332 | 9.86 | 73 | 87 | $\varepsilon 0$ | 135 | 116.2 |  | 1298 | 409 | 8.80 |
| SEPT． | $17 \cdot 7$ | 607 | 941 | 1544 | 13.24 | 85 | 89 | 87 | 149 | 113.9 |  | 1295 | 414 | 7.01 |
| OCT． | 18.5 | 588 | 952 | 1860 | 15.49 | 103 | 92 | 97 | 151 | 108.5 | 436 | 1377 | 452 | 7.41 |
| NOV． | 18.8 | 600 | 927 | 2010 | 11.76 | 100 | 94 | 97 | 155 | 97.0 | 437 | 1463 | 451 | $7 \cdot 47$ |
| DEC．． | 18．8！ | 606 | 959 | 2180 | 10.95 | 142 | 109 | 125 | 201 | $100 \cdot 8$ |  |  | 429 | 7－10 |
| JAN．．． | $19 \cdot 3$ | 588 | 935 | 2176 | 11.74 | 94 | 91 | 93 | 148 | 96.0 | 389 | 1422 | 422 | 6.89 |
| FEB．．． | $20 \cdot 3$ | 604 | 996 | 1944 | 11.72 | 77 | 94 | 86 | 146 | $93 \cdot 5$ | 404 | 1542 | 415 | $7 \cdot 40$ |
| MAR．． | 19.8 § | 614 | 1061 | 2074 | 12.52 | 90 | 104 | 97 | 149 | $104 \cdot 1$ | 418 | 1572 | 422 440 | 7.60 7.29 |
| APR． | 20.4 | 635 | 991 | 1832 | $13 \cdot 67$ | 97 | 95 | 96 | 152 | 115.1 | 416 | 1446 | 445 | 7.29 7.23 |
| MAY．． | $19.9{ }^{\circ}$ | 629 | 1072 | 1621 | $12 \cdot 18$ | 109 | 107 | 108 | 145 | $109 \cdot 3$ |  | 1341 | 457 | 7.02 |
| JUNE | 18.8 | 653 | 1014 | 1574 | 14.06 | 98 | 97 | 98 | 146 | 121.0 | 411 | 1367 $1371+$ | 470 ${ }^{4}$ | 7.03 |
| JULY | 17.3 | 659 | 951 | 1588 | 14.60 | 106 | 97 | 102 | 144 | 128.1 | 386 | 1244 | 434 | 6.40 |
| AUG．．．．． | $18.8{ }^{\circ}$ | 645 | 945 | 1529 | $10 \cdot 80$ | 76 | 94 | 85 | 141 | $120 \cdot 1$ | 422 | 1370 | 463 | 7.46 |
| SEPT． | 19.2 | 678 | 1068 | 1752 | 14.40 | 92 | 97 | 95 | 152 | 117.9 | 442 | 1446 1439 | 470 487 | 7.46 7.87 |
| OCT． | 19.6 | 695 | 1061 | 2029 | 13.57 | 102 | 100 | 101 | 156 | $108 \cdot 9$ 103.6 | 442 | 1439 | 4896 | 788 799 |
| NUV． | 19.9 <br> $20.1+$ | 711 707 | 1080 1056 | 2285 2497 | 13.72 11.83 | 105 | 120 | 104 | 157 | 103.6 99.7 | 412 | 1558 |  | $7 \cdot 49$ |
| 1938 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| JAN ．．．．． | $20 \cdot 3$ | 688 | 1050 | 2382 | 12.51 | 98 | 99 | 98 |  | 92.4 | 392 | 1540 | 458 | 7.25 |
| FEB．．．．． | $20 \cdot 6$ | 693 | 1058 | 2145 | 12.19 13.27 | 76 84 | 102 | 89 93 | 146 | 108.8 | 399 | 1500 | 458 | $7 \cdot 66$ |
| MAR． | 20.0 18.58 | 645 617 | 982 961 | 2111 1849 | 13.27 10.56 | 84 103 | 102 | r93 | 150 149 | 119.8 | 382 | 1295 | 411 | 6．92 |
| MAY | 18.1 | 571 | 877 | 1854 | $13 \cdot 38$ | 100 | 103 | 101 | 147 | 1097 | 367 | 1256 | 398 | 6．74 |
| JUNE．．．． | $17.4^{\circ}$ | 506 | 742 | 1612 | $11 \cdot 11$ | 105 | 107 | 106 | 145 | 121.4 | ${ }^{345}$ 352 $\dagger$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1184 \\ & +1209+1 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 356 \\ & +347 \dagger \end{aligned}$ | 6．26． |
| JULY | 16.6 | 459 | 640 | 1656 | 11.64 | 109 | 102 | 105 | 146 | 127.7 | 324 | 1069 | 293 | 5.58 6.24 |
| AUG． | $17.1^{\circ}$ | 401 | 604 | 1679 | $9 \cdot 31$ | 77 | 99 | 88 | 141 | 127.9 133.8 | 350 | 1199 | 314 | 6.24 6.76 |
| SEPT． | 17.4 | 401 | 692 | 1872 | 11.78 | 89 | 102 | 96 | 155 |  | 375 390 | 1289 | 316 | 717 |
| OCT． | 19.1 18.8 | 424 | 800 789 | 2195 | $11 \cdot 75$ | 103 | 103 | 103 | 157 | 102．4 | 374 | 1373 | 359 | 6.98 |
| DEC．．．．． | $19.1{ }^{10}$ | 403 | 614 | 2675 | 10.39 | 154 | 122 | 138 | 210 | 101.6 | 360 | 1437 | 320 | 6.74 |
| JAN 1939 | $19 \cdot 2$ | 452 | 744 | 2704 | 11.82 | 98 | 98 | 98 | 154 | $98 \cdot 7$ | 344 | 1436 | 298 | 6.72 |
| FEB． | 19.7 | 518 | 971 | 2334 | $12 \cdot 48$ | 79 | 103 | 91 | 149 | 96.6 |  |  |  |  |

§ Ex Bank Holiday week but not Good Friday．
$\dagger 13$ four－weekly returns for the year．
Four weeks excluding holiday week．

Total for 4 weeks ending approximately at end of month－BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL
Out FEDERATION．
Output of authorised undertakings．－ELExise Statistics，－EOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL，
Revised yarn and waste，derived in Departmental Stores，Co－operatives，multiple and independent shops．For discussion see Board of Trade Journal，Feb．9th，1939．－BANK OF ENGLAND．
Daily averages er telegraph，telephone，savings bank and postal orders．－BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL． Imports entered for home consumption．－BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL．

Tonnage of coods carried on the Railways of Great Britain during the month，excluding free－hauled
Yonthly receipts for goods traffic，excluding cost of collection and delivery till January，1928，then excluding recelpts for collection and delivery．－MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT．

## EXTERNAL TRADE.



* NORMAL SEASONAL Change removed.

EXTERNAL TRADE.

|  | TOTAL IMPORTS (Values). |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | NET IMPORTS Total, $£ \mathrm{Mn}$. |  | EXPORTS OF U.K. GOODS (Values). |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | GOLD, |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Food, Drink and Tobacco. £Mn. |  | Raw Materials.$£ \mathrm{Mn} \text {. }$ |  | Manufactures.$£ \mathrm{Mn} \text {. }$ |  | Total (including Miscellaneous) £Mn. |  |  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Foo } \\ \text { Drink } \\ \text { Toba } \\ \text { £Mn. } \end{gathered}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  | ing eous) | ImPORTs £Mn. | ExPORTs emn |
| 1924 Av.. | 47.6 | * | $33 \cdot 3$ | * | 25.0 | 文 | 106.4 |  | 11.7 | $94 \cdot 8$ | $\star$ | $4 \cdot 7$ | $\star$ | 8.9 | * | 51.6 | $\star$ | 66.8 | ¢ | 3.0 | $4 \cdot 1$ |
| 1929 A | 44.8 |  | $28 \cdot 3$ | - | $27 \cdot 9$ | - | 101.9 |  | $9 \cdot 1$ | 92.8 |  | 4.6 | - | 6.6 | - | $47 \cdot 8$ |  | $60 \cdot 8$ | - | $5 \cdot 2$ | 6.5 |
| 1933 Av | 28.5 | - | 15.0 | - | 12.6 | - | 56 |  | $4 \cdot 1$ | 52.4 | - | $2 \cdot 3$ | - | 3.8 | - | 23.4 | - | $30 \cdot 6$ | - | 21.0 | 5.0 |
| 1934 Av | 29.1 | - | 17.5 |  | 14.3 | - | $61 \cdot 3$ |  | $4 \cdot 3$ | $57 \cdot 1$ | - | $2 \cdot 5$ | - | 4.0 |  | $25 \cdot 4$ | - | 33.0 |  | 21.9 | $10 \cdot 7$ |
| 1935 Av | 29.9 | - | 17.8 | - | 15.4 | - | 63.5 |  | $4 \cdot 6$ | 58.9 | - | $2 \cdot 5$ |  | $4 \cdot 4$ |  | 27.4 | - | $35 \cdot 5$ | - | $20 \cdot 3$ | 14.5 |
| 1936 Av... | 32.2 |  | $20 \cdot 8$ |  | 17.8 | - | $71 \cdot 1$ |  | $5 \cdot 1$ | 66.0 |  | 3.0 |  | $4 \cdot 3$ |  | 28.4 | - | 36.8 |  | 26.2 | $7 \cdot 2$ |
| 1937 Av... | $35 \cdot 9$ | - | $26 \cdot 3$ |  | 22.9 | - | $85 \cdot 7$ | - | $6 \cdot 3$ | $79 \cdot 4$ | - | 3.2 | - | $5 \cdot 4$ | - | 3.7 | - | $43 \cdot 4$ | - | 24.6 | 18.0 |
| 1935 JULY | 29.0 | $30 \cdot 1$ | 17.0 | $18 \cdot 2$ | $15 \cdot 5$ | 15.8 | 61.8 | 64.4 | 4.0 | $57 \cdot 9$ | $60 \cdot 8$ | 26 | $2 \cdot 7$ | $4 \cdot 6$ | $4 \cdot 6$ | 28.4 | $27 \cdot 3$ | 36.4 | $35 \cdot 4$ | 12.0 | . 0 |
| AUG. | 27.0 | 28.4 | $16^{\circ} 0$ | $17 \cdot 2$ | 15.8 | 15.4 | $59 \cdot 1$ | $61 \cdot 3$ | $4 \cdot 2$ | 55.0 | $57 \cdot 7$ | 2.5 | 2.6 | $4 \cdot 1$ | 4.5 | 27.2 | 28.0 | $34 \cdot 9$ | 36.2 | 14.6 | 7.4 |
| SEPT. | 29.6 | 29.8 | $15 \cdot 3$ | $17 \cdot 7$ | 15.5 | 15.7 | $60 \cdot 8$ | 63.6 | 3.8 | 57.0 | $57 \cdot 9$ | $2 \cdot 8$ | $2 \cdot 7$ | $3 \cdot 7$ | $3 \cdot 9$ | 26.7 | $27 \cdot 5$ | $34 \cdot 1$ | 35.0 | 13.0 | 20.4 |
| OCT. | 37.5 | $32 \cdot 1$ | 18.0 | $19 \cdot 3$ | $17 \cdot 5$ | $16 \cdot 1$ | $73 \cdot 4$ | $67 \cdot 9$ | 4.7 | $68 \cdot 7$ | $61 \cdot 6$ | 3.4 | 2.9 | $4 \cdot 7$ | $4 \cdot 3$ | $30 \cdot 6$ | 28.6 | $39 \cdot 9$ | 36.9 | 13.2 | $20 \cdot 7$ |
| NOV. | 34.4 | $30 \cdot 6$ | 19.8 | 19•1 | 16.8 | $16 \cdot 2$ | 71.5 | 66.4 | $4 \cdot 6$ | 66.9 | 60.7 | 3.8 | 3.0 | $5 \cdot 1$ | $4 \cdot 7$ | $29 \cdot 3$ | 28.8 | $39 \cdot 4$ | $37 \cdot 6$ | 16.0 | $12 \cdot 5$ |
| DEC. | 34.4 |  | 23.6 | 20.0 | 15.9 | 16.2 | 74.4 | $67 \cdot 7$ | $5 \cdot 4$ | $69^{\circ}$ | $62 \cdot 3$ | $2 \cdot 7$ | 2.5 | 4.2 | 4.2 | 26.2 | 26.8 | $34 \cdot 9$ | $35 \cdot 3$ | $15 \cdot 9$ | 8.0 |
| 1886 | 31.2 | 31.4 | 22.4 | 19'2 | 16.0 | 16.9 | 70.0 | $67 \cdot 9$ | $4 \cdot 3$ | $65 \cdot 6$ | $62 \cdot 9$ | 2.8 | $2 \cdot 7$ | $4 \cdot 1$ | 42 | 26.6 | 26.6 | 34.5 | 34.5 | 12.2 | . 8 |
| FEB. | 27.5 | 29.7 | 18.9 | $19 \cdot 5$ | 15.7 | 16.8 | $62 \cdot 3$ | 66.2 | $5 \cdot 7$ | 56.7 | 69.4 | 2.5 | $2 \cdot 6$ | $4 \cdot 1$ | $4 \cdot 2$ | 27.6 | 28.6 | $35 \cdot 1$ | 36.4 | $9 \cdot 7$ | 2.4 |
| MAR. | 30.2 | $30 \cdot 9$ | 19.6 | 18.9 | 17.9 | $17 \cdot 1$ | $68 \cdot 0$ | $67 \cdot 2$ | $5 \cdot 9$ | $62 \cdot 1$ | 68.6 | 2.9 | $3 \cdot 1$ | $4 \cdot 1$ | $4 \cdot 1$ | 28.6 | $27 \cdot 6$ | 36.5 | $35 \cdot 7$ | $12 \cdot 9$ | 3.9 |
| APR. | 28.4 | 31.1 | $20 \cdot 0$ | $20 \cdot 4$ | 17.9 | 18.2 | 66.7 | $70 \cdot 1$ | $5 \cdot 9$ | $60 \cdot 7$ | 66.5 | $2 \cdot 4$ | 2.7 | 3.9 | $4 \cdot 1$ | 26.0 | 26.9 | $33 \cdot 4$ | $34 \cdot 8$ | 18.0 | 3.0 |
| MAY | 31.6 | 81.9 | $19 \cdot 9$ | $19 \cdot 9$ | 17.2 | $17 \cdot 1$ | $69 \cdot 2$ | $69 \cdot 4$ | $5 \cdot 6$ | $63 \cdot 5$ | 64.5 | $2 \cdot 7$ | $2 \cdot 9$ | $4 \cdot 5$ | $4 \cdot 3$ | 28.2 | $27 \cdot 8$ | $36 \cdot 4$ | 36.0 | 21.8 | $7 \cdot 7$ |
| JUNE | 31.5 | 32.5 | $19 \cdot 3$ | $20 \cdot 2$ | 16.4 | $17 \cdot 0$ | $67 \cdot 6$ | $70 \cdot 1$ | $5 \cdot 0$ | $62 \cdot 6$ | $66^{\circ} 0$ | $2 \cdot 6$ | 3.0 | 3.5 | 3.7 | $24 \cdot 9$ | 26.6 | $32 \cdot 1$ | 34.5 | $19 \cdot 3$ | 6.4 |
| JULY | 29.9 | 31.1 | $20 \cdot 1$ | 21.5 | 18.2 | 18.5 | $68 \cdot 7$ | 71.6 | $5 \cdot 0$ | 63.7 | 65.9 | 3.0 | 3.2 | 4.6 | 4.6 | 31.5 | $30 \cdot 3$ | $40 \cdot 1$ | $39 \cdot 1$ | 41.5 | 3.2 |
| AUG. | 29.0 | $30 \cdot 6$ | 18.8 | $20 \cdot 1$ | 17.8 | $17 \cdot 4$ | $66 \cdot 1$ | 68.6 | $4 \cdot 4$ | 61.6 | 64.6 | 2.8 | $2 \cdot 9$ | 4.0 | 4.3 | $27 \cdot 5$ | $28 \cdot 3$ | $35 \cdot 3$ | 36.5 | 60.0 | $4 \cdot 6$ |
| SEPT. | $32 \cdot 9$ | 35.1 | 19.6 | 22.7 | $19 \cdot 1$ | $19 \cdot 4$ | $71 \cdot 9$ | 75.5 | 3.9 | 68.0 | 69:1 | 3.0 | $2 \cdot 9$ | $4 \cdot 3$ | 4.5 | 28.8 | $29 \cdot 6$ | $37 \cdot 0$ | $37 \cdot 9$ | 33.6 | 3.9 |
| OCT. | 38.9 | 33.2 | 21.5 | \$3.0 | 19.8 | 18.2 | $80 \cdot 5$ | 74.7 | 4.5 | $76 \cdot 1$ | 68.2 | $3 \cdot 6$ | 3.1 | $4 \cdot 8$ | 4.4 | 32.2 | $30 \cdot 1$ | 41.8 | $38 \cdot 7$ | 19.8 | $18 \cdot 9$ |
| NOV. | 37.1 | 33.0 | 22.8 | $22 \cdot 1$ | 18.4 | 17\% 7 | 78.7 | 73.2 | $4 \cdot 3$ | $74 \cdot 3$ | 67.4 | 3.8 | 3.0 | $4 \cdot 6$ | 42 | 28.9 | 28.3 | 38.4 | 36.5 | 29.4 | $12 \cdot 9$ |
| DEC. | 37.7 | 34.1 | 26.1 | $22 \cdot 1$ | 19.2 | 19.5 | 83.7 | 76.4 | 6.1 | $77 \cdot 6$ | 70.4 | 3.4 | 3.3 | $4 \cdot 9$ | 4.9 | $30 \cdot 3$ | $30 \cdot 9$ | $40 \cdot 5$ | 41.0 | 35.8 | $15 \cdot 8$ |
| 1987 | 32.0 |  |  | 22.0 | 17.6 | 18.6 |  | 732 |  | 70.6 | 67 | 3.0 | 2.9 | 51 | 5:2 | 29.9 | 29.9 | $39 \cdot 1$ | $39 \cdot 1$ | 11.8 | 17.0 |
| FEB. | 30.7 | 34.4 | $22 \cdot 1$ | 22.9 | 18.6 | 20.6 | 71.7 | 78.1 | 6.9 | 64.8 | $70 \cdot 2$ | 3.1 | 3.4 | 4.9 | $5 \cdot 2$ | 29.7 | 31.6 | 38.6 | 41.2 | 41.7 | $17 \cdot 3$ |
| MAR. | $35 \cdot 3$ | 35.8 | 25.0 | $24 \cdot 2$ | $22 \cdot 1$ | $21 \cdot 1$ | $82 \cdot 9$ | $81 \cdot 6$ | 6.7 | 76.2 | 78.0 | 2.9 | 3.0 | $5 \cdot 3$ | $5 \cdot 3$ | 34.2 | 32.9 | $43 \cdot 5$ | $42 \cdot 3$ | $37 \cdot 6$ | 21.9 |
| APR. | $32 \cdot 9$ | 36.1 | 26.0 | 26.4 | $23 \cdot 6$ | 24.0 | 83.0 | $87 \cdot 1$ | $7 \cdot 3$ | $75 \cdot 7$ | 83:0 | $3 \cdot 1$ | 3.5 | 5.6 | $5 \cdot 9$ | 33.4 | 34.5 | $43 \cdot 0$ | $44 \cdot 8$ | $33 \cdot 1$ | 31.0 |
| MAY. | $34 \cdot 2$ | 34.4 | 25.6 | $25 \cdot 6$ | $22 \cdot 9$ | 22.7 | $83 \cdot 2$ | 83.2 | $7 \cdot 4$ | $75 \cdot 8$ | $77 \cdot 0$ | $3 \cdot 1$ | $3 \cdot 3$ | $5 \cdot 5$ | 5.2 | $33 \cdot 3$ | $32 \cdot 8$ | $42 \cdot 7$ | $42 \cdot 1$ | 11.7 | 21.7 |
| JUNE ... | $35 \cdot 8$ | 36.9 | 27.4 | 28.7 | 24.4 | 25.3 | 882 | 91.5 | $7 \cdot 1$ | $81 \cdot 1$ | 85.4 | 3.0 | 3.4 | $5 \cdot 7$ | $5 \cdot 9$ | 34.7 | $37 \cdot 0$ | 44.4 | $47 \cdot 4$ | 32.0 | $27 \cdot 7$ |
| JULY | 34.0 | 35.4 | $26 \cdot 3$ | $28 \cdot 1$ | 24.6 | $25 \cdot 1$ | $85 \cdot 5$ | 86.2 | 6.8 | $78 \cdot 7$ | 82.7 | $3 \cdot 3$ | 3.5 | 6.0 | 5.5 | 37.4 | 36.0 | 476 | $46 \cdot 3$ | $44 \cdot 1$ | 18.9 |
| AUG. | 34.8 | 36.6 | 26.7 | 28.6 | 24.7 | $24 \cdot 1$ | 86.6 | $89 \cdot 8$ | 6.9 | 80.0 | 84.0 | 3.0 | 3.2 | $5 \cdot 3$ | $5 \cdot 7$ | 33.4 | 34.4 | 42.5 | $44 \cdot 1$ | $30 \cdot 7$ | 6.6 |
| SEPT | 36.2 | 36.4 | 26.5 | 30.8 | 24.6 | 24.9 | 87.8 | 92.7 | $5 \cdot 2$ | $82 \cdot 6$ | 83.9 | 3.4 | 3.4 | $5 \cdot 4$ | $5 \cdot 7$ | 34.5 | 35.5 | 44.3 | 45.6 | $15 \cdot 4$ | 21.6 |
| OCT. | 43.4 | $37 \cdot 1$ | 27.9 | 29.9 | 24.4 | 22.4 | 96.2 | 89.9 | $5 \cdot 7$ | $90 \cdot 5$ | $81 \cdot 1$ | 3.4 | $2 \cdot 9$ | $5 \cdot 8$ | $5 \cdot 3$ | 36.7 | 34:4 | 47.2 | 43.8 | $12 \cdot 7$ | 14.6 |
| NOV. | 43.1 | 38.4 | 28.3 | 27.4 | $25 \cdot 3$ | $24 \cdot 3$ | $97 \cdot 3$ | $90 \cdot 7$ | $5 \cdot 3$ | 91.9 | 82.0 | 4.0 | 3.2 | $5 \cdot 3$ | $5 \cdot 0$ | 34.7 | 34.0 | 45.2 | 48.4 | 12.9 | 9.0 |
| DEC. | $42 \cdot 8$ | 38.7 | $27 \cdot 3$ | $23 \cdot 1$ | $23 \cdot 3$ | 23.6 | $94 \cdot 3$ | 86.3 | $5 \cdot 0$ | 89:3 | $80 \cdot 6$ | 3.5 | 3.3 | $4 \cdot 9$ | $4 \cdot 9$ | $33 \cdot 3$ | 34.0 | 43.9 | 44.4 | $11 \cdot 3$ | $8 \cdot 3$ |
| JAN... | 36.1 | 36.8 | 25.7 | 22.0 | 22.5 | 23.8 | 84.9 | 82.2 | 4.8 | $80 \cdot 1$ | 70.7 | 3.0 | 3.0 | $4 \cdot 7$ | 4.7 | 32.6 | 32.6 | 41.2 | 41.2 | 12.7 | $7 \cdot 3$ |
| FEB | 33.2 | 37.2 | 22.5 | 29.3 | 19.5 | 21.6 | $75 \cdot 7$ | $82 \cdot 6$ | 5.5 | $70 \cdot 2$ | \% 6.1 | 2.8 | 3.0 | $4 \cdot 2$ | $4 \cdot 5$ | 29.7 | 31.5 | 37.5 | $39 \cdot 8$ | 14.8 | 4.6 |
| MAR | $37 \cdot 1$ | 38.0 | 24.0 | 23.3 | 23.2 | $22 \cdot 1$ | 84.9 | 84.0 | 5.5 | 79.4 | 81.3 | 2.8 | 2.9 | $4 \cdot 9$ | $4 \cdot 9$ | 33.5 | $32 \cdot 3$ | 42.2 | 41.1 | 28.8 | 13.0 |
| APR. | 32.1 | $35 \cdot 2$ | 21.5 | 21.9 | $19 \cdot 7$ | $20 \cdot 0$ | 73.7 | $77 \cdot 5$ | $5 \cdot 0$ | 68.7 | 75.3 | 2.4 | $2 \cdot 7$ | 4.5 | $4 \cdot 7$ | $29 \cdot 3$ | $30 \cdot 4$ | 37.3 | 38.9 | 20.6 | 9.9 |
| MAY | 35.2 | 35.5 | 20.4 | 20.3 | 19.4 | $19 \cdot 3$ | 75.4 | 75.5 | $7 \cdot 2$ | 68.2 | $69 \cdot 3$ | 2.8 | 3.0 | 4.9 | $4 \cdot 7$ | 29.5 | $29 \cdot 2$ | 38.2 | $37 \cdot 9$ | 27.4 | 7.8 |
| JUNE | 38.4 | 59•7 | 19.4 | $20 \cdot 4$ | $18 \cdot 1$ | 18.7 | $76 \cdot 5$ | 79.4 | $5 \cdot 0$ | 71.5 | $75 \cdot 7$ | $2 \cdot 7$ | 3.0 | 4.5 | 47 | 28.8 | 80•7 | 36.9 | $39 \cdot 3$ | $29 \cdot 6$ | 11.5 |
| JULY | 36.4 | 37.9 | 19.2 | 20.5 | $17 \cdot 7$ | 18.0 | 73.9 | 77.0 | $4 \cdot 6$ | 69.4 | 72.9 | 2.9 | 3.0 | 4.7 | $4 \cdot 7$ | 29.0 | 27.9 | 37.5 | 36.5 | 16.0 | $11 \cdot 1$ |
| AUG. | $35 \cdot 1$ | $37 \cdot 0$ | $20 \cdot 3$ | 21.8 | 18.0 | $17 \cdot 6$ | $74 \cdot 1$ | $77 \cdot 1$ | $5 \cdot 0$ | $69 \cdot 1$ | 72.5 | 3.0 | 3.1 | 4.5 | $4 \cdot 9$ | 28.0 | 28.9 | $36 \cdot 3$ | 37.7 | 12.9 36.4 | $27 \cdot 9$ <br> 9.3 |
| SEPT | $37 \cdot 7$ | 38.0 | 18.0 | $20 \cdot 9$ | 18.7 | 18.9 | 75.0 | 78.4 | 4.0 | 71.0 | 72.1 | $3 \cdot 1$ | 3.0 | 4.6 | 49 | 31.1 | 32.0 | 39.8 | $40 \cdot 9$ | 36.4 | $90 \cdot 3$ |
| OCT. | 39-3 | 33.6 | 19.0 | 20.3 | $20 \cdot 2$ | 18.6 | $79^{\circ} 0$ | 78.0 | $5 \cdot 4$ | 73.6 | 65.9 | 3.7 | 3.2 | 5:3 | $4 \cdot 9$ | $32 \cdot 3$ | 30.3 81.8 | 42.6 | $39 \cdot 7$ | 29.4 3.9 | 73.5 |
| NOV. ... | - 39.1 | 34.8 | 18.7 | $18 \cdot 1$ | 19.7 | 18.9 | 78.0 | 72.3 | $5 \cdot 1$ | $72 \cdot 9$ | $66 \cdot 1$ | 3.8 | 3.0 | $5 \cdot 4$ | 5.0 | 32.5 29.4 | 31.8 | $42 \cdot 9$ $39 \cdot 1$ | 41.0 39.6 | 3.9 7.5 | 24.4 |
| DEC. 1939 | 35.4 |  | 19.8 | 16.8 | 17.8 | $18 \cdot 1$ | $74 \cdot 1$ | $68 \cdot 1$ | 4.8 | $69 \cdot 3$ | $62 \cdot 6$ | 3.0 | 2.9 | $4 \cdot 6$ | 46 | 29.4 | 30.0 | $39 \cdot 1$ | 39.6 | $7 \cdot 5$ | 21.7 |
| JAN... | 35.0 | $35 \cdot 2$ | 21.5 | 18.4 | 18.4 | $19 \cdot 4$ | 75.6 | 73.7 | 4.6 | 71.0 | $68 \cdot 1$ | $3 \cdot 1$ | 3.0 | $4 \cdot 7$ | 4.7 | 30.4 | 30.5 | 39.5 | $39 \cdot 5$ | $4 \cdot 7$ | $12 \cdot 5$ |
| FEB.. |  |  | 17.2 | 17.7 | 17.6 | 19.5 | 65.5 | 71.6 | $4 \cdot 8$ | 60.7 | 65.9 | $2 \cdot 5$ | $2 \cdot 7$ | $4 \cdot 3$ | $4 \cdot 5$ | 30.4 | 32.3 | $38 \cdot 1$ | $40 \cdot 4$ | 3.5 12.8 | $35 \cdot 1$ 68.3 |
| MAR. | . 357 | 36.5 | 19.6 | 19.0 | 21.9 | 20.9 | 78.0 | 77.2 | 4.9 | $73 \cdot 1$ | 74.9 | $3 \cdot 1$ | $3 \cdot 2$ | $4 \cdot 8$ | 48 | 32.7 | 31.4 | 41.6 | $40 \cdot 4$ | 12.8 | $68 \cdot 3$ |

* NORMAL SEASONAL CHANGE REMOVED

SHIPPING, UNEMPLOYMENT.


: 16-65 years. Ex. Agriculture and any disqualifled for beneflt by trade dispute.
\& Upper line, old basis. Lower line,

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SHIPPING-ENTERED SHIPPING FREIGHTS

## UNEMPLOYMENT

INSURED PERSONS-

Tonnage of British and Foreign vessels entering and leaving British ports with cargoes during month.-BOARD
OF TRADE MONTHLY ACCOUNTS OF TRADE \& NAVIGATION. For description see Journal of RSS, Part I. Chamber of Shipping index number as published by "The Statist." 1938.-PREPARED BY DR. ISSERLIS.
(h) month to September, 1937, thereafter one Number of books lodged at Labour Exchange on
week earlier,-MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE

|  | AVERAGE OF DAILY RATES. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Paris } \\ & \text { f. to £ } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Brus- } \\ \text { sels } \\ \text { b. to } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Milan } \\ & \text { 1. to } 2 \end{aligned}$ | Berlin Rm.to£ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Amster- } \\ & \text { damm } \\ & \text { fl, to } £ \end{aligned}$ | $\left\{\begin{array}{l} \text { War- } \\ \text { saw } \\ \text { z. to } £ \end{array}\right.$ | Prague kc. to £ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Zurich } \\ & \text { f. to } £ \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Stock- } \\ & \text { holm } \\ & \text { kr. to } £ \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { New York } \\ \$ \text { to } £ \end{gathered}$ | $\left(\begin{array}{l} \text { Mon- } \\ \text { treal } \\ \text { \& to } £ \end{array}\right.$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Buenos } \\ & \text { Aires8 } \\ & \text { p. to } £ \end{aligned}$ | $\left\|\begin{array}{c} \text { Rio de } \\ \text { Janeiro } \\ \text { d. per mil. } \end{array}\right\|$ | Bombay <br> d. per rup. | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Hong. } \\ & \text { kong } \\ & \text { d. per } 8 \end{aligned}$ | Kobe <br> d. per yen |
| 1935 |  |  |  |  |  | For | 919 то 1 | 934 | Ste | arlier B | Bulletia |  |  |  |  |  |
| JAN. | 74-36 | 20.99 | 57.47 | 12.22 | 7.26 | 25.97 | $117 \cdot 33$ | 15.15 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.895 | 4.867 | 19.41 \|f | 3.21 | $18 \cdot 107$ | 21.21 | $14 \cdot 00$ |
| FEB. | 73.92 | 20.89 | 57.43 | $12 \cdot 15$ | $7 \cdot 21$ | $25 \cdot 82$ | 116.66 | 15.06 | 19.40 | $4 \cdot 875$ | 4.878 | 18.98 | 3.28 | 18.156 | 21.87 | 14.01 |
| MAR. | $72 \cdot 11$ | 21.01 | $57 \cdot 17$ | 11.82 | 7.03 | 25.20 | $113 \cdot 74$ | 14.68 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.776 | 4.820 | 18.88 | 3.15 | $18 \cdot 127$ | $24 \cdot 13$ | 14.09 |
| APR. | 73.28 | 28.49 | 58.28 | 12.00 | $7 \cdot 17$ | 2561 | 115•57 | 14.93 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.835 | $4 \cdot 856$ | $18 \cdot 90$ | 3.01 | $18 \cdot 117$ | 26.28 | $14 \cdot 10$ |
| MAY | $74 \cdot 19$ | 28.85 | 59:37 | $12 \cdot 22$ | 7.23 | $25 \cdot 96$ | $117 \cdot 30$ | $15 \cdot 13$ | 19.40 | 4.890 | 4.892 | 18.91 | 2.72 | 18.128 | $29 \cdot 18$ | 14.14 |
| JUNE | $74 \cdot 68$ | $29 \cdot 13$ | 59.75 | 12.21 | $7 \cdot 27$ | $26 \cdot 16$ | 117.94 | $15 \cdot 10$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.936 | 4.939 | 18.70 | 2.61 | 18.126 | 28.02 | 14.13 |
| JULY | $74 \cdot 79$ | 29-30 | 60.25 | 12.27 | 7.29 | $26 \cdot 18$ | 118.77 | $15 \cdot 13$ | 19.40 | 4.956 | 4.963 | 18.65 | $2 \cdot 62$ | 18.125 | 25.80 | 14.14 |
| AUG. | 75.01 | $29 \cdot 43$ | $60 \cdot 49$ | $12 \cdot 32$ | $7 \cdot 33$ | 26.21 | $119 \cdot 46$ | $15 \cdot 13$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 971$ | $4 \cdot 980$ | 18.52 | $2 \cdot 58$ | 18.125 | $24 \cdot 33$ | $14 \cdot 18$ |
| SEPT. | $74 \cdot 84$ | 29.25 | 60.46 | 12.25 | $7 \cdot 30$ | 26.20 | $119 \cdot 20$ | $15 \cdot 17$ | 19.40 | 4.933 | 4.967 | $18 \cdot 37$ | $2 \cdot 62$ | 18.125 | $24 \cdot 37$ | 14.11 |
| OCT. | $74 \cdot 49$ | $29 \cdot 13$ | $60 \cdot 30$ | 12.20 | $7 \cdot 24$ | 26.06 | 118.48 | 15.08 | 19.40 | 4.908 | 4.976 | 18.01 | 2.75 | 18.125 | 24.09 | 14.05 |
| NOV. | 74.77 | 29•15 |  | 12.24 | 7.26 | 26.20 | $119 \cdot 06$ | $15 \cdot 18$ | 19.40 | 4.925 | 4.976 | 18.09 | 2.72 | $18 \cdot 125$ | 17.91 | 14.02 |
| ${ }^{\text {DEC. }} 1936$ | 74.69 | 29:24 | * | $12 \cdot 25$ | $7 \cdot 27$ | $26 \cdot 15$ | 118.89 | $15 \cdot 20$ | 19.40 | 4.929 | 4.975 | 18.06 | $2 \cdot 68$ | $18 \cdot 126$ | 16.04 | 14.01 |
| JAN. | $74 \cdot 86$ | 29.29 | 61.71 | $12 \cdot 28$ | 728 | 26.20 | 119-19 | 15.19 | 19.40 | 4.960 | 4.963 | $18 \cdot 24$ | $2 \cdot 68$ | 18.152 | 15.66 | 14.04 |
| FEB. | $74 \cdot 84$ | $29 \cdot 34$ | $62 \cdot 15$ | 12.29 | 7.28 | 26.20 | 119-21 | $15 \cdot 14$ | 19.40 | 4.996 | 4.993 | 18.07 | $2 \cdot 74$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | $15 \cdot 74$ | 14.08 |
| MAR. | 74.92 | 29.28 | 62.35 | 12.29 | 7.27 | 26.21 | 119.31 | 15.14 | 19.40 | 4.971 | 4.977 | 18.04 | $2 \cdot 73$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 15.93 | 13.98 |
| APR. | 75.47 | ${ }_{29} 29.35$ | 62.66 63 | 12.28 | 7.28 | 26.24 | 119.90 | $15 \cdot 17$ $15 \cdot 36$ | 19.40 | 4.944 | 4.967 | 17.98 | 2.71 | 18.125 | 15.80 | 14.03 |
| JUNE | 76:14 | 29.70 | $63 \cdot 84$ | $12 \cdot 46$ | 7.42 | 26.71 | $121 \cdot 28$ | $15 \cdot 48$ | 19.40 | 5.020 | 5.032 | 18.13 | 2.72 | 18.125 | 15.71 15.44 | 14.06 14.07 |
| JULY | 75.86 | 29 | 63 | 12.45 | $7 \cdot 38$ | 26.59 | $120 \cdot 97$ | $15 \cdot 35$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | $5 \cdot 023$ | $5 \cdot 027$ | 18.42 | $2 \cdot 77$ | 18•125 | $15 \cdot 33$ | 14.03 |
| AUG. | $76 \cdot 33$ | 29•81 | $63 \cdot 84$ | 12.49 | $7 \cdot 40$ | 26.73 | $121 \cdot 59$ | 15.42 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 5.028 | $5 \cdot 026$ | 18.02 | $2 \cdot 80$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 14.90 | 14.05 |
| SEP, | 76.74 | $29 \cdot 84$ | 64:26 | 12.57 | 7.58 | 26.78 | $122 \cdot 17$ | 16.01 | 19.40 | 5.041 | 5.039 | 17.76 | $2 \cdot 81$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 14.86 | 14.04 |
| OCT. | 105:09 | 29•10 | 92.96 | $12 \cdot 19$ | $9 \cdot 13$ | $26 \cdot 16$ | 134.39 | $21 \cdot 31$ | 19.40 | $4 \cdot 900$ | 4.898 | 17.56 | 2.87 | 18.125 | 14.88 | 14.03 |
| NOV. | $105 \cdot 17$ | $28 \cdot 91$ | $92 \cdot 86$ | $12 \cdot 15$ | 9.05 | 26.00 | 138.09 | $21 \cdot 27$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.888 | $4 \cdot 880$ | 17.54 | $2 \cdot 89$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 14.95 | 14.03 |
| DEC. | $105 \cdot 14$ | $29 \cdot 03$ | 93•19 | $12 \cdot 19$ | 8.99 | 26.00 | 139.26 | 21.35 | 19.40 | 4.907 | 4.903 | 16.42 | $2 \cdot 93$ | 18:144 | 14.93 | 13.96 |
| JAN. | $105 \cdot 14$ | 29.11 | 93.23 | $12 \cdot 19$ | 8.96 | 26.00 | $140 \cdot 48$ | $21 \cdot 39$ | 19.40 | $4 \cdot 908$ | 4.909 | $16 \cdot 16$ | 2.95 | $18 \cdot 151$ | 14.95 | 13.95 |
| FEB. | 105-11 | 29.02 | 92:99 | $12 \cdot 16$ | 8.95 | 25.89 | $140 \cdot 30$ | 21.44 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.897 | 4.895 | 16.24 | $3 \cdot 01$ | 18.142 | 14.94 | 13.98 |
| MAR. | 106.31 | 28.99 | 92.81 | $12 \cdot 15$ | 8.93 | 25.72 | $140 \cdot 00$ | 21.43 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.885 | 4.882 | 16.23 | 3.01 | $18 \cdot 125$ | 14.94 | 14.00 |
| APR, | 109.31 | 29.15 | 93.40 | $12 \cdot 22$ | 8.98 | 25.89 | 141:01 | 21.54 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.916 | 4.909 | 16.17 | 3.07 | $18 \cdot 125$ | 14.94 | 14.00 |
| JUNE | $110 \cdot 82$ | -29.28 | 93 <br> 93 <br> 80 | $12 \cdot 30$ $12 \cdot 31$ | 8.99 8.98 | $\begin{aligned} & 26.07 \\ & 26.03 \end{aligned}$ | 141.71 | 21.60 21.57 | 19.40 | 4.939 | 4-931 | 16.24 | $3 \cdot 13$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 14.91 | 14.00 |
| JULY |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| AUG. | 132.85 |  | 94.34 | $12 \cdot 35$ | 9.01 | 26.22 | $142 \cdot 41$ | 21.67 | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 966$ | 4.972 | 16.43 | $3 \cdot 22$ | 18.125 | 14.68 | 13.97 |
| SEPT. | $140 \cdot 37$ | $29 \cdot 42$ | 94.14 | $12 \cdot 34$ | 8.98 | 26.25 | 142.83 | 21.70 | 19.40 | 4.983 | 4.983 | 16.49 | 3.15 | 18.125 | 14.92 | 14.00 |
| OCT. | $147 \cdot 97$ | 29-39 | 94-18 | $12 \cdot 33$ | 8.96 | 26.25 | 141.56 | 21.52 | 19.40 | 4.956 | 4.954 | 16.56 | 2.83 | 18.125 18.125 | 15.00 15.00 | 14.00 |
| NOV. | $147 \cdot 19$ | 29:37 | 94.91 | $12 \cdot 37$ | 9.01 | 26.37 | 142.06 | 21.58 | 19.40 | 4.994 | 4.990 | 16.86 | 2.77 | 18.125 | 15.00 1500 | 14.00 14.00 |
| DEC. | 147.16 | $29 \cdot 41$ | 94.99 | 12.40 | 8.99 | 26.37 | 142:20 | 21.61 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.997 | 4.998 | 17.01 | $2 \cdot 64$ | 18.125 | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| 1938 | 149.89 | 29.53 | 95.00 | 12.41 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FEB. | 152:87 | 29.56 | 95:37 | 12.41 | 8.97 | 26.43 | 142 | 21.62 | 19.40 | 5.000 | 5.001 | 17.04 | *2.8 | $18 \cdot 125$ | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| MAR. | 159.63 | 29.53 | $94 \cdot 75$ | 12.39 | 8.97 | $26 \cdot 39$ | 142.29 | 21.63 | 19.40 | 5.018 | 5.016 | 18.83 | $2 \cdot 82$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| APR. | $160 \cdot 90$ | 29.54 | 94.63 | $12 \cdot 38$ | 8.96 | 26.39 | $142 \cdot 86$ | 21.67 | 19.40 | 4.979 | ${ }_{5} 5006$ | 19.48 | 2.817 ${ }^{\text {2 }}$ | 18.125 | 14.92 | 13.06 |
| MAY | $175 \cdot 14$ | 29.50 | $94 \cdot 42$ | $12 \cdot 36$ | 8.97 | $26 \cdot 35$ | 142.76 | 21.75 | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 965$ | 5.007 | 19:00 | $2.81{ }^{\text {t }}+$ | 17.910 | 14.91 | 14.00 14.00 |
| JUNE | $178 \cdot 17$ | $29 \cdot 23$ | 94.22 | $12 \cdot 31$ | 8.96 | 26.29 | 142.61 | 21.66 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.960 | 5012 | 19.02 | $2 \cdot 81$ | 11.795 | 14.94 | 14.00 |
| JULY | $178 \cdot 15$ | 29.14 | 93.71 |  | 8.95 |  | 142.51 | 21.54 | 19.40 | 4.931 | 4.959 | 18.94 |  | $17 \cdot 504$ | 14.99 |  |
| AUG. | 178.55 | 28.92 | ${ }^{92} \cdot 75$ | 12.17 | 8.94 | 25.93 | 141.32 | 21.32 | 19.40 | $4 \cdot 881$ | 4-897 | 18.87 | $2 \cdot 88 \mathrm{I} \dagger$ | 17.897 | $15 \cdot 00$ | 14.00 |
| OCT. | 178.71 | 28.20 | 91.27 90.64 | 12.02 11.90 | 8.90 8.77 | 25.50 | 139.36 | 21.25 | 19.40 | 4.805 | 4.831 | $19 \cdot 00$ | $2.93+\dagger$ | 17.902 | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| NOV. | 178.68 | 27.84 | 89.51 | 11.76 | 8.67 | 25.04 | 138.35 | 20.99 | 19.40 | 4.769 | 4.812 | 18.99 | $2.988+$ | 17.933 | 14.97 | 14.00 |
| DEC. | 177.48 | 27.72 | 88.75 | 11.65 | 8.59 | 24.78 | 136.36 | 20.79 20.65 | 19.40 19 |  |  |  | 3.02tt | 17.956 | 14.94 | 14.00 |
| 1939 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2065 | 1940 |  | 4.706 | $20 \cdot 55$ | $3.06 \ddagger \dagger$ | 17.923 | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| FAN. | 177.49 | $27 \cdot 63$ | 88.73 | 11.64 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FEB. | $176 \cdot 98$ | $27 \cdot 79$ | 89:05 | 11.67 | 8.74 | 24.84 | 136.82 | $20 \cdot 66$ | 19.40 | $4 \cdot 687$ | $4 \cdot 708$ | $20 \cdot 35$ | $3.06{ }_{+}^{\dagger}+$ | 17.937 | 14.93 | 14.00 |
| Mar. 4 | 176.93 | 27.87 | $89 \cdot 12$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| , 11 | $176 \cdot 90$ | 27.88 | $89 \cdot 14$ | 11.68 | 8.83 | $24 \cdot 87$ | $137.00$ | $20 \cdot 63$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.690 | 4.703 | $20 \cdot 30$ | $3 \cdot 06 \pm+$ | 17.971 | 14.92 | 14.00 14.00 |
| " 18 | 176.85 | 27.85 | 89.09 | 11.68 | 8.83 | 24.90 | (a) | $20 \cdot 64$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 686$ | 4•703 | $20 \cdot 29$ | $3.06 \pm+$ | 17.968 | 14.91 | 14.00 |
| A ${ }^{\text {pr }}$. 1 | 176.78 | 27.83 | 89.04 | 11.68 | 8.82 | 24.90 |  | 20.81 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4. 683 | 4.706 | 20.30 | $3.06{ }^{+}$ | 17968 | 14.91 | 1400 |
| ,, 8 | 176.75 | 27.82 | 89.01 89.00 | 11.67 | 8.82 | $24 \cdot 90$ |  | 20.85 | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 682$ | 4.703 | $20 \cdot 31$ | 3.06 t $\dagger$ | 17.958 | 14.87 | 14.00 |
| ,, 15 | 176.75 | 27.83 | 89:00 | 11.68 | 8.82 | 24.87 24.92 |  | 20.86 20.87 | 19.40 | $4 \cdot 682$ | 4.700 | $20 \cdot 22$ | $304{ }^{+}$ | 17.937 | 14.74 | 14.00 |
| ,. 22 | 176.75 | 27.85 | 89:00 | 11.68 | 8.82 | 24.92 |  | 20.87 20.86 | 19.40 19.40 | 4.681 | $4 \cdot 708$ | 20.16 | $3.07 \pm+$ | 17.937 | 14.69 | 14.00 |

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SUPPLEMENT TO MONTHLY BULLETIN<br>voL. XVII.<br>No. IV.<br>MAY 8th, 1939

INTERNATIONAL SURVEY
U.S.A.

CANADA
FRANCE
GERMANY
ITALY
BELGIUM
NETHERLANDS
POLAND

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## UNITED KINGDOM.

Additional Figures published since April 24th, 1939.


## INTERNATIONAL SURVEY.

May 5th, 1939.

FOR a considerable time the business activity of the world has been influenced by conflicting tendencies in Europe and the United States. Since the middle of 1937 American business has fallen, risen and begun to fall again. In the European industrial countries the fall of business was generally later, slower and less general than in the United States ; and now, mainly owing to the stimulus of defence expenditure, signs of expansion appear. The latest available statistics suggest that this expansion more than offsets the sagging of activity in the United States.

In the United Kingdom the state of employment improved considerably in February and March, so that the number of insured persons employed in March was greater than a year previously. The improvement was much more than seasonal and was found in nearly every industry. The improvement in textile employment was especially marked. The output of steel rose sharply to the prosperity level of the end of 1937, and that of coal is now only slightly below the level of a year ago. Output statistics for engineering and shipbuilding do not adequately reflect government activity, but their employment statistics show improvement since the beginning of the year, though not to the level of a year ago. Our index of production for the first quarter of the year stood at III. 4 (\% of 1924) as against I08.8 in the previous quarter and 122.8 in the first quarter of 1938, but it probably underestimates the recent expansion because it is largely based on quantities of primary materials used. The Economist index of general business activity was 105 $\frac{1}{2}$ (\% of 1935) in March as against 107 in March, 1938.

Amongst other European countries France continues to show all-round improvement, in spite of the prevailing international tension and as yet largely independently of expenditure on armaments. In Germany all available labour and materials are in employment. In Belgium, which is more subject to overseas influences than other countries, industrial activity has been stable at a rather lower level than that of last autumn. In Italy armament expenditure has been increased, but the latest statistics of production do not yet show expansion this year. In Sweden there has beent some improvement.

In the United States the trend of business has been slightly downward. In February and in March the seasonally adjusted Federal Reserve

Board index of industrial production stood at 98 (\% of 1923-25) as against 79 in March, 1938, and the 1938 peak of 104 in December. Preliminary data for April, however, suggest that production has declined since March. The Annalist monthly index of business activity was the same in both February and March, but the New York Times weekly index fell by three points in the first fortnight of April. Steel mill activity normally reaches its annual peak in March, but the weekly index showed hardly any increase over February, and it has since fallen to the lowest level ( $48 \%$ in the week commencing May Ist) since the first week of last October. Other principal series show stability or moderate weakening. The widespread weakness is at least partly due to the coal strike which has now extended to all the main coalfields.

The commodity markets have continued to show minor and irregular movements during the past month. In spite of war fears, the wheat markets remain lifeless. Competitive subsidisation by the governments of exporting countries continues, and on April 20th it was announced that the United States wheat subsidy would be continued during the coming season. Plans are also in their final stages for the release of a large quantity of United States loan cotton under subsidy, and the price of cotton remains low. Stocks of rubber have been falling moderately for several months, but the price remains stable. Stocks of copper have recently risen and in the United States the price was for a short time last month cut to Ioc. per lb. The price of tin, however, has risen owing to American re-stocking demand, and is now not far short of the point at which the Buffer Pool may begin to sell. On May 4th it was announced that negotiations had been opened between the Governments of the United Kingdom and the United States for the barter of raw materials and foodstuffs, and it is understood that the exchange of surplus American wheat and cotton for tin and rubber is contemplated.

The most recent statistics of international trade show no change in general tendency, except for the United States, whose imports now appear to be running at a definitely higher level than a year ago. United Kingdom exports are being well maintained, while the decline in imports is now principally due to the fall of prices since last year. Germany continues roughly to balance the trade of the old Reich, but to strike a substantially passive balance for
the new Reich. The trading position of the principal raw material countries, except that of South Africa, continues weak. On April 22nd the New Zealand Government announced a drastic reduction of imports for the second half of this year, while Argentine imports have been reduced to the lowest level for over five years.

Security markets have everywhere been depressed since the middle of March, owing to the persistent international tension. The declines have been especially heavy in New York, where doubts concerning the domestic outlook have added to depressing influences from Europe.

In spite of the state of international relations and the extraordinary expenditure of public funds everywhere, the exchange rates of the principal currencies have remained stable. Only the belga has been weak, mainly owing to political uncertainty in Belgium. Gold continues to flow across the Atlantic in large volume, and by the end of April the United States stock reached the unprecedented amount of $\$ 15,800$ Mn .

In recent weeks the Government's spending programme has become the most important influence on the volume of investment in the United Kingdom, and in the near future it is
likely to dominate the whole of domestic business activity. In the coming months British unemployment may therefore be expected to decline rapidly, and hindrances to the full employment of labour may shortly become a very serious problem. Nevertheless, the effect of the British expansion may not be wholly stimulating to the rest of the world. A programme of government expenditure through loans, and not through taxation, is likely to increase the passive balance of trade, and the selective control of imports or the diversion of foreign trade along bilateral channels may be adopted. While price rises may benefit some countries, others would be injured by such control of British trade.

In the United States private investors consider the outlook unpromising. But government expenditure is still rising. As long as the rate of expenditure is maintained, the level of activity cannot fall far. A serious decline in the United States is therefore not to be expected, while if government expenditure increases considerably some improvement may occur this year.

For the world as a whole the coming months are likely to see a rising level of activity, while, however, the conditions will be prepared for future maladjustment and dislocation.

## RECENT MOVEMENTS IN UNITED STATES.

Information communicated by Miss DOROTHY WESCOTT, Assistant Editor of the Review of Economic Statistics, Harvard University.

April 19th, 1939.

GENERAL SUMMARY. - As March opened, security prices in the United States were rising above February levels and were recovering the greater part of the losses incurred since January. Adjusted output in certain important lines of industry was showing some improvement over the volume reported for late February ; and the Bureau of Labor Statistics weekly index of wholesale commodity prices was rising, while prices of commodities sensitive to changing industrial conditions were the highest since November. The new political crisis developing in Europe at the middle of the month, however, caused a sharp drop in stock prices; and in the later weeks, disappointing reports of first-quarter business in this country, together with continued European disturbances, caused further sharp declines which have continued into April. The New York Stock

Exchange all-inclusive price index, based on end-of-month quotations, was on March 3Ist the lowest since last May. The increase in business volumes for the month as a whole barely approximated the usual seasonal advance, the Harvard index of business remaining about the same as in February. Open-market money rates continued very low.

No new constructive governmental legislation affecting business has developed, and government expenditures-particularly for recovery and relief -have continued to mount. For the first three months of the current calendar year, expenditures were 42 I Mn . dollars above those a year ago ; and in the fiscal year which began last July ist, expenditures through March, 1939, have exceeded those for the period July, 1937March, 1938, by I,221 Mn.

BUSINESS VOLUMES.-Preliminary reports of developments in the various lines of

FINANCE，PRICES．

|  | Basic Series |  |  |  | Bank Debits |  | F．R． Banks |  | F．R．Member Banks |  |  |  | n\＃g00000 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { INTEREST } \\ & \text { RATES } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  | PRICES |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  $10 \mathrm{Mn} .$ $5 \mathrm{~S}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | In． 8 |  |  |  |  |  | Mn． 8 |  | Wholes <br>  <br> \％of 19 |  |  |  |
| 1924 Av． | － | 286 | 3.90 | $3 \cdot 74$ | 2196 | 1901 | 374 | 544 | 1720 |  | 494 | － | $+21.5$ |  | 3.08 |  | 534 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 1929 Av． | $149 \cdot 0$ | 386 | $5 \cdot 85$ | $7 \cdot 69$ | 5021 | 2768 | 950 | 449 | 2260 |  | 569 | 1117 | $+14.6$ | $5 \cdot 2$ | 7.61 | 283 | 966 | 97 | 104.9 | 92 |  |  |
| 1933 Av． | 45.8 | 184 | 1.62 | $1 \cdot 11$ | 1349 | 1221 | 282 | 2133 | 1753 |  | 838 | 1101 | － 14.5 | 2.5 | 1.14 | 76 | 87 | 67 | 51.4 | 71.5 | 68 | $73$ |
| 1934 Av． | 52.5 57.8 | 207 | 1.00 0.76 | 0．91 | 1383 | 1383 | 36 | 2457 2435 | 1869 |  | 1033 | 1272 | ＋ 94.6 $+\quad 144.9$ | 1.5 1.5 | 1.00 .56 | 90 | 183 | 76.5 81.5 | $65 \cdot 3$ 78 | 78.5 | 76 | $78$ |
| 1935 Av． | 57.8 | 234 | 0.76 0.75 | 0.57 1.16 | 1533 | 1594 | 7.5 6 | 2435 2434 | 1999 |  | 11958 | 1460 | +144.9 $+\quad 93.3$ | 1.5 1.5 | .56 .92 | 110 | 396 | 81.5 82.5 | 78.7 80.9 | $77 \cdot 9$ 79.6 | 81a | 82 |
| 1936 Av． | 77.0 | 291 | 0.94 | 1.35 | 1649 | 1959 | 14 | 2507 | 2220 | 460 | 1266 | 1510 | +132.1 | 1.3 | 1.00 | 152 | 333 | 88 | 86.5 | 79.6 85.5 | 82 851 | 84 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 1986 \\ & \text { JAN. } \end{aligned}$ | 75.8 | 242 | 0.75 | 1.00 | 1792 | 1750 | 6 | 2435 | 2093 |  | 1285 | 1382 | $+45.6$ | 1.5 | 75 | 133 | 412 | 82 | 78 | 79 | 81.7 |  |
| FEB． | 77.3 | 242 | $0 \cdot 75$ | 1.00 | 1581 | 1577 | 8 | 2435 | 2105 |  | 1307 | 1406 | － 16.6 | 1.5 | －75 | 138 | 303 | 82 | 79.5 | 79 | 80.6 | 83 |
| MARCH | 77.4 | 247 | 0.75 | 1.00 | 1963 | 1786 | 6 | 2435 | 2145 |  | 1322 | 1388 | ＋ 5.5 | 1.5 | －75 | 142 | 767 | 81 | 76.5 | 79 | 79.5 | 83 |
| APRIL | 71.2 | 253 | 0.75 | 1.00 | 1729 | 1750 | 6 | 2435 | 2174 |  | 1338 | 1398 | ＋ 28.1 | 1.5 | －75 | 142 | 1003 | 81 | 77 | 79 | 79.7 | 83 |
| MAY | 74.4 | 260 | 0.75 | $1 \cdot 18$ | 1623 | 1700 | 5 | 2435 | 2183 |  | 1348 | 1437 | $+170.0$ | 1.5 | 1.0 | 138 | 420 | 80 | 75 | 79 | 79.9 | 83.5 |
| JUNE | $75 \cdot 8$ | 272 | $0 \cdot 75$ | $1 \cdot 25$ | 1862 | 1888 | 6 | 2433 | 2237 |  | 1384 | 1456 | $+277.8$ | 1.5 | 1.0 | 141 | 733 | 80.5 | 78 | 79 | 83.8 | 84 |
| JULY | $80 \cdot 3$ | 276 | 0.75 | 1.25 | 1620 | 1862 | 3 | 2433 | 2248 |  | 1411 | 1475 | $+154$ | 1.5 | 1.0 | 148 | 339 | 82 | 81.5 | 79.5 | 84 | 84 |
| AUGUST | $80 \cdot 9$ | 274 | $0 \cdot 75$ | 1.25 | 1436 | 1711 | 6 | 2433 | 2230 |  | 1393 | 1478 | ＋ 67.5 | 1.5 | 1.0 | 151 | 297 | 83 | 84 | 80 | 84 | 84 |
| SEP＇ | 81.5 | 268 | 0.75 | 1.25 | 1566 | 1759 | 8 | 2433 | 2252 |  | 1389 | 1496 | $+171.8$ |  | 1.0 | 153 | 409 | 83 | 84 | 80 | 84.3 | 84.5 |
| OCT． | 86.5 | 268 | 0.75 | 1.25 | 1717 | 2014 | 7 | 2433 | 2257 |  | 1385 | 1515 | $+218.8$ | 1.5 | 1.0 | 160 | 466 | 83 | 84 | 80.5 | 82.8 | 84.5 |
| NOV． | 88.3 | 280 | 0.75 | 1.25 | 1739 | 1848 | 6 | 2433 | 2244 |  | 1369 | 1536 | ＋ 758 | 1.5 | 1.0 | 166 | 381 | 84 | 85 | 81 | 82.5 | 84.5 |
| DEC． 1937 | 87.8 | 304 | 0.75 | 1.25 | 2266 | 2324 | 7 | 2433 | 2276 |  | 1373 | 1554 | ＋ 57.0 | 1.5 | 1.0 | 164 | 726 | 86 | 88.5 | 82.5 | 82.9 | 85 |
| JAN ． | 90.4 | 283 | 0.75 | 125 | 1910 | 2038 | 2 | 2433 | 2273 |  | 1374 | 1552 | $+121 \cdot 3$ | 1.5 | 1.0 | 167 | 618 | 87.5 | 91.5 | 83.5 | 84.6 | 85.5 |
| FEB．．． | 90.8 | 287 | 0.75 | 1.25 | 1691 | 1762 | 3 | 2433 | 2260 |  | 1362 | 1557 | ＋120．3 |  |  | 171 | 562 | 88 | 91.5 | 84.5 | 84.5 | 86 |
| MARCH | 90.2 83.4 | 293 | 0.82 1.00 | 1.25 | 2040 | 2162 | 7 | 2433 | 2261 |  | 1332 | 1543 | $+154 \cdot 3$ | 1.5 | 1.0 | 172 | 384 | 89.5 | 94 | 85.5 | 85.4 | 86.5 |
| APRI | 82.4 | 301 | 1.00 | 1.35 | 1708 | 2005 | 10 | 2494 | 2228 |  | 1288 | 1528 | ＋215．8 | 1.5 | 10 | 163 | 321 | 89.5 | 92 | 86.5 | 85.6 | 87 |
| JUNE | 78.4 | 301 | 1.00 | 1.38 | 1511 | 1929 | 14 | 2531 2531 | 2220 2233 | 430 | 1268 | 1542 1530 | ＋155．4 |  |  | 162 155 | 269 571 | 89 89 | 90 88.5 | 86.5 86.5 | 86.5 86.2 | 87.5 87.5 |
| JULY | 84.6 | 302 | 1.00 | 1.38 | 1675 | 2015 | 14 | 2530 | 2222 | 440 | 1248 | 1498 | $+175.4$ |  | 1.0 | 164 | 342 | 89.5 | 89.5 | 86.5 | $85 \cdot 9$ | 87.5 |
| AUGUST．． | $80 \cdot 3$ | 302 | 1.00 | 1.38 | 1348 | 1840 | 17 | 2529 | 2233 | 456 | 1240 | 1492 | ＋104．8 |  | 1.0 | 168 | 188 | 89 | 86.5 | 86.5 | 85.5 | 87.5 |
| SEPT． OC＇1． | 69.4 | 293 | 1.00 | 1.38 | 1472 | 1864 | 24 | 3529 | 2219 | 473 | 1216 | 1484 | ＋145．5 |  | 1.0 | 146 | 225 | 89 | 86 | 86 | 85.8 | 88 |
| NOV． | 57.3 | 268 | 1.00 | $1 \cdot 38$ | 1615 | 1992 | 22 | 2529 | 2189 | 483 | 1200 | 1476 | $+90.5$ | 1.0 | 1.0 | 126 | 206 | 87 | 80.5 | 85.5 | 84.9 | 88 |
|  | 54.6 | 283 | 1.00 | 1.38 | 1343 | 1816 | 20 | 2549 | 2156 | 474 | 1200 | 1464 | $+22.1$ | 1.0 | 1.0 | 114 | 136 | 85 | 75.5 | 84.5 | 83.6 | 87．5 |
| 1988 | 5 | 283 | 100 | 138 | 1828 | 2083 | 16 | 2567 | 2148 | 463 | 1203 | 1457 | $+18.0$ | 1.0 | 1.0 | 114 | 180 | $83 \cdot 5$ | 73 | 84 | 82.6 | 87 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { JAN. } \\ & \text { FEB. } \end{aligned}$ | 54.6 57.3 | 260 | 1.00 1.00 | 1.38 1.38 | 1448 | 1760 | 11 | 2565 | 2128 | 446 | 1215 | 1444 | $+21$ | 1.0 | 1.0 | 117 | 122 | 82.5 | 71.5 | 83.5 | $80 \cdot 3$ | 86 |
| MARCH | 57.3 44.2 | 250 252 | 1.00 1.00 | 1.38 1.38 | 1091 | 1462 | 10 | 2565 | 2121 | 439 | 1228 | 1451 | $+\quad 80$ | 1.0 | 1.0 | 115 | 200 | 81.5 | 70 | 83.5 | 78.4 | 85 |
| APRIL． | 49.8 | 254 | 1.00 | 1.38 | 1475 | 1736 | 10 | 2565 | 2107 | 433 | 1219 | 1436 | ＋ 52.9 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 109 | 245 | 81.5 | 70.5 | 83 | 78.6 |  |
| MAY | 48.1 | 254 | 1.00 | 1.38 | 1283 | 1601 | 8 | 2565 | 2073 | 408 | 1222 | 1444 | +52.1 <br> $+\quad 52.8$ |  | 1.0 1.0 | 103 | 352 |  | 68.5 67.5 | 82 82 | 79.4 79.1 | 85 |
| JUNE | 58.3 | 254 | 1.00 | 1.38 | 1564 | 1716 | 9 | 2565 | 2070 | 395 | 1231 | 1493 | +558 +55 | 1.0 |  | 108 | 506 |  |  | 81.5 | 80.2 | 85 |
| JULY <br> AUG | 62.2 | 260 | 1.00 | $1 \cdot 38$ | 1383 | 1668 | 8 | 2565 | 2053 | 388 | 1232 | 1502 | $+63.8$ |  | 1.0 | 127 | 465 | $80 \cdot 5$ | 69.5 | 81.5 | 80.0 | 85 |
| SEP＇．${ }^{\text {A }}$ | 60.6 60.6 | 262 | $\begin{array}{r}1.00 \\ \\ \hline\end{array}$ | 1.38 1.38 | 1225 | 1602 | 7 | 2565 | 2068 | 389 | 1246 | 1512 | ＋166．0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 128 | 416 | 79.5 | $67 \cdot 5$ | 81.5 | 78.4 | 84.5 |
| OCJ＇．． | $65 \cdot 4$ | 257 | 69 | 1.38 | 1308 | 1644 | 8 | 2565 | 2108 | 389 | 1281 | 1538 | $+520.9$ | 1.0 | 1.0 | 125 | 197 | 80 | 68 | 81.5 | 78.7 | 84.5 |
| NOV．．．．．．．． | $64^{-1}$ | 257 | 69 | 1.38 | 1242 | 1810 |  | 2565 | 2132 | 390 | 1304 | 1569 | $+562.4$ | 1.0 | 1.0 | 137 | 763 |  | 67 | 81.5 | 78.1 | 84.5 |
| DEC． | 66.2 | 280 | 69 | $1 \cdot 38$ | 1888 |  |  |  | 2155 | 388 | 1303 | 1582 | $+177.8$ |  | 1.0 | 143 | 389 |  |  |  | 77.8 78.6 | 84．5 |
| JAN． 1939 |  |  |  | 1.38 | 1880 | 2105 |  | 2565 | 2159 | 386 | 1312 | 1609 | ＋240．5 |  | 1.0 | 137 | 453 | $78 \cdot 5$ | $67 \cdot 5$ |  | 78.6 | 84.5 |
| FEB．．．．．．．．．． | 64.4 | 257 | ． 69 | 1.38 1.38 | 1453 |  | 4 | 2565 | 2147 | 380 | 1313 | 1605 | $+156 \cdot 3$ | 1.0 | 1.0 | 134 | 276 | 78.5 | 67 | $80 \cdot 5$ | 77.5 | 84 |
| MARCH ．．． |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2565 | 21550 | 376 | 1333 | 1604 | $+223.3$ | 1.0 |  | 132 | 541 | 78.5 | 67 | $80 \cdot 5$ | 76.8 | 84 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { APRIL...... } \\ & \text { MAY } . . . . . . \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2170 | 379 | 1346 | 1603 | $+312.9$ | 1.0 1.0 |  | 132 | 240 |  |  |  | $76 \cdot 4$ |  |
| End of month． $\dagger 241$ Cities outside New York adjusted for season． <br> $\ddagger \ddagger$ Dept，of Labor．$\quad \ddagger$ National Industrial Conference Board；mid－month， § Comparable figures not available prior to June， 1987. $b$ Subsequently excluding certain＂＂Series from Sep |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

# INTERNAL ACTIVITY, TRADE, EMPLOYMENT. 



## United States]

industry and trade indicate mixed movements in March, with activity on the whole showing very little change from February, allowance having been made for the usual seasonal variations. Adjusted weekly figures for bank debits at selected centres outside New York City fluctuated narrowly; and seasonally corrected output of electric power averaged practically the same as in January and February. Steel-ingot production, which generally reaches the high point of the year in March, made only a small part of the customary gain, and the adjusted index declined, for the fourth successive month, to the lowest level since September. There was little new demand for steel during the month, and in the last two weeks of March activity at steel mills was curtailed, a movement that has continued into April. The adjusted index for pig iron, which had gained one point in February, advanced two points further in March, to 75 ( $\%$ of 1923-25). Early in March automobile output appeared to be making a little more than its usual seasonal gain ; but as the month progressed some curtailment of production occurred, and in the closing weeks the adjusted index was sharply below other weeks in the past four months. Cottonmill activity rose above February levels, but sales of cotton goods apparently declined, and current reports indicate that production is being curtailed in April. Bituminous coal production for March dropped slightly more than seasonally, while zinc output showed a contra-seasonal advance.

Adjusted figures for total loadings of freight were somewhat higher in March than in February, since a little more than the usual seasonal gain was made. Total figures, however, obscure widely diversified movements among the various classes of freight. After seasonal adjustment, small-lot shipments were unchanged from February ; miscellaneous loadings rose $0.5 \%$, forest products $5.3 \%$, livestock $10.2 \%$, and grains $17.6 \%$; while loadings of coal and coke and of ore declined $7.8 \%$ and $\mathrm{I} 3.7 \%$ respectively. Retail trade, as measured by department-store sales, improved a little over February, the adjusted index rising one point.

The value of construction contracts awarded failed to expand as much as is customary in March, and seasonally corrected figures dropped considerably below levels of other recent months, but remained well above average levels of the first half of 1938. Compared with March of last year, all major types of construction advanced, with residential building showing a gain of nearly $60 \%$. Non-residential contracts exceeded those of a year ago by more than $10 \%$, reflecting
gains in educational and institutional building; awards for public works rose about $18 \%$; and utilities-which comprise the smallest percentage of total construction-were nearly twice as great as in March last year.

COMMODITY PRICES.-Wholesale commodity prices in March showed very narrow movements and average prices remained virtually unchanged for the third successive month. For the quarter as a whole, weekly figures of the Bureau of Labor Statistics have fluctuated between 77.0 and 76.5 ( $\%$ of 1926). In the early days of March, prices showed a slight tendency to advance, but this movement was reversed about the middle of the month, and the month closed with prices falling.

Spot rubber prices on March 4th had advanced to the highest level since November, but by the end of the month all of the increase made since early February had been lost. Prices of hides rose in the first three weeks and then dropped fairly sharply. Print-cloth prices likewise receded in the latter part of the month, and raw wool quotations were the lowest since July. While raw silk prices fluctuated widely throughout the month, prices at the end of March were about the same as a month earlier. Steel scrap prices in Pittsburgh dropped slightly in the final week of the month, although not to the levels of January and February ; prices at Philadelphia were advanced 50 cents a ton; and quotations in the Chicago market remained at the levels to which they had risen in midFebruary.

MONEY AND CREDIT. - Because of the increased tension in Europe during March, the flow of gold to the United States was the largest of any month since last autumn ; receipts were particularly large in the latter half of the month. Consequently, in the four-week period from March Ist through March 29th this country's gold stock increased by 272 Mn . dollars, and on March 29th amounted to the unprecedented figure of $15,160 \mathrm{Mn}$. dollars. Further additions have subsequently occurred. While member-bank reserves, rising 183 Mn . in March, failed to reflect the full amount of the increase in gold-because of moderate advances that took place in money in circulation, Treasury cash and deposits with the reserve banks, and "other" deposits in the reserve banks-reserve balances at the month-end were nevertheless only slightly under the peak figure attained late in January. Substantially greater receipts of gold in April and the lowering of Treasury
balances raised reserve balances on April 12th sharply above the previous January record figures, to 9,528 Mn., of which 3,880 Mn. exceeded legal requirements.

This huge volume of " idle" funds available for investment was reflected in the movement of bond prices during March, particularly prices of government bonds. Early in the month prices of government securities rose briskly, following the announcement that Treasury financing for March would be limited to the refunding of Treasury notes that were to have matured on June 15th, 1939 ; and as prices continued to rise in the second half of the month, yields on long-term Treasury bonds and notes declined to new low levels. Other open-market interest rates remained at the extremely low levels to which they had fallen previously.

In the first two weeks of March, member banks at New York City added substantially to their holdings of direct government obligations, and as a result total investments of all weekly reporting member banks reached their highest level since the first quarter of 1937. Security holdings of banks outside New York, however, declined ; and in the latter part of the month, decreases for these banks offset continued advances in New York so that holdings of all reporting banks at the close of the month were below those of the preceding six weeks. Commercial loans showed part of the seasonal increase usual in March, but improvement in this class of loans has been very small. Loans to brokers and dealers rose sharply early in the month, as purchases of government securities expanded, but decreases followed promptly and as the quarter ended such loans were 84 Mn . dollars smaller than at the close of 1938. Because of a continued drop in loans, total loans and investments showed a net decline for the first quarter of the year, despite the fact that investment holdings have risen sharply. Practically all of this rise in investments occurred in fully guaranteed obligations of the government; direct government obligations declined; and other securities increased very slightly.

SPECULATION AND FINANCE. - In the opening days of March, stock prices were advancing, and by the tenth of the month industrial and railroad shares had regained most of the losses since early January, while utility prices were the highest of the year. But as political developments in Europe became more disturbing, prices on the New York Stock

Exchange dropped sharply ; and in the second half of the month, disappointing reports of domestic business for the first quarter of the year also contributed to unfavourable market conditions. Decline then was rapid, and at the month-end averages approached the low levels of last September, at the time of the crisis preceding the Munich agreement. Declines for the month amounted to $10 \%$ for the Dow-Jones industrial average, $16 \%$ for utilities, and $19 \%$ for rails.

As stated above, government bond prices were strong throughout the month. Although the critical turn of events in Europe caused some decline in government security prices for a few days at the middle of the month, advance was renewed on March 20th, and on March 30th prices reached a new high level. Corporate bond prices also declined in response to the news from Europe, and prices continued to drop irregularly in the second half of the month, but the declines that occurred were on the whole moderate. The greatest drop was in secondgrade rails which at the close of March were $6.0 \%$ lower than a month earlier. High-grade rails declined $2.1 \%$; public utility bonds, $0.9 \%$; and industrials, $0.4 \%$.

Security flotations in March were less than half of the amount issued in February, the greatest decline occurring in public issues which had been very large in February. New public issues, nevertheless, represented $46 \%$ of all flotations, while corporate issues-which were substantially greater than in either January or February-comprised about $22 \%$ of the total. The greater part of public flotations represented issues of states and municipalities to raise new capital.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS.- The outstanding development thus far in April has been the sharp drop in stock prices. Between the first and the eighth of the month, the Dow-Jones index of industrial shares declined II points, and although some improvement has since occurred the index on April 18th was less than four points above the preceding low. Corporate bond prices also have decreased, and government bonds have receded from the high prices of March 30th. Adjusted steel activity has dropped off very sharply; automobile production has shown further declines; and electric power output has fallen below the average for March. At the middle of the month, prices of commodities sensitive to changing industrial conditions were the lowest since last June.

## CANADA.

Information communicated by Prof. D. C. MacGREGOR, of the University of Toronto

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\text { Toronto, April 25th, } 1939 .
$$

MOST of the available data show a slight contraction in production and distribution in January and February. This movement is of much smaller proportions than the abrupt decline of a year earlier, but may prove to be significant as an end of the autumn upturn, upon which many hopes had been built. That the decline is not wholly of the ordinary cyclical character is suggested by the renewed improvement of exports and the strength of activity in certain construction trades. It is widely believed that uncertainty arising from international tension is the underlying cause of the movement. The situation can be traced more particularly, however, to curtailment of logging operations, reduction of automobile sales and output, and lower buying power on the farms, especially in spring wheat areas ; of these immediate causes only the second can be traced to recent political events.

It will be recalled that the decline of 1937-8 was less abrupt than in the United States, and that in the letter of November 7th last it was feared that a renewed slackening might occur in Canada in the absence of favourable events elsewhere.

A further improvement in the amount of soil moisture in the former drought areas of the prairies is reported. The long cycle of dry years now seems to have been broken.

## EMPLOYMENT AND PRODUCTION.

 The employment situation deteriorated somewhat in January and February. After seasonal adjustment, marked declines in the indexes for logging and the iron and steel group, along with smaller reductions in other branches of manufacturing, were in part offset by increases in mining and highway work. The greater number of workers on highways is indicative of a noticeable tendency to renewed dependence on public expenditure. While employment continues to be sustained by armament expenditure of other countries which creates a demand for Canadian raw materials, little stimulus from domestic armament expenditure has yet been felt. A considerable unused capacity is available should the demand arise.Strikes and lockouts were reduced to small proportions in 1938, the time loss in working
days being only one-sixth of that in 1937 (Labour Gazette, March, 1939).

The volatile index of volume of production was more than $10 \%$ lower in January and February than for November. Declines in the manufacturing and mining groups (the decline of the latter being inconsistent with the movement of employment) were offset to a small degree by advances in construction.

PRICES.-In the first quarter the general index of wholesale prices was steady at 73.2 and few changes appeared in the relationships of the principal groups. This is in marked contrast to the abrupt changes of the preceding two years. Prices of wheat and butter are still exceptionally low, following last year's large production, while those of livestock have risen substantially.

Retail prices continue to fall from the maximum of last August, declines having now occurred in all five groups, but principally in foods.

DISTRIBUTION.-Throughout the Christmas season urban retail trade was maintained at the relatively high levels of last autumn, but in January and February a pronounced contraction occurred. Sales of country stores, which had begun to fall behind the previous year as long ago as July, have recently shown a more rapid decline. The value of wholesale trade, on the other hand, has held much closer to last year's high levels.

Railway freight traffic has fallen steadily since the influence of autumn grain shipments began to wear off. Declines have been especially pronounced in the tonnage of industrial equipment such as castings and forgings.

Outside bank debits fell appreciably in January and February. Their movement confirms the general impression that a noticeable decline of activity took place in mid-winter.

FOREIGN TRADE.-Following the new trade treaties, which came into force on January Ist, exports (excluding gold) rose abruptly in January and maintained the new level in February, the principal increases being in sales to the United States. Markets for lumber and newsprint have improved recently.

|  | FINANCE． |  |  |  |  | PRICES． |  |  |  | TRADE AND PRODUCTION |  |  |  |  |  |  | EMPLOYMENT． |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | 官官 | $\infty$ | Wholesale． |  |  | EB3000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { ず } \\ & \text { むj } \\ & \text { J̈ } \end{aligned}$ |
|  |  |  |  | 留号 | 득 | 园 |  | $\stackrel{0}{5}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | \＄ | สี๊ | क． | 掘 | 苟 | 范 |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 0 \\ & 0 \\ & 0 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | － | Eิ ${ }_{\text {玉 }}$ | U | E |  |  |  |  | W |  | ＝ |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | Q | 會菭 | 행 |  |  | $8$ |  |  |  |  | H |  | － |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 厄゙ | 苟号 | Big | む็ँ | 気O | 灰 |  |  |  |  | 各品 |  | む̈ |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 10 M | 0 M | 10 Mn ． | \％ | \％ | \％ |  | S Mn． | 8 Mn ， | \＆Mn， | \％ | \％ | 000 | \％ | \％ | \％ | \％ |
| 1926 | 100 | 2 | 253 | 125 | 195 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 10 | 10 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| Average | 100 | 100 | 253 | 125 | 195 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 84 | 107 | 63 | 100 | 100 | 272 | 81 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 1933 Av ． | 68 | 94 | 250 | 115.5 | 193 | 51 | 70 | 67 | 78 | 37 | 45 | 22 | 77 | 28 | 170 | 67 | 77 | 81 | 84 |
| 1934 Av ． | 86 | 82 | 274 | 111.5 | 195 | 59 | $73 \cdot 5$ | 71.5 | 79 | 43 | 55 | 26 | 94 | 36 | 193 | 70 | 109 | 91 | 96 |
| 1935 Av ． | 94 | 74 | 263 | 104 | 208 | 63 | 73 | 72 | 79 | 46 | 62 | 26 | 103 | 51.5 | 197 | 71 | 97 | 98 | 100 |
| 1936 Av． | 119 | 67 | 299 | 91.5 | 221 | 70 | 74 | 74 | 81 | 53 | 80 | 39 | 1154 | 46 | 208 | 74 | 87 | 107 | 104 |
| 1937 Av ． | 127 | 69 | 293 | 96 | 235 | 87 | 80 | 85 | 83 | 67 | 84 | 32 | 127 | 58 | 220 | 80 | 101 | 115 | 115 |
| 1936 | 113 | 72 | 299 | 95 | 214 | 66 | 73 | 73 | 81 | 41 | 54 | 23 | 108 | 70 | 173 | 71 | 74 | 99 | 98 |
| JANB．．． | 121 | 71 | 277 | 95 | 215 | 66 | 72 | 72 | 80 | 42 | 60 | 29 | 105 | 44 | 180 | 70 | 78 | 100 | 99 |
| MAR．．． | 117 | 70 | 260 | 94 | 220 | $65 \cdot 5$ | 72 | 72 | 80 | 53 | 73 | 30 | 105 | 52 | 192 | 72 | 72 | 101 | 97 |
| APRIL | 116 | 70 | 277 | 95 | 223 | 65 | 72 | 72 | 80 | 42 | 46 | 17 | 113 | 39 | 193 | 71 | 79 | 103 | 99 |
| MAY．．． | 113 | 69 | 298 | 92 | 219 | 65 | 72 | 72 | 80 | 59 | 81 | 40 | 109 | 39 | 190 | 73 | 87 | 103 | 102 |
| JUNE | 114 | 67 | 313 | 87 | 221 | 64.5 | 72 | 72 | 80 | 58 | 80 | 37 | 113 | 48 | 201 | 74 | 97 | 105 | 105 |
| JULY | 114 | 65 | 289 | 86 | 217 | 66 | 73 | 74 | 80 | 54 | 85 | 42 | 112 | 44 | 203 | 74 | 103 | 105 | 106 |
| AUG．．． | 115 | 63 | 262 | 87 | 217 | 73 | 75 | 76 | 81 | 50 | 93 | 41 | 116 | 38 | 222 | 75 | 109 | 106 | 107 |
| SEPT． | 120 | 63 | 313 | 91 | 226 | 74 | 75 | 76 | 81 | 53 | 84 | 41 | 124 | 45 | 251 | 77 | 104 | 109 | 110 |
| OCT．．． | 127 | 66 | 333 | 93 | 226 | 76 | 75 | 77 | 81 | 65 | 103 | 56 | 126 | 44 | 263 | 77 | 100 | 108 | 111 |
| NOV．．． | 132 | 65 | 330 | 92 | 227 | 77 | 75 | 77 | 81 | 66 | 110 | 63 | 122 | 43 | 220 | 76 | 80 | 107 | 110 |
| DEC．．． | 129 | 64 | 340 | 91 | 230 | 82 | 71 | 80 | 82 | 53 | 95 | 51 | 121 | 41 | 206 | 78 | 61 | 102 | 104 |
| 1937 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 78 | 81 | 82 | 52 | 78 | 36 | 119 | 38 | 192 | 76 | 57 | 105 | 104 |
| JAN． | 142 | 65 | 323 273 | 92 | 237 | 36 | 79 | 83 | 82 | 49 | 65 | 26 | 118 | 46 | 186 | 76 | 53 | 108 | 103 |
| MAR．．． | 147 | 73 | 319 | 94 | 237 | 90 | 80 | 86 | 82 | 71 | 85 | 28 | 122 | 83 | 214 | 76 | 54 | 111 | 103 |
| APRIL | 136 | 73 | 338 | 96 | 238 | 91 | 81 | 86 | 82 | 57 | 60 | 20 | 129 | 86 | 208 | 79 | 71 | 114 | 106 |
| MAY．．． | 132 | 71 | 277 | 97 | 237 | 88 | 80 | 85 | 83 | 77 | 92 | 33 | 126 | 56 | 210 | 79 | 105 | 118 | 114 |
| JUNE | 129 | 69 | 289 | 97 | 238 | 84 | 80 | 85 | 83 | 76 | 96 | 37 | 131 | 64 | 214 | 81 | 128 | 119 | 119 |
| JULY | 133 | 69 | 272 | 97 | 232 | 93 | 82 | 88 | 83 | 72 | 92 | 34 | 131 | 49 | 219 | 80 | 140 | 118 | 120 |
| AUG．．． | 135 | 68 | 261 | 98 | 234 | 85 | 82 | 86 | 87 | 70 | 92 | 31 | 127 | 54 | 231 | 80 | 144 | 121 | 123 |
| SEPT． | 119 | 68 | 273 | 98 | 237 | 86 | 81 | 85 | 84 | 70 | 84 | 29 | 127 | 56 | 262 | 82 | 144 | 122 | 126 |
| OCT．．． | 106 | 70 | 291 | 99 | 233 | 86 | 81 | 85 | 84 | 82 | 94 101 | 39 | 133 134 | 54 48 | 265 | 81 80 | 132 | 119 | 125 |
| NOV．．． | 103 | 65 | 293 | 97 | 235 | 84 | 81 | 83 | 84 84 | 81 53 | 101 73 | 45 29 | 125 | 64 | 204 | 86 | －82 | 109 | 113 |
| DEC．．． | 104 | 64 | 308 | 97 | 233 | 87 | 80 | 83 | 84 | 53 | 73 | 29 | 125 | 67 | 204 | 86 | 82 | 109 | 113 |
| 1938 | 107 | 66 | 244 | 91 |  | 86 | 82 | 84 | 84. | 50 | 72 | 30 | 114 | 49 | 187 | 78 | 72 | 110 | 110 |
| FEB ．．． | 107 | 65 | 218 | 92 | 232 | 85 | 82 | 84 | 84 | 47 | 61 | 20 | 107 | 37 | 180 | 77 | 71 | 110 | 108 |
| MAR．．． | 99 | 65 | 237 | 93 | 234 | 83 | 82 | 83 | 84 | 65 | 75 | 23 | 110 | 53 | 199 | 78 | 72 | 111 | 105 |
| APRIL | 98 | 64 | 240 | 97 | 241 | 82 | 81 | 82 | 84 | 49 | $52^{*}$ | 13 | 114 | 57 | 185 | 76 | 88 | 111 | 107 |
| MAY | 100 | 62 | 246 | 96.5 | 240 | 77＋ | 79 | 80 | 84 | 67 | 69 | 19 | 112 | 50 | 190 | 76 | 114 | 112 | 112 |
| JUNE | 100 | 62 | 273 | 99 | 246 | 77－ | 79 | 80 | 84 | 59 | 68 | 23 | 109 | 50 | 187 | 80 | 125 | 112 | 113 |
| JULY | 107 | 63 | 247 | 99 | 239 | 71 | 78 | 73 | 84 | 56 | 68 | 24 | 110 | 51 | 183 | 78 | 128 | 110 | 112 |
| AUG．．． | 105 | 63 | 237 | 98 | 242 | 64 | 77 | 76 | 85 | 57 | 71 | 22 | 111 | 53 | 213 | 77 | 134 | 114 | 115 |
| SEPT． | 99 | 65 | 263 | $102 \cdot 5$ | 245 | 64 | 76 | 74 | 84 | 56 | 74 | 29 | 121 | 53 | 250 | 79.5 80 | 143 | 112 | 115 |
| OCT．．． | 110 | 63 | 298 | 105 | 248 | 64 | 75 | 74 | 84 | 64 | 90 | 40 | 121 | 48 | 219 | 80 79 | 113 | 110 | 114 |
| NOV．．． | 110 | 62 | 297 | 103 | 250 | 65 | 74 | 73 | 84 | 63 | 88 71 | 38 29 | 128 | 63 | 178 | 79 | 96 | 104 | 108 |
| DEC．．． | 107 | 62 | 291 | 100 | 250 | 65 | 74 | 73 | 84 | 44 | 71 | 29 | 118 | 63 | 178 | 79 | 96 | 104 | 108 |
| 1939 | 103 | 62 | 251 | 98 | 246 | 65 | 74 | 73 | 83 | 44 | 72 | 27 | 114 | 40 | 171 | 76 | 89 | 106 | 106 |
| FEB ．．． | 104 | 62 | 205 | 98 | 247 | 65 | 74 | 73 | 83 | 40 | 59 | 19 | 114 | 56 | 160 | 74 | 94 | 107 | 106 |
| MAR． | 104 | 61 |  |  |  | 65 | 74 | 73 | 83 | 58 | 71 | 21 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 105 |

Dates of Series：Cols． $4,5,16-18$ ，end of month；1－2，6－9，averages．Source ：Dominion Bureau of Statistics．

Notes on Series
Ool．1．－＂Investors＇Index．＂Index of current market valuation of shareholders＇equity in about 100 companies．
2．－Weighted index of yield to maturity or call date（whichever gives lowest）of 6 taxable federal issues maturing in not less than 7 years．
3．－From 32 banking centres，comprising about $85 \%$ of total debits Excludes debits to accounts of central bank since its founding in April，1935．Largely influenced by financial transactions．
4．－Refers to operations in Canada only．Includes loans to pro－ vincial and municipal governments．
，，5．－Includes governmental deposits．Excludes all deposits with provincial，postal and Quebec savings banks，and with trust companies
$6-9 .-$ Col． 6 comprises 70 items ；col．7， 322 items ；col．8， 567 items ；col． 9 comprises separate groups for food，fuel，rent， clothing，sundries（including services
，，11．－Excludes most exports of both monetary and non－monetary gold ；includes gold in small quantities only，shipped as dust， quartz，etc
12．－Comprises＂animal products＂and＂vegetable products＂ groups：includes partly and fully manufactured products in
some cases made from imported raw materials，e．g．，rubber products．
Col．13．－Adjusted for seasonal variation．Includes 41 weighted series largely representing foreign trade in raw materials．Tends to overstate amplitude of cyclical fluctuations，probably with an upward bias．
14．－Based on value of contracts awarded，deflated annually for changes in union rates of wages，and monthly for changes in prices of building materials．
15．－Revenue freight only ；excludes cars received from U．S． connections．
16．－Index of value，comprising 13 groups adjusted for number of business days and for seasonal variation．Refers to depart－ ment，＂variety，＂and chain stores only，representing chiefly ment，sales．Base－Av． $1930=100 \%$ ．Monthly series com－ menced January，1929．Annual estimates from 1923.
17．－Includes workers on relief projects．
19．－Establishments with over 15 employees only．Includes part－ time workers on same basis as full－time．Excludes farm labourers and civil servants，and underweights the service industries．

## Canada]

The value of imports is still declining, but less rapidly than hitherto.

Exceptionally large sales of securities to foreign investors occurred in January and to a lesser extent in February ; trading in bonds predominating. For the two months, sales to all countries aggregated $\$ 7 \mathrm{I} \mathrm{Mn}$. and purchases only $\$ 43 \mathrm{Mn}$. It will be recalled that sales and purchases do not as a rule depart far from balance.

The balance of payments for 1938 will be found at the end of this letter. The net credit on current account was almost as large as in 1937.

FINANCE AND INTEREST RATES.Security holdings of the chartered banks, which had been oscillating about the high levels reached a year and a half ago, increased in November and by the end of February had moved up to a new maximum, appreciably higher than that hitherto attained. As a result, the total of loans and securities has also reached a new maximum. The cash ratio has fallen slightly, but remains satisfactory at between $10 \%$ and $11 \%$.

In December and January the Bank of Canada reduced its investments, but this policy has been reversed in recent weeks.

Throughout the winter the yield of Dominion of Canada long-term bonds remained near the lowest point previously attained. During the same period treasury bill rates declined to the lowest levels since the September crisis. The renewal rate on April I5th was $0.636 \%$.

Yields of low-grade bonds and of equities have risen, and there is little speculative activity.

Important proposals for putting federal assistance to wheat growers on a sliding scale in relation to prices and average yield are now being considered by the House of Commons. The framework of a much qualified system of guaranteed prices for other branches of agriculture is also being discussed by the House.

The annual classification of loans of the chartered banks as of October 3Ist, is as follows (cf. Supplement of May 7th, 1938, p. 196) :

[^33]

The marked changes in items (2) and (3) are associated with the larger wheat crops and the decline of speculative activity respectively.

Changes in significant annual indexes of wages have been as follows:
hourly wage rates
$\left.\begin{array}{ccccccc} & \text { \% of 1913. } & 1926 & 1929 & 1933 & 1937 & 1938 \\ \text { Logging and sawmilling } & \ldots & 181 & 186 & 122 & 188 & 205 \\ \text { Steam railways } & \ldots & \ldots & 186 & 204 & 180 & 196\end{array}\right) 204$

The indexes for logging and sawmilling, and for farm labour are less reliable as measures of central tendency than that for steam railways.

The preliminary estimate of the balance of international payments for 1938, prepared by the Internal Trade Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, is presented below (cf. Supplement of May 7th, 1938, p. 196). A review of changes in the balance since 1924 will be found in the Bank of Nova Scotia Monthly Review, March, 1939.

|  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { EXPOF } \\ 1937 \ddagger \\ \mathrm{Mn} . \$ \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{array}{r} \text { IMPOR } \\ 1937 \ddagger \\ \mathrm{Mn} . \$ \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{S} \text { or DR. } \\ 1938 \\ \mathrm{Mn} . \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1. Commodity exports \& imports |  | 1010 | 847 | 796 | 666 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 2 . \\ & 3 . \end{aligned}$ | Gold exports \& imports* | 145 | 156 |  |  |
|  | Freight receipts \& payments | 112 | 101 | 137 | 121 |
| 4. Tourist receipts \& payments |  | 295 | 267 | 124 | 122 |
| 5. | Interest \& dividend receipts \& payments | 79 | 70 | 325 | 312 |
| 6. | Misc. receipts \& payments <br> Total credits \& debits | 25 1665 | 25 1466 | 64 1447 | 60 1281 |
|  | Capital movements \& errors \& omissions | - | - | 218† | $185 \dagger$ |
|  |  | 1665 | 1466 | 1665 | 1466 |

[^34]
## FRANCE

# Information communicated by M. MICHEL HUBER, Directeur des Etudes à 

 l'Institut de Statistique de i'Úniversité de Paris.April 29th, 1939.

APRIL, like the preceding month, was marred by a fresh coup de force; after the occupation of Czecho-Slovakia by Germany on March Isth, came the landing of Italian forces in Albania on Good Friday, April 7th.

Almost at the same time the Anglo-Polish Agreement was announced; a few days later France and Britain guaranteed the independence of Greece and of Roumania. On April I5th President Roosevelt's message to the heads of the German and Italian governments produced a profound impression throughout the world. The speech of the German Chancellor delivered in reply before the Reichstag on April 28th included the denunciation of the naval pact with Britain and the German-Polish non-aggression pact, but hardly modified the state of international tension.

At home there should be noted the re-election of the President of the Republic, and the publication on April 23 rd of a new and important series of about 40 decree-laws, completing the work already achieved to strengthen the defensive powers of the country to the utmost.

About io of these decree-laws relate to measures for national defence; among other matters, they deal with the opening of credits, naval personnel, the laying down of warships, the construction of a naval base at Mers-elKebir. One decree entrusts the organisation of feeding the civilian population in time of war to the Ministry of Agriculture ; another arranges for speedier payment to State contractors.

The increase in resources indispensable for meeting new expenditure has been secured by a series of measures concerning suppression of fiscal frauds by means of a complete reorganisation of the mechanism of taxation; arbitrary assessment of certain incomes based upon evidence of expenditure (rent, servants, cars), curtailment of profits in excess of $6 \%$ of firms working on national defence- $50 \%$ to be deducted from profits in excess of $6 \%$ up to $10 \%, 80 \%$ from the excess from io to $20 \%$ and $100 \%$ from the excess over $20 \%$.

The outstanding feature of the new taxation is the institution as from May ist of the $1 \%$ armament tax on all sales and imports, except sales of agricultural products by the actual
producer, sales of bread, milk, newspapers, etc. This consumption tax, whose incidence will be very widespread, should yield very large sumsover io Md. per annum has been mentioned.

As compensatory measures in favour of traders who are responsible for the deduction of the tax, trading licences are lowered by $20 \%$, and the maximum annual turnover upon which rebate from the tax on industrial and commercial profits is allowed, is raised from 400,000 to 500,000 francs. Then for rural property worth less than 100,000 francs there is exemption from succession duty to direct heirs.

The other decrees are intended to reduce state expenditure. Three of these are to reduce the excessive labour imposed on the Treasury by the industrial alcohol regulations, the wheat bureau, public works, etc. The financial system of the Caisse Nationale de Credit to the departments and communes and those of the departmental authorities are to undergo corresponding important transformations, as also will the administrative and financial system of the City of Paris.

Decrees lay down general principles for the elimination of redundant staff in the administration and public services, and the national railway company.

The measures relating to labour conditions in industry and in the mercantile marine are no less important. The duration of the working week is raised from 40 to 45 hours, and the rate of increase in remuneration per hour for overtime beyond 45 hours is uniformly fixed at $5 \%$, whatever its extent. The 45 hours applies to public services, administrative or industrial, local authorities, departments, communes and public establishments. To avoid unnecessary displacements of workers from one region to another, the right of hiring of labour is controlled. Reinstatement in their former posts is guaranteed to men called to the colours, after their demobilisation.

Other decrees are intended to assist maritime armament, recovery in the building trades and the establishment of industries of national importance in France.

Legislation regarding foreigners has also undergone important changes, so that they would be liable to give certain services in time


TRADE，OUTPUT，TRANSPORT \＆EMPLOYMENT．

|  | IMPORTS．＊ |  |  |  | EXPORTS．＊ |  |  |  | Weight of Im． |  | OUTPUT． |  |  |  |  | SHIPPING． |  | RAILWAYS |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | E． $\stackrel{0}{0}$ $\stackrel{1}{2}$ <br> Mn．f． | ？ <br> Mn．f |  <br> Mn．f． | Manufactures． <br> Mn．f． | W． 0 － <br> Mn．f． | $\begin{aligned} & \text { B8 } \\ & \text { O } \end{aligned}$ <br> Mn．f． |  <br> Mn．f． |  |  |  |  | Coal <br> （excl． <br> Sarar）． <br> 000 | Pig Iron． <br> Metric | Steel． |  | Tonn Ship Car | ge of with oes． <br> Mn． <br> Tons |  |  |  |
| 1913 | 702 | 153 | 411 | 138 | 573 | 70 | 155 | 348 | 3.68 | 1.84 |  | 3720 | 756 | 581 |  | 2.87 | $2 \cdot 17$ |  |  |  |
| 1924 Av ． | 3327 | 745 | 2158 | 424 | 3456 | 336 | 874 | 2246 | $4 \cdot 71$ | 2.45 |  | 3667 | 638 | 575 |  | $3 \cdot 55$ | $2 \cdot 72$ |  | 61＊4 |  |
| 1933 | 2369 | 8 | 1149 | 419 | 1539 | 212 | 396 | 931 | $4 \cdot 04$ | 2.09 |  | 3903 | 527 | 552 | 87 | 4.51 | 3.75 | 218 | 45.2 | 71．3 |
| 1934 A | 1925 | 624 | 948 | 354 | 1488 | 215 | 430 | 842 | $3 \cdot 79$ | $2 \cdot 36$ |  | 3967 | 513 | 512 | 89 | $4 \cdot 38$ | 3.62 | 208 | $42 \cdot 5$ | 71.4 |
| 1935 | 17461 | 520 | 932 | 294 | $1291+$ | 206 | 355 | 730 | 3.72 | 2.44 |  | 3851 | 483 | 522 | 92 | $4 \cdot 25$ | $3 \cdot 70$ | 188 | $40 \cdot 1$ | 68.4 |
| 1936 Av． | 2118 | 650 | 1149 | 318 | 1291 | 206 | 372 | 713 | 4.01 | 2.41 | 85 | 3769 | 520 | 558 | 95 | $4 \cdot 40$ | $3 \cdot 66$ | 191 | 41.7 | ＇70：5 |
| 1937 Av． | 3533 | 895 | 2098 | 540 | 1995 | 281 | 702 | 101 | $4 \cdot 78$ | 2.53 | 88 | 3693 | 660 | 658 | 105 | $4 \cdot 56$ | $3 \cdot 70$ | 242 | $41 \cdot 7$ | $66 \cdot 4$ |
| JAN 1936 | 2014 | 5 | 1158 | 281 | 1203 | 191 | 33 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 86 | 4087 | 508 | 561 | 105 | 3.86 | 3.23 | 166 | 37.7 | 69：0 |
| FEB．． | 2051 | 647 | 1114 | 290 | 1229 | 177 | 366 | 686 | 3.86 | 2.59 | 86 | 3855 | 501 | 535 | 95 | 3.80 | $3 \cdot 09$ | 175 | $41 \cdot 1$ | $69 \cdot 6$ |
| MAR． | 1959 | 565 | 1085 | 306 | 1245 | 182 | 362 | 701 | 3.98 | 2.20 | 88 | 3956 | 543 | 575 | 97 | $3 \cdot 94$ | 3.28 | 175 | 42．3 | $\cdot 2$ |
| APRIL | 2128 | 676 | 1118 | 334 | 1200 | 189 | 325 | 686 | 412 | $2 \cdot 39$ | 87 | 4059 | 24 | 571 | 93 | $4 \cdot 13$ | 3．58 | 186 | 39 | $70 \cdot 1$ |
| MAY | 1968 | 614 | 1060 | 295 | 1172 | 174 | 355 | 643 | 3.99 | 2.52 | 87 | 3870 | 554 | 609 | 92 | $4 \cdot 62$ | 3.77 | 185 | $39 \cdot 4$ | $70 \cdot 4$ |
| JUNE．． | 1831 | 557 | 1002 | 272 | 1156 | 174 | 296 | 685 | 3.74 | $2 \cdot 37$ | 81 | 3434 | 470 | 503 | 84 | $4 \cdot 27$ | 3.65 | 178 |  | $70 \cdot 4$ |
| JULY | 1860 | 543 | 1038 | 279 | 1104 | 168 | 308 | 628 | 3.72 | $2 \cdot 10$ | 83 | 3915 | 519 | 542 | 88 | 5：03 | 4.20 | 205 | 38.5 37.2 |  |
| AUG． | 1764 | 513 | 958 | 294 | 1170 | 179 | 337 | 654 | 3.89 | 2.37 | 76 | 3154 | 465 | 460 | 91 | 4．83 4.60 | 4.04 3.87 | 208 | 37 40 | 70.5 70.8 |
| SEPT | 1859 | 625 | 920 | 314 | 1190 | 183 | 360 | 647 | 3.98 | 2.41 | 80 | 3484 | 492 | 545 | 91 104 | 4.60 4.71 | 3.87 4.05 | 216 | 46.3 | 71.0 |
| OCT． | 2243 | 760 | 1143 | 340 | 1463 | 261 | 399 | 803 | 4.01 4.24 | 2.46 2.58 | 85 | 3165 | 552 | 581 | 104 | $4 \cdot 19$ | 3.48 | 200 | $46 \cdot 3$ | $70 \cdot 7$ |
| NOV． | 2699 | 839 | 1477 | 383 | 1710 | 299 | 527 | 884 | 4.24 4.75 | 2.58 2.37 | 88 | 3436 8813 | 558 |  | 107 | $4 \cdot 77$ | 3.63 | 192 | $43 \cdot 2$ | $70 \cdot 5$ |
| DEC．．．． | 3039 | 892 | 1715 | 432 | 1651 | 300 | 498 | 853 | $4 \cdot 75$ | $2 \cdot 37$ | 91 | 3813 | 558 | 591 | 107 | 4.71 | 363 3.35 | 187 | － $40 \cdot 1$ | $70 \cdot 1$ |
| JAN． | 3332 | 886 | 1972 | 474 | 1769 | 283 | 575 | 911 | $4 \cdot 76$ | $2 \cdot$ | 90 | 3623 | 90 | 607 | 103 | $4 \cdot 19$ | $3 \cdot 35$ | 187 | 401 |  |
| FEB．． | 3667 | 1004 | 2171 | 492 | 1695 | 237 | 610 | 848 | $5 \cdot 35$ | $2 \cdot 37$ | 92 | 3710 |  |  |  |  |  | 210 | $41 \cdot 3$ | 68．0 |
| MAR．． | 3216 | 785 | 1892 | 539 | 1829 | 267 | 607 | 955 | 4.60 | 2.26 | 93 | 4087 | 649 654 | 679 | 106 | 4．44 4.47 | 3.70 | 206 | 41.9 | 67.6 |
| APRIL． | 3300 | 831 | 1992 | 477 | 1973 | 278 | 734 | 961 | 4.95 4.55 | 2.61 2.46 | 89 | 3910 | 656 | 684 | 101 | $4 \cdot 81$ | 3.97 | 205 | 398 | 66.8 |
| MAY | 3070 3719 | 761 | 1856 | 452 | 1761 | 255 | 621 | 885 | 4.55 5.16 | 2.46 2.68 | 89 | 3414 3509 | 685 685 | 685 | － 98 | 4.72 | 3.90 | 222 | $41 \cdot 8$ | $65 \cdot 2$ |
| JUNE．． | 3719 | 844 | 2171 | 704 | 2003 | 245 | 744 | 1014 | $5 \cdot 16$ | 268 |  | 350 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| JULY | 3204 | 777 | 1880 | 547 | 1871 | 247 | 659 | 965 | $4 \cdot 57$ | 2 | 85 | 3530 | 699 | 685 | 102 | 5.48 | $4 \cdot 38$ | 265 | 39.7 36.9 |  |
| AUG． | 3179 | 782 | 1878 | 519 | 1859 | 229 | 666 | 964 | 4.47 | 2.48 | 76 | 2587 |  |  | 102 | 8 | $3 \cdot 78$ | 292 | $41 \cdot 4$ | 64．8 |
| SEPI | 3478 | 839 | 2106 | 533 | 2074 | 268 | 770 | 1036 | $4 \cdot 56$ | 2.48 | 84 | 3673 4044 | 687 701 | 662 705 | 113 | $5 \cdot 28$ | 4.26 | 284 | 45.6 | $65 \cdot 3$ |
| OCT． | 3714 | 959 | 2200 | 555 | 2364 | 343 | 817 | 1174 | 4.57 4.72 | 2.81 2.64 | 91 | 4073 | 688 | 673 | 115 | 4.21 | 3.36 | 262 | 44.7 | 65.6 |
| NOV．．．． | 3938 | 1012 | 2339 | 587 | 2385 | 354 369 | 802 | 1229 | 4.72 5.15 | 264 2.61 | 91 | 4161 | 679 | 675 | 124 | $4 \cdot 36$ | $3 \cdot 43$ | 296 | 44.7 | 66.0 |
| DEC．．．． 1938 | 4574 | 1258 | 2720 | 596 | 2357 | 369 | 792 | 1196 | 5：15 | 261 | 91 | 4161 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| JAN．．． | 3885 | 962 | 2367 | 556 | 2439 | 310 | 867 | 1262 | $4 \cdot 12$ | 2.79 | 87 | 3613 3685 | 643 556 | 623 564 | 120 | 3.55 3.86 | 2.77 3.04 | 253 257 | $39 \cdot 8$ $41 \cdot 4$ | 66．3 |
| FEB． | 4287 | 1127 | 2543 | 617 | 2309 | 288 | 843 | 1178 | 4.63 3.89 | 2.31 2.10 | 86 | 3685 | 553 | 562 | 113 | 3.74 | 2.87 | 264 | 42.0 | $65 \cdot 6$ |
| MAR． | 3526 | 891 | 2082 | 553 | 2226 | 294 | 687 | 1245 | 3.89 4.20 | 2.10 1.97 | 85 | 4294 4042 | 479 | 500 | 106 | $4 \cdot 37$ | 3.52 | 270 | $39 \cdot 8$ | $64 \cdot 7$ |
| APRIL | 3877 | 994 | 2271 | 612 | 2364 | 366 | 710 | 1288 | 4.20 3.87 | 1．97 | 82 | 3734 | 483 | 502 | 108 | 4.51 | 3.71 | 272 | 41.2 | $65 \cdot 7$ |
| MAY | 3878 | 1102 | 2131 | 645 | 2324 | 330 | 715 | 1279 | 3.87 | 216 | 83 | 3830 | 463 | 480 | 110 | 4．85 | $4 \cdot 16$ | 291 | $40 \cdot 6$ | $65 \cdot 9$ |
| JUNE．． | 3811 | 1019 | 2235 | 557 | 2291 | 313 | 717 | 1261 | 4.04 | 212 | 83 | 3830 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| JULY | 3501 | 982 | 2003 | 511 | 2286 | 302 | 700 | 1284 | 3.54 3.87 | $\begin{aligned} & 2 \cdot 13 \\ & 2 \cdot 26 \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & 3730 \\ & 2776 \end{aligned}$ | $433$ | 436 419 | 108 | 4.70 4.69 | 3.83 4.03 | 301 300 | 385 35.5 | $65 \cdot 3$ $65 \cdot 1$ |
| AUG． | 3709 | 984 | 2253 | 472 | 2486 | 300 | 814 | 1372 | 3.87 | 2．26 | 71 | 2776 | 446 | 470 | 107 | 4.86 | 4.18 | 313 | $39 \cdot 8$ | $65 \cdot 2$ |
| SEPT． | 3534 | 1027 | 2027 | 480 | 2653 | 333 | 996 | 1324 | $3 \cdot 76$ $4 \cdot 20$ | 2.21 | 81 | 4234 | 494 | 511 | 119 | 4.42 | 3.65 | 310 | $43 \cdot 1$ | $66 \cdot 3$ |
| OCT． | 3878 | 1153 | 2936 | 489 | 2830 | 456 | 863 | 1505 | 3.45 | 2.38 2.38 | 85 | 4188 | 521 | 534 | 119 | $4 \cdot 17$ | $3 \cdot 63$ | 297 | 42.9 | 67.0 |
| NOV．．．． | 3871 | 1099 | 22：6 | 556 | 3059 | 509 | 926 | 1624 | 3.45 3.57 | 2.38 2.33 | 86 | 4430 | 560 | 576 | 130 | $4 \cdot 27$ | 3.44 | 303 | $40 \cdot 3$ | 67.2 |
| DEC．．． | 4214 | 1133 | 2426 | 655 | 3292 | 594 | 999 | 1699 | 3.57 | 233 | 80 | 440 |  |  |  |  |  | 272 | $40 \cdot 8$ | 68.8 |
| JAN． | 3978 | 1109 | 2290 | 579 | 2820 | 423 | 830 | 1567 | 324 | 1.95 | 88 | 4214 | 571 539 | 593 | $\begin{aligned} & 143 \\ & 127 \end{aligned}$ | 3.65 | 3.04 | 281 | $41 \cdot 9$ | 71.5 |
| FEB． | 4519 | 1217 | 2597 | 705 | 3036 | 404 | 1012 | 1620 | 3.88 5.33 | 2.53 1.96 | 89 | 43933 | 615 |  |  | 366 | 295 | 289 | 42.2 | 71.2 |
| MAR．． | $3 ¢ 91$ | 1030 | 2276 | 685 | 2880 | 405 | 884 | 1591 | 5．33 | 196 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

＊Import figures are based upon declared values．Export figures declared values since 1927，previously based on official values．

## TRANSPORT．

Shipping．－Tonnage of ships of all nationalities entered and cleared（with cargoes）during the month
Rallways．－Average weekly receipts and daily average number of trucks loaded on all the principal railways（including Alsace－Lorraine
of war. Other decrees modify the laws regarding the Press, and are intended to suppress political propaganda financed by funds from abroad.

The state of the public debt will in future be published each month. On February 28th the total rose to 427 Md ., compared with 420 Md. on January ist. It comprised : perpetual debt 55 Md ., amortisable or repayable by annuities 240 Md ., medium or short-term debt 96 Md . (of which 36 Md . are redeemable in 1939), debt to Bank of France 36 Md.

From May ist the Caisse d'Amortissement will issue 3 -year $4 \%$ bonds, interest being payable in advance.

In the Bank of France returns for April 20th appears an increase of 5 Md . of gold transferred from the exchange equalisation fund; the previous transfer had taken place in September, 1937. The note circulation exceeds 123 Md., ${ }^{\star}$ or nearly the same as in September, 1938. Sight obligations rose to $114,784 \mathrm{Mn}$. ; but as the gold reserve rose from 87,266 to $92,266 \mathrm{Mn}$., the reserve ratio advanced from 62.35 to $63.7 \%$.

| 1937-38 | 1938 |  |  |  | 1939 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Jan. } \\ & \text { 13th } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Apr. } \\ & \text { 14th } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { July } \\ & \text { 13th } \end{aligned}$ | Oct. 13th | Jan. Apr. |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | 12th | 13th |
| Gold ... ... | 58.9 | $55 \cdot 8$ | $55 \cdot 8$ | 55.8 | 87-3* | $87 \cdot 3$ |
| Foreign Assets-Bills and Sight Deposits .. | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 0.7 |
| Discounts (commercial) | $10 \cdot 0$ | $10 \cdot 1$ | $5 \cdot 5$ | $15 \cdot 9$ | $5 \cdot 7$ | $5 \cdot 0$ |
| Advances ... .. | $3 \cdot 8$ | 3.7 | 3.6 | 3.9 | 3.5 | $3 \cdot 4$ |
| Sinking Fund Bonds ... | 5.6 | $5 \cdot 6$ | $5 \cdot 6$ | $5 \cdot 6$ | $5 \cdot 5$ | $5 \cdot 5$ |
| Note Circulation ... | 92.6 | 98.1 | $101 \cdot 1$ | 113.4 | $110 \cdot 2$ | $122 \cdot 1$ |
| Deposits, Treasury and |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sinking Fund | 3.2 | 2.2 | $3 \cdot 3$ | $3 \cdot 7$ | $5 \cdot 3$ | $3 \cdot 7$ |
| , Private ... | 21.5 | 21.5 | $12 \cdot 7$ | 20.9 | 23.4 | 14.0 |
| Reserve Ratio (\%) | 50\% | $45 \cdot 8$ | $47 \cdot 6$ | $40 \cdot 4$ | $62 \cdot 7$ | 14.4 |

* After the revaluation.

The monetary situation remains satisfactory ; the stability of the franc is completely maintained; sterling rate remains between 176.75 and 176.72, the dollar rate at 37.76 .

External events, particularly the coup de force in Albania, had, however, noticeable consequences on the Paris Bourse. Thus $3 \%$ rentes were quoted at 82.75 at the beginning of the month and 8I.90 on Thursday, April 6th. After the four days' Easter holiday it fell to 79.90 on April IIth. It recovered to 8 I .25 on April 28th.

The index of the average prices of 36 French rentes and bonds which stood at 86 (\% of 1913) in the first week of April, fell to 84.8 and 85.2 in the two weeks after Easter. After the first scare, the market showed effective strength. For 300 French shares the movement was

[^35]similar-the index fell from 231 in the first week to 221 in the week after Easter, and then recovered to 225 . For 25 foreign shares the movement was again similar-347, 321, 33 I.

The volume of dealings also remains very much reduced ; the index thereof (\% of 193I) stood at $22,37,24$ in the first three weeks of April for shares, and 78, 91, 68 for bonds.

INDICES OF SECURITY PRICES.
(January, 1931, as 100.)

| 1925-39 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| January, 1935... | 98 | 102 | 64 | 43 | 68 | 37 |  |  |
| A pril ... ... | 90 | 92 | 60 | 39 | 62 | 36 | 58 | 24 |
| July ... | 90 | 91 | 59 | 38 | 62 | 34 | 51 | 25 |
| October | 88 | 93 | ¢5 | 37 | 55 | 35 | 49 | 26 |
| January, 1936... | 82 | 88 | 57 | 38 | 53 | 41 | 49 | 34 |
| April ... ... | 78 | 85 | 55 | 37 | 48 | 39 | 46 | 31 |
| July ... | 78 | 85 | 44 | 33 | 37 | 24 | 32 | 22 |
| October | 91 | 93 | 51 | 41 | 51 | 36 | 41 | 31 |
| January, 1937... | 87 | 85 | 53 | 46 | 49 | 57 | 54 | 57 |
| April ... | 77 | 78 | 50 | 47 | 45 | 54 | 44 | 44 |
|  | 82 | 83 | 45 | 42 | 37 | 53 | 40 | 42 |
| October | 86 | 81 | 46 | 41 | 39 | 52 | 43 | 42 |
| January, 1938... | 81 | 81 | 45 | 41 | 37 | 45 | 39 | 41 |
| April ... ... | 83 | 79 | 48 | 45 | 42 | 50 | 45 | 43 |
| July ... .. | 86 | 82 | 48 | 47 | 42 | 47 | 43 | 41 |
| October | 91 | 84 | 47 | 48 | 39 | 46 | 42 | 39 |
| January, 1939... | 95 | 90 | 54 | 53 | 48 | 48 | 45 | 44 |
| April ... ... | 91 | 92 | 51 | 51 | 46 | 48* | 48* | 47 |

The index of industrial production for February, 90, was 2 points higher than in January; all the subsidiary indices show an increase of $\mathrm{I}, 2$ or 3 points, that for metallurgy rising from 76 to 8 I ; the building index at 67 continues its advance from the level of 62 a year ago.

In February, 1938, the general index at 85 was 5 points lower than this year. The following advances occurred in the chief groups since last year-mines 91 to 95.5 , metallurgy 79 to 81 , motors 92 to 110 , textiles 82 to 94 , leather 69 to 76 , building 58 to 67 .

According to indications already received it is probable that the index for March will show a further increase of 2 points.

The output of electricity in February, 1939, I, 268 Mn . Kwh., was $7.3 \%$ greater than a year before; $12.5 \%$ in the thermo works, only $4.9 \%$ in the hydraulic works.

The reduction in the number of assisted unemployed continues ; from 400,000 on March 25 th, it fell to 387,500 on April 22nd ; it exceeded 394,000 a year ago. The improvement was, however, less rapid than in preceding months.

Weekly receipts of the national railway company, which had been between 280 and 290 Mn ., advanced to 309 and 338 Mn . during the two weeks ending April 8th, i.e., Easter

Saturday. They have returned to 289 Mn . The daily average number of wagons loaded, which had fluctuated between 41,000 and 42,000 , fell to 37,000 in the week from April 8th to 16 th.

From February to March external trade returns show a set-back, but, nevertheless, were higher than in January. Imports fell from $4,519 \mathrm{Mn}$. in February to 3,991 in March, exports from $3,036 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $2,880 \mathrm{Mn}$. The excess of imports declined from I,483 to I,II2 Mn ., of which 84 I Mn . was in respect of foreign countries and 27 I Mn . with the colonies.
DISTRIBUTION OF SPECIAL TRADE. Min. France.

| Three Months | Imports |  | Exports |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1938 | 1939 | 1938 | 1939 |
| Great Britain | 797 | 707 | 908 | 1019 |
| Germany... | 856 | 730 | 480 | 424 |
| Belgium \& Luxembourg | 819 | 844 | 971 | 1037 |
| Switzerland ... ... | 235 | 277 | 436 | 547 |
| Italy ... ... | 126 | 190 | 132 | 129 |
| Spain ... . | 109 | 40 | 114 | 84 |
| U.S.A. ... ... | 1523 | 1372 | 377 | 551 |
| Brazil ... | 151 | 166 | 61 | 74 |
| Argentina . | 216 | 346 | 197 | 228 |
| Other Countries | 3916 | 4424 | 1480 | 2146 |
| Total Foreign Countries | 8748 | 9096 | 5126 | 6239 |
| Algeria, Colonies and Protectorates... | 2950 | 3393 | 1849 | 2497 |
| Total ... | 11693 | 12489 | 6975 | 8736 |

In the first quarter of 1939 there was, compared with the first three months of 1938, a rise in the value of imports of 790 Mn ., and in exports of $1,760 \mathrm{Mn}$. But the total weight of imports fell by 2,197 thousand tons, or $17 \%$, and of exports by 764 thousand, or $10 \%$. This was a consequence of the depreciation of the franc in the first half of 1938 and the rise in internal prices.

The upward movement of wholesale prices which raised the index of 45 commodities from 666 at the end of December, 1938, to 68I at the end of March (\% of July, 1914), was reversed in April. On 22nd it fell to 674 . This fall was attributable to foodstuffs for which the subsidiary index fell from 652 to 630 , whilst that for raw materials rose from 706 to 713 . That for home produce fell from 708 to 694 , whilst that for imported goods rose from 631 to 637. In March, 1938, the general index was 619, so that there has been a rise of about $10 \%$ on the year.

The retail indexes fell only slightly in March compared with February ; that of I3 articles in Paris from 744 to 742 , that of 34 articles from 755 to 752 (\% of July, 1914). In March, 1938, these two index numbers stood at 698 and 690, so that there have been increases of $6 \%$ and $9 \%$ respectively.

## WHOLESALE PRICES.

Average $1901-10=100$


There has been a very definite change in the transactions between the Savings Bank and the Deposit Bank. Whereas in the two months, February and March, there was an excess of deposits amounting to nearly a milliard, from April ist to 15 th there was an excess of withdrawals of 264 Mn . This clearly resulted from the repercussion of international events. On December 3rst last depositors' balances in the 560 ordinary savings banks reached 37,460 Mn. francs, the average amount being 3,500 francs.

The French economy is more and more concentrated upon national defence requirements; to sustain the burden of armament manufacture and the new taxation which it entails, it is necessary for production to be increased in other sections. Such development will be helped by the measures which have been taken, especially for the lengthening of the working week and the abolition of the system of increasing rates for overtime. But allowance must be made for the detrimental effect of the international crisis.

## GERMANY.

## Information communicated by Dr. M. J. ELSAS.

## REVIEW OF FIRST QUARTER, 1939.

## May 3rd, 1939.

BARELY six months after the incorporation of the Sudetenland, Bohemia and Moravia became Protectorates of the German Reich. The population of the Reich was thus increased by $6,800,000$ and the area by nearly 20,000 square miles. The new territories do not offer scope for new settlement, for their density of population is practically the same as that of the old Reich.

The towns in the new territories which number more than 100,000 inhabitants are Prague, Brünn, Mährisch-Ostrau and Pilsen. More than three-quarters ( $77 \%$ ) of the population are Roman Catholics. Since the people of Austria were also preponderantly Catholic, the proportion of German subjects belonging to this faith has been substantially increased.

Rather more than a quarter of the people of the Protectorates, namely $28 \%$, are engaged in agriculture and forestry, while $72 \%$ are engaged in commerce, industry and professional and other occupations. The most important industries of Bohemia and Moravia are the metallurgical and electrical industries, which employ 140,000 workers. The textile industries come next, with half as many workers, and then come mining, boot and shoe manufacture, and woodworking. These industries were also the chief export industries.

The immediate gain made by the Reich is the gold and foreign exchange which was found in the central bank of Czecho-Slovakia. However,
the Reich cannot make full use of the foreign effects of Czech nationals, for the most important countries have denied its title to them. Less immediate gains are to be found in the acquisition of great industrial establishments which can be turned to the use of the Reich, and of control over a highly-skilled industrial population. The great armament works of Czecho-Slovakia, especially the Skoda Works, are a very important acquisition ; for not only do they raise the warpotential of the Reich, but they also have hitherto been the principal suppliers of armaments to the South-East of Europe.

Slovakia was declared a separate state in the middle of March. Its sovereignty is recognised to the extent that it is to be allowed customs and currency autonomy. Slovakia has an area of about 15,000 square miles and a population of about two and a half millions. Its chief exports are timber and various ores. Owing to her exceptional need for such materials, Germany will henceforth become the principal, if not the sole, buyer of these Slovak goods. The iron ore industry and the oil industry have scope for much expansion, so that German capital is likely to find employment here.

The union of the Memelland with the Reich brings an increase of population of about 150,000 . Memelland is predominantly agricultural. Timber and paper mills in the town of Memel are the sole noteworthy industrial establishments of the region. It has a population density of about 140 to the square mile.

In March an agreement was concluded between Germany and Rumania, and this is of great importance to the German economy. The principal result is that Rumania's untapped oil and metal resources are to be exploited by joint German-Rumanian companies. Of course the agreement is not yet in operation, since it is not yet ratified and it does not come into force until one month after ratification. Thus political developments in Europe may yet interfere with its application.

The financing of Reich requirements by means of the issue of bills and long-term loans was abandoned in March in favour of a new plan. Hitherto the financial methods of the Reich had been constantly affirmed as appropriate to its tasks, and it was again and again stated that these methods, which required new loans of liquid funds every other month, could be carried on indefinitely; some foreign observers also seem to have been impressed by the way in which the Reich managed thus to meet its extraordinary capital needs. The responsible quarters in the Reich now appear to have changed their minds, for otherwise so doubtful an experiment as the new financial plan would be inconceivable. It may be admitted that it is theoretically possible, by means of a rapid succession of loans, to reserve all free capital for the State, and at the same time to prevent a rise in prices. But in practice this sooner or later meets with extreme difficulties, and this seems now to be the position in Germany. The latest loans were not easy to raise. The State Banks found they were holding a large proportion of Reich loans, which had been passed on by industry. The redemption of the special delivery bills which were issued as payment to the suppliers of the Reich set the authorities a difficult problem. The new plan contemplates the issue of two types of tax certificates which will serve as payment for deliveries to the Reich up to $40 \%$ of their value. One type, which is noninterest bearing, will serve as currency for certain specified transactions. If this plan is carried out for some time, it seems impossible to avoid a measure of inflation.

It appears that in future the limitation of profits, under the law relating to distributable funds, will be considered unnecessary. The State hopes rather to serve the same ends directly by the taxation of excess profits. The new tax will fall on any increase in profit shown over the previous year, to the extent of $30 \%$. It is estimated that for certain incomes, any increase will be taxed away to the extent of $90 \%$. This
applies especially to single persons' incomes, which already bear much heavier taxation than others.*

The published Reich debt, which totalled 18,910 Mn. marks at the end of January, 1938, rose to $28,109 \mathrm{Mn}$. by the end of January, 1939. The total may not be incommensurate with the economic capacity of the country, but the increase over the year is of extraordinary dimensions, and it must be remembered that this applies only to the acknowledged portion of the debt. During the month of January of this year alone it increased by 929 Mn . marks. In February and March it probably increased even faster, owing to the mobilisation caused by the march into Czechoslovakia. The indirect burdens caused by repeated mobilisation are also very heavy. Thus the rolling stock of the State Railways is insufficient for the demands now made upon it. It has been decided to devote a sum of $3,500 \mathrm{Mn}$. marks to new railway equipment, but this programme is to extend over several years.

The foreign trade of the Reich was passive during the first quarter, and all the more so if Austria and the Sudetenland are included. However, the statistics are not immediately comparable with those of the previous year. For example, trade with Austria is now internal trade, so that the import and export figures of the new Reich would thereby be less than those of Germany and Austria separately. However, there is no doubt that German exports are meeting increasingly heavy difficulties. This is not merely due to the boycott of German goods, but also to the distrust of German goods caused by the use of substitute materials. The extent of the hindrance to German goods caused by the American additional tariffs will very soon show itself. In order to meet these difficulties, the Reich is trying to make agreements with other countries, especially her eastern neighbours, which bind them to exchange a large portion o their goods with Germany. It is easy to understand that the smaller states of Europe are reluctant to enter into such agreements; for they bring them into economic, and perhaps political, dependence upon Germany.

A further cause for Germany's export difficulties is the fact that deliveries are often not being made in time. In a report of the

[^36]FINANCE, PRICES and WAGES.


TRADE, TRANSPORT, EMPLOYMENT.


NOTES AND SOURCES

## IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

Weight-
Values in Gold Marks-
COAL OUTPUT.
SHIPPING.
RAILWAY GOODS RECEIPTS-

## UNEMPLOYMENT-

Wirtschaft und Statistik,
Statistiches Reichsamt-Merchanãise and bullion incl ded
Excluding Saar till April, 1935-Wirtschaft und Statistik
Statistiches Reichsamt
Wirtschaft und Statistia
Total No. of Persons Unemployed on 1st of month. Wirtschaft und Statistik. Trade Union percentages for end of month, but given as for following month to be comparable with previous column,
ortinued after March. 1933. Subsequently percentages of working place capacity occupied.

## Germany]

Berlin Chamber of Commerce it is stated that this is due to the shortage of skilled labour. The report says further that the German exporters are suffering from the lack of their own representatives abroad, especially because recruitment from Germany has dwindled. The report forgets, however, that many representatives were so-called " non-Aryan," and have since either voluntarily or involuntarily passed into the service of foreign firms.

In March an agreement was concluded between the Federation of British Industries and Reichsgruppe Industrie (representing German industry), the aim of which was stated to be the elimination of destructive competition and a general understanding about the allocation of markets. Political developments have caused the postponement, if not the abandonment, of these aims.

Examination of the foreign trade of the old Reich with particular countries in the first two months of this year reveals that trade with European countries in February was about I3 Mn. marks less than in January ; it was also 8 Mn . marks less than in February of last year. Only the exports to Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Turkey and Jugoslavia increased. Among overseas countries exports to Argentina, Japan and China suffered heavily, but South African purchases increased.

The production of coal in the Ruhr in February was naturally smaller than in January, although at io Mn . tons it remained about 300,000 tons less than that of February, 1938. In February of this year 419,000 tons were produced per working day in the Ruhr area, as compared with 423,000 tons in January and 433,000 in February, 1938. Production is thus on the decline. As the demand for coal has not diminished, the decrease is cushioned by the pit stocks. In the Ruhr pit stocks fell between January and February by 580,000 tons, after falling by $1,060,000$ in January. At the same time working hours in coal mines have been increased. At the end of January permission was given for the working of one overtime shift per month by older youths. Boys may now, for certain kinds of work, be employed until Io p.m., while older youths may also work night shifts in the lignite seams. In March the daily output of coal for the Reich at 624,000 tons, was higher than in the previous month. In the Ruhr, however, the increase was slight, and production remained lower than last year.

In February 15,000 more workers were employed on the "Autobahnen"; in total,

104,000 workers were thus engaged at the end of February, and nearly 40 miles were begun. By the beginning of March about 1,000 miles were under construction. In the whole of the Reich 17,000 motor cars were produced in January and 18,000 in February, as against 16,000 in February, 1938. Commercial vehicles produced in January numbered 4,800 as against 4,300 in February and 4,000 in February, 1938. The 1939 figures are not strictly comparable with those of 1938 owing to the increase in the area of the Reich.

According to the Reich Statistical Office not only has the number of employed workers increased during the past year, but so, too, has the length of the working day. The average working day is given as 7.96 hours. Hourly earnings in September, 1938, on the average were barely 4\% higher than in September, 1937. Weekly earnings, however, have risen by more than $7 \%$. The increase in average hourly earnings is attributed chiefly to changes of employment, so that a larger proportion of workers have moved into higher wage groups. Of course such change of employment is now completely subject to the approval of the authorities. The situation in the labour market shows little change. There is a general shortage of skilled workers, and especially of builders and agricultural workers. The statistics for the beginning of April are not yet available.

During the first quarter of the year a decree was issued making the collection of economic statistics subject to official permission. This decree comes into effect from April ist. Its aim is stated to be the elimination of unnecessary labour, arising, for example, out of the duplication of statistical work.

## RECENT EVENTS.

The money market was very easy during April. This was owing to the fact that short and medium-term treasury bills then fell due. In consequence of this liquidity the total outstanding quantity of Gold Discount Bank bills again increased ; the total outstanding quantity of these bills is now estimated at more than 1,500 Mn. marks.

The Reichsbank statement for mid-April shows a bill portfolio of $7,427 \mathrm{Mn}$. marks as against $5,380 \mathrm{Mn}$. at mid-April last year. The Reichsbank note issue was $7,786 \mathrm{Mn}$. marks, as against $5,524 \mathrm{Mn}$. last year. Daily maturing liabilities are given as $\mathrm{I}, \mathrm{I} 26 \mathrm{Mn}$. The " Other Assets" were I,3II Mn. marks as against 1,503 Mn. last year.

For the development of the German economy the Minister of Finance was empowered at the beginning of April to give the following guarantees: 500 Mn . marks for the export trade, 200 Mn . for industry, 300 Mn . for manipulating the grain and fodder markets, and 200 Mn . for other agricultural markets; furthermore, 250 Mn . are set aside for workers' dwellings in country districts. The powers given the Minister before this remain unaffected.

At the beginning of April the Bourse was rather firm and prices in the first week of April were about $3 \%$ above those at the end of March. This was probably due to the fact that the law limiting the distribution of dividends will not be renewed in the future. However, its provisions will not expire until the middle of 1940, so that the abolition of the law would not make itself felt in balance sheets before 1940-4I. A larger rise was shown by Reichsbank shares which at one time rose by about $6 \%$. This was due to the Government's intention to amend the Bank Act and to compensate the Reichsbank shareholders, i.e., to buy up the shares.

In the second and third weeks of April the Stock Exchange was quieter, and business was subdued. Dealings were effected with prices sagging so that at the beginning of the fourth week the price level was scarcely higher than in March. The weaker tone of the Stock Exchange appears to be due to the prevailing political tension.

Foreign trade in March shows imports for the old Reich at 454 Mn . marks. Exports totalled 455.7 Mn . Hence there was an active balance for the old Reich of not quite 2 Mn . marks. Foreign trade for the new Reich (i.e., including the new territories) showed an import
surplus of $23 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{Mn}$. marks, with imports at 504 Mn . marks and exports at 480.5 Mn .

On April Ist a new Tariff Act came into force. Austria and the Sudetenland are to have the same customs law as the rest of the Reich. But to the Protectorates of Bohemia and Moravia the German customs law has not yet been applied.

Gradually prices in Sudetenland have become adjusted to those in Germany, and there is an attempt to equalise wages in the two areas. The purpose of this is to keep the standard of living equal throughout the greater Reich. Hitherto, in order not to damage exports no sudden price or wage changes had been allowed in the industrial districts of Sudetenland. Thus price rises had been permitted only with the consent of the authorities.

The Reich Statistical Office published in its April number figures showing an economic comparison between 1932 and 1933 and 1938. It appears that steel production was in 1938 more than four times as high as six years ago, and cement production nearly six times as high. A comparison is also given between the consumption (per head of the population) of certain foodstuffs in 1938 and 1932.* The greatest percentage increase in per capita consumption of foodstuffs was in fish. It is interesting to note that butter consumption per head in 1938 is said to have been $16 \%$ higher than in 1932, the year in which butter was not yet rationed. How this is to be reconciled with the general view about the scarcity of butter it is difficult to see. Perhaps the clue to the mystery is to be found in a footnote to this publication, according to which the figures for 1938 were " estimated."

* The figures published by the Reich Statistical Office refer to the old Reich only.


## ITALY.

## Information communicated by Professor C. OTTOLENGHI, formerly

 of the Royal University of Turin.May ist, 1939.

IN April Albania, which for many years had been under the political, economic and financial protection of Italy, who had taken a large part in her political and economic constitution, passed under the sovereignty of Italy. This will have favourable political and economic results.

It is a country of 11,000 square miles, with a population of a million. The chief agricultural products are wheat, maize, barley. The subsoil is rich in minerals such as copper and iron, which have been very little worked; there are many naphtha deposits ; the output of petroleum is about I 30,000 tons a year, and Italian stimulus can make it much greater. Sheep, goats, cattle,

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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
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| cion |  |  |  |  |  | ${ }_{\text {coid }}^{\substack{820 \\ 790}}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| come | - | ${ }_{369}$ | ${ }^{268}$ |  |  | ${ }_{\substack{196 \\ 969}}$ |  |  |  | ${ }^{248}$ |  |  |  | ${ }^{82}$ | 235 | 189 |  |  |  | ${ }_{150}^{5153}$ |
|  |  | ${ }_{\substack{245 \\ 245 \\ 245}}$ |  |  |  | ${ }_{\substack{818 \\ 769}}^{\text {c9, }}$ |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 119 \\ & 119 \\ & 119 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  | ${ }^{133}$ | 342 | 122 |  |  |  | $\}_{\{485}$ |
|  |  | ${ }_{225}^{24}$ |  |  |  | ${ }^{710}$ |  |  | $\begin{gathered} 110 \\ 120 \\ 120 \end{gathered}$ | ${ }_{\substack{506 \\ 456}}^{5}$ |  |  |  |  | ${ }_{149}^{121}$ | ${ }_{127}^{74}$ |  |  |  | ${ }_{4}^{43}$ |
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| (inty. | ${ }^{243}$ | $\frac{235}{365}$ |  | $\frac{162}{111}$ |  | ${ }_{\substack{682 \\ 882 \\ 812}}$ |  |  |  | ${ }^{338}$ | - ${ }_{\text {co }}^{102}$ |  |  |  |  | ${ }_{90}^{111}$ |  |  |  | 年46 |
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|  |  | ${ }_{\substack{367 \\ 368}}$ |  | ${ }_{192}^{198}$ |  | ${ }_{\substack{1059 \\ 880}}$ |  |  | ${ }_{\substack{120 \\ 120}}$ | 317 | ${ }^{197}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| ciul |  |  |  | ${ }^{209}$ |  |  |  |  | ${ }_{119}^{117}$ | ${ }_{\text {202 }}^{202}$ | ${ }^{9} 9$ | , |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1125 |
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|  |  |  |  | 201 |  | ${ }_{\substack{969 \\ 988 \\ 198}}$ |  |  | ${ }_{121}^{121}$ | ${ }_{225}^{225}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | ${ }_{198}^{1135}$ |
| Nis | ${ }_{\substack{364 \\{ }_{5}^{46}}}^{\substack{4}}$ | ${ }_{\text {312 }}^{31}$ |  | coind |  | ${ }^{1037} 113$ | ${ }^{614}$ |  |  | 202 |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 166161 \\ & 148 \\ & 148 \end{aligned}$ |  |  | ${ }_{1}^{23}$ |  |
|  | $\underset{\substack{66 \\ 364}}{\substack{3 \\ \hline}}$ | 371 | ${ }_{\substack{32 \\ 526 \\ 524}}^{\substack{\text { che }}}$ |  | ${ }^{16}$ | ${ }^{\text {cos }}$ |  |  | $\begin{array}{\|l\|l\|} \hline 1201 \\ 120 \end{array}$ |  | ${ }_{107}^{109}$ | ${ }_{19}^{2}$ |  | ${ }_{78}^{78}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & 126 \\ & 128 \\ & 188 \end{aligned}$ | ${ }_{46}^{50}$ |  |  | (10398 |
| cile |  | ${ }_{\substack{365 \\ 395}}$ |  | (175 |  |  |  |  |  | ${ }_{14}^{276}$ |  | ${ }_{\substack{64 \\ 26}}^{6}$ |  |  | col | ${ }_{\text {c }}^{100}$ |  |  |  |  |
| (oct | ${ }_{\substack { 364 \\ \begin{subarray}{c}{64 \\ 64{ 3 6 4 \\ \begin{subarray} { c } { 6 4 \\ 6 4 } }\end{subarray}}$ | ${ }_{\substack{350 \\ 359}}$ |  |  |  | ${ }^{904}$ |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} 29 \\ \substack{9 \\ 5 \\ 5 \\ \hline} \end{gathered}$ |  |  |  | cit |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 904 | ${ }_{713}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | $\underset{\substack{364 \\ 364}}{\substack{36 \\ \hline}}$ |  | (tion |  | 暏 |  | \% |  |  | ${ }_{245}^{245}$ |  |  |  |  |  | 149 |  |  | ${ }^{90}$ | 705 816 |

## finance.

Exchanges-
Industrial Shares-
New Capital Issues-
Bank of Italy -
Other Data-

## NOTES AND SOURCES.

Average daily rate (Direzione generale del Tesoro),
Borsa settling prices for shares of 20 industrial companies on the Milan Bourse (Bolletino della
Borsa di Milano)
Investments in new companies (Confederazione generale bancaria)
Deposits on current account and note circulation at end of month
Slearings-
Clearings-total for month.
Bankruptcies (Boll. mensile dell' Istituto centrale di Statistica-Ufficia Statistica del Consiglio pro-
vinciale dell' Economia di Milano)
0 Cficl ind
antised published by the Ministry of Corporations.
d'esportazione Mro delle Tinanze) month (Statistica del Commercio speciale d'importasion
Values per month (Bobl. Monsile dell' Istituto contrale),


+ Istituto Centr. di Statistica; \% of 1928. (a) General. (b) 20 foods. (c) Cost of Living

TRANSPORT.
Shipping.
Railways. -
PRICES WHOLESALE

PRICES RETAIL.
PRICES RETAIL.
UNEMPLOYMENT

Monthly Tal Gorsh All Ports. (Boll. mensile di statistica del istituto (Rivista delle comunicaziont Monthly Total of Merchandise sen Comunicazioni.) ferroviarie dal Ministero delle Comunicazioni.) month. (Boll. del consiglio provinciale Wholezale prices of selected commodities at end of month,
dell'Economia di Milano, e Listino ufficiale della Istituto centrale di Statistica
dell' Economia di Genova.)
Istituto Centrale di Statistica. National Insurance. Data for end of month. (Boll. mensile dell 1stituto centrale di Stas

## Italy]

buffaloes, are fairly abundant. On the mountain sides there are numerous forests of oak, beech and pine. In fact, the further development of Albania could be a very useful outlet for the expansion of Italian economic activity in various directions.

Finance.-Consideration of the first quarter of the year and the first half of April gives a picture of stability and economic equilibrium. The official exchange rates for the lira in the principal money markets remained steady ; the value of the lira showed a slight upward tendency in the past month. In general, commodity prices and the cost of living showed stability, owing to corporative and autarkic policy, which aims at developing internal resources without raising costs. Monetary stability is assured, as indicated by the return of the governor of the Bank of Italy for the end of March, which gives the following particulars

The note circulation of the Bank of Italy on December 31st, 1938, was $18,955 \mathrm{Mn}$. lire; that of bank bills and securities amounted to 905 Mn ., whilst that of deposits on current account reached 816 Mn . on the same date. The latest figures available, for March, show a circulation of $17,967 \mathrm{Mn}$., bank bills and securities at 715 Mn . and current deposits at 947 Mn.

The variation in the note circulation in 1938 was marked by a progressive diminution in the first half-year, and after it had reached a minimum in June, showed a normal increase until the middle of September ; in the last io days of September the circulation reached its maximum at $79,625 \mathrm{Mn}$., owing to the repercussion of international events at that time. Afterwards it fell, and by the end of the year was about 18,956 Mn.

At the end of December, 1938, the reserve stood at $3,826 \mathrm{Mn}$., of which $3,674 \mathrm{Mn}$. was gold reserve and 152 Mn . foreign credits. In March the gold had risen to $3,679 \mathrm{Mn}$. and foreign credits were unchanged. Thus the tendency towards expanding the circulation has been effectively checked.

As already mentioned, the official exchange rates remained steady during the whole period; the dollar was at 919, sterling ranged from 88.75 and 89 , the franc, after the notable fall, rose in the last two months to 50.12 and to 50.32 , and the Swiss franc in the same months showed a slight reduction from 431 to 422.

The Bourse remained quiet ; furthermore, strongly speculative movements are immediately
checked under the corporative system. The principal State security, $5 \%$, remains firm between 92 and 92.70 . In January the average was 92.50 , in February 92.75. Share movements, however, differed. The index of settlement prices of 20 industrials fell from I8I in January to 176 in February, and 169 in March, and remained nearly at the same level in April. One cause of this fall was the great volume of new issues during the past year, which raised the total of share capital from 47 Md . at the end of 1937 to nearly 53 Md . at the end of 1938 . So it will be understood that there were on the market a much larger number of shares than during the closing months of last year ; this increase led to a fall in quotations. In April, however, it appeared that the value of State bonds and of shares would rise.

Savings bank statistics for the end of 1938 show a rise during the year in deposits at the Post Office from $25,900 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $28,021 \mathrm{Mn}$., whereas deposits in other savings banks fell (owing to competition of the post office), but in the last three months they increased to $18,253 \mathrm{Mn}$.

There was a slight increase in ordinary bankruptcies in February to 252, compared with 245 in January. But the number was not great, and the amount of liabilities only 27 Mn . lire. In the corresponding months of 1938 they numbered 225 and 205. The value of protested bills, which had risen to 4 I Mn . in January, declined to 36 Mn . in February; in 1938 the corresponding figures were 32 and 37 Mn .

Industrial Production.-The output of electricity in 1938 amounted to $15,108 \mathrm{Mn}$. Kwh., or 147 Mn. Kwh. more than in 1937.

The output of steel in the first two months of 1939 was 362,000 tons, compared with 345,000 in 1938. The following increases took place in other items-copper by 102 \% to 499,000 tons, residual fuel oil by $85.3 \%$ to 103,000 tons, benzine by $38 \%$ to 70,000 tons, coke from petroleum by $36 \%$.

The output of artificial fibres amounted to 10,432,000 tons in January, 1939, compared with 11,851,000 in January, 1938, that of natural silk 171 tons, compared with 183 . The consumption of cotton in the spinning mills rose considerably ; for January, 1939, it was estimated at 334,000 quintals compared with 327,000 in the corresponding period of 1938.

As regards transport, in the first two months of 1939 the total volume of goods entering or leaving all ports was $7,071,000$, or an increase of 657,000 compared with the corresponding period
of 1938. In the same period goods sent on private account on the state railways amounted to $7,343,000$ tons, compared with $7,430,000$ in 1938.

External Trade and Transport.-According to the latest information from the Central Institute of Statistics, the total value of imports in the first three months of this year, excluding trade with the colonies, exceeded $2,337 \mathrm{Mn}$. lire, including raw materials to the value of $\mathrm{I}, \mathrm{I} 25 \mathrm{Mn}$., semi-manufactures 356 Mn ., and 383 Mn . for finished goods, and about 237.5 Mn . for foodstuffs. For these same groups in 1938 the total value amounted to $3,073 \mathrm{Mn}$.

The total value of exports in the same period -excluding colonies-was over I,86I Mn. lire, of which more than 589 Mn . was for foodstuffs and live animals, 594 Mn . for semi-manufactured goods and about igo Mn . for industrial raw materials. In the corresponding quarter of 1938 the total value of exports reached I,914 Mn. Thus comparison of the two periods shows a slight reduction of exports of about 53 Mn ., whilst more significant was the reduction of 735 Mn . in imports.

Thus the adverse balance in the first three months of the year was reduced from I, 159 last year to 476 Mn . this year, i.e., to about $40 \%$ of its former level.

If trade with the colonies is included, imports in the first two months of 1939 amounted to 1,52I Mn. lire and exports to $1,505 \mathrm{Mn}$., compared with 2,104 and 1,706 Mn respectively a year before. Thus the adverse balance, which was 398 Mn . in the first two months of 1938 , was reduced to 16 Mn . in 1939. The following table shows the value of trade with the principal countries in 'ooo lire.

|  | Imports. |  |  |  | Exports. |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | :--- | ---: | ---: |
|  |  | Jan. | Feb. |  | Jan. | Feb. |
| Germany | $\ldots$ | 167,311 | 202,547 | $\ldots$ | 125,031 | 166,814 |
| U. K.... | $\ldots$ | 45,679 | 47,254 | $\ldots$ | 40,630 | 59,290 |
| U.S.A. | $\ldots$ | 71,040 | 91,707 | $\ldots$ | 37,502 | 57,104 |
| France | $\ldots$ | 22,870 | 17,996 | $\ldots$ | 25,098 | 26,353 |

Prices.-The national index of wholesale prices calculated by the Central Institute of Statistics showed a slight rise in February to 97.2, compared with 97.I in January. In the three groups into which the commodities included in the total index are divided, there was a rise of $0.1 \%$ for semi-manufactured goods, and a diminution of the same extent, $0.1 \%$, in the other two groups, raw materials and finished goods.

The national index of the cost of living for February, 1939, at 100.05, was $0.3 \%$ lower than in the previous month; that for foodstuffs also diminished, from 98.8 to 98.2 .

## BELGIUM.

## Information communicated by l'Institut des Sciences économiques, University of Louvain.

> May 3 rd, 1939.

THE Belgian economy showed no characteristic movements during the first quarter of 1939. Though activity was maintained, no development of private initiative was to be observed. It is certain that the international situation is exerting an adverse influence on the state of affairs, aggravated also in Belgium until the middle of April by the uncertainty of Government policy.

Stock Exchange movements indicate persistent discouragement; the index of shares on the Brussels Bourse fell on April ist to a level lower than in the corresponding month of 1938, which had been the lowest in the present crisis. The market for rentes, like the capital market and the exchange market, has been greatly affected by fears regarding public finance.

There is no doubt that some situations, such a a budget deficit arising from the deterioration of the business position, can in the present psychological atmosphere provoke exaggerated reactions. The country thus finds itself deprived of a large part of its liquid assets ; the drying up of credit is clearly seen in the three months Treasury bond rate, which was $2 \frac{1}{2} \%$ at the end of April against $\mathrm{I}_{2} \frac{1}{2} \%$ in the middle of February. To remedy this deflation of credit, the Government proposes to extend the limits of the open market policy of the National Bank, which hitherto had been too narrow for this policy to have much effect.

As to prices, the weakness of the wholesale index was reduced, and in March a check was recorded. Seasonal influences facilitated the adjustment of the cost of living and the span


Dates of Series.-Cols, 1, 2, 1st of month ; 4,5,4th—10th; 6, 7. Average; 8, Average second half of month; 9, 15th; 16, for 25 working days ; 17, at end of month or year ; 18, 30-day month; 19, calendar month.

* Ministry of Labour index for 3rd category budgets.
i March-December,
between this and the wholesale index has been lessened.

Careful examination of individual prices shows profound differences within different groups since 1937. In the industrial section, besides mineral products generally, products delivered to finishing industries, building, public works, or for consumption (except non-perishable consumption goods, textiles, leather, paper) are steady or even rising. This should be related to the maintenance of demand which depends upon a still greater total of purchasing power. Movements in agricultural prices are rather a function of the protection which has been granted, which is greater for animal products than for vegetable products. The international relation of prices has not changed; at the most there was a slight reduction in the disparity between the Belgian and English costs of living, attributable to a reduction in the effects of inelasticity in the Belgian cost of living in 1938.

Incomes, dividends and wages stood at a higher level in 1938 than in 1937. The fact that the index of real wages regained the level of the 1932 maxima is characteristic of the crisis. The latest published information, taxation receipts, unemployment figures, denote, however, a fall in incomes, with a resulting reduction in aggregate demand and coming weakness in various
prices for which we have recorded firmness above.

The industries to which our index of industrial activity relates-metallurgy, coal, textiles, glass-show greater activity than in the middle of 1938 ; the average index for the first quarter of this year stands at I03.5, compared with 93.4 for the months from February to September, 1938. The latest available returns show activity regained in the steel industry, and also in the coal mines where stocks were greatly augmented. But the quarterly index of consumption and the fall in unfilled orders indicate a slackening of other activities.

These divergent tendencies point, however, to a state of affairs in which the decline compared with April, 1938, was not as great as that from April, 1937, to April, 1938. That applies largely to figures of unemployment, which are also subject to seasonal influences.

External trade is slightly improving, but the considerable gap between prices of imports and exports evidently depresses our exports, of which the quantities are falling more than the price.

In conclusion, the only positive element which gives any hope of recovery, arising through the reflationary effects which it would have, is the fulfilment of armament programmes from which the industries directly interested are already benefiting.

## NETHERLANDS.

## (Joint report from the Central Bureau of Statistics and the Netherlands Economic Institute.)

## April 29th, 1939.

BUSINESS indices for the first quarter of I939 on the whole indicate a slight improvement over the previous quarter, though the general economic situation remains unsatisfactory in many respects, especially having regard to the high level of unemployment.

To a great extent conditions are dominated by the Government's activity in the economic domain and private enterprise is greatly stimulated by Government expenditure on armament and public works. Besides, several measures such as agricultural emergency legislation, tariff policy, quota regulations and other measures have greatly emphasized the importance of the home market for the economic development of the country.

External factors have been mainly unfavourable. Necessarily, the international political tension has a paralysing influence on private business and the slowing down of the revival in the United States is obviously another adverse factor. But these were largely compensated by the Government's attitude and measures. Moreover the fall of the guilder restored the competitive power of our export industries which had suffered from the fall in sterling in the latter part of 1938.

The increasing activity of public authorities in the economic field is reflected by the unemployment figures. Of 348,000 persons registered by the labour offices at the end of March, 1939, 276,000 were out of work and 72,000 engaged in public works on a relief-work basis, whereas a


[^37]**Amsterdam. + Without gold \& silver, bullion \& cash
Liast month of Quarter §§ New Series, excluding Agriculture.

Number of days lost divided by total number of possible working days Trade Union members only
year ago the figures were $377,000,326,000$ and 51,000 respectively. With the probable further extension of military service and the expansion of public works in view, one may expect a gradual change in the unemployment problem, which, however, remains serious enough.

We have pointed out the fact that the advance in production has been confined mainly to enterprises working for the home market. Of these the building trade has played a considerable part in the increase, and activity in various branches of the metal industries has been well maintained. The transfer of industries to our country by Austrian and Czecho-Slovakian emigrants has further increased activity in some branches (ready-made clothing and knitwear) and so has the laying in of provisions by private persons at the instance of the Government, and, in a measure, the increase of import duties. Several industries in the trades concerned were able to report from fair to considerable activity.

Unlike the industrial situation the unfavourable state of agriculture has shown no improvement. The situation in horticulture remains very unsatisfactory on the whole.

Foreign trade has been maintained at the level where it was at the end of 1938. Exports, after seasonal adjustment, were only slightly below the level of the fourth quarter of 1938, and above that of the second and third quarter of that year.

Transport statistics equally point to an increasing importance of the national market, against which foreign traffic showed only a
slight decline. Shipping was favoured by the fall in the guilder-sterling exchange rate.

The price level remained practically stable during the quarter.

The trend of incomes is of special interest with regard to the growing importance of the home market for the general economic situation of our country. With employment increasing and wages steady, the wage bill must increase, but dividends for 1938, which are gradually being declared now, are, on the whole, lower than last year owing to the slight depression in 1938. A shifting from the higher to the smaller incomes is thus to be expected without a decline in total. As the fluctuations in the cost of living have been insignificant, and as the proportion spent out of small incomes is greater than that out of larger incomes, an increase in purchasing power may be expected.

The background of international tension against which the economic development of our country is laid is reflected in the money and capital market, which, with its sharp reactions to international events, presents a marked contrast to the relative unaffectedness and national self-sufficiency in other spheres. A considerable amount of capital has been exported and the gold holdings of the Netherlands Bank have declined rather sharply. The pressure on the guilder was evidently not counteracted to the full by the Equalisation Fund.

All things considered, the plainly adverse external factors make our economic situation more or less unstable, but apart from this, the prospects for further improvement may be judged rather favourably.

## POLAND.

Information supplied by the Polish Institute for Economic Research.

## THE ECONOMIC SITUATION OF POLAND IN JANUARY-MARCH, 1939.

May ist, 1939.

WHILE world economic activity receded in 1938 from the high levels attained in 1937, the economic situation of Poland showed further improvement, although at a slower rate than in 1937. Industrial production increased by $8 \%$ in 1938 as against $17 \%$ in 1937. This favourable development of business activity in Poland was due to an increase in public and private capital investments.

During the first quarter of 1939 capital investments showed a certain stabilization and
ceased to have a decisive influence on the trend of business activity. A new factor appeared, however, namely a slight improvement in the world economic situation, which resulted in an increase in Poland's export trade. This caused a further increase in industrial production during the quarter under review.

The general index of industrial production for the period January-March, 1939, was 126.4 (\% of 1928), as against 121.3 during the last quarter of 1938. Compared with the first quarter of 1938, the volume of industrial pro-


SERIES ADJUSTED FOR SEASONAL VARIATION.
duction was $6 \%$ higher. The production of investment goods, consequent upon the stabilization of investment activity, showed only a slight increase of $\mathrm{I} \%$. In this group, the chief gain in production was registered by the electrotechnical industry, which is still in a phase of structural growth. The index of production for this industry rose from 393.0 in the last quarter of 1938 to 420.8 during the quarter under review. Likewise, the output of iron ore showed a marked advance, chiefly under the influence of increased demand for ore caused by the incorporation of West Cieszyn-Silesia with its important iron and steel industry. The index of production of consumers' goods showed a much larger gain than that of producers' goods ; it rose from I09.I to 117.0 . This increase was, however, partly due to shifts in seasonal variation during the period under review, as compared with the previous one, which could not be allowed for by the seasonal adjustments used hitherto. Actually, the cyclical growth in the production of consumers' goods was somewhat smaller than the above data indicate, and was proportionate to the general growth in the consumption of consumers' goods. Similarly as in the previous quarter, increased production chiefly appeared in the group of export industries. The index of production of the export, power and fuel industries rose from 105.3 to 112.2. The largest increase was noted in the timber industry, where production rose by $8 \%$. The output of coal increased by $7 \%$ as a result of improved export conditions. There was also an increase of $4 \%$ in the output of petroleum, which is all the more noteworthy as for a long time petroleum production had remained at fairly low levels. This appears to be chiefly due to steps taken by the Government in order to increase the production of petroleum and its derivatives, which for some years past had been exported to a large extent, but are now entirely taken up by the home market. In fact, such steps had to be taken as the increasing domestic consumption would otherwise have made it necessary to import petroleum products.

Prices during the period under review showed practically no change. The general index of wholesale prices at the end of March this year was 55.1, as against 55.0 at the end of 1938. The index of the prices of industrial commodities remained unchanged. The slight increase in the prices of raw materials dependent on foreign markets was fully compensated by a further small drop in the prices of certain semimanufactures. Prices of agricultural products
rose slightly. The seasonal advance of grain prices and of those of fat stock was largely made up for by a seasonal decline in the prices of dairy products.

The money market continued to be easy in January and February. Deposits increased, particularly in the savings banks. The demand for credit rose slightly. This was reflected in the balance-sheets of the Bank of Poland. The aggregate amount of credits granted by the Bank of Poland fell during the period DecemberFebruary by 100 Mn . zlotys, which caused a decrease in the note circulation.

The liquidity of the money market had a favourable influence on the situation of the investment market. The quotations of bonds and industrial shares both reached levels which were the highest in the course of the recent recovery. The index of bond prices was 103.5 in February, as against 100.2 in December, while that of industrial-share prices was 54.6, as against 49.0 in December, 1938.

This satisfactory situation was disturbed in March by political events in Europe, which caused considerable withdrawals of deposits, particularly from the savings banks. These withdrawals took place, however, without any hitch in the operation of the credit system, just as was the case last year on two occasions under analogous circumstances; difficulties were avoided, thanks to the help of the Bank of Poland to the credit institutions. As a result of this, the aggregate amount of credits granted by the Bank of Poland rose during March by 266 Mn . zlotys.

The statute of the Bank of Poland was amended on February 13th. The most important change was that instead of a minimum $30 \%$ gold coverage of notes in circulation and sight liabilities, the Bank is now empowered to proceed to a fiduciary issue of 800 Mn . zlotys, which may be raised in case of need to $\mathrm{I}, 200 \mathrm{Mn}$. zlotys. This issue does not require any gold coverage. A gold coverage of at least $40 \%$ must be maintained for notes in circulation and sight liabilities in excess of the above amounts. The essential feature of this amendment is that, with the present gold reserve, the aggregate amount of notes in circulation and sight liabilities may in case of need be much higher than before without impairing the provisions in respect of statutory cover as was the case, for instance, during the withdrawals of deposits in September, 1938. The amendment of the Bank's statute therefore represents its adaptation to the actual needs of the credit system.

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## EVENTS OF THE MONTH <br> April 23rd-May 22nd, 1939.

Tues. April 25th U.K.

| Wed. | , | 26 th | U.K. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Fri. | $\#$ | 28 th | International |


| Wed. May | 3rd | U.S.S.R. |
| :--- | :---: | :--- |
| Thurs. „, | $4^{\text {th }}$ | U.K.-U.S.A. |

Thurs. , IIth U.K.-
Roumania
Fri. „, 12th U.K.-Turkey
Mon. „, 22nd Italy-Germany

Budget speech in Commons. Armament expenditure estimated at $£ 630 \mathrm{Mn}$., of which $£ 380 \mathrm{Mn}$. to be raised by loan. Standard rate of Income Tax unchanged.
Government decides to introduce military conscription.
Herr Hitler denounces Anglo-German Naval Treaty and PolishGerman Pact of Non-Aggression.
M. Litvinov resigns office of Commissar for Foreign Affairs.

Mr . Chamberlain announces opening of negotiations for barter of raw materials for U.S. surplus commodities.
U.K. Government grants credit facilities for $£ 5 \mathrm{Mn}$. at $5 \%$ to Roumania for purchase of U.K. goods.
Announcement of pact between United Kingdom and Turkey for mutual assistance against aggression
Italy and Germany conclude Military Alliance.

# THE GENERAL BUSINESS POSITION. 

## UNITED KINGDOM.*

## May 19 th, 1939.

Employment again generally improved in April to more than the usual seasonal extent, and in industries not directly influenced by armament expenditure. The movement is comparable with that in 1937, when the improvement continued till June, but this year it is to Government expenditure rather than independent enterprise that the progress is due. The armaments programme is no doubt leading to the development of some private firms, but otherwise investment is nearly at a standstill and uncertainty of the future checks new capital expenditure.

So far as the labour force is concerned there is still room for considerable increase in private as well as in direct Government activity; but there will be increasing need of mobility between districts and occupations, and of planned regional placing of orders. Though there is already shortage
of specialised labour in some branches of engineering, there appears to be no immediate danger of any widespread lack of labour. It may be anticipated in any case that unemployment in general will diminish for several months.

The statistics of external trade show little change from March to April, when allowance is made for the fewer working days in the latter month. The importation of materials has increased during this year, and the excess of imports of merchandise over exports was nearly as great in the month of April, 1939, as a year before, in contrast to the preceding months.

Wholesale prices have hardly risen this year in contrast to the movement in 1937; their stationariness may perhaps be attributed to hesitation in recovery in the United States.

## ANALYSIS OF RECENT MOVEMENTS.

## UNITED KINGDOM.

finance. - Bank of England. - Since the beginning of May the level of Bankers' Balances at the Bank has been appreciably raised, and this has undoubtedly contributed to the return of easy conditions to the money market. The rise in the note circulation from $£_{6} 489.7 \mathrm{Mn}$. on April I2th to $£ 493.6 \mathrm{Mn}$. on May 17 th, and the consequent fall of nearly $\mathrm{f}_{6} \mathrm{Mn}$. in the note reserve, were more than offset by increases in other assets in the Banking Department-in Government securities from $£_{108.7} \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£_{\mathrm{II} 3.5 \mathrm{Mn} \text {., and in Discounts, }}$ etc., from $£_{6} 6.3 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£$ Io. 1 Mn . Despite small falls in Other Securities and in Gold and
 to $£ 160.3 \mathrm{Mn}$. Further, since Government Deposits fell by nearly $£_{\mathrm{I}} \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 16.8 \mathrm{Mn}$., and Other Deposits by $£ 4.8 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 36.2 \mathrm{Mn}$., Bankers' Deposits rose by nearly $£_{10} \mathrm{Mn}$. to the very comfortable level of $£ 107.3 \mathrm{Mn}$.

Clearing Banks.-The lower level of Bankers' Deposits at the Bank of England during April was reflected in a fall of $£ 2.5 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£^{2} 218.7 \mathrm{Mn}$. in the average cash reserves of nine clearing banks. Despite the increased issues of Treasury bills by tender, the banks' Discounts fell by a further $£_{7.2} \mathrm{Mn}$. to the extremely low total of $f_{1} 178.5 \mathrm{Mn}$., though the decline was partly offset by a rise of $£_{3} .6 \mathrm{Mn}$. in Money at Call and Short Notice. Balances with Other Banks and Items in Transit also rose by $£ 4.2 \mathrm{Mn}$. Of the less liquid assets Advances increased more than seasonally by $£ 5 . \mathrm{I} \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 946.5 \mathrm{Mn}$., while Investments were almost unchanged at £ $567.1^{\text {I }}$ Mn . Deposits rose by $£_{\mathrm{r} .6 \mathrm{Mn} \text {. to } £_{\mathrm{L}}, 040 \cdot 3}$ Mn. The ratio of Cash to Deposits fell again from $10.8 \%$ to $10.6 \%$, and the combined ratio to Deposits of Cash, Call Money and Discounts fell still further to $26.1 \%$. With the present easier cash conditions and the steady increase

[^38]in Treasury bills issued by tender, both ratios are likely to show a rise in May.

Town clearings in April reflected the depressed conditions on the security markets in a contraseasonal fall, but Country clearings increased by the full seasonal proportion, and Provincial clearings showed a modest contra-seasonal rise. For the first time since the autumn of 1937 the daily average of Provincial clearings was higher than twelve months before. Of the eleven provincial centres seven showed increases, the largest being in Liverpool and Birmingham. The largest decrease was in Newcastle, while the figures for Sheffield, Bradford and Hull also showed small declines.

Security Prices.-Prices of all types of securities have recovered from the low point reached last month. The rise was most marked in Industrial securities, which now stand above the mid-February level, but was also appreciable in fixed interest securities, though these have recovered only a small part of the ground lost in recent months. Our crude index of foreign bond prices shows a recovery of about $5 \%$, due mainly to a rise in several European bonds.

As anticipated, last month's rise in shortterm interest rates proved to be quite temporary. The release of funds from Public Deposits at the beginning of May, the signs of a more liberal policy at the Bank of England, and some release of the international political tension have combined to bring a more active demand for Treasury bills and a return of discount rates almost to the extremely low level which has become customary in recent years.

Capital Issues.-The fall in security prices in April and the temporary stringency in that month are reflected in a further fall in new capital issues. April issues on home account, as compiled by the Midland Bank, were the smallest for any month since 1932 and for any April since 1919, while issues on overseas account remained trifling.

Government Finance.-During the four weeks ending May I3th the ordinary revenue of the Government, at $£ 48.9 \mathrm{Mn}$., was $£ 5.4 \mathrm{Mn}$. higher than in the corresponding period of last year. The increase was mainly due to a presumably exceptional rise in receipts from Customs and Excise. The yield of Income Tax was lower, but the fall was offset by higher receipts from Estate Duties and National Defence Contribution.

Ordinary expenditure, at $£ 89.3 \mathrm{Mn}$., was nearly $£ 20 \mathrm{Mn}$. higher than a year ago, most of the increase being for the Supply Services. The
excess of expenditure for the period was $£ 40.4$ Mn ., as against $£ 25.6 \mathrm{Mn}$. last year. For the financial year to May I3th the excess of expenditure is $£ 58.8 \mathrm{Mn}$., as compared with $£ 39.5 \mathrm{Mn}$. to May I4th, 1938.

The excess of ordinary expenditure for the month was reflected in a rise of $£ 42.6 \mathrm{Mn}$. in the Floating Debt, from $£ 94 \mathrm{I} .2 \mathrm{Mn}$. on April I5th to $£ 983.8 \mathrm{Mn}$. on May 13th. Of the increase, $£ 9.2 \mathrm{Mn}$. took place in Ways and Means Advances from Public Departments and the remaining $£ 33.4 \mathrm{Mn}$. in Treasury Bills. The whole of this increase was in bills issued by tender, which rose from $£ 394 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 429 \mathrm{Mn}$., while ' tap ' bills fell by $£ 1.6 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£_{5} 510.2 \mathrm{Mn}$. For many weeks the total of 'tap' bills has changed relatively little, and though this stability may conceal some increase in the 'tap' bill holdings of the Exchange Equalisation Account and some increase in the holdings of other Departments, it does not seem likely that these movements have been very large. So far as they go, therefore, the bill figures support the belief that net sales of gold by the Exchange Equalisation Account since the beginning of 1939 have been quite moderate.

Foreign Exchanges.-During the past month the exchange value of sterling has remained extremely stable in terms of both dollars and francs, the extreme limits of fluctuation being respectively from 4.68 on April 19th to 22nd to $4.68 \frac{9}{32}$ on May 15th, and from 176 $\frac{3}{4}$ on April 21st and 22 nd to $176_{64}^{45}$ on April 29th. The franc has consequently been extremely steady in terms of dollars at $2.64^{\frac{7}{8}}-2.65$. Evidence of the reduced pressure on sterling is given by the fall in the three-months premium on forward dollars from $2 \frac{3}{4} \mathrm{c}$. to $\mathrm{I} \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{c}$.

Gold Movements.-Gold movements continued on a very large scale during April, though it is clear that the bulk of the gold concerned was changing domicile rather than ownership. Out of an import total of $£ 62 \mathrm{Mn}$., $£ 37.7 \mathrm{Mn}$. came from Belgium, $£ 15.9 \mathrm{Mn}$. from Switzerland and $£ 4.4 \mathrm{Mn}$. from Holland. Of the remaining $£ 4 \mathrm{Mn}$., £I Mn. came from India, and imports from South Africa were resumed with a receipt of $£$ I. 6 Mn . from that country. Of the immense export total of $£ 87.9 \mathrm{Mn}$., $£ 76.4 \mathrm{Mn}$. went to U.S.A. and $£ 9.8 \mathrm{Mn}$. to Canada.

During the first half of May exports of gold continued on about the same scale, but imports diminished. Despite imports of $£ 3.6 \mathrm{Mn}$. from South Africa and $£ \mathrm{I} .2 \mathrm{Mn}$. from Russia, total imports for the fortnight ending May 15th amounted to only $£ 16.3 \mathrm{Mn}$. The decline was
due mainly to the cessation of large imports from Belgium, while imports from Switzerland, at $f_{2} 2.7 \mathrm{Mn}$., were on a much smaller scale. On the other hand imports from Holland increased to $£ 6.9 \mathrm{Mn}$. for the fortnight. Of the export total of $£ 44.5 \mathrm{Mn}$., $£ 3 \mathrm{I} .3 \mathrm{Mn}$. went to U.S.A. and $£_{\mathrm{I} 2.2 \mathrm{Mn} \text {. to Canada. }}$

PRICES. - There were few changes in wholesale sterling prices in March or April. The Board of Trade's general index for April was the same as in January, and nearly 6\% lower than a year ago. The index is a little higher than in March for food, etc., owing, it is explained, to the inclusion of the additional duties on tea and tobacco and seasonal changes. The Statist index at the end of April shows a similar rise in food, and also an increase in materials ; since the middle of April prices of tin, flax, jute and cotton have risen.

Retail prices have not yet fallen so much as normally owing in part to the increased duty on sugar, but the Cost of Living Index remains $1 \frac{1}{2} \%$ below April, 1938, and is nearly the same as in April, 1937. It is 13\% above the minimum which was reached in April, 1933.

There has been no change in wages that affects our index.

TRADE AND OUTPUT. - The Board of Trade's estimates of the volume and average values of imports and exports during the last nine quarters is shown in the following tables. In the table of imports, manufactures are divided into Groups A and B, which as nearly as possible contain respectively articles which undergo further processes and finished goods. The indices of volume and of price are obtained by revaluing all items at the average 1935 values of similar goods.

## RETAINED IMPORTS



The aggregate volume of retained imports in the first quarter of 1939 was $3 \%$ less than in the corresponding period of 1938 , but still $2 \%$ above that recorded in 1937. Prices, however, have now fallen well below the level of two years ago. The various groups of imports do not show uniform movements. The volume of food imports was about $5 \%$ greater in the first quarter of 1939 than in that of 1938, and about $9 \%$ greater than in that of 1937. Prices of food imports, however, were below the level of two years ago. In the case of materials both volume and price were substantially lower than in 1938 and 1937. In the case of Group A Manufactures volume was about midway between those of the first quarters of 1938 and 1937, but price had fallen below the 1937 level. The average price of Group B Manufactures continues to show great stability, and there has been no great change since the second quarter of 1937. The volume of Group B Manufactures in the first quarter of 1939 was only slightly less than in the corresponding periods of the previous two years.

There is normally a considerable rise of imports of materials in the fourth and first quarters of the year. A large portion of this is normally due to raw cotton and wool. The following table shows the movements of cotton, wool and other imports during the fourth and first quarters of the past four years. The volume of raw cotton imported fell very heavily indeed during OctoberMarch, 1938-39. On the other hand the volume of raw wool imported rose by about $30 \%$ over the 1937-38 period and was the highest for the four years shown. The average prices of both the materials have fallen.

|  | 1935-36 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Oetober } \\ & 1936-37 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { to March. } \\ & \text { 1937-8. } \end{aligned}$ | 1938-9 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cotton- |  |  |  |  |
| Declared Value, £ Mn. | $24 \cdot 6$ | $27 \cdot 9$ | $24 \cdot 1$ |  |
| Index of Volume | 100 | 104 | 113.5 |  |
| Index of Price ... | 99 | 108 | 85 | 84 |
| Wool- |  |  |  |  |
| Declared Value, £ Mn. | 17.0 | 207 |  |  |
| Index of Volume | 100 | 98 | 84 | 1106 |
| Index of Price |  | 139 |  |  |
| Other- <br> Declared Value, £ Mn. | $63 \cdot 9$ | $74 \cdot 3$ | $100 \cdot 4$ | 69 |
| Index of Volume ... | 100 | 108 | 124 | 98.5 |
| Index of Price ... | 102 | 109.5 | 129 | 1125 |

Similar calculations for exports of U.K. produce show an increase in volume in the first quarter of 1939 in all the major groups, as compared with the corresponding period of 1938. In each of the four previous quarters volumes had been considerably less than a year before. Although the materials group as a whole showed an increase over the year, coal exports

Value of Exports of the Produce and Manufactures of the United Kingdom in the Ist Qrs. of I924, I938 and 1939.


As values are given to two decimal places only, the totals are not always identical with the sum of the items.

EARTHENWARE.
S. Africa

Australia
Canada
Other British Countries
U.S.A.

Argentine
Other Foreign Countries

To Eire
CEMEN'I
British W. Africa
British E. Africa
British Malaya
British W. Indies
Other British Countries
Foreign Countries

To Eire
WROUGHTIRON TUBES.
S. Africa

British India
Australia
New Zealand
British W. Indies
Other British Countries.
Soviet Union Russia
Iran...
Brazil and Argentine
Other Foreign Countries

## To Eire

GALVANISED SHEETS.
British W. Africa
S. Africa

British India
Australia
New Zealand
Other British Countries
Foreign Countries

> To Eire

PLATES AND SHEET'S (Tinned)
Australia
New Zealand
Canada
British Malaya
Other British Countries
Denmark
Netherlands
Dutch E. Indies
China
Argentine
Other Foreign Countries

To Eire
IIN (Blocks, etc.) British Countries
Soviet Union Russia
France
U.S.A.

Other Foreign Countries
NON-FERROUS METALS (excluding Tin).
British Countries.
Soviet Union Russia
Sweden
France
Other Foreign Countries

To Eire

showed a decline. The average prices of exports of manufactures and materials were lower than a year ago, but rather higher than two years ago. In the case of coal, however, average price was far above the level of two years ago and only slightly below that of one year ago. The declared value of coal thus fell over the year mainly owing to the decline in volume.

EXPORTS OF U.K. PRODUCE.
$\mathrm{a}=$ Declared Value, £Mn.
$\mathrm{b}=$ Index of Volume ( 1935 Quarterly Average $=100$ )
$\mathrm{c}=$ Index of Price ( 1935 Average Values $=100$ )

| 1937 |  |  |  | 1 | 19 | 38 | 4 | 1939 1 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Food, ete | 9.2 | 9.8 | $10 \cdot 8$ | 8.6 | $7 \cdot 8$ | 8.9 | 10.6 | 7 |
| b. $110 \cdot 2$ | 111.5 | 1172 | 1300 | 1069 | 99.6 | 1097 | 128.1 | 1077 |
| c. 1037 | 104.0 | $105 \cdot 5$ | $105 \cdot 8$ | 1017 | 99.7 | 103.1 | 104-4 | $102 \cdot 9$ |
| Materials. $\text { a. } \quad 75$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Coal } \\ & 9.2 \end{aligned}$ | Materials. Coa |  |  |  | 3 |  |  |
| b. 85.3 | 1008 | 114.9 | 103.7 | 84.4 | 911 | 91.6 | $95 \cdot 4$ | 81.3 |
| c. $110 \cdot 8$ | 115'5 | $119 \cdot 4$ | $124 \cdot 6$ | $132 \cdot 6$ | 131.5 | 129:0 | 130 | 151.2 |
| Materials. Total- |  | $\text { al- }-16.6$ | 16.0 | 13.9 | 13.9 | $13 \cdot 8$ | $15 \cdot 4$ |  |
| b. $100 \cdot 2$ | 104.4 | 1014 | 98.9 | 85.7 | 86.7 | 88.2 | 98.9 | 89 |
| c. $115 \cdot 3$ | 121.5 | 124.2 | 122.2 | $122 \cdot 5$ | 121.0 | 118.9 | 1176 | 116 |
| Manufactures- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. $93 \cdot 8 \quad 1$ | 101.3 | 105•3 | $104 \cdot 5$ | 95.8 | $87 \cdot 7$ | 88.0 | 93.9 |  |
| b. 109.7 | $113 \cdot 9$ | 1137 | 1120 | 1019 | $95^{\circ}$ | $95^{\circ} 5$ | 1023 | $104 \cdot 3$ |
| c. 104: | 108.1 | 112.7 | 113.3 | 114.4 | $112 \cdot 3$ | 1121 | 111.6 | 109 |
| Total Exports- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. $121 \cdot 1$ | $130 \cdot 1$ | 134.4 | $135 \cdot 9$ | $120 \cdot 9$ | $112 \cdot 3$ | 113.5 | 124.2 | $119 \cdot 1$ |
| b. 108.2 | 112.0 | 111.6 | 1127 | 997 | 943 | 95.5 | 1050 | 102.5 |
| 105.2 | 2 | 3 | 113.2 | $113 \cdot 9$ | 111.9 | 111.7 | 111.1 | 109•1 |

The following table shows indices of volume and value for exports of cotton and wool manufactures during the first quarter of 1936-39. The average prices of both groups have fallen over the past year, the volume of wool exports rose while that of cotton exports fell. The fall in cotton exports, however, was much less than that in raw cotton imports, so that there is evidence to suggest a substantial reduction in stocks in recent months.

| First Quarter. | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cotton Manufactures- |  |  |  |  |
| Index of Volume | 100 | 100 |  |  |
| Index of Price | 100 | $105 \cdot 5$ | 114 | 105 |
| Wool Manufactures- |  |  |  |  |
| Index of Volume | 100 |  | 80 | 85.5 |
| Index of Price | 100 | 106.5 | 116 | 106 |

The table on page 220 of the geographical distribution of exports of U.K. produce in the first quarters of 1938 and 1939 is of interest mainly for the increase of $39 \%$ which it shows in exports to the United States. This is principally due to the Anglo-American Trade Agreement, which came into operation on January Ist, 1939. Other principal changes were shown by exports to Argentina and Uruguay ( $+29 \%$ ), Norway, Sweden and Denmark ( $+12 \%$ ), South Africa ( $-7 \%$ ), Canada (- $10 \%$ ),

France and Belgium (-16\%), and Australia and New Zealand (-18\%). The chief manufactures benefited by the Anglo-American Agreement were textiles, cutlery, hardware and earthenware. Exports to the U.S.A. of woollen and worsted manufactures rose from $£ 312,000$ in the first quarter of 1938 to $£ 513,000$ in that of 1939 ; cotton piece-goods from $£ 150,000$ to $£ 166,000$; linen piece-goods from $£ 224,000$ to $£ 324,000$; jute piece-goods from $£ 98,000$ to $£ 171,000$; cutlery, hardware, etc., from $£ 50,000$ to $£ 67,000$; earthenware from $£ 57,000$ to $£ 66,000$. The total figure of exports to the U.S.A. was also substantially increased by a rise of tin shipments from $£ 5,000$ to $£ 623,000$.

There is some difficulty in comparing the trade statistics of April with March or with April last year. In both years March contained four Sundays ; in 1938 April contained four Sundays and the Easter holiday, while in 1939 it contained five Sundays and the Easter holiday. The number of working days was therefore 27 in each March, 24 in April, 1938, and 23 in April, 1939. Assuming that this variation in working days is exactly reflected in the Import and Export returns, it is found that exports per diem were very nearly the same in each of the four months, while imports per diem in April, 1939, were the same as in April, 1938. The corrections for seasonal changes in the Table on page 239 ignore the position of Sunday, on the ground that the dates of the returns made by importers and exporters


[^39]
## A. TOTAL IMPORTS OF RAW MATERIALS—REVALUED AT 1935 AVERAGE PRICES. $\dagger$ <br> WITH CERTAIN PARTLY MANUFACTURED GOODS BUT EXCLUDING RUBBER. £Mn.

| Qrs. | 1936 |  |  | 1937 |  |  |  | 1938 |  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} 1939 \\ 1 \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |  |
| Pig-iron, \&c. | $\begin{array}{r} 1 \cdot 0 \\ 5 \cdot 4 \\ -1 \\ 2.2 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 1 \cdot 3 \\ 4.7 \\ 2 . \\ 2.1 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 8 \\ 5.0 \\ .2 \\ 2.1 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 9 \\ 4.9 \\ .9 \\ 1.9 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 1.2 \\ 6.7 \\ 1 . \\ 1.9 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 1.8 \\ 7.5 \\ .2 \\ 1.9 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 1.8 \\ 6.8 \\ .2 \\ 1.6 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 2.2 \\ 5.5 \\ 2 \\ 1.4 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ 6.7 \\ .2 \\ 1.3 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} .5 \\ 5 \cdot 2 \\ .3 \\ 1.5 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 4 \\ 54 \\ .3 \\ 14 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ 4.8 \\ 1 \\ 1.7 \end{array}$ |
| Copper, tin, lead, zinc Yarns ... |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Leather $\quad .$. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Minerals (non-metals) | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \cdot 1 \\ & 2 \cdot 2 \\ & 3.0 \\ & 8 \cdot 4 \\ & 7 \cdot 1 \\ & 4 \cdot 3 \\ & 3 \cdot 0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 12 \\ 1.9 \\ 3.4 \\ 15.1 \\ 5.9 \\ 4.2 \\ 3.0 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 1.2 \\ 1.6 \\ 3.2 \\ 12.1 \\ 6.1 \\ 4.8 \\ 3.3 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1.1 \\ & 1.6 \\ & 3.0 \\ & 6.6 \\ & 7.7 \\ & 4.8 \\ & 2.7 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1.4 \\ & 2.2 \\ & 4.5 \\ & 9.1 \\ & 7.4 \\ & 4.2 \\ & 3.4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 1.5 \\ 2.4 \\ 3.7 \\ 16.3 \\ 6.2 \\ 4.7 \\ 3.5 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 1.3 \\ 2.3 \\ 4.5 \\ 12.9 \\ 6.8 \\ 3.8 \\ 4.0 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \cdot 2 \\ & 2.9 \\ & 3.6 \\ & 5.6 \\ & 8.1 \\ & 3.9 \\ & 3 \cdot 4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1.2 \\ & 1.7 \\ & 4.3 \\ & 6.8 \\ & 8.4 \\ & 3.3 \\ & 2.7 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 1.1 \\ 1.0 \\ 3.6 \\ 10.9 \\ 7.2 \\ 4.0 \\ 2.5 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 1 \cdot 2 \\ .7 \\ 3 \cdot 3 \\ 10 \cdot 0 \\ 6 \cdot 1.4 \\ 3 \cdot 4 \\ 3 \cdot 2 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1.0 \\ & 0.9 \\ & 3.5 \\ & 5.8 \\ & 7.5 \\ & .56 \\ & 2.8 \end{aligned}$ |
| Iron Ore ... ... |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Non-Ferrous Metals |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Wood ... ... |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Oil Seeds, \&c. ... |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hides Materials ... |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Paper Materials ... |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cotton and Wool) | $\begin{array}{r} 2.5 \\ 10.5 \\ 11.7 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2.4 \\ & 9.9 \\ & 4.7 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 3.7 \\ 13.5 \\ 9.3 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 4 \cdot 8 \\ 13 \cdot 2 \\ 10.8 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 2 \cdot 9 \\ 10 \cdot 3 \\ 10 \cdot 9 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1.9 \\ & 7.2 \\ & 4.9 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 2.9 \\ 17.1 \\ 7.2 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 4 \cdot 2 \\ 11 \cdot \theta \\ 10 \cdot 3 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 2.5 \\ 7.3 \\ 12.4 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2 \cdot 3 \\ & 7 \cdot 8 \\ & 6 \cdot 1 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 3.5 \\ & 8.2 \\ & 8.7 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 3.9 \\ 7.9 \\ 13.6 \end{array}$ |
| $\begin{array}{lll}\text { Cotton } \\ \text { Wool } & \ldots & \ldots\end{array}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Wool |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All above groups, and Miscellaneous | $64 \cdot 3$ | $62 \cdot 9$ | $70 \cdot 1$ | 668 | $68 \cdot 3$ | $66 \cdot 9$ | 761 | $67 \cdot 1$ | $61 \cdot 3$ | $56 \cdot 9$ | $58 \cdot 4$ | $60 \cdot 2$ |
| Excl. cotton and woolTotal Imports | $42 \cdot 1$ | $48 \cdot 3$ | $47 \cdot 3$ | $42 \cdot 8$ | 471 | $54: 8$ | 51.8 | $44 \cdot 9$ | 41.6 | $43 \cdot 0$ | 41.5 | 38.7 |

B. EXPORTS OF U.K. MANUFACTURES—REVALUED AT 1935 AVERAGE PRICES. £Mn.


* Including footwear

[^40]do not necessarily tally with the dates of unlading and lading, while work at the docks is not wholly governed by the existence of holidays and Sundays.

Net imports of materials have increased from February to March and from March to April, whereas last year there was a fall in April. When allowance is made for change of prices and seasonal movements, it appears that these imports are more satisfactory now than in the autumn. Imports of food were relatively low in April, but they had been considerable in previous months. Imports of iron and steel manufactures, electrical apparatus and machinery tend to increase.

There has been no important change in any of the main classes of exports.

| EXPORIS | OF BRITISH |  | PRODUCE. |  | £Mn. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1938 |  |  | Feb. | $\begin{aligned} & 1939 \\ & \text { Mar. } \end{aligned}$ | Apr |
| Beverages* | 1.2 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.9 | $1 \cdot 2$ | $0 \cdot 9$ |
| Tobacco | 0.4 | 0.4 | $0 \cdot 4$ | 0.4 | $0 \cdot 4$ | $0 \cdot 3$ |
| Yood ... | 1.2 | 1.5 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.5 | 1.2 |
| Total | 2.8 | $2 \cdot 8$ | $2 \cdot 4$ | 2.5 | $3 \cdot 1$ | $2 \cdot 4$ |
| Materials- |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Coal | 2.7 | $3 \cdot 1$ | $2 \cdot 8$ | 2.6 | $2 \cdot 9$ | $2 \cdot 7$ |
| Wool | 0.4 | $0 \cdot 5$ | 0.5 | 0.5 | $0 \cdot 6$ | $0 \cdot 3$ |
| Oils and fats | $0 \cdot 3$ | $0 \cdot 3$ | $0 \cdot 3$ | 0.2 | $0 \cdot 2$ | 0.2 |
| Other | 0.8 | 1.0 | $0 \cdot 9$ | 1.0 | $1 \cdot 1$ | 1.0 |
| Total | 4.2 | $4 \cdot 9$ | 4.5 | 4.3 | $4 \cdot 8$ | 4.2 |
| Manufactures- |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Non-ferrous metals | 0.9 | $1 \cdot 1$ | $0 \cdot 9$ | 1.2 | $1 \cdot 3$ | $1 \cdot 1$ |
| I'on, steel, machinery | 9.9 | $11 \cdot 3$ | 10.4 | 9.0 | $10 \cdot 2$ | 8.8 |
| Vehicles ... | 3.2 | $4 \cdot 1$ | $3 \cdot 5$ | $5 \cdot 2$ | $3 \cdot 7$ | $3 \cdot 3$ |
| Cotton | $4 \cdot 3$ | $4 \cdot 9$ | $4 \cdot 1$ | 3.8 | $4 \cdot 6$ | 3.7 |
| Wool | $2 \cdot 6$ | $2 \cdot 5$ | 1.8 | $2 \cdot 6$ | $2 \cdot 7$ | $1 \cdot 9$ |
| Other textiles and |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Chemicals ${ }_{\text {appare }}$ | 2.3 1.7 | 2.6 20 | 2.0 1.8 | 2.2 1.7 | $2 \cdot 6$ $2 \cdot 1$ | 2.1 1.8 |
| Other | 4.8 | $5 \cdot 0$ | 4.8 | 4.7 | $5 \cdot 5$ | 4.7 |
| Total | $29 \cdot 7$ | 33.5 | $29 \cdot 3$ | $30 \cdot 4$ | $32 \cdot 7$ | $27 \cdot 4$ |
| Total exports of British Produce | 37.6 | 42.2 | 37.3 | 38.1 | 41.6 | $35 \cdot 1$ |

* Beer, Spirits, Cocoa, etc.

The output of steel in April was the highest recorded ; that of iron continued to increase. There has been little change in the output of coal during the past seven months apart from holidays.

The statistics of building plans approved in April show a considerable fall from last year, the figure for all buildings being $£ 7.5 \mathrm{Mn}$., as against £8.2 Mn. Dwelling houses, shops, offices and warehouses, and churches and public buildings fell heavily. On the other hand factories and workshops showed a substantial increase.

UNEMPLOYMENT.-There was a further general improvement in employment in April, so that the percentage of insured persons (excluding agriculture) unemployed fell from I2.3 to II.6, while in 1938 it was 12.7 both in March and April. Part of the change is due to seasonal causes, but there was also increased activity in engineering, cotton and other industries not normally affected to the same extent by the spring. Percentages are decreased in the great majority of industries both since March and since April last year. In shipbuilding it remains as high as 2 I .8 , but for motor vehicles (including aircraft) it is down to 4.0 .

INSURED MALES UNEMPLOYED.
Excluding Building, Public Works andAgriculture. ( 000 's.)

|  | Wholly Unemployed |  |  |  | Temporarily Stopped |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Year | 1937 | 1938 |  | 1937 | 1938 |
| September | r | 734 | 848 | ... | 116 | 267 |
| October | ... | 769 | 895 | ... | 110 | 195 |
| November |  | 798 | 917 |  | 119 | 201 |
| December | ... | 817 | 917 | ... | 152 | 188 |
|  | Year | 1938 | 1939 |  | 1938 | 1939 |
| January | ... | 879 | 957 | ... | 177 | 216 |
| February | .. | 887 | 938 | ... | 177 | 179 |
| March ... |  | 873 | 900 | ... | 187 | 147 |
| April ... | ... | 864 | 846 | $\ldots$ | 213 | 149 |
| May |  | 854 | - | ... | 249 |  |
| June |  | 842 | - | ... | 297 | - |
| July .. |  | 813 | - | ... | 312 | - |
| August | ... | 816 | - | ... | 278 | - |

INSURED PERSONS UNEMPLOYED. UNITED KINGDOM. ooo's.
Males and Females. Aged 16-65. A. Wholly Unemployed.

Excluding Agriculture.
B. Temporarily Stopped.

| BuildingPublic Works |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { March, } \\ 1938 \end{gathered}$ |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { April, } \\ 1938 \end{gathered}$ |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { March, } \\ 1939 \end{gathered}$ |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { April, } \\ 1939 \end{gathered}$ |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B |
|  |  | 147 | 142 | 5 | 132 | 128 | 4 | 168 | 162 | 6 | 150 | 144 | 6 |
| Public Works | .. | 110 | 108 | 2 | 109 | 107 | 2 | 116 | 113 | 3 | 112 | 110 | 2 |
| Coal |  | 102 | 80 | 22 | 125 | 81 | 45 | 107 | 82 | 25 | 106 | 81 | 25 |
| Wool |  | 48 | 42 | 56 | 102 | 44 | 58 | 69 | 46 | 23 | 65 | 43 | 22 |
| Other 'Textiles |  | 108 | 14 | 52 | 47 | 15 | 33 | 26 | 12 | 14 | 30 | 12 | 18 |
| Clothing ... | $\ldots$ | 65 | 41 | 24 | 112 | 57 | 55 | 73 | 44 | 29 | 78 | 44 | 34 |
| Distribution |  | 208 | 197 | 11 | 59 199 | 38 189 | 22 | 54 | 38 | 16 | 53 | 35 | 18 |
| Other Industries |  | 621 | 499 | 123 | 199 | 189 | 107 | 217 | 207 | 10 | 198 | 188 | 10 |
| Hotels .... |  | 82 | 79 | 12 | 628 76 | 498 74 | 127 2 | 624 93 | 523 91 | 101 | 590 82 | 492 79 | 10 3 |
| fessions, \&c. |  | 176 | 169 | -8 | 171 | 163 | 8 | 186 | 178 | 8 | 177 | 168 | 8 |
| Totals | $\ldots$ | 1764 | 1426 | 338 | 1760 | 1394 | 366 | 1733 | 1496 | 237 | 1641 | 1336 | 245 |
| Males Females | .. | 1316 448 | 1123 303 | 193 | 1318 | 1099 | 220 | 1330 | 1174 | 156 | 1257 | 1100 | 157 |
| Females |  | 448 | 303 | 145 | 442 | 296 | 146 | 403 | 322 | 81 | 384 | 296 | 88 |

## UNEMPLOYMENT BY DISTRICTS

PERCENTAGE OF INSURED PERSONS UNEMPLOYED．－GREAT BRITAIN AND N．IRELAND．

|  |  | E． से | 匿 |  | \％ |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 出 } \\ & 4 \\ & 3 \\ & 3 \end{aligned}$ | 秫 |  | $\frac{\text { ¢ }}{\text { ¢ }}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 苛 } \\ & \text { © } \\ & \text { y } \end{aligned}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1938 | Apr． 4 | $12 \cdot 7$ | $13 \cdot 1$ | 11.6 | 78 | $7 \cdot 7$ | $8 \cdot 1$ | 10.0 | $12 \cdot 9$ | 17.7 | 17.0 | 16.8 | 25.9 | $29 \cdot 4$ | 1.6 |
|  | May 16 | 12.8 | $13 \cdot 3$ | 11.7 | 7.7 | $7 \cdot 2$ | $7 \cdot 6$ | 10.2 | 13.7 | 18.5 | 17：3 | $16 \cdot 3$ | 26.9 | $28 \cdot 5$ | 1.6 |
|  | June 13 | 13.2 | 13.6 | $11 \cdot 9$ | 77 | 6.9 | $7 \cdot 6$ | 11.1 | 14.0 | $20 \cdot 1$ | 18.5 | 15.8 | $25 \cdot 8$ | $28 \cdot 7$ | 1.6 |
|  | July | （a） 13.1 | （a） 13.7 | （a） 11.5 | 76 | 6.7 | 7.2 | 11.6 | 14.8 | 17.7 | 19.7 | 16.6 | 24.7 | 33.0 | 1.5 |
|  | 18 Aug． 15 | （b） 12.9 12.6 | （b， $\begin{array}{r}13 \cdot 6 \\ 13 \cdot 2\end{array}$ | （b） 11.2 | $\overline{7 \cdot 4}$ | $\overline{6 \cdot 8}$ | $\overline{6.9}$ | $11^{\prime} 7$ | $\overline{14.6}$ | $\overline{18 \cdot 2}$ | $\overline{19 \cdot 2}$ | 15．5 | －24．2 | 27.7 | 1.6 |
|  | Sept． 12 | 12．8 | 13.5 | 11.0 | （a） 766 | $7 \cdot 2$ | $7 \cdot 4$ | 11.0 | 14.7 | 190 | 18.7 | 16.2 | 24.8 | 26.7 | 16 |
| 1939 | Oct． 17 | 12.7 | $13 \cdot 5$ | $10 \cdot 8$ | （b） $8 \cdot 3$ | $8 \cdot 4$ | 8.5 | 10.0 | 13.0 | 17.1 | $19 \cdot 0$ | 15.6 | $23 \cdot 6$ | $25 \cdot 8$ | 1.7 |
|  | Nov． 14 | 130 | 13.9 | $10 \cdot 7$ | 8．6 | $9 \cdot 0$ | 8.8 | 9．8 | 13.1 | $17 \cdot 2$ | $19 \cdot 3$ | 16.2 | 24.9 | 26.0 | 1.8 |
|  | Dec． 12 | $12 \cdot 9$ | 14.0 | 10.2 | 8.5 | $9 \cdot 3$ | 8.6 | $9 \cdot 4$ | 12.8 | $16 \cdot 9$ | 19.4 | 16.7 | $25 \cdot 3$ | $25 \cdot 1$ | $1 \cdot 9$ |
|  | Jan． 16 | $14 \cdot 3$ | $15 \cdot 3$ | 11.6 | 9.6 | $11 \cdot 1$ | 9.6 | $10 \cdot 5$ | 14.7 | $18 \cdot 3$ | 21.2 | 18.4 | 25.7 | 28.2 | 2.0 |
|  | Feb． 13 | 13.4 | 14.3 | $11 \cdot 1$ | $9 \cdot 1$ | $10 \cdot 1$ | 9.0 | 9．5 | 13.1 | 17.2 | 20.1 | $17 \cdot 1$ | 25.9 | $25 \cdot 9$ | 1.9 |
|  | Mar． 13 | $12 \cdot 3$ | $13 \cdot 1$ | 10.2 | $8 \cdot 3$ | 8.6 | $7 \cdot 9$ | 8.5 | 12.0 | 16.1 | 19.0 | 16.2 | 23.0 | $26 \cdot 3$ | 1.9 |
|  | Apr． 17 | 11.6 | 12.4 | 9.7 | 7.8 | 79 | 72 | 8.4 | 11.8 | 15.2 | 17.7 | 15.4 | 21.0 | $25 \cdot 3$ | $1 \cdot 9$ |

（a）Old series
（b）New series including certain domestic workers
Regional Percentages prior to October，1938，based upon numbers insured in July，1937；subsequently upon numbers insured in July， 1938.

## QUARTERLY STATISTICS－SUPPLEMENTARY TABLE．

|  | 1936 |  |  |  | 1937 |  |  |  | 1938 |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 1939 \\ & \text { 1st } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1st Qr． | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 2nd } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 3rd } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 4th } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \mathrm{st} \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 2nd } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 3rd } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 4th } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 1st } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 2nd } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 3 \mathrm{rd} \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 4th } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ |  |
| BUILDING PLANS APPROVED ： |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Houses ．．．．．．£Mn | 18．6 | $20 \cdot 9$ | 17.7 | 17.8 | $15 \cdot 7$ | 18.6 | 15.5 | 17.9 | 157 | $17 \cdot 3$ | 14.1 |  | 14.0 |
| $\begin{array}{llll}\text { Other } & \ldots & . . . & , \\ \text { Total } & \text { ．．．} & \end{array}$ | $10 \cdot 1$ | $11 \cdot 9$ 32.8 | 10.1 27 | 17.8 27.7 | ${ }_{29.1}^{13.4}$ | 29.7 | 25.1 | 27.1 | $25 \cdot 4$ | 26.4 | $23 \cdot 1$ | 22.7 | 24.2 |
| PRODUCTION ： <br> Board of Trade Index \％of 1930 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | $123 \cdot 1$ | $122 \cdot 3$ | 121.3 | 131.7 | $131 \cdot 1$ 6194 | $133 \cdot 6$ 5027 | $130 \cdot 1$ 4869 | $136 \cdot 4$ 6814 | 132.1 6637 | 121.7 | 11707 | 1216 | 7546 |
| $\begin{array}{ll}\text { Electricity } & \text { Mn．Units } \\ \text { Artificial Silk } \\ \text { Mn．lbs．}\end{array}$ | 5557 360 | 4345 36.2 | 4289 36.9 | 6050 36.2 | 6194 36.0 | 1539 39 | 4869 398 | 6814 39 | 38.0 | 35．1 | 32.7 | 34.5 | 39.8 |
| Private Cars \＆Taxis 000 | 97 | 99 | 76 | 96 | 107 | 106 | 81 | 86 | 98 |  | 67 | 84 | 109 26 |
| Commercial Vehicles 000 | 31 | 27 | 27 | 30 | 31 | 30 | 27 | 26 | 31 |  | 23 |  | 26 |
| Motor Spirit for Consump－ tion $\quad .$. Mn．galls． | 278 | 328 | 352 | 306 | 294 | 345 | 346 | 312 | 299 | 351 | 389 | 309 | 313 |
| SHIPPING LAID UP British L．．． 000 net tons |  |  |  |  |  | En 57 | ${ }^{2} 53$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 4 22 | 46 | 30 | 20 | 15 | 5 | 46 99 | 79 | $\begin{aligned} & 107 \\ & 339 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 87 \\ 332 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 92 \\ 456 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 110 \\ & 452 \end{aligned}$ | ＋ 418 |
| Total ．．．，＂ | 474 | 502 | 403 | 212 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| TION ACCOUNT： |  |  |  |  | 31st． |  | 30 3th． |  | $\begin{aligned} & 31 \text { st } \\ & 42: 55 \end{aligned}$ |  | 30th 21.68 |  |  |
| Gold held Mn．fine oz． |  |  |  |  | 26.67 |  | 39.85 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## STOCKS OF STAPLE COMMODITIES.

Table supplementary to the summary table, p. 2, Special Mem. 32.

| Beginning of |  | (1) <br> American Cotton. $1,000 \text { bales }$ | (2) Tin. | (3) Copper. | (4) <br> Lead. <br> 1,000 tons. |  | (5) Spelter. <br> 1,000 | (6) Rubber. 1,000 |  | $\begin{gathered} (8) \\ \text { Tes. } \end{gathered}$ | (9) Coffee. Mn, bags. |  | (10) <br> Wheat. <br> Mn. bushols. | (11) <br> Petroleum <br> Mn. <br> barrols. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | tons. | tons. | U.S. | U.K, | tons. | tons. | tons | Mn. lbs | A | B |  |  |
| 1835 Jan. ... |  |  | 9,070 | $15 \cdot 5$ | 524-1 | 209.8 | 19.4 | 118 | 679 | 7,887 | 279 | 6.6 | * | 448 | 565 |
| 1836 | April... | 8,581 | 19•2\|| | $520 \cdot 4$ | $203 \cdot 2$ | 18.9 | 110 | 653 | 8,058 | 267 | 6.9 | 19.0 | 411 | 570 |
|  | July ... | 8,413 | 14.4 | $517 \cdot 7$ | $206 \cdot 3$ | $17 \cdot 1$ | 111 | 648 | 6,170 | 225 | 7.5 | $15 \cdot 5$ | 313 | 566 |
|  | Oct. | 8,141 | 11.5 | 474.6 | $200 \cdot 6$ | $9 \cdot 3$ | 104 | 641 | 4,688 | 216 | $7 \cdot 6$ | * | 367 | 547 |
|  | Jan. | 7,488 | 13.5 | $433 \cdot 2$ | 198.5 | $7 \cdot 0$ | 83 | 576 | 6,237 | 247 | $7 \cdot 8$ | $22 \cdot 1$ | 397 | 542 |
|  | April... | 6,768 | 16.5 | 431.5 | 199.5 | $6 \cdot 3$ | 80 | 539 | 6,671 | 232 | $8 \cdot 2$ | $22 \cdot 2$ | 349 | 551 |
|  | July ... | 6,384 | 15.0 | $409 \cdot 8$ | $205 \cdot 8$ | $6 \cdot 7$ | 88 | 491 | 4,990 | 199 | $8 \cdot 1$ | $20 \cdot 8$ | 221 | 546 |
| 1937 | Oot. ... | 6,508 | $15 \cdot 1$ | 339.2 | 179.0 | $7 \cdot 1$ | 82 | 457 | 2,983 | 201 | 7.8 | * | 282 | 528 |
|  | Jan. | 6,044 | 21.8 | 315-3 | $153 \cdot 9$ | $6 \cdot 1$ | 57 | 430 | 5,389 | 215 | 7.9 | * | 267 | 521 |
|  | April... | 5,745 | 22.0 | $275 \cdot 3$ | 122.5 | $7 \cdot 1$ | 34 | 416 | 6,026 | 161 | $8 \cdot 1$ | 26.2 | 255 | 541 |
|  | July ... | 5,345 | 21.1 | 268.2 | 101.2 | $6 \cdot 3$ | 32 | 387 | 4,388 | 125 | $7 \cdot 9$ | $22 \cdot 6$ | 129 | 554 |
| 1938 | Oct. ... | 6,652 | $20 \cdot 9$ | $307 \cdot 8$ | $81 \cdot 0$ $89 \cdot 8$ | $7 \cdot 9$ | 33 | $428$ | $2,816$ | $130$ | 7.4 | $22 \cdot 4$ | $253$ |  |
|  | Nov. ... <br> Dec. ... | $\begin{aligned} & 7,073 \\ & 7,878 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 20.8 \\ & 21.9 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 341 \cdot 3 \\ & 369 \cdot 3 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 89.8 \\ 101.4 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 7 \cdot 8 \\ & 7 \cdot 1 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 44 \\ & 59 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 431 \\ & 446 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 4,002 \\ 5,981 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 146 \\ & 177 \end{aligned}$ | $7 \cdot 5$ $7 \cdot 1$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { * } \\ & \text { * } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 245 \\ & 249 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 583 \\ & 565 \end{aligned}$ |
|  | Jan, ... | 8,183 | $24 \cdot 1$ |  | 115.3 | $7 \cdot 0$ | 79 | 502 | 6,067 | 198 | 7.0 | $28 \cdot 1$ | 284 | 575 |
|  | Feb. ... | 8,610 | $23 \cdot 1$ | 451.8 | $119 \cdot 3$ | 8.2 | 99 | 500 | 5,821 | 204 | $7 \cdot 1$ | 201 | 275 | 583 |
|  | March | 9,361 | $21 \cdot 1$ | 473.1 | $123 \cdot 3$ | 9.0 | 117 | 522 | 6,309 | 197 | $7 \cdot 4$ |  | 255 | 588 |
|  | April... | 9,839 | 24.6 | 482.4 | 128.1 | 12.0 | 125 | 537 | 6,889 | 167 | $7 \cdot 4$ |  | 229 | 592 |
|  | May ... | 10,543 | $25 \cdot 3$ | $492 \cdot 5$ | 139-7 | 12.0 | 142 | 540 | 6,521 | 144 | $7 \cdot 5$ |  | 197 | 590 |
|  | June... | 11,280 | $23 \cdot 7$ | 495.0 | 146.4 | 11.2 | 154 | 522 | 5,955 | 138 | $7 \cdot 4$ |  | 158 | 584 |
| 1939 | July ... | 12,059 | $24 \cdot 3$ | $492 \cdot 4$ | $145 \cdot 8$ | 9.4 | 157 | 525 | 5,255 | 141 | $7 \cdot 2$ |  | 140 | 584 |
|  | Aug.... | 12,808 | $25^{\circ}$ | 481.2 | $137 \cdot 7$ | 9.0 | 155 | 532 | 4,713 | 141 | 7.0 |  | 198 | 579 |
|  | Sept.... | 13,056 | $25 \cdot 7$ | 441.5 | 125.6 | 8.8 | 153 | 520 | 4,226 | 157 | $7 \cdot 3$ |  | 264 | 576 |
|  | Oct. ... | 13,222 | 26.7 | 408.4 | 117.3 | $9 \cdot 3$ | 142 | 508 | 3,601 | 169 | 7.6 |  | 333 | 570 |
|  | Nov. ... | 13,289 | 27.2 | 379.2 | $104 \cdot 9$ | 9.7 | 143 | 498 | 4,129 | 186 | $7 \cdot 5$ |  | 364 | 563 |
|  | Dec. ... | 13,277 | 27.0 | 379-1 | 102.9 | 9.5 | 132 | 470 | 5,958 | 208 | $7 \cdot 4$ |  | 377 | 554 |
|  | Jan. ... | 13,230 | 27.8 | $408.2$ | 102.9 | 11.0 | 138 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 554 |
|  | Feb. ... | 13,326 | $30 \cdot 9$ | 428.6 | 104.6 | 12.9 | 139 | 456 | 5,819 | $231$ | $7 \cdot 9$ |  | $417$ | 554 |
|  | March | 13,423 | $32 \cdot 1$ | $440 \cdot 3$ | $109 . \mathrm{C}$ | 14.0 | 139 | 443 | 6,131 | 215 | $7 \cdot 8$ |  | 389 | 554 |
|  | April... | 13,329 $\dagger$ | 31.1 | $455 \cdot 4$ | 108.9 | 13.5 | 139 | 419 |  | 187 | $7 \cdot 8$ |  |  |  |
|  | May ... | 13,442 $\downarrow$ | 30.6 | $466 \cdot 7$ |  | $13 \cdot 3$ | 140 |  |  | 160 | 7.9 |  |  |  |

$\dagger$ Preliminary figure.
|| April, 1935, onwards includes whole buffer stock.
$\star$ Not available.
(I) Total supply seasonally corrected, exclusive of European and Asiatic mill stocks.
(2) Visible Supply plus estimate of Straits stocks.
3) Total world stocks of refined copper only.
N.B.-This is not the same series as that discontinued since Oct., 1931.
(4) U.K. stocks in official warehouses
(5) Visible supply in U.K. and U.S.
(6) Crude rubber stocks (outside regulated areas) in U.K., U.S.A., Singapore, Penang, Para and Manaos plus Regulation Committee.
(7) Total visible supply.
(8) Tea Brokers' Association, London stocks.
(9) (A) Visible supply. (B) Interior Brazil stock and San Paulo Pledged stock. Figures supplied by Messrs. Duuring \& Zoon.
(10) Stanford Wheat Studies Estimates of World's Visible Supply.
(II) Total crude petroleum, natural gasolene (ex at plants), refined products.

# ANNUAL INDEX OF THE VOLUME OF PRODUCTION. 

## Section I.-INTRODUCTORY.

THE basis of the Index of Production is the output of the year 1924. The production figures for 1924 have been equated to 100 and the production figures for each year are expressed as percentages on this basis, while the method of combination rests on the 1924 Census of Production, the weights used being proportional to the net output of the industries in 1924. The following available information has been used in the calculations :-
Group I. Agriculture. - Production of crops, meat, milk and wool.
Group II. Mining.-Production of principal minerals, the most important of which is coal.
Group III. Iron and Steel, Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades.-Production of iron and steel, finished steel products, tinplate, wire rods, exports of railway locomotives, wheels and axles, tonnage of ships launched, number of motor cars and commercial vehicles produced.
Group IV. Non-Ferrous Metal Trades. Copper, lead, tin and zinc: home smelter output and total metal manufactured.
Group V. Textile Trades. - Separate series for cotton, wool, jute, hemp and linen, silk and lace manufacture, based mainly on the Trade Returns of Imports and Exports. The indices for artificial silk are combined equally with those for natural silk to produce the silk index. The wool series has been discontinued from 1937, as no figure is now available.
Group VI. Food, Drink and Tobacco Trades.Separate series for grain milling, total flour consumption, sugar refining, cocoa
and tobacco manufacture, based on the Trade Returns, and the production of beer and spirits. The latter figures are taken from the January Monthly Accounts, the year of reference being the calendar year. Group VII. Chemical and Allied Trades.Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd. kindly supply us with indices of production of various of their products. The Sulphuric Acid Association Ltd. and the Fertilizer Manufacturers' Association Ltd. kindly supply us with production of Sulphuric Acid and Superphosphates respectively. With these are combined indices of production of Sulphate of Ammonia and Coal Tar, and from the trade returns are obtained imports of oil-seeds. All these except the last are hidden in the final indices.
Group VIII. Paper, Printing and Allied Trades. - Net imports of raw materials reduced to their paper-making equivalents.
Group IX. Leather Trades.-Net imports of raw materials reduced to their leather content
Group X. Rubber Trades.-Net imports of crude rubber, gutta-percha and balata.
Group XI. Building and Contracting Trades.Total number of houses built in England and Wales, since 1923.
The net output in the Building and Contracting trades in 1924 was $£ 94 \mathrm{Mn}$. ; owing to the fact that house-building only forms a part of this industry the weight attached to this index is taken as 35 .

Note-Corrections for stocks at different stages are possible in the case of non-ferrous metals, cotton, grain and flour, and rubber.

## Section II.-GROUP INDEX NUMBERS AND THE FINAL INDEX.

The following table shows the index numbers for each group of industries, and in the last column is the combined index. The weights used in combining the group index numbers are shown in each case; they are proportional to the net output of each group as shown in the 1924 census. Thus the net output of Agriculture was $£ 274,000,000$. The exceptions to this are the Textile group, where the weight has been increased to provide for
the representation of the Clothing Trades, and the Building group where the weight assigned is much less than the net product of the group, since the number of houses built is not adequately representative.

The combined index for all industries in 1938 is 131.O, a decline of 12 points from 1937. The decline is general, apart from Agriculture and the Food group.

TABLE I.-INDEX-NUMBERS OF PRODUCTION FOR GROUPS OF INDUSTRIES, AND THE COMBINED INDEX.

| Group Number. | I. | II. | III. | IV. | V. | VI. | VII. | VIII. | IX. | X. | XI. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Industries. |  | $\begin{aligned} & \dot{8} \\ & \text { 畨 } \\ & \text { 相 } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weights, Proportional to | 274. | 232. | 841. | 25. | 270. | 209. | 62. | 98. | 13. | 12. | 35. | 1571. |
| 1924 Census. |  |  | 118.0 |  | 118.9 | 102.5 | 94.7 | 91.2 |  | 121.0 |  | 1047 |
| Year 1920 | $\begin{array}{r} 101.7 \\ 93.9 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 86 \cdot 1 \\ & 61 \cdot 2 \end{aligned}$ | 1189 69 | 46.9 | $75 \cdot 8$ | 98.4 | $64^{\circ}$ | $43 \cdot 7$ | 57.6 | $70 \cdot 7$ |  | 75.3 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 1921 \\ & 1922 \end{aligned}$ | $99.0$ | $92 \cdot 2$ | $69 \cdot 4$ | $56 \cdot 3$ | $109 \cdot 2$ | 96.4 | 83.4 | $74 \cdot 1$ | $74^{\circ} 2$ | 48.0 |  | 89.3 |
| 1923 | 96.6 | $102 \cdot 5$ | $82 \cdot 5$ | $85 \cdot 6$ | $84 \cdot 7$ | $95 \cdot 7$ | $93 \cdot 5$ | $92 \cdot 3$ | $92 \cdot 2$ | $110 \cdot 5$ | $66 \cdot 9$ | 91.1 |
| 1924 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 1925 | $105 \cdot 7$ | 91.8 | $100 \cdot 1$ | $106 \cdot 3$ | 105.0 | 99.4 | $93 \cdot 3$ | 99.2 | $97 \cdot 1$ | 129.4 | $135 \cdot 3$ | 1014 |
| 1926 | $102 \cdot 9$ | $50 \cdot 1$ | 86.2 | $100 \cdot 8$ | 97.4 | $97 \cdot 0$ | $77 \cdot 4$ | 1061 | 92.4 | $125 \cdot 5$ | 168.5 | $90 \cdot 5$ |
| 1927 | $103 \cdot 1$ | 95.0 | 124.5 | 116.7 | $104 \cdot 7$ | $100 \cdot 9$ | 96.9 | 118.0 | 101.1 | 174.4 | $207 \cdot 9$ | $110 \cdot 1$ |
| 1928 | $110 \cdot 4$ | $90 \cdot 2$ | 126.8 | 118.0 | $99 \cdot 3$ | 103.0 | $104 \cdot 2$ | 105.8 | 112.2 | 172.4 | $136 \cdot 3$ | 108.7 |
| 1929 | $112 \cdot 1$ | $97 \cdot 0$ | 136.4 | $120 \cdot 1$ | $98 \cdot 8$ 79.4 | 107•1 | 109.8 102.8 | $133 \cdot 6$ 122.8 | 88.9 99.9 | $270 \cdot 0$ 276.5 | 164.6 $140 \cdot 2$ | 115.8 |
| 1930 | 104.4 | $92 \cdot 4$ | 126.2 | 117.6 | $79 \cdot 4$ | $105 \cdot 5$ | 102.8 | 122.8 | $99 \cdot 9$ 90.0 | 276.5 | 140.2 | 1065 |
| 1931 | $100 \cdot 3$ | $83 \cdot 7$ | $96 \cdot 3$ | 99.1 93.0 | 82.7 | $103 \cdot 7$ | 90.8 99.6 | 114.8 | 90.0 83.6 | 283.5 | $164 \cdot 7$ $163 \cdot 4$ | 97.3 |
| 1932 | 106.0 | 79.4 | 92.1 | 93.0 100.0 | $87 \cdot 7$ | 100.1 | 99.6 | $134 \cdot 1$ 139 | 83.6 96.9 | 295.5 | 163.4 | $\begin{array}{r}98.7 \\ \hline 107.5\end{array}$ |
| 1933 | 112.0 | $79 \cdot 0$ | 114.0 | 100.0 | $95^{\circ} 0$ | 103.2 | 97.5 | 139.3 | 96.9 | $280 \cdot 8$ | $186 \cdot 7$ | 107.5 |
| 1934 | 115.8 | 84.7 | $141 \cdot 3$ | 136.8 | 97.3 103.5 | $108 \cdot 3$ | $100 \cdot 2$ | 159.4 159 | 91.4 | 388.9 338.9 | $260 \cdot 4$ | $120 \cdot 1$ |
| 1935 | 113.7 | $85 \cdot 7$ | 165.0 | 159.0 | $103 \cdot 5$ | 112.0 | $105 \cdot 3$ | $159 \cdot 3$ $173 \cdot 7$ | $105 \cdot 1$ | 338.9 | 261.0 | 126.9 |
| 1936 | 117.6 | 88.4 | $192 \cdot 4$ | $166 \cdot 8$ | $109 \cdot 1$ | 118.2 | $110 \cdot 4$ | $173 \cdot 7$ | 114.7 | 282.6 | 278.2 | 1370 |
| 1937 | 116.0 | 93.5* | $202 \cdot 5$ | $183 \cdot 1$ | $125.6 \dagger$ | 119.1 | 121.9 | 153.7 | 118.1 | 411.5 | 274.0 | 142.9 |
| 1938 | 116.2 | 86.0 | $179 \cdot 1$ | 162:0 | $101 \cdot 2 \dagger$ | $124 \cdot 4$ | $113 \cdot 3$ | $137 \cdot 9$ | 91.7 | 373.0 | 268.0 | 1310 |

## NOTES ON THE INDUSTRIES.

Group I.-The figure for Agriculture is practically the same as in 1937. There were improvements generally in the crops and declines in the animal products.

Group II.-There was a decline in the output of Coal.

Group III.-There were all-round declines in the more important constituents in the Iron and Steel Group. We note the halt in the output of the Motor Industry.

Group IV.-There has been a decline in both sections of this index.

Group V.-There were all-round declines in this group, bringing the general position back to that of 1935.

Group VI.-The Food Group index continues to rise, each section showing an increase over 1937.

Other Groups.-The Chemical figure is lower than in 1937, and the other indices show substantial declines.

## SECTION III.-STATISTICS IN DETAIL.

## Group I.-Agriculture.

INDEX-NUMBERS FOR THE PRINCIPAL ITEMS OF PRODUCTION IN GREAT BRITAIN AND THE COMBINED INDEX.

|  | Wheat. | Barley. | Oats. | Potatoes. | Beans and Peas. | Hay. | Hops. | Wool. | Milk. | Beef and Veal. | Muiton and Lamb. | Pig <br> Meat. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Production, 1924. | $\begin{aligned} & 000 \text { tons } \\ & 1,412 . \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 000 \text { tons } \\ & 1,143 . \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 000 \text { tons } \\ & 2,200 . \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 000 \text { tons } \\ 3,541 . \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 000 \text { ton } \mathrm{s} \\ & 271 . \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 000 \text { tons } \\ & 8,973 . \end{aligned}$ | 000 cwts. 444. | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{Mn} .1 \mathrm{lbs} . \\ & 91^{\prime} 2 \text {. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Mn. } \\ & \text { gallons. } \\ & 1,271 . \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{\|c} 000 \mathrm{cw} \mathrm{ts} . \\ 10,783 . \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{\|c\|} 000 \text { cwts. } \\ 3,460 . \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} 000 \mathrm{cw} \mathrm{t} \mathrm{~s} \\ 5,623 . \end{gathered}$ | Com ${ }^{*}$ <br> bined <br> Index. |
| Weights. | 10 | 7 | 5 | 12 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 45 | 41 | 19 | 23 |  |
| Year 1920 | $107 \cdot 3$ | $121 \cdot 7$ | $100 \cdot 7$ | 123.9 | 119.6 | $102 \cdot 0$ |  |  |  | 108.4 | $124 \cdot 6$ |  | 101.7 |
| 1921 | 143.6 | 102.5 | 97.4 | 112.9 | 119.6 93.7 | 102.2 | 50.4 | 107.4 96.8 | 92.6 | 108.4 93.6 | 124.6 93.0 | 72.3 | 101.7 93.9 |
| 1922 | 123.4 | 95.9 | $87 \cdot 8$ | 147.0 | 91.9 | 74.6 | $67 \cdot 8$ | 99.7 | 95.6 | 88.0 | 110.0 | 92.6 | 990 |
| 1923 | $112 \cdot 3$ | 96.2 | 92.0 | 101.0 | $96 \cdot 3$ | $95 \cdot 8$ | 51.6 | $97 \cdot 9$ | $97 \cdot 7$ | $98 \cdot 2$ | $100 \cdot 0$ | 86.5 | 96.6 |
| 1924 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 1926 | 100.2 96.3 | 100.9 89.7 | 95.2 101.8 | 118.8 | 83.4 | $89 \cdot 0$ | $80 \cdot 0$ | 105.4 | 1014 | 99.6 | 110.2 | 127.9 | 105.7 |
| 1927 | 105.4 | 83.7 | 101.8 89.3 | 103.4 | 79.0 | 90.5 | 74.8 | 114.6 | 104.0 | $100 \cdot 8$ | 121.2 | $101 \cdot 9$ | $102 \cdot 9$ |
| 1928 | +94.1 | 88.2 | $89 \cdot 3$ 97.6 | 108.8 | $80 \cdot 1$ | 80.0 | $57 \cdot 4$ | $119 \cdot 0$ | 107.3 | $100 \cdot 1$ | 131.6 | 89.2 | 1031 |
| 1829 | $94 \cdot 1$ | 96.1 | 103.9 | 138.0 | $69 \cdot 7$ $65 \cdot 3$ | 81.4 | 54.5 80.8 | 123.7 | 109.5 | 106.9 | 143.4 | $107 \cdot 0$ | 1104 |
| 1830 | 79.8 | $72 \cdot 8$ | 103.9 90.4 | 134.0 | $65 \cdot 3$ 73 | $70 \cdot 1$ | $80 \cdot 8$ | $122 \cdot 9$ | 110.2 | 107•3 | 137.9 | $117 \cdot 4$ 92.7 | 112.1 |
| 1931 | $71 \cdot 9$ | 74.0 | 84.6 | $\begin{array}{r}1017 \\ \hline 87\end{array}$ | 73.8 64.6 | $91 \cdot 1$ | 57.0 38.1 | 120.5 | 110.9 112.2 | $109 \cdot 1$ | 131.7 120.3 | $92 \cdot 7$ 93.3 | 104.4 100.3 |
| 1932 | 82.5 | $72 \cdot 9$ | $90 \cdot 8$ | 125.7 | 60.9 | 79.1 | $42 \cdot 3$ | 116.4 | 112.2 | 101.8 97.2 | 120.3 | 111.4 | 106.0 |
| 1933 | 118.1 | $60 \cdot 2$ | $87 \cdot 3$ | 128.6 | 63.9 | $66 \cdot 4$ | 48.7 | 129.4 | 113.2 | $94 \cdot 3$ | 154.0 | 124.7 | 112.0 |
| 1935 | 133.4 | 71.5 64.0 | $80 \cdot 1$ | 126.1 | $64 \cdot 2$ | 66.6 | $58 \cdot 3$ | $128 \cdot 3$ | 113.5 | $104 \cdot 9$ | $167 \cdot 4$ | $120 \cdot 1$ | 115.6 |
| 1936 | $104 \cdot 3$ | 63.8 | $82 \cdot 7$ | $107 \cdot 4$ | * | 76.8 | $55 \cdot 8$ | 114.0 | 113.5 | $115 \cdot 3$ | 137.7 | 126.1 | 113.7 |
| 1937 | 106.6 | $67 \cdot 3$ | 78.9 72.9 | $107 \cdot 4$ | * | $74 \cdot 1$ | $56 \cdot 7$ | 114.0 | 117.2 | 120.6 | $140 \cdot 7$ | $145 \cdot 8$ | 117.6 |
| 1938 | 138.8 | 78.8 | 77.4 | 114.3 124.4 | * | 82.4 $52 \cdot 0$ | 52.9 57.9 | 113.0 | 116.5 116.5 | 117.8 | 134.2 133.3 | $143 \cdot 6$ | 116.0 116.3 |

INDEX-NUMBERS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF PRINCIPAL MINERALS IN GREAT BRITAIN AND COMBINED INDEX

|  | Coal. | Iron Ore. | Salt. | China, Clay, \&c. | Oil Shale. | Fireclay. | Clay and Shale. | Igneous Rocks. | Limestone. | Sandstone. | Slate. | Combined Index. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Production 1924. 000 tons. | 267,100. | 11,051. | 2,027. | 1,087. | 2,857. | 2,178. | 10,843. | 7,489. | 12,813. | 2,532. | 2,877 |  |
| Weights. | 252. | 3. | 2. | 1. | 1. | 1. | 1. | 3. | 3. | 2. | 2. |  |
| Year. 1920 | 85.9 | 114.7 | $100 \cdot 6$ | $93 \cdot 3$ | 99.5 | $90 \cdot 3$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1921 | $61 \cdot 1$ | 31.4 | 64.4 | 57.9 | $65 \cdot 3$ | $62 \cdot 1$ | 77.0 | 76.7 | 87.6 $57 \cdot 3$ | 74.0 74.4 | 74.8 82.5 | $86 \cdot 1$ |
| 1922 | 93.4 | $61 \cdot 9$ | 86.6 | $80 \cdot 2$ | 91.1 | $83 \cdot 7$ | 59.0 | $79 \cdot 9$ | $73 \cdot 5$ | 84.5 | $80 \cdot 4$ | 92. |
| 1923 | $103 \cdot 3$ | 98.4 | 92.2 | $90 \cdot 4$ | $100 \cdot 2$ | 96.9 | 78.4 | $90 \cdot 6$ | 89.2 | $90 \cdot 2$ | 91.6 | 102.5 |
| 1924 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 1925 | 91.0 | 91.8 | 94.6 | 102.5 | $86 \cdot 3$ | 102.4 | $120 \cdot 5$ | $109 \cdot 8$ | $101 \cdot 9$ | 114.1 | 106.3 | 91.8 |
| 1926 | $47 \cdot 3$ | 37.0 | 84.7 | 97.3 | 68.6 | 68.5 | $119 \cdot 1$ | $110 \cdot 1$ | $79 \cdot 1$ | $117 \cdot 8$ | 104•3 | $50.0$ |
| 1927 | $94 \cdot 4$ | 101.4 | 97.5 | 103.4 | 71.6 | $110 \cdot 7$ | $134 \cdot 7$ | $113 \cdot 1$ | 112.5 | 123.7 | 103.7 | 95. |
| 1928 | 89.0 | 101.9 | $95 \cdot 3$ | 95.5 | $71 \cdot 3$ | 103.8 | $122 \cdot 4$ | 112.2 | 110.2 | $121 \cdot 1$ | 104.4 | 90.2 |
| 1929 | $96 \cdot 1$ | 119.4 | 96.6 | $100 \cdot 9$ | $70 \cdot 8$ | $101 \cdot 4$ | 131.6 | $115 \cdot 5$ | 117.0 | $117 \cdot 2$ | 1045 | 970 |
| 1930 | $91 \cdot 3$ | 105.2 | 101.4 | $90 \cdot 3$ | $70 \cdot 7$ | $93 \cdot 2$ | 141.6 | $127 \cdot 3$ | $115 \cdot 7$ | 124.2 | 90.5 | 92.4 |
| 1931 | 82.4 | $68 \cdot 9$ | 93.0 | $70 \cdot 2$ | $60 \cdot 7$ | $78 \cdot 3$ | $144 \cdot 1$ | 140.8 | $107 \cdot 0$ | $127 \cdot 8$ | 84.4 | 83.7 |
| 1932 | $78 \cdot 3$ | $66 \cdot 3$ | $108 \cdot 8$ | $62 \cdot 9$ | $47 \cdot 9$ | $70 \cdot 9$ | $137 \cdot 2$ | 123.1 | $96 \cdot 1$ | $110 \cdot 8$ | $87 \cdot 9$ | 794 |
| 1933 | 77.5 | 67.6 | $116 \cdot 1$ | 71.5 | 48.9 | $77 \cdot 3$ | 169.6 | 117.4 | $102 \cdot 1$ | 112.5 | 94.7 | 79.0 |
| 1934 | 82.7 | $95 \cdot 8$ | $123 \cdot 6$ | 82.0 | $49^{\circ} 0$ | 92.6 | $202 \cdot 2$ | 118.4 | 114.5 | $125 \cdot 4$ | 1010 | 84.7 |
| 1935 | 83.4 | 98.6 | $132 \cdot 6$ | 86.5 | $49 \cdot 3$ | 104.8 | 214.5 | 122.8 | 121.2 | 129.8 | 105.2 | $85 \cdot 7$ |
| 1936 | $85 \cdot 5$ | 114.9 | 139.0 | 94.5 | 49.4 | 115.9 | $226 \cdot 3$ | $132 \cdot 7$ | 132.9 | $139 \cdot 9$ | 103.3 | $884$ |
| 1937 | $90 \cdot 3$ | 128.6 | 151.5 | $102 \cdot 8$ | 51.1 | $125 \cdot 7$ | 236.7 | $139 \cdot 8$ | 147.7 | 161.4 | 99.2 | 935 |
| 1938 | $83 \cdot 2$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 86.0 * |

Group III.-Iron and Steel, Engineering and Shipbuilding.
INDEX-NUMBERS FOR THE FERROUS METAL GROUP AND COMBINED INDEX
$($ Year $1924=100$.

|  | Pig Iron. | Steel. | Finished Steel. | Tin Plate. | Wire <br> Trades. | Rly. Locos., Wheels, Axles | Shipbuilding | Motor Industry. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Prod'tion, 1924. | $\begin{aligned} & 00 \text { tons. } \\ & 73,074 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 00 \text { tons. } \\ 82,012 \end{gathered}$ | $\pm$ | 00 tons. 8,495 | $\begin{gathered} 00 \text { tons.* } \\ 3,336 \end{gathered}$ | t | $\begin{aligned} & 00 \text { tons. } \\ & 14,399 \end{aligned}$ | 132,0008 | Combined Index. |
| Weights. | 5 | 15 | 29 | 6 | 6 | 7 | 22 | 45 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $1920$ | $110 \cdot 0$ | $110 \cdot 5$ | $99 \cdot 8$ | 71.6 | 93.4 | $198 \cdot 7$ | 142.8 | - | 118.0 |
| 1921 | $35 \cdot 8$ | 45.1 | $45 \cdot 8$ | 34.2 | $32 \cdot 4$ | 188.1 | 106.8 | - | 69.4 |
| 1822 | $67 \cdot 1$ | $71 \cdot 7$ | $67 \cdot 6$ | $79 \cdot 2$ | $76 \cdot 3$ | 142.0 | 71.6 | $55 \cdot 3$ | 69.4 |
| 1923 | 101.8 | 103.4 | 98.2 | $85 \cdot 6$ | $107 \cdot 1$ | $160 \cdot 0$ | 44.8 | $65 \cdot 9$ | 82.5 |
| 1924 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 1825 | 85.7 | $90 \cdot 0$ | 98.0 | $90 \cdot 2$ | 94.0 | $130 \cdot 1$ | $75 \cdot 3$ | 115.9 | 1001 |
| 1826 | $33 \cdot 6$ | $43 \cdot 9$ | $66 \cdot 1$ | 87.2 | 75.2 | $132 \cdot 7$ | $44 \cdot 4$ | $136 \cdot 4$ | 86.2 |
| 1987 | $99 \cdot 8$ | 110.9 | 116.4 | 88.2 | 95.4 | $152 \cdot 4$ | $85 \cdot 1$ | $160 \cdot 6$ | 124.5 |
| 1928 | 90.5 | 103.9 | $108 \cdot 7$ | 101.8 | $104 \cdot 8$ | 182.6 | $100 \cdot 4$ | $160 \cdot 6$ | 126.8 |
| 1929 | 103.7 | 117.7 | 113.7 | 103.6 | $113 \cdot 3$ | $150 \cdot 7$ | $105 \cdot 7$ | 181.1 | 136.4 |
| 1930 | 84.8 | 89.0 | 88.6 | $95 \cdot 8$ | 89.4 | 180.0 | $102 \cdot 7$ | 179.6 | 126.2 |
| 1931 | 51.4 | $63 \cdot 1$ | $66^{2}$ | 84.4 | 90.4 | 73.6 | 32.4 | 169.0 | 96.3 |
| 1932 | $48 \cdot 9$ | $64 \cdot 1$ | $60 \cdot 3$ | $87 \cdot 8$ | 101.0 | 16.0 | $13 \cdot 3$ | 176.5 | 92.1 |
| 1933 | 56.4 | $85 \cdot 4$ | $72 \cdot 8$ | $90 \cdot 3$ | 116.4 | 31.3 | $9 \cdot 2$ | 223.5 | 114.0 |
| 1934 | 81.8 | 108.0 | $91 \cdot 1$ | 88.1 | $150 \cdot 3$ | $23 \cdot 6$ | 32.0 | 269.0 | 141.3 |
| 1935 | $87 \cdot 9$ | $120 \cdot 0$ | 103.2 | 83.4 | 153.2 | $92 \cdot 1$ | $34 \cdot 7$ | 316.0 | 1650 |
| 1936 | 105.2 | 142.6 | 123.2 | $95 \cdot 9$ | 181.8 | 48.1 | $59 \cdot 3$ | 365.0 | 192.4 |
| 1937 | 116.3 | 158.1 | $130 \cdot 3$ | 112.7 | $210 \cdot 3$ | $46 \cdot 1$ | $64^{\circ} 0$ | 373.5 | 2025 |
| 1938 | 92.6 | 126.7 | $110 \cdot 9$ | $71 \cdot 8$ | $154 \cdot 1$ | $70 \cdot 6$ | 71.6 | $337 \cdot 1$ | 179:1 |

 Finished Steel Products.
(Year $1924=100$.)

|  | Forgings. | Plates. | Sheets. | Galvanised Sheets. | Rails. | Rails for Trams. | Sleepers and Fishplates. | Sections Girders. | Hoops and Strips. | Combined Index. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Weight. | 8 | 12 | 8 | 15 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 21 | 4 |  |
| Year. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1920 | 112.9 | 142.6 | $71 \cdot 9$ | $60 \cdot 6$ | 92.9 | 56.2 46.5 | $62 \cdot 3$ $60 \cdot 1$ | 121.8 41.0 | 62.2 | 99.8 45.8 |
| 1821 | 520 | 57.0 | 32.5 | $39 \cdot 1$ | $67 \cdot 8$ $87 \cdot 0$ | 46.5 51.5 | 69.4 | 68.4 | $61 \cdot 3$ | 67.6 |
| 1923 | 48.4 96.5 | 51.8 90.7 | 77.8 102.3 | $78 \cdot 6$ 90.8 | 110.6 | 111.2 | 140.2 | $102 \cdot 1$ | $93 \cdot 6$ | 98.2 |
| 1924 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 1925 | $90 \cdot 8$ | 79.7 | 103.7 | 111.6 | $102 \cdot 5$ | 67.8 | 126.4 | $97 \cdot 5$ | 101.8 | 98.0 |
| 1926 | $63 \cdot 1$ | $39 \cdot 3$ | 83.4 | 101.4 | 43.9 | $36 \cdot 1$ | $64 \cdot 7$ | 56.0 | 73.4 | 66.1 |
| 1827 | 119.4 | 118.9 | $114 \cdot 7$ | 113.0 | 141.3 | 91.5 | $184 \cdot 1$ | $115 \cdot 7$ | 81.7 | 116.4 |
| 1828 | $94 \cdot 7$ | 101.4 | $119 \cdot 9$ | 117.1 | 114.1 | $46^{\circ} 0$ | 108.7 | 111.5 120.7 | 99.0 101.6 | 108.7 113.7 |
| 1929 | $93 \cdot 8$ | 121.6 | $124 \cdot 1$ | 111.0 | 115.2 | 56.0 | 86.5 91.8 | 120.7 100.8 | 101.6 66.0 | 113.7 88.6 |
| 1930 | $89 \cdot 9$ | 92.8 | 89.8 | 76.3 | $86 \cdot 3$ | 48.1 | $91 \cdot 8$ 90.5 | 100.8 82.6 | 66.0 56.5 | 88.6 66.2 |
| 1931 | $54 \cdot 9$ | $47 \cdot 8$ | 76.4 | 58.9 | $73 \cdot 7$ | 36.7 | 90.5 53.3 | 82.6 78.8 | 56.5 73 | $66 \cdot 3$ |
| 1932 | $40 \cdot 5$ | $45 \cdot 1$ | 81.2 | 47.2 | 51.7 49 | $43 \cdot 7$ 46.3 | $53 \cdot 3$ 29.6 | 78.8 98.2 | 106.4 | $72 \cdot 8$ |
| 1933 | 54.9 79.3 | $59 \cdot 6$ | 95.9 | $48 \cdot 3$ | 49.8 | $46 \cdot 3$ $45 \cdot 7$ | 29.6 41.9 | 128.0 | $132 \cdot 9$ | 91.1 |
| 1934 | 79.3 | $79 \cdot 1$ | $113 \cdot 7$ | $46 \cdot 3$ | $67 \cdot 9$ 63.2 | $47^{\circ} 1$ | 47.1 | 143.2 | $155 \cdot 4$ | $103 \cdot 2$ |
| 1936 | $100 \cdot 0$ | 92.1 118.0 | 128.9 156.9 | 51.2 47.6 | 61.8 | $40 \cdot 7$ | 51.6 | 179.5 | $170 \cdot 2$ | 123.2 |
| 1937 | 131.4 | 134.8 | 190.0 | 45.6 | 85.0 | 32.7 | 59.0 | 171.4 | $195 \cdot 7$ | $130 \cdot 3$ |
| 1938 | 128.8 | 115.4 | 114.4 | $32 \cdot 6$ | 81.4 | $34 \cdot 1$ | $40 \cdot 3$ | 163.4 | $145 \cdot 4$ | $110 \cdot 9$ |

INDEX-NUMBERS FOR THE NON-FERROUS METAL INDUSTRIES, AND COMBINED INDEX. (Year 1924っ100).

|  | Copper. | Lead, Tin and Zinc. | Combined Index |  | Copper. | Lead, Tin and Zinc. | Combined Index. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Weights. | 55. | 59. |  | Weights. | 55. | 59. |  |
|  |  |  |  | Year. |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | $73 \cdot 7$ | 1930 | 117.4 | $117 \cdot 7$ | 1176 |
| $1920$ | $81 \cdot 5$ | 66.4 44.9 | 73.7 46.9 | 1931 | 89.7 | 107.7 | 99.1 |
| 1921 | $49 \cdot 0$ | 74.7 | 56.3 | 1932 | $195 \cdot 3$ | 90.9 | 93.0 |
| 1922 | $40 \cdot 8$ | 91.6 | 85.6 | 1933 | 1026 | 97.5 | 100.0 |
| 1923 | 7902 | 100 | 100 | 1934 | $\underline{151.6}$ | 123.0 | 136.8 |
| 1924 | 100 | 111.7 | 106.3 | 1935 | $\overline{179 \cdot 1}$ | 140.5 | 159. |
| 1925 | 100.6 | $100 \cdot 0$ | $100 \cdot 8$ | 1936 | 192.5 | 142.9 | 166.8 |
| 1927 | 119.4 | 114.2 | 116.7 | 1937 | 230.6 | 139.6 | 1831 |
| 1928 | 121.8 | 114.4 | 118.0 | 1938 | 192.5 | 134.0 | 162.0 |
| 1929 | $115 \cdot 1$ | $124 \cdot 6$ | 1201 |  |  |  |  |

Group V.-Textiles.
INDEX-NUMBERS FOR THE PRINCIPAL TEXTILE TRADES AND COMBINED INDEX.
(Year $1924=100$.

|  | Cotton. | Wool and Worsted. | Jute, Hemp and Linen. | Lace. |  | Silk. |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Production 1924. | Yarn produced plus yarn manufactured. Mn. lbs. 2574 |  | Quantities retained plus home crops. 000 tons. 286 | * | $\begin{gathered} \text { Art. Silk. } \\ 000 \text { lbs. } \\ 25525 \end{gathered}$ | Silk consumed. 000 lbs. 2403 | Silk Index. | Combined Index. |
| Weights. | 82 | 52 | 9 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 10 |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & 1920 \\ & 1921 \\ & 1922 \\ & 1923 \\ & 1924 \\ & 1925 \\ & 1926 \\ & 1927 \\ & 1928 \\ & 1929 \\ & 1930 \\ & 1931 \\ & 1932 \\ & 1933 \\ & 1934 \\ & 1935 \\ & 1936 \\ & 1937 \\ & 1938 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 102 \cdot 8 \\ 70 \cdot 7 \\ 101 \cdot 6 \\ 91 \cdot 1 \\ 100 \\ 114 \cdot 1 \\ 95 \cdot 7 \\ 106 \cdot 3 \\ 97 \cdot 0 \\ 95 \cdot 4 \\ 69 \cdot 1 \\ 75 \cdot 6 \\ 76 \cdot 9 \\ 83 \cdot 9 \\ 84 \cdot 5 \\ 89 \cdot 6 \\ 95 \cdot 7 \\ 99 \cdot 2 \\ 76 \cdot 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 140 \cdot 7 \\ 93 \cdot 1 \\ 19.0 \\ 78.1 \\ 100 \\ 92.9 \\ 103.1 \\ 95 \cdot 2 \\ 92.9 \\ 90.4 \\ 81.0 \\ 77.4 \\ 80.0 \\ 84.5 \\ 82.2 \\ 85 \cdot 3 \\ 87.7 \\ 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 108 \cdot 9 \\ 47 \cdot 8 \\ 78 \cdot 7 \\ 77 \cdot 0 \\ 100 \\ 99 \cdot 3 \\ 74 \cdot 4 \\ 123 \cdot 8 \\ 103 \cdot 6 \\ 109 \cdot 3 \\ 79 \cdot 5 \\ 79 \cdot 5 \\ 76 \cdot 6 \\ 88 \cdot 4 \\ 103 \cdot 2 \\ 95 \cdot 4 \\ 10 \cdot 7 \\ 107 \cdot 2 \\ 98 \cdot 1 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 225 \cdot 5 \\ 130.6 \\ 150 \cdot 0 \\ 93 \cdot 3 \\ 100 \\ 114.5 \\ 121.4 \\ 123 \cdot 5 \\ 100.5 \\ 98.6 \\ 102 \cdot 2 \\ 91.8 \\ 119 \cdot 3 \\ 118 \cdot 0 \\ 121.0 \\ 135.1 \\ 13.0 \\ 133.3 \\ 94.3 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 60 \cdot 1 \\ 69 \cdot 0 \\ 100 \\ 105 \cdot 8 \\ 99 \cdot 8 \\ 152 \cdot 1 \\ 197 \cdot 4 \\ 205 \cdot 1 \\ 180 \cdot 4 \\ 205 \cdot 1 \\ 269 \cdot 7 \\ 317 \cdot 3 \\ 346 \cdot 1 \\ 424 \cdot 1 \\ 442 \cdot 0 \\ 477 \cdot 4 \\ 391 \cdot 2 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | 114.8 $35 \cdot 7$ 106.7 $72 \cdot 1$ 100 $85 \cdot 7$ 90.6 83.6 96.4 109.2 109.2 95.6 102.0 1316 155.8 192.0 197.7 210.7 2107 234.5 $\qquad$ | $114 \cdot 8$ <br> $35 \cdot 7$ <br> 83.4 $70 \cdot 5$ <br> 100 <br> $95 \cdot 8$ $95 \cdot 2$ <br> $117 \cdot 8$ <br> 146.9 <br> 1571 <br> 138.0 <br> 153.5 200.6 <br> 236.5 <br> 269.0 <br> 310.9 <br> $326 \cdot 3$ <br> 356.0 311.6 | $118 \cdot 9$ <br> $75 \cdot 8$ <br> $109 \cdot 2$ <br> $84 \cdot 7$ <br> 100 <br> $105 \cdot 0$ <br> $97 \cdot 4$ <br> $104 \cdot 7$ <br> $99 \cdot 3$ <br> $98 \cdot 8$ <br> $79 \cdot 4$ <br> 827 <br> 87.7 <br> $95 \cdot 0$ <br> 97.3 <br> $103 \cdot 5$ <br> $109.1 / 119 \cdot 8 \ddagger$ <br> $125 \cdot 6 \ddagger$ <br> $101 \cdot 2 \ddagger$ |

* For method of calculation see Special Mem. No. 8, and for further details respecting other Trades.

Group VI.-Food, Drink and Tobacco Trades.
INDEX-NUMBERS FOR THE PRINCIPAL TRADES, AND COMBINED INDEX

|  | Grain Milling. | Bread and Biscuit Manufacture. | Cocoa Manufacture. | Sugar Refining. | Brewing. | Spirit Distilling:* | Tobacco Manufacture. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { Production } \\ & 1924 \end{aligned}$ | ( Mn. owts.) | (Mn. cwts.) 156.6 | $\begin{gathered} (000 \text { cwts. }) \\ 10369 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (0: 0 \text { cwts.) } \\ 19917 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (000 \text { standard } \\ \text { barrels) } \\ 20732 \end{gathered}$ | (000 proof gallons) 36404 | $\begin{gathered} (000 \mathrm{lbs} .) \\ 145910 \end{gathered}$ | Combined Index. |
| Weights. | 12. | 38. | 17. | 6. | 46. | 3. | 24. |  |
| 1920 | $89 \cdot 9$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1921 | 91.6 | $\begin{aligned} & 92.2 \\ & 96.6 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 97 \cdot 7 \\ & 88 \cdot 4 \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & 116 \cdot 6 \\ & 105 \cdot 3 \end{aligned}$ | - | 103.0 99.9 |  |
| 1922 | 93.7 92.1 | 98.6 | $\begin{aligned} & 88 \cdot 4 \\ & 97 \cdot 5 \end{aligned}$ | 111.0 | $\begin{array}{r} 105 \cdot 3 \\ 90 \cdot 6 \end{array}$ | - | 99.9 $100 \cdot 7$ | $\begin{aligned} & 98 \cdot 4 \\ & 06 \cdot 4 \end{aligned}$ |
| 1923 | ${ }_{100}^{92 \cdot 1}$ | 94.0 | $96 \cdot 1$ | 109.6 | 94.0 | - | 99.4 | 95.7 |
| 1925 | 191.9 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 1926 | 88.1 | 89.3 | 108.6 | 99.3 | 100.6 | $108 \cdot 7$ | $105 \cdot 1$ | 99.4 |
| 1927 | $97 \cdot 1$ | 97.9 | 108.8 | 93.6 | $97 \cdot 1$ | $79 \cdot 5$ | 108.2 | 97.0 |
| 1928 | $92 \cdot 5$ | 92.2 | 107.7 | $102 \cdot 3$ | 96.0 | 81.8 | 114.4 | $100 \cdot 9$ |
| 1929 | $94 \cdot 1$ | 94.0 | 107.2 110.9 | 158.2 | 94.5 | 94.9 | 125.6 | 1030 |
| 1930 | $89 \cdot 1$ | 91.3 | 110.9 109.9 | $190 \cdot 0$ | $93 \cdot 7$ | 108.0 | $136 \cdot 3$ | $107 \cdot 1$ |
| 1931 | 99.6 | 99.9 | 109.9 | 194.6 | $90 \cdot 7$ | 103.9 | 139.5 | 105.5 |
| 1932 | $97 \cdot 1$ | 96.0 | 128.9 | 187.6 | $79^{\circ} 0$ | 85.5 | 131.6 | 103.7 |
| 1933 | 99.2 | 98.6 | 129.0 | 222.0 | 63.8 | 87.3 | 128.6 | $100 \cdot 1$ |
| 1934 | $98 \cdot 9$ | 98.4 | 129.0 | 202.5 | $69^{\cdot 1}$ | 112.8 | $133 \cdot 1$ | 103.2 |
| 1935 | $97 \cdot 3$ | $95 \cdot 7$ | 159.0 | 199.9 | 74.9 | $143 \cdot 1$ | $143 \cdot 5$ | 108.3 |
| 1936 | 91.8 | $91 \cdot 0$ | 196.8 | 192.5 | $78 \cdot 4$ | 158.9 | 150.6 | $112 \%$ |
| 1937 | 86.0 | 86.5 | 196.6 | 216.7 | $80 \cdot 7$ | 184.8 | $157 \cdot 8$ | 118.2 |
| 1938 | 96.0 | 94.3 | 182.6 | 215.7 236.0 | 86.1 | $227 \cdot 3$ | $168 \cdot 3$ | 1191 |
|  |  | 94 | 1826 | 236.0 | $88 \cdot 1$ | 233.4 | $173 \cdot 3$ | 124.4 |

Group VII.-Chemical and Allied Trades. INDEX-NUMBERS FOR CHEMICAL TRADES. (Year $1924=100$.)

|  | Oil Seed Crushing. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1924 Net Imports Oil Seeds, \&c., 1,700,400 tons. | Combined Index.* |
| 1920 | 79.2 | 94.7 |
| 1921 | $76 \cdot 3$ | 640 |
| 1922 | 78.1 | 83.4 |
| 1923 | $92 \cdot 4$ | 93.5 |
| 1924 | 100 | 100 |
| 1925 | $97 \cdot 3$ | 933 |
| 1926 | $79 \cdot 7$ | 77.4 |
| 1927 | $74 \cdot 2$ | 96.9 |
| 1928 | $87 \cdot 6$ | 104.2 |
| 1929 | $89 \cdot 1$ | 109.8 |
| 1930 | $72 \cdot 6$ | 1028 |
| 1931 | 86.4 | 90.8 |
| 1932 | $87 \cdot 1$ | 99.6 |
| 1933 | $75 \cdot 7$ | 97.5 |
| 1934 | $75 \cdot 4$ | $100 \cdot 2$ |
| 1935 | 90.5 | 1063 |
| 1936 | $84 \cdot 7$ | 1104 |
| 1937 | 93.2 | 121.9 |
| $19 \geq 8$ | 88.5 | 113.3 |

*Includes Production of Alkali, Coal Tar, Sulphuric Acid, Ammonium Sulphate, and other Chemical Manufactures and Super-Phosphate manufacture.

Group IX.-Leather Trades.
INDEX-NUMBERS FOR THE PRINCIPAL BRANCHES OF THE LEATHER TRADES, AND COMBINED INDEX. (Year $1924=100$.)

|  | Sole Leather. | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Imports } \\ & \text { of } \\ & \text { Goatskins. } \end{aligned}$ | Imports of Leather Undressed. | Upper and Fancy Goods. (Cols. 2 \& 3 combined.) | Combined Index (Cols. $1 \& 4$ combined). |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { Production } \\ 1924 \end{gathered}$ | $000 \text { cwts. }$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Numbers } \\ & (000 \text { 's }) 5076 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 000 \text { ewts. } \\ 596^{\prime} 4 \end{gathered}$ |  |  |
| 1920 | 78.6 | $148 \cdot 1$ | $57 \cdot 9$ | $90 \cdot 5$ | 83.0 |
| 1921 | $64 \cdot 8$ | $25 \cdot 4$ | 36.5 | $35 \cdot 5$ | 57.6 |
| 1922 | $80 \cdot 6$ | $53 \cdot 7$ | $62 \cdot 4$ | $61 \cdot 3$ | 74.2 |
| 1923 | 93.6 | $90 \cdot 1$ | $89 \cdot 9$ | $89 \cdot 9$ | 92.2 |
| 1924 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 1925 | 95.2 | $72 \cdot 0$ | $102 \cdot 3$ | $99 \cdot 8$ | 971 |
| 1926 | $92 \cdot 5$ | $61 \cdot 4$ | $95 \cdot 1$ | 92.2 | 92.4 |
| 1927 | $93 \cdot 8$ | $90 \cdot 5$ | $111 \cdot 1$ | $109 \cdot 6$ | 1011 |
| 1928 | $97 \cdot 3$ | 99.0 | $132 \cdot 7$ | $130 \cdot 2$ | 112.2 |
| 1929 | 83.2 | 76.5 | $97 \cdot 0$ | $95 \cdot 4$ | 88.9 |
| 1930 | 91.6 | 108.5 | $108 \cdot 3$ | $108 \cdot 3$ | 99.9 |
| 1931 | $90 \cdot 7$ | $101 \cdot 9$ | $87 \cdot 6$ | 89.2 | 900 |
| 1932 | $89 \cdot 6$ | 127.6 | $65 \cdot 4$ | $75 \cdot 8$ | 836 |
| 1933 | 101.5 | 168.0 | 71.4 | $90 \cdot 8$ | 96.9 |
| 1934 | 96.4 | $139 \cdot 3$ | 73.4 | 84.6 | 914 |
| 1935 | 107.8 | 1936 | $73 \cdot 5$ | 1002 | $10{ }^{\prime} 1$ |
| 1936 | 116.6 | 208.6 | $89 \cdot 8$ | $112 \cdot 1$ | 114.7 |
| 1937 | 117.9 | 231.8 | $89 \cdot 8$ | 118.6 | 1181 |
| 1938 | 98.9 | 153.8 | $65 \cdot 5$ | $80 \cdot 7$ | 91.7 |

Note.-Weights used are the respective total values each year.

## Group X.-Rubber Trades-Index.

Quantity of Rubber, Gutta Percha and Balata retained in U.K., 1924 (646,000 centals) equals 100.

| 1920 | $\ldots$ | 121. | 1930 | ... | 276.5 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1921 | $\ldots$ | $70 \cdot 7$ | 1931 | ... | 283.5 |
| 1922 | ... | 48.0 | 1932 | ... | $295 \cdot 5$ |
| 1923 | ... | $110 \cdot 5$ | 1933 | ... | $280 \cdot 5$ |
| 1924 | ... | 100 | 1934 | ... | 388.9 |
| 1925 | ... | $129 \cdot 4$ | 1935 | ... | $338 \cdot 9$ |
| 1926 | $\ldots$ | $125 \cdot 5$ | 1936 | $\ldots$ | $282 \cdot 6$ |
| 1927 |  | 174.4 | 1937 | ... | 411.5 |
| 1928 | . | 172.4 | 1938 | ... | 373.0 |
| 1929 | $\ldots$ | $270 \cdot 0$ |  |  |  |

Note.-Above figures corrected for port stocks.

## Group VIII.-Paper, Printing, and Allied Trades.

ESTIMATED PRODUCTION OF PAPER FROM ESPARTO AND PULP, WITH INDEX-NUMBER.

| Year. | Paper from Esyarto <br> $(00$ tons $)$ | Paper from Pulp. <br> $(00$ tons $)$. | Index Number* |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1920 | 1463 | 7447 | $9 \cdot \cdot 2$ |
| 1921 | 656 | 3619 | $43 \cdot 7$ |
| 1922 | 1542 | 5704 | $74 \cdot 1$ |
| 1923 | 1946 | 7069 | $92 \cdot 3$ |
| 1924 | 2161 | 7610 | 100 |
| 1925 | 2101 | 7590 | $99 \cdot 2$ |
| 1926 | 2164 | 8204 | $106 \cdot 1$ |
| 1927 | 2606 | 8921 | $118 \cdot 0$ |
| 1928 | 2501 | 7838 | $105 \cdot 8$ |
| 1929 | 2814 | 10245 | $133 \cdot 6$ |
| 1930 | 2443 | 9560 | $122 \cdot 8$ |
| 1931 | 2332 | 8893 | $114 \cdot 8$ |
| 1932 | 2191 | 10910 | $134 \cdot 1$ |
| 1933 | 2388 | 11223 | $139 \cdot 3$ |
| 1934 | 2577 | 12995 | $159 \cdot 4$ |
| 1935 | 2652 | 12925 | $169 \cdot 3$ |
| 1936 | 2900 | 14075 | $173^{\cdot 7}$ |
| 1937 | 3211 | 11812 | $163 \cdot 7$ |
| 1938 | 2802 | 10674 | $187 \cdot 9$ |

* Total production 1924 (977,200 tons) equals 100


## Group XI.-Building Trades.

NUMBER OF HOUSES BUILT AND INDEX NUMBER. England and Wales. (Year $1924=100$.)

|  | Estimated <br> houses <br> built. 00's | Index |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |
| 1923 | 825 | $66 \cdot 9$ |
| 1924 | 1,232 | $100 \cdot 0$ |
| 1925 | 1,662 | $135 \cdot 3$ |
| 1926 | 2,076 | $168 \cdot 5$ |
| 1927 | 2,561 | $207 \cdot 9$ |
| 1928 | 1,680 | $136 \cdot 3$ |
| 1929 | 2,028 | $164 \cdot 6$ |
| 1930 | 1,728 | $140 \cdot 2$ |
| 1931 | 2,029 | 164.7 |
| 1932 | 2,012 | $163 \cdot 4$ |
| 1933 | 2,423 | $196 \cdot 7$ |
| 1934 | 3,207 | $260 \cdot 4$ |
| 1935 | 3,218 | $261 \cdot 0$ |
| 1936 | 3,428 | $278 \cdot 2$ |
| 1937 | 3,374 | $274 \cdot 0$ |
| 1938 | $3.300 *$ | $268 \cdot 0^{*}$ |

Note.-Estimated houses built in calendar year 1924 taken as half sum of houses built year ended March 31, 1925, and houses built year ended September 30, 1924.

Note.-Similar figures for Scotland; being about $10 \%$ of the corresponding figures for England and Wales and shewing the same general tendency, are given below.

## HOUSES BUIL'T IN SCOTLAND.

$$
\begin{array}{r}
1924-5,937 ; 1925-10,053 ; 1926-14,930 ; 1927-21,000 ; \\
1928-19,799 ; 1929-19,157 ; 1930-12,104 ; 1931-12,119 ; \\
1932-17,274 ; 1933-26,247 ; 1934-24,390 ; 1935-25,382 ; \\
1936-23,372 ; 1937-20,934 ; 1938-26,064 .
\end{array}
$$

## FINANCE.




STOCKS \& SHARES-
NEW CAPITAL ISSUESBANK CLEARINGS-

BANK OF ENGLAND-
PRINCIPAL BANKS-
TREASURY BILLS-
MONEY-

Prices and Yield as percentage of 1924 level. on 15 th of month. For end of month flgures
see Supplements, Geometric Jrean of monthly percentage enanges,
Sensitive Index.-Geometric Mrean of monthly percentage changes. excluding Government loans, etc.-As published Issues during month in Gt. Britain
Total of Town Clearings (i.e., excluding Metropolitan) of London Bankers' Clearing House for 3 weeks covering郎 of Town Clearings (i.e., excluding Metropolitan) of London Bankers following month. Country Clearings Stock Exchange settlement days, Consols settlement day, and 4th of Proportionate totals for 24 working days.
Deposits. 11th-17th of month. 1928. Bank Notes and Currency Notes in circulation 11th-17th of month. Issues amalgamated, November $22 n d, 1928$. Current Deposit and other accounts," etc. Averages for the month of 9 clearing banks (IT. e.
the National Eank, Ltd., and the District Bank). - As published by THE MIDLAND BANK, IND. Issued by tender. Total of Bills issued by tender during 13 weeks preceding date of Exchequer petader. Day-to.Day Rate and 3 Months' Rate. Averages for week ending 15 th of month.

PRICES.


PRICES AND WAGES.

|  | WHOLESALE. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | RETAIL. |  |  |  | WAGES. <br> Index of Average Weekly Wages. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Price of |  | Board of Trade Index Nos. |  |  | Statist (Sauerbeck) Index Nos, |  |  |  | M. of Labour. |  |  |  |  |
|  | Gold. | Silver <br> (Cash). | General | Food. | Materials, etc. | Food. |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Raw } \\ \text { Materials. } \\ \% \end{gathered}$ |  | Cost of Living. |  | Food. |  |  |
|  | fine oz . | d. per oz. | \% | \% | \% | \% | \% |  | \% | \% | \% | \% | \% |  |
| 1924 iv... | $93.69 \dagger$ | $34^{\circ} 0$ | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | $\star$ | 100 | 100 | 100 | $\star$ | 100 | $\star$ | 100* |
| 1929 Av... | $84.95 \dagger$ | 24.5 | 82.2 | $87 \cdot 4$ | $79 \cdot 4$ | 84 | - | 81 | 82 | 94 | - | 94 | - | 9914 |
| 1983 Av... | 124.87* | 18.1 | 61.6 | $63 \cdot 1$ | $60 \cdot 7$ | $57 \cdot 5$ | - | 57 | 57.5 | $79 \cdot 5$ | - | 70.5 | - | 94 |
| 1984 A v... | $137.65 \dagger$ | 21.4 | $63 \cdot 3$ | $64 \cdot 8$ | $62 \cdot 4$ | $59 \cdot 5$ | - | 58 | 59 | $80 \cdot 5$ | - | 72 | - | 94 |
| 198E Av... | $142 \cdot 10 \dagger$ | 29.0 | 64.0 | 66.0 | 62.7 | 59 | - | 61.5 | 61 | 81.5 | - | 73.5 | - | 95 |
| 1986 Av... | 140*29* | 20.2 | 67.9 | 69.9 | $66 \cdot 7$ | 62 | - | 65 | 64 | 84 | - | $76 \cdot 5$ | - | $97 \frac{1}{2}$ |
| 1987 Av... 1985 | 140.76 $\dagger$ | $20 \cdot 1$ | 78.2 | $77 \cdot 8$ | $78 \cdot 0$ | 71.5 | - | 75 | $73 \cdot 5$ | 88.5 | - | 82 |  | $100{ }^{3}$ |
| JULY ... | $140 \cdot 80$ | $30 \cdot 7$ | $63 \cdot 3$ | $64 \cdot 7$ | 62.5 | 58.5 | 58.5 | 61.5 | $60 \cdot 5$ | 81.5 | 82.5 | 74 | 75.5 | 95 |
| AUG...... | 140.29 | $29 \cdot 8$ | $63 \cdot 6$ | $65 \cdot 3$ | $62 \cdot 5$ | 59 | 69.5 | 61.5 | $60 \cdot 5$ | 81.5 | 82 | 73.5 | 74 | 95 |
| SEPT...... | 140.83 | $29 \cdot 3$ | 64.4 | $67 \cdot 0$ | $62 \cdot 9$ | 59.5 | 60 | 62 | 61. | 83 | 82.5 | 75 | 74.5 | 95 |
| OCT. ..... | 141.78 | 29.4 | $65 \cdot 6$ | 68.1 | $64 \cdot 0$ | 59.5 | 60 | 63 | $61 \cdot 5$ | 84 | $82 \cdot 5$ | 77 | 74.6 | 95 |
| NOV....... | 141.38 | $29 \cdot 3$ | 65.7 | 67.2 67.4 | $64 \cdot 6$ | 58.5 59.5 | 69 | 64 | ${ }_{62} 6$ | 84 84 | 82 80.6 | 77 | 74 74.5 | 95 |
| DEC...... | $141 \cdot 10$ | $27 \cdot 2$ | $65 \cdot 8$ | $67 \cdot 4$ | 64.7 | 58.5 | 59.5 | 64 | 62.5 |  | 82.5 |  |  | 95 |
| JAN. ..... | 140.89 | $20 \cdot 4$ | 66.0 | $67 \cdot 7$ | $65^{\circ} 0$ | 60.5 | 60 | 63.5 | $62 \cdot 5$ | 84 | 83 |  |  | 964 |
| FEB. | $140 \cdot 77$ | $19 \cdot 9$ | $65^{\cdot 9}$ | $67 \cdot 1$ | $65^{\circ} 2$ | $59 \cdot 5$ | 59 | 64 | $62 \cdot 5$ | 83.5 | 83 | $75 \cdot 5$ | 75 | 97 |
| MAR...... | 141.04 | 19.7 | $65 \cdot 9$ | 66.4 | $65 \cdot 4$ $85 \cdot 8$ | 59 | 69 | 64 | 62 | 82.5 | 88.5 |  | 76 | 97 |
| APRIL ... | 140.85 | 20.5 20.5 | $66 \cdot 1$ | $66 \cdot 4$ $67 \cdot 1$ | $65 \cdot 6$ $65 \cdot 3$ | $59 \cdot 5$ 60 | 68.5 59.5 | 63 | 61.5 81.5 | 82.5 82.5 | 84 84 | 73.5 | 78 76.5 | 974 974 |
| MAY ..... | $140 \cdot 21$ 139.55 | 20.5 19.9 | 66.1 66.6 | $67 \cdot 1$ 68.0 | $65 \cdot 3$ 65.6 | 60 | 69.5 60 | 62 | 61.5 60.5 | 82.5 | 84 84.5 | 75 75 | 76 77 | 971 |
| JUNE | 139.55 | 19.9 | 66. | 68 | 65 | 6 | 60 | 01 |  |  |  |  |  | ${ }^{2}$ |
| JULY | 138.92 | $19 \cdot 7$ | $67 \cdot 3$ | 68.4 | 66.5 | 61 | 61 | 63 | 62.5 | 83.5 | 84.5 | 75.5 | yy | 98 |
| AUG. | 138.40 | 19.5 | 68.5 | $71 \cdot 3$ | 66.8 | 63 | 68 | $64 \cdot 5$ | 64 | 84 | 84.5 |  | $77 \cdot 5$ | 98 |
| 8EPT. | $137 \cdot 48$ | 19.5 | $69 \cdot 1$ | $72 \cdot 3$ | $67 \cdot 3$ | 64 | 65 | 65 | 65 | 84.5 | 84 | 77.5 | 76.5 | 98 |
| OCT. ...... | 141.94 | 20.0 | $70 \cdot 2$ | 74.6 | $67 \cdot 7$ | 65.5 | 66 | 66 | 68 |  | 84.5 | 80 | 7\% 75 | 98 |
| NOV....... | 142.55 | $21 \cdot 7$ | $70 \cdot 7$ | 73.6 | 69.0 | 65.5 | ${ }_{6 \%}^{66}$ | 69 | 68 | $86 \cdot 5$ 86.5 | 88 | 80 | 77.5 | 98 98 |
| DEC....... | 141.82 | 21.2 | $72 \cdot 5$ | 75.6 | $70 \cdot 7$ | $67 \cdot 5$ | $67 \cdot 5$ | 73 | 71 | $86^{\circ} 5$ |  | 80 | $77 \cdot 5$ | 98 |
| JAN. ...... | 141.60 | 21.2 | $74^{\circ} 0$ | $75 \cdot 6$ | 72.8 | $67 \cdot 5$ | $67 \cdot 6$ | $73 \cdot 5$ | 71.5 | 86.5 | $85.5-$ | 79.5 | 78 | 89 |
| FEB. | 142.09 | $20 \cdot 1$ | $74 \cdot 7$ | 75.0 | $74 \cdot 2$ | 68.5 | 68 | 76 | 73 | 86.5 | $85.5+$ | 79.5 | 78.5 | 100 |
| MAR. | 142.43 | $20 \cdot 6$ | 77.2 | 76.6 | $77 \cdot 1$ | 73 | 72. 5 | $5 \quad 79 \cdot 5$ | 77 | 86.5 | $87 \cdot 5$ | 79.5 | $81 \cdot 5$ | 100 |
| APRIL | 141.61 | $20 \cdot 9$ | 78.2 | 77.6 | $78 \cdot 3$ $80 \cdot 3$ | 73 | 72 72.5 | 76 | 75 |  | 89 89 | 80 80 | 82.5 83 | 100 |
| MAY. | 140.60 | 20.4 | 79.6 79.6 | 77.5 | $80 \cdot 3$ $80 \cdot 3$ | $73 \cdot 5$ 72 | 72.5 | 77 77 | 76 | 88.5 |  |  |  | 100 |
| JUNE. | 140.54 | 20.0 | 79.6 | $77 \cdot 3$ | 803 | 72 | 72 | 7 | \% | 88 |  |  |  |  |
| JULY | $140 \cdot 17$ | $20 \cdot 1$ | $80 \cdot 2$ | 78-3 | $80 \cdot 8$ | 73 | 73 | 77.5 | 76 | 88.5 | $89 \cdot 5$ | 82 | 83.5 | 101 |
| AUG. | 139.45 | $19 \cdot 9$ | $80 \cdot 1$ | 78.2 | $80 \cdot 7$ | 72.5 | ${ }_{78}^{78}$ | 76 | 75 |  | 89 $89 \cdot 5$ |  | 83 88 | 1014 |
| SEPT | 140.47 | $19 \cdot 9$ | $79 \cdot 9$ | 78.9 | 80.2 78.8 | 72.5 72.5 | 73.5 78.5 | -75 | 74 | 90 91.5 | 89.5 89.5 | 84 85 | 88 83 | 1024 |
| OCT. | 140.42 $140 \cdot 18$ | 20.0 19.7 | 79.5 78.0 | $80 \cdot 2$ $79 \cdot 5$ | 78.8 76.9 | 72.5 70.5 | 78.5 71.5 | - | 69.5 | 91.5 | 89 | 85.5 | 82.5 | 103 |
| NOV. | $140 \cdot 18$ 139.84 | 19.7 18.8 | 78.4 | 79.5 | 76.0 | 71.5 | 71.5 | $5 \quad 69$ | 70 | 91 | 89 | 85 | 82. 5 | 103 |
| JAN. 1988 | 139.67 | $19 \cdot 8$ | 77.5 | $79 \cdot 9$ | $75 \cdot 9$ | $70 \cdot 5$ | 70 | 68.5 | 69.5 | 89.5 | 88.5 | 83.5 | 82 | $103 \frac{1}{4}$ |
| FEB. ...... | $139 \cdot 73$ | 20.2 | 76.1 | $78 \cdot 7$ | $74 \cdot 4$ | 70 | 69 | 69 | $69 \cdot 5$ | 89 | 88.5 | 82 | 81.5 | 104 |
| MAR...... | 139.62 | $20 \cdot 3$ | $74 \cdot 8$ | 76.6 | $73 \cdot 6$ | 69 | 69 | $66 \cdot 5$ | 68 |  | 89 |  | 82.5 | 104 |
| APRIL ... | 139.91 | 18.8 | 74.1 | 76.3 | $72 \cdot 7$ 71.5 | 69 | 68 | 66 | 67 $65 \cdot 5$ |  | 91 90.5 |  | 84.5 84 | $104 \frac{1}{2}$ |
| MAY...... | $139 \cdot 87$ | 18.7 | 73.4 72.4 | 76.4 75.6 | 71.5 70.5 | 68.5 | ${ }_{67}^{67} 5$ | 64 64.5 | 65.5 |  |  |  | $87 \cdot 5$ | 1042 |
| JUNE | 140.61 | $18 \cdot 9$ | 724 | 15 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| JULY | $141 \cdot 19$ | $19 \cdot 3$ | $72 \cdot 3$ | 74.4 | $70 \cdot 9$ 70.9 |  |  |  | $65 \cdot 5$ 63.5 | 89 89 | 90 $89 \cdot 5$ | 83 82. | 84.5 83 | $104 \frac{1}{2}$ |
| AUG...... | 142.57 | 19.5 19.5 | 71.5 70.7 | $72 \cdot 1$ $69 \cdot 9$ | $70 \cdot 9$ $70 \cdot 8$ | 62 | $\begin{aligned} & 62 \cdot 5 \\ & 62 \end{aligned}$ | 65.5 65.5 | 63.5 63.5 | 88.5 | 88 | 81.5 | 80.5 | $104 \frac{1}{2}$ |
| SEPT...... | 144.47 146.45 | 19.5 19.7 | $70 \cdot 7$ 71.2 | 69.9 70.5 | $70 \cdot 8$ 71.3 | 59.5 | $60 \cdot 5$ | $5 \quad 66.5$ | 64 | 89 | 87.5 |  | 79.5 | $104 \frac{1}{2}$ |
| NOV. | 146.83 | 19.7 | $70 \cdot 7$ | 69.0 | 71.4 | 58 | 58.5 | 66 | 63 |  | 87 |  | 78.5 | $104 \frac{1}{2}$ |
| DEC. | 148.93 | $20 \cdot 1$ | 70.6 | $69 \cdot 8$ | $70 \cdot 8$ | 60.5 | $60 \cdot 5$ | $66 \cdot 5$ | 64 | 88.5 |  |  | 78.5 | 1042 |
| ${ }_{\text {J AN. }} 1939$ | 148.82 | $20 \cdot 3$ | $69 \cdot 9$ | $70 \cdot 4$ | $69 \cdot 3$ | 61 | $60 \cdot 5$ | $65 \cdot 5$ | 64 |  | $87 \cdot 5$ |  | 79.5 78.5 | $104 \frac{1}{2}$ |
| FE13. | $148 \cdot 33$ | $20 \cdot 3$ | 69.6 | $69 \cdot 3$ | 69.4 | 60 | 69 | 66 | $63 \cdot 5$ | 87.5 87.5 | 88.5 |  | 78.5 81 | $104 \frac{1}{2}$ |
| MAR....... | 148.28 | 20.6 | 69.4 | 68.5 69.6 | 69.6 69.7 | 60.5 61.5 |  | 66 $67 \cdot 5$ | 64 65 | 87.5 87.5 | 88.5 89.5 |  | 81.5 | $104 \frac{1}{2}$ |
| APRIL.... | 148.50 148.47 | 20.0 20.1 | $69 \cdot 9$ | $69 \cdot 6$ | $69 \cdot 7$ |  |  | 675 | 65 |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\dagger$ Average of daily quotations for year. |  |  |  | * NORMAL |  | SEASONAL CHANGE REMOVED. |  |  |  |  |  | * December, 1924. |  |  |

PRICE OF GOLD-
Average (London) Drice per fine oz. for week ending 15 th of month.-ECONOMIST.
PRICE OF SILVER- Aferage (cash) price of bar silver for week ending 15 th of month.-ECONOMIST
BOARD OF TRADE INDEX—Geometric Mean of Wholesale Prices (averages for month) of 200 commodities as Dercentage of 1924 average. STATIST (SAUERBECK) Based on new inder first published in January, 1935.-BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL.
STATIST (SAUERBECK) Average wholesale prices of 19 foodstuffs and 26 raw materials on last day of month, as percentage of average INDICES-for 1924.-STATIST.
COST OF LIVING INDEX - Ministry of Labour's index showing movement since 1924 in cost of maintaining unchanged the standard of living prevalent in working-class households before the war. For 1 st of month, but plary "ristatist " inder.
RETAIL FOOD PRICES-
WAGES IEDEX-
As above, for food only.
For description see Special Mem. No. 28

## OUTPUT AND INTERNAL ACTIVITY.



[^41]

[^42]EXTERNAL TRADE.


## EXTERNAL TRADE．

\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|}
\hline \& \multicolumn{5}{|c|}{TOTAL IMPORTS（Values）．} \& \multirow[t]{2}{*}{} \& \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{\multirow[t]{2}{*}{\begin{tabular}{l}
NET \\
IMPORTS \\
Total．
\[
£ \mathrm{Mn} .
\]
\end{tabular}}} \& \multicolumn{8}{|c|}{EXPORTS OF U．K．GOODS（Values）．} \& \multicolumn{2}{|r|}{GOLD．} \\
\hline \& Food， Drink and Tobacco． \(£ \mathrm{Mn}\) ． \& Raw Materials． \(£ \mathrm{Mn}\) ． \& Manu－ factures． £Mn． \& \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{Total （including Miscellaneous） £Mn．} \& \& \& \& Drin
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£Mn \& \&  \& \begin{tabular}{l}
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neous
\end{tabular} \& IPORTS
£Mn． \& Exports
£Mn \\
\hline 1924 \& 47.6 大 \& 33－3 大 \& \(25^{\circ} 0\)＊ \& 106＊4 \& 支 + \& 11.7 \& 94＊8 \& 大 + \& \(4 \cdot 7\) \& \(\star\) \& 8.9 \& ＊ \& 51.6 \& ＊ \& 66.8 \& \(\star\) \& 3.0 \& \(4 \cdot 1\) \\
\hline 1929 Av．．． \& 44.8 － \& \(28 \cdot 3\) \& 27.9 \& 101.9 \& － \& \(9 \cdot 1\) \& \(92 \cdot 8\) \& － \& \(4 \cdot 6\) \& － \& 6.6 \& － \& \(47 \cdot 8\) \& \& \(60 \cdot 8\) \& － \& 5.2 \& 6.5 \\
\hline 1933 Av \& 28.5 \& 15.0 \& 12.6 \& 56 \& \& \(4 \cdot 1\) \& 52.4 \& － \& \(2 \cdot\) \& \& 3.8 \& － \& 23.4 \& － \& 30.6 \& － \& 21.0 \& \(5 \cdot 0\) \\
\hline 1934 Av．．． \& 29.1 \& 17.5 \& \(14 \cdot 3\) \& \(61 \cdot 3\) \& － \& \(4 \cdot 3\) \& \(57 \cdot 1\) \& － \& \(2 \cdot 5\) \& － \& 4.0 \& － \& 25.4 \& \& 33.0 \& \& 21.9 \& \(10 \cdot 7\) \\
\hline 1935 A v．．． \& \(29 \cdot 9\) \& \(17 \cdot 8\) \& \(15 \cdot 4\) \& 63.5 \& － \& \(4 \cdot 6\) \& 58.9 \& － \& \(2 \cdot 5\) \& － \& 4.4 \& － \& 27.4 \& \& \(35 \cdot 5\) \& \& 203 \& 14.5 \\
\hline 1956 Av．．． \& \(32 \cdot 2\) \& 20.8 \& 17.8 \& \(71 \cdot 1\) \& － \& \(5 \cdot 1\) \& \(66^{\circ} 0\) \& － \& 3.0 \& － \& \(4 \cdot 3\) \& － \& 28.4 \& － \& 36.8 \& － \& 26.2 \& 7.2 \\
\hline 1937 A v．．． \& 359 \& \(26 \cdot 3\) \& \(22 \cdot 9\) \& 85.7 \& － \& \(6 \cdot 3\) \& 79.4 \& － \& \(3 \cdot 2\) \& － \& \(5 \cdot 4\) \& － \& \(3 \cdot 7\) \& － \& 43.4 \& － \& 24.6 \& 18.0 \\
\hline JULY \& 29.0 90．1 \& 17.018 .2 \& \(\begin{array}{lll}15.5 \& 15.8\end{array}\) \& 61.8 \& 644 \& 4.0 \& 57.9 \& \(60 \cdot 8\) \& \(2 \cdot 6\) \& \(2 \cdot 7\) \& 4.6 \& 4.6 \& 28.4 \& 27•3 \& 36.4 \& \(35 \cdot 4\) \& 12.0 \& \(9 \cdot 0\) \\
\hline AUG． \& \(27.0 \quad 28.4\) \& \(16.0 \quad 17 \cdot 2\) \& \(15 \cdot 8 \quad 15 \cdot 4\) \& \(59 \cdot 1\) \& \(61 \cdot 3\) \& \(4 \cdot 2\) \& 55.0 \& \(57 \cdot 7\) \& 2.5 \& 2.6 \& \(4 \cdot 1\) \& 4.5 \& 27.2 \& 28.0 \& \(34 \cdot 9\) \& 36.2 \& 14.6 \& \(7 \cdot 4\) \\
\hline SEPT． \& \(29.6 \quad 29 \cdot 8\) \& \(\begin{array}{lll}15 \cdot 3 \& 17 \cdot 7\end{array}\) \& \(\begin{array}{lll}15.5 \& 15 *\end{array}\) \& \(60 \cdot 8\) \& 63.6 \& 3.8 \& 57.0 \& \(57 \cdot 9\) \& \(2 \cdot 8\) \& 2.7 \& \(3 \cdot 7\) \& \(3 \cdot 9\) \& \(26 \cdot 7\) \& \(27 \cdot 5\) \& \(34 \cdot 1\) \& 35.0 \& \(13 \cdot 0\) \& 20.4 \\
\hline OCT． \& \(37 \cdot 5 \quad 32 \cdot 1\) \& \(18.0 \quad 19 \cdot 3\) \& 17.516 .1 \& 73.4 \& \(67 \cdot 9\) \& \(4 \cdot 7\) \& 68.7 \& 61．6 \& 3.4 \& 2.9 \& \(4 \cdot 7\) \& 43 \& \(30 \cdot 6\) \& 28.6 \& \(39 \cdot 9\) \& 36.9 \& \(13 \cdot 2\) \& 20.7 \\
\hline NOV． \& 34.430 .6 \& \(19 \cdot 8 \quad 19 \cdot 1\) \& 16.816 .2 \& 71.5 \& \(66^{\circ} 4\) \& 4.6 \& \(66^{\circ} 9\) \& \(60 \cdot 7\) \& 3.8 \& 3.0 \& \(5 \cdot 1\) \& 47 \& \(29 \cdot 3\) \& 28.8 \& 39.4 \& 37.6 \& 16.0 \& \(12 \cdot 5\) \\
\hline 1）EC． 1986 \& 34.431 .1 \& \(23.6 \quad 20.0\) \& \(15.9 \quad 16.2\) \& 74.4 \& \(67 \cdot 7\) \& \(5 \cdot 4\) \& \(69^{\circ}\) \& \(62 \cdot 3\) \& \(2 \cdot 7\) \& 2.5 \& 4.2 \& 42 \& 26.2 \& 26.8 \& \(34 \cdot 9\) \& \(35 \cdot 3\) \& \(15 \cdot 9\) \& 8.0 \\
\hline JAN． \& 31.231 .4 \& 22.419 .2 \& ：6．0 16.9 \& \(70 \cdot 0\) \& \(67 \cdot 9\) \& \(4 \cdot 3\) \& 65.6 \& 62.9 \& \(2 \cdot 8\) \& \(2 \cdot 7\) \& \(4 \cdot 1\) \& 4.2 \& 26.6 \& 26.6 \& 34.5 \& 34.5 \& 12.2 \& 3.8 \\
\hline FEB． \& \(27 \cdot 5 \quad 29 \cdot 7\) \& \(\begin{array}{lll}18.9 \& 19.5\end{array}\) \& 15.716 .8 \& \(62 \cdot 3\) \& 66.2 \& \(5 \cdot 7\) \& 56.7 \& 59.4 \& \(2 \cdot 5\) \& 2.6 \& \(4 \cdot 1\) \& 42 \& 27.6 \& 28.6 \& \(35 \cdot 1\) \& 36.4 \& \(9 \cdot 7\) \& \(2 \cdot 4\) \\
\hline MAR． \& \(30.2 \quad 30 \cdot 9\) \& \(\begin{array}{lll}19.6 \& 18.9\end{array}\) \& \(\begin{array}{lll}17.9 \& 1 \sim \cdot 1\end{array}\) \& \(68 \cdot 0\) \& \(67 \cdot 2\) \& \(5 \cdot 9\) \& \(62 \cdot 1\) \& 63.6 \& \(2 \cdot 9\) \& \(3 \cdot 1\) \& \(4 \cdot 1\) \& \(4 \cdot 1\) \& 28.6 \& 27．6 \& 36.5 \& \(35 \cdot 7\) \& \(12 \cdot 9\) \& 3.9 \\
\hline APR． \& 28.4181 .1 \& \(20.0 \quad 20.4\) \& 17.918 .2 \& \(66 \cdot 7\) \& \(70 \cdot 1\) \& \(5 \cdot 9\) \& \(60 \cdot 7\) \& 66.5 \& \(2 \cdot 4\) \& \(2 \cdot 7\) \& \(3 \cdot 9\) \& \(4 \cdot 1\) \& 26.0 \& 26.9 \& 33.4 \& 34.8 \& 18.0 \& 30 \\
\hline MAY \& \(31.6 \quad 31.9\) \& \(19.9 \quad 19.9\) \& \(17 \cdot 2 \quad 17 \cdot 1\) \& \(69 \cdot 2\) \& \(69 \cdot 4\) \& \(5 \cdot 6\) \& 63.5 \& 64.5 \& \(2 \cdot 7\) \& 2．9 \& \(4 \cdot 5\) \& \(4 \cdot 3\) \& 28.2 \& \(27 \cdot 8\) \& 36.4 \& 36.0 \& 21.8 \& 7.7 \\
\hline JUNE \& 31.5 si 5 \& \(19 \cdot 3 \quad 20 \cdot 2\) \& \(16.4 \quad 17 \% 0\) \& \(67 \cdot 6\) \& \％0．1 \& \(5 \cdot 0\) \& \(62 \cdot 6\) \& \(65^{\circ} 0\) \& \(2 \cdot 6\) \& \(3 \cdot 0\) \& 3.5 \& 8.7 \& \(24 \cdot 9\) \& 26.6 \& \(32 \cdot 1\) \& 34．5 \& \(19 \cdot 3\) \& 6.4 \\
\hline JULY \& \(29.9 \quad 31 \cdot 1\) \& 20.121 .5 \& \(\begin{array}{lll}18.2 \& 18.5\end{array}\) \& 68.7 \& 71.6 \& \(5 \cdot 0\) \& \(63 \cdot 7\) \& 65.9 \& 3.0 \& 3.2 \& 4.6 \& 46 \& 31.5 \& \(30 \cdot 3\) \& \(40 \cdot 1\) \& \(39 \cdot 1\) \& 41.5 \& 2 \\
\hline AUG． \& \(29.0 \quad 30 \cdot 6\) \& \(18.820 \cdot 1\) \& \(17.8 \quad 17.4\) \& \(66 \cdot 1\) \& 68.6 \& 4.4 \& 61.6 \& \(64 \cdot 6\) \& \(2 \cdot 8\) \& \(2 \cdot 9\) \& \(4 \cdot 0\) \& \(4 \cdot 3\) \& 27.5 \& \(28 \cdot 3\) \& 35.3 \& 36.5 \& \(60 \cdot 0\) \& 4.6 \\
\hline SEPT． \& 32.933 .1 \& 19.622 .7 \& \(19 \cdot 1 \quad 19 \cdot 4\) \& \(71 \cdot 9\) \& 75.5 \& 3.9 \& 68.0 \& \(69 \cdot 1\) \& 3.0 \& \(2 \cdot 9\) \& \(4 \cdot 3\) \& 4.5 \& 28.8 \& 29.6 \& 37.0 \& \(37 \cdot 9\) \& 33.6 \& 3.9 \\
\hline OCT． \& 38.9 38．2 \& 21.5 £3．0 \& \(\begin{array}{lll}19.8 \& 18.2\end{array}\) \& \(80 \cdot 5\) \& 74.7 \& \(4 \cdot 5\) \& 76.1 \& 68．2 \& 3.6 \& \(3 \cdot 1\) \& \(4 \cdot 8\) \& 4.4 \& 32.2 \& \(30 \cdot 1\) \& 41.8 \& \(38 \cdot 7\) \& \(19 \cdot 8\) \& 18.9 \\
\hline NOV． \& \(\begin{array}{lll}37 \cdot 1 \& 33 \cdot 0\end{array}\) \& 22.822 .1 \& \(18.4 \quad 17.7\) \& 78.7 \& 73.2 \& \(4 \cdot 3\) \& \(74 \cdot 3\) \& \(67 \cdot 4\) \& 3.8 \& 3.0 \& 4.6 \& \(4 \cdot 2\) \& 28.9 \& 28.3 \& 38.4 \& 36.5 \& 29.4 \& \(12 \cdot 9\) \\
\hline DEC． \& \(\begin{array}{lll}37.7 \& 34.1\end{array}\) \& \(26.1 \quad 22 \cdot 1\) \& \(\begin{array}{lll}19.2 \& 19.5\end{array}\) \& \(83 \cdot 7\) \& 76.4 \& 6.1 \& \(77 \cdot 6\) \& 70.4 \& 3.4 \& \(3 \cdot 3\) \& 4.9 \& 4.9 \& \(30 \cdot 3\) \& \(30 \cdot 9\) \& \(40 \cdot 5\) \& \(41 \cdot 0\) \& 35.8 \& 15.8 \\
\hline JAN．． \& \(32.0 \quad 32.2\) \& \(25.7 \quad 22 \cdot 0\) \& \(\begin{array}{lll}17.6 \& 18.6\end{array}\) \& 75 \& 73：2 \& 51 \& \(70 \cdot 6\) \& \(67 \cdot 7\) \& 3.0 \& 2.9 \& \(5 \cdot 1\) \& 5．2 \& 29.9 \& 29.9 \& \(39 \cdot 1\) \& \(39 \cdot 1\) \& 11.8 \& 17.0 \\
\hline FEB． \& 30.7184 \& 22.1 \& \(18.6 \quad 20.6\) \& \(71 \cdot 7\) \& 78.1 \& 6．9 \& \(64 \cdot 8\) \& 70．2 \& \(3 \cdot 1\) \& 3.4 \& \(4 \cdot 9\) \& \(5 \cdot 2\) \& 29.7 \& 31.6 \& \(38 \cdot 6\) \& 41.2 \& 41.7 \& \(17 \cdot 3\) \\
\hline MAR． \& 35．3 \(35 \cdot 8\) \& \(25^{\circ} 0 \quad 24.2\) \& \(22 \cdot 1\) \& \(82 \cdot 9\) \& \(81 \cdot 6\) \& \(6 \cdot 7\) \& 76.2 \& 78.0 \& \(2 \cdot 9\) \& 3.0 \& \(5 \cdot 3\) \& \(5 \cdot 3\) \& 34.2 \& 32.9 \& \(43 \cdot 5\) \& \(42 \cdot 3\) \& 37.6 \& 21.9 \\
\hline APR． \& \(32.9 \quad 36.1\) \& \(26.0 \quad 26.4\) \& \(23.6 \quad 24.0\) \& \(83^{\circ} 0\) \& \(87 \cdot 1\) \& \(7 \cdot 3\) \& \(75 \cdot 7\) \& 83.0 \& \(3 \cdot 1\) \& 3.5 \& \(5 \cdot 6\) \& \(5 \cdot 9\) \& 33.4 \& 34.5 \& 43.0 \& \(44 \cdot 8\) \& 331 \& 310 \\
\hline MAY． \& 34.234 .4 \& \(25.6 \quad 25.6\) \& \(22.922 . \tilde{7}\) \& 83.2 \& 83.2 \& 7.4 \& \(75 \cdot 8\) \& 77.0 \& \(3 \cdot 1\) \& \(3 \cdot 3\) \& 5．5 \& \(5 \cdot 2\) \& \(33 \cdot 3\) \& 32.8 \& 42.7 \& \(42 \cdot 1\) \& 11.7 \& 21.7 \\
\hline JUNE \& \(\begin{array}{llll}35.8 \& 36.9\end{array}\) \& \(27.4 \quad 28.7\) \& \(24 \cdot 4 \quad 25 \cdot 3\) \& 88.2 \& 91.5 \& \(7 \cdot 1\) \& \(81 \cdot 1\) \& 85.4 \& \(3 \cdot 0\) \& 3.4 \& \(5 \cdot 7\) \& \(5 \cdot 9\) \& 34．7 \& \(37 \cdot 0\) \& 44.4 \& 47.4 \& 32.0 \& 27.7 \\
\hline JULY \& \(34.0 \quad 35.4\) \& 26.3 28．1 \& \(24.6 \quad 25 \cdot 1\) \& 85.5 \& 86.2 \& 6 \& \(78 \cdot 7\) \& 82．7 \& \(3 \cdot 3\) \& \(3 \cdot 5\) \& 6.0 \& 5.9 \& 37.4 \& 36.0 \& 476 \& 46.3 \& \(44 \cdot 1\) \& 18.9 \\
\hline AUG． \& \(34.8 \quad 56.6\) \& \(26.7 \quad 28.6\) \& 24.7 24．1 \& 86.6 \& \(89 \cdot 8\) \& 6.9 \& \(80 \cdot 0\) \& 84.0 \& 30 \& 3．2 \& \(5 \cdot 3\) \& \(5 \cdot 7\) \& 33.4 \& 34.4 \& 42.5 \& \(44 \cdot 1\) \& \(30 \cdot 7\) \& 6.6 \\
\hline SEPT \& 36.236 .4 \& \(26.5130 \cdot 8\) \& \(24.6 \quad 24.9\) \& \(87 \cdot 8\) \& 92．7 \& \(5 \cdot 2\) \& \(82 \cdot 6\) \& 85.9 \& 3.4 \& 3.4 \& \(5 \cdot 4\) \& \(5 \cdot 7\) \& 34.5 \& \(35 \cdot 5\) \& 44.3 \& 45.6 \& \(15 \cdot 4\) \& 21.6 \\
\hline OCT．． \& \(43 \cdot 4 \quad 37 \cdot 1\) \& \(27.9 \quad 29.9\) \& \(24.4 \quad 22.4\) \& 96.2 \& 89．9 \& \(5 \cdot 7\) \& 90.5 \& 81.1 \& 3.4 \& \(2 \cdot 9\) \& \(5 \cdot 8\) \& \(5 \cdot 3\) \& \(36 \cdot 7\) \& 31.4 \& 47.2 \& 43.8 \& \(12 \cdot 7\) \& 14.6 \\
\hline NOV． \& \(\begin{array}{llll}43 \cdot 1 \& 38 \cdot 4\end{array}\) \& 28.3 27．4 \& 25.3 24．3 \& \(97 \cdot 3\) \& \(90 \cdot 7\) \& \(5 \cdot 3\) \& 91.9 \& 82.0 \& 4.0 \& \(3 \cdot 2\) \& \(5 \cdot 3\) \& \(5 \cdot 0\) \& 34.7 \& 34.9 \& 45.2 \& 43.4 \& 12.9 \& 90 \\
\hline DEC． \& \(42.8 \quad 38.7\) \& \(27.3 \quad 23 \cdot 1\) \& 23.3 23．6 \& \(94 \cdot 3\) \& 86.3 \& 50 \& \(89 \cdot 3\) \& \(80 \cdot 6\) \& 3.5 \& \(3 \cdot 3\) \& 4.9 \& 4.9 \& \(33 \cdot 3\) \& 34.0 \& 43.9 \& 44.4 \& \(11 \cdot 3\) \& \(8 \cdot 3\) \\
\hline JAN．．． \& 36.1186 .8 \& 25.7 22．0 \& \(22.5 \quad 23.8\) \& \(84 \cdot 9\) \& 82：2 \& \(4 \cdot 8\) \& \(80 \cdot 1\) \& 70.7 \& 3.0 \& 3.0 \& \(4 \cdot 7\) \& \(4 \%\) \& 32.6 \& 32.6 \& \(41 \cdot 2\) \& 41.2 \& \(12 \cdot 7\) \& \(7 \cdot 3\) \\
\hline FEB \& \(\begin{array}{lll}36.2 \& 97 \cdot 2\end{array}\) \& \(22.5 \quad 23.3\) \& 19.5 \＆ 2.6 \& \(75 \cdot 7\) \& 82.6 \& \(5 \cdot 5\) \& \(70 \cdot 2\) \& 76．1 \& 2.8 \& 3.0 \& \(4 \cdot 2\) \& 4.5 \& 29.7 \& 31.5 \& 37.5 \& 89.8 \& 14.8 \& 4.6 \\
\hline MAR \& 37.1188 .0 \& \(24.0 \quad 23.3\) \& 23.2 22．1 \& 84.9 \& 8.90 \& 5.5 \& 79.4 \& 81.3 \& 2.8 \& 2.9 \& \(4 \cdot 9\) \& 4.9 \& 33.5 \& 32．3 \& 42.2 \& 41.1 \& 28.8 \& 13.0
9.9 \\
\hline APR． \& 32.1 \& \(21.5 \quad 21.9\) \& \(19.7 \quad 20 \cdot 0\) \& \(73 \cdot 7\) \& \(77 \cdot 5\) \& \(5 \cdot 0\) \& 68.7 \& 75.3 \& 2.4 \& \(2 \cdot 7\) \& 4.5 \& 4.7 \& 29．3 \& \(30 \cdot 4\)
\(90 \cdot 2\) \& \(37 \cdot 3\)
\(38 \cdot 2\) \& 38.9
37.9 \& 20.6
27.4 \& 9.9
7.8 \\
\hline MAY \& \(35.235 \cdot 5\) \& \(20.4 \quad 20.3\) \& \(19.4 \quad 19.3\) \& \(75 \cdot 4\) \& 75.5 \& \(7 \cdot 2\) \& 68.2 \& 69．3 \& 2.8
2.7 \& 3.0
3.0 \& 4.9
4.5 \& \(4 \cdot 7\) \& 29.5
28.8 \& \(29 \cdot 2\)
\(30 \cdot 7\) \& 38.2
36.9 \& \(37 \cdot 9\)
39.3 \& 27.4
29.6 \& 7.8
11.5 \\
\hline JUNE \& \(38.4 \quad 39 \cdot 7\) \& \(19.4 \quad 20 \cdot 4\) \& \(\begin{array}{llll}18.1 \& 18.7\end{array}\) \& \(76 \cdot 5\) \& 79．4 \& 5．0 \& 71.5 \& 75.7 \& 2.7 \& 3.0 \& 4.5 \& 47 \& 28.8 \& \(30 \cdot 7\) \& 36.9 \& 39＇3 \& 29.6 \& 11.5 \\
\hline JULY \& \(36.4 \quad 37.9\) \& \(19.2 \quad 20.5\) \& 17.718 .0 \& 739 \& 72．0 \& 4.6 \& 69.4 \& \％2．9 \& \(2 \cdot 9\) \& 3.0 \& 4.7 \& 4.7 \& 29.0 \& 27.9 \& 37.5 \& 36.5 \& 16.0 \& 11.1 \\
\hline AUG． \& \(\begin{array}{lll}35 \cdot 1 \& 37 \cdot 0\end{array}\) \& \(20 \cdot 3 \quad 21.8\) \& \(18.0 \quad 17.6\) \& \(74 \cdot 1\) \& \(77 \cdot 1\) \& \(5 \cdot 0\) \& \(69 \cdot 1\) \& 22.5 \& 3．0 \& 3.1 \& － 4.5 \& \(4 \cdot 9\) \& 28.0 \& 28.9 \& \(36 \cdot 3\)
39.8 \& \begin{tabular}{l}
\(37 \cdot 7\) \\
\hline 0.9
\end{tabular} \& 12.9
36.4 \& \(27 \cdot 9\)
\(90 \cdot 3\) \\
\hline SEPT \& 37.758 .0 \& 18.020 .9 \& \(\begin{array}{lll}18.7 \& 18.9\end{array}\) \& 75.0 \& 78.4
73.4 \& 4.0
\(5 \cdot 4\) \& 71.0 \& 72．1 \& 3.1
3.7 \& 3.0
3.2 \& 4.6
\(5: 3\) \& 4.9 \& \(31 \cdot 1\)
\(32 \cdot 3\) \& 38.0
\(30 \cdot 3\) \& 39.8
42.6 \& \(40 \cdot 9\)
\(39 \cdot 7\) \& \(36 \cdot 4\)
29.4 \& \(90 \cdot 3\)
\(73 \cdot 5\) \\
\hline OCT． \& \(\begin{array}{lll}39.3 \& 33.6\end{array}\) \& \(19.0 \quad 20 \cdot 3\) \& \(20.2 \quad 18.6\) \& \(79^{\circ} 0\) \& 73.0 \& \(5 \cdot 4\) \& 73.6 \& 65.9 \& 3.7 \& 3.2
3.0 \& \(5: 3\)
\(5 \cdot 4\) \& 4.0 \& \& 31.8 \& 42.9 \& 410 \& 3.9 \& 24.4 \\
\hline NOV． \& \(\begin{array}{lll}39.1 \& 34.8\end{array}\) \& \(\begin{array}{lll}18.7 \& 18 \cdot 1\end{array}\) \& \(\begin{array}{lll}19.7 \& 18.9\end{array}\) \& 78.0 \& 72.3
68.1 \& \(5 \cdot 1\)
\(4 \cdot 8\) \& \(72 \cdot 9\)
69.3 \& 66.1
62.6 \& 3.8
3.0 \& 3.0
2.9 \& 5.4
4.6 \& 46 \& 32.4
29 \& 31.8 \& \(3{ }^{1} 1\) \& 418 \& 7.5 \& 21.7 \\
\hline DEC． 1939 \& \(35.4 \quad 3 \% \cdot 1\) \& \(19.8 \quad 16.8\) \& \(\begin{array}{ll}17 \cdot 8 \& 18 \cdot 1\end{array}\) \& 74.1 \& \(68 \cdot 1\) \& \(4 \cdot 8\) \& 69•3 \& 62．6 \& 3.0 \& \(2 \cdot 9\) \& 4.6 \& 46 \& 29.4 \& 300 \& 39.1

30.5 \& 396 \& 4.5 \& 21.7 <br>
\hline JAN．．． \& $35.0 \quad 35^{\prime 2}$ \& $21.5 \quad 18.4$ \& 18.419 .4 \& $75 \cdot 6$ \& 73.7 \& $4 \cdot 6$ \& 71.0 \& $68 \cdot 1$ \& $3 \cdot 1$ \& $3 \cdot 0$ \& 4.7 \& 4.7 \& \& \& 39.5 \& 39\％ \& 4.7
3.5 \& $12 \cdot 5$ <br>
\hline FEB． \& $30 \cdot 2 \quad 33 \cdot 9$ \& $17 \cdot 2 \quad 17 \cdot 7$ \& $\begin{array}{lll}17.6 & 19.5\end{array}$ \& $65 \cdot 5$ \& 71.6 \& $4 \cdot 8$ \& $60 \cdot 7$ \& 65.9
7 \& 3.5 \& \& 4.3
4.8 \& 4.5 \& \& \& 41.6 \& $40 \cdot 4$ \& 12.8 \& $68 \cdot 3$ <br>
\hline MAR． \& $\begin{array}{ll}35 \cdot 7 & 36.5 \\ 30 \cdot 3 & 33.3\end{array}$ \& $\begin{array}{cc}19 \cdot 6 & 19 \cdot 0 \\ 19.5 & 19 \cdot 9\end{array}$ \& $\begin{array}{cc}17.9 & 20 \cdot 9 \\ 19.7 & 20 \cdot 0\end{array}$ \& 78.0
$70 \cdot 1$ \& 77.8
78.8 \& 4.9
4.6 \& 73.1
65.5 \& 74.9
71.9 \& 3.1
2.4 \& 3.2
2.7 \& 4.8
4.2 \& 4.8 \& 27．4 \& 31.4
28.4 \& $35 \cdot 1$ \& 36.5 \& 62.0 \& 87.9 <br>
\hline
\end{tabular}

[^43]IMPORTS \＆EXPORTS－Declared Talues of imports（c．i．f．）into E．K．．te－exports of imported goods（f．o．b．）and exports（f．o．b．） of U．K．produce and manufacture．Net mport Total mports less exvor TRADE \＆NATIGATION． mports and exports of gold bullion and coin．－NONTHI $\dagger$ The seasonally adjusted series for total imports is deduced from
net imports the sesson has been caiculated directls from the totale．

SHIPPING, UNEMPLOYMENT.


|  | Tonnage of Ships (with Cargoes). |  |  |  | New <br> Index of <br> Tramp <br> Shipping <br> Freight <br> Rates. <br> \% of 1935 | INSURED PERSONS UNEMPLOYED: (Great Britain and North Ireland). |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  | Males. | Females. |  | Persons. |  |  |  |
|  | Entered Cleared British Ports. |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 訁̈ } \\ & \stackrel{0}{0} \\ & \text { H1 } \\ & 000 \end{aligned}$ | ठुँ <br> 000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | \#̈ से <br> 000 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { च } \\ & \text { an } \\ & \text { an } \\ & \text { to } \\ & 0 \\ & 000 \end{aligned}$ |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { ᄈ్․ } \\ & \stackrel{1}{0} \\ & \text { \& } \\ & 000 \end{aligned}$ |  |
| 1924 Av. | 461 | $\pi$ | 544 | * |  |  | y41 | K | 52 | 110 | 78 | 99 | 35 | 344 | 145 | 263 | 62 |  |  | 1203 | $10 \cdot 3$ |
| 1929 Av. ... | 522 | - | 572 | - | $133 \cdot 5$ | 1019 | 176 | 41 | 67 | 49 | 146 | 35 | 345 | 160 | 244 | 68 | 994 | 268 | 1262 | 10.4 |
| 1933 Av. . | 503 | - | 464 | - | - | 2163 | 338 | 79 | 177 | 103 | 336 | 64 | 687 | 379 | 404 | 92 | 2110 | 457 | 2567 | 19.9 |
| 1934 Av. ... | 522 | - | 459 | - | - | 1817 | 280 | 52 | 111 | 80 | 295 | 61 | 569 | 369 | 354 | 85 | 1802 | 369 | 2171 | 16.7 |
| 1935 Av: ... | 530 | - | 477 | - | 100 | 1682 | 241 | 44 | 88 | 67 | 288 | 52 | 529 | 373 | 346 | 72 | 1715 | 313 | 2027 | $15 \cdot 5$ |
| 1936 Av. ... | 562 | - | 473 | - | 113 | 1455 | 198 | 33 | 59 | 50 | 272 | 37 | 466 | 340 | 311 | 51 | 1498 | 251 | 1749 | 13.2 |
| 1937 Av. ... | 587 | - | 512 | - | $175 \cdot 6$ | 1196 | 129 | 27 | 41 | 40 | 254 | 28 | 379 | 300 | 286 | 42 | 1278 | 204 | 1482 | 11.0 |
| $1935$ | 607 | 544 | 520 | 486 |  | 1659 | 293 | 46 | 87 | 67 | 265 | 53 | 508 | 340 | 333 | 77 | 1590 | 402 | 1992 | 15.2 |
| AUG. ...... | 593 | 533 | 531 | 487 |  | 1611 | 256 | 42 | 83 | 65 | 262 | 52 | 506 | 345 | 339 | 76 | 1605 | 345 | 1950 | $14 \cdot 9$ |
| SEPT. ...... | 583 | 541 | 488 | 461 |  | 1619 | 242 | 40 | 84 | 66 | 273 | 49 | 506 | 359 | 334 | 72 | 1645 | 308 | 1953 | 14.9 |
| OCT. ...... | 561 | 524 | 515 | 482 |  | 1585 | 218 | 40 | 79 | 64 | 277 | 43 | 495 | 369 | 317 | 61 | 1659 | 244 | 1902 | 14.5 |
| NOV. ...... | 524 | 538 | 494 | 493 |  | 1578 | 189 | 39 | 76 | 59 | 297 | 41 | 502 | 375 | 328 | 56 | 1680 | 226 | 1906 | 14.5 |
| DEC. ...... | 539 | 552 | 439 | 466 |  | 1550 | 182 | 36 | 73 | 58 | 309 | 39 | 490 | 363 | 308 | 52 | 1648 | 210 | 1858 | $14 \cdot 1$ |
| JAN. 1936 | 500 | 552 | 453 | 467 |  | 1761 | 183 | 39 | 76 | 57 | 417 | 43 | 550 | 396 | 370 | 55 | 1780 | 351 | 2131 | 16.2 |
| FEB. | 470 | 554 | 410 | 460 |  | 1654 | 189 | 39 | 72 | 56 | 332 | 42 | 532 | 392 | 363 | 55 | 1752 | 264 | 2017 | $15 \cdot 3$ |
| MAR. | 521 | 561 | 427 | 444 |  | 1541 | 203 | 37 | 68 | 55 | 270 | 39 | 494 | 375 | 338 | 53 | 1639 | 240 | 1879 | 14.2 |
| APR. | 505 | 533 | 435 | 462 |  | 1488 | 218 | 37 | 65 | 52 | 245 | 41 | 476 | 354 | 319 | 54 | 1556 | 252 | 1807 | 13.6 |
| MAY | 559 | 536 | 493 | 476 |  | 1398 | 216 | 35 | 60 | 51 | 222 | 39 | 443 | 332 | 299 | 54 | 1467 | 230 | 1697 | 12.8 |
| JUNE | 608 | 564 | 473 | 461 |  | 1414 | 273 | 33 | 57 | 47 | 221 | 39 | 431 | 313 | 293 | 55 | 1402 | 306 | 17 | $12 \cdot 8$ |
| JULY | 617 | 553 | 522 | 488 |  | 1367 | 233 | 34 | 56 | 48 | 237 | 36 | 419 | 304 | 293 | 55 | 1357 | 302 | 1660 | 12.4 |
| AUG. | 646 | 582 | 511 | 468 |  | 1315 | 189 | 33 | 55 | 49 | 233 | 36 | 416 | 304 | 297 | 55 | 1362 | 250 | 1612 | $12 \cdot 0$ |
| SEP'. ...... | 598 | 555 | 504 | 476 |  | 1323 | 191 | 30 | 53 | 48 | 242 | 34 | 412 | 313 | 298 | 53 | 1384 | 236 | 1620 | $12 \cdot 1$ |
| OCT. ...... | 600 | 560 | 523 | 490 |  | 1324 | 176 | 29 | 50 | 45 | 255 | 32 | 407 | 330 | 290 | 46 | 1417 | 196 | 1621 | 12.0 |
| NOV. | 563 | 578 | 464 | 463 |  | 1328 | 161 | 27 | 47 | 44 | 277 | 30 | 408 | 334 | 293 | 42 | 1430 | 192 | 1621 | 12.0 |
| DEC. ...... | 555 | 568 | 466 | 494 |  | 1345 | 146 | 26 | 48 | 43 | 308 | 29 | 413 | 332 | 277 | 38 | 1425 | 198 | 1622 | 12.0 |
| 1937 JAN. | 487 | 538 | 453 | 467 | 167.7 | 1365 | 138 | 25 | 47 | 43 | 308 | 29 | 431 | 344 | 312 | 35 | 1489 | 188 | 1677 | 12.4 |
| FEB.......... | 482 | 589 | 428 | 497 | 157.9 | 1324 | 136 | 24 | 45 | 42 | 290 | 28 | 416 | 343 | 301 | 34 | 1460 | 165 | 1625 | 12.0 |
| MAR. ....... | 576 | 620 | 472 | 490 | 158.9 | 1298 | 130 | 25 | 44 | 42 | 289 | 26 | 406 | 336 | 279 | 33 | 1406 | 170 | 1576 | 11.6 |
| APRIL ... | 542 | 572 | 514 | 548 | 176.8 | 1175 | 124 | 24 | 41 | 40 | 234 | 26 | 375 | 311 | 261 | 33 | 1305 | 131 | 1456 | 10.5 10.7 |
| MAY ...... | 600 | 576 | 509 | 491 | 185.4 | 1191 | 156 | 26 | 39 | 42 | 226 | 29 | 380 350 | 293 | 265 | 40 | 1246 | 210 | 1370 | 10.7 10.0 |
| J UNE ...... | 629 | 584 | 545 | 531 | 1871 | 1126 | 169 | 22 | 37 | 39 | 210 | 25 | 350 | 274 | 244 | 3 | 1167 | 203 | 1370 | 100 |
| JULY | 642 | 575 | 582 | 544 | 185.0 | 1117 | 146 | 26 | 40 | 38 | 222 | 26 | 355 | 264 | 268 | 40 | 1136 | 249 | 1386 | $10 \cdot 1$ |
| AUG. ...... | 672 | 604 | 549 | 503 | $193 \cdot 3$ | 1090 | 122 | 23 | 39 | 38 | 220 | 25 | 356 | 267 | 267 | 41 | 1148 | 209 | 1357 | $9 \cdot 9$ $10 \cdot 1$ |
| AUG. |  |  |  |  |  | \$1107 | 118 | 23 | 39 | 39 | 228 | 28 | 360 | 272 | 272 | 44 |  |  | 1379 | $10 \cdot 1$ |
| S | 601 | 558 | 56 | 532 |  | \$1071 | 116 | 22 | 38 | 38 | 221 | 29 | 343 | 264 | 263 | 45 | 1139 | 195 | 1334 | 9.7 |
| OCT. | 610 | 569 | 550 | 515 | $190 \cdot 0$ | 1112 | 113 | 22 | 39 | 36 | 233 | 27 | 350 | 292 | 283 | 41 | 1215 | 180 | 1395 | $10 \cdot 1$ |
| NOV. | 614 | 630 | 491 | 490 | 162.9 | 1173 | 101 | 24 | 41 | 37 | 256 | 33 | 377 | 304 | 334 | 55 | 1284 | 222 | 1507 | $10 \cdot 9$ |
| DEC. ....... | 586 | 600 | 484 | 514 | 141.0 | 1310 | 100 | 25 | 43 | 39 | 341 | 38 | 413 | 311 | 355 | 66 | 1339 | 326 | 1665 | $12 \cdot 1$ |
| 1938 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 441 | 83 | 1466 | 351 | 1818 | 13.2 |
| JAN. ...... | 533 | 589 | 448 | 462 | 138.2 | 1376 | 98 | 34 | 47 49 | 37 36 | 320 | 48 | 465 | 333 | 449 | 92 | 1467 | 341 | 1808 | $13 \cdot 1$ |
| MEB......... | 484 | 593 | 415 | 481 | $129 \cdot 5$ 127.5 | 1358 1316 | 97 102 | 34 37 | 49 50 | 36 34 | 256 | 58 | 461 | 326 | 448 | 94 | 1426 | 338 | 1764 | $12 \cdot 7$ |
| MAR | 560 | 603 569 | 458 | 477 | 126.9 | 1316 | 125 | 39 | 51 | 35 | 241 | 52 | 459 | 316 | 442 | 97 | 1394 | 366 | 1760 | 12.7 |
| MAY | 603 | 579 | 479 | 462 | 130.6 | 1337 | 150 | 46 | 53 | 34 | 233 | 58 | 458 | 305 | 444 | 112 | 1376 | 404 | 1780 | 12.8 13.2 |
| JUNE ...... | 613 | 569 | 519 | 506 | $123 \cdot 1$ | 1375 | 156 | 53 | 59 | 35 | 237 | 68 | 473 | 2.94 | 455 | 125 | 1352 | 478 | 1829 | 13•1* |
| JULY | 607 | 544 |  |  | 120.2 | 1382† | 190 | 54 | 58 | 37 | 257 | 53 | 454 | 279+ | $438 \uparrow$ | 108 | 1339+ | 481 $\dagger$ | $1819 \dagger$ | $\overline{12.9 \dagger}$ |
| AUG. | 642 | 577 | 538 | 493 | 126.4 | 1341 | 154 | 56 | 60 | 35 | 247 | 56 | 455 | 278 | 439 | 113 | 1333 | 447 | 1780 | 12.6 |
| SEPT. .... . | 591 | 548 | 548 | 517 | 126.3 | 1377 | 151 | 59 | 64 | 37 | 261 | 60 | 454 | 291 | 430 | 110 | 1387 | 420 | 1807 | 12.8 |
| OCT. ...... | 589 | 550 | 535 | 501 | 127.6 | 1374 | 121 | 46 | 63 | 39 | 285 | 44 | 451 | 325 336 | 425 | 85 | 1486 | 313 | 1899 | 13.0 |
| NOV. ....... | 537 | 551 | 489 | 489 | $122 \cdot 3$ | 1420 | 129 | 52 | 64 | 39 | 302 | 41 | 457 | 336 334 | 420 403 | 74 | 1529 | 298 | 1827 | $12 \cdot 9$ |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { DEC. ....... } \\ 1939 \end{gathered}$ | 550 | 562 | 470 | 499 | $124 \cdot 1$ | 1425 | 123 | 53 | 62 | 39 | 319 | 39 | 456 | 334 | 403 | 74 | 1529 | 298 | 1827 |  |
| JAN........ | 505 | 557 | 465 | 479 | 120.8 | 1558 | 111 | 49 | 67 | 40 | 385 | 43 | 508 | 355 | 459 436 | 74 69 | 1635 | 382 295 | 1888 | 13.4 |
| FEB......... | 454 | 555 | 414 | 481 | 121.5 | 1452 | 115 | 39 | 63 | 40 | 334 283 | 38 33 | 476 400 | 343 | 403 | 69 | 1496 | 237 | 1733 | $12 \cdot 3$ |
| MAR. ...... | 529 | 570 551 |  | 488 | 117.5 119.6 | 1330 | 107 106 | 34 33 | 59 56 | 41 38 | 283 262 | 38 34 | 400 | 333 309 | 384 | 61 | 1396 | 245 | 1641 | 11.6 |
| APR......... | 523 | 551 |  |  | 119.6 | 1257 | 106 | 33 | 56 | 38 | 262 | 34 | 379 | 309 | 354 | 61 | 1396 | 245 |  |  |

: 16-65 years. Ex. Agriculture and any disqualified for benefit by trade dispute. N.B.-Changes in method of enumeration in Sept., 1937 and July, 1938.

SHIPPING-ENTERED
SHIPPING FREIGHTS-

## UNEMPLOYMENT-

INSURED PERSONS-

Thnage of British and Foreim vessels entering and leaving British ports with cargoes during month,-BOARD
OF TRADE MONTHLY ACCOUNTS OF TRADE \& NAVIGATION.
Chamber of Shipping inder number as published by "The Statist." For description see Journal of RSS, Part I 1938.-PREPARED BY DR. ISSERLIS.

Number of , week earlier.-MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

|  | AVERAGE OF DAILY RATES |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Paris } \\ & \text { f. to } £ \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Brus- } \\ & \text { sels } \\ & \text { b. to } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Milan } \\ & \text { 1, to } £ \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Berlin } \\ \text { Rm.to£ } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Amster- } \\ & \text { damm } \\ & \text { fl. to } £ \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { War. } \\ \text { saw } \\ \text { z. to } £ \end{gathered}$ | Prague kc. to £ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Zurich } \\ & \text { f. to } £ \end{aligned}$ | Stockholm kr , to $£$ | NewYork $\$$ to $£$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Mon- } \\ & \text { treal } \\ & \text { S to } £ \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Buenos } \\ & \text { Aires } 8 \\ & \text { p. to } £ \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Rio de } \\ \text { Janeiro } \\ \text { d. per mil. } \end{gathered}$ | Bombay <br> d. per rap. | Hong. <br> kong <br> d. per 8 |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { 1935 } \\ & \text { FAN. } \\ & \text { MEB. } \\ & \text { AAR. } \\ & \text { MAR } \\ & \text { JUNE } \end{aligned}$ | For 1919 to 1934 Rates See Earlier Bulletins. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 20 \cdot 99 \\ & 20 \cdot 89 \\ & 21.01 \\ & 28 \cdot 49 \\ & 28.85 \\ & 29 \cdot 13 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 57.47 \\ & 57 \cdot 43 \\ & 57.17 \\ & 58.28 \\ & 59.37 \\ & 59.75 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 12 \cdot 22 \\ & 12.15 \\ & 11.82 \\ & 12.00 \\ & 12.22 \\ & 12 \cdot 21 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{\|l\|} 7 \cdot 26 \\ 7 \cdot 21 \\ 7 \cdot 03 \\ 7 \cdot 17 \\ 7 \cdot 23 \\ 7 \cdot 27 \end{array}$ | $\left\lvert\, \begin{aligned} & 25 \cdot 97 \\ & 25 \cdot 82 \\ & 25 \cdot 20 \\ & 25.61 \\ & 25 \cdot 96 \\ & 26 \cdot 16 \end{aligned}\right.$ | $\begin{aligned} & 117 \cdot 33 \\ & 116.66 \\ & 113.74 \\ & 1115.57 \\ & 117.30 \\ & 117.94 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 15 \cdot 15 \\ & 15 \cdot 06 \\ & 14.68 \\ & 14.93 \\ & 15.13 \\ & 15.10 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 19 \cdot 40 \\ & 19 \cdot 40 \\ & 1940 \\ & 19 \cdot 40 \\ & 19.40 \\ & 19 \cdot 40 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 4.895 \\ & 4.875 \\ & 4.776 \\ & 4.835 \\ & 4.890 \\ & 4.936 \end{aligned}$ | $\left\lvert\, \begin{aligned} & 4.867 \\ & 4.888 \\ & 4.820 \\ & 4.856 \\ & 4.892 \\ & 4.939 \end{aligned}\right.$ | $\begin{aligned} & 19.41 \\ & 18.98 \\ & 18.88 \\ & 18.90 \\ & 18.91 \\ & 18.70 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 3.21 \\ & 3.28 \\ & 3.15 \\ & 3.01 \\ & 2.72 \\ & 2.61 \end{aligned}$ | 18.107 | 21.21 | 14.00 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $18 \cdot 156$ | 21.87 | 14.01 |
|  | 72.11 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $18 \cdot 127$ | $24 \cdot 13$ | 14.09 |
|  | $73 \cdot 28$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $18 \cdot 117$ | 26.28 | 14.10 |
|  | 74-19 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 18.128 | 29. | $14 \cdot 14$ |
|  | $74 \cdot 68$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 8'126 | 28.02 | $14 \cdot 13$ |
| LY | 74 | 29:30 | 60.25 | 12.27 | 7.297.33 | $26 \cdot 18$ | 118.77 | $15 \cdot 13$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.956 | 4.963 | 18.65 | 2.62 | 18.125 | $25 \cdot 80$ | 14.14 |
| AUG. | $75 \cdot 01$ | 29.4329.25 | 60.46 | 12.32 |  | 26.21 | 119.46 | $15 \cdot 19$15.17 | $19 \cdot 40$19.40 | 4.9714.933 | 4.967 | $18 \cdot 37$ | $2 \cdot 62$ |  | $24 \cdot 37$ |  |
| SEPT | $74 \cdot 84$ |  |  | 12.25 |  | 26.20 | 119.20 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 14.11 |
| OC'T. | $74 \cdot 49$ | $29 \cdot 13$ | 60.3060 | 12.20 | 7.24 | $\begin{aligned} & 26.06 \\ & 26.20 \end{aligned}$ | $118 \cdot 48$119.06 | 15.08 | 19.40 | 4.908 | 4.976 | 18.01 | 2.75 | 18.125 | 24.09 | $14 \cdot 05$14.02 |
| NOV | $74 \cdot 77$ | $29 \cdot 15$ |  | 12.24 | 7.26 |  |  | 15•18 | 19.40 |  |  |  |  |  | 17.91 16.04 |  |
| DEC. | $74 \cdot 69$ | 29.24 |  | 12.25 | $7 \cdot 27$ |  |  | 15.20 | 19.40 | 4.929 | 4.975 | 18.06 | 268 | $18 \cdot 126$ | 16.04 |  |
| 1936 | 74 | 29 |  | $12 \cdot 28$ | $7 \cdot 28$ |  | $119 \cdot 19$ | 15.19 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.960 | 4.963 | 18.24 | $2 \cdot 68$ | 18.152 | 15.66 | 14.04 |
| FEB. | 74.84 | 29:34 | $62 \cdot 15$ | $12 \cdot 29$ | 7.28 | 26.20 | 119-21 | $15 \cdot 14$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.996 | 4.993 | 18 | $2 \cdot 74$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 15.74 | 14.08 |
| MAR. | 74.92 | 29.28 | 62.35 | 12.29 | 7-27 | 26.21 | $119 \cdot 31$ | $15 \cdot 14$ | 19.40 | 4.971 | 4.977 | 18.04 | $2 \cdot 73$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 15.93 | 13.98 |
| APR. | 75.00 | 29.22 | 62.66 | 12.28 | $7 \cdot 28$ | 26.24 | 119.50 | 15.17 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.944 | $4 \cdot 967$ | 17.98 | 2.71 | $18 \cdot 125$ | $15 \cdot 80$ | 14.03 |
| MAY | $75 \cdot 47$ | $29 \cdot 35$ | 63.03 | 12.34 | $7 \cdot 35$ | 26.55 | 119.98 | $15 \cdot 36$ | 19.40 | 4.971 | 4.979 | 18.00 | 2.71 | $18 \cdot 125$ | 15.71 | 14.06 |
| JUNE | $76 \cdot 14$ | $29 \cdot 70$ | 63.84 | 12.46 | $7 \cdot 42$ | 26.71 | $121 \cdot 28$ | $15 \cdot 48$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | 5.020 | 5.032 | 18.13 | $2 \cdot 72$ | 18.125 | $15 \cdot 44$ | 14.07 |
| JULY |  |  | 63.65 | $\begin{aligned} & 12 \cdot 45 \\ & 12 \cdot 49 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 7.38 \\ & 7 \cdot 40 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 26 \cdot 59 \\ & 26 \cdot 73 \end{aligned}$ | $120 \cdot 97$121.59 | $15 \cdot 35$$15 \cdot 42$ | $19 \cdot 40$$19 \cdot 40$ | $\begin{aligned} & 5.023 \\ & 5.028 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 5.027 \\ & 5: 026 \end{aligned}$ | 18.4218.02 | 2.772.80 | $\begin{aligned} & 18 \cdot 125 \\ & 18 \cdot 125 \end{aligned}$ | $15 \cdot 33$14.90 | 14.0314.05 |
| AUG. | 76.33 | 29.81 | 63.84 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| SEP. | 76.74 | 29.84 | $64 \cdot 26$ | 12.57 | $7 \cdot 58$ | 26.78 | $122 \cdot 17$ | 16.01 | 19.40 | 5.041 | 5.039 | 17.76 | $\begin{aligned} & 2.81 \\ & 0.87 \end{aligned}$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 14.86 | 14.0414.03 |
| OCT. | 105.09 | 29:10 | 92.96 | $12 \cdot 19$ | 9.159.05 | 26.00 | $\begin{aligned} & 134 \cdot 39 \\ & 138 \cdot 09 \end{aligned}$ | $21 \cdot 31$21.27 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.9004.888 | 4.8984.880 | 17.5617.54 |  | 18.12518.125 | 14.88 |  |
| NOV. | 105.17 | 28.91 | $92 \cdot 86$ | $12 \cdot 15$ |  |  |  |  | $19 \cdot 40$ |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 2.87 \\ & 2.89 \end{aligned}$ |  | 14.95 | 14.03 14.03 |
| DEC. | $105 \cdot 14$ | 29.03 | -3.23 | 12.1912.19 | 8.99 | 26.00 | $140 \cdot 48$ | 21.35 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.907 | 4.903 | 16.42 | $2 \cdot 93$ | 18.144 | 14.93 | 13.96 |
| 1937 | $105 \cdot 14$ |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 21.44 \\ & 21.43 \\ & 21.54 \\ & 21.60 \\ & 21.57 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 19 \cdot 40 \\ & 19 \cdot 40 \\ & 19 \cdot 40 \\ & 19 \cdot 40 \\ & 19.40 \\ & 19 \cdot 40 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 4.908 \\ & 4.891 \\ & 4.885 \\ & 4.916 \\ & 4.939 \\ & 4.935 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 4.909 \\ & 4.895 \\ & 4.882 \\ & 4.909 \\ & 4.931 \\ & 4.937 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 16 \cdot 16 \\ & 16 \cdot 24 \\ & 16.23 \\ & 16 \cdot 17 \\ & 16.24 \\ & 16 \cdot 20 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2 \cdot 95 \\ & 3 \cdot 01 \\ & 3 \cdot 01 \\ & 3 \cdot 07 \\ & 3 \cdot 13 \\ & 3 \cdot 22 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 18 \cdot 151 \\ & 18 \cdot 142 \\ & 18 \cdot 125 \\ & 18 \cdot 125 \\ & 18 \cdot 125 \\ & 18 \cdot 125 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 14.95 \\ & 14.94 \\ & 14.94 \\ & 14.94 \\ & 14.91 \\ & 14.78 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 13.95 \\ & 13.98 \\ & 14.00 \\ & 14.00 \\ & 14.00 \\ & 13.98 \end{aligned}$ |
| FEB. |  | $\begin{aligned} & 29 \cdot 11 \\ & 29.02 \\ & 28 \cdot 99 \\ & 29.15 \\ & 29 \cdot 28 \\ & 29 \cdot 26 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 92 \cdot 99 \\ & 92.81 \\ & 93 \cdot 40 \\ & 93.85 \\ & 93.80 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 12 \cdot 19 \\ & 12 \cdot 16 \\ & 12.15 \\ & 12 \cdot 22 \\ & 12.30 \\ & 12 \cdot 31 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 8.95 \\ & 8.93 \\ & 8.98 \\ & 8.99 \\ & 8.98 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 25.89 \\ & 25.72 \\ & 25 \cdot 89 \\ & 26.07 \\ & 26.03 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 140 \cdot 30 \\ & 140 \cdot 00 \\ & 141: 01 \\ & 141 \cdot 71 \\ & 141 \cdot 63 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| MAR. | 106.31 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| APR. | 109•31 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| MAY | $110 \cdot 32$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| JUNE | $110 \cdot 82$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| JULY | $130 \cdot 34$ 132.85 | $\begin{aligned} & 29 \cdot 50 \\ & 29 \cdot 59 \\ & 29.42 \\ & 29 \cdot 39 \\ & 29.37 \\ & 29 \cdot 41 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 94 \cdot 34 \\ & 94 \cdot 67 \\ & 94 \cdot 14 \\ & 94 \cdot 18 \\ & 94.91 \\ & 94 \cdot 99 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 12 \cdot 35 \\ & 12.39 \\ & 12.34 \\ & 12.33 \\ & 12.37 \\ & 12.40 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 9.01 \\ & 9.03 \\ & 8.98 \\ & 8.96 \\ & 9.01 \\ & 8.99 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 26 \cdot 22 \\ & 26 \cdot 36 \\ & 26 \cdot 25 \\ & 26 \cdot 25 \\ & 26 \cdot 37 \\ & 26 \cdot 37 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 142 \cdot 41 \\ & 142.83 \\ & 141.75 \\ & 141.56 \\ & 142.06 \\ & 142.20 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 21 \cdot 67 \\ & 21.70 \\ & 21.57 \\ & 21.52 \\ & 21.58 \\ & 21 \cdot 61 \end{aligned}$ | $19 \cdot 40$$19 \cdot 40$$19 \cdot 40$$19 \cdot 40$1940$19 \cdot 40$ | $\begin{aligned} & 4.966 \\ & 4.983 \\ & 4.961 \\ & 4.956 \\ & 4.994 \\ & 4.997 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 4.972 \\ & 4.983 \\ & 4.954 \\ & 4.954 \\ & 4.990 \\ & 4.998 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 16 \cdot 43 \\ & 16 \cdot 49 \\ & 16.50 \\ & 16 \cdot 56 \\ & 16.86 \\ & 17 \cdot 01 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 3.22 \\ & 3.15 \\ & 3.12 \\ & 2.83 \\ & 2.77 \\ & 2.64 \end{aligned}$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 14.68 | 13.97 |
| SEPT | 140.37 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 18.125 |  | 14.00 |
| OCT. | 147.97 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 18.125 | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| NOV. | 147.19 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $18 \cdot 125$ | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| DEC. | 14716 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 18.125 | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| 1938 |  | $\begin{aligned} & 29 \cdot 53 \\ & 29 \cdot 56 \\ & 29.53 \\ & 29.54 \\ & 29.50 \\ & 29 \cdot 23 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 95 \cdot 00 \\ & 95 \cdot 37 \\ & 94 \cdot 75 \\ & 94 \cdot 63 \\ & 94 \cdot 42 \\ & 94 \cdot 22 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 5. | 4.00 |
| FEB. | 152:87 |  |  | $12 \cdot 41$ | 8 |  | $142 \cdot 71$ | 21.60 | 19.40 | $5 \cdot 018$ | 5.016 | 18.83 | 2.82 | $18 \cdot 125$ | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| MAR. | 159.63 |  |  | $12.39$ | 8.97 | $26 \cdot 39$ | 142.29 | 21.63 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.985 | $4 \cdot 997$ | 19.39 | $2 \cdot 81$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 14.92 | 13.96 |
| APR. | $160 \cdot 90$ |  |  | $12 \cdot 38$ | 8.96 | 26.39 | $142 \cdot 86$ | 21.67 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.979 | $5 \cdot 006$ | $19 \cdot 46$ | $2 \cdot 81$ | 18.051 | 14.84 | 14.00 |
| MAY | $175 \cdot 14$ |  |  | $12 \cdot 36$ | 8.97 | 26.35 | 142.76 | 21.75 | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 965$ | 5.007 | 19.00 | 2.81t $\dagger$ | 17.910 | 14.91 | 14.00 |
| JUNE | 178.17 |  |  | $12.31$ | 8.96 | 26.29 | 142:61 | 21.66 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.960 | $5 \cdot 012$ | 19.02 | $2.81 \dagger \dagger$ | 17.795 | 14.94 | 14.0 |
| JULY | $178 \cdot 15$ | 29.14 | 93.71 |  |  |  | 142 | 21.54 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.931 | 4.959 | 18.94 | 2.83 | 17.904 | 14.99 | 14.00 |
| AUG. | 178.55 | 28.92 | 92.75 | 12.17 | 8.94 | 25.93 | 141.32 | 21.32 | 19.40 | $4 \cdot 881$ | $4 \cdot 897$ | $18 \cdot 87$ | $2 \cdot 88 \pm$ | 17.897 | $15 \cdot 00$ | 14.00 |
| SEPT. | 178.42 | 28.45 | 91.27 | 12.02 | $8 \cdot 90$ | 25.50 | 139:36 | 21.25 | 19.40 | $4 \cdot 805$ | 4.831 | 19.00 | $2.93 \pm$ | 17.902 | $15 \cdot 00$ | 14.00 |
| OCT. | 178.71 | 28.20 | 90.64 | 11.90 | 8.77 | 25.36 | 138.60 | 20.99 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.769 | 4.812 | 18.99 | $2.98 \pm$ | 17.933 | 14.97 | 14.00 |
| NOV. | 178.68 | 27.84 | 89.51 | 11.76 | 8.67 | 25.04 | $137 \cdot 34$ | 20.79 | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 710$ | 4.742 | 20.09 | $3.02 \dagger$ | 17.936 | 14.94 | 14.00 |
| ${ }^{\text {DECC. }} 1939$ | 177 | 27.72 | 88.75 | 11.65 | 8.59 | 24.78 | $136 \cdot 36$ | 20.65 | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 671$ | 4•706 | 20.55 | $3 \cdot 66 \ddagger \dagger$ | 17.923 | $15 \cdot 00$ | 14.00 |
| JAN. | 177.49 | 27.63 | 88.73 | 11.64 | 8.61 | 24.70 | 136.26 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 17.937 | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| FEB. | $176 \cdot 98$ | 27.79 | 89.05 | 11.67 | 8.74 | 24.84 | 136.82 | $20 \cdot 66$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 687$ | $4 \cdot 708$ | $20 \cdot 35$ | $3 \cdot 06{ }^{+}$ | 17.937 | 14.93 | 14.00 |
| Week | ding | 27.85 | 89.08 | 11.68 | 8.82 | 24.89 | a) | 20.71 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.686 | $4 \cdot 704$ | $20 \cdot 30$ | $3.06 \ddagger+$ | 17.966 | 14.9 | 14.0 |
| Apr. 1 | 176.78 | 27.83 | 89.01 |  | 8.82 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 14.00 |
| " | $176 \cdot 75$ | 27.82 | 89.00 | 11.66 | 8.82 | 24:87 |  | 20.86 | 19.40 | 4.682 | $4 \cdot 700$ | 20.22 | $3.04 \pm$ | 17.937 | 14.74 | 14.00 |
| ,. 15 | 176.75 | 27.83 | 89:00 | 11.68 | 8.82 | 24.92 |  | 20.87 | 19.40 | $4 \cdot 681$ | 4.708 | $20 \cdot 16$ | $3.07 \pm$ | 17.937 | 14.69 | 14.00 |
| 1, 22 | 176.75 | 27.85 | 89.00 | 11.68 | $8 \cdot 82$ | $24 \cdot 92$ |  | 20.86 | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 680$ | $4 \cdot 704$ | 20.23 | 2.82f | 17.937 | 14.75 | 14.00 |
| May 6 | 176.73 | ${ }_{27}^{27.70}$ | 89.00 89.00 | 11.66 | 8.79 | $24 \cdot 87$ |  | $20 \cdot 84$ | 19.40 | 4.681 | $4 \cdot 703$ | $20 \cdot 22$ | $2.87 \pm \dagger$ | 17.937 | 14.75 | 14.00 |
| ,, 13 | 176.75 | $27 \cdot 51$ | 89:00 | 11.66 | 8.74 | 25.00 2500 |  | 20.85 20.84 | 19.40 | 4.681 | $4 \cdot 702$ | 20.20 | $2 \cdot 81{ }^{+}$ | 17.937 | 14.75 14.78 | 14.00 14.00 |
| , 20 | 176.75 | 27.50 | 89.00 | 11.66 | $8 \cdot 71$ | 24.92 | 136.33+ | 20.82 | 19.40 19.40 | 4.681 4.681 | 4.701 4.696 | 20.24 20.24 | 2.755 2.7 | 17.937 17.896 | 14.73 | 14.00 |

. Official Rate.
(a) Average March 1st to 14 th 19701; subsequently nominal until May 4th.
: Average 15 th to 31 st. Average 1 st to 7 th, 2.58 d . per mil.

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# LONDON \& CAMBRIDGE ECONOMIC SERVICE 

SUPPLEMENT TO MONTHLY BULLETIN VOL. XVII. No. V.<br>JUNE 7th, 1939

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INTERNATIONAL PRICE INDEX INTERNATIONAL SURVEY
U.S.A.
FRANCE
GERMANY
ROUMANIA
SWEDEN
SOUTH AFRICA
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## UNITED KINGDOM.

Additional Figures published since May 24th, 1939.


## WHOLESALE PRICES.

## COMPARATIVE INDEX NUMBERS FOR 11 COUNTRIES.

From 1938 see Supplements for March, fune, September and December; before 1938 see Bulletins for these months.
The table below gives comparable index-numbers of wholesale prices, based upon a list of commodities as nearly identical as possible for all the countries, and the same method of calculation and weighting is applied in each case. The index-numbers were described in detail in Special Memorandum No. 24.

|  | Base $1925=100$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Base 1913 $=100$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1937 |  |  | 1938 |  |  |  |  | 1939 |  |  |  | Year 1925 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Apr. } \\ & 1939 \end{aligned}$ |
|  | June | Sept. | Dec. | Mar. | June | Sept. | Nov. | Dec. | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| United Kingdom U.S.A. | $\begin{aligned} & 76 \\ & 91 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 75 \\ & 89 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 75 \\ & 72 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 71 \\ & 66 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 71 \\ & 62 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 62 \\ & 60 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 56 \\ & 59 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 57 \\ & 61 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 58 \\ & 63 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 57 \\ & 62 \end{aligned}$ | 56 62 | 56 | 159 151 | 87 |
| Sweden ........ | 82 | 82 | 80 | 80 | 81 | 77 | 74 | 76 | 77 | 77 | 77 | 77 | 160 | 125 |
| Holland* ...... | 64 | 60 | 61 | 60 | 59 | 59 | 58 | 61 | 61 | 60 | 60 | 62 | 147 | 90 |
| Germany ...... | 86 | 86 | 87 | 86 | 83 | 82 | 83 | 84 | 85 | 85 | 85 | 85 | 128 | 107 |
| Belgium........ | 127 | 122 | 124 | 126 | 119 | 112 | 111 | 114 | 108 | 108 | 108 | 110 | 649 | 713 |
| Prance ......... |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 129 | 133 | 132 | 134 | 128 | 504 | 630 |
| Italy $\dagger$.......... |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 663 |  |
| Canada ........ New Zealand.. | $\begin{aligned} & 84 \\ & 86 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 84 \\ & 84 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 83 \\ & 87 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 81 \\ & 87 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 75 \\ & 89 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 64 \\ & 88 \$ \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 59 \\ & 888 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 55 \\ & 898 \end{aligned}$ | 62 90 | $\begin{aligned} & 62 \\ & 89 \end{aligned}$ | 62 | 62 | 158 | 98 |
| $\ddagger$ S. Africa ...... | 85 | 90 | 97 | 95 | 95 | 95 |  |  | 91 |  |  | 90 | 122 | 105 |
| MATERIALS - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| United Kingdom | 93 | 90 | 86 | 81 | 75 | 75 | 76 | 75 | 74 | 74 | 74 | 74 | 157 | 110 |
| U.S.A. ........ | 77 101 | 75 103 | 70 94 | 67 86 | 84 | 65 | 67 | 66 | 66 | 66 | 66 |  | 175 |  |
| Holland .......... | - 69 | 103 | 64 | 86 | 81 55 | 81 54 | 83 54 | 82 54 | 81 54 | 81 54 | 82 54 | 83 54 | 148 | 113 |
| Germany ...... | 69 | 67 | 66 | 66 | 66 | 66 | 66 | 66 | 66 | ${ }_{66} 64$ | 64 | 64 | 151 | 95 |
| Belgium........ | 135 | 136 | 126 | 118 | 110 | 111 | 110 | 110 | 109 | 109 | 109 | 108 | 584 |  |
| France ........ | 108 | 119 | 121 | 126 | 129 | 130 | 136 | 135 | 133 | 135 | 135 | 136 | 542 | 646 |
| Italyt........... | 75 | 72 | 67 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 713 170 | 111 |
| New Zealand.. | 98 | 99 | 94 | 90 | 91 | 89 | 91 | 65 90 | 66 90 | co | 65 | 65 | 165 | 111 |
| $\ddagger$. Africa ..... | 78 | 78 | 77 | 76 | 76 | 74 |  |  | 74 |  |  | 74 | 161 | 115 |
| TOTAL- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| United Kingdom U.S.A. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 67 | 68 | 67 | 67 | 67 | 158 | 101 |
| Sweden | $\begin{aligned} & 83 \\ & 93 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 81 \\ & 95 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 71 \\ & 88 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 67 \\ & 84 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 63 \\ & 81 \end{aligned}$ | 63 79 | 64 | 64 | 65 | 64 | 64 |  | 165 |  |
| Holland........ | 67 | 64 | 62 | 60 | 81 57 | 79 56 | 79 56 | 80 57 | 79 57 | 79 56 | 80 56 | 81 57 | 149 | 118 82 |
| Germany ...... | 76 | 75 | 74 | 74 | 73 | 72 | 73 | 73 | 74 | 74 | 74 | 74 | 142 | 100 |
| Belgium......... $\{$ | 132 | 130 | 125 | 121 | 114 | 111 | 110 § | 112§ | 109 | 109 | 109 | 109 | 610 |  |
|  | 110 |  | 53 | 52 | 49 | 47 | $47^{\circ}$ | 48 | 47 | 47 | 47 | 47 |  |  |
| France ......... Italyt........ | 168 | 123 56 | 125 54 | 127 51 | 129 46 | 129 44 | 132 44 | 133 | 133 | 134 | 135 | 133 | 527 | 640 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 40 | 693 |  |
| Canada $\qquad$ New Zealand |  |  |  |  |  | 65 |  |  | 64 | 64 | 64 | 64 | 164 | 106 |
| $\ddagger$ S. Africa ..... | $\begin{aligned} & 93 \\ & 81 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 93 \\ & 83 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 91 \\ & 85 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 89 \\ & 84 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 90 \\ & 84 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 898 \\ & 82 \end{aligned}$ | 90 | 90 | 90 81 | 90 |  | 80 | 162 145 | 111 |

Latest figures are provisional. : Figures in first six columns relate to the month after that indicated in heading.
Italics are movements of gold prices. $\dagger$ Series to be resumed when adequate data available. *Excludes wheat. § Revised Figures.

# INTERNATIONAL SURVEY. 

Fune 6 th, 1939.

IN the United Kingdom the process of economic expansion has continued, and the latest available statistics suggest that employment will shortly reach a boom level. The number of insured persons in employment on May isth was $12,667,000$, or about 440,000 more than in May, 1938. It was the highest figure ever achieved. The number of persons unemployed was $1,492,000$, showing a fall of 547,000 since January.

The improvement is very widespread. Thus, while the output of steel, which is directly affected by rearmament, has reached an even higher level than that of the 1937 boom, recovery is almost as marked in industries less directly affected. In the textile industries, and especially cotton, buying of raw materials is rapidly increasing in anticipation of heavy business. The Economist index of business activity stood at 109 ( $1935=100$ ) in April, the highest figure since February, 1938. This figure, moreover, does not fully measure the increase in activity, since certain of the output series upon which it is based inadequately reflect the value of rearmament work.

In the United States business continues at a moderately low level. The seasonally-adjusted Federal Reserve Board index of industrial production was slightly lower in April than in March, but this was mainly due to the coal strike, which has now been settled. The Annalist monthly index of business activity stood at 87 in April, as against 90 in March and 95 in November, 1938. The weekly index of steel mill activity declined steadily from $56 \%$ at the end of March to $45 \%$ in the third week of May. However, with the end of the coal strike, steel activity has improved, and for the week commencing June 5 th the weekly index is estimated at $54 \%$. Automobile output continued at a comparatively low level in April, but construction contracts were still well above the volume of a year ago. Preliminary data for the principal industries for May show no definite signs of change for the better or for the worse. The spring has thus passed without the normal seasonal improvement, and, failing exceptional changes in the policy of the Administration, there appears to be little expectation of any marked recovery before the autumn.

In the other industrial countries of the world, there is little change to be recorded since last
month. Armament expenditure is increasing in France and output and activity continue to expand. Germany has been engaged with the problems of full employment for more than a year. The output, trade and financial statistics of Italy, relating mainly to the early part of the year, reflect a full war economy. Improvement continues in Sweden, mainly owing to domestic expansion. In Belgium the situation is unchanged. Canada continues to show better business than the United States, but is not expanding in the fashion of the heavily arming Western European countries.

In the commodity markets there are some signs of the beginnings of a general rise in prices. Rubber prices have improved considerably in spite of an increase in the quota from $50 \%$ to $55 \%$ for the third quarter of the year. The base metals, especially tin, have also been buoyant. Wheat and cotton prices, it is true, continue to be depressed under the weight of very heavy supplies, but they have not declined further. Negotiations are now proceeding between the governments of the United Kingdom and the United States for the large-scale barter of commodities which would be especially useful to either side in case of European war, principally rubber for the United States and wheat and cotton for the United Kingdom. The price of wool continues firm. The price of sugar, after rising continuously for four or five months has recently fallen owing to the decision of the International Sugar Council to increase export quotas for the current sugar year.

Although industrial activity is expanding as a result of rearmament, the stimulus to international trade which might be expected from such increased activity is mainly confined to materials and foodstuffs which are needed for war preparations. The decline of raw material prices in 1937-38 reduced the capacity of the primary-producing countries to purchase the products of industrial countries, but the effect was long-delayed and has only recently come into full play. Thus the most recent statistics suggest that the volume of world trade is declining. The passive balance of trade of the United Kingdom was nearly as great in April, 1939, as in 1938, thus reversing the trend of the previous six months. This was due more to a rise in imports than to a fall in exports. But other industrial exporting countries are finding the demand for their goods more

## International Survey]

elastic. The active balance of United States' trade fell considerably in April, mainly because of a decline in exports. The April figures for the foreign trade of Greater Germany are the first monthly figures to show an excess of exports over imports. This was because of a drastic reduction in imports. Exports fell by about 40 Mn . marks from the value of the previous month; but imports fell by about 100 Mn . The fall of German exports has been one of the most notable features of recent months. Even Sweden, whose timber, ore and manufacture exports might now be expected to flourish, is showing a decline in exports by comparison with last year. The export position of the principal primaryproducing countries has not deteriorated for some months, but Australia, New Zealand and the Argentine have reduced imports in order to maintain their financial position. In the case of the latter two countries the reduction of imports has been enforced by Government action. In the case of Australia it has been due to the traditional reaction of banks and depositors to a decline in the volume of available funds.

The principal security markets have recently improved, owing mainly to some relaxation of tension regarding the European political situation. In London prices rose steadily throughout May, and at the beginning of June they stand not far below the levels of early March. In New York the improvement has come later and is hampered by uncertainty concerning the intentions of the Administration.

The westward movement of gold continues in very large volume. The main export centres are Belgium, Holland and Switzerland, from which gold is being moved mainly for change of domicile rather than for change of ownership. The fluctuations in the European political situation no longer appear to induce panic movements of capital, and indeed the most noteworthy of current movements is the persistent return of capital to France.

There have been no important currency changes during the past month, though there has lately been some weakness in guilders owing to doubts concerning the Dutch finances. In the principal centres other than Amsterdam, the authorities have generally been able to keep rates of exchange stable.

## RECENT MOVEMENTS IN UNITED STATES.

## Information communicated by Miss DOROTHY WESCOTT, Assistant Editor of the Review of Economic Statistics, Harvard University.

May 22nd, 1939.
GENERAL SUMMARY. - April was a month of further contraction in industrial activity in the United States and continued decreases in wholesale commodity prices. Financial conditions were dull and monthly average prices of leading classes of stocks were considerably below March figures. Open-market interest rates were unchanged at the very low levels of earlier months.

Business sentiment remained disturbed by continued fear of war in Europe, apprehension and uncertainty concerning governmental policydecisions, and protracted suspension of operations in bituminous coal fields, where mines were shut down after March 3Ist, when the old working agreement between operators and miners expired. Negotiations over the formulation of a satisfactory new agreement continued throughout April, but it was not until mid-May that a new contract was signed. Retail trade showed about the usual March-April improvement, but new orders for raw materials and manufactured products are reported to have declined moderately or to have
failed to attain the customary seasonal advance.
The rapid decline of stock prices which began at the middle of March had, by the end of the first week of April, carried quotations for industrial shares back to the levels of last summer, while prices of rails and utilities approximated to the low levels reached during the Czechoslovakian crisis last autumn. Although some improvement occurred during the later weeks of April, the net change over the month for the allinclusive price index of the New York Stock Exchange was downward. Thus, in the first four months of this year, about one-half of the gain in stock prices made between the end of March and the end of December last year had been cancelled.

BUSINESS VOLUMES.- The aggregate dollar volume of business, as measured by the seasonally corrected figures for bank debits in selected centres outside New York City, continued in April to show no marked change, the monthly average differing little from that for March. Adjusted electric-power production, another index of general business activity, drifted
irregularly downward. The physical volume of industrial output was lower than in March, but the data available are still too fragmentary to measure the extent of the decline for industry as a whole. Bituminous coal mines in the important Appalachian region of the country were shut down at the end of March because of the failure of operators and miners to agree over a labour contract, and operations were suspended throughout the month of April. As a result, bituminous coal output for the entire country amounted to about one-third of the March total. This stoppage of operations in important coal-mining regions depressed other branches of industry. Partly because of the serious fuel situation, steel mills curtailed operations week by week ; but declines in new orders also retarded steel activity. As a result, daily average output of steel ingots, which customarily drops a little in April, fell sharply ; and the April adjusted index was about $30 \%$ below the index of last Novemberthe high point of the advance that occurred last year. Pig-iron production likewise in April dropped well below the level to which it had risen in the advance which began last summer. Automobile sales were lower than in March, and production of new cars remained close to the March level instead of increasing sharply, as has been customary in April of past years. The adjusted index for lumber production was somewhat higher than in March, but averaged approximately the same as in February and considerably lower than in January. Among the nondurable-goods industries, April reports are available for only cotton-textile activity, which was maintained close to the relatively high rate of recent months. Employment data are not yet available for April. In the first quarter of the year, factory employment, with allowance for seasonal changes, declined slightly from the levels attained in the second half of 1938 ; but the decrease was very small and the quarterly average was above the first quarter of 1938. The index for factory pay rolls averaged well above the corresponding quarter a year ago.

A decline in seasonally corrected freight car loadings during April reflected primarily a large drop in shipments of coal, although a smaller-than-seasonal rise in ore loadings also contributed to the decrease. Most other classes of freight compared favourably with March-adjusted figures. An increase of 10\% occurred in adjusted grain shipments ; forest products also were $10 \%$ greater than in March ; and livestock loadings rose $16 \%$. Small-lot shipments, mainly goods entering into wholesale and retail trade, averaged
the same as in March; while miscellaneous loadings-comprising chiefly the materials and products of manufacture-dropped $2 \%$.

The total value of construction contracts awarded rose more than usual during April, offsetting about half of the decline that occurred in the seasonally-corrected index for March. This improvement reflected substantial gains in daily average values for all classes of construction except residential. Residential contracts were practically the same as in March ; and since April generally is a month of substantial improvement, the seasonally-corrected index dropped sharply. The failure of residential contracts to show the usual seasonal advance appears to have been due at least in part to delayed action by Congress on proposed amendments to the Federal Housing Act, and to uncertainties in the business outlook. In the first four months this year, construction contracts exceeded those for the corresponding period of 1938 by approximately $45 \%$, with all classes of construction sharing in the advance.

COMMODITY PRICES.-Wholesale commodity prices in April were below March levels, although in the latter part of the month both general price indices and indices of commodities sensitive to changing industrial conditions tended upward. The variations in movement, however, continued small. The lower average in April as compared with March for the " all commodities" index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics was due mainly to decreases in prices of farm products and foods. Among industrial commodities, changes were mixed, with indices for hides and leather products, metals and metal products, building materials, and chemicals and drugs moving downward, and textile products, fuel and lighting materials, and miscellaneous commodities advancing.

Prices of certain individual commodities showed fairly wide movements during the month. Cotton prices fluctuated in response to proposed governmental legislation affecting this commodity. In the first half of the month, spot prices of middling upland cotton at New York dropped lower than in any other month this year, but subsequent advances through the end of April raised quotations 29 points above end-of-March figures. Silk prices continued their sharp advance of recent months, reflecting the current scarcity of supply. Steel scrap prices dropped steadily throughout April, and in the last week average prices at three important markets-Pittsburgh, Chicago, and Philadelphia -were the lowest of the year and $6 \%$ under

## FINANCE, PRICES.



[^44]INTERNAL ACTIVITY, TRADE, EMPLOYMENT.

|  | Freight Car Loadings. |  |  |  |  | Building Contracts Awarded. |  |  \% of 1923 | Production. |  |  | Industrial Production. F. R. Bd. Indices. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Average per day adjusted for season. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | tal |  | anufa | acture |  | Miner |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $$ |  |  |  | 잉 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 우 } \\ & \text { ©0 } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | $\begin{gathered} 0000 \\ \text { cars. } \end{gathered}$ |  | 000 ca |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{Mn} . \\ \mathrm{s} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \% \text { of } \\ 1924-9 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  | 000 | ns. | 000 |  | 1923-5. |  | \% of | 1923-5. |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1924 Av. | 407 | 159 | 42.0 | 56.6 | 95.8 | - |  | 99 | 259 | 306 | 300 | 95 | 95 | 94 | 8 | 8 | 90 | 96 | 375 | 301 | 96 |
| 1929 | 441 | 172 | $43 \cdot 2$ | $66 \cdot 3$ | $110 \cdot 8$ | 480 | 96 | 111 | 352 | 452 | 438 | 119 | 119 | 119 | 12 |  | 139 | 115 | 430 | 366 | 106 |
| 1933 | 241 | $\begin{array}{r} 94 \\ 101 \end{array}$ | 27.6 | 33 | 78 | $\begin{aligned} & 105 \\ & 129 \end{aligned}$ | 22 | 75 | 110 | 189 | 161 | 76 | 76 | 75 | 37 | 55 | 48 | 82 | 137 | 21 | 73 |
| 1984 | 256 |  | $22^{2} 6$ |  | 83.1 |  | 32 | 75 78 | 133 <br> 175 | 213 |  |  |  | 78 | 44 |  |  | 86 | 175 | 88 | 86 |
| 1986 Av | 303 | 118 | 27.0 | 47.4 | 90.7 | 222 | 42 | 87 | 255 | 390 | 371 | 105 | 105 | 105 | 85 | 114 | 111 | 105 | 201 | 186 | 98 |
| 1937 Av. | 317 | 124 | 27.7 | $50 \cdot 3$ | $95 \cdot 1$ |  | 49 | 93 | 305 | 412 | 401 | 110 | 109 | 109 | 102 | 118 | 124 | 115 | 274 | 257 | 108 |
| 1936 | 265 | 112 | 26.4 | 45.0 | $84 \cdot 6$ | 215 | 57 | 81 | 203 | 304 | 364 | 95 | 97 | 96 | 67 | 88 | 108 | 104 | 196 | 187 | 94 |
| FEB. | 262 | 115 | $25 \cdot 5$ | $42 \cdot 3$ | $84 \cdot 6$ | 140 | 36 | 83 | 182 | 296 | 288 | 95 | 94 | 92 | 63 | 85 | 93 | 111 | 179 | 193 | 93 |
| MAR | 262 | 107 | $25 \cdot 7$ | $44 \cdot 8$ | 85.5 | 199 | 36 | 84 | 204 | 333 | 421 | 96 | 93 | 93 | 64 | 85 | 107 | 97 | 192 | 199 | 93 |
| APRIL | 279 | 114 | 26.7 | $46 \cdot 5$ | 88.4 | 235 | 37 | 84 | 240 | 393 | 503 | 104 | 101 | 100 | 77 | 102 | 122 | 106 | 190 | 203 | 94 |
| MAY | 290 | 114 | $26 \cdot 6$ | $46 \cdot 8$ | 90.2 | 216 | 37 | 87 | 265 | 404 | 461 | 105 | 101 | 101 | 85 | 107 | 117 | 103 | 197 | 192 | 98 |
| JUNE | 305 | 116 | $27 \cdot 1$ | $47 \cdot 5$ | $91 \cdot 5$ | 233 | 40 | 87 | 259 | 398 | 453 | 104 | 104 | 105 | 89 | 115 | 118 | 100 | 181 | 191 | 97 |
| JULY | 319 | 120 | 27.5 | 46.7 | 94.9 | 295 | 52 | 90 | 259 | 391 | 441 | 105 | 108 | 109 | 90 | 121 | 124 | 102 | 177 | 195 | 98 |
| AUG | 321 | 116 | 27.7 | 46.0 | $95 \cdot 3$ | 275 | 54 | 87 | 271 | 418 | 271 | 106 | 108 | 110 | 93 | 123 | 111 | 99 | 176 | 193 | 99 |
| SEPT | 334 | 118 | 27.4 | $47 \cdot 1$ | $94 \cdot 1$ | 234 | 47 | 88 | 273 | 415 | 135 | 108 | 109 | 110 | 96 | 121 | 107 | 102 | 218 | 216 | 100 |
| OCT. | 369 | 121 | $27 \cdot 4$ | $47 \cdot 8$ | $92 \cdot 3$ | 226 | 46 | 90 | 299 | 453 | 225 | 111 | 110 | 110 | 98 | 130 | 93 | 105 | 262 | 213 | 101 |
| NOV. | 314 | 127 | $27 \cdot 8$ | 51.6 | $92 \cdot 8$ | 208 | 51 | 94 | 295 | 432 | 395 | 115 | 114 | 114 | 99 | 141 | 105 | 112 | 224 | 198 | 103 |
| DEC. | 312 | 133 | 28.7 | 57.2 | 94.0 | 200 | 48 | 92 | 312 | 442 | 499 | 114 | 121 | 121 | 104 | 147 | 122 | 117 | 227 | 245 | 105 |
| JAN. 1937 | 285 | 125 | $28 \cdot 3$ | 55.0 | 92.7 | 243 | 68 | 93 | 321 | 472 | 380 | 112 | 114 | 115 | 107 | 142 | 120 | 111 | 219 | 240 | 105 |
| FEB. | 278 | 127 | $28 \cdot 0$ | 54.7 | 92.6 | 188 | 51 | 95 | 300 | 442 | 364 | 117 | 116 | 116 | 107 | 131 | 120 | 116 | 230 | 278 | 108 |
| MAR | 337 | 133 | 28.2 | $55 \cdot 1$ | 94.5 | 231 | 40 | 93 | 346 | 522 | 494 | 122 | 118 | 117 | 108 | 128 | 121 | 128 | 252 | 307 | 107 |
| APRIL | 324 | 133 | 28.4 | $55 \cdot 1$ | 96.1 | 270 | 43 | 93 | 339 | 507 | 536 | 122 | 118 | 118 | 109 | 132 | 130 | 115 | 265 | 287 | 108 |
| MAY | 331 | 130 | 28.2 | 53.8 | 97.0 | 244 | 42 | 93 | 354 | 515 | 517 | 122 | 118 | 118 | 114 | 136 | 135 | 117 | 285 | 285 | 109 |
| JUNE | 332 | 126 | . 27.9 | 51.4 | 98.5 | 318 | 54 | 93 | 311 | 418 | 497 | 115 | 114 | 114 | 107 | 121 | 130 | 115 | 256 | 288 | 108 |
| JULY | 341 | 128 | 28.0 | $50 \cdot 2$ | 99.5 | 322 | 59 | 92 | 350 | 456 | 439 | 111 | 114 | 114 | 121 | 141 | 129 | 112 | 265 | 265 | 109 |
| AUG. | 338 | 123 | 28.0 | 48.5 | 101.4 | 281 | 54 | 93 | 361 | 488 | 394 | 115 | 117 | 117 | 123 | 144 | 157 | 113 | 274 | 246 | 109 |
| SEPT | 348 | 123 | 27.6 | 47.9 | 97.3 | 207 | 42 | 94 | 341 | 429 | 171 | 109 | 111 | 110 | 119 | 125 | 135 | 116 | 293 | 233 |  |
| OCT. | 345 | 118 | $27 \cdot 4$ | $45 \cdot 3$ | 94.6 | 202 | 43 | 93 | 289 | 339 | 330 | 102 | 102 | 101 85 | 95 | 101 | 142 | 113 | 330 311 | 223 | 105 |
| NOV. | 284 | 110 | 26.5 | 43.4 | 89.6 | 198 | 47 | 91 | 201 | 215 | 360 | 90 | 88 | 85 | 67 | 68 | 92 78 | 1109 | 311 | 223 | 101 |
| DEC. | 256 | 109 | 25.7 | 42.7 | 87.5 | 209 | 50 | 89 | 149 | 147 | 326 | 80 | 84 | 79 | 50 | 49 | 78 | 115 | 319 | 209 |  |
| JAN. 1938 | 235 | 103 |  | $41 \cdot 8$ |  | 192 |  |  | 143 | 173 | 210 | 79 | 80 | 76 | 47 | 52 | 65 | 108 | 286 | 171 | 90 |
| FEB. .. | 215 | 99 | 25.4 | 39.7 | 84.7 | 119 | 32 | 88 | 130 | 170 | 187 | 79 | 79 | 75 | 46 | 51 | 62 | 103 | 259 | 163 | 89 |
| MAR. | 248 | 98 | 25.1 | $39 \cdot 5$ | $85 \cdot 1$ | 227 | 40 | 86 | 145 | 200 | 222 | 80 | 79 | 75 | 45 | 49 | 54 | 103 | 270 | 173 | 88 |
| APR. | 230 | 94 | 24.8 | 36.7 | 84.8 | 222 | 36 | 83 | 138 | 192 | 219 | 78 | 77 | 73 | 44 | 50 | 49 | 91 | 254 | 148 | 84 |
| MAY JUNE | 232 243 | 91 92 | 24.6 24.3 | 36.8 36.5 | 86.2 87.9 | 283 251 | 48 43 | 78 82 | 126 | 180 | 192 175 | 77 77 | 76 77 | 74 | 36 |  | 46 | 92 | 230 | 146 | 82 |
| JULY | 247 | 97 | 24.7 | 36.7 | 91.1 | 240 | 46 | 83 | 120 |  |  |  |  | 82 | 42 | 64 |  | 93 | 225 | 141 |  |
| AUG... | 272 | 95 | 25.0 | $36 \cdot 9$ | $93 \%$ | 313 | 57 | 83 | 149 | 254 | 90 | 87 | 88 | 87 | 51 | 72 | 45 | 95 | 228 | 166 | 85 |
| SEPT.. | 281 | 100 | 25.0 | 38.6 | 91.0 | 301 | 60 | 86 | 168 | 265 | 84 | 91 | 91 | 89 | 59 | 77 93 | 46 84 | 97 99 | 274 | 178 | 88 |
| OCT. | 307 | 105 | 25.6 | 402 | $90 \cdot 1$ | 358 | 76 | 84 | 205 | 311 | 210 | 97 | 96 | 95 | 67 | 112 | 84 96 | 102 | 250 | 176 | 90 |
| NOV. | 274 | 106 | $25 \cdot 3$ | $42 \cdot 3$ | $91 \times 2$ | 302 | 71 | 89 | 227 | 356 | 372 | 104 |  | 103 104 |  |  |  | 109 | 266 | 171 | 92 |
| DEC. | 262 | 112 | 25.6 | $45 \cdot 8$ | 92.2 | 389 | 96 | 89 |  |  |  |  |  | 104 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| JAN. | 249 | 110 | 26.2 | $46 \cdot 3$ | $90 \cdot 6$ | 252 | 70 | 88 | 218 | 322 |  | 99 | 101 | 100 |  |  | 105 | 110 | 210 | 178 | 92 |
| PEB. ... | 230 | 106 | 25.4 | $42 \cdot 9$ | $90 \cdot 3$ | 220 | 60 | 87 | 206 | 298 | $298$ | 90* |  | 97 |  |  | ${ }_{91}^{98}$ |  |  | 190 |  |
| MAR. ... APR. ... | 269 233 | 106 99 | 25.4 25.4 |  | 91.0 | $\begin{aligned} & 301 \\ & 330 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 52 \\ & 56 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 88 \\ & 88 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 240 \\ & 206 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 340 \\ & 290+ \end{aligned}$ |  | 100* | $\begin{aligned} & 98^{*} \\ & 95^{*} \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & 75 \\ & 66^{*} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 83 \\ & 78^{*} \end{aligned}$ |  |  | 228* | 186 |  |

[^45]$\dagger$ Revised from Jan., 1938.
prices a month earlier. Further declines have occurred in May, and steel prices have been reduced. Successive reductions in copper quotations lowered prices during April from $1 I_{\frac{1}{4}}$ cents per pound-the quotation established in October, 1938-to Io cents per pound; some advance occurred in the final week of the month, but May brought reduction again to the Io cent level.

MONEY AND CREDIT.-The outstanding factor in the monetary situation continues to be the very large inflow of gold to the United States from Europe, this country's gold stock increasing by $\$ 554 \mathrm{Mn}$. during April. In the past year, the monetary stock of gold has risen by approximately $\$ 3,000 \mathrm{Mn}$., with about $90 \%$ of the increase occurring since the end of last August. In each of the three months, September and October, 1938, and April, 1939-months when political conditions in Europe have been most tense-the monthly additions have exceeded $\$ 500 \mathrm{Mn}$. This enormous increase in gold has been accompanied by a very large increase in money in circulation- $\$ 400 \mathrm{Mn}$. since the end of August. The principal effect of the large gold import has been a substantial increase of memberbank reserve balances, to the new high figure of $\$ 10,000 \mathrm{Mn}$. on May 17th, of which $\$ 4,200 \mathrm{Mn}$. represented excess reserves.

Earning assets of reporting member banks again in April averaged higher than in the month preceding, as security holdings of these banks showed a further substantial increase. (See Table, page 248.) Between the end of March and the end of April, holdings of direct government obligations rose $\$_{\text {I }} 74 \mathrm{Mn}$. ; fully guaranteed obligations, $\$ 4 \mathrm{Mn}$. ; and other securities, $\$ 109 \mathrm{Mn}$. Total loans dropped fairly steadily, largely because of decreases in loans to brokers and dealers in securities, accompanying declines in stock prices. Weekly variations in commercial, industrial, and agricultural loans have remained very small, with the first three weeks of April bringing continuation of the advance that had begun toward the end of February and subsequent weeks showing slight declines. While the April average of this class of loans was somewhat higher than that for any one of the first three months this year (Table, page 248), it was lower than in any month of 1937 or 1938.

Commercial paper and time money rates remained very low, and yields on United States government bonds dropped to new low levels. Yields on both high and low grade corporate issues advanced through the middle of April and subsequently declined, but the month's average for each group was above any month in the first quarter.

SPECULATION AND FINANCE.-The sharp decline in stock prices that developed in the latter half of March continued into the first week of April, and by April 8th-the day of lowest prices for the month-the Dow-Jones index of industrial shares had dropped $20 \%$ below the index for a month earlier ; railroad shares had fallen $28 \%$ and utilities $21 \%$. While prices recovered somewhat after the first week of the month, day-to-day changes were of minor importance, and the volume of trading was extremely small, reflecting continued unsettlement in Europe and the failure of domestic business to improve. By the close of the month, prices had recovered only a small part of their losses since early March.

Like stock prices, corporation bond prices receded in the first part of April and subsequently rose somewhat, but average prices at the close of the month were lower than a month earlier. The decline in United States government bond prices in early April was relatively small, and advances in the second half of the month carried prices to new high levels.

Security flotations were substantially greater than in March, and the month's total of \$356 Mn. was slightly above April last year. The advance over both April, 1938, and March of this year reflected larger corporate flotations; public issues were smaller than in either of the two earlier months. Over two-thirds of all corporate issues comprised those for refunding purposes ( $\$ 182 \mathrm{Mn}$.) ; issues to raise new capital amounted to $\$ 77 \mathrm{Mn}$. ; and public issues, including new and refunding, totalled $\$ 97 \mathrm{Mn}$.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS. - Fluctuations in stock prices in the first half of May have continued very narrow, and the daily volume of trading has averaged under the low rate of April. Domestic political developments and further recessions, though small, in weekly indices of business activity have continued depressing influences. The seasonally-corrected index for electric power has been below April levels. Operations in the steel industry have been reduced more than seasonally; and adjusted automobile production has been lower than in April. Recent reports indicate some improvement in motor-car output, reflecting increased sales, but data are still too meagre to judge the extent of the increase. The customary summer curtailment of automobile activity, in preparation for new car models, is expected somewhat earlier than usual this year. After a shut-down of six weeks, the majority of the coal mines in the Appalachian district reopened during the week beginning May 15 th, following the ratification of a two-year agreement between operators and miners.

## FRANCE

## Information communicated by M. MICHEL HUBER, Directeur des Etudes à l'Institut de Statistique de l'Úniversité de Paris.

May 3ist, 1939.

THE international political tension continued during May, 1939, but it was not intensified by new coups de force, as in March (CzechoSlovakia) and in April (Albania).

The defensive against acts of aggression was strengthened by the conclusion of a FrancoTurkish agreement and the hope of an approaching Anglo-Franco-Russian treaty. Further, the voluntary repatriation of the Germans and Italians from Spain has begun. On the other hand, the treaty of political military alliance, drawn up at Milan on May 8th, was signed in Berlin on May 22nd. The armaments race continues.

No event of importance has marked the course of internal politics. Parliament reassembled on May iIth, and the Chamber continued its discussion of electoral reform and reversed its previous decision on the principle of integral proportional representation which it had adopted on March 28th. The Conseils Généraux have shown during their spring session their agreement with the firm policy of the Government on the question of the defence of the national interests and of the territorial integrity of France.

New decree laws have amplified the steps already taken to strengthen the defence of the country. Among the seven decrees which were published on May 8th there may be noted those concerned with the production of minerals necessary for national defence, with requisitions, with modern war risk insurance, and with the control of the foreign Press in France. Among the nine decrees published on May 2Ist there may be mentioned those dealing with the rates of allowances for soldiers' families, with the manning of the fleet and the re-establishment of the marine prefecture of Lorient, with colonial raw materials for national defence, and with conditions of work on the railways and in transport firms.

The loan due on May 15th produced in a single day six milliards of new money for which the public was asked. The loan was issued at 98 francs at the rate of $5 \%$ and was repayable in forty years. Subscription lists remained open until May 25th for the conversion of six or twelve months' Treasury bonds, of eighteen months' national defence bonds of the Caisse
autonome, of the two-year national war bonds and of the $3 \frac{1}{2} \%$ Treasury bonds. The total yield of the loan exceeded ten milliards.

On May 25th the French Treasury also concluded with the Dutch and Swiss banks an agreement for the repayment of the 'short term ' bonds issued on foreign markets by means of a loan of 100 Mn . florins at $3 \frac{3}{4} \%$, issued at $97 \frac{1}{2} \%$ and repayable in six years. Further, the Dutch group has bought outright 155 Mn . of French six-year 4\% Treasury bonds. This operation replaces the numerous foreign 'short term' loans whose total maturities between June 5th, 1939, and February 28th, 194I, had increased to nearly six milliards. It is unnecessary to emphasise the importance of this operation whereby the foreign 'short term ' debt of France has been entirely eliminated.

On May 17th the Minister of Finance published in the Fournal Officiel an interesting report of the first five months of the three-year plan which was put into force on November 12th last. The principal results so far obtained are first the return of capital which has brought back to France more than eleven milliards of gold up to January 3Ist last and about twenty milliards to date. As a result the franc has been firm on the foreign exchange markets, the Treasury position has been eased and the rate of interest has been lowered. As for business activity, there has been since last November an increase of production and a fall in unemployment, while the rise in prices and in the cost of living has been kept within narrow limits. Finally, the effort to increase taxation has met with the support of the nation and has enabled inflation to be avoided. All these measures have succeeded, thanks to the establishment of confidence. It is true that the difficulties have not yet been overcome, but a start has been made and the results obtained in the work of reconstruction are extremely encouraging.

The income from indirect taxation, monopolies and State lands are $1,800,000$ francs below budget estimates in March alone and if Mn . in April. Turnover tax, tax on production, etc., produced 92I Mn. in March and 950 Mn . in April, as against 993 Mn . in January and $\mathrm{I}, 002 \mathrm{Mn}$. in February.


# TRADE，OUTPUT，TRANSPORT \＆EMPLOYMENT． 

|  | IMPORTS．＊ |  |  |  | EXPORTS．＊ |  |  |  | OUTPUT． |  |  |  |  |  |  | SHIPPING． |  | RAILWAYS |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total． <br> Mn．f． | تٌ <br> Mn． 1 |  <br> Mn．f． | Manufactures． <br> Mn．f． | E． E E <br> Mn．f． | 0 0 0 0 <br> Mn． 1 | Raw Materials. <br> Mn．f． | Manufactures． <br> Mn．f． <br> 1 M | Weig of <br> Im． ports． <br> Mn．Metr | Ex－ <br> orts． <br> ．Tns． |  | Coal （excl． <br> Saar）． | Pig Iron． | Steel． |  | Tonna Ships Carg | e of with es． वं む̈ ひ <br> Mn． Tons |  |  |  |
| 1913 Av． | 702 | 153 | 411 | 138 | 573 | 70 | 155 | 348 | $3 \cdot 68$ | 1.84 |  | 3720 | 756 | 581 |  | $2 \cdot 87$ | $2 \cdot 17$ |  |  |  |
| 1924 Av． | 3327 | 745 | 2158 | 424 | 3456 | 336 | 874 | 2246 | 4•71 | $2 \cdot 45$ |  | 3667 | 638 | 575 |  | 3.55 | $2 \cdot 72$ |  | 61.4 |  |
| 1983 Av | 2369 | 800 | 1149 | 419 | 1539 | 212 | 396 | 931 | 4.04 | 2.09 |  | 3903 | 527 | 552 | 87 89 | 4.51 4.38 | 3.75 3.62 | 218 208 | $45 \cdot 2$ $42 \cdot 5$ | $\begin{aligned} & 71 \cdot 3 \\ & 71 \cdot 4 \end{aligned}$ |
| 1984 Av． | 1925 | 624 | 948 | 354 | 1488 | 215 | 430 | 842 | 3.79 | $2 \cdot 36$ |  | 3967 | 513 | 512 | 89 92 | 4.38 4.25 | 3.62 3.70 | 208 | $42 \cdot 5$ $40 \cdot 1$ | $\begin{aligned} & 71 \cdot 4 \\ & 68 \cdot 4 \end{aligned}$ |
| 1985 Av． | 17461 | 520 | 932 | 294 | 1291才 | 206 | 355 | 730 | 3.72 | 2.44 |  | 3851 | 483 | 522 | 92 | 4.25 4.40 | 3.66 | 191 | 41.7 | $70 \cdot 5$ |
| 1936 Av ． | 2118 | 650 | 1149 | 318 | 1291 | 206 | 372 | 713 | 4.01 | 2.41 2.53 | 88 | 3693 | 660 | 658 | r 105 | 4.56 | 3.70 | 242 | 41.7 | 66.4 |
| 1937 Av． | 3533 | 895 | 2098 | 540 | 1995 | 281 | 702 | 101 | $4 \cdot 78$ | 2.53 |  | 3693 |  | 658 | 105 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1936 | 20 | 565 | 1158 | 281 | 1203 | 191 | 331 | 681 | 3.86 | 2.59 | 86 | 4087 | 508 | 561 | 105 | 3.86 | 3.23 | 166 | $37 \cdot 7$ $41 \cdot 1$ | $69 \cdot 0$ $69 \cdot 6$ |
| JANB． | 2051 | 647 | 1114 | 290 | 1229 | 177 | 366 | 686 | $3 \cdot 86$ | 2.59 | 86 | 3855 | 501 | 535 | 95 | 3.80 | 3.09 | 崖 |  | 69.6 |
| MAR． | 1959 | 565 | 1085 | 308 | 1245 | 182 | 362 | 701 | $3 \cdot 98$ | $2 \cdot 20$ | 88 | 3956 | 543 | 575 | 93 | 3.94 4.13 |  | 186 | 39•7 | $70 \cdot 1$ |
| APRIL． | 2128 | 676 | 1118 | 334 | 1200 | 189 | 325 | 686 | 3.99 | $2 \cdot 52$ |  | 3059 | 554 | 609 | 92 | $4 \cdot 62$ | 3.77 | 185 | 39.4 | $70 \cdot 4$ |
| MAY | 1968 | 614 | 1060 | 295 | 1172 | 174 | 355 | 643 | 3.99 | 2.52 2.37 | 81 | 3434 | 470 | 503 | 84 | $4 \cdot 27$ | 3.65 | 178 | 38.6 | $70 \cdot 4$ |
| JUNE．． | 1831 | 557 | 1002 | 272 | 1156 | 174 | 296 | 685 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| JULY | 1860 | 5 | 1038 | 279 | 1104 | 168 | 308 | 628 | 3.72 | $2 \cdot 10$ | 83 | 3915 | 519 | 542 | 88 | $5 \cdot 03$ 4.83 | 4.20 4.04 | 205 | 37.2 | 70.5 70.5 |
| AUG． | 1764 | 513 | 958 | 294 | 1170 | 179 | 337 | 654 | 3.89 | 2.37 | 80 |  | 465 | 545 | 91 | 4.60 | 3.87 | 207 | $40 \cdot 3$ | 70.8 |
| SEPT | 1859 | 625 | 920 | 314 | 1190 | 183 | 360 | 647 | 3.98 | 2.41 2.46 | 80 | 3484 4165 | 551 | 627 | 104 | $4 \cdot 71$ | 4.05 | 216 | $46 \cdot 3$ | 71.0 |
| 00T． | 2243 | 760 | 1143 | 340 | 1463 | 261 | 399 | 803 884 | 4.01 4.24 | 2.46 2.58 | 88 | 3438 | 552 | 581 | 104 | $4 \cdot 19$ | 3.48 | 200 | $46 \cdot 3$ | 70.7 |
| NOV． | 2699 | 839 | 1477 | 383 | 1710 | 299 | 527 | 885 | 4.75 | 2．37 | 91 | 3813 | 558 | 591 | 107 | 4．77 | $3 \cdot 63$ | 192 | $43 \cdot 2$ | $70 \cdot 5$ |
| DEC．．．． 1937 | 3039 | 892 | 1715 | 432 | 1651 | 300 | 498 | 853 | 4.75 | 23 | O1 |  | ， | 607 | 103 | 4•19 | $3 \cdot 35$ | 187 | $40 \cdot 1$ | 1 |
| JAN．．． | 3332 | 886 | 1872 | 474 | 1769 | 283 | 10 | 911 |  |  | 92 | 3710 | 574 | 584 | 98 | $3 \cdot 77$ | $3 \cdot 05$ | 201 | $42 \cdot 5$ | 69.0 |
| FEB．．．． | 3667 | 1004 | 2171 | 492 | 1695 | 237 | 610 | 848 | 5.35 4.60 | 2.37 2.86 | 93 | 4037 | 648 | 679 | 108 | 4.44 | 3.52 | 210 | $41 \cdot 3$ | 68.0 |
| MAR．． | 3216 | 785 | 1892 | 539 | 1829 | 267 | 607 | 955 | 4.60 4.95 | 2.66 2.61 | 91 | 3910 | 654 | 684 | 101 | $4 \cdot 47$ | 3.70 | 206 | 41.9 39 | 67.6 |
| APRIL． | 3300 | 831 | 1992 | 477 | 1973 | 278 | 734 621 | 885 | 4.55 | 2.46 | 89 | 3414 | 666 | 654 | 101 | 4.81 | 3.97 | 205 | 39.8 | 66.8 65.2 |
| MAY．．． | 3070 | 761 | 1856 | 452 | 1761 | 255 | 621 744 | 1014 | 4.16 5 | 2.68 | 88 | 3509 | 685 | 685 | 98 | $4 \cdot 72$ | 3.90 | 222 | $41 \cdot 8$ | $65^{\prime 2}$ |
| JUNE．． | 3719 | 844 | 2171 | 704 | 2003 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 265 | 397 | 64.4 |
| JULY．． | 3204 | 777 | 1880 | 547 | 1871 | 247 | 659 | 865 | 4.57 | 2.55 | 85 | 3530 | 699 645 | 685 559 | 102 | 5.48 4.44 | 3.68 | 277 | 36.9 | $64 \cdot 4$ |
| AUG．．． | 3179 | 782 | 1878 | 519 | 1859 | 229 | 666 | 964 1036 | 4.47 4.56 | 2.48 2.48 | 76 | 3673 | 687 | 662 | 102 | $4 \cdot 58$ | 3.78 | 292 | 41.4 | 64．8 |
| SEPT．．． | 3478 | 839 | 2106 | 533 | 2074 | 268 | 770 847 | 1036 | 4.56 4.57 | 2.48 2.81 | 88 | 3644 | 701 | 705 | 113 | $5 \cdot 28$ | 4.26 | 284 | $45 \cdot 6$ | $65 \cdot 3$ 65.6 |
| OCT． | 3714 | 959 | 2200 | 555 | 2364 | 343 | 847 | 1229 | 4.72 4.72 | 2.64 | 91 | 4073 | 688 | 673 | 115 | 4.21 | $3 \cdot 36$ | 282 | $44 \cdot 7$ | 65．6 |
| NOV． | 3938 | 1012 | 2339 | 587 | 2385 | 354 | 802 | 1229 | 4.15 | 2.61 | 91 | 4161 | 679 | 675 | 124 | $4 \cdot 36$ | 3.43 | 296 | $44 \cdot 7$ | $66^{\circ}$ |
| DEC．．．． | 4574 | 1258 | 2720 | 596 | 2357 | 369 | 792 | 1196 | 515 | 261 | 91 | 4161 |  |  | 120 |  |  | 253 | 39 | 2 |
| JAN．．．．． | 3885 | 962 | 2367 | 556 | 2439 | 310 | 867 | 1262 | 4 |  |  |  | 556 | 564 | 107 | 3.86 | 3.04 | 257 | 41.4 | $66 \cdot 3$ |
| FEB． | 4287 | 1127 | 2543 | 617 | 2309 | 288 | 843 | 1178 |  |  |  | 4294 | 553 | 562 | 113 | 3.74 | $2 \cdot 87$ | 264 | 42．0 | $65 \cdot 6$ |
| MAR．．．． | 3526 | 891 | 2082 | 553 | 2226 | 294 | 687 | 1245 | 3.89 4.18 | 1.98 | 82 | 4042 | 479 | 500 | 106 | $4 \cdot 37$ | 3.52 | 280 | $39 \cdot 8$ 41.2 | $64 \cdot 7$ $65 \cdot 7$ |
| APRIL | 3888 | 1022 | 2270 | 610 | 2356 | 366 | 703 | 1287 | 3.87 | 2．16 | 82 | 3734 | 483 | 502 | 108 | 4.51 | 3.71 | － 272 | 41.2 $40 \cdot 6$ | $65 \cdot 9$ |
| MAY | 3878 | 1102 | 2131 | 645 | 2324 | 330 | 715 | 1261 | 4.04 | $2 \cdot 12$ | 83 | 3830 | 463 | 480 | 110 | 4.85 | $4 \cdot 16$ | － 291 | 406 |  |
| JUNE．．． | 3811 | 1019 | 2235 | 557 | 2291 | 313 | 717 | 1261 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 301 | 38.5 | $5 \quad 65 \cdot 3$ |
| JULY | 3501 | 982 | 2003 | 511 | 2286 | 302 | 700 | 1284 | 3.54 | $2 \cdot 13$ | 81 | 3730 | 433 | 436 419 | 108 | 4.70 4.69 | 4.03 | 300 | 35．5 | $565 \cdot 1$ |
| AUG．．．． | 3709 | 984 | 2253 | 472 | 2486 | 300 | 814 | 1372 | 3.87 | 2.26 | 71 | 3944 | 446 | 470 | 107 | 4.86 | $4 \cdot 18$ | 313 | $39 \cdot 8$ | $865 \cdot 2$ |
| SEPT．．． | 3534 | 1027 | 2027 | 480 | 2653 | 333 | 996 | 1324 | 3.76 | 2.21 | 81 | 4234 | 494 | 511 | 119 | 4.42 | 3.65 | 310 | $43 \cdot 1$ | 66．3 |
| OCT． | 3878 | 1153 | 2236 | 489 | 2830 | 456 | 869 | 1505 | 4.20 3.45 | 2.20 2.38 | 85 | 4188 | 521 | 534 | 119 | $4 \cdot 17$ | 3.53 | 3297 | 42 | 67.2 |
| NOV． | 3871 | 1099 | 2216 | 556 | 3059 | 509 | 926 | 1624 | 3.45 3.57 | 2.33 | 86 | 4430 | 560 | 576 | 130 | $4 \cdot 27$ | 3.44 | － 303 | 40 | 2 |
| DEC．．．． | 4214 | 1133 | 2426 | 655 | 3292 | 594 | 999 | 1699 | 3.57 | 2.33 | 86 | 4430 |  |  |  |  |  | 8272 | $40 \cdot 8$ | 868.8 |
| 1939 | 3978 | 1109 | 2290 | 579 | 2820 | 423 | 830 | 1567 | 3－24 | 1.95 | 88 | － 4214 | 571 539 | 593 572 | 143 | 3.47 3.65 | 2.78 3.04 | 4 281 | $41 \cdot 9$ | $9 \quad 70 \cdot 8$ |
| FEB． | 4519 | 1217 | 2597 | 705 | 3036 | 404 | 1012 | 1620 | 13．88 | 2.53 | 92 | － $\begin{aligned} & 3932 \\ & 4393\end{aligned}$ | 539 | － 666 | 140 | 366 | 2.95 | 5289 | 42.2 | $2 \quad 71.0$ |
| MAR．．． | 3991 | 1030 | 2276 | 685 | 2880 | 405 | 884 | 41591 | 3.33 3.69 | 1.96 2.33 |  | 4131 | 603 | －625 |  | $4 \cdot 21$ | $3 \cdot 46$ | 6 | $40 \cdot 6$ |  |
| APRIL． | 4125 | 1157 | 2253 | 715 | 3034 | 437 | 910 | － 1687 | 73.69 | 2.33 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

＊Import figures are based upon declarea values．Export figures deciarea values since 1927，previousiy based on official value
Import figures are based upon declarea values． $\begin{gathered}\text { Export } \\ \text { \＆Saar transferred 18／2／35．}\end{gathered}$

TRANSPORT
Shipping（with cargoes）during the month
Rallways．，

No important change has taken place in the weekly statements of the Bank of France. The note circulation, which had risen to 125 milliards on April 27th, fell back to 122 milliards on May I7th. The ratio of gold to sight obligations remains in the neighbourhood of $64 \%$.

On the foreign exchange markets a remarkable stability has been maintained during the month, the pound sterling rate has been set at 176.73 and the dollar rate at 37.75 .

On the Stock Exchange business has remained very quiet. For variable income securities the index of turnover (base 100 in 193I) has stood at $27,22,25,22$, during four weeks ending May 20th. The market for fixed income securities was more active and the corresponding indices were $73,73,115,99$.

General movements in prices of securities have been small. For 300 French shares the index of price of securities (base 100 in 1913) has risen from 228 to 240 during the five weeks ended May 27th. For 25 foreign securities the index rose from 339 to 350 . On the other hand, for 36 French rentes and bonds the index of price fell from 86.5 to 84.8 by May 20th, and then rose to 85.1 on May 27th.

The provisional index of production for March rose to 92 as against 90 in February and 85 a year before. As in earlier months the chief increases were in mines (95-98), metallurgy (79-8I), metal working (85-89), chemicals (106-108) and building (67-73). For this last group the increase has resulted from the expansion of house building in areas where new factories are being built. For the motor car industry the index is unchanged at IIO, while for paper it fell from 175 to 167.

The production of electricity in March at 1, 404 Mn . Kwts. is $23.8 \%$ higher than in March, 1938.

The number of unemployed in receipt of relief continues to diminish slowly-from 387,500 on April 22nd to 379,000 on May 20th. It is 5,500 lower than a year ago.

There is no change of importance in the revenue of the railways, which was-304, 312, 288, 295

Mn . during the four weeks ending May I3th. The daily number of waggons loaded moved between 40,500 and 42,800 .

The foreign trade returns in April show an improvement over the preceding months. Value of imports rose from 3,992 to 4,125 and that of exports from 2,880 to 3,034 . The excess of imports is $1,091 \mathrm{Mn}$. as against $1,532 \mathrm{Mn}$. in April, 1938, due to a rise of 678 Mn . in exports and of only 236 Mn . in imports.

The wholesale price index of 45 commodities in Paris (base Ioo in July, 1914) shows no change from March to April at 681. The upward movement was resumed in May at 689, 692 and 696 for the three weeks ending May 20th. Since the end of April the index of food prices has risen from 636 to 652 and that of raw materials from 722 to 734 .

The index of retail prices showed a seasonal decline in April. The index of I3 commodities in Paris fell from 742 in March to 734 in April, and that of 34 commodities from 752 to 748 . In April, 1938, the indices stood respectively at 702 and 691.

There was a change in the trend of operations in transactions between the ordinary savings banks and the Caisse des Depôts. Whereas in March there was an excess of deposits of 408 Mn ., there was in April an excess of withdrawals of 584 Mn . During the first part of May there was an excess of deposits of 140 Mn . The national post office savings bank has also shown 67 Mn . of excess deposits during this last fortnight.

The continuation of international political tension has caused a section of the public to reduce their purchases and has thus tended to check a development of production in those sections of industry which are not working directly for national defence. Nevertheless, thanks to the establishment of confidence the country will be able to maintain the effort necessary for carrying on the work of restoration, as well as assuring the production of the armaments necessary for its security.

## GERMANY.

## Information communicated by Dr. M. J. ELSAS.

Fune 3rd, 1939.

WITH the Anschluss with Austria and the Sudetenland and the establishment of the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia, the Reich finds itself faced with the necessity to make many economic adjustments. In Bohemia and Moravia the Czechoslovak currency appears to retain its legal status side by side with the mark. Customs barriers between the Reich and the Sudetenland were removed last autumn, and now freedom of passage for goods is being maintained between the new Protectorate and Slovakia. Yet the export of a number of goods from Bohemia and Moravia to the Reich is forbidden, and former quotas remain in force. Business in the Protectorate is being injured by the provision that no more than I,500 crowns per week can be withdrawn from bank accounts, and in no case more than $5 \%$ of any deposit. Further, parts of the former Czechoslovakia now rank as foreign territory for currency exchange purposes, and thus payments to them require official sanction. Still more injurious is the fact that the foreign trade of the Protectorate is being re-adjusted, while the businesses of Jews are being " aryanised."

The problem of the land in the Protectorate is receiving much attention, owing to the desire to expand agricultural production. Thus a land worker cannot now move into an industrial employment without very special permission.

The Austrian State tobacco monopoly has been abolished and its rights and obligations have been taken over by the Reich. The establishments of the monopoly are now to be managed by a newly-founded Austrian Tobacco Co. with a capital of 40 Mn . marks. The opening of new factories will not be allowed, and therefore the Tobacco Co. will have no competition to meet, for no tobacco is exported from Germany to Austria.

In the Sudetenland, also, a new law has been passed, which relates to tobacco. No imports from Germany are to be allowed, with the exception of the cheapest cigarettes. The State factories in the Sudetenland are to be rented by the tobacco companies of the old Reich, and apparently are intended to manufacture for German requirements. The reason given for these measures is that there is a shortage of tobacco workers in Germany.

On May I5th the Standstill Agreement was renewed for another year, running to the end of May, 1940. As in past years no cash repayments of any large amounts are to be made. The volume of credit available fell to 777 Mn . marks by the end of February, 1939, and of this 690 Mn . were claimed. On October Ist, 1938, the volume of credit was more than $\mathrm{I}, 000 \mathrm{Mn}$. marks. In the February figure the Austrian foreign short-term debts are included, accounting for 50 Mn . marks. The British share of the credits claimed totalled rather more than 400 Mn . marks, or more than half of the whole.

Reich receipts from taxes, customs and duties for the year ending March 3Ist, 1939, totalled $17,690 \mathrm{Mn}$. marks, or $3,730 \mathrm{Mn}$. more than in the previous year. The greatest increase is shown by property and transfer taxes which produced $3,230 \mathrm{Mn}$. marks more than in the previous year. Consumption taxes and customs produced 278 Mn . more and 222 Mn . more respectively. The greatest proportional increase is shown by the emigration tax, which rose by more than $320 \%$. In addition to this increase in the emigration tax, which falls almost entirely on Jews, there is the levy on Jewish capital which has so far yielded 500 Mn . marks. Thus the total revenue of the Reich amounted to 18,200 Mn. marks.

At the beginning of May the rate of interest on private discounts which had stood at $2 \frac{7}{8} \%$ for a long time, fell to $2 \frac{3}{4} \%$. Since the rate was $2 \frac{7}{8} \%$ for more than two years, while rates on daily or monthly advances fluctuated, this decline is less a sign of greater liquidity on the market than of a decision to make this rate more flexible. As a result of this the rate on monthly advances has fallen from $3 \%$ to $2 \frac{7}{8} \%$, or in the case of first-class firms from $2 \frac{1}{2} \%$ to $2 \frac{3}{8} \%$.

The mid-May Reichsbank statement shows a bill portfolio of $7,302 \mathrm{Mn}$. marks, as against $5,229 \mathrm{Mn}$. in the previous year. The note circulation was 8,006 Mn., as against $5,804 \mathrm{Mn}$. in 1938. Daily maturing liabilities totalled I,059 Mn. marks. "Other Assets" were shown at 1,563 Mn. marks, as against I, 226 Mn . in 1938.

The accounts of the big banks for the end of April show an increase in deposits of 268 Mn . marks. The amount held in bills shows an increase of 156 Mn . marks over the month, that in treasury bills one of 307 Mn .


FINANCE


1st of month.
Monthly average Wirtschaft und Statistik.
Statistisches Reichsamt Inder - average for month sind respectively. month and middle of month respectively, Reichsamtes
Wirtschaft und Statistik. Weighted average for skilled workers in 12 occupations. Average for month. Based on hourly wages from 1981. previously on weekly wages. After 1987, 1st of month, \% of December, 1985.

|  | EXTERNAL TRADE．$\ddagger$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | OUTPUT |  |  | SHIPPING． |  |  | EMPLOYMENT |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | IMPORTS， |  |  |  | EXPORTS． |  |  |  | Estim＇d value in Gold Marks |  |  | Bi | $$ | HAMBURG． Tonnage． |  |  |  | Trade Union Members． <br> Percentage of Working Place Capacity Occupied． |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Eूँ } \\ & \text { B̀ } \\ & \text { H. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { ठ் } \\ & \text { o } \\ & \text { 1. } \end{aligned}$ | eigh |  |  <br> Tetric | ： <br> ons． |  |  | M 号 O 日 a <br> Mn ． | 号 on 㽞 <br> Mn． | 0000 Metric Tons． |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pre－War Average | $607 *$ |  |  |  | 614＊ |  |  |  | 934 | 850 | 1474 | 910 | 981 | 1182 | 1203 |  |  |  |
| 1933 Av． | 293 | 37 | 244 | 11 | 378 | 18 | 296 | 35 | 384 |  | 916 | 439 | 624 | 1485 | 1495 | 153.0 | 4876 |  |
| 1934 Av． | 370 | 40 | 315 | 15 | 377 | 13 | 326 | 38 | 395 | 388 | 1042 | 728 | 990 | 1540 | 1540 | 178.2 | 2779 |  |
| 1935 Av ． | 394 | 31 | 355 | 8 | 418 | 8 | 363 | 46 | 346 | 356 | 1177 § | 1045． | 1340 § | 1535 | 1527 | $176 \cdot 9$ § | 2159 | $64 \cdot 5$ |
| 1936 Av．．．． | 427 | 43 | 379 | 5 | 440 | 3 | 390 | 48 | 351 | 397 | 1320 | 1275 | 1595 | 1601 | 1566 | 218.4 | 1635 | 68.5 |
| $1937 \text { Av. ... }$ | 499 | 74 | 420 | 4 | 555 | 2 | 499 | 54 | 455 | 492 | 1535 | 1329 | 1651 | 1645 | 1650 |  | 932 | $74 \cdot 1$ |
| $\begin{aligned} & 1936 \\ & \text { J/N........... } \end{aligned}$ | 412 | 46 | 360 | 4 | 441 | 3 | 387 | 50 | 363 | 382 | 1368 | 1279 | 1584 | 1466 | 1456 | 193.9 | 2508 | 63.4 |
| FEB．．．．．．． | 386 | 43 | 339 | 4 | 402 | 3 | 353 | 45 | 334 | 373 | 1263 | 1173 | 1489 | 1459 | 1526 | 189.1 | 2520 | $62 \cdot 8$ |
| MAR．．．．．．． | 409 | 53 | 352 | 4 | 391 | 3 | 342 | 46 | 355 | 379 | 1287 | 1251 | 1558 | 1582 | 1510 | 215.5 | 2515 | 63.4 |
| APRIL | 428 | 50 | 374 | 4 | 406 | 3 | 361 | 42 | 361 | 365 | 1188 | 1211 | 1467 | 1612 | 1624 | 198.9 | 1937 | $65 \cdot 4$ $67 \cdot 4$ |
| MAY | 426 | 46 | 376 | 4 | 413 | 3 | 364 | 46 | 337 | 372 | 1216 | 1228 | 1568 | 1708 | 1686 | 210.6 212.0 | 1763 | $67 \cdot 4$ $69 \cdot 3$ |
| JUNE | 460 | 49 | 406 | 4 | 437 | 3 | 389 | 45 | 360 | 370 | 1230 | 1242 | 1631 | 1686 | 1667 | 212.0 | 1491 | $69 \cdot 3$ |
| JULY | 473 | 38 | 430 | 5 | 426 | 3 | 374 | 49 | 346 | 395 | 1338 | 1312 | 1712 | 1730 | 1744 | $225 \cdot 5$ | 1315 | 70.4 |
| AUG． | 442 | 35 | 402 | 5 | 443 | 2 | 392 | 49 | 346 | 409 | 1299 | 1362 | 1725 | 1718 | 1707 | 215.0 | 1170 | 71.2 |
| SEPT．．．．．．． | 442 | 32 | 405 | 5 | 468 | 2 | 419 | 47 | 336 | 412 | 1335 | 1350 | 1721 | 1636 | 1636 | $237 \cdot 7$ | 1098 | 71.6 |
| OCT．．．．．．． | 426 | 37 | 382 | 7 | 491 | 2 | 437 | 52 | 356 | 431 | 1460 | 1379 | 1705 | 1579 | 1539 | 258.4 | 1035 | 72.4 |
| NOV．．．．．．． | 397 | 43 | 349 | 5 | 462 | 2 | 410 | 50 | 356 | 422 | 1388 | 1257 | 1507 | 1521 | 1462 | $235 \cdot 6$ | 1076 | $72 \cdot 4$ |
| DEC．．．．．． | 421 | 40 | 376 | 5 | 506 | 2 | 452 | 52 | 367 | 457 | 1468 | 1258 | 1470 | 1520 | 1239 | 228.4 | 1197 | $72 \cdot 3$ |
| JAN． 1937 | 391 | 34 | 353 | 4 | 487 | 2 | 434 | 51 | 336 | 415 | 1487 | 1292 | 1534 | 1370 | 1449 | 211.6 | 1479 | $70 \cdot 9$ |
| FEB． | 347 | 40 | 304 | 3 | 495 | 2 | 445 | 48 | 347 | 406 | 1403 | 1191 | 1520 | 1430 | 1366 | 216.2 | 1853 | $69 \cdot 2$ |
| MAR．．．．．．．． | 427 | 63 | 360 | 3 | 540 | 2 | 482 | 55 | 409 | 462 | 1509 | 1301 | 1582 | 1634 | 1591 | $233 \cdot 3$ | 1611 | $69 \cdot 4$ 71.5 |
| APRIL ．．． | 493 | 75 | 413 | 3 | 597 | 2 | 538 | 58 | 477 | 492 | 1572 | 1306 | 1645 | 1562 | 1630 | 241.6 | 1245 | 71.5 74.3 |
| MAY | 471 | 79 | 388 | 4 | 537 | 2 | 483 | 52 | 447 | 456 | 1390 | 1313 | 1608 | 1863 | 1766 |  | 776 | 75.0 |
| JUNE | 557 | 100 | 452 | 4 | 586 | 2 | 524 | 59 | 503 | 480 | 1540 | 1304 | 1659 | 1680 | 1766 |  | 716 | 75.7 |
| JULY | 561 | 91 | 465 | 5 | 603 | 2 | 536 | 65 | 500 | 530 | 1592 | 1345 | 1654 | 1856 | 1906 |  | 648 563 | $75 \cdot 7$ 76.0 |
| AUG． | 556 | 78 | 473 | 5 | 612 | 2 | 553 | 56 | 482 | 541 | 1535 | 1362 | 1663 | 1853 | 1796 |  | 563 | 76.4 |
| SEPT | 540 | 72 | 463 | 4 | 583 | 2 | 531 | 50 | 462 | 494 | 1563 | 1349 | 1690 | 1663 | 1707 |  | 469 | $77 \cdot 0$ |
| OCT． | 546 | 87 | 454 | 5 | 579 | 2 | 524 | 53 | 485 | 544 | 1611 | 1418 | 1711 | 1666 | 1576 |  | 502 | 77.2 |
| NOV．．．．．． | 542 | 94 | 441 | 6 | 533 | 2 | 480 | 51 | 483 | 533 | 1599 | 1372 | 1789 | 1666 | 1660 |  | 572 | 77.2 |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { I) EC. } \\ 1938 \end{gathered}$ | 562 | 80 | 476 | 6 | 508 | 2 | 452 | 54 | 531 | 552 | 1624 | 1400 | 1762 | 1598 | 1660 |  | 572 | 75 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 1938 \\ & \text { JAN.......... } \end{aligned}$ | 516 | 70 | 441 | 5 | 458 | 1 | 410 | 46 | 483 | 446 | 1594 | 1438 | 1812 | 1674 | 1579 |  | 994 1051 | $\begin{aligned} & 75 \cdot 7 \\ & 73 \cdot 6 \end{aligned}$ |
| FEB． | 449 | 70 | 375 | 4 | 429 | 1 | 389 | 38 | 455 | 436 | 1518 | 1349 | 1770 | 1429 | 1481 |  | 1946 | 75.4 |
| MAR． | 495 | 78 | 413 | 4 | 472 | 1 | 428 | 43 | 462 | 478 | 1668 | 1521 | 1949 | 1781 | 1735 |  | 508 | $77 \cdot 1$ |
| APRIL | 496 | 83 | 408 | 4 | 431 | 1 | 387 | 43 | 430 | 423 | 1450 | 1442 | 1766 | 1876 | 1861 |  | 422 | 78.4 |
| MAY ．．．．．． | 523 | 75 | 443 | 4 | 431 | 1 | 383 | 42 | 455 | 427 | 1529 | 1545 | 1896 | 1719 | 1796 |  | 338 | $79 \cdot 5$ |
| JUNE ． | 535 | 77 | 452 | 3 | 463 | 1 | 419 | 42 | 429 | 403 | 1487 | 1509 | 1831 | 1710 | 170 |  |  |  |
| JULY | 507 | 68 | 434 | 5 | 468 | 1 | 427 | 43 | 417 | 439 | 1576 | 1625＊＊ | $\overline{1981}{ }^{\text {＊}}$＊${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 1789 | 1701 |  | 292 218 | $\begin{aligned} & 79 \cdot 9 \\ & 80 \cdot 4 \end{aligned}$ |
| AUG． | 620 | 73 | 542 | 5 | 443 | 1 | 401 | 41 | 457 | 419 | 1583 | 1585 | 2015 | 1982 | 1771 |  | 179 | 80.6 |
| SEPT．．．．． | 572 | 94 | 474 | 4 | 394 | 1 | 353 | 40 | 450 475 | 416 | 1506 | 1541 | 1984 | 1763 | 1713 |  | 156 | 81.4 |
| OCT． | 534 516 | 113 95 | 416 | 4 | 406 | 2 | 357 356 | 47 | 475 462 | 437 | 1567 | 1601 | 2032 | 1691 | 1658 |  | 164 | 81.5 |
| DEC． | 524 | 83 | 435 | 5 | 406 | 2 | 352 | 52 | 486 | 479 | 1571 | 1596 | 1944 | 1677 | 1607 |  | 152 | $82 \cdot 0$ |
| $\stackrel{1939}{ }$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1623 | 1633 | 2096 | 1530 | 1606 |  | $456{ }^{\circ}$ | $81 \cdot 1$ |
| JAN．．．．．．．．．． | 444 432 | 59 62 | 379 363 | 6 | 424 396 | 1 | 378 | 44 | 410 | 319 | 1485 | 1529 | 1955 | 1465 | 1524 |  | $302^{\circ}$ | $80 \cdot 2$ |
| MARCH ．．． | 494 | 66 | 422 | 6 | 404 | 2 | 355 | 47 | 454 | 456 | 1637 | 1730 | 2215 | 1723 | 1625 |  | $197{ }^{\circ}$ | $81 \cdot 4$ 82.6 |
| APRIL ．．． |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 402 | 437 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\ddagger$ Excluding |  | dide | $\begin{aligned} & \text { xem } \\ & \text { nelud } \end{aligned}$ |  | $1$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { ubser } \\ & \text { e } 193 \end{aligned}$ | ntl | clud | Saar． <br> New | ich-J | $824,000,$ | Series di <br> eb．646，0 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { iscontin } \\ & 000, \mathrm{Ma} \end{aligned}$ | ued． <br> ch 456， | $00, \text { Apr }$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Includ } \\ & 324,000 \text {, } \end{aligned}$ | ing Austria． May 216，000． |

NOTES AND SOURCES．

## IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

Weight－
Values in Gold Marks－
COAL OUTPUT
SHIPPING．
RAILWAY GOODS RECEIPTS－
UNEMPLOYMENT－

[^46]
## Germany]

The Bourse was rather listless in April and share prices fell slightly, on the average by about $2 \%$. The new tax certificates were dealt in rather more vigorously.

The crop report of the Reich Statistical Office shows that in $70 \%$ of the districts sufficient rain fell, while in $20 \%$ the rain was too plentiful and in 10\% insufficient. During April the condition of the crops improved in general as compared with the previous month when the weather was very unfavourable. Only the winter barley and rape-seed crops are now in an unfavourable condition. The winter rye is in the same condition as it was a year ago, but the winter wheat is somewhat worse than a year ago. The general crop condition is better than the Reich average in South Germany, Austria, Thüringen and the Sudetenland, and worse than the average in Mecklenburg, Oldenburg, Hanover and the North generally. This regional comparison is reversed, however, in the case of winter rye.

Stocks of wheat suitable for bread totalled $7 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{Mn}$. tons on April Ist, this being considerably more than a year previously. This quantity is more than sufficient for the period till the new harvest is reaped, so that there will be a considerable carry-over. Stocks of fodder, wheat, oats and barley are also higher than a year ago.

In order to stimulate exports, the Reichsbank has announced some inducements to exporters. In future exporters can discount foreign bills up to I2 months, and the charges and interest payable on their bills are to be reduced.

In the Press it is stated that since the annexation of Bohemia and Moravia the foreign boycott of German goods has considerably increased. At the same time it is stated that owing to the universal rearmament the demand for certain German goods necessary for rearmament has been so great that all orders could not be accepted.

Foreign trade in April showed an active balance of 35 Mn . marks. Both imports and exports declined over the month, but the decline in exports is stated to be seasonal. Further, comparison between April and March is untrustworthy because Austria, the Sudetenland, and Memelland are now included in the statistics.

The German automobile industry had a turnover of 346 Mn . marks in the first quarter of the year, of which $95 \%$ was shown by undertakings in the old Reich. The turnover is $15 \%$ greater than that of the corresponding quarter of 1938. Home sales increased by one-fifth, but foreign sales declined by $5 \frac{1}{2} \%$. The decline in
exports is due to omnibuses, which declined by $14 \%$ in number and by $37 \%$ in value.

The output of coal in April was 14.I Mn. tons. This was less than in March, and also less than in April, 1938. The decline is due to the fewer number of working days in April, 22 as against 24 last year. The daily output was rather larger than in March of this year or April of last. Stocks in the Ruhr have declined and totalled 2.9 Mn. tons on April Ist. Since the demand for coal greatly outpaces the supply, shifts in the Ruhr mines have been lengthened from 8 to $8 \frac{3}{4}$ hours. It is yet to be seen whether a corresponding increase in output will be obtained, or whether the intensity of work will suffer. Meanwhile, reports from other industries emphasise the shortage of coal. Thus the largest cement factory in the country, that of Amöneburg near Mainz, has had to curtail production in spite of a great demand for cement. It is not merely the addition of armament activity to ordinary industrial activity which has raised the demand for coal. The production of substitute materials, such as artificial rubber, calls for great quantities of coal.

The report of the Leipzig Fair shows that the turnover this year was more than $50 \%$ greater than last year. But foreign orders were $10 \%$ less. This is some measure of the effects of the European political tension.

Retail trade has increased this year. In January and February turnover was $15 \%$ above the corresponding period of 1938, and in March $17 \%$. The magnitude of the March increase may be due to the incidence of Easter.

On April ist there were about $\mathrm{I}, \mathrm{I} 00$ miles of " autobahnen " under construction. In March 383 bridges and subways were begun, and the total number completed and under construction since the beginning of the programme was 6,500 . Of these 5,400 had been completed by April ist. On March ist II2,000 workers were being employed on the "autobahnen," or 8,500 more than a month previously.

At the end of April 21,280,000 persons were employed in the Reich, $6,800,000$ of these being females. The number employed was nearly 680,000 greater than at the end of March. The number of persons unemployed on May ist was only 94,000 , of whom 38,000 were females. About $50 \%$ of the unemployed are not fully capable of employment. The small unemployment figure is the more remarkable because of the large number of juveniles who have just left school. The most insistent demand for labour is in agriculture and building. For agriculture
it has been necessary to employ industrial workers and soldiers, in spite of the fact that owing to the laws forbidding the free movement of men from job to job, it has been possible to keep workers on the land who might otherwise have left.

In Austria the number of persons unemployed on May Ist was 77,000 , as against 95,000 a month previously. Nearly two-thirds of the unemployed are females. In the Sudetenland there were 45,000 unemployed at the beginning of May, as against 95,000 a month previously.

In the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia there were 56,000 unemployed on May Ist, as against 93,000 on April ist. There are now 30,000 former Bohemian and Moravian workers employed in Germany, and by retraining and other expedients these workers are being directed into the channels most suitable for the Reich. According to Press reports the German compulsory national service may in time be introduced into the Protectorate. Former Czechoslovak officials and army officers are not included in the figures of unemployment. The Government is to apply itself in time to their incorporation into the economic system.

This year for the first time a complete agegroup of young women must give a compulsory year of national service. Hitherto only those in
certain occupations, such as the clothing industry and clerical work, were under this obligation. The total number affected is 450,000 , but at least one third of them will be exempted because of the importance of their work.

Average earnings per shift in coal mining rose by I. $2 \%$ in the last quarter of 1938. But the monthly earnings of the workers did not increase because the number of shifts declined. The average earnings per shift were 7.08 marks, and the monthly earnings were 173 marks. This latter figure was practically the same as that of the corresponding quarter of 1937. Underground workers earned 7.54 marks per shift, and surface workers 6.18 marks. In the bituminous mines average earnings per shift were 6.33 marks as against 6.09 a year before, and monthly earnings totalled 161 marks as against I54. In the lignite mines average earnings per shift were 6.66 marks as against 6.46 a year before, and monthly earnings were 175 marks as against 168.

Every wage worker in Germany must carry a "labour book" in which particulars of his occupation, history, etc., are entered. Henceforth independent workers and professional men must also carry such books, with the exception of lawyers and doctors.

## ROUMANIA

## Information communicated by the Roumanian Association for the Study of

 Economic Conditions.ECONOMIC ACTIVITY IN THE PERIOD JANUARY-MARCH, 1939.

## May 3ist, 1939.

GENERAL TENDENCIES.-The recovery of economic activity which began in November, 1938, continued until the middle of March, when the occupation of Czecho-slovakia by Germany, and the general mobilisation of soldiers in Roumania, caused the cessation of exports and a depression in industrial and economic activity in general. While in the first two months of the year I939 the total value of wholesale commercial transcations was respectively $28.3 \%$ and $26.1 \%$ higher than that of the corresponding months of last year, in March it was $3.8 \%$ lower. The decrease is due solely to internal transactions ( $-6.7 \%$ ). Foreign transactions on the contrary were on the increase
$(+8.1 \%)$ because of the rise in imports, though this was largely owing to the clearing through the customs of goods imported and lying in the warehouses.

Over the whole quarter of January-March, 1939, however, the situation seems better than in preceding quarters, as the total value of wholesale commercial transactions exceeded the January-March, 1938 , level by $14.2 \%$, while in the October-December, 1938, quarter the latter was $5.2 \%$ lower than in the corresponding period of 1937.

The volume of trade, calculated by the elimination of fluctuation in wholesale prices, developed on lines similar to those of the total value of these transactions. In March, 1939,

## Roumania］

it was $7.8 \%$ below the level of March，1938， while considered over the entire first quarter it was $8.7 \%$ above that of the corresponding quarter of the previous year．

FOREIGN TRADE．－Although in the second half of March，1939，exports were very slight，their value in the first three months of the year amounted to $5,973 \mathrm{Mn}$ ．lei，as against $4,847 \mathrm{Mn}$ ．in the same period of 1938 ．The value of imports for this period rose to 4,854 Mn ．as opposed to $4,862 \mathrm{Mn}$ ．lei in January－ March，1938．Consequently，in the first quarter the balance of trade was + I，II9 Mn．lei as against -15 Mn ．in the corresponding quarter of the preceding year．

In this period，the autarkic countries were
represented by $37 \%$ of exports and $60 \%$ of imports，while in 1938 their shares were respec－ tively $43 \%$ and $53 \%$ ．On the other hand the share of countries with free strong currencies changed from $39.5 \%$ for exports and $41 \%$ for imports（in 1938）to $51.5 \%$ and $31 \%$ respec－ tively．Consequently，owing to the availability of a part of the proceeds in free currencies of Roumanian exports，export was stimulated and import from countries with strong currency dropped．On the other hand，exports to the autarkic countries dropped，while imports from these countries were considerably stimulated．

NEW ECONOMIC AGREEMENTS．－On March 23rd the German－Roumanian com－ mercial agreement was concluded．This provides

|  | SECURI－TIES |  |  |  | PRICES |  |  |  | EXTERNAL TRADE |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | RAILWAYS |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 哥 } \\ & \text { E } \\ & \text { E } \\ & \text { 帤 } \end{aligned}$ | 哥 <br> of 192 | 范 | Retail | sq，．oduı jo ənโ® $\Lambda$ <br> Mn．lei | 落 会 0 0 0 0 0 <br> Mn．lei |  | uantit Expor | $\begin{aligned} & \text { すै } \\ & \text { 品 } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { E } \\ & \text { E } \\ & \text { 苛 } \\ & \text { W8 } \\ & \text { Loa } \end{aligned}$ | Good <br> 若 萄 号 a <br> gon． |  | $000 \text { 's }$ |
| 1932 Av． | 25.6 | 65.0 | 21.6 | 1917 | 47.7 | 62．1 | 54.0 |  | 1000 | 1393 | 432 | 103 | 49 |  | $20 \cdot 1$ | 96 | 155 | 81 | 236 | 2112 |
| 1933 Av． | $31 \cdot 6$ | $59 \cdot 4$ | 21.2 | 1530 | $44 \cdot 9$ | $62 \cdot 1$ | $52 \cdot 3$ | 100 | 978 | 1180 | 490 |  | 43 | $6 \cdot 4$ | 20.2 | 118 | 162 | 79 | 241 | 2204 |
| 1934 Ar． | 51.2 | 66.1 | $22 \cdot 3$ | 1567 | $44 \cdot 1$ | $63 \cdot 3$ | $52 \cdot 4$ | 95.6 | 1101 | 1139 | 546 |  | 58 | 4.7 | 23.2 | 148 | 191 | 85 | 276 | 2490 |
| 1935 Av ． | 58.6 | 70．5 | $23 \cdot 1$ | 1811 | $48 \cdot 4$ | $74 \cdot 7$ | $60 \cdot 0$ | 98.4 | 904 | 1396 | 551 | 252 | 58 | 7.0 | 23.0 | 145 | 190 | 86 | 275 | 2863 |
| 1986 Av． | $62 \cdot 5$ | 69．0 | 25.7 | 2362 | 54.0 | 84.4 | 68.5 | 101.5 | 991 | 1641 | 573 | 611 | 65 | $9 \cdot 9$ | 23.7 | 155 | 190 | 96 | 287 | 3207 |
| 1937 Av ． | 64.9 | 78.8 | 26.7 | 2673 | 64.6 | 94.1 | 78.2 | 1119 | 1491 | 2580 | 471 | 1000 | 69 | $12 \cdot 6$ | 19.6 | 161 | 206 | 86 | 292 | 3565 |
| 193 |  |  | $24 \cdot 9$ |  | 61 | 87 | 73 |  | 1194 | 1949 | 446 | 43 | 55 | $10 \cdot 3$ | 21.1 |  | 144 | 87 | 231 | 3204 |
| FEB． | 66 | $72 \cdot 1$ | $24 \cdot 9$ | 2497 | $62 \cdot 9$ | 88.7 | 74.6 | $104 \cdot 0$ | 1278 | 1933 | 451 | 28 | 42 | $10 \cdot 1$ | 80.6 | 151 | 159 | 82 | 241 | 2618 |
| MARCH | $67 \cdot 8$ | 76.9 | $25 \cdot 9$ | 3298 | 61.5 | $90 \cdot 5$ | 74.6 | $103 \cdot 9$ | 1912 | 2326 | 493 | 37 | 63 | 157 | $20 \cdot 3$ | 164 | 192 | 101 | 293 | 3201 |
| APRIL | 67.1 | 78.8 | $26 \cdot 8$ | 2163 | 64.7 | 95.0 | 78.5 | 106.2 | 1211 | 3036 | 437 | 169 | 62 | 14.5 | 20.2 | 165 | 178 | 89 | 266 | 3500 |
| MAY． | 63.2 | 78.4 | 26.2 | 2517 | $67 \cdot 1$ | 96.1 | $80 \cdot 2$ | $110 \cdot 6$ | 1363 | 2866 | 496 | 101 | 87 | 11.0 | 19.9 | 145 | 172 | 75 | 247 | 3699 |
| JUNE | 61.5 | $80 \cdot 4$ | 26.1 | 2505 | 65．9 | 97＊ | 80.0 | 111.2 | 1976 | 2466 | 538 | 20 | 85 | 11.2 | $18 \cdot 9$ | 143 | 202 | 83 | 285 | 3584 |
| JULY | 64 | $80 \cdot 5$ | $26 \cdot 5$ | 293 | 66 | 98.1 | 80 | 111 |  |  | ， | 35 | 94 | $12 \cdot 6$ | 19：0 | 183 | 235 | 83 | 319 | 4307 |
| AUG． | $65 \cdot 4$ | $77 \cdot 9$ | 26.8 | 2768 | $65^{\circ} 5$ | 97．5 | $80 \cdot 3$ | 114.2 | 1509 | 3027 | 540 | 113 | 65 | 14.5 | 19.0 | 178 | 246 | 100 | 346 | 4468 |
| SEPT | $65 \cdot 7$ | 80.7 | 27.4 | 2748 | $65 \cdot 3$ | 94.5 | 78.9 | $115 \cdot 4$ | 1622 | 2860 | 402 | 126 | 67 | 14.1 |  | 179 | 241 | 98 | 338 | 3461 |
| OCT | 66.8 | 83.8 | 27.9 | 2733 | $65 \cdot 1$ | $95 \cdot 5$ | $79 \cdot 2$ | $118 \cdot 9$ | 1982 | 3034 | 430 | 162 | 54 | $15 \cdot 2$ | $19 \cdot 1$ | 167 | 227 | 82 | 309 | 3467 |
| NOV． | 64.4 | 85.1 | $28 \cdot 1$ | 3088 | 63.8 | $95 \cdot 4$ | 78.5 | $120 \cdot 6$ | 2037 | 3231 | 473 | 107 | 83 | 15.2 | 19.0 | 168 | 272 | 90 | 362 | 3106 |
| DEC， | 64－1 | 83.4 | 29.4 | 2782 | $65 \cdot 8$ | $93 \cdot 6$ | 78.7 | 122.6 | 2652 | 2458 | 420 | 59 | 77 |  | $18 \cdot 4$ | 154 | 201 | 67 | 268 | 4165 |
| JAN | 59.4 | 83．3 | 30 | 2292 | 68.2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 22 |  |  | 120 | 165 | 68 | 233 | 3683 |
| FEB | 60.0 | 83：3 | 30.7 | 2344 | 67.6 | $90 \cdot 1$ | $78 \cdot 4$ | $123 \cdot 7$ | 1505 | 1611 | 313 | 62 | 24 | 10.7 | 18.3 | 127 | 162 | 58 | 219 | 3134 |
| MARCH | 59.0 | 86.9 | 30.7 | 4385 | 68.6 | $90 \cdot 0$ | 78.8 | $123 \cdot 5$ | 1861 | 1861 | 389 | 77 | 49 | 14.9 | 18.5 | 159 | 213 |  | 275 | 3705 |
| APRIL．．． | 58.8 | 88.5 | $30 \cdot 6$ | 2402 | 68.4 | 89．8 | 78.9 | 126.0 | 1235 | 1559 | 371 | 42 | 42 | 11.6 | 18.7 | 132 | 172 | 62 | 233 | 4162 |
| MAY．．． | $62 \cdot 2$ | 91.3 | 30.2 | 2951 | $72 \cdot 3$ | 89．0 | $80 \cdot 3$ | 125.2 | 1363 | 1701 | 428 | 29 | 60 | 12.1 | 18.4 | 153 | 210 | 71 | 28 | 3719 |
| JUNE |  |  | $30 \cdot 1$ | 2868 | $72 \cdot 5$ | 89.1 | $80 \cdot 3$ | 126.2 | 1511 | 1601 | 412 | 25 | 61 | 11.6 | $18 \cdot 3$ | 149 | 223 | 64 | 287 | 3713 |
| JULY |  | 98 | 29.6 | 3233 | 63.9 | 88.6 |  | $122 \cdot 4$ | 1439 | 1682 | 438 | 34 | 71 | 12.5 | 18.2 | 157 | 250 | 74 | 25 | 4947 |
| AUG． | 63.9 $60 \cdot 0$ | $97 \cdot 1$ 94.3 | 31.0 | 3366 | $64^{\circ} 0$ | 89.9 | 76.6 | 121.7 | 1309 | 2140 | 400 | 105 | 72 | 13.4 | 18.0 | 173 | 287 | 96 | 84 | 5109 |
| OCT | 59.8 | 93.2 | $34 \cdot 6$ | 3188 | 63.4 | 90.7 | 77.0 | $123 \cdot 1$ 124 | 1209 | 1664 | 345 | 54 | 60 54 | 11.2 | $17 \cdot 8$ 18.3 | 1780 | 270 271 | 75 | 343 | 3922 |
| NOV | 61.7 | 92.9 | 33.7 | 3324 | $64 \cdot 2$ | ${ }_{93} 0$ | $78 \cdot 3$ | $125 \cdot 6$ | 1465 | 1842 | 475 | 100 217 | 54 65 | 14.2 | $17 \cdot 5$ | 179 | 279 | 90 | 369 | 3666 |
| DEC．．． | 61.1 | $93 \cdot 9$ | 34.9 | 2959 | 67.9 | 93＇9 | $80 \cdot 5$ | 125．5 | 1366 | 2058 | 340 | 173 | 65 65 | 13.5 | 175 | 174 | 19 | 6 | 369 | 4198 |
| JAN. |  | 96 |  | 2908 | $72 \cdot 0$ |  |  | 125.0 | 1439 | 1948 | 337 | 116 | 45 |  |  | 5 | 155 | 82 | 237 | 3830 |
| MARCH | $63 \cdot 7$ | 96 | $38 \cdot 3$ | 3823 | ， | 95． | $82 \cdot 8$ | $126 \cdot 3$ | 1346 | 2053 | 393 | 88 | 39 | 14.0 | 17.8 | 157 | 175 |  | 252 | 3074 |
| APRIL．． | 63.3 | 94．8 |  |  | 70.5 72.1 | $\begin{aligned} & 25 \cdot 5 \\ & 97 \cdot 5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 82 \cdot 4 \\ & 84 \cdot 0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 125 \cdot 7 \\ & 125 \cdot 4 \end{aligned}$ | $2070$ | $1972$ | 390 | 62 |  | $13 \cdot 9$ | 17.4 | 172 | 185 | 61 | 45 |  |
| $\dagger$ Revised 1936－38． |  |  |  |  | ＊Figures for 1938 and 1939 subject to revision． |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | § New Series \％of 1933. |  |  |  |  |  |  |

for the expansion of Roumanian exports by the intensification of agricultural, timber, petrol and mining production, and by the creation of industries in connection with these branches of activity. It also provides for the construction of means of transport and the creation of free industrial and commercial zones.

Following this agreement, Germany has asked for the concession of slaughtered animals and of animal residue for the supplying of a grease factory; for petrol concessions in the plain district of Muntenia (south of Ploesti); for forestry concessions in the north and west of the country ; for the right to set up jam factories ; for manganese, chromium and copper mining concessions; for orders for concrete and asphalted roads, for armaments, etc. In agriculture, an extension of the area sown with oleaginous plants (Soya bean) has been asked for. Difficulties are being met with in the carrying out of these projects, as some are incompatible with the text of the agreement, and for others the financial means are lacking.

The first result of the German-Roumanian agreement was the increase of exports to Germany during April. Out of a total export of 2,160 Mn. lei in April, 1939, as against $1,559 \mathrm{Mn}$. in April, 1938, the share of the autarkic countries was $55.5 \%$, as opposed to $46.5 \%$ last year. On the other hand, in consequence of large-scale purchases of animals and animal products, the prices of these products have considerably increased.

At the beginning of May the commercial agreement with the United Kingdom was concluded, which provided for: a credit in goods to the value of $£ 5 \mathrm{Mn}$. for 20 years at $5 \%$ interest; measures for reducing the rate of negotiable currency ; a more active commercial collaboration; measures for the intensification of petrol production and the payment of transport expenses in clearing. The latter clause was necessary, because Germany, being the only country which provided for transport payments in clearing, had in the last three years taken over the greater part of the transport of goods coming from countries with free strong currencies.

Although the Anglo-Roumanian agreement does not fully meet the requirements of the Roumanian economy, it is to be hoped that it will contribute to the development of commercial relations between the two countries.

INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITY. - Under the growing influence of State orders and only partly owing to the recovery of private business, the
volume of production of manufactures in this quarter was $14 \%$ above the level of 1938. Although the number of houses to be put up in the present programme of works seems to be distinctly on the decrease, still the work carried out by the State compensates for the losses incurred by the building materials industry.

In the field of consumption commodities the position has improved in the first three months of the year. Sales of flour, meat, sugar and tobacco were higher than last year. Textile and leather production was also $15 \%$ and $35 \%$ respectively higher than in the same period last year. Only paper consumption is on the decrease, principally because of the drop in the number of newspapers and in their circulation.

In the second half of March and in April industrial production was partially disorganised by the military mobilisation of the majority of the hands and staff, and by the lack of raw materials. Easter sales were below the average.

In the petrol industry, production is constantly decreasing, although world prices are rising. In the first three months of the year 1.5715 Mn . tons of crude oil were extracted and 54.5 thousand metres bored, as against 1.6471 Mn. tons and 8 I .0 thousand metres in the corresponding period of the preceding year.

MONEY MARKET AND CREDIT. The fiduciary circulation, which usually remains stationary in the course of the period JanuaryMarch, underwent a sudden expansion in the second half of March, rising from 34 to 38.4 milliard lei. In comparison with March, 1938, the increase is $16.5 \%$. The increase of 4.3 milliard lei is made up of 2.5 milliards of State advances and I. 8 milliards of withdrawals from private deposits. In April and May a part of the sums withdrawn was returned to the banks and savings institutions, though the fiduciary circulation has shown a further advance.

Ready money at call on the market dropped from 31.9 milliard lei in February to 28.1 milliard lei in March. In the same period, the apparent volume of bank payments rose from 42.9 to 63.9 milliard lei.

The rate of negotiable currencies, which was constantly increasing up to the end of February, dropped in the first half of March, but reached in the second half of that month the highest rate ever registered ( $\mathrm{I}, 950-2,000 \mathrm{lei}=\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{I}} \mathrm{I}$ ). In April the pound sterling rate was maintained between $I, 800-1,850$ lei, while at the beginning of May it dropped to 1,600 lei. This development

## Roumania]

was due to political unsettlement in the West and to the policy of the note-issuing institution.

PRICE TENDENCIES.-The general index of wholesale prices ( $1929=100$ ), which was slightly on the decrease from January to March, reached 84.0 in April, as against 82.4 in the preceding month and 78.9 in April, 1938. The rise in wholesale prices in April was due to the new fiscal system, the expansion of the fiduciary circulation and the high rates maintained for negotiable currencies in the first three months of the year.

Up to April retail prices remained apparently stationary. As, however, no account is taken by the official index of the prices of seasonal produce, which are rising considerably, of rents and of the cost of transport, or of the quality of the goods, it is probable that this apparent stability does not accord with the facts.

BUDGET RETURNS.-The total budgetary receipts in the last three months of the financial year 1938-39, corresponding to the JanuaryMarch, 1939, quarter, amounted to $9,755 \cdot 3 \mathrm{Mn}$. lei, as against $9,020.8 \mathrm{Mn}$. in the same period of the preceding financial year. Direct tax returns increased by $43.6 \%$, and indirect by 11.7\%.

The increase in total returns is less noticeable than that in these two groups of returns. This is due to the fall on other returns, and to differences of accounting methods.

On April Ist, 1939, the new budget was inaugurated providing for a total expenditure of 41.4 milliard lei balanced by revenue of an equal value. The increase in expenditure compared with 1938-39 is, according to official statistics, 5.3 milliard lei, of which $82.5 \%$ is for national defence. This extra revenue will be raised by an increase in direct taxes of $7.9 \%$, in indirect taxes of $10 \%$, in the surplus of public monopolies of $16.1 \%$, and in ministry receipts of $24.7 \%$.

CONCLUSION. - The recovery in the economic position which began in November, 1938, came to an end at the end of March because of political tension abroad. Although, thanks to the commercial agreements concluded with Germany, England and France, the foundations have been laid for a considerable expansion in exports and in domestic production, political uncertainty and the efforts required for national defence limit the possibilities of increased prosperity.

## SWEDEN

## Information communicated by the Business Cycle Institute, Stockholm.

May 27th, 1939.

SINCE the time of our last report the economic situation in Sweden has undergone a marked improvement. Unemployment registered by the Trade Unions has fallen to a record low level (regard being paid to the seasonal variation); the percentage unemployed was $11.5 \%$ at the end of March, 1939, against 12.9 and $14.3 \%$ at the same time in 1938 and 1937 respectively. The volume of industrial production has risen from a low level of 143 in September, 1938, to 150 in March, 1939. The continued increase in industrial employment can be inferred from the rise of total wages paid by a representative number of industrial firms registered by the Social Board; the index number (first quarter $1935=100$ ) has risen from 119.4 in the first quarter 1937 to 129.4 in 1938 and I36.6 in 1939.

In our previous report we remarked on the recovery of production and employment in certain industries, especially iron and steel and
textiles, from a setback after the speculative boom in 1937. It is surprising, however, to notice that this recovery has meant a fairly general improvement in trade conditions, although the outlook for Swedish exports has remained rather depressing. Judging from available figures for the first four months of 1939, a slight decline in the value of exports since 1938 is caused mainly by a downward tendency of realized prices. The employment in the export industries has, however, remained considerably below the level of 1937, as the volume of exports in 1938 fell on the average $15 \%$ below the level of 1937 . The generally good and improving employment conditions, in spite of the relatively low activity in some important export industries (especially in paper and pulp), is explained by a strong upward impulse from internal factors. The steadily increasing building activity is one of the main factors. Available statistics for cities with more

## SWEDEN



Revised from Jan., Series revised in accordance with 1937 production figures of Kommerskollegium.
(1) Effective yield on certain long-term state bonds. Ekonomisk Översikt.
(2) End of the month quotations. Affärsvärlden.
(3) At old parity prices.
(4) General Index. Kommerskollegium.

Handelsbankens Index.
6) Riksbank Index.
(7) Yearly figures-Kommerskollegium Index. Monthly figures based upon Index of Sveriges Industrieförbund.
(8) Rolled and forged iron and steel. Ekcnomisk Översikt.
than 30,000 inhabitants show that $20 \%$ more dwellings were under construction on the ist of April this year than last year. The rapid increase in iron and steel production (by $26 \%$ comparing the first four months of 1938 and 1939) depends not only on the expanding building activity, but is also a sign of stable investment activity in other branches. An increase in the production and imports of machines proves this point. Increased wages and higher incomes in agriculture have contributed to the uninterrupted expansion of purchasing power ; this explains the high level of activity in consumption goods. A significant symptom of this is the very large rise in motor car sales, increasing by some $70 \%$ over the 1938 level, which at the time was regarded as very high.

This bright picture of the economic conditions in Sweden is certainly not without shadows. That would be impossible in the present state of the world. The external political strains and uncertainties have not, however, so far had as strong direct implications for the economic life in Sweden as for that of other countries. The
extra increase in defence appropriations by about 80 Mn . crowns has necessitated an increase in taxation, both direct and indirect, of only 43 Mn . crowns, as the unexpectedly high revenue from certain sources (duties, State railroads and iron ore) in consequence of improved economic conditions has apparently filled the gap. The extensive purchases from abroad of industrial and agricultural raw materials for Government reserve stocks have contributed to the very large rise in imports. But the rise in production and the replenishment and extension of stocks of private firms have also meant increased demand for imported goods. The value of imports has risen from 646 Mn . crowns for January-April, 1938, to 729 Mn . crowns in the same period of 1939. As the prices of imported goods have undergone a decline during this period, the volume of imports has increased by nearly $20 \%$. The development of Swedish exports and imports during the last year has resulted in an increased passive balance of trade, the surplus of imports rising from 77 Mn . crowns in January-April, 1938 to 165 Mn ., crowns in the same period of 1939.

## SOUTH AFRICA

## Information communicated by Mr. G. F. Thirlby, of the University of Cape Town.

## May igth, 1939.

THE results of external trade in the past few months provoke conjecture upon the likelihood of there being an upward trend of imports in the near future. The margin of exports, including gold output, over imports for the first four months of 1939 ( $£ 8.9 \mathrm{Mn}$.) is only $£$ I. 5 Mn . below that of 1937 ; and the end-ofApril gold and foreign bill reserves of the Reserve Bank are higher now than they were then. At that time, before the subsequent decline in exports had been encountered, the trend of imports was upward. The difficulty now is to predict whether the margin will in the next few months be sufficiently wide to allow expansion of imports without seriously reducing the reserves. In the first four months, non-gold exports are $£ 4.3 \mathrm{Mn}$. below the 1937 level. And while this year's maize export will bring the country several millions more than last year's, it is not likely to realise much more than that of 1937-a record crop-year ; and prices of wool and other farm products are relatively low. In comparison with 1937 values, wool exports for
the first four months of this year ( $£ 3.5 \mathrm{Mn}$.) are halved ; and hides and skins and fruit together account for another $£ 0.5 \mathrm{Mn}$. decline. (Diamond exports- $£ 0.5 \mathrm{Mn}$.-are also cut by two-thirds). On the other hand, when gold output is included, total exports are little below the 1937 level ; and the value of gold output is rising, and may continue to rise. If, therefore, external prices do not sag further, there may be some upward movement of imports without loss of reserves. If private trade hesitated to expand, it is not impossible that the opportunity would be taken to increase Government purchases. From $£ 2.4$ Mn . in 1934, imports of Government stores rose until, increasing last year by $£ 3.4 \mathrm{Mn}$., they became $£ 9.5 \mathrm{Mn}$., or $10 \%$ of the import trade-the increase for the year being largely accounted for by an increase of $£ 2.9 \mathrm{Mn}$. in purchases of railway material, coming chiefly from Germany, the United Kingdom and Belgium. This year, Government imports are $£ 3.1 \mathrm{Mn}$. for the first four months.

There are, however, signs that the Government is encountering difficulty in increasing its

|  |  | RESERVE BANK |  |  |  | COMMERCIAL |  |  |  <br> $£ \mathrm{Mn}$. | Retail Price Index** <br> \% of 1938 |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Value of Total Imports } \\ & \text { (inc. Specie) } \end{aligned}$ | Value of Exports(ex. Gold Bullion) |  | BUILDINGS COMM'CED |  |  <br> £ Mn |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { INDUST'L } \\ & \text { EMPL'M'T } \\ & \text { INDEX } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |  |  <br> 000 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 <br> $£ \mathrm{Mn}$. | $=$ 0 0 0 <br> £ Mn. |  |  <br> $£ \mathrm{Mn}$. | $£ \mathrm{Mn}$. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  <br> $£ \mathrm{Mn}$. | $\begin{aligned} & \text { H } \\ & \text { む } \end{aligned}$ £Mn. |  |  |  | EX <br>  <br> July, <br> 5 |  |
| 1924 A | 120* | $2.5+$ | $10 \cdot 7$ | 10.7 | $5 \cdot 2$ | $37 \cdot 0$ | $58 \cdot 2$ |  |  | 108 | 168 |  | 5.5 | $3 \cdot 1$ | $3 \cdot 7$ | - |  | 1.9 |  |  | - | 180 |
| 1929 A | 117* | 7.2 | 7.9 | 9.0 | 4.9 | $49 \cdot 3$ | 61 | 118 |  | 107 | 147 | 82 | 7.0 | 5.2 | 37 | 47 | 42 | $2 \cdot 4$ | 2.9 | 116 | 111 | 194 |
| 1983 Av . | 206 | 16.5 | $13 \cdot 7$ | $9 \cdot 8$ | 22.4 | $34 \cdot 9$ | 72. | 112 | '9 | 93 | 118 | 52 | $4 \cdot 1$ | $2 \cdot 2$ | $5 \cdot 6$ |  | 21 |  | 1.7 | 105 | 101 | 231 |
| 1984 Av. | 267 | $16 \cdot 1$ | 19.4 | 11.8 | $25 \cdot 1$ | 39•7 | $82 \cdot 8$ | 141 | $2 \cdot 7$ | 95 | 117 | 64 | $5 \cdot 5$ | $2 \cdot 2$ | 6.0 | 66 | 30 | $2 \cdot 4$ | $3 \cdot 3$ | 116 | 114 | 252 |
| 1935 Av . | 303 | 7.0 | 26.3 | $12 \cdot 9$ | 26.4 | $45 \cdot 7$ | $84 \cdot 7$ | 133 | 1.2 | 94 | 116 | 58 | 6.3 | 2.6 | 6.4 | 82 | 33 | 2.7 | 3.8 | 127 | 128 | 278 |
| 1936 | 304 | $7 \cdot 8$ | $24 \cdot 4$ | $14 \cdot 7$ | $23 \cdot 7$ | $48 \cdot 8$ | $87 \cdot 6$ | 166 | 2.8 | 97 | 113 | 70 | 7.2 | $2 \cdot 7$ | $6 \cdot 6$ | 1.02 | 36 | 2.9 | 4.7 | 136 | 141 | 301 |
| 1937 Ar. | 272 | 6.0 | $24 \cdot 7$ | 16.4 | $19 \cdot 5$ | 56.4 | 92.8 | 179 | 2.6 | 97 | 121 | 77 | 8.6 | 3.5 | 6.9 | $1 \cdot 12$ | 39 | $3 \cdot 1$ | 50 | 145 | 148 | 305 |
| I936 | 303 |  | $26 \cdot 8$ | $14 \cdot 3$ | 28.5 | $46 \cdot 4$ | 88.4 | 152 | 1.2 | 94 | 114 |  | $7 \cdot 1$ | $2 \cdot 7$ | 6.5 | 81 | 30 | 2.9 | $5 \cdot 4$ | 131 | 135 | 294 |
| FEB. | 292 | $5 \cdot 2$ | 28.1 | $14 \cdot 3$ | $32 \cdot 8$ | $45 \cdot 6$ | $83 \cdot 6$ | 155 | 5 | 94 |  | 69 | $6 \cdot 3$ | $2 \cdot 8$ | $6 \cdot 3$ | $1 \cdot 15$ | 24 | 2.7 | $4 \cdot 7$ | 133 | 139 | 296 |
| MAR. | 295 | $5 \cdot 2$ | 29.6 | 13.6 | 26.4 | $46 \cdot 5$ | $85 \cdot 3$ | 146 | 2.8 | 94 |  |  | 6.9 | 2.5 | 6.6 | 96 | 26 | $2 \cdot 8$ | 4.9 | 134 | 140 | 298 |
| APRIL | 302 | 9.4 | 22.9 | $13 \cdot 1$ | 21.5 | $47 \cdot 3$ | 83.8 | 141 | 1.5 | 95 | 113 |  | $7 \cdot 1$ | $2 \cdot 5$ | 6.4 | 1.25 | 29 | $2 \cdot 7$ | $4 \cdot 4$ | 135 | 141 | 299 |
| MAY | 307 | $10 \cdot 4$ | $22 \cdot 9$ | 15.0 | $22 \cdot 9$ | 47.0 | $84 \cdot 3$ | 153 | 8.3 | 95 |  | $\} 68$ | $6 \cdot 3$ | 2.5 | 6.5 | . 85 | - 26 | 2.6 | $5 \cdot 0$ | 136 | 141 | 299 |
| JUNE. | 306 | $9 \cdot 8$ | $22 \cdot 9$ | 14.2 | $24 \cdot 1$ | $47 \cdot 6$ | 86.5 | 175 | 20 | 95 |  |  | $7 \cdot 3$ | $2 \cdot 3$ | 6.5 | 1.00 | 34 | 2.8 | 3.9 | 136 | 141 | 299 |
| JULY | 298 | $8 \cdot 3$ | $22 \cdot 9$ | $15^{-5}$ | 24.0 | 48.8 | 88.7 | 188 | 1.8 | 94 | 112 |  | 7.5 | 2.0 | 7.0 | 97 | 33 | $3 \cdot 1$ | 5.4 | 137 | 141 | 300 |
| AUG | 303 | 8.6 | 22.9 | $15 \cdot 1$ | $23 \cdot 5$ | $49 \cdot 4$ | 85.2 | 171 | 4.7 | 94 |  | \} 71 | $7 \cdot 5$ | $2 \cdot 1$ | 67 | 1.21 | 39 | 2.9 | $4 \cdot 3$ | 137 | 142 | 303 |
| SEPT | 301 | $5 \cdot 1$ | $22 \cdot 9$ | $14 \cdot 1$ | 18.0 | 50.6 | 87.2 | 158 | 3.0 | 94 |  |  | $7 \cdot 1$ | $2 \cdot 2$ | 6.6 | 1.03 | 33 | 3.0 | $4 \cdot 1$ | 138 | 143 | 305 |
| OCT. | 307 | $5 \cdot 9$ | $22 \cdot 9$ | 15.6 | $19 \cdot 3$ | 51.6 | $90 \cdot 2$ | 176 | 1.7 | 94 | 113 |  | 7.8 | 3.2 | 6.9 | 1.01 | 31 | $3 \cdot 1$ | $5 \cdot 2$ | 139 | 143 | 304 |
| NOV. | 318 | 9.7 | 23.1 | $15 \cdot 3$ | 21.2 | 51.5 | 92.5 | 175 | 2.9 | 95 |  | 773 | $7 \cdot 2$ | 4.2 | $6 \cdot 7$ | 1.21 | 47 | 2.9 | $4 \cdot 3$ | 139 | 143 | 303 |
| DEC. | 320 | $10 \cdot 8$ | $24 \cdot 6$ | 16.4 | $22 \cdot 5$ | $52 \cdot 9$ | $95 \cdot 1$ | 199 | 3.5 | 94 |  |  | 8.1 | 3.1 | 6.8 | 82 | 80 | 3.2 | $4 \cdot 3$ | 139 | 144 | 311 |
| JAN. 1937 | 311 | $7 \cdot 3$ | $26 \cdot 3$ | 15.8 | $23 \cdot 8$ | $53 \cdot 3$ | 96.9 | 219 | 4.5 | 95 | 115 |  | 79 | 35 | 6 | 115 | 52 |  | 5 | 140 | 146 | 316 |
| FEB. | 317 | 6.0 | 28.0 | $15 \cdot 9$ | $27 \cdot 1$ | $52 \cdot 7$ | $92 \cdot 6$ | 226 | 3.0 | 95 |  | 84 | 7.6 | 3.5 | 6.5 | 1.05 | 50 | $2 \cdot 7$ | $4 \cdot 8$ | 141 | 149 | 317 |
| MAR ... | 302 | $5 \cdot 5$ | 28.8 | 15.4 | $22 \cdot 7$ | 54.2 | $93 \cdot 7$ | 200 | 2.9 | 95 |  |  | 8.2 | 3.5 | 7.0 | 1.47 | 33 | 3.0 | $5 \cdot 6$ | 143 | 150 | 316 |
| APRIL | 287 | $4 \cdot 8$ | $26 \cdot 3$ | 16.6 | $18 \cdot 9$ | 54.6 | 92.6 | 208 | 1.6 | 96 | 121 |  | 8.2 | 4.5 | 6.9 | 1.29 | 51 | $2 \cdot 9$ | $5 \cdot 2$ | 144 | 151 | 314 |
| MAY . | 268 | $5 \cdot 6$ | 25.6 | 16.9 | $18 \cdot 1$ | 55.0 | 92.2 | 157 | 3.5 | 96 |  | \} 84 | $8 \cdot 3$ | 3.2 | 6.8 | 1.05 | 47 | 2.8 | $5 \cdot 0$ | 145 | 150 | 307 |
| JUNE | 254 | 6.3 | 24.4 | $15 \cdot 4$ | 18.5 | 55.5 | 92.0 | 173 | $5 \cdot 8$ | 97 |  |  | $9 \cdot 0$ | 3.1 | $6 \cdot 8$ | $1 \cdot 10$ | 51 | 3.1 | $4 \cdot 3$ | 145 | 148 | 301 |
| JULY | 240 | 4 | $22 \cdot 7$ | $17 \cdot 1$ | 16.2 | 57.2 | $92 \cdot 1$ | 178 | 16 | 96 | 124 |  | $9 \cdot 1$ | 3.2 | 7.0 | $1 \cdot 14$ | 33 | 3 | 5 | 146 | 148 | 298 |
| AUG. | 257 | $5 \cdot 5$ | $22 \cdot 9$ | 16.1 | 19.0 | 58.5 | $90 \cdot 4$ | 167 | 8 | 97 |  | 7 73 | $9 \cdot 1$ | 3.2 | 6.9 | 1.26 | 31 | $3 \cdot 1$ | $5 \cdot 6$ | 147 | 148 | 301 |
| SEPT | 250 | 6.4 | $22 \cdot 9$ | $15 \cdot 2$ | 18.4 | 58.8 | 91.9 | 147 | 3.1 | 97 |  |  | $8 \cdot 9$ | 3.7 | 6.8 | . 87 | 29 | 3.2 | 4.5 | 147 | 148 | 301 |
| OCT. | 255 | 6.2 | 22.9 | 17.4 | $17 \cdot 3$ | $59 \cdot 3$ | 92.2 | 152 | $1 \cdot 3$ | 97 | 125 |  | $9 \cdot 2$ | 3.6 | 6.9 | 1.04 | 33 | 3.2 | $5 \cdot 4$ | 148 | 148 | 299 |
| NOV. | 261 | 6.1 | $22 \cdot 9$ | 16.4 | 17.0 | 59.2 | $92 \cdot 5$ | 148 | 1.5 | 98 |  | $\} 69$ | 8.8 | 4.1 | 6.9 | 1.27 | 30 | 3.2 | 4.6 | 148 | 148 | 296 |
| DEC. | 267 | 6.9 | $22 \cdot 9$ | $18 \cdot 1$ | 16.9 | 58.8 | 93.9 | 171 | $2 \cdot 1$ | 100 |  |  | 9.0 | 3.4 | 6.9 | 71 | 22 | $3 \cdot 3$ | 4.3 | 148 | 146 | 293 |
| JAN. | 264 | 32 | $22 \cdot$ | 17.0 | $15 \cdot 9$ | 59.2 | $94 \cdot 1$ | 166 | 12 | 100 | 126 |  |  | $2 \cdot 6$ | 6.9 | $1 \cdot 10$ | -47 | 30 | 6 | 148 | 147 | 305 |
| FEB. | 265 | $5 \cdot 5$ | $22 \cdot 3$ | 16.9 | $19 \cdot 1$ | 57. | 89.2 | 156 | $\cdot 6$ | 100 |  | 6 64 | $8 \cdot 3$ | $2 \cdot 8$ | 6.5 | . 95 | . 32 | 2.7 | $4 \cdot 1$ | 149 | 153 | 316 |
| MAR. | 257 | 6.7 | $22 \cdot 9$ | $15^{-2}$ | $17 \cdot 7$ | 57.2 | 91.8 | 161 | 7 | 100 |  |  | 8.4 | 3.5 | $7 \cdot 1$ | $1 \cdot 11$ | 50 | 3.1 | $4 \cdot 2$ | 149 | 156 | 324 |
| APRIL | 256 | $5 \cdot 4$ | 22.6 | 17.7 | 16.8 | 56.7 | 91.1 | 150 | 7 | 100 | 123 |  | $7 \cdot 7$ | 2.4 | 6.8 | $\cdot 70$ | 45 | $2 \cdot 8$ | $3 \cdot 7$ | 149 | 158 | 327 |
| MAY | 260 | 6.2 | 22.9 | 17.4 | 19.0 | $55 \cdot 9$ | 91.3 | 141 | . 5 | 101 |  | \} 62 | $7 \cdot 2$ | $2 \cdot 2{ }^{\circ}$ | $7 \cdot 1$ | -74 | 44 | 2.8 | 3.7 3 | 149 | 158 | 328 |
| JUNE. | 270 | $8 \cdot 3$ | 22.7 | 15.9 | 17.8 | $57 \cdot 1$ | 94.4 | 172 | 1.0 | 100 |  | , | $7 \cdot 6$ | $2.3{ }^{\circ}$ | $7 \cdot 1$ | 1.07 | 52 | 3.0 | 377 | 149 | 158 | 331 |
| JULY | 271 | 6.5 | 23.0 | $18 \cdot 1$ | 18.7 | 560 | 94.6 | 172 | 7 | 100 | 122 |  | $7 \cdot 8$ | $2.1^{\circ}$ | $7 \cdot 3$ | 11 | 36 | 3 | 4.4 | 149 | 158 | 330 |
| AUG.. | 280 | $7 \cdot 3$ | 24.5 | 16.5 | 23.9 | 55.1 | $92 \cdot 7$ | 168 | 1.4 | 100 |  | \}66 | $7 \cdot 7$ | 2.4 | $7 \cdot 4$ | $1 \cdot 11$ | 52 | $3 \cdot 1$ | 3.8 | 149 | 156 | 329 |
| SEPT | 277 | 7.0 | 26.7 | 18.4 | 23.2 | $55^{\circ} 0$ | $94 \cdot 8$ | 151 | 4 | 99 |  |  | 7.6 | $2 \cdot 4$ | $7 \cdot 4$ | 84 | 64 | $3 \cdot 1$ | 33 | 149 | 155 | 329 |
| OCT. | 289 | 7.2 | 26.6 | 17.8 | 24.0 | 54.7 | 97.6 | 155 | $1 \cdot 1$ | 100 | 120 |  | 8.0 | 2.9 | $7 \cdot 6$ | 76 | 62 | 3.0 | $3 \cdot 9$ | 149 | 154 | 326 |
| NOV. | 290 | $9 \cdot 1$ | 26.7 | 16.5 | 26.0 | 53.9 | 98.7 | 152 | 1.1 | 100 |  | 660 | 8.5 | 3.4 | 7.5 | 94 | 42 | 3.0 | 3.9 | 149 | 153 | 322 319 |
| DEC. . 1939 | 284 | 8.1 | 26.7 | $19 \cdot 1$ | $24 \cdot 4$ | 53.0 | $99 \cdot 5$ | 174 | 2.0 | 100 |  |  | 8.0 | 36 | $7 \cdot 6$ | - 76 | 32 | 3.2 | 3.9 | 150 | 152 | 319 |
| JAN. | 267 | $5 \cdot 9$ | $26 \cdot 7$ | $17 \cdot 3$ | $23 \cdot 1$ | 53.9 | $100 \cdot 0$ | 165 | 1.0 | 99 | 119 |  | 7.5 | 2.7 | $7 \cdot 7$ | . 91 | - 39 | $\begin{aligned} & 3.0 \\ & 0.7 \end{aligned}$ | 4.7 3.5 | $149$ | $151$ | 328 334 |
| FEB. | .. 265 | 6.8 | 26.6 | $17 \cdot 3$ | 25.6 | 53.2 | 92.9 | 155 | 1.5 | 100 |  |  | 7.5 8.5 | 3.0 2.8 | $\begin{aligned} & 7 \cdot 3 \cdot \\ & 7 \cdot 9 \end{aligned}$ | 77 | 36 | 27 | 3 | 151 |  | $\begin{aligned} & 3546 \\ & 336 \end{aligned}$ |
| MAR... | . 265 | 6.6 7.5 | $26 \cdot 8$ 26.4 | 18.6 18.7 | 18.8 18.8 | $52 \cdot 9$ | $92 \cdot 3$ |  | 1.5 | 100 |  |  | 8.5 7.7 | 2.8 2.2 | $\begin{aligned} & 7 \cdot 9 \\ & 7 \cdot 5 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { * Ave } \\ & \text { \& De } \end{aligned}$ | erage of mand an | Jan. 1 nd Tim | nd | uly 1st. <br> $\ddagger$ Rat | $\begin{array}{r} +\mathrm{I} \\ \text { of cur } \end{array}$ |  | to | lua | at | $\begin{aligned} & \text { sury } \\ & 28 \text { pri } \end{aligned}$ | Bills. ices. | $\\| \mathrm{G}$ | and <br> extr | Gold ordi | $\begin{aligned} & \text { ertifics } \\ & \text { ary shi } \end{aligned}$ | cates. hipme | $\begin{aligned} & \text { G E } \\ & \text { of } \mathrm{go} \end{aligned}$ | spe |  | $\underset{\mathrm{y}-\mathrm{Ju}}{* *}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Se } \\ & 27 \end{aligned}$ |  |

## South Africa]

borrowings within the country without raising the rate of interest, and that it is considering resorting to the overseas market. ${ }^{1}$ On the presentation of the Budget for 1939-40, when sanction was asked for a loan expenditure of over $f_{2} 2 \mathrm{Mn}$. (a figure which has risen from $\AA 8.6 \mathrm{Mn}$. expended in 1932-33), it was observed that a local $3 \frac{1}{2} \%$ loan floated at par during the last financial year had met with only limited success, and that of $£ 17.2 \mathrm{Mn} .^{2}$ raised last year for loan expenditure, £II. 4 Mn . had been acquired by issuing Treasury Bills. Incidentally, reference was made to an arrangement with the Reserve Bank to place at the disposal of the Government a sum of $£ 3 \mathrm{Mn}$. representing the profit which had accrued on the gold acquired since the end of 1932 (to be distinguished from gold acquired previously at gold-standard price). It was thought that a large part of this could safely be used for permanent work, because a

[^47]considerable drop iu the price of gold (which would reduce the potential profit) was not likely to occur again.

On Revenue Account, it was proposed to carry forward $£ 0.55 \mathrm{Mn}$. in aid of revenue, and to appropriate the rest of the past year's $£$ r. 65 Mn . surplus for defence purposes. For 1939-40, the Minister anticipated a revenue (including the $£ 0.55 \mathrm{Mn}$. brought forward, and after allowing again a rebate in income tax withdrawn last year- $£ 0.6 \mathrm{Mn}$.) increased by $£ 0.28 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 44.06 \mathrm{Mn}$. ; and for expenditure increased by


The proposed loan expenditure included a vote to the Railways and Harbours Administration of $£ 6.5 \mathrm{Mn}$. The Railways and Harbours Budget anticipated a revenue for 1939-40 estimated to decrease by $£ 0.2 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 38 \mathrm{Mn}$., and an expenditure out of revenue (including net revenue appropriations $£ 2.1 \mathrm{Mn}$.) estimated to decrease by $£ 2.2 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 37.7 \mathrm{Mn}$.

The Budget speech also disclosed that the Government had decided to increase its assistance to farmers by reducing transport rates on primary -mainly export-products. The reductions were to cost the Central Government $£ 0.8 \mathrm{Mn}$. per annum, and the Railway Administration fo. 4 Mn . per annum. They include an increase in the rebate on grease wool from $20 \%$ to $90 \%$, and heavy rebates on maize.

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## LONDON $\mathfrak{E}$ CAMBRIDGE ECONOMIC SERVICE

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Subscribers are reminded that the Service is prepared to answer enquiries and to supply further statistics on special subjects. No charge is made unless considerable labour is entailed.

A. Index of Price of Industrial Shares, see Table p. 277, col. I.
B. Board of Trade Index-Total excluding Foods, see Table p. 279, col. 5.
C. Value of Exported Manufactures ( $\star$ normal seasonal variation removed), see Table p. 283, col. 17.
D. Average of Bank Rate, Bankers' Deposit Rate, Day-to-Day Rate and Three Months' Bill Rate, see Table p. 277, cols. 5, 6.

## EVENTS OF THE MONTH

May 23rd—June 22nd, 1939.

Thurs. May 25th France
" June 8th U.K.
Wed. " 14 th International

Tues. „ 20th U.K.

Outstanding external short-term debt consolidated. Issue of new internal 40-year $5 \%$ loan of over 10 milliard francs, about $60 \%$ of which to fund part of existing internal debt.

Ministry of Supply Bill passes second reading in Commons.
Japanese authorities begin blockade of British Concession in Tientsin.

Government announces proposals for tax of $60 \%$ on excess armament profits.

# THE GENERAL BUSINESS POSITION. 

## UNITED KINGDOM.*

Fune 20th, 1939.

Unemployment fell again in May, in all districts and in the great majority of industries. There is still a great number, especially of unskilled men, unemployed, and there are only few complaints of shortage of special classes of skill. Government expenditure has been at a rate which more than accounts for the increase in employment, so that there is evidence of reduction in new private enterprise and private consumption. Little change is found in exports in recent months, when holidays, etc., are taken into account. New capital issues have been very small, provincial clearings have fallen, and the stock-exchange is nervous and stagnant. It is doubtful how much further the
development of the Government programme can go without a more definite check to private consumption. So far this year's programme has been financed by Treasury Bills.

As has been anticipated, building of houses is checked this year, but builders have found employment in the erection of new factories, etc.

In spite of the increased aggregate activity, there has been very little change in prices, perhaps mainly because of the hesitating progress in the United States. Though imports of materials have been at a fairly high level, the visible adverse balance of trade for the first five months of this year has been only $£ 146 \mathrm{Mn}$., as compared with $£ 169 \mathrm{Mn}$. in 1938.

# ANALYSIS OF RECENT MOVEMENTS. 

## UNITED KINGDOM.

FINANCE.-Bank of England.-During the four weeks ending June 14th the note circulation showed only a small seasonal expansion, from $£ 493.6 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 495.0 \mathrm{Mn}$., and as the gold held in the Issue Department showed a slight rise (in this case not due to a change in price), the note reserve of the Banking Department fell by only $£ 1.2 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 31.3 \mathrm{Mn}$. In the other assets of the Banking Department, rises of $£ 2.7 \mathrm{Mn}$. in Government Securities and £I. 7 Mn . in Other Securities were exactly offset by a decline of $£ 4.4 \mathrm{Mn}$. in Discounts and Advances, presumably due to the easier credit position. Total Deposits fell by $£ 1.5 \mathrm{Mn}$. to the still fairly high level of $£ 158.8 \mathrm{Mn}$., but as Government Deposits rose from $£ 16.8 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£^{22}$.I Mn., the fall in Bankers' Deposits was heavier, from $£ 107.3 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£_{100} 3 \mathrm{Mn}$. This last figure still represents a fairly comfortable level.

Clearing Banks.-Despite the renewed fall in Bankers' Deposits at the Bank of England towards the end of May, as a result of the
accumulation of funds in Public Deposits in anticipation of the June ist War Loan interest payment, the average cash reserves of nine clearing banks increased in May by $£ 6.1 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 224.8 \mathrm{Mn}$. Discounts reflected the rapid rise in the issue of Treasury bills by tender with an increase of $£ 15.2 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 193.7 \mathrm{Mn}$., and despite a small relapse of $£ 1.7 \mathrm{Mn}$. in Call Money, the total of the quick assets of the banks -Cash plus Call Money plus Discounts-rose by nearly $£ 20 \mathrm{Mn}$. The less liquid assets, on the other hand, showed some decline, Advances falling by about the usual seasonal percentage from $£ 946.5 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 942.1 \mathrm{Mn}$., and Investments contra-seasonally from $£ 567.1 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£_{561.3} \mathrm{Mn}$. Investments have now been declining, slowly but persistently, since last October. As the net result of these conflicting movements, Deposits rose by rather over £II Mn . to $£^{2}, 05 \mathrm{I} .7 \mathrm{Mn}$. The ratio of Cash to Deposits rose from $10.7 \%$ to $11 \%$, and that of quick assets to Deposits from $26.1 \%$ to $27 \%$, so that the exceptionally illiquid position of the

[^48]banks, which has been shown in recent returns, is now in course of being remedied. With the anticipated increase in the issue of Treasury bills by tender, the quick assets ratio should have risen above the minimum of $30 \%$ by the autumn, unless a long-term loan is unexpectedly issued before then.

Country clearings showed less than the normal seasonal decline in May, but the declines in both Town and Provincial clearings were a good deal more than seasonal. Provincial clearings fell back below the level of twelve months before. Of the eleven centres, five showed improvements over the year, the largest being in Bradford and Nottingham, and six showed declines, which in Leeds, Liverpool and Hull were substantial.

Security Prices. - Prices of industrial securities showed appreciable further improvement until the end of May, but have since relapsed below the level of a month ago. Prices of fixed interest securities have also recently lost part of their May gains, but are still above their mid-May level. Our index of foreign bond prices shows only a slight fall, as the sharp decline in Japanese and Chinese securities has been mainly offset by rises in certain South American bonds.

Short-term interest rates have fallen back to a low level, though they are still slightly above that ruling in the first two months of the year.

New Capital Issues.-Issues of new capital on home account in May were again extremely small. Issues on overseas account, at $£ 5.1 \mathrm{Mn}$., showed a substantial rise, but almost the whole of the total is accounted for by the issue of £5.0 Mn. of $3 \frac{1}{2} \%$ Stock on behalf of the South African Government.

Government Finance. - The Ordinary Revenue of the Government continues to run at a rather higher level than last year, and for the five weeks ending June 17th totalled $£ 52.3 \mathrm{Mn}$., as against $£ 47$.I Mn . in the corresponding period of 1938. The increase was due mainly to larger receipts from Estate Duty, National Defence Contribution, Customs, and the Post Office. Ordinary Expenditure again showed a large increase, at $£=13.8 \mathrm{Mn}$. for the period, as against $£ 98.1 \mathrm{Mn}$. last year, and in addition $f^{6} 6 \mathrm{Mn}$. was spent on Defence Loan account. The total deficit for the five weeks was therefore $£ 67.5 \mathrm{Mn}$., as compared with $£ 5 \mathrm{I} \mathrm{Mn}$. a year ago. For the financial year to date the deficit is $£ 127.3 \mathrm{Mn}$., as against $£ 90.5 \mathrm{Mn}$. on June 18th last year.

The excess of expenditure for the month is reflected in a rise in the Floating Debt of $£ 71$

Mn., from $£ 984 \mathrm{Mn}$. on May 13th to $£ 1,055 \mathrm{Mn}$. on June 17th. The whole of the increase occurred in Treasury bills, which rose by $£ 72$ Mn., from $£ 939 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ \mathrm{I}$, OII Mn . Nearly half the rise, however, took place in bills issued to Government departments, etc., through the ' tap,' and bills issued by tender rose by only £ 40 Mn . to $£ 469 \mathrm{Mn}$. Thus despite the high level of the total floating debt, bills issued by tender are still more than $£ 100 \mathrm{Mn}$. less than at this time last year, while bills issued through the ' tap ' have risen by well over $£ 200 \mathrm{Mn}$., mainly in consequence of the re-investment of the proceeds of gold sold by the Exchange Account. This explanation, however, is probably not adequate to explain the rise of $£ 32 \mathrm{Mn}$. in ' tap' bills since last month, for net sales of gold during the period are believed to have been small. In part it may reflect the delayed effects of earlier gold sales, but it is probably mainly due to an increase in bills held by other departments.

Foreign Exchanges.-Both the pound and the French franc have been steady in terms of the dollar, showing first a very slight rise, and later an equally slight decline. The sterlingfranc rate has scarcely changed. The only event of note in other currencies, apart from the decline in the Chinese dollar, was the recent weakness in the belga and the guilder.

Gold Movements.-Exports of gold were again very large during May, totalling no less than $£ 94.7 \mathrm{Mn}$., of which $£ 61.5 \mathrm{Mn}$. went to U.S.A. and $£ 3$ I.O Mn . to Canada. Imports were lower at $£ 3$ I. 9 Mn ., of which $£ 10.8 \mathrm{Mn}$. came from Holland and $£ .7 .3 \mathrm{Mn}$. from Switzerland. The other principal sources were South Africa ( $£ 8.2 \mathrm{Mn}$.), Russia ( $£ \mathrm{I} .2 \mathrm{Mn}$.) and West Africa ( $£$ r.o Mn.). The heavy net export of gold was almost certainly due mainly to transfers of ear-marked and hoarded gold, and relatively little to sales of gold in support of sterling.

Since the beginning of June gold movements have been on a much smaller scale, and for the first time for many months imports exceeded exports. During the fortnight ending June isth imports totalled $£ 7.7 \mathrm{Mn}$., of which $£ 4.5 \mathrm{Mn}$. came from South Africa and $£_{\mathrm{I} .9 \mathrm{Mn} \text {. from Holland, and }}$ exports were $£ 7.2 \mathrm{Mn}$., almost entirely to U.S.A.

PRICES AND WAGES. - The general movement of sterling wholesale prices in recent months has been a slow increase from February to May. During May there was very little variation, and, in fact, since the check in the autumn to the fall of the previous twelve months
the index-numbers have moved only within narrow limits.

There have, however, been considerable changes during the past few months in the prices of particular commodities, and the general stationariness results from a balance of opposing movements. For example, the Board of Trade Index for May shows an increase of $0.6 \%$ over April, but of the 200 commodities included 69 rose in price, 48 fell and 83 were stationary.
BOARD OF TRADE INDEX OF WHOLESALE PRICES. Changes from April to May, 1938.

| Change |  | Increases Number |  |  | Decreases Number |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 15\% or more |  | 5 | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | 3 |
| 10\% to $15 \%$ | . ... | 11 | $\ldots$ | ... | 3 |
| 5\% to 10\% | - | 10 | $\ldots$ | ... | 13 |
| Less than 5\% | . ... | 43 | $\cdots$ | $\ldots$ | 29 |
|  |  | 69 |  |  | 48 |
|  | No change | ... |  | 83 |  |

The increases of more than $15 \%$ were for certain kinds of sugar, tobacco, hides and laths, the decreases for the milk contract price and two classes of coal.

There was no change in the index-numbers of retail food prices or in the cost of living during May ; the latter index is $\mathrm{I} \frac{1}{2} \%$ lower than a year ago.

With an increase in the wage-rates of engineers, our wage index is raised $\frac{3}{4}$ to $105 \frac{1}{4}$ on June I5th.

TRADE AND OUTPUT. - The values both of Imports and of Exports in May showed a considerable increase over April. Since there were fewer working days* in April, it is better for comparison to take the two months together.


When allowance is made for the fall of food prices over twelve months, it is seen that imports in each category were greater than a year before. The table below shows that there was a fairly general increase in the importation of raw materials since last year. Among Group B of the manufactures there were increases in textile materials, especially jute and chemicals.

[^49]IMPORTS LESS RE-EXPORTS. £Mn.

| Food, \&c.- | 1938 |  |  | 1939 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Mar. | Apr. | May | Mar. | Apr. | May |
| Grain | $6 \cdot 8$ | $5 \cdot 6$ | 6.2 | $5 \cdot 6$ | $4 \cdot 1$ | $4 \cdot 3$ |
| Meat | 8.2 | $7 \cdot 4$ | $7 \cdot 4$ | $8 \cdot 6$ | $7 \cdot 4$ | 7.7 |
| Dairy Produce | 6.5 | 6.5 | 6.7 | $8 \cdot 4$ | $5 \cdot 4$ | $6 \cdot 5$ |
| Fruit \& Vegetables | 3.8 | 3.2 | 4.8 | 3.2 | 3.7 | 4.6 |
| 'Tobacco | $2 \cdot 2$ | 1.0 | 0.7 | 1.6 | 0.7 | 0.5 |
| Other | 8.4 | 75 | $8 \cdot 1$ | $9 \cdot 2$ | $7 \cdot 9$ | 8.9 |
| Total | $35 \cdot 9$ | 31.2 | 33.9 | $34 \cdot 6$ | 29.2 | 32.5 |
| Materials- |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cotton | 30 | $2 \cdot 5$ | 1.8 | $2 \cdot 4$ | $2 \cdot 1$ | 1 |
| Wool | $3 \cdot 3$ | $3 \cdot 5$ | 3.5 | $3 \cdot 7$ | $3 \cdot 7$ | 4.0 |
| Seeds \& Oils | $3 \cdot 5$ | $3 \cdot 3$ | $2 \cdot 6$ | $2 \cdot 5$ | $3 \cdot 3$ | $3 \cdot 5$ |
| Hides \& Skins | $1 \cdot 3$ | $0 \cdot 6$ | $0 \cdot 1$ | 0.8 | $0 \cdot 6$ | $0 \cdot 4$ |
| Timber | $2 \cdot 2$ | $1 \cdot 9$ | 3.0 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 30 |
| Rubber | $1 \cdot 1$ | $0 \cdot 9$ | 0.8 | $0 \cdot 6$ | $0 \cdot 4$ | 0.6 |
| Non-ferrous metals | $1 \cdot 3$ | $1 \cdot 4$ | $1 \cdot 3$ | $1 \cdot 3$ | $1 \cdot 2$ | $1 \cdot 4$ |
| Other ... | $5 \cdot 5$ | 4.5 | 3.9 | 3.7 | 4.0 | 50 |
| Total | 21.2 | 1.86 | 17.0 | 16.8 | 17.1 | $20 \cdot 0$ |
| Manufactures- |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| A. Iron, Steel | $2 \cdot 7$ | 0.7 |  |  |  |  |
| Non-ferrous | $2 \cdot 6$ | $3 \cdot 3$ | $2 \cdot 4$ | $3 \cdot 0$ | 2.7 | 3.2 |
| 'Timber ... | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.5 |
| Oils | $4 \cdot 1$ | $4 \cdot 3$ | 3.5 | $4 \cdot 1$ | 3.7 | $3 \cdot 4$ |
| Other | $2 \cdot 1$ | 16 | 1.7 | 2.0 | $1 \cdot 8$ | $2 \cdot 2$ |
| Total | 12:0 | $10 \cdot 3$ | $9 \cdot 0$ | $10 \cdot 8$ | $9 \cdot 6$ | $10 \cdot 7$ |
| B. Total | 9.7 | 8.2 | 7.8 | $10 \cdot 1$ | 9.0 | 9.8 |
| All Imports (net) | 79.4 | 68.7 | 68.2 | 73.1 | $65 \cdot 5$ | $73 \cdot 5$ |

Under Manufactures, A includes commodities used in further manufacture and transport; 'Other' contains leather, paper and motor accessories. B includes all other manufactures.

Among exports there was little change over the year when the two months are taken together. In the iron and steel group an increase in machinery has nearly balanced a fall in iron and steel manufactures. Exports of woollen goods are greater than a year ago.


The output of iron and of steel in May was approximately at the same high level as in April,
That of coal was again greater than in 1938 .

There was a considerable falling-off in the estimated cost of building plans approved for dwelling-houses in May, but some increase over April in other plans.

For comparison with May, 1938, we have the following provisional figures :-


UNEMPLOYMENT. - For the fourth month in succession there was a considerable improvement in employment in May; the percentage of insured persons unemployed (excluding agriculture) fell from II. 6 in April to 10.6 in May. Except that there was no change in employment in coal-mines, all but four minor occupations took part in the improvement. Among important industries the principal gain was in metal manufacture, but in this group of industries the percentage was still 9.8 . In general engineering, electrical engineering, and motor and aircraft manufacture the percentages were respectively $6.0,4.0$ and 4.0.

In May, 1937, the percentage unemployed was recorded as 10.7 , but this figure should be reduced for comparison with this year to about IO.I, since changes in the method of recording in 1937 and the inclusion of additional occupa-
tions in 1938 have resulted in a lower percentage for the same amount of unemployment. Hence there is room for further improvement before the lowest figure of 1937 is reached. In May there were over I Mn. males completely unemployed, and it remains to be seen how far this will be reduced by calling up young men for service and the further development of the armament programme.

Over the twelve months since May, 1938, the greatest improvement is found in the textile industries, especially jute, linen and cotton, but there is still high unemployment in each of these industries. In building the percentage unemployed was a little higher than a year ago, and was 12.4 (130,000 persons) on May 15th.

INSURED MALES UNEMPLOYED.
Excluding Building, Public Works and Agriculture. ( 000 's.)

|  | Wholly Unemployed |  |  | Temporarily Stopped |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Year | 1937 | 1938 |  | 1937 | 1938 |
| September |  | 734 | 848 | ... | 116 | 267 |
| October |  | 769 | 895 | ... | 110 | 195 |
| November |  | 798 | 917 |  | 119 | 201 |
| December |  | 817 | 917 | ... | 152 | 188 |
|  | Year | 1938 | 1939 |  | 1938 | 1939 |
| January |  | 879 | 957 | ... | 177 | 216 |
| February | $\ldots$ | 887 | 938 | ... | 177 | 179 |
| March ... | ... | 873 | 900 | ... | 187 | 147 |
| April |  | 864 | 846 | ... | 213 | 149 |
| May |  | 854 | 786 | ... | 249 | 121 |
| June |  | 842 |  | ... | 297 |  |
| July |  | 813 | - | $\ldots$ | 312 | - |
| August | ... | 816 | - | ... | 278 | - |

INSURED PERSONS UNEMPLOYED. UNITED KINGDOM. ooo's.
Males and Females. Aged 16-65. Excluding Agriculture.
A Wholly Unemployed.
B. Temporarily Stopped.

|  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { April, } \\ 1938 \end{gathered}$ |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { May, } \\ & 1938 \end{aligned}$ |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { April, } \\ 1939 \end{gathered}$ |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { May, } \\ & \text { 1939, } \end{aligned}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B |
| Building | 132 | 128 | 4 | 127 | 123 | 4 | 150 | 144 | 6 | 130 | 126 | 4 |
| Public Works | 109 | 107 | 2 | 107 | 104 | 2 | 112 | 110 | 2 | 104 | 102 | 2 |
| Coal | 125 | 81 | 45 | 150 | 85 | 66 | 106 | 81 | 25 | 106 | 77 | 29 |
| Cotton | 102 | 44 | 58 | 122 | 49 | 73 | 65 | 43 | 22 | 59 | 40 | 19 |
| Wool | 47 | 15 | 33 | 49 | 16 | 33 | 30 | 12 | 18 | 27 | 11 | 15 |
| Other Textiles | 112 | 57 | 55 | 112 | 60 | 52 | 78 | 44 | 34 | 66 | 43 | 24 |
| Clothing ... | 59 | 38 | 22 | 58 | 37 | 21 | 53 | 35 | 18 | 47 | 33 | 15 |
| Distribution | 199 | 189 | 10 | 192 | 181 | 10 | 198 | 188 | 10 | 186 | 175 | 11 |
| Other Industries | 828 | 498 | 127 | 629 | 497 | 133 | 590 | 492 | 99 | 526 | 453 | 72 |
| Hotels ... | 76 | 74 | 2 | 69 | 67 | 2 | 82 | 79 | 3 | 78 | 75 | 3 |
| fessions, \&c. | 171 | 163 | 8 | 165 | 157 | 8 | 177 | 168 | 8 | 166 | 158 | 8 |
| Totals |  |  | 366 | 1780 | 1376 | 404 | 1641 | 1336 | 245 | 1495 | 1293 | 202 |
| Males | 1318 | 1099 | 220 | 1336 | 1081 | 255 | 1257 | 1100 | 157 | 1141 | 1013 | 127 |
| Females | 442 | 296 | 146 | 444 | 295 | 149 | 384 | 296 | 88 | 354 | 280 | 75 |

PERCENTAGE OF INSURED PERSONS UNEMPLOYED．－GREAT BRITAIN AND N．IRELAND．

|  |  | 戸̈ँ E | $\stackrel{\text { ® }}{\text { ¢ }}$ |  | E O O H |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { ⿷匚 } \\ & \text { 4 } \\ & \text { A } \\ & \text { Z } \end{aligned}$ |  | （j |  | $\frac{\text { \％}}{\text { ¢ }}$ | 㕺 | － |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1938 |  | $12 \cdot 8$ | $13 \cdot 3$ | 11.7 | $7 \cdot 7$ | $7 \cdot 2$ | $7 \cdot 6$ | $10 \cdot 2$ | 13.7 | $18 \cdot 5$ | $17 \cdot 3$ | $16 \cdot 3$ | 26.9 | $28 \cdot 5$ | 1.6 |
|  | June 13 | 13.2 | $13 \cdot 6$ | $11 \cdot 9$ | $7 \cdot 7$ | 6.9 | $7 \cdot 6$ | 11.1 | $14^{\circ} 0$ | $20 \cdot 1$ | 18.5 | $15 \cdot 8$ | $25 \cdot 8$ | 28.7 | 1.6 |
|  | July $f$ | （a） $13 \cdot 1$ | （a） 13.7 | （a） 11.5 | $7 \cdot 6$ | 6.7 | $7 \cdot 2$ | 11.6 | 14.8 | $17 \cdot 7$ | 19.7 | 16.6 | 24.7 | 33.0 | 1.5 |
|  | 18 ？ | （b） $12 \cdot 9$ | （b） 13.6 | （b） 11.2 |  | － |  |  | － | － | － | ． | ， | ， | － |
|  | Aug． 15 | $12 \cdot 6$ | 13.2 | 11.2 | $\begin{array}{r}7 \cdot 4 \\ \hline \text {（a）} 7.6\end{array}$ | 6．8 | 6.9 7.4 | 11.7 | 14.6 | 18．2 | $19 \cdot 2$ | $15 \cdot 5$ 16.2 | $\begin{aligned} & 24 \cdot 2 \\ & 24 \cdot 8 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 27 \cdot 7 \\ & 26 \cdot 7 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1.6 \\ & 1.6 \end{aligned}$ |
|  | Sept． 12 | $12 \cdot 8$ | 13.5 | 11.0 |  | $7 \cdot 2$ | 7.4 | 11.0 | $14 \cdot 7$ | $19 \cdot 0$ | $18 \cdot 7$ |  |  |  |  |
| 1939 | Oct． 17 | $12 \cdot 7$ | 13.5 | $10 \cdot 8$ | （b） $\begin{array}{r}8 \cdot 3 \\ 8 \cdot 6 \\ 8 \cdot 5 \\ 9 \cdot 6 \\ 9 \cdot 1 \\ 8 \cdot 3 \\ 7 \cdot 8 \\ 7 \cdot 2\end{array}$ | 8.4 | $\begin{aligned} & 8.5 \\ & 8.8 \\ & 8.6 \\ & 9.6 \\ & 9.0 \\ & 7.9 \\ & 7.2 \\ & 6.3 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 10.0 \\ 9.8 \\ 9.4 \\ 10.5 \\ 95 \\ 8.5 \\ 8.4 \\ 7.4 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 13 \cdot 0 \\ & 13 \cdot 1 \\ & 12 \cdot 8 \\ & 14 \cdot 7 \\ & 13 \cdot 1 \\ & 12 \cdot 0 \\ & 11 \cdot 8 \\ & 11 \cdot 0 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 17 \cdot 1 \\ & 17 \cdot 2 \\ & 16 \cdot 9 \\ & 18 \cdot 3 \\ & 17 \cdot 2 \\ & 16 \cdot 1 \\ & 15 \cdot 2 \\ & 14 \cdot 1 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 19 \cdot 0 \\ & 19 \cdot 3 \\ & 19 \cdot 4 \\ & 21 \cdot 2 \\ & 20 \cdot 1 \\ & 19 \cdot 0 \\ & 17 \cdot 7 \\ & 16 \cdot 1 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 15 \cdot 6 \\ & 16 \cdot 2 \\ & 16 \cdot 7 \\ & 18 \cdot 4 \\ & 17 \cdot 1 \\ & 16 \cdot 2 \\ & 15 \cdot 4 \\ & 14 \cdot 1 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 23 \cdot 6 \\ & 24 \cdot 9 \\ & 25 \cdot 3 \\ & 25 \cdot 7 \\ & 25 \cdot 9 \\ & 23 \cdot 0 \\ & 21 \cdot 0 \\ & 18 \cdot 1 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 25 \cdot 8 \\ & 26 \cdot 0 \\ & 25 \cdot 1 \\ & 28 \cdot 2 \\ & 25 \cdot 9 \\ & 26 \cdot 3 \\ & 25 \cdot 3 \\ & 22 \cdot 7 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1.7 \\ & 1.8 \\ & 1.9 \\ & 2.0 \\ & 1.9 \\ & 1.9 \\ & 1.9 \\ & 1.8 \end{aligned}$ |
|  | Nov． 14 | 13.0 | $13 \cdot 9$ | $10 \cdot 7$ |  | 9.0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Dec． 12 | $12 \cdot 9$ | 14.0 | $10 \cdot 2$ |  | $9 \cdot 3$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Jan． 16 | $14 \cdot 3$ | $15 \cdot 3$ | 11.6 |  | 11.1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Feb． 13 | 13.4 | 14.3 | $11 \cdot 1$ |  | $10 \cdot 1$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Mar． 13 | $12 \cdot 3$ | $13 \cdot 1$ | 10.2 9.7 |  | 8.6 7.9 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Apr． 17 | 11.6 | 12.4 11.2 | 9.0 |  | 7.0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | May 15 | 10.6 | 112 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

（a）Old series．
（b）New series including certain domestic workers
Regional Percentages prior to October，1938，based upon numbers insured in July，1937；subsequently upon numbers insured in Julv， 1938.

## STOCKS OF STAPLE COMMODITIES．

Table supplementary to the summary table，p．2，Special Mem． 32.

| Berinninz of |  | （1） Americsil Cotton． 1．000 balet | $\begin{aligned} & (2) \\ & \text { Tin. } \\ & 1,000 \\ & \text { tons. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} (3) \\ \text { Copper. } \\ 1,000 \\ \text { tons. } \end{gathered}$ | （4） <br> Lead． <br> 1，000 tons． |  | $\begin{array}{\|c\|} \hline(5) \\ \text { Spelver. } \\ 1,000 \\ \text { tons. } \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} (6) \\ \text { Rubber. } \\ \ddagger \\ 1,000 \\ \text { tons. } \end{gathered}$ | （7）Sugar． 1，000 tons | （8） <br> Tea． <br> Mn．Ibs． | （9） <br> Coffee． <br> Mn．bags． |  | $\begin{array}{\|c\|} \hline(10) \\ \text { Wheat. } \\ \text { Mn. } \\ \text { bushels. } \end{array}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | U．S． |  |  | U．E． | A |  |  |  |  | B |  |  |
| 1935 |  |  | 70 | 15．5 | $524 \cdot 1$ | 209．8 | $19 \cdot 4$ | 118 | 679 | 7，887 | 279 | 6.6 | ＊ | 448 | 585 |
|  |  | 1 | 19．2｜｜ | $520 \cdot 4$ | 203.2 | 18.9 | 110 | 654 | 8，058 | 267 | 6.9 | 19.0 | 411 | 570 |
|  |  | 8，413 | 14.4 | 517.7 | $206 \cdot 3$ | $17 \cdot 1$ | 111 | 652 | 6，170 | 225 | $7 \cdot 5$ | $15 \cdot 5$ | 313 | 566 |
|  |  | ，141 | 11.5 | $474 \cdot 6$ | $200 \cdot 6$ | $9 \cdot 3$ | 104 | 644 | 4，688 | 216 | 76 | ＊ | 367 | 547 |
| 1936 | Jan | 7，488 | $13 \cdot 5$ | 433.2 | 198.5 | $7 \cdot 0$ | 83 | 586 | 6，237 | 247 | $7 \cdot 8$ | $22 \cdot 1$ | 397 | 542 |
|  | April | 6，768 | $16 \cdot 5$ | 431.5 | 199．5 | $6 \cdot 3$ | 80 | 556 | 6，671 | 232 | 8.2 | 22.2 | 349 | 551 |
|  | July ．．． | 6，384 | $15 \cdot 0$ | 409 8 | $205 \cdot 8$ | 6.7 | 88 | 491 | 4，990 | 199 | $8 \cdot 1$ | $20 \cdot 8$ | 221 | 546 |
|  | Oct． | 6，508 | $15 \cdot 1$ | 339.2 | 179：0 | $7 \cdot 1$ | 82 | 462 | 2，983 | 201 | $7 \cdot 8$ | ＊ | 282 | 528 |
| 1937 | Jan． | 6，044 | 21.8 | 3153 | 153.9 | 6.1 | 57 | 434 | 5，389 | 215 | 7.9 |  | 267 | 521 |
|  | April．． | 5，745 | 22.0 | $275 \cdot 3$ | $122 \cdot 5$ | $7 \cdot 1$ | 34 | 417 | 6，026 | 161 | $8 \cdot 1$ | 20.2 | 255 | 541 |
|  | July | 5，345 | $21 \cdot 1$ | 268.2 | $101 \cdot 2$ | $6 \cdot 3$ | 32 | 387 | 4，388 | 125 | $7 \cdot 9$ | $22 \cdot 6$ | 129 | 554 |
|  | Oct． | 6，652 | $20 \cdot 9$ | $307 \cdot 8$ | 81.0 | 7.9 | 33 | 428 | 2，816 | 130 | $7 \cdot 4$ | $22 \cdot 4$ | 253 | 584 |
| 1938 | Jan． | 8，183 | 24.1 | $412 \cdot 3$ | 115．3 | 7.0 | 79 | 501 | 6，067 | 198 |  | 28.1 |  | 575 583 |
|  | Feb． | 8，610 | 23.1 | 451.8 | $119 \cdot 3$ | 8.2 | 99 | $\begin{aligned} & 502 \\ & 52 \end{aligned}$ | 5，821 6,309 | 204 | 7.4 |  | 255 | 588 |
|  | March | 9，361 | $21 \cdot 1$ $24 \cdot 6$ | $473 \cdot 1$ 482.4 | $123 \cdot 3$ $128 \cdot 1$ | 9.0 12.0 | 117 | $\begin{aligned} & 521 \\ & 539 \end{aligned}$ | 6,309 6,889 | 167 | 7.4 |  | $229$ |  |
|  | April．．． | 9,839 10,543 | $24 \cdot 6$ $25 \cdot 3$ | $482 \cdot 4$ $492 \cdot 5$ | $128 \cdot 1$ 139.7 | 12.0 | 142 | 542 | 6，521 | 144 | 7.5 7.4 |  | $\begin{aligned} & 197 \\ & 158 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 590 \\ & 584 \end{aligned}$ |
|  | May ．．． |  |  | 495.0 | 146.4 | 11.2 | 154 | 523 | 5，955 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | July | 12，059 | $24 \cdot 3$ | $492 \cdot 4$ | $145 \cdot 8$ | 9.4 |  | $525$ | $5,255$ | 141 | 7.2 7.0 |  | 140 | 587 |
|  | Aug．．． | 12，808 | 25.0 | 481.2 | 137.7 | 8.8 | 153 | 516 | 4，226 | 157 | 7.3 |  | 264 | 576 |
|  | Sept．．． | 13,056 13,222 | 25.7 26.7 | 441.5 408.4 | 117.3 | 9.3 | 142 | 499 | 3，601 | 169 | 7.6 |  | 333 364 | 570 583 |
|  | Nov．．． | 13，289 | $27 \cdot 2$ | 379.2 | 104.9 | 9.7 | 143 | 488 458 |  |  | 7.4 |  | 377 | 554 |
|  | Dec．．． | 13，277 | 27.0 | $379 \cdot 1$ | $102 \cdot 9$ | $9 \cdot 5$ | 132 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1939 | Jan．．． | 13，230 | 27.8 | 408.2 | 1029 | 11.0 |  |  | 6，064 | 221 | 7.9 |  | 417 | 554 |
|  | Feb．．． | 13，326 | $30 \cdot 9$ | $428 \cdot 6$ | $104 \cdot 6$ | 12.9 | 139 | 429 | 6，131 | 215 | $7 \cdot 8$ |  | 389 | 554 |
|  | March | 13，423 | $32 \cdot 1$ | $440 \cdot 3$ | $109^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ | 14.0 | 139 | 404 | 6，542 | 187 | 7.8 |  |  |  |
|  | April．． | 13，329＋ | 31.1 | $455 \cdot 4$ 466.7 |  | 13.3 | 140 |  | 6，116 | 160 | 7.9 |  |  |  |
|  | May | $13,442+$ $13,526+$ | $30 \cdot 6$ 29.5 | $465 \% 1$ |  | 12.7 | 141 |  |  | 147 | $8 \cdot 3$ |  |  |  |

$\dagger$ Preliminary figure．
April，1935，onwards includes whole buffer stock．
$\star$ Not available．
Revised Series．
（1）Total supply seasonally corrected，exclusive of European and
Asiatic mill stocks．
（2）Visible Supply plus estimate of Straits stocks．
（3）Total world stocks of refined copper only．
N．B．－This is not the same series as that discontinued since Oct．， 193 I ．
（4）U．K．stocks in official warehouses．
5）Visible supply in U．K．and U．S．
（6）Crude rubber stocks（outside regulated areas）in U．K． U．S．A．，Singapore，Penang，Para and Manaos plus estimated afloat as published by the International Rubber Regulation Committee．
（7）Total visible supply．
（8）Tea Brokers＇Association，London stocks．
（9）（A）Visible supply．（B）Interior Brazil stock and San Paulo
Pledged stock．Figures supplied by Messrs．Duuring \＆ Zoon．
（io）Stanford Wheat Studies Estimates of World＇s Visible Supply，
（II）Total crude petroleum，natural gasolene（ex at plants）， refined products．

## STATISTICS OF THE AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY

IN the table on page 28 I , entitled " Output and Internal Activity," a new series is entered, which shows the numbers of new motor-car registrations in each month. By any generally acceptable measure of size, the automobile industry now forms one of the largest of our normal industrial classifications. Automobile output ought, therefore, to take a prominent place in production statistics; and sales of private and commercial vehicles are valuable pointers to general business activity. It is fortunate, therefore, that, at least for recent years, the statistics of the automobile industry are exceptionally comprehensive and well ordered. Below are set out their principal sources, together with notes upon their scope and meaning.

PRODUCTION.-Separate totals are published for the production of private cars and taxicabs and for that of commercial vehicles (goods, omnibuses and exempts) in the United Kingdom in the Monthly Progress Report of the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders. This Report appears in the third week of each month and the production figures refer to the month ending roughly seven weeks previously. These monthly figures are not classified further into types according to horsepower or weight. They go back to October, 1929.

Annual figures of production go back as far as 1907, but for the years 1914-192I they are not available. They are conveniently published in the annual report of the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, entitled " The Motor Industry of Great Britain." For the years before 1923 only the total number of vehicles produced is given for each year. Since 1923 separate totals are given for private cars and taxicabs on the one hand and for commercial vehicles on the other.

These figures of production, monthly and annual, are estimates drawn from the official statistics of vehicle registration and imports and exports. The import and export figures are staggered according to past experience of the time-lag between production and export, and between import and registration. The estimates make no allowance for variations in stocks. For the annual figures the error thereby introduced is probably negligible, but the status of the monthly figures must be held to be doubtful. Vehicles built from complete foreign chassis are not included in United Kingdom production, but otherwise the use of foreign parts is not discounted. A breakdown of the above produc-
tion figures into H.P. classes for private cars or into weight classes for commercial vehicles is not available.

For the years 1907, 1924, 1930 and 1935 details of production are available in the Board of Trade's Censuses of Production. For 1934 production statistics are to be found in the report on the Import Duties Act Inquiry. In the report for 1933 the automobile industry is not included. In the Census reports for 1930 and 1935, but not for 1907 and 1924, and in the Import Duties report for 1934, the figures are broken down into H.P. and weight classes.

SALES.-Every new car must be registered before it can be used, but it does not require to be registered anew when it changes hands. Statistics of registrations thus measure new sales, with a time-lag which is probably considerable for wholesale, but negligible for retail sales. There are no statistics of second-hand sales in the domestic market.

A monthly return of the Ministry of Transport gives the " number of mechanicallypropelled vehicles registered for the first time under the Roads Act, 1920, by each Licensing and Registration Authority." The return appears in the third week of each month and relates to the month ending some seven weeks previously. The vehicles are classified according to type, e.g., cars taxed on horse-power, cycles, goods vehicles, etc., and sub-divided according to horse-power, weight, etc. Reliable statistics of new registrations, as distinct from licences current, are not available for the years prior to 1928.

There is a considerable seasonal movement in registrations, due to several causes. First, the fact that licences lapse at the end of March, June, September and December induces a rise in sales in April, July, October and January. Secondly, there is a normal increase in the spring and early summer, owing to the approach of fine weather. Thirdly, the fact that the trade year begins in October depresses sales in the late summer.

Statistics of imports and exports of vehicles and parts are available in much detail in the annual and monthly returns of the Board of Trade. A noteworthy feature of the annual returns is the separation of new from secondhand cars. The geographical distribution of both imports and exports is given in great detail.

VEHICLES IN USE.- In the monthly returns of the Ministry of Transport which
refer to February, May, August and November, there appear the approximate numbers of licences current at the end of those months. The figures are subdivided for cars taxed on horsepower, goods vehicles, motor cycles and hackney vehicles. In its Monthly Progress Reports the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders estimates the number of vehicles in use for the inter-quarterly months. These estimates are based upon registration figures and upon lifetables of private and commercial vehicles which are estimated from information privately collected. The life-tables are computed each year and published in the annual "Motor Industry of Great Britain."

PRICES.-Annual indices of prices are published in the " Motor Industry of Great Britain " for private cars and for commercial vehicles. There are obviously many difficulties in computing such indices. The method adopted is as follows. Ten or more models from each of the two classes which are made by manufacturers whose combined output is estimated to exceed $66 \%$ of the total production are taken, and the published retail chassis price of each vehicle is divided (a) by the Treasury rating in the case of private cars, (b) by the unladen weight (in cwts.) of the chassis plus the horse-power (in units) in the case of commercial vehicles. The indices are arithmetic averages of these quantities.

STOCKS.-There are no statistics of stocks available.

EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS.Statistics of employment are to be found in the publications of the Ministry of Labour. Annual (October) estimates of average weekly earnings are published in the " Motor Industry of Great Britain."

MATERIALS CONSUMED. - No official data are available, but the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders offers interesting annual estimates of the consumption of various important materials in the " Motor Industry of Great Britain.'

MOTOR SPIRIT AND OIL.-The Board of Trade publishes statistics of gross imports and exports of motor spirit and oil in its monthly and annual returns. The quantities entered for home consumption in the U.K. (see col. Io, page 28I) are published monthly in the Board of Trade Journal. A certain quantity of spirit is produced in Great Britain from imported crude oil and from coal and shale. Statistics relating to this production are published in the annual reports of the Ministry of Mines. The total consumption of motor spirit and oil, home and foreign, in the United Kingdom is estimated by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders and published in its Monthly Progress Report and annual " Motor Industry of Great Britain."

STATISTICS OF THE AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY

| Year | PRODUCTION |  |  | NEWREGISTRATIONS |  | VEHICLES IN USE中 |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { NET } \\ & \text { IMPORTS } \end{aligned}$ | EXPORTS |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Private Cars and Taxis 000's | Commercial Vehicles 000's | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Total } \\ & 000 \text { 's } \end{aligned}$ | Private Cars 000's | Trucks $000 \text { 's }$ | Private Car's $000 \text { 's }$ | Trucks 000's | Total, inc. Hackneys, Tractors, \&ce 000 's | Declared Value§ £Mn. | Declared Value§ £Mn. |
|  |  |  | 34.0 |  |  | 1057 | 63.6 | 207.9 | $3 \cdot 14$ | $4 \cdot 31$ |
| 1913 |  |  | 370 |  |  |  | 62.0 |  | 1.87 | 1.53 |
| 1919 |  |  |  |  |  | 1096 188 | 101.0 | 362.4 | 14.46 | 1.40 3.23 |
| 1820 |  |  |  |  |  | 245.9 | $134 \cdot 5$ | 492.9 575.8 | 1.97 3.87 | 3.23 1.96 |
| 1921 |  |  | 73.0 |  |  | $319 \cdot 3$ 3898 | 161.0 183.9 | $575 \cdot 8$ $680 \cdot 2$ | 4.10 | $2 \cdot 84$ |
| 1923 | 71.4 | $23 \cdot 6$ | $95^{\circ} 0$ |  |  | 38988 482.4 | 213.1 | 811.9 | $4 \cdot 10$ | $4 \cdot 87$ |
| 1924 | 116.6 | 30.0 | 146.6 |  |  | $590 \cdot 2$ | 236.0 | $949 \cdot 4$ | $8 \cdot 16$ | 7.41 |
| 1925 | $132 \cdot 0$ 153.5 | 35.0 44.5 | 1670 |  |  | $695 \cdot 6$ | 261.7 | $1082 \cdot 9$ $1209 \cdot 9$ | 3.15 4.90 | 716 8.45 |
| 1927 | $164 \cdot 6$ * | 47.2 ${ }^{\text {\% }}$ | $211.8 *$ |  |  | $800 \cdot 1$ | 311.4 | $1332 \cdot 8$ | $4 \cdot 63$ | $6 \cdot 69$ |
| 1928 | $165 \cdot 4$ | 46.5 | 211.9 |  |  | 998.5 | $336 \cdot 1$ | $1459 \cdot 7$ | $4 \cdot 44$ | 8.44 |
| $19 \times 9$ | $182 \cdot 3$ | 56.5 | 238.8 2365 | $\begin{aligned} & 169 \cdot 4 \\ & 156 \cdot 5 \end{aligned}$ | 53.3 | $1075 \cdot 1$ | 354.9 |  | 1.83 | 6.62 4.46 |
| 1930 | 169.7 | $66 \cdot 9$ $67 \cdot 3$ | ${ }_{226} 23$ | 144.2 | $52 \cdot 8$ | $1103 \cdot 7$ | 367.5 | ${ }_{1642 \cdot 6}$ | . 58 | 5.45 |
| 1931 | 159.0 171.2 | ${ }_{61} 6$ | $232 \cdot 7$ | 145.9 | 46.9 | 1149.2 | 377.1 394.8 | 1739 -0 | . 72 | 6.74 |
| 1933 | $220 \cdot 8$ | 65.5 | $286 \cdot 3$ | 182.0 | 50.5 | $1226{ }^{13}$ | $420 \cdot 8$ | 1874.0 | $1 \cdot 86$ | 8.00 |
| 1934 | 256.9 | $\begin{aligned} & 85.6 \\ & 92.2 \end{aligned}$ | $342 \cdot 5$ $403 \cdot 7$ | 219.5 271.7 | 69.6 | 1505.0 | $442 \cdot 2$ | $2070 \cdot 7$ | 2.34 | 8.92 10.04 |
| 1935 | 311.5 353.8 | $92 \cdot 2$ $107 \cdot 6$ | 403.4 | $302 \cdot 1$ | 78.5 | $1675 \cdot 1$ | 467.6 487.8 | $2271 \cdot 9$ 2461.8 | 2.98 | 12.16 |
| 1936 1937 1938 | 389.6 $342 \ddagger$ | $\begin{aligned} & 118.1 \\ & 105 \ddagger \end{aligned}$ | $507 \cdot 7$ $348 \ddagger$ | $\begin{aligned} & 326 \cdot 8 \\ & 274 \ddagger \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 81 \cdot 5 \\ & 68 \ddagger \end{aligned}$ |  |  | $2697 \ddagger$ | 1.44 | $11 \cdot 16$ |

[^50]
## FINANCE.




STOCKS \& SHARES-
NEW CAPITAL ISSUESBANK CLEARINGS-

BANK OF ENGLAND-
PRINCIPAL BANKS-
TREASURY BILLS-
MONEY-

Index Nos. of Prices and Yield as percentage of 1924 level; on 15 th of month. For end of month figures see Supplements.
Sensitive Index,-Geometric Mean of monthly percentage changes.
Issues during month in Gt. Eritain (a), for U.K. (b), for Abroad, excluding Government loans, etc.-As published
Th THE MIDLAND BANK, LTD, ind Metropolian of Clearing House for 3 weeks covering Total of Country Clearings , Clearings for 11 towns-Proportionate totals for 24 working days.
Deposits. 11th-17th of month. in circulation 11th-17th of month. Issues amalgamated, November 22 nd , 1928
Bank Notes and Currency Notes in circulation 11th-17th of month, Issues amalgamated, November 22nd, 1928. "Current Deposit and other accounts," etc. Averages for the month of 9 clearing banks LID. excluding the National Bank, Ltd., and the District Bank).-As published by THE MIDLAND BANK, LID.
Issued by tender. Total of Bills issued by tender during 13 weeks preceding date of Exchequer Return
Day-to-Day Rate and 3 Months' Rate. Averages for week ending 15th of month.

## PRICES.



* Normal seasonal change removed.

PRICES AND WAGES.


PRICE OF GOLD-
Average (London) price per fine oz, for week ending 15 th of month.-ECONOMIST.
PRICE OF SILVER- Arerage (cash) price of bar silver for week ending 15th of month.-ECONOMIST,
BOARD OF TRADE INDEX—Geometric Mean of Wholesale Prices (averages for month) of 200 commodities as jercentage of 1924 arerage Geometric Mean of Wholesale Prices (averages for month) of 200 commodities as perc
Based on new index first published in Januars, $1935 .-\mathrm{BOARD}$ OF TRADE JOURNAL.
STATIST (SAUERBECK) Average wholesale prices of 19 foodstuffs and 26 raw materials on last day of month, as percentage of average Average wholesale pric
for 1924.-STATIST.
COST OF LIVING INDEX-Ministry of Labour's index showing movement since 1924 in cost of maintaining unchanged the standard of living prevalent in working-class households before the war. For facilitate comparison witi. "Statist " index As above, for food onls.
RETAIL FOOD PRICES-
WAGES IEDEX-

## OUTPUT AND INTERNAL ACTIVITY.



OUTPUT AND INTERNAL ACTIVITY.


```
OUTPUT-COAL
    PIG IRON, STEEL
ELECTPICITY-ILK-
ARTIIICIAL SILK
POST OFFICE RECEIPTS-
MOTOR SPIRIT-TIONS
NEW REGISTRATIONS-
RAILWAY TRAFFIC-
    WEIGHT
        RECEIPTS
```

Total for 4 weeks ending approximately at end of month, BGARD issued by the BRITISH IRON AND STEEL Output for stan
Output of authorised undertakings.-ELECTRICITY COMMMSSION. TRADE JOURNAL
Rayon, yarn and waste, derived from Excise Statistics.-BOARD OF TRADE Cliple and independent shops. For
Revised index of value of sales in Departmental stores, Co-operatives, midn discussion see Board of Trade Journal, Feb. 9th, 1939 .-BANK OF ENGIAND. OF TRADE JOURNAL Dally averages, ex telegraph, telephone, savings bank and postal orders, -
Imports entered for home cons
Tonnage of the Railways of Great Eritain during the month, excluding free-hauled.
Monthly receipts for goods traffic, excluding cost of collection and delivery till January, 1928, then excluding Monthly receipts for goods delivery,-MINISTR $\bar{Y}$ OF TRANSPORT,

## EXTERNAL TRADE.



## EXTERNAL TRADE．

|  | TOTAL IMPORTS（Values）． |  |  |  |  |  | NET <br> IMPORTS <br> Total． <br> £ Mn． |  | EXPORTS OF U．K．GOODS（Values）． |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | GOLD． |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Food， Drink and Tobacco． $£ \mathrm{Mn}$ ． | Raw Materials． £Mn． | Manu－ factures． £Mn． | Total （including Miscellaneous） $£ \mathrm{Mn}$ ． |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Fod } \\ & \text { Drink } \\ & \text { Toba } \\ & \text { £ } \mathrm{Mn} . \end{aligned}$ | od， k and acco． | $\underset{\text { Mate }}{\mathrm{Ra}}$ <br> £Mn． | ls． |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { ing } \\ & \text { neous } \end{aligned}$ | ImPORTS | Exporth $£ \mathrm{Mn}$ |
| 1924 A v．．． | 47.6 大 | $33 \cdot 3$ 大 | 25.0 大 | 106.4 | 丈1 | 11.7 | $94 \cdot 8$ | 交1 | $4 \cdot 7$ | $\star$ | $8 \cdot 9$ | $\star$ | 516 | k | 66.8 | $\star$ | 3.0 | $4 \cdot 1$ |
| 1929 Av．．． | $44 \cdot 8$ | $23 \cdot 3$－ | 279 － | 101.9 | － | $9 \cdot 1$ | 92－8 | － | $4 \cdot 6$ |  | 6.6 | － | 47．8 |  | 608 | － | 5．2 | 6．5 |
| 1933 Av | 28.5 | 15.0 | 126 | 56.5 | － | $4 \cdot 1$ | 52.4 |  | 2 |  | 38 |  | 23.4 |  | 306 |  | 21.0 | 50 |
| 1934 Av．． | 29.1 | 17.5 | 14.3 | $61 \cdot 3$ | － | $4 \cdot 3$ | 57.1 |  | $2 \cdot 5$ |  | 4.0 |  | $25 \cdot 4$ | － | 33.0 | － | 21.9 | $10 \cdot 7$ |
| 1985 Av．．． | 29.9 | 17.8 | 15.4 | 63．5 | － | 4.6 | 58.9 | － | 2.5 | － | 4.4 | － | $27 \cdot 4$ | － | 35.5 | － | 203 | 14.5 |
| 1986 Av．． | 32.2 | 208 | 17.8 20.9 | 71.1 | － | $5 \cdot 1$ | 66.0 79.4 | － | 3.0 3.2 | － | $4 \cdot 3$ |  | 28.4 | － | 36.8 |  | 26.2 | $7 \cdot 2$ |
| 1937 Av．．． 1985 | 359 | $26 \cdot 3$ | 22.9 | 85.7 | － | $6 \cdot 3$ | 79.4 | － | $3 \cdot 2$ | － | $5 \cdot 4$ | － | $3 \cdot 7$ | － | 43.4 | － | 24.6 | 18.0 |
| JULY ．．． | $29.0 \quad 30 \cdot 1$ | 17.018 .2 | $15.5115 \cdot 8$ | 61.8 | 64.4 | 4.0 | 57.9 | $60 \cdot 8$ | 2.6 | 2.7 | 4.6 | 4.6 | 28.4 | $27 \cdot 3$ | 36.4 | 35.4 | $12 \cdot 0$ | $9 \cdot 0$ |
| AUG． | 27.028 .4 | $16 \cdot 0 \quad 17 \cdot \%$ | 15.815 .4 | $59 \cdot 1$ | $61 \cdot 3$ | $4 \cdot 2$ | 55.0 | 67\％${ }^{2}$ | 25 | $2 \cdot 6$ | $4 \cdot 1$ | 4.5 | 272 |  | $34 \cdot 9$ | $36^{\circ} \mathrm{L}$ | 14.6 | $7 \cdot 4$ |
| SEP＇T． | 29.629 .8 | $15 \cdot 317 \cdot y$ | $15.515 \cdot 7$ | $60 \cdot 8$ | 63.6 | 3.8 | 57.0 | $57 \cdot y$ | 2.8 | $2 \cdot \%$ | $3 \cdot 7$ | 3.9 | 26.7 | 27.5 | $34 \cdot 1$ | $35 \cdot 0$ | $13 \cdot 0$ | 20.4 |
| OCT． | 37.532 .1 | $18.019 \cdot 3$ | 17.516 .1 | 73.4 | $67 \cdot 9$ | $4 \cdot 7$ | $68 \cdot 7$ | 61．6 | 3.4 | 2.9 | $4 \cdot 7$ | $4 \cdot 3$ | 30.6 | 28.6 | $39 \cdot 9$ | 36.9 | $13 \cdot 2$ | 20.7 |
| NOV．．． | $34.430 \cdot 6$ | $19 \cdot 8 \quad 19 \cdot 1$ | $\begin{array}{lll}16.8 & 16.2\end{array}$ | 71.5 | $66^{\circ} 4$ | $4 \cdot 6$ | 66.9 | 607 | 3.8 | 3.0 | $5 \cdot 1$ | 4.7 | $29 \cdot 3$ | 28.8 | $39 \cdot 4$ | 3i． 6 | 16.0 | $12 \cdot 5$ |
| 1）EC． 1986 | 34.4 sl． 1 | 23.620 .0 | $15.9 \quad 16.2$ | $74 \cdot 4$ | $6^{7 \cdot 7}$ | $5 \cdot 4$ | $69 \cdot 0$ | 62．3 | $2 \cdot 7$ | $2 \cdot 5$ | 42 | 42 | $26 \cdot 2$ | 26.8 | $34 \cdot 9$ | $35 \cdot 3$ | 15.9 | 8.0 |
| JAN．．． | 31.281 .4 | $22.419 \cdot 2$ | 16．0 16．9 | $70 \cdot 0$ | $67 \cdot 9$ | $4 \cdot 3$ | 65.6 | 62． 9 | $2 \cdot 8$ | $2 \cdot 7$ | $4 \cdot 1$ | 42 | 26.6 | 26.6 | 34.5 | 385 | 12.2 | 3.8 |
| FEB． | 27.599 .7 | $\begin{array}{lll}18.9 & 19.5\end{array}$ | 15.716 .8 | $62 \cdot 3$ | 66.2 | $5 \cdot 7$ | $56 \cdot 7$ | 59.4 | $2 \cdot 5$ | $2 \cdot 6$ | $4 \cdot 1$ | 4：2 | $27 \cdot 6$ | 28.6 | 351 | $36 \%$ | 9.7 | $2 \cdot 4$ |
| MAR． | $\begin{array}{lll}30.2 & 30.9\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{llll}19.6 & 18.9\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{lll}17.9 & 17 \cdot 1\end{array}$ | $68 \cdot 0$ | $67 \cdot 2$ | $5 \cdot 9$ | $62 \cdot 1$ | 63.6 | $2 \cdot 9$ | 3.1 | $4 \cdot 1$ | $4 \cdot 1$ | 286 | $27 \cdot 6$ | 365 | 35.7 | 12.9 | 3.9 |
| APR． | 28.431 .1 | $20.0 \quad 20 \cdot 4$ | $\begin{array}{lll}17.9 & 18.2\end{array}$ | $66 \cdot 7$ | $70 \cdot 1$ | $5 \cdot 9$ | $60 \cdot 7$ | 66.5 | $2 \cdot 4$ | 2.7 | 3.9 | $4 \cdot 1$ | 26.0 | 26.9 | $33 \cdot 4$ | 84.8 | 18.0 | 30 |
| MAY | 31.68189 | $19.919 \cdot 9$ | $17.2 \quad 17 \cdot 1$ | $69 \cdot 2$ | 69.4 | 56 | $63 \cdot 5$ | 64.5 | $2 \cdot 7$ | 2．9 | $4 \cdot 5$ | $4 \cdot 3$ | 28.2 | 27．8 | 36.4 | 36.0 | 21.8 | 77 |
| JUNE | 31.538 .5 | $19 \cdot 3 \quad 20 \cdot 2$ | $16.4 \quad 17 \% 0$ | $67 \cdot 6$ | $\% 0 \cdot 1$ | $5 \cdot 0$ | $62 \cdot 6$ | $65 \cdot 0$ | $2 \cdot 6$ | $3 \cdot 0$ | 3.5 | $3 \cdot 7$ | $24 \cdot 9$ | 26.6 | $32 \cdot 1$ | 3：5 | $19 \cdot 3$ | 6.4 |
| JULY | $29.931 \cdot 1$ | 20.1 21．5 | $\begin{array}{lll}18.2 & 18.5\end{array}$ | $68 \cdot 7$ | $71 \cdot 6$ | 5．0 | $63 \cdot 7$ | 6：9 | 3.0 | $3 \cdot 2$ | 4.6 | 4.6 | 31.5 | $30 \cdot 3$ | $40 \cdot 1$ | $39 \cdot 1$ | 41.5 | 3.2 |
| AUG． | $29.0 \quad 30 \cdot 6$ | $18820 \cdot 1$ | $17.8 \quad 17.4$ | $66 \cdot 1$ | 68.6 | 4.4 | 616 | $64 \cdot 6$ | 2.8 | 2.9 | $4 \cdot 0$ | $4 \cdot 3$ | 27.5 | $28 \cdot 3$ | $35 \cdot 3$ | 36.5 | f0． 0 | $4 \cdot 6$ |
| SEP＇1． | 32.933 .1 | 19.622 .7 | $\begin{array}{lll}19 \cdot 1 & 19 \cdot 4\end{array}$ | $71 \cdot 9$ | 75.5 | 3.9 | 680 | $63 \cdot 1$ | 3.0 | \％ 9 | $4 \cdot 3$ | $4 \cdot 5$ | 28.8 | 296 | 37.0 | $37 \cdot 9$ | 33.6 | 3.9 |
| OCT． | $\begin{array}{lll}38.9 & 83.2\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{lll}21.5 & 28.0\end{array}$ | 19.8 18．2 | 80.5 | 74.7 | 4.5 | $76 \cdot 1$ | 68．2 | 3.6 | $3 \cdot 1$ | $4 \cdot 8$ | 4.4 | 32.2 | $30 \cdot 1$ | 41.8 | 38.7 | 19.8 | $18 \cdot 9$ |
| NOV． | $\begin{array}{lll}37.1 & 38.0\end{array}$ | $22822 \cdot 1$ | 18.417 \％ | 787 | 73.2 | 4.3 | $74 \cdot 3$ | $67 \cdot 4$ | 3.8 | 30 | 4.6 | 42 | 289 | 283 | 384 | 36.5 | 29.4 | $12 \cdot 9$ |
| 1） EC ． 1937 | $\begin{array}{lll}37.7 & 34.1\end{array}$ | $26.1 \quad 22.1$ | $\begin{array}{lll}19.2 & 19.5\end{array}$ | $83 \cdot 7$ | 26.4 | 61 | $77 \cdot 6$ | 70.4 | 3.4 | $3 \cdot 3$ | 4.9 | 49 | $30 \cdot 3$ | $30 \cdot 9$ | $40 \cdot 5$ | 410 | $35 \cdot 8$ | 15.8 |
| JAN．． | $32.0 \quad 32.2$ | 25.722 .0 | $17 \cdot 618.6$ | $75 \cdot 7$ | 78.2 | 51 | $70 \cdot 6$ | $67 \cdot 7$ | 3.0 | 2.9 | $5 \cdot 1$ | 5．2 | 29.9 | 29.9 | $39 \cdot 1$ | $34 \cdot 1$ | 11.8 | 17.0 |
| FEB． | 30.734 .4 | 22.122 .9 | $18620 \cdot 6$ | $71 \cdot 7$ | 78.1 | 6.9 | $64 \cdot 8$ | 20．2 | $3 \cdot 1$ | 34 | 49 | 5.2 | 29.7 | 31.6 | 38.6 | 412 | $41 \cdot 7$ | $17 \cdot 3$ |
| MAR． | 35.3 35．8 | 25.024 .2 | 22.1 | $82 \cdot 9$ | $81 \cdot 6$ | 6.7 | 762 | 78.0 | 2.9 | 30 | $5 \cdot 3$ | $5 \cdot 3$ | 34.2 | 32.9 | $43 \cdot 5$ | $42 \cdot 3$ | 37.6 | 21.9 |
| APR． | 32.936 .1 | $26.0 \quad 26.4$ | $23.6 \quad 24.0$ | 83.0 | $8 \% \cdot 1$ | $7 \cdot 3$ | $75 \cdot 7$ | 83.0 | $3 \cdot 1$ | 3.5 | $5 \cdot 6$ | $5 \cdot 9$ | 33.4 | 34.5 | 43.0 | 498 | 331 | 31.0 |
| MAY． | 34.234 .4 | $25 \cdot 6 \quad 25 \cdot 6$ | 22.922 .7 | 83.2 | 83.2 | $7 \cdot 4$ | $75 \cdot 8$ | $\pi \% 0$ | $3 \cdot 1$ | 3．3 | 55 | $5 \cdot 2$ | $33 \cdot 3$ | 32.8 | $42 \cdot 7$ | $42 \cdot 1$ | 11.7 | 21.7 |
| JUNE | $35.8 \quad 36.9$ | 27.428 .7 | $24.4 \quad 25 \cdot 3$ | 882 | 91.5 | $7 \cdot 1$ | $81 \cdot 1$ | 85.4 | 3.0 | 3.4 | $5 \cdot 7$ | $5 \cdot 9$ | 34.7 | $37 \cdot 0$ | 44.4 | 47.4 | 32.0 | 27.7 |
| JULY | $34.0 \quad 35.4$ | $26.3 \quad 28 \cdot 1$ | $24.6 \quad 25 \cdot 1$ | $85 \cdot 5$ | 85．2 | 6.8 | 787 | 82．7 | $3 \cdot 3$ | 3.5 | 60 | 5.5 | 37.4 | 36.0 | 476 | 46：3 | $44 \cdot 1$ | 18.9 |
| AUG． | $34.8 \quad 86.6$ | $26.7 \quad 28.6$ | $24.7 \quad 241$ | 866 | $89 \cdot 8$ | 6.9 | $80 \cdot 0$ | 840 | 30 | 32 | 53 | $5 \%$ | 33.4 | 34.4 | 42.5 | $4: 1$ | 31.7 | 6.6 |
| SEPT | 36.236 .4 | $26.5 \quad 30 \cdot 8$ | $24.6 \quad 24.9$ | 87.8 | 92．7 | $5 \cdot 2$ | $82 \cdot 6$ | 83.9 | 3.4 | 8.4 | 5.4 | $5 \cdot 7$ | 34.5 | $3 \cdot 5$ | 443 | 456 | 15.4 | 21.6 |
| OCT． | $43437 \cdot 1$ | $27.9 \quad 29.9$ | $24.4 \quad 22.4$ | 96.2 | $89 \cdot 9$ | $5 \cdot 7$ | 90.5 | $81 \cdot 1$ | 3.4 | $2 \cdot 9$ | $5 \cdot 8$ $5 \cdot 3$ | $5 \cdot 3$ | 36.7 | 31.4 | 47.2 | 43.8 | $12 \cdot 7$ | 14.6 |
| NOV． | 43.1188 .4 | 28.3127 .4 | 25.3 24．3 | 97.3 | $90 \cdot 7$ | 5－3 | 919 | 82.0 | 4.0 | 32 | $5 \cdot 3$ | 50 | 347 | 34.0 | 45.2 | 4.3 .4 | 129 | 90 |
| 1）EC． 1938 | $42.8 \quad 38.7$ | $27.3 \quad 23 \cdot 1$ | 23.323 .6 | 94.3 | 86.3 | 50 | $89 \cdot 3$ | $80 \cdot 6$ | 3.5 | 3.3 | 4.9 | $4 \cdot 9$ | $33 \cdot 3$ | 34.0 | 43.9 | 44.4 | 11.3 | $8 \cdot 3$ |
| JAN．． | $\begin{array}{lll}36.1 & 36.8\end{array}$ | 25.722 .0 | $22.5 \quad 23.8$ | $84 \cdot 9$ | 82．2 | $4 \cdot 8$ | $80 \cdot 1$ | \％ $0 \cdot 7$ | 3.0 | 3.0 | $4 \cdot 7$ | $4 \cdot 3$ | 32.6 | 32.6 | 41.2 | $41 \cdot 2$ | $12 \cdot 7$ | $7 \cdot 3$ |
| FEB | $\begin{array}{lll}33.2 & 97 \cdot 2\end{array}$ | $22.5 \quad 23.3$ | 19.5 \＆ 1.6 | $75 \cdot 7$ | 82.6 | 5．5 | $70 \cdot 2$ | 16．1 | 28 | 30 | $4 \cdot 2$ | 4：3 | 29.7 | 31.0 | $37 \cdot 5$ | 39.8 | 14.8 | 4.6 |
| MAR | 37.138 .0 | $24.0 \quad 23.3$ | 23．2 22．1 | 84.9 | 8\％0 | 5.5 | 79.4 | 81.3 | $2 \cdot 8$ | $\because 9$ | $4 \cdot 9$ | 4.9 | $33 \cdot 5$ | 83．3 | 42.2 | $41 \cdot 1$ | 28.8 | 13.0 |
| APR． | $\begin{array}{lll}32.1 & 35.2\end{array}$ | 21.5 21．9 | $19.7 \quad 20 \cdot 0$ | $73 \cdot 7$ | 7\％．5 | 5．0 | $68 \cdot 7$ | 75.3 | 2.4 | 0.7 | $4 \cdot 5$ | 4.7 | $29 \cdot 3$ | $30 \cdot 4$ | $37 \cdot 3$ | $35 \cdot 9$ | 20.6 | 9.9 |
| MAY | $35.2 \quad 35.5$ | $20.4 \quad 20 \cdot 3$ | 19.419 .3 | 75.4 | 75.5 | 7.2 | 68.2 | $69 \cdot 3$ | 2.8 | 3.0 | 4.9 | $4 \cdot 7$ | 29.5 | ：90．2 | 38.2 | 37.9 39.8 | 27．4 | 7.8 11.5 |
| JUNE | $\begin{array}{lll}38.4 & 39.7\end{array}$ | $19.4 \quad 20 \cdot 4$ | $18.1 \quad 18.7$ | 76.5 | 79.4 | 5：0 | 71.5 | 75.7 | 27 | 3.0 | 4.5 | 4.7 | 28.8 | 30\％7 | $35 \cdot 9$ | 3.93 | 29.6 | 11.5 |
| JULY | $36.4 \quad 37.9$ | $19.2 \quad 20.5$ | $17.7 \quad 18.0$ | 739 | 27．0 | 46 | 69.4 | 78.9 | $2 \cdot 9$ | 3.0 | 4.7 | $4 \cdot 7$ |  |  | 37.5 | S6．${ }^{3}$ | 16.0 |  |
| AUG． | $35 \cdot 1 \quad 37 \cdot 0$ | $20 \cdot 3 \quad 21.8$ | $18.017 \%$ | $74 \cdot 1$ | $77 \cdot 1$ | $5 \cdot 0$ | $69 \cdot 1$ | 72.5 | $3 \cdot 0$ | 3.1 | $4 \cdot 5$ | $4 \cdot 9$ | 280 | 28.9 | 36.3 29 | 37.7 | 129 36.4 | $27 \cdot 9$ $90 \cdot 3$ |
| SEPT | $\begin{array}{ll}37.7 & 88.0 \\ 39.3 & 83.6\end{array}$ | 18.020 .9 | $\begin{array}{lll}18.7 & 18.9 \\ 20.2 & 18.6\end{array}$ | 75.0 | 78.4 78. | 4.0 5.4 | 71.0 | 72．1 | 3．1 | 3.0 3.9 | 4.6 $5: 3$ | 49 <br> 4 <br> 9 |  | $38 \cdot 0$ $30 \cdot 3$ | 39.8 42.6 | 20.9 89.7 | 36.4 29.4 | $90 \cdot 3$ $73 \cdot 5$ |
| OCT． | 39.3 39.1 | $\begin{array}{ll}19.0 & 20.3 \\ 18.7 & 18.1\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ll}20.2 & 18.6 \\ 19.7 & 18.9\end{array}$ | 79.0 78.0 | 78.0 72.9 | $5 \cdot 4$ $5 \cdot 1$ | 73.6 72.9 | 6.9 66.1 | 3.7 3.8 3.0 | 3.0 3.0 | 5.3 5.4 | 5 |  | 31.8 31 | 42.9 | 41.0 | 3.9 | 24.4 |
| DEC． | $\begin{array}{ll}39.1 & 3.8 \\ 35.4 & 3 \% .1\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ll}18.7 & 18.1 \\ 19.8 & 16.8\end{array}$ | 19.7 <br> 178 <br> 18.1 | 74.1 | 68．1 | 48 | 193 | 62.6 | 30 | 20 29 | 4.6 | 46 | 294 | 300 | $39 \cdot 1$ | 396 | $7 \cdot 5$ | 21.7 |
| 1939 | $\begin{array}{lll}35.0 & 35 \cdot z\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{lll}21.5 & 18.4\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{lll}18.4 & 19.4\end{array}$ | $75 \cdot 6$ | 73.7 | 4.6 | 71.0 | $68 \cdot 1$ | $3 \cdot 1$ | 3.0 | $4 \cdot 7$ | 4.7 | 30.4 | $3 \cdot \cdot 5$ | 39.5 | $39 \cdot 5$ | 47 | 10.5 |
| FEB． | $30.2 \quad 33.9$ | $17 \cdot 2 \quad 17 \cdot 7$ | 17.619 .5 | $65 \cdot 5$ | 71.6 | $4 \cdot 8$ | 60.7 | 65.9 | 2.5 | $2 \cdot 7$ | $4 \cdot 3$ | 40 | 30.4 | 32．3 | $38 \cdot 1$ | $40 \cdot 4$ | 35 | 35．1 |
| MAR． | $35.7 \quad 36.5$ | $\begin{array}{llll}19 \cdot 6 & 19 \cdot 0\end{array}$ | $21.9 \quad 20.9$ | 78.0 | 77．2 | 4.9 | 73.1 | 7 19 | $3 \cdot 1$ | 3．2 | $4 \cdot 8$ | 4.8 | $32 \cdot 7$ | 31.4 | 41.6 | $40 \%$ | 128 | 87.9 |
| APR． | $\begin{array}{lll}30 \cdot 3 & 33.8\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{llll}19.5 & 19.9\end{array}$ | 19.7 ：0．0 | $70 \cdot 1$ | 78.8 | 4.6 | 65.5 73.5 | $71 \cdot y$ | 2.4 3.4 | 2.7 | 4.2 | 4.3 | 27.4 32.7 | 28.4 39.3 | $35 \cdot 1$ $42 \cdot 3$ | 36． | 62.0 31.9 | $87 \cdot 9$ 94.7 |
| MAY | $\begin{array}{ll}33.6 & 33.9\end{array}$ | 22.8 22．7 | $21.5 \quad 21.3$ | 78.5 | 78.5 | 5．0 | 73.5 | 74.7 | 3.2 | 3.4 | $5 \cdot 4$ | $5 \cdot 1$ |  |  | $42 \cdot 3$ | $47 \%$ | $31 \cdot 9$ | 94.7 |

IMPORTS \＆EXPORTS－
Declared ralues of imports（c．i．i．）Into C ．F．，re－exports of imported goods（f．o．b．）and exports（f．o．b．）
of U．K．produce and manufacture．Net imports $=$ Total imports less exports of imported goods．Value of of U．K．produce and manufacture．
mports and exports of gold bullion and coin．－MONTHLY ACCOUNTS OF TRADE \＆NAVIaATION．For $\dagger$ The seasonally adjusted series for total imports is deduced from

## SHIPPING, UNEMPLOYMENT.



Unemployment, Other Industries - Cole. 11 to 13 , opposite.

|  | Tonnage of Ships （with Cargoes）． <br> ntered Cleared British Ports． |  |  |  | New <br> Index of <br> Tramp <br> Shipping <br> Freight <br> Rates． <br> \％of 1935 | INSURED PERSONS UNEMPLOYED $\ddagger$ <br> （Great Britain and North Ireland）． |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  | Males． | Females． |  | Persons． |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Ẻ゙ } \\ & \text { Hi } \end{aligned}$ | 厄゙ँ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { థ్ } \\ & \text { 世े } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1924 Av．．${ }^{\text {c }}$ | 461 | R | 544 | ＊ |  |  | 942 | 12 | 52 | 116 | 78 | 99 | 35 | 344 | 145 | 263 | 62 |  | 000 | 1203 | $\frac{\%}{10 \cdot 3}$ |
| 1929 Av．． | 522 | － | 572 | － |  | $133 \cdot 5$ | 1019 | 176 | 41 | 67 | 49 | 146 | 35 | 345 | 160 | 244 | 68 | 994 | 268 | 1262 | $10 \cdot 4$ |
| 1933 Av．．． | 503 | － | 464 | － | － | 2163 | 338 | 79 | 177 | 103 | 336 | 64 | 687 | 379 | 404 | 92 | 2110 | 457 | 2567 | $19 \cdot 9$ |
| 1934 Av．．．． | 522 | － | 459 | － | － | 1817 | 280 | 52 | 111 | 80 | 295 | 61 | 569 | 369 | 354 | 85 | 1802 | 369 | 2171 | 16.7 |
| 1935 Av．．．． | 530 | － | 477 | － | 100 | 1682 | 241 | 44 | 88 | 67 | 288 | 52 | 529 | 373 | 346 | 72 | 1715 | 313 | 2027 | $15 \cdot 5$ |
| 1936 Av ．． | 562 | － | 473 | － | 113 | 1455 | 198 | 33 | 59 | 50 | 272 | 37 | 466 | 340 | 311 | 51 | 1498 | 251 | 1749 | 13.2 |
| $\begin{gathered} 1937 \text { Av. ... } \\ 1935 \end{gathered}$ | 587 | － | 512 | － | $175 \cdot 6$ | 1196 | 129 | 24 | 41 | 40 | 254 | 28 | 379 | 300 | 286 | 42 | 1278 | 204 | 1482 | 11.0 |
| $1930$ | 607 | 544 | 520 | 486 |  | 1659 | 293 | 46 | 87 | 67 | 265 | 53 | 508 | 340 | 333 | 77 | 1590 | 402 | 1992 | 15.2 |
| AUG． | 593 | 533 | 531 | 487 |  | 1611 | 256 | 42 | 83 | 65 | 262 | 52 | 506 | 345 | 339 | 76 | 1605 | 345 | 1950 | 14.9 |
| SEPT． | 583 | 541 | 488 | 461 |  | 1619 | 242 | 40 | 84 | 66 | 273 | 49 | 506 | 359 | 334 | 72 | 1645 | 308 | 1953 | 14.9 |
| OCT． | 561 | 524 | 515 | 482 |  | 1585 | 218 | 40 | 79 | 64 | 277 | 43 | 495 | 369 | 317 | 61 | 1659 | 244 | 1902 | 14.5 |
| NOV．．．．．．． | 524 | 538 | 494 | 493 |  | 1578 | 189 | 39 | 76 | 59 | 297 | 41 | 502 | 375 | 328 | 56 | 1680 | 226 | 1906 | 14.5 |
| DEC． 1936 | 539 |  | 439 |  |  | 1550 | 182 | 36 | 73 | 58 | 309 | 39 | 490 | 363 | 308 | 52 | 1648 | 210 | 1858 | $14 \cdot 1$ |
| JAN. | 500 | 552 | 453 | 467 |  | 1761 | 183 | 39 | 76 | 57 | 417 | 43 | 550 | 396 | 370 | 55 | 1780 | 351 | 2131 | 16.2 |
| FEB． | 470 | 554 | 410 | 460 |  | 1654 | 189 | 39 | 72 | 56 | 332 | 42 | 532 | 392 | 363 | 55 | 1752 | 264 | 2017 | $15 \cdot 3$ |
| MAR． | 521 | 561 | 427 | 444 |  | 1541 | 203 | 37 | 68 | 55 | 270 | 39 | 494 | 375 | 338 | 53 | 1639 | 240 | 1879 | 14.2 |
| APR． | 505 | 533 | 435 | 462 |  | 1488 | 218 | 37 | 65 | 52 | 245 | 41 | 476 | 354 | 319 | 54 | 1556 | 252 | 1807 | 13.6 |
| MAY | 559 | 536 | 493 | 476 |  | 1398 | 216 | 35 | 60 | 51 | 222 | 39 | 443 | 332 | 299 | 54 | 1467 | 230 | 1697 | 12.8 |
| JUNE ．．．．．． | 608 | 564 | 473 | 461 |  | 1414 | 273 | 33 | 57 | 47 | 221 | 39 | 431 | 313 | 293 | 55 | 1402 | 306 | 1707 | 12.8 |
| JULY | 617 | 553 | 522 | 488 |  | 1367 | 233 | 34 | 56 | 48 | 237 | 36 | 419 | 304 | 293 | 55 | 1357 | 302 | 1660 | $12 \cdot 4$ |
| AUG． | 646 | 582 | 511 | 468 |  | 1315 | 189 | 33 | 55 | 49 | 233 | 36 | 416 | 304 | 297 | 55 | 1362 | 250 | 1612 | 12.0 |
| SEPT． | 598 | 555 | 504 | 476 |  | 1323 | 191 | 30 | 53 | 48 | 242 | 34 | 412 | 313 | 298 | 53 | 1384 | 236 | 1620 | $12 \cdot 1$ |
| OCT． | 600 | 560 | 523 | 490 |  | 1324 | 176 | 29 | 50 | 45 | 255 | 32 | 407 | 330 | 290 | 46 | 1417 | 196 | 1614 | 12.0 |
| NOV．．．．．．． | 563 | 578 | 464 | 463 |  | 1328 | 161 | 27 | 47 | 44 | 277 | 30 | 408 | 334 | 293 | 42 | 1430 | 192 | 1621 | 12.0 |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { DEC. } \\ 1937 \end{gathered}$ | 555 | 568 | 466 | 494 |  | 1345 | 146 | 26 | 48 | 43 | 308 | 29 | 413 | 332 | 277 | 38 | 1425 | 198 | 1622 | 12.0 |
| JAN. | 487 | 538 | 453 | 467 | $167 \cdot 7$ | 1365 | 138 | 25 | 47 | 43 | 308 | 29 | 431 | 344 | 312 | 35 | 1489 | 188 | 1677 | 12.4 |
| FEB．．．．．．．．． | 482 | 589 | 428 | 497 | 157.9 | 1324 | 136 | 24 | 45 | 42 | 290 | 28 | 416 | 343 | 301 | 34 | 1460 | 165 | 1625 | 12.0 |
| MAR．．．．．．． | 576 | 620 | 472 | 490 | 158.9 | 1298 | 130 | 25 | 44 | 42 | 289 | 26 | 406 | 336 | 279 | 33 | 1406 | 170 | 1576 | 11.6 |
| APRIL ．．． | 542 | 572 | 514 | 548 | 176.8 | 1175 | 124 | 24 | 41 | 40 | 234 | 26 | 375 | 311 | 261 | 33 | 1305 | 131 | 1436 | 10.5 |
| MAY | 600 | 576 | 509 | 491 | $185 \cdot 4$ | 1191 | 156 | 26 | 39 | 42 | 226 | 29 | 380 | 293 | 265 | 40 | 1246 | 210 | 1456 1370 | 10.7 10.0 |
| JUNE | 629 | 584 | 545 | 531 | 187．1 | 1126 | 169 | 22 | 37 | 39 | 210 | 25 | 350 | 274 | 244 | 37 | 1167 | 203 | 1370 | $10 \cdot 0$ |
| JULY | 642 | 575 | 582 | 544 | $185{ }^{\circ} 0$ | 1117 | 146 | 26 | 40 | 38 | 222 | 26 | 355 | 264 | 268 | 40 | 1136 | 249 | 1386 |  |
| AUG． | 672 | 604 | 549 | 503 | $193 \cdot 3$ | 1090 $\$ 1107$ | 122 118 | 23 23 | 39 39 | 38 39 | 220 228 | 25 | 356 360 | 267 272 | 267 <br> 272 | 41 44 | 1148 | 209 | 1357 1379 | 9.9 10.1 |
| SEPT． | 601 | 558 | 563 | 532 | 201.7 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | \＄1071 | 116 | 22 | 38 | 38 | 221 | 29 | 343 | 264 | 263 | 45 | 1139 1215 | 195 | 1334 | $9 \cdot 7$ 10.1 |
| OCT． | 610 | 569 | 550 | 515 | $190 \cdot 0$ | 1112 | 113 | 22 | 39 | 36 | 233 | 27 33 | 350 | 292 | 283 | 41 | 1215 | 182 |  | 10.9 |
| NOV． | 614 | 680 | 491 | 490 | $162 \cdot 9$ | 1173 | 101 | 24 | 41 43 | 37 39 | 256 341 | 33 38 | 377 413 | 304 311 | 334 355 | 55 | 1284 1339 | 222 326 | 1507 | 10.9 12.1 |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { DEC. ....... } \\ 1938 \end{gathered}$ | 586 |  | 484 | 514 | 141.0 | 1310 | 100 | 25 | 43 | 39 | 341 | 38 | 413 | 311 | 355 | 66 | 1339 | 326 | 1818 |  |
| JAN． | 533 | 589 | 448 | 462 | 138.2 | 1376 | 98 | 32 | 47 | 37 | 320 | 46 | 465 | 331 | 441 | 83 | 1466 | 351 | 1818 | $13 \cdot 1$ |
| FEB．． | 484 | 593 | 415 | 481 | 129.5 | 1358 | 97 | 34 | 49 | 36 | 294 | 48 | 467 | 333 | 449 | 92 | 1467 | 341 | 1808 | 12.7 |
| MAR． | 560 | 603 | 458 | 477 | 127.5 | 1316 | 102 | 37 | 50 | 34 | 256 | 50 | 461 | 326 | 448 | 94 | 1426 | 338 | 1764 | 12.7 |
| APR． | 530 | 559 | 465 | 495 | 126.9 | 1318 | 125 | 39 | 51 | 35 | 241 | 52 | 459 | 316 | 442 | 97 | 1394 | 366 | 1760 1780 | 12.7 12.8 |
| MAY．． | 603 | 579 | 480 | 463 | $130 \cdot 6$ | 1337 | 150 | 46 | 53 | 34 | 233 | 58 | 458 | 305 | 444 | 112 | 1376 1352 | 404 | 1780 1829 | 12．8 |
| JUNE | 613 | 569 | 519 | 506 | $123 \cdot 1$ | 1375 | 156 | 53 | 59 | 35 | 237 | 68 | 473 | 2.94 | 455 | 125 | 1352 | 478 | 1829 | 13．1＊ |
| JULY | 607 | 544 | 524 | 439 | $120 \cdot 2$ | 1382† | 190 | 54 | 58 | 37 | 257 | 53 | 454 | $279+$ | $438 \dagger$ | 108 | $1339+$ | $481+$ | $1819 \dagger$ | $\frac{12.97}{12}$ |
| AUG． | 642 | 577 | 538 | 493 | 126.4 | 1341 | 154 | 56 | 60 | 35 | 247 | 56 | 455 | 278 | 439 | 113 | 1333 | 447 | 1780 | 12.6 |
| SEPT | 591 | 548 | 548 | 517 | 126.3 | 1377 | 151 | 59 | 64 | 37 | 261 | 60 | 454 | 291 | 430 | 110 | 1387 | 420 | 1807 | 12.8 |
| OCT． | 589 | 550 | 535 | 501 | $127 \cdot 6$ | 1374 | 121 | 46 | 63 | 39 | 285 | 44 | 451 | 325 | 425 | 85 | 1486 | 313 | 1799 | $12 \cdot 7$ |
| NOV．．．．．．．． | 537 | 551 | 489 | 489 | $122 \cdot 3$ | 1420 | 129 | 52 | 64 | 39 | 302 | 41 | 457 | 336 334 | 420 | 77 | 1529 | 310 | 1839 | 13.0 12.9 |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { DEC. ....... } \\ 1939 \end{gathered}$ | 550 | 562 | 470 | 499 | $124 \cdot 1$ | 1425 | 123 | 53 | 62 | 39 | 319 | 39 | 456 | 334 | 403 | 74 | 1529 | 298 | 1827 | $12 \cdot 9$ |
| JAN．．．．．．．．． | 505 | 557 | 465 | 479 | 120.8 | 1558 | 111 | 49 | 67 | 40 | 385 | 43 | 508 | 355 | 459 | 74 | 1635 | 382 | 2017 | $14 \cdot 3$ |
| FEB．． | 454 | 555 | 414 | 481 | 121.5 | 1452 | 115 | 39 | 63 | 40 | 334 | 38 | 476 | 347 | 436 | 69 | 1593 | 295 | 1888 | 13.4 |
| MAR． | 529 | 570 | 469 | 488 | 117.5 | 1330 | 107 | 34 | 59 | 41 | 283 | 33 | 440 | 333 | 403 | 62 | 1496 | 237 | 1733 | $12 \cdot 3$ 11.6 |
| APR．．．．．．．．． | 523 615 | 551 690 | 477 541 | 508 522 | 119.6 129.6 | 1257 | 106 108 | 33 24 | 56 48 | 38 35 | 262 234 | 34 29 | 419 375 | 330 290 | 384 354 | 61 | 1396 1293 | 245 | 1641 | 11.6 10.6 |

t 16－65 years．Ex．Agriculture and any disqualified for benefit by trade dispute．N．B．－Changes in method of enumeration in Sept．， 1937 and July， 1938.

＊July，old basis．

TRANSPORT ：
SHIPPING－ENTERED
SHIPPING FREIGHTS－
UNEMPLOYMENT－
INSURED PERSONS－

Tonnage of Britich and Foreim vessels entering and leaving British ports with cargoes during month．－BOARD
OF TRADE MONTHLY ACCOUNTS OF TRADE \＆NAVIGATION For description see Journal of RSS，Part I， Chamber of Shipping inder number as $D$

Number of books lodged at Labour Exchange on or about 25th of month to September，1937，thereafter one Number of books lodged at Labour Exchange on

|  | average of daily rates. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Prisis } \\ & \text { fot to } \end{aligned}$ | $\left\lvert\, \begin{gathered} \text { Bras. } \\ \text { Bras. } \\ \text { b.tols } \end{gathered}\right.$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Milan } \\ & \text { 1. to } £ \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Berlin } \\ \text { Rm.to£ } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Amster } \\ & \text { dam } \\ & \text { fil. to } £ \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { War- } \\ & \text { waw } \\ & \text { s.tow } £ \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Prague } \\ & \text { kc. to } £ \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Zurich } \\ & \text { f. to } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Stock- } \\ \text { Solk- } \\ \text { kr. to } £ \end{gathered}$ | $\left\|\begin{array}{c} \text { NewYork } \\ 8 \text { to } £ \end{array}\right\|$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Mon } \\ \begin{array}{c} \text { Mreal } \\ \text { sto } \end{array} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Buenos } \\ & \text { Airess } \\ & \text { D. to } \varepsilon \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\left\lvert\, \begin{gathered} \text { Rio de } \\ \text { Janeiro } \\ \text { J. per mil. } \end{gathered}\right.$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Bombay } \\ \text { a. per rup. } \end{array}$ | $\left\lvert\, \begin{gathered} \text { Hong. } \\ \text { kong } \\ \text { d. per } 8 \end{gathered}\right.$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Kobe } \\ & \text { 1. Der yer } \end{aligned}$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | For |  | 34 Ra | SEE | Earlibr B | colet |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | $57 \cdot 47$ | 12:22 | 7.26 | 25 | 117.33 | 15.15 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.895 | 4867 | 19.41\|| |  | $18 \cdot 107$ | 21.21 | $14 \cdot 00$ |
| JEB. |  |  | 57.43 | $12 \cdot 15$ |  |  | ${ }^{116.66}$ | 15.06 | 19.40 | 4.875 | 4.878 | 18.98 | $3 \cdot 28$ | $18 \cdot 156$ | ${ }^{21.87}$ | 14.01 |
| MAR. | $72 \cdot 11$ | 21.01 | $57 \cdot 17$ | 11.82 | 7.03 | 25.20 | ${ }^{115 \cdot 74}$ | 14.68 14.93 | 19.40 | 4.835 | 4:856 | ${ }_{18}^{18.98}$ | 3.01 | 18.127 18.117 | 24.13 | 14.09 |
| ${ }^{\text {APR }}$. | 73 | 28.49 |  | 12:00 | 7.17 | ${ }_{25} 5.96$ | 117.30 | 15.13 | 19.40 | 4.890 | 4.892 | 18.91 | 2.72 | 18.128 | ${ }_{29.18}^{2628}$ | 14.14 |
| JUNE | 74.68 | $29 \cdot 13$ | 59.75 | 12.21 | 7.27 | 26.16 | 117.94 | $15 \cdot 10$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.936 | 4.939 | $18 \cdot 70$ | $2 \cdot 61$ | $18 \cdot 126$ | 28.02 | 14.13 |
| JULY | 74 | 29 | 60 | 12 | 7.29 | 26.18 | 118.77 | 15.13 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.956 | 4.963 | 18.65 | $2 \cdot 62$ | 18.125 | 25.80 | $14 \cdot 14$ |
|  |  |  | 60.49 | 12:32 | 7.33 | 26.21 | $119 \cdot 46$ | 15.19 | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 971$ | 4.980 | 18.52 | $2 \cdot 58$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | $24 \cdot 33$ | 14.18 |
| SEPT. | 74 | 29 | 60.46 |  | 7.30 | 26 | 119.20 | 15.17 | 19.40 | 4.908 | 4.976 | ${ }_{18.01}^{18 .}$ | 2.62 | 18.125 18.125 | 24.37 24.09 | 14.11 |
| OCT. | 7449 74.77 | 29 | $\stackrel{60 \cdot 30}{*}$ | 12:20 | 7.24 | ${ }_{26}^{26}{ }^{26}$ | ${ }_{119}^{119.06}$ | 155.18 | 19.40 | 4.925 | 4.976 | ${ }_{18} 18.09$ | 2.72 | 18.125 | 24.09 17.91 | 14.05 14.02 |
| DEC. | 74:69 | $29 \cdot 24$ | * | 12:25 | 7.27 | $26 \cdot 15$ | 118.89 | 15.20 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.929 | 4.975 | 18.06 | $2 \cdot 68$ | $18 \cdot 126$ | 16.04 | 14.01 |
| JAN. | 74:86 | $29 \cdot 29$ | 61 | 12. | 7.28 | 26 | $119 \cdot 19$ | 15.19 | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 960$ | 4.963 | 18.24 | $2 \cdot 68$ | 18.152 | $15 \cdot 66$ | 14.04 |
| FEB | 74 |  |  | 12:29 | 7.28 | $26 \cdot 20$ | 119.21 | 15.14 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.996 | 4.993 | 18.07 | $2 \cdot 74$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 15.74 | 4.08 |
| MAR. | 74 |  | 62:35 | 12 | 7.27 | 26.21 | $119 \cdot 31$ | 15.14 | 19.40 | $4 \cdot 971$ | 4.977 | ${ }_{18}^{18.04}$ | ${ }^{2} 273$ | $18 \cdot 12$ | $15 \cdot 93$ | ${ }^{13} 198$ |
| APR. | 75000 |  |  | ${ }^{12} 2$ | 7.35 | ${ }_{26} 265$ | ${ }^{119.50}$ | ${ }_{15}^{15 \cdot 17}$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | + 4.944 | 4.979 | 18.00 | ${ }_{2}$ | l18.125 | 15.71 | 14.03 14.08 |
| JUNE | 76.14 | 29.70 | 63:84 | $12 \cdot 46$ | $7 \cdot 42$ | 26.71 | 121-28 | $15 \cdot 48$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | 5.020 | 5.032 | $18 \cdot 13$ | $2 \cdot 72$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | $15 \cdot 44$ | 14.07 |
| JULY |  |  |  | $12 \cdot 45$ | 7.38 | 26.59 | $120 \cdot 97$ | $15 \cdot 35$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | 5.023 | 5.027 | $18 \cdot 42$ | $2 \cdot 77$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 15.33 | . 03 |
|  |  |  |  | 12 | 7 | 26.73 | 121-59 | $15 \cdot 42$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | 5.028 | 5.026 | 18.02 | 2:80 | $18 \cdot 125$ | $14 \cdot 90$ |  |
|  |  |  |  | 12 | 7.58 |  | 122-17 | 16.01 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 5.041 | 5.039 | $17 \cdot 76$ | $2 \cdot 81$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 14:86 | 14004 |
| OCT. | ${ }_{10517}^{10509}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & 92 \cdot 96 \\ & 00: 86 \end{aligned}$ | 12-19 | $\begin{aligned} & 9.13 \\ & 9.05 \end{aligned}$ | $\left\lvert\, \begin{array}{c\|} 26 \cdot 16 \\ 26 \cdot 00 \end{array}\right.$ | ${ }^{134} 139$ | ${ }_{21}^{21 \cdot 31}$ | 19.40 | 4.900 4.888 | 4.888 | 17.56 | 2.87 2.89 | 188.125 | 14.88 14.95 | 14003 $14 \cdot 03$ |
| DEC. | 105•14 | 29.03 | $93 \cdot 19$ | $12 \cdot 19$ | 8.99 | 26.00 | 139.26 | 21.35 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4-907 | 4.903 | 16.42 | $2 \cdot 93$ | $18 \cdot 144$ | 14.93 | 13.96 |
| JAN. | 10514 |  | 93 | 12.19 | 8.96 | 26.00 | $140 \cdot 48$ | 21-39 | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 90$ | 4.909 | $16 \cdot 16$ | $2 \cdot 95$ | 18.151 | 14.95 | 13.95 |
| FEB. | 105 |  |  | $12 \cdot 16$ | 8:9 | 25.89 | $140 \cdot 3$ | 21.44 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.897 | 4.895 | $16 \cdot 24$ | 3.01 | 18.142 | $14 \cdot 94$ | 98 |
|  |  |  |  | $12 \cdot 15$ | 8.93 | 25.72 | 140.00 | $21 \cdot 43$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.885 | 4.882 | 16.23 | 3.01 | 18.125 | 14.94 | 14.00 |
| ${ }_{\text {APR. }}^{\text {MAY }}$ | ${ }^{109 \cdot 31}$ | ${ }_{2}^{29.15}$ |  | 12:22 | ${ }_{8}^{8.98}$ | 25.89 | 141:01 | ${ }^{21.54}$ | 19.40 | 4.916 | 4.909 | ${ }_{16}^{16.24}$ | 3.07 3.13 | 18.125 18.125 | 14.94 | 14.00 14.00 |
| JUNE | 110.82 | $29 \cdot 26$ | $93 \cdot 80$ | $12 \cdot 31$ | 8.98 | 26.03 | 141.63 | 21.57 | 19.40 | 4.935 | $4 \cdot 937$ | $16 \cdot 20$ | $3 \cdot 22$ | 18.125 | 14.78 | 13.98 |
| JuLY | $130 \cdot 34$ |  |  | 12:35 | $9 \cdot 01$ |  | $142 \cdot 41$ |  | 19. | $4 \cdot 986$ | 4.972 | $16 \cdot 43$ | 3.22 | 18.125 | 14.68 | $13 \cdot 97$ |
|  | 132:85 |  |  | $12 \cdot 39$ | 9.03 | $26 \cdot 36$ | 142:83 | 21.70 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4-983 | 4.983 | 16 | 3.15 | 18.125 | $14 \cdot 92$ | 14:00 |
| 0 |  |  |  | 12:34 | $8 \cdot 98$ | 26.25 | 14175 | 21.57 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.961 | 4.954 | $16 \cdot 50$ | 3.12 | 18.125 | 15.00 | 14.00 $14 \cdot 00$ |
| NOV. | 14719 | 29.37 | 94.91 | 12:37 | 9.01 | 26 | 142:06 | 21.58 | 19.40 | 4.994 | 4.990 | 16.86 | 2.77 | 18.125 | 1500 | 14.00 |
| DEC. | 14716 | $29 \cdot 41$ | $94 \cdot 99$ | 1240 | $8 \cdot 99$ | $26 \cdot 37$ | $142 \cdot 20$ | 21.61 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.997 | $4 \cdot 998$ | 17.01 | $2 \cdot 64$ | 18.125 | 15.00 | 14:00 |
| JAN. |  |  |  | $12 \cdot 41$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| MEB. | ${ }^{152987}$ | 29.56 | $95 \cdot 37$ | 12.41 | $8 \cdot 97$ | 26.43 | $142 \cdot 71$ | 21.60 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 5.018 | $5 \cdot 016$ | 18.83 | $2 \cdot 82$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | $15 \cdot 00$ | 14.00 |
| APR. | $160 \cdot 90$ | 29.54 | ${ }_{94}$ /63 | 12.38 | 8.96 | ${ }_{26} \mathbf{2 6}$ | 142:86 | 21.63 21.67 | 19.40 19.40 | 4.985 4.979 | +.997 | ${ }_{19}^{19.48}$ | 2:81 | 18.051 | 14:84 | 11400 1159 |
|  | 175.14 | 29.50 | 94:42 | 12:36 | 8.97 | 2 | 142.76 | 21.75 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.965 | 5.007 | $19 \cdot 0$ | 2:81 | 17.910 | $14 \cdot 91$ | 14:00 |
| JUNE | $178 \cdot 17$ | 29.23 | 94:22 | 12.31 | $8 \cdot 96$ | 26.29 | 142:61 | 21.66 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.960 | 5.012 | 19.02 | 2\%81 $\dagger$ | 17.795 | 14.94 | 14:00 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| SEPT. | 178.42 | 28.45 | $\begin{aligned} & 92 \\ & 92 \end{aligned}$ | 12.17 | 8.94 | ${ }^{25 \cdot 93}$ | 141.32 | 21.32 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.881 | 4.897 | 18.87 | 2:88\% + | 17.897 | 15:00 | $14 \cdot 00$ |
| oct. | 178.71 | 28.20 | 90.64 | 11.90 | 8.77 | ${ }_{25}{ }^{2} \cdot 36$ | ${ }_{1}^{138.60}$ | 21.25 20.99 | $19 \cdot 40$ 19.40 | 4.805 4.769 | 4.8812 | 19.00 18.99 |  | 17.933 | ${ }_{14} 19.97$ | 14:00 |
| DEC. | ${ }^{178768}$ | ${ }^{27} 78$ | 89.51 | 11.76 | $8 \cdot 67$ |  | 137.34 | 20.79 | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 710$ | 4.742 | 20.09 | $3.02 \pm$ | $17 \cdot 936$ | 14.94 | 14:00 |
| ${ }_{1939}$ |  | 27 | 88.75 | 11.65 | 8.59 | 24.78 | 136.36 | $20 \cdot 65$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 671$ | $4 \cdot 706$ | 20.55 | $3.66 \ddagger$ | 17.923 | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| JAN. | 177.49 1769 | ${ }^{27} 27.79$ |  | $\begin{array}{\|l\|l\|} \hline 11 \cdot 64 \\ 11.67 \end{array}$ | ${ }_{8}^{8.71}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 24 \cdot 70 \\ & 24.70 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $17 \cdot 9$ |  | 1400 |
| MAR. | ${ }^{176 \cdot 86}$ | 27.85 | 89.08 | 11.68 | 8.82 | 24.89 |  | 20.71 | 19.40 | + ${ }_{4}^{4687}$ | 4.708 | 20.30 | 3.06 | 17.966 | ${ }_{14} 14.91$ | 14.00 |
| APr. | 176.73 | 27.80 | 89.00 | 11.67 | 8.81 | $24 \cdot 90$ |  | 20.68 | 1940 | $4 \cdot 681$ | 4.704 | 20.21 | 2.84 | 17.937 | 14.74 | 14:00 |
| May | 176 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 14:00 |
| , 20 | 176.75 | 27 |  |  |  | 25:00 | 136. | $20 \cdot 84$ | 19.40 | 4.681 | 4.701 | 20.24 | $2 \cdot 75$ | 1793 | - | 14:00 |
| 27 | 176.74 | 27.50 | 89.02 | ${ }_{11} 167$ | ${ }_{8}^{8.71}$ | 24:92 |  | ${ }^{20} 082$ | 19.40 | ${ }^{4} \cdot 681$ | 4.696 | 20.24 | $2.75 \dagger$ | 17.896 | 14.73 | 14.00 |
| June 3 | 176.72 | 27.50 | 89.06 | 11.67 | 8.74 | 24:87 | 136.30+ | 20.79 20.76 | ${ }_{19}^{19} 40$ | 4.682 | + 4.696 | 20.21 |  | 17883 | 14.94 | 14.00 |
| ,", 17 |  | $\begin{aligned} & 27.52 \\ & 27.54 \end{aligned}$ | $89 \cdot 08$ <br> 89.04 | ${ }_{11}^{11 \cdot 68}$ | 8.80 | $24 \cdot 92$ | 136.42+ | 20.76 | $19 \cdot 40$ | ${ }_{4} \cdot 685$ | 4.690 |  | ${ }_{2} 278+$ | 17.901 | $14 \cdot 92$ | 14:00 |
|  |  |  |  | 11.67 | 8.82 | 24:87 | $136 \cdot 50$ | 20.78 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4'683 | 4.693 | 20.21 | $2.70+$ | 17.927 | $14 \cdot 84$ | 14:00 |

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# LONDON \& CAMBRIDGE ECONOMIC SERVICE 

SUPPLEMENT Tо MONTHLY BULLETIN vol. xvis.<br>No. VI.<br>JULY 7th, 1939

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Total
PRODUCTION, etc.
Motor Spirit for consumption
RETAIL TRADE INDEX.
Other than Food
Food 109 \%

Total

| End May | End June |
| :---: | :---: |
| $120 \cdot 0 \%$ | $116 \cdot 0 \%$ |
| $84.4 \%$ | $86.6 \%$ |
| $124 \%$ | $114 \%$ |
| May | June |
| $+3.3 \%$ | $-4.3 \%$ |
| $+4.0 \%$ | $-6.3 \%$ |

## RAILWAYS.



Fuel Mi (B) 14,428,000 13,741,000 Goods Receipts .. ... ... £7,371,000 £6,967,000

## EXCHANGES.

| Week ending | Paris | Brussels | Milan | Berlin | Amster- <br> dam | saw <br> saw |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| June 24th | 176.72 | 27.53 | 89.00 | 11.67 | 8.82 | 24.87 |
| July 1st | 176.73 | 27.54 | 89.00 | 11.67 | 8.82 | 24.87 |


|  | Prague | Zurich | tockholr | ew Yo | Montrea |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| June 24th | $136 \cdot 50$ | $20 \cdot 77$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 682$ | 4.693 |
| July 1st | $136 \cdot 50$ | $20 \cdot 77$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 682$ |  |
|  | B. Air | Rio de J. | Bombay | H. Kong | Kob |
| June 24th | $20 \cdot 21$ | $2 \cdot 687$ | 17.911 | 14.81 | $14^{\circ}$ |
| July 1st | $20 \cdot 21$ | $2 \cdot 635$ | $17 \cdot 924$ | 14.81 | 14.0 |

## UNEMPLOYMENT.

|  |  | 000's. Great Britain. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Males. | Female | Total. |
| May 16th 1938 | 1344 | 435 | 1779 |
| June 13th ... | 1371 | 432 | 1803 |
| July 18th | 1369 | 404 | 1773 |
| August 15th... | 1339 | 420 | 1759 |
| Sept. 12th ... | 1380 | 419 | 1799 |
| Oct. 17th | 1370 | 411 | 1781 |
| Nov. 14th | 1418 | 410 | 1828 |
| Dec. 12th | 1430 | 401 | 1831 |
| Jan. 16th 1939 | 1574 | 465 | 1897 |
| Feb. 13th | 1458 | 439 | 1727 |
| March 13th ... | 1330 | 397 | 1644 |
| April 17th | 1266 | 378 | 1492 |
| May 15th | 1145 | 348 299 | 1350 |
| June 12th | 1051 | 299 | 135 |

## INTERNATIONAL SURVEY.

Fuly 6th, 1939.

DURING the past month there has been evidence of improvement in the United States of America, though more in sentiment regarding the future than in actual business volumes. The Annalist monthly index of business activity stood at 87.5 in May, as against 86.7 in April, and the weekly New York Times index has advanced from 85.3 in the week ending May I3th to 89.8 in the week ending June 1oth. The seasonally-adjusted Federal Reserve Board index of industrial production stood at 92 (\% of 1923-5) in both April and May, but preliminary data suggest that the index for June will show an increase. The weekly index of steel mill activity, after falling to $45 \%$ of capacity in mid-May, has been only slightly below $55 \%$ throughout June. Automobile production and sales are well above the levels of a year ago, and sales are running ahead of production so that stocks are being reduced. Construction contracts continue at higher levels than for some years past.

There are several causes of this contraseasonal change for the better. First, the settlement of the coal strike has been generally beneficial, and particularly helpful to steel and heavy industry. Secondly, during the early part of June there was a decline in anxiety concerning the European political situation. Thirdly, and this is without doubt the most important cause, the rate of public expenditure has been rising for several months. On June 22nd President Roosevelt announced a new programme of self-liquidating expenditure involving a sum of nearly $\$ 4,000 \mathrm{Mn}$. Total federal expenditures are likely to continue to increase during the coming months, so that it is not unlikely that this improvement will continue through the summer and autumn. However, it must be recognised that so far it has been of very modest proportions.

In the United Kingdom the programme of expansion continues. The number of unemployed was $\mathrm{I}, 350,000$ or $9.6 \%$ of the insured population on June I2th. This compares with $\mathrm{I}, 335,000$ or $9.7 \%$ at the peak of activity in 1937. Since January there has been an increase in employment of 730,000 and a decrease in unemployment of 690,000 . This rate of progress is unprecedented. All the major industries share this expansion, including building, which
is seriously affected by a decline in private investment.

In France business activity continues to improve steadily, though the rate of advance is still fairly slow. In Germany the shortage of workers has for some time been so acute that agricultural labour has had to be imported from neighbouring countries, and industrial labour from Bohemia and Moravia. There are many signs of severe strain in the German economic system. Besides the shortage of labour, there is an acute shortage of certain materials and of transport equipment. The smaller industrial countries of Western Europe are now generally in a more satisfactory condition. The improvement is especially noteworthy in the case of Belgium, which suffered a severe relapse in 1938.

In spite of the rising volume of activity in the world as a whole, prices of the principal commodities (other than silver) show no striking changes. The commodities fall into two main groups. In the case of wheat and cotton very heavy supplies became available in 1938, and this, combined with the after-effects of previous attempts of governments to safeguard the interests of producers, has caused prolonged depression in these markets. Cotton prices have become very slightly firmer in recent weeks, but wheat prices have fallen to the lowest levels since 193I. Proposals mainly sponsored by the United States Government for the international control of wheat and cotton have not yet met with an encouraging reception. In the case of the base metals and rubber, demand is rising and stocks falling, but owing to the hesitant progress in the United States the rise in demand has generally not been much more than could be met by a modest increase in output quotas. The price of tin, however, has touched $£ 230$ per ton, so that for the first time since its formation the Buffer Pool has sold some of its holdings. For the third quarter of the year the tin output quota has been raised from $40 \%$ to $45 \%$, and the rubber output quota from $50 \%$ to $55 \%$. It is clear that there is still much scope for the increase of supplies. On June 23rd an agreement was reached between the governments of the United States and the United Kingdom whereby the former will supply the latter with 600,000 bales of cotton, valued at $£ 6 \mathrm{Mn}$., in exchange for about 80,000 tons of rubber. The completion of this barter agreement, intended to establish war stocks, has had very little effect upon the markets.

The wool markets remain very firm and prices are rising. The supply of sugar during the rest of the quota year to August 3 Ist has been left by the International Sugar Committee to fall short of expected demand, and prices have risen sharply.

The most recent statistics of international trade relate to the month of May. The imports of the United Kingdom have begun to rise, but exports have also been fairly well maintained. For nearly a year the active balance of United States' trade has been declining, and in May it was only about $\$_{40} \mathrm{Mn}$., as against more than \$100 Mn. in May, 1938. Imports appear now to be steadily rising, reaching in May the figure of $\$_{200} \mathrm{Mn}$. for the first time since December, 1937. German foreign trade showed an active balance in May for the second month in succession, imports having been cut down considerably. French, Belgian and Swedish exports all show some improvement over recent months. The trade of the principal overseas raw material countries is stable at a rather low level.

The principal security markets have continued to reflect day-to-day sentiment concerning the European political situation, except that in New York there has been some reaction to the improvement of the domestic outlook. In London and the Continental markets prices have moved mainly downwards during June after having shown much improvement at the beginning of the month.

Gold movements have dwindled very considerably in June after very large shipments to the United States in May. The silver markets have been very much upset by the reduction of the United States price for foreign silver and by proposals to discontinue purchases of foreign silver. The future of the United States' silver policy is greatly confused by domestic political issues. Meanwhile the London silver market is likely to continue to be unsettled.

There have been no great changes in rates of exchange during the past month, except in the case of the Chinese dollar, which has depreciated considerably. Near the end of June the United States Administration's powers of devaluing the dollar were reviewed by Congress. At first renewal of these powers was denied, but on July 5 th it was granted for a further period of two years, and authorisation was given for the maintenance of the $\$ 2,000 \mathrm{Mn}$. Stabilisation Fund.

For some months ahead the volume of economic activity in the world as a whole may be confidently expected to continue to increase, saving the outbreak of war. In all the major industrial countries outside the United States, rearmament is the mainstay of the economic system and without doubt will not soon be replaced by other forms of production. In the United States a decline this year is unlikely, even if the recent upward movement is not maintained.

## RECENT MOVEMENTS IN UNITED STATES.

Information communicated by Miss DOROTHY WESCOTT, Assistant Editor of the Review of Economic Statistics, Harvard University.

Fune 21st, 1939.
GENERALSUMMARY.-Industrial activity in the United States during the first half of May receded from April levels, continuing the decline recorded in earlier months this year, while in the latter half of the month operations in some industries began to improve, following the resumption of activity at bituminous coal mines. Industrial production for the month as a whole, after allowance for seasonal changes, is reported to have been about the same as in April. Wholesale prices of certain important commoditiessuch as wheat, cotton, silk, wool, hides-rose substantially, but wholesale prices in general (measured by the "all commodities" index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics) drifted downward,
as in other recent months. Stock prices fluctuated narrowly at a level above that for April, but considerably under that for the first quarter of the year. At the close of May, the New York Stock Exchange all-inclusive price index was above the index at the end of either of the two preceding months, but $9 \%$ below the 1938 high point reached at the close of December.

BUSINESS VOLUMES.-The few standard comprehensive indices of production and trade now available for May present a diverse picture of developments, but on the whole the changes that occurred over the month were small. Adjusted weekly figures for bank debits at selected cities outside New York again fluctuated irregularly, the average for the month rising above that

FINANCE, PRICES.


INTERNAL ACTIVITY, TRADE, EMPLOYMENT.


## United States]

for April. Preliminary data for electric power production indicate a slight decline from the April average, with output decreasing through the third week of the month and then rising moderately. Steel mill activity likewise dropped in the first three weeks and then advanced, but for the entire month production averaged lower than in April. This decline was greater than that which usually occurs from April to May, and the adjusted index dropped between $5 \%$ and $10 \%$. For pig iron, also, the May decline exceeded the customary seasonal drop, and the adjusted index, at 55 (1923-25 $=100$ ), was the lowest since last August. Pig iron production, like steel, was increased during the latter part of the month, and on June ist there were 107 furnaces in blast compared with 102 a month earlier. Automobile output at the middle of May was rising above levels earlier in the month ; subsequently, activity at some plants was curtailed sharply because of labour difficulties and seasonally-adjusted production for the entire month was considerably under that in April.

Cotton-textile activity, while fluctuating fairly widely from week to week, was higher than in April, and mill consumption of cotton increased. Final April reports for the textile industry reveal a considerable decline from first-quarter levels for each of the three branches, cotton, wool, and silk ; and boot and shoe production also was well below that in earlier months this year. Chiefly because of the declines in these industries, the April index for the non-durable goods group dropped sharply; the indices for the foods industries, tobacco products, and paper and printing compared favourably with first-quarter averages.

The resumption at mid-May of activity in the major bituminous coal fields, after a shutdown of six weeks, resulted in a sharp rise in output ; and with this renewal of activity at coal mines, freight car loadings of coal increased more than seasonally. Adjusted railway car loadings of grains and of forest products also advanced, while livestock, ore, small-lot shipments, and miscellaneous loadings declined. Total car loadings, after seasonal correction, remained the same as in March. Adjusted department store sales, which had shown very small monthly changes from November through April, declined three points in May to 85 (1923-25=100). Despite a substantial gain in residential building awards, the value of total contracts awarded fell sharply; the adjusted index for May lost all of the advance made in

April, dropping to the lowest level since July of last year.

COMMODITY PRICES.-The slight upward movement in general wholesale commodity prices that had appeared in the latter part of April and the first part of May gave way by the middle of May to further decline. For the week ending June Ioth, the " all commodities" index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics was the lowest since the second week of August, 1934. The week-to-week fluctuations in May, however, were small, the decline over the month amounting to only $0.5 \%$. The greater part of this decrease reflected lower prices for farm products and foods, although the group indices for metals and metal products, building materials, fuel and lighting materials, and miscellaneous commodities also showed net declines. Hides and leather products, textile products, and housefurnishing products rose a little, while chemicals and drugs remained unchanged. Prices of commodities sensitive to changing industrial conditions advanced irregularly, cancelling losses of the two preceding months, but June has brought decline from end-of-May levels.

MONEY AND CREDIT.-While the lessening of political tension in Europe during May was reflected in a slackening of the import of gold into the United States, gold receipts during the month nevertheless continued in substantial volume. A considerable portion of the gold imported was placed under earmark for foreign central banks, and therefore was not added to the gold stock of this country. Increases in gold stock, however, although considerably less than in April or March, remained large, and continued an important influence in the expansion of member-bank reserve balances. A decline in Treasury cash and deposits with the reserve banks also had an expansionary effect, while a considerable rise in money in circulation and an increase in non-member bank deposits at the reserve banks were the chief offsetting factors to these elements of expansion. Since the middle of May, total reserves of the member banks have exceeded $\$_{10,000} \mathrm{Mn}$., and excess reserves have been above $\$ 4,200 \mathrm{Mn}$.

Yields on government bonds and notes dropped further to new low levels, and yields on both high and low-grade corporate issues averaged lower than in April. Commercial paper and time money rates continued unchanged at the low levels of the past several months.

Total loans and investments of reporting member banks declined $\$_{\text {ios }} \mathrm{Mn}$. between the
first and the last week of May, because of reductions in investment holdings of banks both in New York City and outside New York. In the first week of the month, total investments of all reporting member banks were the largest since early 1937, but subsequent weeks brought sharp decreases in holdings of direct obligations of the government and in "other" securities. The average of total investments for May was practically the same as that for April, while total loans averaged slightly lower than in April (Table, page 290). Commercial loans declined almost continuously, although the week-to-week changes were small; security loans dropped sharply in the first half of the month and subsequently rose considerably, the increase resulting chiefly from transactions in connection with refunding operations of the Home Owners' Loan Corporation.

SPECULATION AND FINANCE.-Stock prices in May, as in the greater part of April, fluctuated within a narrow range, and the volume of trading was the smallest of any month in several years. Prices of each of the three leading classes of stocks-industrial shares, railroads, and utilities-averaged from $3 \%$ to $5 \%$ above April figures. In the first half of May, prices continued the advance of the second half of April ; at the middle of the month, this advance was interrupted briefly; but subsequent weeks brought further improvement, and as the month closed quotations were the highest since late in March. Corporation bond prices also showed a net increase during May, and prices of government bonds made further advances.

The high figure of more than $\$ 1,300 \mathrm{Mn}$. for total security flotations in May (Table, page 290) was due to refunding operations of the Home Owners' Loan Corporation, which alone amounted to over $\$ 1,000 \mathrm{Mn}$. Excluding this offering, flotations amounted to $\$ 304.8 \mathrm{Mn}$., of which $40 \%$ represented public issues (both new and refunding) ; $53 \%$ refunding operations of corporations; and $7 \%$ corporate financing for new capital requirements.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS.-Thus far in June little change has occurred in the general economic situation. Stock prices have dropped below levels at the end of May, particularly at the middle of the month as tension increased in the political situation abroad. Adjusted bank debits during the first half of the month declined, while electric power production in the first full week of June rose slightly above the average of either April or May. Steel-ingot activity, following its brisk advance in late May, has continued to rise, although at a less rapid rate ; and settlement of labour difficulties at automobile factories has resulted in a renewal of operations, with production rising to about the same level as at the middle of May. The expected production this year of new-model automobiles somewhat earlier than in past years indicates a greater-than-usual activity during the summer for those industries furnishing parts and materials for motor-car production. While sensitive commodity prices have declined during the first half of the month, the net change since the close of May has been small.

## FRANCE

## Information communicated by M. MICHEL HUBER, Directeur des Etudes à l'Institut de Statistique de l'Üniversité de Paris.

Fuly ist, 1939.

THE Chamber, after a somewhat heated discussion, passed the bill for proportional representation in parliamentary elections and adjourned on June 27th. The Government's act of indemnity, which was passed by the Chamber, but not by the Senate, will be put into effect by decree law. The Government will decide in the light of later circumstances whether to prorogue the Chamber, which is due for reelection in 1940. The question of pensions
for retired workers was postponed as the resources of the nation are fully absorbed in national defence.

The international situation remains extremely delicate and diplomatic activity has been intense. The Franco-Turkish agreement was signed on June 23rd, but the Anglo-Russian negotiations have not reached finality. The German and Italian volunteers have left Spain. Attention at the moment is focused mainly upon the question of Danzig and the incidents at Tientsin.


## TRADE, OUTPUT, TRANSPORT \& EMPLOYMENT.



TRANSPORT.
Shipping.-Tonnage of ships of all nationalities entered and cleared (with cargoes) during the month
Rallways.-Average weekly receipts and daily average number of trucks loaded on all the principal railways (including Alsace-Lorraine).

## France]

Various new decree laws have been promulgated : eight on June 6th, of which two referred to stocks of materials and to the disciplinary code of the merchant marine ; and eleven on June 24th, amongst which were decrees dealing with family allowances, relaxation of the weekly holiday law, the share of Algeria in the cost of national defence, the replacement of the submarine "Phenix," and the financial control of the City of Paris.

Receipts of revenue in May from indirect taxes and monopolies were II6 Mn. greater than the budget estimates, of which 19 Mn . were due to the rearmament tax enforced by the decree law of April 2Ist. On the other hand the revenue from state lands was $5 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{Mn}$. below estimate.

The yield of the turn-over tax, including the tax on armaments, was 1 ,075 Mn. in May, or 54 Mn . above the estimates.

For the first five months of the year indirect taxes and monopolies produced 3,130 Mn. more than in the first period of 1938 . Altogether, including direct taxes, the ordinary revenue of the Government in these five months exceeded the yield in 1938 by $4,065 \mathrm{Mn}$., as a result of new taxes and increases in existing taxes imposed by decree law.

According to the summary of treasury operations published in the Fournal Officiel of June Ioth, for the first four months of 1939 the grand total of receipts was 181,III Mn. and that of expenses $179,867 \mathrm{Mn}$.

The weekly statements of the Bank of France reveal a marked fall in the net circulation, which declined from a maximum of $125,353 \mathrm{Mn}$. on May 8th to $119,887 \mathrm{Mn}$. on June 22 nd. The gold reserve is unchanged at $92,266 \mathrm{Mn}$. and the ratio to sight liabilities remains a little above $64 \%$.

The exchange value of the franc remains firm. The franc: sterling ratio has hardly changed from about 176.74 and the franc: dollar ratio from 37.24. Thanks to the actions of the exchange equalisation account, the vote of the American Senate on the renewal of the monetary powers of the President has not had any appreciable effect, up to the end of June, on the exchange movements of the currencies covered by the tripartite agreement.

In fulfilment of a promise made by the Minister of Finance, the Fournal Officiel of June 25th published a statement on the position of the exchange equalisation account as at the end of February. This publication is to be repeated each month, with a three-months time-lag.

From the end of October, 1938, to the end of February, 1939, the franc value of the gold stock held by the account rose from $2,067 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $17,413 \mathrm{Mn}$. or, in weight of gold $90 \%$ fine, from 54.8 tons to 459 .I tons. This result is evidence of the effect of the financial policy followed since last November.

In the figure for the end of October there was not included the $1,700 \mathrm{Mn}$. of gold held at that moment by the rentes stabilisation fund and recovered from that fund in November.

The stock exchange remains sensitive to the events and rumours in the international situation. The volume of transactions is low and on the whole the average value of prices fell in June.

The index of transactions for variable income securities for the weeks ending June 24 th ( $193 \mathrm{I}=100$ ) fell progressively from 38 to 23,20 and 15 . For fixed income securities the corresponding indices are $8 \mathrm{I}, 60,67$ and 65 .

The average level of prices (base $1913=100$ ) fell during the same period from 245 to 236 for 300 French securities, from 358 to 343 for 25 foreign securities and from 85.2 to 84.7 for 36 French bonds and rentes.

As a particular example, the price of $3 \%$ fell from 79.90 to 75.40 in the course of the month.

The value of the total of public transferable securities issued, which had fallen by an average of 50 Mn . per month from August to September, has risen to $390,375,401,404,548 \mathrm{Mn}$. during the first five months of 1939. The average rate of interest on debentures, which exceeded $7 \%$, has been reduced to less than $6 \%$, ranging from $5.98 \%$ in February to $5.55 \%$ in March.

The provisional index of industrial production increased by one point in April, 1939, to 94 (1928 = 100), as against 82 in April, 1938. In comparison with the preceding month there was an improvement in the metal manufacturing industries from 81 to 82 , in the metal working industries from 89 to 90 , and in the chemical industry from III to 113 , all these being now occupied with national defence work. The building industry index also rose from 73 to 77 . There was a decline in the index for textiles from 96 to 93 and in the automobile industry from IIO to IO4. The figure for the mining industry was stationary at 98 .

The production of coal, pig-iron and steel showed marked improvement in May over the preceding month.

In April the production of electricity totalled 1,288 Mn. Kwh., being $21.7 \%$ above that of April, 1938. There was an increase of $31 \%$
in the hydro-electric works, while there was a decline of $24 \%$ in the thermo-electric works.

The decline in the number of assisted unemployed was accelerated in June. From April 22nd to May 20th there was a decline of 8,500, but from May 20th to June 24th the fall was 30,000 . The total number of unemployed is 349,000 as against 363,000 a year ago.

In industrial establishments employing more than 100 persons, the proportion of persons employed for more than 40 hours per week at the beginning of May reached $35 \%$, as against $2 \%$ a year ago. Those working 40 hours number $57 \%$, as against $78 \%$, while those working less than 40 hours number only $8 \%$, as against $20 \%$ a year ago.

Railway receipts are improving, being 279, 334,315 and 327 Mn . during the four weeks ending June Ioth. The daily number of waggons loaded has been about 43,000 during the two weeks ending June 17 th.

The value of exports rose to $3,063 \mathrm{Mn}$. in May from $3,034 \mathrm{Mn}$. in the preceding month, while the value of imports fell from 4,125 Mn. to $4,080 \mathrm{Mn}$. The adverse balance of trade thus fell from 1,090 to $1,017 \mathrm{Mn}$. It is noteworthy that since the beginning of the year the indices of volume of exports, variations of price being eliminated, have risen steadily from 64 in January to 70 in May, this last comparing with 58.5 in May, 1938.

The index of wholesale prices of 45 commodities (July, 1914 = 100), which had risen from 682 at the end of April to 696 on May 20th, fell later to 686 between the 1oth and the 27th June. As compared with the figures for May

20th, there has been a fall from 652 to 628 for the food group and a slight rise from 734 to 739 for industrial materials.

The retail price index, which had been falling since the beginning of the year, showed some increase in May. The index of I3 commodities rose from 734 to 738 , that of 34 commodities from 748 to 756 .

According to the recently published results of the annual enquiry into wages as at October, 1938, there was an increase in hourly wages over the year of between $9 \%$ and $12 \%$ for the occupations covered. By comparison with 1935, that is to say, with the period before the application of the social laws of 1936, the increase in hourly wages is about $80 \%$, without taking account of holidays with pay.

For the period from April ist to May 15th the savings banks and deposit banks showed an excess of withdrawals of 714 Mn . From May 16th to June I6th, on the other hand, there is an excess of deposits of 184 Mn .

According to various indices-industrial production, railway transport, the volume of exports, etc.-business activity has recently shown noteworthy recovery. Without doubt, this is due in large measure to rearmament, but the adaption of the French economy to difficult conditions is nevertheless an encouraging sign. The rise in prices has been moderate. The fixing of the price of wheat from the next harvest will play an important part in future developments. All these things, however, are ultimately dependent upon the course of international political relations.

## GERMANY.

## Information communicated by Dr. M. J. ELSAS.

Fuly $4^{\text {th }}$, 1939.

ON June 15th a new decree was issued relating to the Reichsbank. Henceforth the Reichsbank is to be conducted by the President and the Board of Directors solely according to the directions of Herr Hitler. The undivided sovereignty of the Reich over the central bank is thus given formal legal status, and at the same time the Bank is made independent of the ministerial departments, in particular of the Finance Ministry.

It is specifically stated in the decree that the Reichsbank need not hold more gold and foreign
exchange than it thinks fit. Of course this has been the practice of the Reichsbank for some time, but until the issue of this decree it had no legal sanction. Private shareholders of the bank will continue to be associated with it, but their dividends are to be limited to $5 \%$, whereas hitherto $8 \%$ has been the guaranteed minimum dividend, and since $192712 \%$ has been distributed annually. In compensation for this reduction of dividends German shareholders are to receive $4 \frac{1}{2} \%$ treasury bills to the value of 80 marks for every 100 marks of Reichsbank shares. Foreign shareholders are to give up their

|  | STOCKS \＆SHARES． |  |  | BANKING． |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | WHOLESALE． |  |  |  | RE- | $\begin{gathered} \text { REAL } \\ \text { WAGES } \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | M置品品 <br> 里家家家 ～～ \％！ | Capital Issues by |  | Reichsbank． |  | Note Circulation． |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Index } \\ \text { Pri } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Nos. of } \\ & 8 \text { of } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  $\begin{aligned} & \text { Mks. } \\ & \text { p. } \underline{\text { Kg. }} \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 厄⿱一𫝀口亍 } \\ & \text { \% } \\ & \text { \% } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 离 } \\ & \text { g } \\ & \text { Z } \\ & \% \end{aligned}$ |  |  |
| Pre－War Average |  |  |  | 6100 |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Aug. } \\ & 1914 \\ & 4500 \end{aligned}$ |  |  | $4 \cdot 2$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { July, } \\ & 1914 \\ & 3.15 \end{aligned}$ | 815 | 81.0 |  | 100 | 100 | 100 | 1913 100 |
| 1933 Av | $67 \cdot 3$ | 24.9 | $49 \cdot 4$ | 4350 | 377 | 3500 | 56 | 11715 | 3.44 | 4.87 | 326 | 39.6 | 63 | $88 \cdot 7$ | $93 \cdot 4$ | 118.5 | 111.2 |
| 1934 Av ． | 77.5 | 17.7 | $20 \cdot 1$ | 4854 | 606 | 3727 | $5 \cdot 62$ | 11759 | $2 \cdot 52$ | $4 \cdot 47$ | 234 | $42 \cdot 1$ | 63 | $95 \cdot 9$ | $98 \cdot 4$ |  | 106.6 |
| 1935 Av． | 90.4 | $7 \cdot 1$ | $22 \cdot 2$ | 4899 | 805 | 3920 | 6.02 | 13178 | 2.485 | 3.61 | 243 | 55.2 | 63 | $102 \cdot 2$ | $101 \cdot 8$ | 123.0 | $105 \cdot 4$ |
| 1936 Av． | 99.9 | 2.9 | $49 \cdot 6$ | 5146 | 672 | 4478 | 6.47 | 14840 | $2 \cdot 485$ | 3.22 | 215 | 41.0 | 63 | $104 \cdot 9$ | $104 \cdot 1$ | 124.5 | $103 \cdot 9$ |
| 1937 Av． | 111.7 | $13 \cdot 5$ | $34 \cdot 3$ | 5920 | 715 | 5073 | $7 \cdot 03$ | 16735 | $2 \cdot 491$ | 3.04 | 189 | $40 \cdot 4$ | 63 | $104 \cdot 6$ | $105 \cdot 9$ | $125 \cdot 1$ | $103 \cdot 3$ |
| 1936 | $91 \cdot 8$ | 0.4 | 21.8 | 4962 | 690 | 4097 | 6.09 | 14397 | $2 \cdot 488$ | 3.62 | 263 | 54.5 | 63 | 105．2 | $103 \cdot 6$ | 124．3 | $104 \cdot 2$ |
| FEB．．． | $93 \cdot 8$ | $0 \cdot 1$ | 14.8 | 4597 | 605 | 4172 | $6 \cdot 80$ | 14457 | $2 \cdot 458$ | 3.25 | 230 | $38 \cdot 5$ | 63 | 104 8 | 103.5 | 124－3 | 104.0 |
| MAR． | $93 \cdot 3$ | $11 \cdot 4$ | 13.0 | 4824 | 572 | 4267 | 6.27 | 14372 | 2.462 | 3.0 | 226 | 39.0 | 63 | $104 \cdot 5$ | 103.6 | 124－2 | 104．0 |
| APR． | 96.2 | 2.0 | 14.2 | 4989 | 776 | 4348 | $6 \cdot 35$ | 14429 | $2 \cdot 489$ | $3 \cdot 37$ | 181 | 39.5 | 63 | $105 \cdot 0$ | 103.8 | $124 \cdot 3$ | $103 \cdot 9$ |
| MAY． | 99.3 | $4 \cdot 2$ | 10.7 | 4849 | 650 | 4430 | 6.44 6.35 | 14649 14735 | $2 \cdot 490$ $2 \cdot 489$ | $3 \cdot 37$ 3.0 | 234 208 | $\begin{aligned} & 405 \\ & 40 \cdot 0 \end{aligned}$ | 63 63 | $105 \cdot 3$ $105 \cdot 7$ | $103 \cdot 7$ 104 | $124 \cdot 3$ $124 \cdot 5$ | $104 \cdot 0$ $104 \cdot 0$ |
| JUNE | $101 \cdot 6$ | － | 8.5 | 5203 | 677 | 4389 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 104：0 |
| JULY | 103.1 | 76 | 1976 | 5371 | 804 | 4471 | 6.45 6.54 | 14654 | $\begin{aligned} & 2.484 \\ & 0.488 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 3.0 \\ & 3 \cdot 37 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 218 \\ & 193 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 39.5 \\ & 39.5 \end{aligned}$ | 63 63 | $108 \cdot 1$ 106.4 | $104 \cdot 2$ $104 \cdot 8$ | $125 \cdot 3$ 125.4 | $103 \cdot 8$ 103.2 |
| AUG： | 101．8 |  | 68.5 | 4815 5288 | 640 | 4540 4657 | 6.54 6.65 | 15463 15417 | $\begin{aligned} & 2488 \\ & 2.490 \end{aligned}$ | $3 \cdot 37$ $3 \cdot 12$ | $\begin{aligned} & 193 \\ & 178 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 39 \cdot 5 \\ & 40 \cdot 5 \end{aligned}$ | 63 63 | 106.4 105 | $104 \cdot 8$ $104 \cdot 2$ | 125.4 124 | $103 \cdot 2$ $103 \cdot 9$ |
| SEPT | 100.0 | 2．2 | 18.1 | 5 | 694 | 4713 | 6.71 | 15017 | $2 \cdot 495$ | $3 \cdot 37$ | 199 | 39.9 | 63 | $103 \cdot 8$ | $104 \cdot 3$ | $124 \cdot 4$ | $104 \cdot 1$ |
| NOV．．． | 106.6 | 0.1 | $194 \cdot 0$ | 5089 | 622 | 4674 | 6.65 | 15245 | $2 \cdot 491$ | $3 \cdot 37$ | 212 | $38 \cdot 8$ | 63 | 103.2 | 104•3 | 124－3 | 104．2 |
| DEC．． | $105 \cdot 4$ | $0 \cdot 1$ | $12 \cdot 4$ | 5834 | 667 | 4980 | 6.96 | 15246 | $2 \cdot 490$ | 3.0 | 235 | $41 \cdot 5$ | 63 | $103 \cdot 6$ | $105 \cdot$ | $124 \cdot 3$ | 104－1 |
| 1937 | $106 \cdot 6$ | $80 \cdot 3$ | $86 \cdot 7$ | 5405 | 775 | 4799 | 6.72 | 15311 | $2 \cdot 490$ | $3 \cdot 37$ | 226 | 42.2 | 63 | 103.2 | $105 \cdot 3$ | $124 \cdot 5$ | 104•1 |
| FEB． | 108.1 | $49 \cdot 1$ | 72.5 | 5018 | 731 | 4816 | 6.74 | 15300 | $2 \cdot 490$ | 3.0 | 206 | $40 \cdot 2$ | 63 | $103 \cdot 4$ | $105 \cdot 5$ | $124 \cdot 8$ | $103 \cdot 9$ |
| MAR． | 109．3 |  | $15 \cdot 3$ | 5800 | 716 | 4938 | 6.84 | 16058 | $2 \cdot 490$ | 2.87 | 235 | $39 \cdot 9$ | 63 | $103 \cdot 9$ | 106.2 | 125.0 | $103 \cdot 9$ |
| APR． | $110 \cdot 6$ | － | 8.8 | 6263 | 789 | 4979 | 6.94 | 16156 | $2 \cdot 490$ | 3.0 | 234 | $41 \cdot 3$ | 63 | $103 \cdot 9$ | $105 \cdot 9$ | $125 \cdot 1$ | $103 \cdot 5$ |
| MAY | 111.8 | 0.7 | $10 \cdot 3$ | 5552 | 736 | 4902 | 6.83 | 16907 | $2 \cdot 490$ | $2 \cdot 75$ | 180 | 40.7 | 63 | $104 \cdot 1$ | 105＊8 | 125.1 | $103 \cdot 4$ |
| JUNE | 112.8 |  | 6.7 | 6048 | 715 | 4991 | 6.94 | 16904 | $2 \cdot 497$ | 3.0 | 181 | $40 \cdot 5$ | 63 | $104 \cdot 6$ | 1060 | $125 \cdot 3$ | $103 \cdot 4$ |
| JULY | 114.6 | 17.5 | 33.4 | 6119 | 707 | 5111 | $7 \cdot 10$ | 16857 | $2 \cdot 498$ | $3 \cdot 25$ | 177 | $40 \cdot 1$ | 63 | $105 \cdot 7$ | $106 \cdot 4$ | 126.2 | $103 \cdot 3$ |
| AUG． | 115.7 | 9.8 | 14.4 | 5747 | 625 | 5115 | 7.09 | 16926 | $2 \cdot 491$ | 3.0 | 151 | $40 \cdot 3$ | 63 | 106.4 | 106.7 | 126.0 | 102．5 |
| SEPT． | 114．8 |  | 13.4 | 5979 | 649 | 5256 | 7.26 | 17602 | 2.494 | $3 \cdot 12$ | 163 | 39.8 | 63 | $105 \cdot 4$ | 106.2 | 125.1 | 102.7 |
| ОСТ．．． | 113.2 | 2.7 | $29 \cdot 6$ | 6377 | 675 | 5275 | 7.28 | 17574 | 2.494 | 3．25 | 175 | $39 \cdot 9$ | 63 | $105 \%$ | $105 \cdot 9$ | 124.8 | $102 \cdot 9$ |
| N0V． | 112.0 | 1.0 | 107 | 5965 | 729 | 5196 | 7－18 | 17655 | $2 \cdot 490$ | $2 \cdot 87$ | 177 | $40 \cdot 0$ | 63 | $104 \cdot 7$ | 105.5 | $124 \cdot 9$ | 102．8 |
| DEC．． | 111.3 | 1.5 | 111.6 | 6762 | 732 | 5493 | 7.50 | 17570 | $2 \cdot 483$ | 3.0 | 159 | 39．6 | 63 | $104 \cdot 6$ | 105．5 | 124．8 | 102＇9 |
| 1938 | 113.8 | 58 | $41 \cdot 9$ | 6110 | 826 | 5199 | $7 \cdot 14$ | 18910 |  | 3.37 | 179 |  | 63 | 1050 |  | $124 \cdot 9$ | $103 \cdot 7$ |
| FEB．．． | $113 \cdot 6$ | $12 \cdot 3$ | 4.2 | 5431 | 761 | 5278 | $7 \cdot 24$ | 18975 | $2 \cdot 479$ | 3.25 | 183 | $40 \cdot 7$ | 63 | $105 \cdot 7$ | 105.5 | $125 \cdot 2$ | 103.5 |
| MAR． | 113.9 | 7.5 | 10.4 | 6685 | 823 | 5621 | 7.57 | 19098 | $2 \cdot 473$ | 3.0 | 185 | $40 \cdot 7$ | 63 | 1056 | 105＊8 | $125 \cdot 5$ | 103.7 |
| APR． | 1148 | 1.7 | 57.5 | 6105 | 1221 | 6086 | 8.09 | 20739 | $2 \cdot 493$ | 3.25 | 151 | 38.1 | 63 | $105 \cdot 7$ | $105 \cdot 6$ | 125.6 | $103 \cdot 7$ |
| MAY．．． | 112.7 | 33.2 | $4 \cdot 4$ | 6157 | 955 | 6268 | $8 \cdot 23$ | 21593 | $2 \cdot 489$ | $3 \cdot 12$ | 156 | 37.7 | 63 | $105 \cdot 8$ | $105 \cdot 4$ | $125 \cdot 9$ | $103 \cdot 7$ |
| JUNE | $110 \cdot 5$ | 1.0 | 19.2 | 6495 | 1010 | 6440 | 8.48 | 22445 | $2 \cdot 492$ | $3 \cdot 12$ | 166 | $38 \cdot 2$ | 63 | 1060 | $105 \cdot 6$ | 126.0 | $104 \cdot 1$ |
| JULY | 107.9 | $5 \cdot 5$ | 83.6 | 6539 | 941 | 6651 | 8.72 |  |  |  |  | $38 \cdot 3$ | 63 | 1056 | 105.5 |  |  |
| AUG．．． | $102 \cdot 2$ | 1.9 | 409．4 | 6779 | 863 | 6863 | 8.95 | 23763 | $2 \cdot 490$ | $3 \cdot 12$ | 165 | 38.7 | 63 | 106.6 | $106 \cdot 1$ | 126.5 |  |
| SEPT． | 103.2 | 3.5 | 71 | 7091 | 902 | 8023 | $10 \cdot 17$ | 23827 | $2 \cdot 496$ | $2 \cdot 75$ | 139 | 38.1 | 63 | 1056 | $105 \cdot 6$ | 125.2 | 107：0 |
| OCT．．． | 107.5 | 1.0 | 1078 | 6962 | 901 | 7753 | 9.86 | 25676 | 2.499 | $2 \cdot 75$ | 141 | $37 \cdot 9$ | 63 | 1057 | $105 \cdot 9$ | 124.9 |  |
| NOV．．． | $106 \cdot 0$ 103.1 | 二 | 11.0 19.8 | 6723 | 949 | 7743 | 9.86 | 25660 | $2 \cdot 497$ | 3.00 | 155 | $38 \cdot 1$ | 63 | 106.8 | 106.0 | 125.0 |  |
| 1939 | 1031 | － | 19.8 | 7617 | 1027 | 8222 | $10 \cdot 40$ | 27180 | $2 \cdot 496$ | $3 \cdot 12$ | 180 | 38.2 | 63 | 107.2 | 106.7 | $125 \cdot 3$ |  |
| JAN．．．． | 103.9 | 1.0 | 48.0 |  |  | 7816 | 9.94 | 28110 | $2 \cdot 493$ | 3.25 | 152 | 37．9 | 63 | $107 \cdot 8$ | $106 \cdot 6$ | 125.8 |  |
| FEB．．． | 104.8 |  | 19.5 | 6258 | 1028 | 7939 | 10.08 | 29537 | 2.493 | 2.87 | 129 | $38 \cdot 1$ | 63 | $107 \cdot 6$ | 106．5 | 1957 |  |
| MAR．．． | 1029 103.5 | 9．8 | 64：3 | 7591 | 964 | 8310 | $10 \cdot 50$ |  | 2.483 | 3．0 | 145 | $39 \cdot 2$ | 63 | $107 \cdot 8$ | 106.7 | 126．0 |  |
| MAY． | 1035 | 10．6 | 133.0 | 6480 | 1126 | 8518 | 10.73 |  | 2.493 | 3.12 | 99 | 38.0 | 63 | $107 \cdot 3$ | $106 \cdot 4$ | $125 \cdot 9$ |  |
| JUNE |  |  |  |  | ＋ 1025 |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 2 \cdot 493 \\ & 2 \cdot 493 \end{aligned}$ | 2.75 2.75 |  | $\begin{aligned} & 38 \cdot 5 \\ & 38 \cdot 2 \end{aligned}$ | 63 | $107 \cdot 8$ | $106 \cdot 5$ | 126.1 |  |
| JULY |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $2 \cdot 493$ | 3.12 |  | 34.8 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Base | 24.6 a |  |  |  | ew Index． | Aug．， 1 |  |  |  | New | x， | $f$ Dec | r， 1935. |  |  |

finance
FINANCE
Share Index．－
Capital Issues．－$\quad$ Wirtschaft und Statistik．
Reichsbank－Clearings－- Wirtschaft und Statistik．

$\quad$| Outside Deposits．－ | Second week of month． |
| :--- | :--- |
| Note Circulation．－ | End of month． |

State Debt－
New York Exchange．－

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PRICES
    Wholesale-
        Silver, -
            pig Iron.
            Food and All Items. -
```


## Retail－

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Reichs Index．－ WAGES．－
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1st of month．
Monthly average．Wirtschaft und Statistik．
Statistisches Reichsamt Index－average for month and middle of month respectively．
For middle of month．Eildienst des statistischen middle of m
Wirtschaft und Statistik．Weighted average for skilled workers in 12 occupations．Average or month．Based on hourly wages from 1981. previously on weekly wages．After 1987，1st of month，\％of December， 1935.


NOTES AND SOURCES

## IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

Values in Gold Marks -
COAL OUTPUT.
SHIPPING.
RAILWAY GOODS 'RECEIPTS-
UNEMPLOYMENT-

Wirtschaft und Statistik.
Statistiches Reichsamt-Merchandise and bullion included.
Excluãing Saar till April, 1935-Wirtschaft und Statistik
Statistiches Reichsamt
Wirtschaft und Statistik.
Total No. of Persons Unemployed on 1st of month. Wirtschaft und Statistik. Trade Union percentage
or end of but given as for following month to be comparable with previous column, Series dik
ontinued after March, 1933. Subsequently percentages of working place capacity occupied.

## Germany]

shares in return for Gold Discount Bank shares to the value of 200 marks for every 100 marks of Reichsbank shares. The Reichsbank guarantees a dividend of $4 \%$ on the Gold Discount Bank shares, and it is expressly stated that this dividend, which represents $8 \%$ on the converted Reichsbank shares, will be available for transfer in foreign exchange.

The financial needs of the Reich are at present met principally by the issue of tax certificates, in so far as the revenue from taxes and customs is not sufficient. Of the two kinds of tax certificate which have been issued, one has attracted much attention because those who acquired these certificates before June 30th are entitled to write off a corresponding amount from their profits for taxation purposes at the end of this year. Hence these bills were much in demand in June, and sometimes stood at nearly $5 \%$ above their nominal value. Near the end of the month their price sank a little, for they are of advantage only to those firms which are in a large way of business, so that a heavy rate of tax is avoided on the allowances. Further, considerable liquidity is necessary to enable a firm to hold them until the end of the year. It is not permitted to borrow from the banks in order to invest in these certificates. The authorities do not desire the banks to increase th ir commitments by such credit operations. However, it is pointed out that by allowing more time for the payment of taxes, the certificates themselves help their holder to carry them until the end of the year. The authorities do all they can to induce people to hold them and to prevent them from flowing back to the banks. Thus, if a firm's export business accounts for $25 \%$ of its total turnover, it may write off an amount from its taxable profit if it has held these certificates during the half-year preceding the date of the balance sheet.

The second type of tax certificate runs for three years before redemption and bears interest. Although it is permitted to tender these in return for goods and services as if they were currency, it is reported that in many cases advantage is not being taken of this permission. This appears to be due to the shortage of goods, so that suppliers demand payment in cash and hesitate to accept the tax certificates. Thus the creation of more currency through these tax certificates is not working entirely according to plan.

In the first half of June the quarterly payments on account of income tax and corporation tax fell due. The total amount due was about

1,200 Mn. marks. The withdrawal of funds from the money market on this account caused some strain, and daily money rates rose in mid-June to $3 \%$.

The mid-June Reichsbank statement showed a bill portfolio of $7,492 \mathrm{Mn}$. marks, as against $5,382 \mathrm{Mn}$. a year previously. The note circulation totalled almost $8,000 \mathrm{Mn}$. marks, as against $5,845 \mathrm{Mn}$. The item entitled " other assets" has recently experienced great changes. On June 15th this item totalled only 1, 156 Mn. marks. At the end of May it had risen to much more, but in the first two weeks of June more than 890 Mn . marks were withdrawn. These " other assets" include, in addition to foreign exchange, advances to the Reich and the State Railways and Post Office.

Reich tax receipts in May totalled 1,293 Mn. marks as against 1,000 Mn. in May, 1938. Property and sales taxes produced 915 Mn ., customs and excise 378 Mn . Income tax totalled 32 I Mn ., of which last the wage tax accounted for 208 Mn .

Business on the Bourse has been very quiet. While the price of debentures has not changed over the month, share values have fallen by about $3 \%$. In recent years shares have been the most popular form of security, but now they are increasingly avoided. The options on new Daimler shares and Gelsenkirchen Waterworks shares were quoted at only half their nominal value. These new issues were only partially taken up by the public and the issuing houses were left with a large part on their hands. The new finance plan was intended to open the capital market to private industry. The fate of these new issues, however, has not been encouraging in this respect.

It is stated in the Press that during the past year waste products were worked up into goods of 600 Mn . marks in value. Scrap iron, rags, bones and paper were the chief materials reclaimed. The Press disputes the statement that the auction sale of German works of art which was held in Switzerland at the end of June was intended to produce foreign exchange for armament purposes. It is declared that the proceeds will be used to assist German artists and to buy German paintings from abroad. These works of art which have been sold in Switzerland, are styled "degenerate" and are, therefore, unwanted in Germany. They include paintings by Van Gogh, Gaugouin and Picasso.

The food situation is satisfactory, as far as the supply of wheat is concerned, though this is due to the carryover from last year. On the
other hand it is officially intimated that the national consumption of meat is too great. This, it is said, is undesirable from the point of view of both national economy and national health. The consumption of fats is also to be reduced. More greenstuffs are to be eaten, for a large vegetable production is expected this year.

In April 2,638 permits to build dwellinghouses were issued, as against 3,576 in April, 1938. The number of houses completed was 1,868, as against 2,782 in April, 1938. The number of other buildings completed was also considerably less than in April, 1938.

In the periodical, The Four-Year Plan, the State Secretary of the Reich Food Ministry states that a sum of $22,000 \mathrm{Mn}$. marks will be spent on building during the next ten years, if the agricultural building programme is carried out. He bases his calculations on an annual programme of 4,500 new peasant farms. Actually nearly 5,000 new peasant farms were set up each year on the average from 1919 to 1934 . Since 1935 rural building has fallen off very much. In 1938 only $\mathrm{I}, 407$ farms were set up, according to the official statement in "Wirtschaft und Statistik." The Reich Statistical Office explains the decline by the withdrawal of workers for national defence purposes.

For the second month in succession external trade showed an export surplus in May, 46 Mn . marks as against 35 Mn . in April. Imports were 440 Mn . marks, as against 402 Mn . in April, and exports 486 Mn ., as against 437 Mn . As compared with last year imports have been severely reduced, the above figures covering the whole of Greater Germany, except Bohemia and Moravia, but including the Sudetenland. As compared with April, imports rose from Roumania, Spain, Turkey, Manchuria and the U.S.A. There was a rise in exports to Brazil, South Africa, Italy, Holland, Denmark and Sweden.

The volume of employment has continued to increase, especially in iron and steel and in building. There is a particular shortage of agricultural workers. The Hitler Youth is to be employed on the harvest, and special camps are to be set up for them. Also 25,000 students of both sexes are to be called up for harvest duty in East Germany. Harvesting is this year unusually concentrated within a short period, owing to the long period of rain.

In the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia unemployment is rapidly falling, especially through the migration of workers to Germany. The number of labour camps has been reduced
to 40 in Bohemia and 20 in Moravia. Originall ${ }^{y}$ many more had been contemplated. According to the German Press, 40,000 Czechs are now employed in Germany, and it is expected that this number will increase substantially.

In $193825 \%$ of all industrial workers were women and girls. In 1933 they were $29 \%$. But the absolute number of female workers has increased. Further, since August, 1938, their number has been rising relatively to that of male workers, so that since November-December their proportion has been $26 \%$. The proportion of females is greater than in 1933 in the electrical industry, the iron and other metal industries, and especially in the sawmilling industry, though their number in the last industry is still quite small.

The shortage of labour has caused the employment of women in place of postmen and as tram conductors in a number of towns. The shortage is especially acute in building. In order to meet the most urgent of state building needs, it has been necessary to draw labour compulsorily from other industries. This has been made possible by the laws of compulsory labour service. Private building has, therefore, had to be either interrupted or postponed. The building industry also suffers from shortage of materials. There is a scarcity of timber, and I Mn. cubic metres less is to be used this year than last year. The supply of bricks also falls short of the demand.

In the " old Reich" $21,600,000$ persons were employed on June ist. This number was 370,000 more than on May Ist, and 1,200,000 more than on June ist, 1938. On the same date there were 70,000 males and 26,000 females unemployed. Of these about $50 \%$ are classed as not fully employable. There were 59,000 unemployed in Austria and 22,000 in the Sudetenland. In Bohemia and Moravia there were 26,000 unemployed.

The numerous official ordinances which have been issued against the competition for labour do not appear to have been very successful. Higher wages cannot, of course, be paid, but concealed wage-increases are common in the form of holiday payments, Christmas boxes, children's allowances, and so on. This has led a high official of the Reich Ministry of Labour to declare in The Four-Year Plan that wage control has slipped out of the hand of the State. It seems that even a totalitarian state cannot easily circumvent the wage system.

The first results of the population census of mid-May show a population in the Reich of

## Germany]

$79,800,000$. The $6,800,000$ inhabitants of the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia are not included in this number. The last census was taken in 1933 and showed a population of $65,200,000$. The increase of $14,600,000$ is mostly due to the incorporation of Austria and the Sudetenland.

The preponderance of females over males is only $5 \%$, as against $6 \%$ in 1933 and $7.3 \%$ in 1925. The density of population is now 136
persons per square kilometre, as against 131 in 1933. This is still far below the density of Belgium, the United Kingdom, Holland and Italy.

The number of births during the first four months of this year was greater than in the corresponding period of last year. In the large towns they totalled 124,000 , or 8,000 more than last year. But the number of deaths in the large towns increased by 14,000 . This is put down by the Reich Statistical Office to infectious diseases.

## DENMARK.

## Information communicated by the Copenhagen Institute of Economics and History.

Fuly Ist , 1939.

THE spring has witnessed a sharp increase of building activity and industrial production and a corresponding reduction in unemployment. The building trade has recovered from the

INDEX OF BUILDING ACTIVITY
(Number of dwellings under construction, $1935=100$.)

|  |  |  | Jan. | Feb. March | April | May |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1937 | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | 93 | 99 | 107 | 102 | 96 |
| 1938 | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | 57 | 63 | 69 | 60 | 61 |
| 1939 | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | 83 | 88 | 106 | 108 | 107 |

severe slump of 1938 and has reached the level of 1937. This favourable development must be ascribed to the comparatively high level of bond prices, to the fact that no reduction of building costs seems probable, and finally to public support. Following the recommendations of a committee appointed to investigate Denmark's population problems a bill was passed last year which appropriated a considerable sum for public loans to house building, in particular, to dwellings for families with small incomes and three or more children. This act is now showing its effects.

The upturn in building naturally affects the production of bricks, chalk, cement and glass, and this section of industry is now approaching the level of 1937 together with the building trade. The iron and other metal industries, which also derive advantage from increased building activity, are now working at a record level. The production of this group, which is of very great importance for the total employment of the country, has been practically unchanged through the recession of 1937-38. This is explained by the fact that shipbuilding has remained unaffected. The shipyards are working at capacity, and the reserves of unfilled orders are sufficient to keep them employed well into 1941. A shortage of
skilled hands is reported, and the employers have applied for an exemption from the provisions of the act that prescribes that any worker who works overtime must be laid off for a corresponding period at a later time. The position of the clothing, textile, and leather goods industries is satisfactory, and total production of the manufacturing industries in general is well above the pre-recession level of 1937.

The balance of trade for the first four months of 1939 shows a considerable improvement compared with the same period of last year.

| DENMARK'S FOREIGN TRADE |  | Jan.-April. (Mn. kr.) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | 1938 | 1939 |
| Total import value | ... | .. | 547 | 519 |
| Total export value ... |  | . | 484 | 503 |
| Of which agricultural produce |  | $\ldots$ | 344 | 364 |
| ,, industrial produce |  |  | 119 | 117 |
| Import surplus |  | ... | 63 | 16 |

The value of the imports of grain has been only $25 \%$ of last year's figure, thanks to the good crops of 1938, whereas the value of agricultural exports has increased $6 \%$. During the first quarter of the year butter and bacon prices were at a relatively high level, but have declined in relation to last year's figures in April and May. The increase of the value of agricultural exports is mainly due to larger exports of beef, veal and pork, in particular to Germany. On the whole, Danish-German trade is expanding, whereas both exports to and imports from Great Britain show smaller figures than last year. For the second quarter of 1939 Denmark's export quota to Germany was fixed at 90 Mn . kroner, as against 88 Mn . kroner in the first quarter and 82 Mn . in the second quarter of last year.

A statement of the balance of payments has now been issued for 1938. The surplus on the current items was of about the same size as in
the previous year，as the improvement on the balance of trade was offset by the decline of freight earnings．The surplus，III Mn ．kroner， is reflected in an increase of the foreign exchange holdings of the banks．At the same time， however，a considerable amount of Danish securities was repurchased from abroad，in
addition to the normal redemption of foreign debt．The net result is that during the year the country＇s net foreign debt was reduced by about 60 Mn ．kroner to $\mathrm{I}, \mathrm{I} 98 \mathrm{Mn}$ ．kroner， despite the fact that the rise of the dollar and the guilder involved an increase of the external debt amounting to about 60 Mn ．kroner．

|  | SECURITY PRICES |  |  |  | PRIVATEBANKS |  | WHOLESALE PRICES |  |  | Cost of Living | $\begin{gathered} \text { IM- } \\ \text { PORTS } \end{gathered}$ | EXPORTS |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { n } \\ & \text { تِ } \\ & \text { on } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 䔍 } \\ & \text { O} \\ & \text { O } \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { ٓ. } \\ & \text { से } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { H } \\ & \text { + } \\ & \stackrel{\mu}{4} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { O} \\ & \text { Ö } \\ & \text { M } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |
|  | \％of 1935. |  | $\mathrm{Mn} . \mathrm{Kr}$ ． |  | $\mathrm{Mn} . \mathrm{Kr}$ ． |  | \％of 1935 |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \% \text { of } \\ & 1985 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\mathrm{Mn} . \mathrm{Kr}$ ． |  | $\mathrm{Mn} . \mathrm{Kg}$ ． |  | $\begin{aligned} & \% \text { of } \\ & 1935 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | \％ |
| 1933 Av． | 98.7 | $82 \cdot 7$ | 375 | $-12$ | 1982＊ | 1639＊ | 90 | － | － | － | 105 | 101 | 12.7 | 24.4 | 84 | 28.8 |
| 1934 Av ． | 103.4 | $97 \cdot 2$ | 386 | － 82 | 2059＊ | 1678＊ | 98 | 98 | 91 | － | 113 | 103 | $12 \cdot 5$ | 18.6 | 94 | $22 \cdot 1$ |
| 1935 Av ． | $100 \cdot 0$ | $100 \cdot 0$ | 384 | － 94 | 2092＊ | 1748＊ | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 111 | 105 | 11.4 | 16.6 | 100 | $19 \cdot 7$ |
| 1936 Av． | 99.2 | $108 \cdot 7$ | 399 | － 62 | 2169＊ | 1927＊＊ | 105 | 108 | 103 | 102 | 124 | 115 | $12 \cdot 2$ | 14.6 | 104 | $19 \cdot 3$ |
| 1937 Av． | $96 \cdot 3$ | 113.2 | 417 | ＋62 | 2207＊ | 1968＊ | 119 | 129 | 110 | 105 | 140 | 131 | $12 \cdot 7$ | 14.8 | 107 | 21.6 |
| 1936 |  |  | 365 | － 96 | 2038 | 1739 | 103 |  |  | － | 132 | 99 | 10.4 | 14.9 | 100 | $27 \cdot 7$ |
| JAN．．．． | 99.4 99.7 | 104．2 | 375 | － 96 | 2021 | 1734 | 104 | 二 | 二 | － | 99 | 113 | $10 \cdot 9$ | 14.9 | 97 | 30：0 |
| FEB．．．． | $99 \cdot 3$ | 105.0 | 371 | － 64 | 2052 | 1713 | 103 | － | － | － | 99 | 112 | 11.2 | 16.0 | 54 | $25 \cdot 9$ |
| APRIL ．． | $99 \cdot 4$ | 106.8 | 382 | －68 | 2058 | 1748 | 102 | － | － | 102 | 95 | 106 | $12 \cdot 6$ | 14.8 | 102 | $18 \cdot 9$ |
| MAY | 99.2 | $107 \cdot 1$ | 392 | － 33 | 2077 | 1744 | 103 | － | － | － | 134 | 114 | $13 \cdot 7$ | $15 \cdot 2$ | 106 | $12 \cdot 8$ |
| JUNE ．．． | 99.2 | 107．5 | 381 | － 35 | 2142 | 1798 | 103 | － | － | － | 119 | 114 | $14^{\circ} 0$ | $14 \cdot 7$ | 106 | 11.2 |
| JULY | $99 \cdot 6$ | $109 \cdot 4$ | 373 | － 23 | 2104 | 1806 | 104 | － | － | 102 | 110 | 119 | $13 \cdot 8$ | 15.8 | 106 | 12.0 |
| AUG．．．． | 99.8 | 111.1 | 376 | － 18 | 2107 | 1817 | 106 | － | － | － | 117 | 122 | 11.4 | $15 \cdot 6$ | 107 | $12 \cdot 3$ |
| SEPT．．．． | 99.8 | 111.2 | 377 | － 24 | 2127 | 1838 | 107 | － | － | － | 154 | 120 | $12 \cdot 5$ | $12 \cdot 8$ | 107 | $12 \cdot 9$ |
| OCT．．．． | $99 \cdot 3$ | 108.7 | 407 | － 28 | 2115 | 1874 | 109 | － | － | 102 | 146 | 133 | 13.0 | 14.3 | 106 | 16. |
| NOV．．．． | 98.5 | 114.0 | 385 | － 51 | 2190 | 1920 | 110 | － | － | － | 139 | 114 | 10.4 | $12 \cdot 0$ | 106 | 29.9 |
| DEC．．．． | 97.2 | 114.6 | 399 | － 62 | 2169 | 1927 | 111 | － | － | － | 140 | 115 | 12.0 | 14.0 | 106 | 29.9 |
| JAN． 1937 | $96 \cdot 3$ | 114.9 | 374 | － 43 | 2123 | 1948 | 113 | 121 | 101 | 102 | 140 | 117 | 11.9 | $15 \cdot 3$ | 106 | 33.0 31.4 |
| FEB．．．． | $95 \cdot 3$ | $113 \cdot 1$ | 375 | － 49 | 2104 | 1937 | 115 | 124 | 103 | － | 120 | 119 | 11.0 | $13 \cdot 9$ | 107 | 31.4 |
| MAR．．．． | $95 \cdot 4$ | 114.9 | 378 | － 61 | 2088 | 1930 | 117 | 127 | 105 |  | 146 | 122 | 11.4 | $15 \cdot 1$ | 109 | 28.6 |
| APRIL ．． | 95.4 | 117.4 | 392 | － 58 | 2008 | 1953 | 120 | 132 | 103 | 104 | 144 | 142 | $13 \cdot 8$ | 16.4 | 110 | 17.5 14.8 |
| MAY ．．． | 93.9 | 115．0 | 384 | － 52 | 2100 | 1908 | 121 | 133 | 101 | － | 153 | 128 | 13.6 | 14.9 | 109 | 13.9 |
| JUNE ．． | $95^{\circ} 0$ | 114.2 | 387 | － 50 | 2153 | 1947 | 120 | 132 | 99 | － | 145 | 124 | $15 \cdot 1$ | 14.4 | 109 | 13.9 |
| JULY ．．． | 96.5 | 114.8 | 386 | － 17 | 2123 | 1943 | 122 | 134 | 108 | 105 | 126 | 135 | $15 \cdot 1$ | $15 \cdot 7$ | 107 | 15.2 |
| AUG．．．． | $97 \cdot 1$ | 115.0 | 377 | － 3 | 2153 | 1940 | 121 | 132 | 114 | － | 134 | 131 | 15.6 | $15 \cdot 8$ | 106 | $15 \cdot 1$ |
| SEPT． | $97 \cdot 0$ | 114.6 | 385 | ＋ 5 | 2142 | 1938 | 121 | 131 | 120 | 107 | 171 | 148 | $12 \cdot 3$ | 14．6 | 105 | 19.2 |
| OCT．．．． | $97 \cdot 4$ | 111.0 | 413 | ＋ 19 | 2118 | 1931 | 122 | 131 | 122 | 107 | 146 | 149 | $11 \cdot 7$ 11.3 | 15.2 14.7 | 105 | 23.5 |
| NOV．．． | $97 \cdot 6$ | 107.6 | 392 | $+40$ | 2189 | 1945 | 121 | 128 | 120 |  | 138 | 144 | 12.8 | $15 \cdot 9$ | 104 | 34.6 |
| DEC．．．． | 98.4 | $105 \cdot 3$ | 417 | ＋62 | 2207 | 1968 | 120 | 126 | 123 |  | 132 | 144 | 128 |  |  |  |
| 1938 |  |  | 38 |  | 2133 | 1949 | 119 | 125 | 113 | 107 | 153 | $120 \dagger$ | $10.5 \dagger$ | 14.7 | 104 | 29.2 |
| FEB． | 98.7 | 106.2 | 391 | ＋ 70 | 2123 | 1944 | 117 | 121 | 110 | － | 123 | 110 | $11 \cdot 1$ | $11 \cdot 7$ | 105 | 27.7 |
| MAR．．． | 98.0 | 105.5 | 399 | ＋61 | 2131 | 1939 | 115 | 117 | 105 | － | 154 | 130 | $13 \cdot 1$ | 15.6 | 109 | $20 \cdot 3$ |
| APRIL． | 98.2 | 103.8 | 420 | ＋ 71 | 2114 | 1907 | 113 | 116 | 110 | 107 | 117 | 124 | $14 \cdot 3$ | 14．4 | 109 | 17.5 |
| MAY | 98.6 | 101.5 | 409 | ＋ 88 | 2163 | 1884 | 112 | 116 | 110 | － | 116 | 124 | $15 \cdot 8$ | 14.6 | 109 | 16.7 |
| JUNE ．．． | 99.2 | 101.7 | 414 | $+113$ | 2199 | 1905 | 111 | 113 | 108 | － | 121 | 137 |  |  |  |  |
| JULY | 99＇9 | 103.8 | 403 | ＋105 | 2159 | 1910 | 111 | 113 | 112 | 106 | 137 | 138 | 16.2 | 16.5 | 107 | 16.9 16.9 |
| AUG．．．． | $100 \cdot 1$ | $105 \cdot 7$ | 397 | $+128$ | 2194 | 1913 | 110 | 110 | 112 | － | 129 | 124 | 13.7 | 14.6 | 108 | 16.8 |
| SEPT．．． | 99.8 | 104.7 | 429 | ＋183 | 2229 | 1927 | 110 | 110 | 115 | $\overline{106}$ | 148 | 139 | 13.0 | 15.9 | 109 | 18.8 |
| OCT． | 101.0 | 105.9 | 435 | $+130$ | 2215 | 1933 | 111 | 111 | 113 | 106 | 150 | 122 | 11.1 | 13.9 | 110 | $22 \cdot 7$ |
| NOV．．．． | 101.5 | 106.6 | 414 | ＋113 | 2277 | 1946 | 110 | 111 | 111 |  | 126 | 131 | 11.9 | 15.0 | 109 | 31.6 |
| DEC． 1939 | $101 \cdot 5$ | 103.7 | 441 | $+108$ | 2305 | 1977 | 110 | 111 | 115 | 107 | 126 | 118 | 10.0 | 16.0 | 110 | 29.9 |
| JAN．．．． | 100.8 | 103.5 | 410 | ＋113 | 2223 | 1956 | 110 | 111 | 113 | 107 | 135 123 | 118 | 10.0 | 14.8 | 110 | $27 \cdot 1$ |
| FEB． | $101 \cdot 1$ | 103.4 | 414 | ＋119 | 2210 | 1950 | 110 | 111 | 114 |  | 146 | 131 | 11.9 | $15^{\circ} 0$ | 113 | 22.8 |
| MARRIL．．． | 101.4 100.4 | $103 \cdot 4$ 101.0 | 436 | +117 +167 | 2224 | 1954 | 109 109 | 110 | 106 | 107 | 115 | 133 | 12.8 | 16.5 | 115 116 | 16.9 11.7 |
| MAY ．．． | 101．1 | 104.2 | 435 | ＋ 94 | 2312 | 1966 | 111 | 113 | 102 | － |  |  |  |  | 116 |  |

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# LONDON \& CAMBRIDGE ECONOMIC SERVICE 

MONTHLY BULLETIN<br>BULLETIN VII.<br>JULY 24th, 1939

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.



## EDITORIAL COMMITTEE.



Annual Subscription for the Full Service, $£ 6$.

## LONDON $\mathcal{E}$ CAMBRIDGE ECONOMIC SERVICE

VOL. XVII.
BULLETIN VII.
JULY 24th, 1939

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Subscribers are reminded that the Service is prepared to answer enquiries and to supply further statistics on special subjects. No charge is made unless considerable labour is entailed.

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B. Board of Trade Index-Total excluding Foods, see Table p. 323, col. 5.
C. Value of Exported Manufactures ( $\star$ normal seasonal variation removed), see Table p. 327, col. 17.
D. Average of Bank Rate, Bankers' Deposit Rate, Day-to-Day Rate and Three Months' Bill Rate, see Table p. 32 I , cols. 5, 6.

## EVENTS OF THE MONTH

June 22nd-July 22nd, 1939.
Thurs. June 22nd U.S.A.

| Fri. | " 23 rd | U.K./U.S.A. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | | Barter agreement concluded. U.K. to exchange 80,000 tons of |
| :--- |
| rubber for 600 ooo bales of cotton. |
| Price of domestic silver raised. Beginning of series of cuts in |

## THE GENERAL BUSINESS POSITION.

UNITED KINGDOM.*

Fuly 20th, 1939.
The recent Supplementary Estimates for armaments expenditure, which have caused the anticipated Treasury borrowings for the present financial year to be increased by some $£_{\mathrm{I} 20 \mathrm{Mn} \text {. to about }}$ £. 500 Mn ., strengthen expectations of a further decrease in unemployment, which in June fell to nearly the same percentage as the lowest in 1937. There is still a considerable reserve of labour, and, since more than 600,000 of the men unemployed on June i2th had had some work during the past six months, this reserve contains a majority at least who are capable of useful work. The increased rate of expenditure must, however, soon result in some strain in the labour market. At present there is some shortage of specialised artisans, and private customers have difficulty in getting delivery of some classes of goods.

So far there has been no general rise in wholesale prices; the index has, in fact, moved little during this year, though some commodities have increased in price and there has been a considerable fall in wheat prices. With a considerable growth in the aggregate wage-bill, due to the larger
number employed and probably to an increase of earnings as contrasted with wage-rates, the spending power of one section of the population has increased, and it will be interesting to observe whether there is any consequent rise in retail prices.

Except for issues to municipalities and to Australia there has been little visible capital investment, though no doubt there has been development in connection with the armament programme.

The rate of Government expenditure is too great to be accounted for simply by the increase in the number employed, and it must be presumed that in some directions private expenditure is reduced, as for example, on new building, while in the absence of a rise in prices abroad, it is unlikely that wholesale price indices will show any great increase in this country; part of the Treasury disbursements will be spent on imported goods, and this will tend to increase the adverse balance of trade, which in June, 1939, was as great as a year before. Up to the present, expenditure has been mainly financed by Treasury Bills.

## FINANCE, TRADE \& INDUSTRY IN SECOND QUARTER, 1939

## AND RECENT MOVEMENTS.

FINANCE.-SECOND QUARTER, 1939.

THE financial statistics for the second quarter of 1939 show the conflicting results of a low level of private investment and of an increasingly high level of Government expenditure. The former shows itself in the continued absence of recovery in prices of stock exchange securities, issues of new capital by companies, and Town clearings. The effects of Government expenditure are seen in the rise in the floating debt and in Treasury bills issued by
tender, in the recovery in clearing bank discounts and deposits, in the less than seasonal fall in Provincial clearings, and in the rise in the Bank of England's note circulation.

It is clear from the rapidly rising level of employment that, whereas in the financial year 1937-8 the effect of the fall in private activity outweighed the effects of Government expenditure and in 1938-9 the two were about equally balanced, since the beginning of the present financial year the force of the greatly increased

* An international survey appears on the 7 th of each month in the Supplement to the Bulletin.

Government expenditure has proved preponderant. In the circumstances the decline in private investment, which ordinarily would have produced a severe trade depression, is proving an advantage. But for this it is possible that a position of minimum unemployment might long ago have been reached, and the Government might already have been faced with the problem of inducing the diversion of resources from private to public use, whether by appeals to patriotism, rationing, higher prices, higher interest rates, or higher taxation. As it is, the public has spontaneously refrained from the use of large quantities of resources and so made them available for the service of the Government at almost unchanged prices.

Had re-armament on the present scale happened to coincide with a period of natural trade activity, the fact that the Treasury's shortterm debt to the market and the total of bank deposits are still well below the levels ruling in recent years would, in the absence of other measures, have proved no barrier to an inflationary rise in prices. At the beginning of 1938 a large proportion of the volatile foreign funds in London were held in the form either of Treasury bills or of inactive bank deposits. The withdrawal of these funds during the year obliged the Treasury to sell nearly $£ 300 \mathrm{Mn}$. of gold, a large part of the proceeds of which were used to pay off bills held by or on behalf of foreigners and by the banks. Thus, between March, 1938, and March, 1939, the total of Treasury bills issued by tender fell by $£_{1} 166 \mathrm{Mn}$., bank discounts by $£ 48 \mathrm{Mn}$., and bank deposits by $£ 102 \mathrm{Mn}$. This decline in Treasury bills had little deflationary effect. Only part of it was reflected in a fall in deposits, and this fall was mainly in the inactive deposits formerly held by foreigners. Thus, between March, I938, and March, 1939, deposit accounts fell by $£ 67 \mathrm{Mn}$. and current accounts by only $£ 35 \mathrm{Mn}$. But the present rise in Treasury bills to finance re-armament has a pronounced expansionary effect. Since the volume of foreign funds in the London short money market has been so much reduced, it is to be expected that a larger proportion of Treasury bills will have to be bought or financed by the banks ; and the bank deposits so created will not lie inactive, but will be used at once in payment of wages and other costs of producing armaments. Thus, but for the decreased activity in formerly active Britishowned deposits, the volume of active deposits would have surpassed the level of 1937-8 long before the volume of total deposits reached it.

It is not clear whether the figure of $£ 150 \mathrm{Mn}$. which the Chancellor of the Exchequer men-
tioned as being the amount of additional Treasury bills which could safely be issued this year, refers to the amount by which the issue declined in 1938-9, or to the amount which could be issued without danger of inflation. It is possible that the two amounts may be the same ; but if so, it is a coincidence. But for the decline in private investment activity, a much smaller expansion of the Treasury bill issue might well have been enough to cause a marked rise in prices.

## FINANCE.-RECENT MOVEMENTS.

Bank of England.-After rising little more than seasonally between January and June, the note circulation of the Bank of England has recently shown a sharp non-seasonal rise, from $£ 495.0 \mathrm{Mn}$. on June 14 th to $£ 505.7 \mathrm{Mn}$. on July 5th. This rise is attributed partly to a natural increase in demand induced by the rising volume of employment, and partly to a replenishment of the note reserves of the banks and other institutions with a view to the possibility of a new international crisis. As a result of the rise in the circulation, the note reserve of the Banking Department had fallen to $£ 20.7 \mathrm{Mn}$. on July 5th, and it occasioned little surprise when on July 7 th the Bank took steps to replenish its reserve. Instead of increasing the fiduciary issue, as was done in 1937 and 1938 to provide for the Christmas demand, the Bank bought $£ 20 \mathrm{Mn}$. of gold (at market price, under its new powers) from the Exchange Equalisation Account, so that its return of July 12th showed its gold holding at $£ 246.4 \mathrm{Mn}$. and, despite a further rise in the note circulation to $£ 507.9 \mathrm{Mn}$., its note reserve at $£ 38.5 \mathrm{Mn}$.

Despite a rise of $£ 2 \mathrm{Mn}$. in Government Securities between June 14th and July 5th, and of $£ 3 \mathrm{Mn}$. in Discounts and Advances, the fall of nearly $£$ II Mn . in the note reserve was reflected in a decline of over $£ 5 \mathrm{Mn}$. in total Deposits to $£ 153.3 \mathrm{Mn}$. When the gold was bought and the note reserve increased, Government Securities were correspondingly reduced so that total Deposits on July 12th remained at the lower level of $£_{153.4} \mathrm{Mn}$. As meanwhile Government Deposits had shown a (probably temporary) rise to $£ 29.5 \mathrm{Mn}$., Bankers' Deposits, at $£ 87.1 \mathrm{Mn}$., were $£ 13 \mathrm{Mn}$. lower than on June 14th. It should be remembered that part of the increase in the note circulation has probably gone into the tills of the banks, so that it is unlikely that their total cash reserves have suffered any serious diminution.

Clearing Banks.-The June average figures of nine London clearing banks at last show a sharp rise of $£ 47 \mathrm{Mn}$. in Discounts, and of over
$£_{6} \mathrm{Mn}$. in Call Money. This is a natural consequence of the rapid expansion in the issue of Treasury bills which began early in March. A possible reason why the rise in Discounts has been so delayed is that the Exchange Account may have used part of the proceeds of gold sold in March and April to buy bills originally issued by tender. Thus the rise in bills actually in the hands of the market may have been substantially less than the rise in tender bills. The sharp rise in 'tap ' bills at the beginning of June may have been partly due to replacement of tender bills in the hands of the Account by 'tap' bills, so that the amount of bills held by the market may have risen by a good deal more than the total of tender bills outstanding.

Of the other Assets, Balances with Other Banks and Items in Transit show a rise of $£ 3.6$ Mn., but Advances are nearly $£_{\mathrm{I}} \mathrm{Mn}$. lower at £.94I.I Mn., and Investments again lower by over $£ 4 \mathrm{Mn}$. at $£ 557$.r Mn. Total Deposits have increased by nearly $£_{50} \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£_{2}$, Ior Mn ., while Cash has fallen by $£ 1.3 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 223.5 \mathrm{Mn}$. Thus the ratio of Cash to Deposits has declined from $1 \mathrm{I} \%$ to $\mathrm{Io} .6 \%$. The ratio of quick assets (Cash plus Call Money plus Discounts) to Deposits has, however, risen from 26.1 \% in April and $27.0 \%$ in May to $28.8 \%$.

Town clearings in June showed a recovery from the exceptionally low May total, but remained well below the figure for June, 1938. Country clearings fell slightly more than seasonally, but remained slightly above the level of twelve months before. Provincial clearings made the best showing with a small contra-seasonal rise, and recovered to above the level of a year before. Of the individual provincial centres, six showed higher daily averages than in June, 1938, the largest increases being in Bristol and Bradford. Of the five centres which recorded declines, none showed a heavy fall.

Security Prices.-Prices of industrial securities show a renewed decline over the month, and our mid-month index has fallen back to the April level. The decline occurred during the second half of June, since when there has been a partial recovery. Prices of fixed interest securities are also lower, though still above the May level. Our crude index of foreign bond prices shows little change, small falls in a large number of bonds having been offset by a sharp rise in Czecho-Slovakian issues, apparently on hopes of repayment out of Czech assets blocked in London. Short-term interest rates remain steady at the slightly higher level now apparently established.

New Capital Issues.-New capital issues on home account, as calculated by the Midland Bank, showed a sharp recovery to $f_{1} 17.4 \mathrm{Mn}$., the highest monthly figure recorded for two years. Of this total, $£ 3.0 \mathrm{Mn}$. was due to the Hertfordshire $3 \frac{1}{2} \%$ Loan, which was oversubscribed, and £7.5 Mn. to the L.C.C. $3 \frac{1}{2} \%$ Loan, of which $94 \%$ was left with the underwriters. Issues on overseas account also showed a sharp rise to $£ 6.5 \mathrm{Mn}$. Of this, $£ 6.0 \mathrm{Mn}$. was due to the Australian Government $4 \%$ Loan, of which $80 \%$ was left with the underwriters.

Government Finance.-The greatly increased rate of national expenditure, foreshadowed in the estimates and recently published Supplementary Estimates, is now being reflected in the Revenue Returns. For the four weeks ending July 15th expenditure on Ordinary Account amounted to $£ 77 \mathrm{Mn}$. and on Loan Account to £19.5 Mn., making a total of $£ 96.5 \mathrm{Mn}$., as against $£_{58} \mathrm{Mn}$. in the corresponding period a year ago. The average weekly increase over last year was thus $£ 9.6 \mathrm{Mn}$., whereas last month it was only $£ 4.4 \mathrm{Mn}$. The rise in Expenditure was offset to a small extent by a rise of nearly $£_{6} 4 \mathrm{Mn}$. in Revenue to $£ 49.4 \mathrm{Mn}$., the increase being due mainly to larger receipts from N.D.C., Customs and Excise. The excess of expenditure for the month was thus $£ 47 . \mathrm{I}$ Mn., as compared with $£ 12.6 \mathrm{Mn}$. in June-July last year.

The month's deficit was reflected in a rise of £. 45 Mn . in the Floating Debt to $£ \mathrm{I}, 100 \mathrm{Mn}$. The whole of this increase was in Treasury bills, which rose by $£ 46 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 1,057 \mathrm{Mn}$. As, however, the issue of ' tap ' bills rose by $£ 2 \mathrm{IMn}$. to $£ 563 \mathrm{Mn}$., the rise in tender bills was only $£_{25} \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 494 \mathrm{Mn}$.

The issue of tender bills is still $£ 74 \mathrm{Mn}$. lower than on the corresponding date of 1938, and $£ 54 \mathrm{Mn}$. lower than in 1937. At the present rate of expenditure, however, this margin will rapidly disappear, and, in the absence of a funding loan, by early September the tender bill issue will probably have risen at least to its normal seasonal level of about $£ 570 \mathrm{Mn}$.

Foreign Exchanges.-During the past month the principal foreign exchanges have continued to move within very narrow limits. The extreme variations of the sterling-dollar rate have been 4.68 有 on July 6th and $4.68 \frac{7}{10}$ on July 18th. The closing rate on July 19th was $4.68 \frac{1}{4}$. The sterling-franc rate hardly moved from $176_{\frac{2}{3} \frac{3}{3}}$. Intervention by the British Exchange Equalisation Account is believed to have been on a small scale.

SUMMARY OF QUARTERLY STATISTICS.

| TOTALS. | 1936 |  |  | 1937 |  |  |  | 1938 |  |  |  | 1939 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2nd ${ }_{\text {Qr }}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 3 \mathrm{rd} \\ & \mathrm{Or} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 4th } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 1st } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 2nd } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 3rd } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 4th } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 1st } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 2nd } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 3rd } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 4th } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | 1st | 2nd ${ }_{\text {Qr }}$ |
| BANK CLEARINGS: <br> Town (ex Metropolitan) Country . <br> Provincial (11 Towns) | $\begin{array}{r} \text { £ Mn. } \\ 8243 \\ 850 \\ 319 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} £ \mathrm{Mn} . \\ 8598 \\ 868 \\ 338 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { £ Mn. } \\ 9813 \\ 939 \\ 383 \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { £ Mn. } \\ 9734 \\ 947 \\ 391 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { £ Mn. } \\ 9307 \\ 951 \\ 367 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { £ Mn. } \\ 8798 \\ 936 \\ 353 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{r} £ \mathrm{Mn} . \\ 8879 \\ 971 \\ 361 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { £ Mn. } \\ 8677 \\ 968 \\ 346 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} £ \mathrm{Mn} . \\ 8157 \\ 8 \subseteq 8 \\ 302 \end{array}$ | £ Mn. 8522 890 295 | $\begin{array}{r} \text { £ Mn. } \\ 8506 \\ 927 \\ 316 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} £ \mathrm{Mn} . \\ 7927 \\ 952 \\ 330 \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { £ Mn. } \\ 7234 \\ 916 \\ 304 \end{gathered}$ |
| CLEARING BANKS: <br> Deposits* <br> Advances* | 2079 828 | 2136 836 | 2178 848 | $\begin{array}{r} 2162 \\ 865 \end{array}$ | 2153 $¢ 11$ | 2173 926 | 2201 938 | 2172 934 | $\begin{array}{r} 2161 \\ 940 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 2177 \\ 927 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 21355 \\ 919 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 2070 \\ 931 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 2064 \\ 943 \end{array}$ |
| NEW CAPITAL ISSUES in Gt. Britain : | $48 \cdot 4$ | $40 \cdot 1$ | 68.1 | 49.5 | 47.9 | 29.4 | $44 \cdot 1$ | $\begin{aligned} & 33 \cdot 1 \\ & 26 \cdot 7 \end{aligned}$ | 41.0 | $19 \cdot 0$ | 25.0 | $\begin{aligned} & 24 \cdot 9 \\ & 109 \end{aligned}$ | 32.2 |
| All For United Kingdom.... $\ldots$ | $41 \cdot 3$ | $33 \cdot 1$ | 58.0 | $42 \cdot 6$ | $38 \cdot 1$ | $22 \cdot 9$ | $35 \%$ | $26 \cdot 7$ | 29.4 |  |  |  |  |
| IMPORTS RETAINED: <br> Food, Drink and Tobacco ... | 88 | 88 | 109 | 95 | 98 | 100 | 126 | 103 | 102 | 105 | 109 | 98 | 96 |
| Materials: ${ }_{\text {Partly Manufactured }}$. | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 12 | 13 |  | 10 | 6 | 7 | 7 |  | 9 |
| Cotton ... ... | 10 | 10 | 14 | 14 | 11 | $\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ 65 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 14 \\ & 63 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 10 \\ & 54 \end{aligned}$ | 6 46 | $\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ 44 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ 43 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ 44 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ 51 \end{array}$ |
| Other $\quad .$. | 40 57 | 42 60 | 47 | $\begin{aligned} & 48 \\ & 71 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 57 \\ & 80 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 65 \\ & 85 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 63 \\ & 88 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 54 \\ & 75 \end{aligned}$ | 46 60 | 44 57 | 43 57 | 44 58 | $\begin{aligned} & 51 \\ & 66 \end{aligned}$ |
| Wholly Manufactured ${ }^{\text {Total }}$ Goode | 39 | 43 | 44 | 44 | 52 | 53 | 55 | 50 | 44 | 44 | 45 | 47 | 52 |
| Wholly Manufactureds Total Retained Imports ... | 186 | 192 | 226 | 211 | 232 | 240 | 271 | 229 | 207 | 208 | 214 | 204 | 216 |
| EXPORTS, BRITISH : |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 14 |  |
| Materials Manufactures-Cotton | 14 | 16 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 18 | 16 | 14 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 13 | 12 |
| Manufactures-Cotton ${ }_{\text {Other... }}$ | 65 | 72 | 75 | 77 | 84 | 87 | 88 | 82 | 76 | 76 | 82 | 81 | 78 |
| Total British Exports | 102 | 112 | 121 | 121 | 130 | 134 | 136 | 121 | 112 | 113 | 124 | 118 | 117 |
| EXCESS OF IMPORTS: <br> Goods and Bullion + | 125 | 203 | 141 | 123 | 99 | 147 | 152 | 145 | 138 | 26 | 4 | $-10$ | -2 |
| TONNAGE OF SHIPS (with cargoes): | 0000 Tons |  |  | 0000 Tons |  |  |  | 0000 Tons |  |  |  |  | Tons |
| cargoes): <br> Entered from abroad... | 1672 | 1861 |  |  | 1571 | 2116 | 1810 | 1578 | 1747 | 1839 | 1674 | 1488 | 1776 |
| Cleared for abroad ... ... | 1401 | 1538 | 1453 | 1352 | 1567 | 1694 | 1525 | 1320 | 1464 | 1610 | 1493 | 1347 | 1590 |
| PRODUCTION | 0000 Tons |  |  | 0000 Tons |  |  |  | 0000 Tons |  |  |  | 0000 Tons |  |
| Coal ( 13 weeks) | 5499 | 5482 | 5993 | 6318 | 6212 | 5828 | 6309 | 6572 | 5551 | 5316 | 6012 | 6343 | 5878 |
| Pig-iron (3 montha)§ ... | 193 | 195 | 198 | 193 | 208 | 217 | 232 | 217 | 184 | 138 | 128 | 162 | 202 |
| Steel , , . | 293 | 287 | 308 | 310 | 323 | 321 | 342 | 325 | 267 | 210 | 237 |  | 345 |
|  | 000 Tons |  |  |  000 Tons   <br> 253 368 219  |  |  |  |  |  | s. |  |  | ns |
| Shipbuilding (commenced) ... | 282 | 293 | 273 |  |  |  | 217 | 173 |  | 87 | 88 |  | 402 |
| INDEX OF PRODUCTION : <br> Bulletin \% of 1924 <br> Board of Trade \% of 1930 | $\begin{aligned} & 118 \cdot 4 \\ & 122 \cdot 3 \end{aligned}$ | $114 \cdot 6$ $121 \cdot 3$ | $122 \cdot 2$ 131.7 | $\begin{aligned} & 119 \cdot 6 \\ & 131 \cdot 7 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 126 \cdot 5 \\ & 133 \cdot 6 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 121 \cdot 3 \\ & 130 \cdot 1 \end{aligned}$ | $128 \cdot 7$ 136.4 | $122 \cdot 8$ $132 \cdot 1$ | $108 \cdot 1$ 121.7 | 99.3 $117 \%$ | 108.8 126.0 | $111 \cdot 9$ $131 \cdot 3$ | 1227 |

* Mean weekly averages. $\dagger$ Including sovereigns at their face value.
§ Subject to slight modifications in annual totals.


Gold Movements.-Imports and exports of gold were lower in June than for several months. Imports totalled $£_{\mathrm{I}} \mathrm{I} .6 \mathrm{Mn}$., of which $£_{\mathrm{I}} \mathrm{I} . \mathrm{I} \mathrm{Mn}$. came from South Africa and $\mathrm{f}_{5} 5$.I Mn. from Holland, and Exports $£ 28.7 \mathrm{Mn}$., of which $£_{2} 27.2 \mathrm{Mn}$. went to the United States.

During the first half of July the volume of Exports again increased. During the period June 29th-July 17th, Exports totalled $£ 27.8$ Mn., of which $£ 26$.I Mn. went to the United States. Imports, on the other hand, showed a further decline to $£ 7.7 \mathrm{Mn}$. for the same period. The only two important sources were again South Africa, with $£ 4.3 \mathrm{Mn}$., and Holland, with $£_{2} .3 \mathrm{Mn}$.

## PRICES, WAGES, TRADE, OUTPUT AND EMPLOYMENT, SECOND QUARTER, 1939

PRICES AND WAGES.-During the second quarter of the year there was little change in the general level of wholesale prices. Such change as there was suggested a very slight upward movement. For March the Board of Trade average monthly index stood at 96.6 (\% of I930), and it then rose by easy stages to 98.1 in June. The Statist index, which refers to the end of each month, showed a similar rise between March and June, though it was practically stationary between April and June. Among individual commodities, cereals and coal fell in price, the latter owing to season, while cotton and wool and other textiles rose. Other changes were negligible.

Between June, 1938, and June, 1939, the Board of Trade general index fell from 100.7 (\% of 1930) to 98.I. The most important changes over the year were shown by cereals ( $-23 \%$ ) and iron and steel ( $-6 \%$ ). The decline in cereals has continued throughout this period, though the greater part of it took place before November, 1938. The decline in iron and steel was due to a sudden cut at the beginning of 1939.

The retail food index and the Cost of Living Index rose during the quarter, owing mainly to the displacement of old potatoes by the new crop and to increases in the prices of eggs and milk.

Our wage index stood at 105 (\% of December, 1924) in April and May, as it had done since the beginning of the year, but in June it advanced to $105 \frac{3}{4}$ as a result of an increase in engineers' wage rates.

TRADE.-The value of retained imports of merchandise in the second quarter of 1939 was $£ 215.5 \mathrm{Mn}$., as compared with $£ 206.3 \mathrm{Mn}$. in

1938 and $£ 232.4 \mathrm{Mn}$. in 1937. The value of exports of U.K. merchandise was $£_{11} 17.2 \mathrm{Mn}$., as compared with $£ 112.3 \mathrm{Mn}$. in 1938 and £Izo. I Mn. in 1937. The value of exports of foreign and colonial produce was $£ 13.8 \mathrm{Mn}$., as compared with $£ 17.0 \mathrm{Mn}$. in 1938 and $£ 2 \mathrm{I} .8 \mathrm{Mn}$. in 1937.

During this quarter the trend of our trade appears to have changed. In the first quarter the balance of trade was considerably less adverse than in the corresponding period of 1938. In the second quarter imports rose more than exports, and the balance of trade was more adverse than last year. For the first half-year the adverse balance is $£ 183.5 \mathrm{Mn}$., or $£ 20.15 \mathrm{Mn}$. less than for the first half-year of 1938.

Among retained import values, the total for foodstuffs and tobacco declined by $7 \%$ as compared with the second quarter of 1938, but materials increased by $8 \%$ and manufactures by $17 \frac{1}{2} \%$. Among the sub-groups the following changes were noteworthy. Grain and flour ( $-26 \%$ ), tobacco ( $-29 \%$ ), raw wool ( $+10 \%$ ), oil, seeds, etc. $(+12 \%)$, iron and steel manufactures $(+90 \%)$, non-ferrous metals and manufactures $(+11 \%)$, machinery ( $+30 \%$ ), chemicals ( $+59 \%$ ). Raw cotton imports showed a small increase ; other principal groups showed hardly any change.

Among export values, materials increased by $6 \%$ and manufactures by $3 \%$. Among materials, coal showed an increase of $8 \%$. Among manufactures the following were the principal changes. Iron and steel manufactures (- $11 \%$ ), machinery ( $-7 \%$ ), wool manufactures ( $+13 \%$ ), chemicals ( $+\mathrm{I} 8 \frac{1}{2} \%$ ). Cotton manufactures showed a small increase ; vehicles were practically unchanged.

The data are not yet available by which to judge precisely how much of these changes in values has been due to price changes, but the decline in the prices of cereals over the year probably tended to depress total import values in comparison with total export values.

PRODUCTION.-The output of coal in the second quarter of the year was about $6 \%$ greater than in the corresponding period of 1938 , and about $5 \%$ less than in that of 1937. The output of iron and steel reached very high figures during the quarter, that of steel being the highest ever recorded. The monthly output of steel was well over $1,000,000$ tons in each of the three months of the quarter, surpassing I,200,000 tons in May. The monthly output of pig-iron rose from 604,000 tons in March to 716,000 tons in June. This is not far short of

TABLE A. NET IMPORTS OF RAW MATERIALS (EXCLUDING RUBBER) AND CERTAIN PARTLY MANUFACTURED GOODS. DECLARED VALUES. £ Mn.


TABLE B. EXPORTED MANUFACTURES-DECLARED VALUES. £ Mn.

|  | 2 | $\begin{gathered} 1936 \\ \text { Quarte } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | 4 | 1 |  |  | 4 | 1 |  | rs. <br> 3 | 4 |  | $\begin{aligned} & 39 \\ & \text { ters. } \\ & 2 \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Coke | '5 | 8 | 9 | -9 | 1.0 | $1 \cdot 3$ | $1 \cdot 1$ | 1.0 | 4 | 8 | $1 \cdot 1$ | 9 | $\cdot 9$ |
| Earthenware | $2 \cdot 1$ | $2 \cdot 3$ | $2 \cdot 3$ | $2 \cdot 2$ | $2 \cdot 6$ | $2 \cdot 6$ | 2.7 | $2 \cdot 3$ | $2 \cdot 5$ | $2 \cdot 4$ | $2 \cdot 5$ | $2 \cdot 2$ | $2 \cdot 5$ |
| Iron \& Steel | 8.9 | $9 \cdot 1$ | $9 \cdot 9$ | 10.6 | 12.6 | $12 \cdot 3$ | $12 \cdot 9$ | 11.6 | 10.7 | 9.0 | $10 \cdot 4$ | 8.6 | $9 \cdot 5$ |
| Other Metals | $2 \cdot 9$ | 3.0 | $3 \cdot 0$ | 3.7 | $3 \cdot 8$ | $3 \cdot 9$ | $4 \cdot 3$ | $3 \cdot 1$ | $3 \cdot 0$ | $2 \cdot 8$ | $3 \cdot 4$ | 3.7 | $3 \cdot 7$ |
| Cutlery ... ... | 1.9 | $2 \cdot 1$ | $2 \cdot 2$ | $2 \cdot 1$ | $2 \cdot 5$ | $2 \cdot 6$ | $2 \cdot 6$ | $2 \cdot 3$ | $2 \cdot 2$ | $2 \cdot 2$ | $2 \cdot 3$ | $2 \cdot 2$ | $2 \cdot 4$ |
| Electrical Goods... | 2.4 | $2 \cdot 5$ | $2 \cdot 9$ | $2 \cdot 6$ | 3.2 | 3.2 | 3.5 | 3.6 | 3.2 | 3.2 | $3 \cdot 5$ | 32 | $3 \cdot 1$ |
| Machinery . | 9.8 | $10 \cdot 4$ | $10 \cdot 9$ | $10 \cdot 9$ | 12.1 | 12.4 | 14.4 | 14.7 | 14.5 | 13.8 | 15.0 | 14.2 | 13.5 |
| Wood - | - 3 | . 3 | $\cdot 3$ | . 3 | . 3 | . 3 | $\cdot 3$ | -3 | . 3 | -3 | -3 | . 3 | ${ }^{3}$ |
| Cotton Wool | 13.9 6.7 | $15 \cdot 7$ | $16 \cdot 3$ | 16.7 | $17 \cdot 6$ | 18.0 | 16.2 | 14.1 | 11.7 | 11.8 | $12 \cdot 1$ | 12.6 | 12.0 |
| Other Textiles ... | 6.7 | $9 \cdot 1$ 4.7 | 7.9 50 | $9 \cdot 4$ $5 \cdot 2$ | 8.3 5.8 | 10.0 | 7.9 | 8.0 | $5 \cdot 3$ 3.9 | 7.2 3.8 | 6.3 | 7.9 | 6.0 4.5 |
| Apparel \& Footwear | 2.4 | $3 \cdot 3$ | 3.0 | $3 \cdot 2$ | 2.7 | 5.7 | 3.2 | 4.5 3.0 | 3.9 2.0 | 3.8 2.8 | 2.6 | $\stackrel{4}{2}$ | 2.3 |
| Chemicals ... ... | $5 \cdot 1$ | 5.2 | $5 \cdot 7$ | 6.0 | 6.6 | $6 \cdot 1$ | 6.0 | 5.6 | $5 \cdot 4$ | $5 \cdot 1$ | 6.6 | 5.5 | 6.4 |
| Oils ... | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.6 | $1 \cdot 3$ | 1.4 | $1 \cdot 3$ | $1 \cdot 3$ | $1 \cdot 3$ | 1.2 | 1.4 |
| Leather ... | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.2 | $1 \cdot 3$ | 1.5 | $1 \cdot 3$ | $1 \cdot 3$ | $\cdot 9$ | $\cdot 9$ | 1.0 | $1 \cdot 1$ | $1 \cdot 1$ | $1 \cdot 1$ |
|  | 1.5 | 1.7 | 1.9 | 1.7 | 2.0 | $2 \cdot 1$ | $2 \cdot 2$ | $1 \cdot 8$ | 1.6 | 1.6 | 1.9 | $1 \cdot 6$ | 19 |
| Vehicles* Rubber $\dagger$... | 7.9 | 8.3 | $9 \cdot 1$ | $8 \cdot 7$ | 9.8 | 10.2 | $11 \cdot 3$ | $10 \cdot 5$ | $11 \cdot 2$ | 11.3 | $11 \cdot 6$ | $13 \cdot 5$ | 11.1 |
| Total, including Miscellaneous | $79 \cdot 1$ | $87 \cdot 7$ | $91 \cdot 3$ | $93 \cdot 8$ | $101 \cdot 3$ | $105 \cdot 3$ | $104 \cdot 5$ | 95.8 | $87 \cdot 7$ | 88.0 | $93 \cdot 9$ | $93 \cdot 5$ | $90 \cdot 5$ |

* Including rubber tyres after 1924.
$\dagger$ Excluding rubber tyres after 1924.
the highest monthly figure recorded since the war. The output of electricity continues to grow. In the second quarter of the year it was about $13 \%$ greater than in the corresponding period of 1938. The tonnage of merchant shipping commenced made a very great advance during this quarter, totalling 402,000 tons, as compared with 71,000 tons in the previous quarter. This is a higher figure than that of the peak quarter of 1937, when 368,000 tons of shipping were commenced. In addition to this merchant shipbuilding there is considerable activity in the naval yards, so that total shipbuilding activity is about to reach very high levels. The total merchant shipping under construction at the end of June was 791,000 tons, or 195,000 tons more than at the end of March. The principal reason for the sudden increase in merchant shipbuilding has been the announcement of the government's subsidies to shipping.

Our index of industrial production (see table p. 319) for the second quarter of the year shows a rise of $9 \frac{1}{2} \%$ as compared with the preceding quarter and of $\mathrm{I} 3 \frac{1}{2} \%$ as compared with the second quarter of 1938 . The index is still about $4 \frac{1}{2} \%$ below the highest figure reached in recent years, that of the fourth quarter of 1937. However, it is probable that our index does not take full account of the current rearmament activity, for it is based mainly upon the volume of materials produced or consumed.

The total value of building plans approved during the second quarter of the year was about $11 \%$ less than in the corresponding period of 1938. This was entirely due to a decline in dwelling houses, for there was an increase of II \% in plans for other construction. During the first six months of the year the total value of plans approved was $8 \frac{1}{2} \%$ less than in 1938 .

VALUE OF BUILDING PLANS APPROVED. £Mn

|  |  |  | Houses | Other | Total |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1938. | 1st Quarter | $\ldots$ | $15 \cdot 7$ | $9 \cdot 7$ | $25 \cdot 4$ |
|  | 2nd Quarter | $\ldots$ | $17 \cdot 1$ | $9 \cdot 0$ | $26 \cdot 1$ |
| 1939. | 1st Quarter | $\ldots$ | 14.0 | $10 \cdot 2$ | $24 \cdot 2$ |
|  | 2nd Quarter | $\ldots$ | $12 \cdot 8$ | $10 \cdot 15$ | $22 \cdot 95$ |

The second quarter figures are subject to slight additions in each year, owing to the omission of a small number of districts. The London County area is omitted throughout.

## PRICES, WAGES, TRADE \& EMPLOYMENT RECENT MOVEMENTS.

PRICES AND WAGES.-Except for some variation in food prices-a fall in cereals, increases in the prices of fish, and seasonal increases in some other commodities-there was very little change from May to June or to mid-July in
wholesale sterling prices. In fact, there has been very little movement since the termination of the general reduction in September, 1937.

The index of retail food prices has risen owing to the seasonal increase in the price of potatoes and an unusual rise in the price of eggs. But the Cost of Living index is still $2 \%$ lower than a year ago.

There has been no important change of wage rates taking effect during the past month.

TRADE AND OUTPUT. - Imports of food again rose in June, though the usual seasonal movement is downwards. The principal increase was of wheat ; in the 10 months September to June the importations of wheat were 82.5 Mn . cwt. in 1936-7, 78.9 Mn . cwt. in 1937-8, and $91.6 \mathrm{Mn} . \mathrm{cwt}$. in 1938-9; that of wheat-flour showed little change. On the other hand there has been a reduction in the importation of maize.

The importation of materials has continued at a high level.

Among manufactures the increase over a year ago is maintained in iron and steel, especially from Belgium and France, and in machinery, especially from the United States.


Under Manufactures, A includes commodities used in further manufacture and transport; 'Other' contains leather, paper and motor accessories. B includes all other manufactures.

There was little change in the value of exports in June; the total was above the average of April and May, and $8 \%$ (in value) above that of June, 1938. In the twelve months there has
been improvement in nearly all the classes of goods shown in the Trade Returns Summary.

The adverse balance of trade (merchandise only) was $£, 37 \mathrm{Mn}$. in June, 1937, $£ 35 \mathrm{Mn}$. in June, 1938 , and $£ 38$ Mn. in June, 1939.

| EXPORI'S | OF B | BRITISH | PRODUCE. |  | £Mn. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Apr. | May | June | Apr. | May | June |
| Beverages* | 0.8 | 1.1 | $1 \cdot 1$ | 0.9 | 1.4 | 1.5 |
| Tobacco | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.4 |
| Food ... | 1.2 | $1 \cdot 3$ | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.4 | 1.5 |
| Total | 2.4 | 2.8 | $2 \cdot 7$ | $2 \cdot 4$ | 3.2 | 3.4 |
| Materials- $\begin{array}{llll}\text { 2.8 }\end{array}$ 3.5 3.1 2.7 3.8 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Coal | 2.8 | 0.4 | 0.5 | $0 \cdot 3$ | 0.4 | 0.4 |
| Oils and fats | $0 \cdot 3$ | $0 \cdot 2$ | $0 \cdot 2$ | $0 \cdot 2$ | 0.2 | $0 \cdot 2$ |
| Other ... | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.9 |
| Total | 4.5 | 4.9 | $4 \cdot 5$ | 4.2 | $5 \cdot 4$ | $5 \cdot 2$ |
| Manufactures- 0 - 1.2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Non-ferrous metals | 0.9 | 1.2 | 08 | $1 \cdot 1$ | 14 | 1.2 |
| $\begin{array}{lllllll}\text { Iron, steel, } & 10.4 & 10.2 & 9.9 & 8.8 & 10.3 & 9.6\end{array}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vehicles ... | 3.5 | 3.6 | $4 \cdot 1$ | $3 \cdot 3$ | 3.9 | $3 \cdot 9$ |
| Cotton ... | 41 | 3.9 | $3 \cdot 7$ | $3 \cdot 7$ | 4.4 | 4.0 |
| Wool | 1.8 | $1 \cdot 7$ | $1 \cdot 8$ | 1.9 | $2 \cdot 1$ | 2.0 |
| Other textiles and |  |  |  |  |  | $2 \cdot 3$ |
| Chemicals | 1.8 | 1.9 | 1.7 | 1.8 | 2.4 | $2 \cdot 2$ |
| Other | 4.8 | 4.9 | 5.0 | $4 \cdot 7$ | $5 \cdot 8$ | $5 \cdot 3$ |
| Total ... ... | $29 \cdot 3$ | 29.5 | 28.8 | 27.4 | $32 \cdot 7$ | 30.5 |
| Total exports of |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| British Produce | $37 \cdot 3$ <br> Beer, | $38 \cdot 2$ Spirits | $36 \cdot 9$ <br> Cocoa | $35 \cdot 1$ | $42 \cdot 3$ | $39 \cdot 9$ |

The output of pig-iron increased in June, that of steel was a little less than in the two
previous months. The output of coal fell slightly, as is usual at this period of the year.

UNEMPLOYMENT.-The percentage of insured workers has again fallen and is approaching the minimum of 1937. The reduction is shared by the great majority of industries. Percentages below 4.0 for males are recorded for Explosives, Electrical Engineering, Tobacco, Stationery and Scientific Instruments. That there is a considerable number of unskilled labourers still unemployed is shown by the 214,000 men returned as unemployed under the heading Building and Contracting. The following Tables indicate the improvement over a year ago.

INSURED MALES UNEMPLOYED.
Excluding Building, Public Works and Agriculture. (000's.) Wholly Unemployed Temporarily Stopped

| Year |  |  |  | 1937 | 1938 |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |

INSURED PERSONS UNEMPLOYED. UNITED KINGDOM. ooo's (nearest). Males and Females. Aged 16-65. Excluding Agriculture. A Wholly Unemployed.
B. Temporarily Stopped

| BuildingPublic Works |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Total } \\ 127 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { May, } \\ & 1938 \end{aligned}$ |  | ${ }_{1938}{ }^{\text {June, }}$ |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { May, } \\ & 1939 \end{aligned}$ |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Jnne, } \\ & 1939 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B |
|  | ... |  | 123 | 4 | 131 | 126 | 4 | 130 | 126 | 4 | 118 | 115 | 4 |
|  | ... | 107 | 104 | 2 | 106 | 104 | 3 | 104 | 102 | 2 | 93 | 94 | 2 |
| Coal .. |  | 150 | 85 | 66 | 156 | 86 | 70 | 106 | 77 | 29 | 112 | 75 | 37 |
| Cotton |  | 122 | 49 | 73 | 142 | 50 | 92 | 59 | 40 | 19 | 55 | 37 | 17 |
| Wool $\quad .$. | ... | 49 | 16 | 33 | 51 | 16 | 35 | 27 | 11 | 15 | 20 | 39 | 10 |
| Other Textiles | ... | 112 | 60 | 52 | 117 | 60 | 57 | 66 | 43 | 24 | 60 | 9 | 21 |
| Clotbing ... |  | 58 | 37 | 21 | 79 | 41 | 38 | 47 | 33 | 15 | 48 | 32 | 16 |
| Distribution . |  | 192 | 181 | 10 | 185 | 174 | 11 | 186 | 175 | 11 | 167 | 156 | 11 |
| Other Industries |  | 629 | 497 | 133 | 846 | 488 | 158 | 526 | 453 | 72 | 479 | 410 | 69 |
| Hotels ${ }_{\text {Commerce }}$ Pro- |  | 69 | 67 | 2 | 58 | 57 | 2 | 78 | 75 | 3 | 63 | 60 | 3 |
| fessions, \&c. |  | 165 | 157 | 8 | 158 | 150 | 8 | 166 | 158 | 8 | 151 | 142 | 9 |
| Totals | ... | 1780 | 1376 | 404 | 1829 | 1352 | 478 | 1495 | 1293 |  | 1369 | 1170 | 199 |
| Males |  | 1336 | 1081 | 255 | 1375 | 1071 | 304 | 1141 | 1013 | 127 | 1057 | 926 | 131 |
| Females | ... | 444 | 295 | 149 | 455 | 281 | 174 | 354 | 280 | 75 | 312 | 244 | 69 |

UNEMPLOYMENT BY DISTRICTS
PERCENTAGE OF INSURED PERSONS UNEMPLOYED．－GREAT BRITAIN AND N．IRELAND．

|  |  | む． $\stackrel{\text { ¢ }}{ }$ Hं | 芯 |  | ¢ <br> O <br> O <br> 1 |  |  |  |  |  | 告 |  | $\frac{\text { ® }}{\stackrel{\text { d }}{\sim}}$ |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1938 | June 13 | 13.2 | $13 \cdot 6$ | $11 \cdot 9$ | $7 \cdot 7$ | 6.9 | $7 \cdot 6$ | $11 \cdot 1$ | 14.0 | $20 \cdot 1$ | 18.5 | 15.8 | $25 \cdot 8$ | $28 \cdot 7$ | 16 |
|  | July | （a） $13 \cdot 1$ | （a） $13 \cdot 7$ | （a） 11.5 | 76 | $6 \cdot 7$ | $7 \cdot 2$ | $11 \cdot 6$ | 14.8 | $17 \cdot 7$ | $19 \cdot 7$ | 16.6 | $24 \cdot 7$ | $33 \cdot 0$ | 1.5 |
|  | 18 ？ | （b） $12 \cdot 9$ | （b） 13.6 | （b） 11.2 |  | － 0 | － 6 | －11．7 | － 14.6 | － 18. | － 10 | $15 \cdot 5$ | 24.2 | $2 \overline{7 \cdot 7}$ | － 6 |
|  | Aug． 15 | 12.6 | 13.2 | 11.2 | 7.4 （a） 7.6 | 6.8 7.2 | 6.9 7.4 | 11.7 | 14.6 | 18.2 | $19 \cdot 2$ | $15 \cdot 5$ | $24 \cdot 2$ | $27 \cdot 7$ | $16$ |
|  | Sept． 12 | $12 \cdot 8$ | $13 \cdot 5$ | 11.0 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 18.7 |  |  |  |  |
| 1939 | Oct． 17 | $12 \cdot 7$ | 13.5 | 10.8 | （b） $8 \cdot 3$ | 8.4 | 8.5 | 10.0 9.8 | 13.0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Nov． 14 | 13.0 | 13.9 | 10.7 | 8.6 8.5 | 9．0 $9 \cdot 3$ | 8.8 8.6 | 9.8 9.4 | $13 \cdot 1$ 12.8 | 17.2 16.9 | 19.3 19.4 | 16.2 16.7 | $24 \cdot 9$ $25 \cdot 3$ | 26.0 25.1 | 1.8 1.9 |
|  | Dec． 12 | $12 \cdot 9$ 14.3 | $14^{\circ} \mathrm{O}$ | 10.2 11.6 | 8.5 96 | $9 \cdot 3$ 11.1 | 8.6 9.6 | 9.4 10.5 | 12.8 14.7 | 16.9 18.3 | 19.4 21.2 | 16.7 18.4 | $25 \cdot 3$ $25 \cdot 7$ | 25.1 28.2 | 1.9 2.0 |
|  | Jan． 16 | $14 \cdot 3$ 13.4 | $15 \cdot 3$ 14.3 | 11.6 11.1 | 96 9.1 | $11 \cdot 1$ $10 \cdot 1$ | 9.6 9.0 | 10.5 9.5 | 14.7 13.1 | $18 \cdot 3$ 17.2 | 21.2 $20 \cdot 1$ | $18 \cdot 4$ $17 \cdot 1$ | $25 \cdot 7$ 25.9 | 28.2 25.9 | 1.9 |
|  | Feb． 13 Mar． 13 | $13 \cdot 4$ $12 \cdot 3$ | $14 \cdot 3$ $13 \cdot 1$ | $10 \cdot 2$ | 9．3 | 10.6 | 7.9 7.9 | 8．5 | 120 | 16.1 | 19.0 | 16.2 | 23．0 | 26.3 | 1.9 |
|  | Apr． 17 | 11.6 | $12 \cdot 4$ | $9 \cdot 7$ | $7 \cdot 8$ | 7.9 | $7 \cdot 2$ | 8.4 | 11.8 | $15 \cdot 2$ | $17 \cdot 7$ | 15.4 | 21.0 | $25 \cdot 3$ | 1.9 |
|  | May 15 | 10.6 | 11.2 | $9 \cdot 0$ | $7 \cdot 2$ | $7 \cdot 0$ | $6 \cdot 3$ | $7 \cdot 4$ | 11.0 | $14 \cdot 1$ | $16 \cdot 1$ | $14 \cdot 1$ | 18.1 | $22 \cdot 7$ | 1.8 |
|  | June 12 | 9.7 | 10.4 | $7 \cdot 9$ | 6.6 | $5 \cdot 7$ | $5 \cdot 1$ | $7 \cdot 0$ | 9.9 | 13.6 | 14.9 | $12 \cdot 7$ | 16.8 | $21^{\circ} 0$ | $1 \cdot 7$ |

（a）Old series
（b）New series including certain domestic workers
Regional Percentages prior to October，1938，based upon numbers insured in July，1937；subsequently upon numbers insured in Julv， 1938.

IRON AND STEEL STATISTICS FOR U．K． 000 tons．

| PIG－IRON．$\dagger$ |  |  |  |  |  |  | CRUDE STEEL． |  |  |  | EXPORTS OF IRON \＆STEEL |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Produc－ tion | $\begin{aligned} & + \text { Im- } \\ & \text { ports } \end{aligned}$ | $- \text { Ex. }$ | $\begin{aligned} & =\text { Home } \\ & \text { Cons'mp. } \\ & \text { tion } \end{aligned}$ | \％Imports to Home Consump－ tion | Pro－ duction | $\begin{aligned} & \text { *Im- } \\ & \text { ports } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Home } \\ \text { Con- } \\ \text { samption } \end{gathered}$ | \％Imports to Home Con－ sumntion | Semi－ <br> Finished | Finished |
| 1913 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Qrly. } \\ & \text { aver'ge } \end{aligned}$ | 2565 | 46 | 236 | 2375 | 1.9 |  | 215 |  | 10 | 209 | 751 |
| 1924 |  | 1840 | 77 | 150 | 1756 |  |  | 271 | $2324$ | $11 \cdot 7$ | 235 | 573 |
| 1925 | ＂， | 1559 | 71 | 140 | 1490 | $4 \cdot 8$ | $2054$ | 289 | 2139 | $13 \cdot 5$ | $188$ | $\begin{aligned} & 600 \\ & 521 \end{aligned}$ |
| 1926 | ＂ | 610 | 124 | 148 | 653 | $19 \cdot 0$ | $\begin{array}{r} 1849 \\ 890 \end{array}$ | 390 | 1280 | $30 \cdot 5$ | $145$ | $521$ |
| 1927 | ＂， | 1826 | 152 | 83 | 1895 | 8.0 | 2275 | 421 | $2695$ | $15 \cdot 6$ | 251 | 702 |
| 1928 | ＂ | 1653 | 30 | 114 | 1569 | $1 \cdot 8$ | 2131 | 286 | 2662 | $9 \cdot 3$ | 252 | 699 |
| 1929 | ， | 1895 | 38 | 136 | 1797 | $2 \cdot 1$ | 2415 | 247 | 2097 | 13.0 |  | 537 |
| 1930 | ＂ | 1549 | 78 | 79 | 1548 | 5.0 7.9 | 1825 | 272 | 1608 | $19 \cdot 4$ | 168 | 344 |
| 1931 | ＂ | 939 | 76 | 50 | 965 901 | $4 \cdot 3$ | 1314 | 184 |  | $12 \cdot 1$ | 113 | 323 |
| 1932 | ＂ | 893 | 39 30 | 28 | 1033 | $2 \cdot 9$ | 1751 | 78 | 1829 | $4 \cdot 3$ | 107 | 338 |
| 1933 | ＂， | 1495 | 40 | 38 | 1502 | 2.7 | 1751 | 11491 | $\begin{aligned} & 2329 \\ & 2552 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 4 \cdot 9 \\ & 3 \cdot 6 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 150 \\ & 168 \end{aligned}$ | 371 |
| 1934 | ＂， | 1606 | 32 | 39 | 1599 | 2.0 | 2461 |  |  |  |  | 368 |
| 1035 | ＂ |  | 40 | 23 | 1831 | $2 \cdot 2$ | 2830 | 170 | 3000 | $5 \cdot 7$ | 134 | $\begin{aligned} & 332 \\ & 361 \\ & 373 \\ & 405 \end{aligned}$ |
| 1936 | 2 | 1835 | 57 | 27 | 1964 | 2.9 | $\begin{aligned} & 2913 \\ & 2874 \\ & 3081 \end{aligned}$ | 143163 | 3056 | 4.7 | 161 |  |
|  | 3 | 1952 | 121 | 33 | 2040 | $5 \cdot 9$ |  |  | 3037 | $5 \cdot 4$ | 151 149 |  |
|  | 4 | 1985 | 92 | 28 | 2049 | $4 \cdot 5$ |  | 77 | 3158 | $2 \cdot 4$ |  |  |
| 1937 | 1 | 1935 | 77 | 44 | 1967 | 3.9 | $\begin{aligned} & 3104 \\ & 3234 \\ & 3210 \\ & 3116 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 80 \\ 1) 8 \\ 49 \\ 99 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 3185 \\ & 3342 \\ & 3359 \\ & 3615 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2.5 \\ & 3.2 \\ & 4.4 \\ & 5.5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 178 \\ & 190 \\ & 157 \\ & 163 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 413 \\ & 452 \\ & 417 \\ & 391 \end{aligned}$ |
| 1937 | 2 | 2076 | 143 | 45 | 2174 | 6.6 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 3 | 2170 | 279 | 43 | 2405 | 11.6 8.9 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 4 | 2316 | 224 | 35 | 2505 | 8.9 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1938 |  | 2169 | 268 | 26 | 2411 | 11.1 | $\begin{aligned} & 3255 \\ & 2672 \\ & 2097 \\ & 2371 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 54 \\ 27 \\ 36 \\ 35.5 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 3508 \\ & 2699 \\ & 2133 \\ & 2406 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 7.2 \\ & 1.0 \\ & 1.7 \\ & 1.5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 134 \\ 136 \\ 90 \\ 93 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 354 \\ & 326 \\ & 293 \\ & 354 \end{aligned}$ |
| 1938 | 2 | 1836 | 93 | 14 | 1915 | 4.9 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 3 | 1381 | 49 | 17 | 1412 | 3.5 2.4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 4 | 1377 | 33 | 43 | 1367 | 2.4 |  |  |  |  | $\begin{array}{r} 98 \\ 124 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 298 \\ & 320 \end{aligned}$ |
| 1939 | 1 | $\begin{aligned} & 1620 \\ & 2017 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 45 \\ 106 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 22 \\ & 25 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1643 \\ & 2098 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2 \cdot 7 \\ & 5 \cdot 1 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2954 \\ & 3452 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 79 \\ 158 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 3033 \\ & 3610 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 26 \\ & 4.4 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |

Inc．Ferrous Alloys．
＊Blooms，Billets，Sheet and Tinplate Bars．

## sTOCKS OF STAPLE COMMODITIES.

Table supplementary to the summary table, p. 2, Special Mem. 32.

$\dagger$ Preliminary figure.
|| April, 1935, onwards includes whole buffer stock.

* Not available.

Revised Series.
(1) Total supply seasonally corrected, exclusive of European and Asiatic mill stocks.
(2) Visible Supply plus estimate of Straits stocks
(3) Total world stocks of refined copper only
N.B.-This is not the same series as that discontinued since Oct., 1931 .
(4) U.K. stocks in official warehouses
(5) Visible supply in U.K. and U.S
(6) Crude rubber stocks (outside regulated areas) in U.K., U.S.A., Singapore, Penang, Para and Manaos plus estimated afloat as published by the International Rubber Regulation Committee.
(7) Total visible supply.
(8) Tea Brokers' Association, London stocks.
(9) (A) Visible supply. (B) Interior Brazil stock and San Paulo Pledged stock. Figures supplied by Messrs. Duuring \& Zoon.
(IO) Stanford Wheat Studies Estimates of World's Visible Supply.
(iI) Total crude petroleum, natural gasolene (ex at plants), refined products.

# THE EXCHANGE EQUALISATION ACCOUNT 

By F. W. Paish.

THE latest official statement of the gold holdings of the Exchange Equalisation Account, published on June 30th, shows that on March 3Ist last the Account held 49.5 Mn . ounces of gold, worth, at $£ 78 \mathrm{~s}$. 6d. per ounce, about $£ 367 \mathrm{Mn}$. This figure is rather lower than had been expected, for it had been thought that the holding would prove to be over 50 Mn . ounces. On September 30th, 1938, the Account held 21.7 Mn . ounces of gold, and during the six months a net amount of 46.4 Mn . ounces was transferred from the Bank of England to the Account. Thus the Account's sales for the half-year were 18.6 Mn . ounces. The sales for the first quarter of 1939 are believed not to have exceeded about 5 Mn . ounces, and it therefore seems probable that sales in the last quarter of 1938 were appreciably larger than the estimate of io Mn . ounces mentioned in our January Bulletin.

During the twelve months ending March 3 Ist, sales of gold by the Account totalled 39.4 Mn . ounces, and the combined holdings of the Account and the Bank of England fell from their maximum of iI9.4 Mn. ounces by nearly onethird, to 80 Mn . ounces.

Net sales of gold in the second quarter of 1939 are believed to have been quite small, and it is estimated that the Account's holdings at

the end of June were not less than about 47 Mn . ounces. If this is so, the Balance Sheet of the Account on that date may have read somewhat as above.

The total amount of 'tap' Treasury bills outstanding at the end of June was about £.546 Mn . (the exact figure cannot be calculated, as the end of the quarter did not fall on a Saturday or Sunday). On the assumption that the whole of the Exchange Account's sterling assets consisted of 'tap' bills, this would mean that the quantity of ' tap' bills held by the Bank of England and the Departments could be estimated at $£ 177$ Mn . There is, however, the possibility that the Account still held some bills originally issued by tender, in which case the estimate of ' tap' bills held outside the Account would be correspondingly increased, perhaps to $£ 200 \mathrm{Mn}$. or more. This figure seems high in comparison with estimates for recent years, which have ranged generally between $£ 80 \mathrm{Mn}$. and $£ 150 \mathrm{Mn}$.; but an obvious explanation of the increase is provided by the rise of $£ 100 \mathrm{Mn}$. in the Fiduciary Issue of the Bank of England (a result of the transfer of gold to the Exchange Account), which has caused the total of Government Securities in the Issue Department to increase during tho past year from $£ 200 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 299 \mathrm{Mn}$. The securities transferred by the Account to the Bank in January no doubt consisted entirely of Treasury bills, and though the Bank may have since made some changes in the form of its holdings, it is reasonable to believe that the bulk of the increase still consists of bills.

[^51]
## THE PHYSICAL VOLUME OF PRODUCTION.

Our Annual Index of Production appears in the London and Cambridge Economic Service Bulletin for May 23rd of each year. The quarterly index given here is on a narrower basis than the annual index, which includes building and agriculture and other information not available quarterly. The method of construction is to be found in their Special Memorandum No. 8.

THE Index of Production for the second quarter of 1939 is $122 \%$. This is only slightly less than the corresponding figure two years ago. It shows an increase of about I4 points compared with the figure for last year for the same quarter, and is considerably higher than the figure for the preceding quarter. The
general level of production appears to be reaching the high levels attained in 1937.

The most notable increase is that for Pig Iron and Steel. The non-ferrous metal figure has increased compared with last quarter. The food figure has reached a new high level.


QUARTERLY INDEX NUMBERS OF PRODUCTION.
Average $1924=100$

| Group: |  |  | II. |  |  |  |  | III. |  |  | IV. |  |  | V. |  |  |  | VI. |  | VII. <br> Paper. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Copper. | Lead, Tin and Zinc. | Group Index. | Cotton. | Silk. $\dagger$ | Group Index. | Wheat and <br> Flour. | Cocoa. | Tobacco | Group Index. | Oil Seed crushing. | Group Index (incl. heavy Chemicals.) |  | Final <br> Index. |
| Industry : |  | Coalmining. | Pig Iron. | Steel. | $\underset{\substack{\text { Ship- } \\ \text { building } \\ \ddagger}}{ }$ | Railway Vehicles |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Average quarterly production, 1924. |  | $\begin{gathered} 000 \\ \text { tons } \\ 67,308 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 000 \\ & \text { tons } \\ & 1,827 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 000 \\ & \text { tons } \\ & 2,050 . \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 000 \\ & \text { tons } \\ & 1,373 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { tons } \\ & 9,929 \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { tons } \\ 39,626 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { tons } \\ 87,967 \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { bales } \\ 689 \end{gathered}$ |  |  | $\begin{gathered} 000 \\ \text { cwts. } \\ 31,914 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { cwts. } \\ 259,231 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 000 \\ \text { lbs. } \\ 36,477 \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} 000 \\ \text { tons } \\ 435 \cdot 3 \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & 000 \\ & \text { tons } \\ & 244 \cdot 3 \end{aligned}$ |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | 2, | jo | 341 | 65 | 59 | 25 | 82 | 10 | 216 | 50 | 17 | 24 | 209 | - | 62 | 98 | 1183 |
| Weights. |  | 232 | 12 | 36 | 22 | $\bigcirc$ | 341 | бু |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1924 | 1 | $107 \cdot 3$ | 105.0 | 111.2 | $100 \cdot 0$ | $142 \cdot 7$ | 103.0 | 96.9 | 96.4 | 96.6 | 104.2 90.4 | $74 \cdot 6$ 94.3 | 101.0 90.8 | 85.4 99.6 | 109.6 89.6 | 95.6 99.7 | 92.5 97.8 | 109.9 97.8 | $95 \cdot 4$ 103.0 | 53.7 104.9 | 98.8 99.9 |
|  | 2 | 99.3 | $102 \cdot 8$ | 106.0 | 106.7 | 112.9 | $106^{\circ} 2$ 94.6 | 93.8 104.1 | $87 \cdot 3$ 118.5 | 90.4 111.6 | $90 \cdot 4$ 79.7 | 94.3 111.5 | 90.8 83.2 | 99.6 111.6 | 89.6 88.7 | 101.9 | 104.9 | 87.8 | 101.0 | 127.2 | 97.9 |
|  | 3 | 95.0 | 97.1 | 90.8 92.8 | 103.1 90.1 | $78 \cdot 3$ 66.1 | 94.6 90.6 | 104.1 | 118.5 97.7 | 111.6 | 126.0 | 119.5 | r $125 \cdot 3$ | $103 \cdot 3$ | $112 \cdot 1$ | 102.7 | 104.8 | 104.5 | 101.2 | 114.2 | 103.8 |
|  | 4 | 98.4 | $95 \cdot 3$ | $92 \cdot 8$ | 90'1 | 66.1 | 906 | $105^{\circ}$ | 97.7 | 1012 | 126. | 119 | 1253 | 103 | 1121 | 102 | 104 | 1045 | 1012 | 11 |  |
| 1929 |  |  |  |  | 98.8 | $139 \cdot 9$ | 109•1 | $117 \cdot 4$ | 106.1 | 111.5 | 117.6 | $147 \cdot 3$ | $120 \cdot 8$ | 87.0 | $115 \cdot 3$ | $123 \cdot 3$ | $101 \cdot 9$ | 109.2 | $100 \cdot 1$ | 111.2 | 108.3 |
|  | 1 | 101.2 93.1 | 91.6 105.3 | 1171.1 | 105.9 | 131.6 | 114.8 | $120 \cdot 8$ | $120 \cdot 3$ | 120.5 | 111.4 | $142 \cdot 2$ | 114.7 | $94 \cdot 9$ | 116.7 | $139 \cdot 1$ | $110 \cdot 6$ | $86^{\circ}$ | $102 \cdot 1$ | 136.6 | 1110 |
|  | 2 | $93 \cdot 1$ 93 | $105 \cdot 3$ $110 \cdot 5$ | 121.1 | $105 \cdot 4$ | 152.8 | 116.4 | 114.7 | $120 \cdot 4$ | 117.7 | 85.8 | 162.8 | $94 \cdot 1$ | $100 \cdot 1$ | 103.4 | $141 \cdot 1$ | 111.3 | $69 \cdot 7$ | 103.4 | $139 \cdot 7$ | 108.2 |
|  | 4 | 99.5 | 107.5 | 115.4 | 113.6 | $149 \cdot 9$ | $115 \cdot 9$ | $120 \cdot 1$ | 109•7 | 114.7 | 118.6 | 175.0 | 124.5 | 91.4 | $108 \cdot 3$ | $142 \cdot 1$ | 107.9 | $87 \cdot 7$ | $105 \cdot 4$ | 147.0 | 114.8 |
| 1930 |  |  | $105 \cdot 1$ | 118.4 | 117.6 | 149.0 | $118 \cdot 1$ | $103 \cdot 1$ | 119.7 | 111.8 | $107 \cdot 3$ | 159.0 | 112.9 | $81 \cdot 3$ | 99.9 | $138 \cdot 3$ | 99.8 | $79 \cdot 7$ | $94 \cdot 5$ | 116.3 | 109.6 |
|  | 1 | 104.8 87 | 98.4 | 97.0 | 101.4 | 180.8 | 104.1 | $121 \cdot 1$ | 113.7 | 117.2 | 86.4 | 125.0 | $90 \cdot 6$ | 91.8 | 121.7 | 136.7 | $110 \cdot 3$ | 69.2 | 88.8 | 127.0 | $100 \cdot 9$ |
|  | 3 | 87.8 83 | 72.7 | 82.5 | 81.4 | 151.2 | 85.2 | $129 \cdot 4$ | 100.4 | 114.3 | $61 \cdot 3$ | 127.2 | 68.4 | 99.8 | 96.5 | 138.0 | $109 \cdot 3$ | $59 \cdot 1$ | $97 \cdot 7$ | $125 \cdot 4$ | $90 \cdot 7$ |
|  | 4 | 91.6 | $62 \cdot 9$ | 64.0 | 66.2 | 189.8 | $72 \cdot 9$ | 114.5 | $123 \cdot 9$ | 119.4 | $81 \cdot 3$ | $140 \cdot 7$ | 87.7 | 101.9 | 121.6 | 145.4 | $117 \cdot 1$ | $75 \cdot 7$ | 84.2 | 122.5 | 927 |
| 1931 |  | $88 \cdot 3$ | $55 \cdot 4$ | $67 \cdot 7$ | $50 \cdot 6$ | $104 \cdot 9$ | 63.2 | 88.6 | 96.0 | 92.4 | 71.7 | 142.0 | $79 \cdot 3$ | $89 \cdot 9$ | 151.2 | 142.9 | $115 \cdot 3$ | 82.0 | 83.9 | 101.6 | $85 \cdot 1$ |
|  | 2 | 81.4 | $54 \cdot 4$ | $62 \cdot 9$ | 40.5 | 75.7 | $55 \cdot 8$ | 104.2 | $138 \cdot 1$ | 121.9 | $78 \cdot 1$ | $139 \cdot 7$ | $84 \cdot 8$ | $97 \cdot 5$ | 95.9 | 122.5 | 103.8 | 86.4 | $82 \cdot 5$ | 94.0 | $80 \cdot 6$ |
|  | 3 | 76.2 | $46^{\circ} 0$ | $57 \cdot 9$ | 30.4 | $76 \cdot 2$ | $49 \cdot 1$ | 85.0 | $115 \cdot 7$ | 101.0 | $74 \cdot 3$ | $145 \cdot 7$ | $82 \cdot 1$ | 110.8 | 118.6 | $132 \cdot 8$ | 118.1 | 67.4 | $73 \cdot 9$ | $121 \cdot 1$ | $81 \cdot 1$ |
|  | 4 | 86.2 | 49.9 | $66 \cdot 8$ | 29.2 | 22.5 | $50 \cdot 1$ | 96.5 | 123.6 | 110.6 | 102.0 | $177 \cdot 9$ | 110.2 | 114.2 | 99.5 | 128.4 | 115.2 | $75 \cdot 8$ | 86.5 | 142.6 | 90.5 |
| 1932 | 1 | $85 \cdot 4$ | 54.2 | 67.0 | 27.2 | $31 \cdot 3$ | $50 \cdot 9$ | $95 \cdot 4$ | 115.6 | 105.9 | $100 \cdot 9$ | $199 \cdot 1$ | 111.6 | 98.0 | 168.0 | 121.3 | 117.2 | 86.2 | $89 \cdot 2$ | $143 \cdot 1$ |  |
|  | 2 | 78.8 | $51 \cdot 7$ | $63 \cdot 9$ | 20.5 | 18.4 | 46.2 | 95*8 | 95.2 | 95.5 | $94^{\circ} 0$ | $215 \cdot 4$ | $107 \cdot 2$ | $103 \cdot 0$ | $106 \cdot 2$ | $133 \cdot 8$ | 111.7 | 83.8 | 96.1 81.8 | 101.5 136.5 | 83.2 77.8 |
|  | 3 | $69 \cdot 3$ | 44.5 | 61.4 | $17 \cdot 3$ | 9.2 | $42 \cdot 3$ | $100 \cdot 2$ | 84.5 | 92.0 | $73 \cdot 3$ | 183.0 | $85 \cdot 2$ | $99 \cdot 7$ | $102 \cdot 8$ | 125.0 | 107.0 | 68.2 | 81.8 | 136.5 155.6 |  |
|  | 4 | $83 \cdot 9$ | $45 \cdot 3$ | 67.0 | 16.5 | $9 \cdot 1$ | $44 \cdot 9$ | $104 \cdot 7$ | 94.4 | $99 \cdot 3$ | $87 \cdot 9$ | 208.0 | $100 \cdot 5$ | $92 \cdot 2$ | $138 \cdot 7$ | 134.0 | 111.9 | $76 \cdot 3$ | $90 \cdot 1$ | 155.6 |  |
| 1933 |  | 85.5 | $48 \cdot 7$ | $75 \cdot 1$ | 18.4 | 21.2 | $50 \cdot 7$ | $90 \cdot 2$ | 84.6 | $87 \cdot 3$ | $95 \cdot 7$ | 211.0 | 108.2 | 90.6 | $160 \cdot 7$ | 125.2 | 112.8 | $81 \cdot 1$ | 88.0 | 126.6 |  |
|  | 2 | 73.0 | $55 \cdot 3$ | $83 \cdot 7$ | 21.0 | 50.5 | 58.6 | 111.6 | 119.9 | $115 \cdot 9$ | $89 \cdot 7$ | $209 \cdot 5$ | $102 \cdot 7$ | $96 \cdot 3$ | $124 \cdot 5$ | $137 \cdot 1$ | $112 \cdot 3$ | $72 \cdot 8$ | $94 \cdot 1$ | 138.4 | 88.8 |
|  | 3 | $71 \cdot 1$ | 58.4 | 87.2 | $22 \cdot 1$ | 30.6 | $59 \cdot 7$ | 108.0 | $112 \cdot 1$ | $110 \cdot 1$ | $91 \cdot 3$ | 238.5 | $107 \cdot 3$ | $95 \cdot 4$ | 88.1 | 133.8 | 104-2 | $60 \cdot 6$ | 84.4 | 144.8 | $87 \cdot 9$ |
|  | 4 | 84.4 | $63 \cdot 4$ | $99 \cdot 1$ | $24 \cdot 2$ | 15.1 | 66.2 | 130.9 | 116.3 | $123 \cdot 3$ | $99 \cdot 3$ | 285.2 | 119.5 | $90 \cdot 9$ | $142 \cdot 7$ | 136.2 | $112 \cdot 5$ | 81.0 | $101 \cdot 1$ | $147 \cdot 2$ | $97 \cdot 4$ |
| 1934 |  |  | 74.4 |  | 35.0 | $12 \cdot 9$ | $75 \cdot 6$ | 147.5 | 132.0 | $139 \cdot 3$ | 99.0 | $302 \cdot 4$ | 121.1 | $90 \cdot 7$ | 152.6§ | $143 \cdot 8$ § | 116.3 | 89.1 | 103.7 | 144.3 | 102.5 |
|  | 2 | 79.6 | 84.3 | $112 \cdot 4$ | $42 \cdot 8$ | $23 \cdot 1$ | $81 \cdot 5$ | 166.2 | 120.4 | $142 \cdot 3$ | $94 \cdot 9$ | $250 \cdot 9$ | $111 \cdot 9$ | 95.6 | $141 \cdot{ }^{\circ}$ | $145 \cdot 8$ | 117.4 | $70 \cdot 1$ | 96.7 | $170 \cdot 8$ | 102.6 |
|  | 3 | $77 \cdot 6$ | 83.8 | 103.4 | 44.0 | 33.5 | 78.2 | $167 \cdot 7$ | 128.4 | $147 \cdot 2$ | 85.8 | $227 \cdot 8$ | $101 \cdot 1$ | $93 \cdot 2$ | 124.4 | $145 \cdot 8$ | 112.2 | 68.0 | 91.6 | $155 \cdot 4$ | 96.8 |
|  | 4 | 86.4 | 84.8 | 111.2 | 43.5 | 34.4 | 82.0 | 196.4 | $139 \cdot 7$ | 166.8 | $93 \cdot 8$ | 292.6 | $115 \cdot 4$ | 86.7 | 146.8 | $150 \cdot 8$ | 114.8 | 74.5 | 103.8 | $168 \cdot 0$ | $105 \cdot 2$ |
| 1935 |  | 89.4 |  | 115*6 | $40 \cdot 5$ | $45 \cdot 0$ | 84.0 | $174 \cdot 1$ | 152.2 | $162 \cdot 7$ | 98.0 | 307.0 | $120 \cdot 7$ | $84 \cdot 5$ | 143.7 | 138.6 | $108 \cdot 3$ | 104.4 | 107.7 | 144.4 | 104.0 |
|  | 2 | $80 \cdot 5$ | 88.4 | $121 \cdot 3$ | $40 \cdot 8$ | 154.6 | $93 \cdot 4$ | 217.6 | $140 \cdot 3$ | $177 \cdot 3$ | 96.2 | 314-2 | 119.9 | 96.4 | $157 \cdot 6$ | 154.2 | $123 \cdot 1$ | 79.9 | $102 \cdot 3$ | $154 \cdot 2$ | 108.4 |
|  | 3 | 78.0 | 88.7 | $120 \cdot 6$ | 38.7 | 168.7 | 94.7 | $\underline{171.8}$ | $\underline{122.2}$ | $145 \cdot 9$ | 90.6 | $278 \cdot 1$ | 111.2 | $87 \cdot 4$ | 151.8 | 146.9 | $115 \cdot 1$ | 73.2 | $99 \cdot 6$ | $155 \cdot 7$ | $104 \cdot 5$ |
|  | 4 | 89.3 | 89.4 | $130 \cdot 8$ | $54 \cdot 1$ | 78.8 | 98.2 | 173.1 | $142^{\prime} 6$ | $\overline{151 \% 2}$ | 101.0 | 341.1 | $127 \cdot 1$ | $92 \cdot 3$ | $168 \cdot 7$ | 158.2 | $123 \cdot 9$ | 104.5 | $120 \cdot 5$ | $187 \cdot 3$ | 116.5 |
| 1936 | 1 | 93.0 | $99 \cdot 3$ | 141.2 | $61 \cdot 3$ | $70 \cdot 5$ | 106.5 | $179 \cdot 1$ | 136.0 | 156.6 | 104.5 | $357 \cdot 4$ | $132 \cdot 0$ | 84.2 | $183 \cdot 8$ | 148.2 | 119.7 | 93.0 | 112.8 | $155 \cdot 0$ | 1163 |
|  | 2 | 81.7 | $105 \cdot 9$ | 145.3 | 61.8 | 60.4 | 108.8 | 191.0 | 141.9 | $165 \cdot 4$ | 107.8 | 300-1 | 128.7 | $92 \cdot 2$ | $216 \cdot 5$ | 156.5 | $132 \cdot 4$ | 88.2 | $113 \cdot 3$ | 177.5 | 118.4 |
|  |  | $81 \cdot 5$ | 106.9 | $143 \cdot 3$ | 67.7 | 44.0 | 108.7 | $200 \cdot 0$ | 148.8 | $173 \cdot 3$ | 99.9 | $308 \cdot 7$ | $122 \cdot 6$ | 88.8 | $166 \cdot 7$ | $155 \cdot 3$ | $120 \cdot 9$ | $73 \cdot 9$ | $104 \cdot 7$ | $173 \cdot 9$ | 1146 |
|  | 4 | $89 \cdot 1$ | 108.6 | 153.7 | $70 \cdot 1$ | $34 \cdot 4$ | 114.0 | $200 \cdot 0$ | 146.8 | 172.7 | $107 \cdot 0$ | 305.6 | 128.6 | 88.8 | $203 \cdot 5$ | 165.2 | $130 \cdot 3$ | $83 \cdot 9$ | 116.4 | $188 \cdot 6$ | 122.2 |
| 1937 |  |  | 105•9 | 154.8 | 73.9 | $41 \cdot 5$ | $115 \cdot 7$ | 214.9 | $139 \cdot 1$ | 175.4 | 116.0 | $333 \cdot 1$ | 139.6 | 81.8 | $192 \cdot 7$ | 153.6 | 121.4 | 114.5 | $127 \cdot 7$ | 127.2 | 119.6 |
|  |  | $92 \cdot 3$ | $113 \cdot 6$ | $157 \cdot 8$ | $87 \cdot 4$ | $42 \cdot 8$ | $122 \cdot 4$ | $244 \cdot 7$ | $142 \cdot 4$ | $191 \cdot 3$ | $121 \cdot 3$ | 349.4 | 146.1 | $83 \cdot 4$ | 219.6 | $170 \cdot 1$ | $131 \cdot 7$ | 117.0 | 125.8 | $152 \cdot 0$ | 126.5 |
|  |  | $86 \cdot 5$ | 118.8 | $160 \cdot 1$ | $86 \cdot 3$ | 59.0 | 125.1 | $238 \cdot 8$ | 141.2 | 187.9 | 105.5 | $371 \cdot 5$ | 134.0 | 82.5 | 157.2 | $169 \cdot 1$ | $119 \cdot 3$ | $47 \cdot 7$ | $116 \cdot 1$ | $153 \cdot 3$ | 121.3 |
|  | 4 | $93 \cdot 7$ | 126.8 | $170 \cdot 4$ | 82.0 | 66.2 | $130 \cdot 5$ | $223 \cdot 9$ | 209.0 | 178.8 | $109 \cdot 3$ | 366.7 | $137 \cdot 3$ | $82 \cdot 3$ | 173.6 | 179.4 | $125 \cdot 0$ | $93 \cdot 6$ | $123 \cdot 4$ | $182 \cdot 4$ | 1287 |
| 1938 | 1 | 97.6 | 118.7 | 162.4 | $79 \cdot 3$ | 71.2 | 125.0 | 194.0 | $130 \cdot 0$ | 163.4 | $100 \cdot 7$ | 395.0 | $132 \cdot 7$ | 80.5 | 164.0 | $163 \cdot 6$ | 118.0 | 108.7 | 114.2 | $161^{\circ} 0$ | 122.8 |
|  | 2 | $82 \cdot 2$ | $100 \cdot 5$ | 133.2 | 755 | $77 \cdot 4$ | $107 \cdot 3$ | $200 \cdot 0$ | $130 \cdot 0$ | 166.5 | 81.6 | $290 \cdot 6$ | $104 \cdot 3$ | 85.5 | 185.8 | $177 \cdot 0$ | $128 \cdot 4$ | $96 \cdot 3$ | $103 \cdot 7$ | 1250 | 1081 |
|  | 3 | 79.0 | $75 \cdot 6$ | $104 \cdot 6$ | 64.5 | $77 \cdot 9$ | 86.4 | 191.0 | $132 \cdot 0$ | $160 \cdot 2$ | 80.1 | $267 \cdot 8$ | $100 \cdot 5$ | $91 \cdot 1$ | $175 \cdot 3$ | $167 \%$ | $127 \cdot 0$ | 94.0 | 98.5 | 115.7 | 99.3 |
|  | 4 | 89.3 | $75 \cdot 4$ | 118.2 | 56.8 | $82 \cdot 8$ | 91.0 | $185 \cdot 1$ | 136.0 | $159 \cdot 5$ | $87 \cdot 4$ | 291.0 | 109.5 | $82 \cdot 9$ | 198.2 | $185 \cdot 3$ | 131.4 | $75 \cdot 8$ | 116.9 | $150 \cdot 0$ | 108.8 |
| 1939 |  | 97.3 | 88.7 | $147 \cdot 3$ | $43 \cdot 5$ | $61 \cdot 5$ | 101.8 | 191.0 | $139 \cdot 9$ | $164 \cdot 3$ | 89.8 | 308.5 | 113.6 | $93 \cdot 9$ | 191.4 | 168.4 | 131.8 | $92 \cdot 3$ | 1147 | $127 \cdot 1$ | 111.9 |
|  | 2 | $87 \cdot 3$ | $110 \cdot 4$ | $172 \cdot 2$ | $57 \cdot 6$ | 57.7 | 121.0 | $200 \cdot 6$ | $146 \cdot 8$ | 172.5 | 106.2 | 306.0 | 127.9 | $97 \cdot 6$ | 208.0 | 174.8 | $138 \cdot 5$ | 97.6 | $110 \cdot 0$ | $163 \cdot \mathrm{~L}$ | 122.7 |

* Partly Estimated. + Includes artificial silk from 3rd Qr. 1925.
$\pm$ Under Construction.
§ From 1934, 1st Quarter, there is 1 month's lag in these figures.

FINANCE.



STOCKS \& SHARES-

NEW CAPITAL ISSUESBANK CLEARINGS-

BANK OF ENGLANDPRINCIPAL BANKSTREASURY BILLS-MONEY-

Index Nos. of Prices and Yield as percentage of 1924 lever; on 15 th of month. For end of month figures Sensitive Index.-Geometric Mean of monthly percentage changes. excluding Government loans, etc.-As published Issues during month in Gt. LHE MIDLAND BANK, LTD. Total of Town Clearings (i.e., excluding Metropolitan) Country Clearings Stock Exchange, settiement House and Provincial Clearings for 11 towns-Proportionate totals for 24 working days.
month. Issues amalgamated, November 22nd, 1928. Bank Notes and Currency Notes in circulation 11th-17th of month. Issues amalgamated, Nanks (i.e.-excluding Current Deposit and other accounts," etc. Averages for the month of 9 Ciearing BANK, LTD.
the National Bank, Ltd., and the District Bank.-As pubisi 13 weeks preceding date of Exchequer Return. issued by tender. Total of Bills issued by tender during 13 Bills in existence less those issued by tender. Day-to-Day Rate and 3 Months' Rate. Averages for week ending 15th of month.

PRICES.


* NORMAL SEASONAL ChANGE REMOVED.

PRICES AND WAGES.

|  | WHOLESALE. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | RETAIL. |  |  |  | WAGES. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Price of Gold. <br> s. per <br> fine 0 z |  |  | Trade I <br> Food. <br> \% | $x$ Nos. <br> Materials, etc. \% | Statist (Sauerbeck) Index Nos. <br> Food. <br> Raw |  |  |  |  | M. of <br> t of <br> ng. <br> \% | Fobour. \% |  | Index of Average Weekly Wages. |
| 1924 iv... | $93 \cdot 69 \dagger$ | 34.0 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | $\star$ | 100 | 100 | 100 | $\star$ | 100 | * | 100* |
| 1929 Av... | $84.95 \dagger$ | 24.5 | 82.2 | 87.4 | $79 \cdot 4$ | 84 | - | 81 | 82 | 94 | - | 94 | - | 994 |
| 1933 Av... | $124.87 \dagger$ | 18.1 | $61 \cdot 6$ | $63 \cdot 1$ | $60 \cdot 7$ | 57.5 | - | 57 | 57.5 | 79.5 | - | $70 \cdot 5$ |  | 94 |
| 1934 Av... | $137 \cdot 65 \dagger$ | 21.4 | $63 \cdot 3$ | $64 \cdot 8$ | $62 \cdot 4$ | $59 \cdot 5$ | - | 58 | 59 | 80.5 | - |  |  | 94 |
| 1935 Av... | $142 \cdot 10 \dagger$ | 29.0 | 64.0 | 66.0 | $62 \cdot 7$ | 59 | - | ${ }^{61.5}$ | 61 | $81 \cdot 5$ | - |  | - | 95 |
| 1936 Av... | $140.29 \%$ | 20.2 | 67.9 78.2 | 69.9 77.8 | $66 \cdot 7$ 78.0 | ${ }_{71}^{62}$ | - | 65 | ${ }^{64}$ | 84 | - |  | - | $97 \frac{1}{2}$ |
| 1937 Av... | $140 \cdot 76+$ | 20.1 | 78.2 | 77.8 | 78.0 | $71 \cdot 5$ | - | 75 | $73 \cdot 5$ | 88.5 | - |  | - | 1003 |
| 1986 JAN. | $140 \cdot 89$ | 20.4 | 66.0 | $67 \cdot 7$ | $65 \cdot 0$ | $60 \cdot 5$ | 60 | 63.5 | 62.5 | 84 | 89 |  |  | 96 ${ }^{\text {d }}$ |
| FEB. | $140 \cdot 77$ 141.04 | 19.9 19.7 | $65 \cdot 9$ 65.9 | 67.1 66.4 | $65 \cdot 2$ 65.4 | $59 \cdot 6$ 59 | 69 69 | 64 64 | 82.5 82 | 83.5 82.5 | ${ }_{88}^{88} 5$ |  |  | 97 97 |
| MPRIL. ${ }^{\text {a }}$. | $140 \cdot 85$ | $20 \cdot 5$ | $66 \cdot 1$ | $66 \cdot 4$ | $65 \cdot 6$ | $59 \cdot 5$ | 68.5 | 63 | 61.5 | 82.5 | 84 |  | 76 | 974 |
| MAY ..... | $140 \cdot 21$ | 20.5 | $66 \cdot 1$ | $67 \cdot 1$ | 85.3 | 60 | $69 \cdot 6$ | 62 | 61.5 | 82.5 |  |  | 76.5 | 97 |
| JUNE | 139.56 | $19 \cdot 9$ | $66 \cdot 6$ | 68.0 | $65 \cdot 6$ | 80 | 60 | 61 | 60.5 | 83.5 | 84.6 |  | 77 | $97 \frac{1}{2}$ |
| JULY ... | 138.92 | $19 \cdot 7$ | 67.3 | 68.4 | 66.5 | 81 | 61 | 83 | 62.5 | 83.5 | 84.5 |  |  | 98 |
| AUG....... | $138 \cdot 40$ | 19.5 | 68.5 | $71 \cdot 3$ | 66.8 | 63 | 68 | 84.5 | 64 | 84 | 84.5 |  |  | 98 |
| 8EPT. .... | 13748 | $19 \cdot 5$ | $69 \cdot 1$ | $72 \cdot 3$ | 67.3 | 64 | 66 | 65 | 65 | 84.5 | 84 |  | 76.5 | 98 |
| OCT. | 141.94 | 20.0 | $70 \cdot 2$ | 74.6 | 67.7 | 65.5 | ${ }^{66}$ | 68 | 68 | 88.5 | 84.5 | 80 | $77 \cdot 6$ | 98 |
| NOV... | 142.55 | 21.7 | $70 \cdot 7$ | 73.6 | 69.0 | 65.5 | ${ }_{6}^{66}$ | 69 | 68 | 86.5 | 84 | 80 |  | 98 |
| DEC.. | 141.82 | 21.2 | $72 \cdot 5$ | 75.6 | $70 \cdot 7$ | 67.5 | ${ }^{67 \cdot 5}$ | 73 | 71 | 86.5 | 85 |  | $77 \cdot 6$ | 98 |
| JAN. | 141.60 | $21 \cdot 2$ | 74.0 | 75.6 | 72.8 | $67 \cdot 5$ | $67 \cdot 5$ | $73 \cdot 5$ | 71.5 | 86.5 | 85.5- | $79 \cdot 5$ |  | 99 |
| FEB. | 142.09 | $20 \cdot 1$ | 74.7 | 75.0 | $74 \cdot 2$ | 68.5 | 68 | 76 | 73 | 86.5 | 85.5- | 79.5 | 78.5 | 100 |
| MAR. | 142.43 | 20.6 | 77.2 | 76.6 | $77 \cdot 1$ | 73 | 78.5 | $79 \cdot 5$ | 77 | 86.5 | 87.5 |  |  | 100 |
| APRIL | 141.61 | $20 \cdot 9$ | 78.2 | 77.6 | $78 \cdot 3$ | 73 | ${ }_{78 .}$ | 76 | 75 | 87 | 89 | 80 | ${ }_{88}^{82} \cdot 5$ | 1004 |
| MAY... | $140 \cdot 60$ | 20.4 | 79.6 | 77.5 | $80 \cdot 3$ $80 \cdot 3$ | 73.5 72 | 78.5 72 | 77.5 77 | 76 75 |  | 89 90 | 80 82 |  | 100 |
| JUNE. | $140 \cdot 54$ | $20 \cdot 0$ | $79 \cdot 6$ | $77 \cdot 3$ | $80 \cdot 3$ |  | 72 |  | 75 | 88.5 |  |  |  |  |
| JULY. | $140 \cdot 17$ | $20 \cdot 1$ | $80 \cdot 2$ | $78 \cdot 3$ | $80 \cdot 8$ | 73 | \%3 | 77.5 | 76 | 88.5 | $89 \cdot 5$ | 82 | 89.5 | 101 |
| AUG. | $139 \cdot 45$ | $19 \cdot 9$ | $80 \cdot 1$ | 78.2 | $80 \cdot 7$ | 72.5 | 73 | 76 | 75 | 88.5 |  | 82 |  | 1014 |
| SEPT. | 140.47 | 19.9 | $79 \cdot 9$ | $78 \cdot 9$ | 80.2 | 72.5 | 79.5 | 75 | 74 | ${ }_{91}^{90}$ | $89 \cdot 5$ 89.5 | ${ }_{84}^{85} 5$ | 88 | 1014 |
| OCT. | $140 \cdot 42$ 140 | 20.0 19.7 | 79.5 78.0 | $80 \cdot 2$ $79 \cdot 5$ | 78.8 76.9 | 72.5 70.5 | 78.5 71.6 | 72 69 | 72 69.5 | $91 \cdot 5$ 91.5 | 89.5 89 | $85 \cdot 5$ 85.5 | 88 $88 \cdot 5$ | ${ }_{103}^{1024}$ |
| NOV... | $140 \cdot 18$ 139.84 | 19.7 18.8 | 78.0 77.4 | $79 \cdot 5$ 79.5 | 76.9 76.0 | 70.5 71.5 | 71.6 71.5 | 69 69 | $69 \cdot 5$ 70 |  | 89 | 85 | 82.5 | 103 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { DEC... } \\ & 1938 \end{aligned}$ | 139.84 | 18.8 | 77.4 | 79.5 | 76 |  | ~0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| JAN. ... | 139.67 139.73 | 19.8 | $\begin{array}{r} 77.5 \\ 76.5 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 79 \cdot 9 \\ 78 \cdot 7 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 75 \cdot 9 \\ & 74 \cdot 4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 70.5 \\ & 70 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 20 \\ & 69 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 68 \cdot 5 \\ & 69 \end{aligned}$ | $69 \cdot 5$ 69.5 | 89.5 89 | $\begin{aligned} & 88.5 \\ & 88.5 \end{aligned}$ |  | 88 | ${ }_{104}^{1034}$ |
| MAR....... | $139 \cdot 62$ | 20.3 | $74 \cdot 8$ | 76.6 | 73.6 | 69 | 69 | $66 \cdot 5$ | 68 | 88 | 89 |  | $82 \cdot 5$ | 104 |
| APRIL ... | 139.91 | 18.8 | $74 \cdot 1$ | $76 \cdot 3$ | $72 \cdot 7$ | 69 | 68 | 66 | 67 | 89 |  |  | 84.5 | $104 \frac{1}{2}$ |
| MAY... | $139 \cdot 87$ | 18.7 | 73.4 | 76.4 | 71.5 | 68 | ${ }_{67 \cdot 5}^{67}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 64 \\ & 64 \cdot 5 \end{aligned}$ | $65 \cdot 5$ $65 \cdot 5$ |  | $90 \cdot 5$ |  |  | 1048 |
| JUNE. | $140 \cdot 61$ | 18.9 | $72 \cdot 4$ | $75 \cdot 6$ | 70.5 | 67.5 | $67 \cdot 6$ |  |  |  |  |  |  | $104{ }^{2}$ |
| JULY | 141.19 | $19 \cdot 3$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 90 \\ & 89 \cdot 5 \end{aligned}$ |  | 84.5 89 | $\begin{aligned} & 104 \frac{1}{2} \\ & 104 \frac{2}{2} \end{aligned}$ |
| AUG. | 142.57 144 | 19.5 19.5 | 71.5 70.7 | 72.1 69.9 | $\begin{aligned} & 709 \\ & 70 \cdot 8 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 62 \\ & 61 \end{aligned}$ | $62 \cdot 6$ <br> 62 | $65 \cdot 5$ | 63.5 | 88.5 | 88 |  | 80.5 | $104 \frac{1}{2}$ |
| OC1. | $146 \cdot 45$ | 19.7 | 71.2 | $70 \cdot 5$ | 71.3 | 59.5 | 60.5 | $66 \cdot 5$ | 64 | 89 | 87.5 |  | 79.5 | $104 \frac{1}{2}$ |
| NOV. | 146.83 | 19.7 | $70 \cdot 7$ | 69.0 | 71.4 | 58 | 58.5 | 66 | 63 | 89 | ${ }_{87}^{87}$ |  | 78.5 78.5 | $104 \frac{1}{2}$ |
| DEC. | 148.93 | $20 \cdot 1$ | $70 \cdot 6$ | 69•8 | $70 \cdot 8$ | $60 \cdot 5$ | $60 \cdot 5$ | $66 \cdot 5$ | 64 | 88.5 |  |  |  | $104 \frac{1}{2}$ |
| JAN. | 148.82 | $20 \cdot 3$ | 69.9 |  |  | 61 | 60.5 | $65 \cdot 5$ | 64 | 88.5 | 87.5 |  |  | 105 |
| FEB. | $148 \cdot 33$ | $20 \cdot 3$ | 69.6 | $69 \cdot 3$ | 69.4 | 60.5 | 69 | 66 | 63 | 87.5 |  |  |  | 105 |
| MAR... | 148.28 | 20.6 | 69.4 | $68 \cdot 5$ 69.6 | 69.6 | $\begin{aligned} & 60 \cdot 5 \\ & 61 \cdot 5 \end{aligned}$ | 60.5 | $\begin{gathered} 67 \cdot 5 \\ 67 \cdot 5 \end{gathered}$ | 64 | 8878 | 89.5 |  |  | 105 |
| APRIL... | 148.50 148.47 | 20.0 20.1 | $69 \cdot 9$ $70 \cdot 3$ | 69.6 69.9 | $69 \cdot 7$ $70 \cdot 2$ | $\begin{aligned} & 61^{\circ} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 60^{\circ} \\ & 60 \end{aligned}$ | 68 | 65 | 87.5 | 89.5 |  | 81.5 | 105 |
| JUNE. | 148.49 | $19 \cdot 8$ | $70 \cdot 5$ | 69.9 | $70 \cdot 5$ |  |  | $67 \cdot 5$ | 65 |  |  |  |  | 105 |
| JULY .. | 148.49 | 16.6 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 105而 |
| $\dagger$ Average of daily quotations for year. |  |  |  | * normal seasonal changeremoved. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | * December, 1924. |  |  |

PRICE OF GOLD-
PRICE OF SILVER- Average (cash) price of bar silver for week ending 15 th of month.-ECONOMIST.
BOARD OF TRADE INDEX—Geometric Mean of Wholesale Prices (averages for month) of 200 commodities as jercentage of 1924 average. Ared
STATIST (SAUERBECK) Average wholesale prices of 19 foodstuffs and 26 raw materials on last day of month, as percentage of average INDICES-for 1924.-STATISI.
COST OF LIVING INDEX-Ministry of Labour's index showing movement since 1924 in cost of maintaining unchanged the standard of living prevalent in working-class households before the war. month-e.g., reading for March 1st is shown against February-co facmitate combarison with

RETAIL FOOD PRICES-
As above, for food only.
WAGES INDEX-
For description see Special Mem. No. 28.

## OUTPUT AND INTERNAL ACTIVITY.



[^52]

OUTPUT-COAL
PIG IRON, STEEL
ELECTRGGOTS
ARTIFICIAL SILK-
RETAIL SALES
POST OFFICE RECEIPTS-
MOTOR SPIRIT-
NEW REGISTRATIONS-
RAILWAY TRAFFICWEIGHT
RECEIP

Total for 4 weeks ending approximately at end of month-BOARD OF TRADE BRITISH IRON AND STEEL FEDER ATION
Output of authorised undertahngs,-ELECMICHT COMNHSSION O.
Rayon, yarn and waste, derived from Excise Statistics.- BOARD discussion iex of value of sales urnal. Feb 9th 1939 - ANK OF ENGI AND
 Imports entered for home consumption.-BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL Ministry of Transport Returns.
Tonnage of coods carried on the Pallways of Great Britain during the month, excluding free-hauled. Sonthly receipts carried on traffic, excluding cost of collection and delifery till January, 1928, then excluding receipts for collection and delivery.-MINISTR $\bar{Y}$ OF TRANSPORT.

EXTERNAL TRADE.


## EXTERNAL TRADE.



IMPORTS \& EXPORTS-

## SHIPPING, UNEMPLOYMENT.



|  | Tonnage of Ships (with Cargoes). |  |  |  | Index of <br> Tramp <br> Shipping <br> Freight <br> Rates. <br> \% of 1935 | INSURED PERSONS UNEMPLOYED $\ddagger$ (Great Britain and North Ireland). |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  | Males. | Females. |  | Persons. |  |  |  |
|  | Entered Cleared British Ports. |  |  |  |  | Eूँ H. <br> 000 | 잉 $000$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | ज़゙ H. $000$ |  |  |  | İ H. <br> 000 |  |
| 1924 Av. ... | 461 | * | 544 | * |  | - | 941 | 72 | 52 | 116 | 78 | 99 | 35 | 344 | 145 | 263 | 62 |  |  | 1203 | $10 \cdot 3$ |
| 1929 Av. . | 522 | - | 572 | - | 133.5 | 1019 | 176 | 41 | 67 | 49 | 146 | 35 | 345 | 160 | 244 | 68 | 994 | 268 | 1262 | $10 \cdot 4$ |
| 1933 Av. .. | 503 | - | 464 | - | - | 2163 | 338 | 79 | 177 | 103 | 336 | 64 | 687 | 379 | 404 | 92 | 2110 | 457 | 2567 | 19.9 |
| 1934 Av. ... | 522 | - | 459 | - | - | 1817 | 280 | 52 | 111 | 80 | 295 | 61 | 569 | 369 | 354 | 85 | 1802 | 369 | 2171 | $16 \cdot 7$ |
| 1935 Av. ... | 530 | - | 477 | - | 100 | 1682 | 241 | 44 | 88 | 67 | 288 | 52 | 529 | 373 | 346 | 72 | 1715 | 313 | 2027 | 15.5 |
| 1936 Av . .. | 562 | - | 473 | - | 113 | 1455 | 198 | 33 | 59 | 50 | 272 | 37 | 466 | 340 | 311 | 51 | 1498 | 251 | 1749 | 13.2 |
| 1937 Av. .. | 587 | - | 512 | - | 175.6 | 1196 | 129 | 24 | 41 | 40 | 254 | 28 | 379 | 300 | 286 | 42 | 1278 | 204 | 1482 | 11.0 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 1936 \\ & \text { JAN. } \end{aligned}$ | 500 | 552 | 453 | 467 |  | 1761 | 183 | 39 | 76 | 57 | 417 | 43 | 550 | 396 | 370 | 55 | 1780 | 351 | 2131 | 16.2 |
| FEB. | 470 | 554 | 410 | 460 |  | 1654 | 189 | 39 | 72 | 56 | 332 | 42 | 532 | 392 | 363 | 55 | 1752 | 264 | 2017 | $15 \cdot 3$ |
| MAR. | 521 | 561 | 427 | 444 |  | 1541 | 203 | 37 | 68 | 55 | 270 | 39 | 494 | 375 | 338 | 53 | 1639 | 240 | 1879 | 14.2 |
| APR. | 505 | 533 | 435 | 462 |  | 1488 | 218 | 37 | 65 | 52 | 245 | 41 | 476 | 354 | 319 | 54 | 1556 | 252 | 1807 | 13.6 |
| MAY | 559 | 556 | 493 | 476 |  | 1398 | 216 | 35 | 60 | 51 | 222 | 39 | 443 | 332 | 299 | 54 | 1467 | 230 | 1697 | $12 \cdot 8$ |
| JUNE | 608 | 564 | 473 | 461 |  | 1414 | 273 | 33 | 57 | 47 | 221 | 39 | 431 | 313 | 293 | 55 | 1402 | 306 | 1707 | 12.8 |
| JULY | 617 | 553 | 522 | 488 |  | 1367 | 233 | 34 | 56 | 48 | 237 | 36 | 419 | 304 | 293 | 55 | 1357 | 302 | 1660 | 12.4 |
| AUG. | 646 | 58\% | 511 | 468 |  | 1315 | 189 | 33 | 55 | 49 | 233 | 36 | 416 | 304 | 297 | 55 | 1362 | 250 | 1612 | $12 \cdot 0$ |
| SEPT. | 598 | 555 | 504 | 476 |  | 1323 | 191 | 30 | 53 | 48 | 242 | 34 | 412 | 313 | 298 | 53 | 1384 | 236 | 1620 | $12 \cdot 1$ |
| OCT. | 600 | 560 | 523 | 490 |  | 1324 | 176 | 29 | 50 | 45 | 255 | 32 | 407 | 330 | 290 | 46 | 1417 | 196 | 1614 | 12.0 |
| NOV. | 563 | 578 | 464 | 463 |  | 1328 | 161 | 27 | 47 | 44 | 277 | 30 | 408 | 334 | 293 | 42 | 1430 | 192 | 1621 | 120 |
| DEC. | 555 | 568 | 466 | 494 |  | 1345 | 146 | 26 | 48 | 43 | 308 | 29 | 413 | 332 | 277 | 38 | 1425 | 198 | 1622 | 12.0 |
| JAN. 1937 | 487 | 538 | 453 | 467 | 167.7 | 1365 | 138 | 25 | 47 | 43 | 308 | 29 | 431 | 344 | 312 | 35 | 1489 | 188 | 1677 | 12.4 |
| EEB.. | 482 | 589 | 428 | 497 | 157.9 | 1324 | 136 | 24 | 45 | 42 | 290 | 28 | 416 | 343 | 301 | 34 | 1460 | 165 | 1625 | 12.0 |
| MAR. | 576 | 620 | 472 | 490 | 158.9 | 1298 | 130 | 25 | 44 | 42 | 289 | 26 | 406 | 336 | 279 | 33 | 1406 | 170 | 1576 | 11.6 |
| APRIL | 542 | 572 | 514 | 548 | 176.8 | 1175 | 124 | 24 | 41 | 40 | 234 | 26 | 375 | 311 | 261 | 33 | 1305 | 131 | 1436 | 10.5 |
| MAY | 600 | 576 | 509 | 491 | 185.4 | 1191 | 156 | 26 | 39 | 42 | 226 | 29 | 380 | 293 | 265 | 40 | 1246 | 210 | 1456 | 10.7 |
| JUNE | 629 | 584 | 545 | 531 | $187 \cdot 1$ | 1126 | 169 | 22 | 37 | 39 | 210 | 25 | 350 | 274 | 244 | 37 | 1167 | 203 | 1370 | $10 \cdot 0$ |
| JULY | 642 |  | 582 | 544 | 185.0 | 1117 | 146 | 26 | 40 | 38 | 222 | 26 | 355 | 264 | 268 | 40 | 1136 | 249 | 1386 | $10 \cdot 1$ |
| AUG. | 672 |  | 549 | 503 | $193 \cdot 3$ | 1090 | 122 | 23 | 39 | 38 | 220 | 25 | 356 | 267 | 267 | 41 | 1148 | 209 | 1357 | 9.9 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | \$1107 | 118 | 23 | 39 | 39 | 228 | 28 | 360 | 272 | 272 | 44 |  | - | 1379 | $10 \cdot 1$ |
| S | 601 |  | 563 | 532 |  | \$1071 | 116 | 22 | 38 | 38 | 221 | 29 | 343 | 264 | 263 | 45 | 1139 | 195 | 1334 | 9.7 |
| OCT. | 610 |  | 550 | 515 | $190 \cdot 0$ | 1112 | 113 | 22 | 39 | 36 | 233 | 27 | 350 | 292 | 283 | 41 | 1215 | 180 | 1395 | $10 \cdot 1$ |
| NOV. | 614 | 630 | 491 | 490 | 162.9 | 1173 | 101 | 24 | 41 | 37 | 256 | 33 | 377 | 304 | 334 | 55 | 1284 | 222 | 1507 | 10.9 |
| DEC. | 586 |  | 484 | 514 | 141.0 | 1310 | 100 | 25 | 43 | 39 | 341 | 38 | 413 | 311 | 355 | 66 | 1339 | 326 | 1665 | $12 \cdot 1$ |
| JAN. | 533 | 589 | 448 | 462 | 138.2 | 1376 | 98 | 32 | 47 | 37 | 320 | 46 | 465 | 331 | 441 | 83 | 1466 | 351 | 1818 | 13.2 |
| FEB. |  | 593 | 415 | 481 | 129.5 | 1358 | 97 | 34 | 49 | 36 | 294 | 48 | 467 | 333 | 449 | 92 | 1467 | 341 | 1808 | $13 \cdot 1$ |
| MAR. | 560 | 603 | 458 | 477 | 127.5 | 1316 | 102 | 37 | 50 | 34 | 256 | 50 | 461 | 326 | 448 | 94 | 1426 | 338 | 1764 | 12.7 |
| APR.. | 530 | 559 | 465 | 495 | 126.9 | 1318 | 125 | 39 | 51 | 35 | 241 | 52 | 459 | 316 | 442 | 97 | 1394 | 366 | 1760 | 12.7 12.8 |
| MAY | 603 | 579 | 480 | 463 | $130 \cdot 6$ | 1337 | 150 | 46 | 53 | 34 | 233 | 58 | 458 | 305 | 444 | 112 | 1376 | 404 | 1780 | $\begin{aligned} & 12.8 \\ & 13.2 \end{aligned}$ |
| JUNE | 613 |  | 519 | 506 | 123.1 | 1375 | 156 | 53 | 59 | 35 | 237 | 68 | 473 | 2.94 | 455 | 125 | 1352 | 478 | 1829 | $\begin{gathered} 102 \\ 13 \cdot 1^{*} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| JULY | 607 | 544 | 524 | 439 | $120 \cdot 2$ | 1382† | 190 | 54 | 58 | 37 | 257 | 53 | 454 | $279+$ | $438 \dagger$ | 108 | $1339 \dagger+$ | $481+$ | $1819+$ | $\frac{12.97}{12.6}$ |
| AUG. | 642 | 577 | 538 | 493 | 126.4 | 1341 | 154 | 56 | 60 | 35 | 247 | 56 | 455 | 278 | 439 | 113 | 1333 | 447 | 1780 | 12.6 |
| SEPT. |  | 548 | 548 | 517 | $126 \cdot 3$ | 1377 | 151 | 59 | 64 | 37 | 261 | 60 | 454 | 291 | 430 | 110 | 1387 1486 | 420 313 | 1807 1799 | 12.8 12.7 |
| OCT. | 589 | 550 | 535 | 501 | $127 \cdot 6$ | 1374 | 121 | 46 | 63 | 39 | 285 | 44 | 451 | 325 | 425 | 85 | 1486 | 313 | 1899 1839 | 12.7 13.0 |
| NOV. . | 537 | 551 | 489 | 489 | $122 \cdot 3$ | 1420 | 129 | 52 | 64 | 39 39 | 302 | 41 39 | 457 456 | 336 | 403 | 74 | 1529 | 298 | 1827 | $12 \cdot 9$ |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { DEC. ... } \\ 1939 \end{gathered}$ | 550 | 562 | 470 | . 499 | $124 \cdot 1$ | 1425 | 123 | 53 | 62 | 39 | 319 | 39 | 456 | 334 | 403 | 74 | 1529 | 298 | 1827 | 12.3 |
| JAN.... | 505 | 557 | 465 | 479 | $120 \cdot 8$ | 1558 | 111 | 49 | 67 | 40 | 385 | 43 | 508 | 355 | 459 | 74 | 1635 | 382 | 2017 | $14 \cdot 3$ |
| FEB. | 454 | 555 | 414 |  | 121.5 | 1452 | 115 | 39 | 63 | 40 | 334 | 38 | 476 | 347 | 436 | 69 | 1593 | 295 | 1888 | $13 \cdot 4$ $12 \cdot 3$ |
| MAR. |  | 370 | 469 | 488 | 117.5 | 1330 | 107 | 34 | 59 | 41 | 283 | 33 34 | 440 | 333 | 384 | 61 | 1396 | 245 | 1641 | 11.6 |
| APR.. |  | 551 |  | 508 | 119.6 | 1257 | 106 | 33 | 56 48 | 31 <br> 35 | 262 | 34 29 | 319 | 309 290 | 354 | 63 | 1293 | 202 | 1495 | 10.6 |
| MAY | 615 639 | 590 593 | 541 571 | 522 $65 \%$ | $129 \cdot 6$ $125 \cdot 1$ | 1141 | 106 | 24 22 | 48 43 | 34 | 214 | 25 | 345 | 262 | 312 | 49 | 1170 | 199 | 1369 | $9 \cdot 7$ |

: $16-65$ years. Ex. Agriculture and any disqualified for benefit by trade dispute, N.B.-Changes in method of enumeration in Sept., 1937 and July, 1938.

* NORMAL SEASONAL CHANGE REMOVED. † Including certain domestic workers after June, 1938

TRANSPORT :
SHIPPING-ENTERED
SHIPPING FREIGHTS
UNEMPLOYMENT-
INSURED PERSONS-

Tonnage of British and Foreign vessels entering and leaving British ports with cargoes during month.-BOARD

Ch TRADE MONTHLY ACCOUNTS OF 1938.-PREPAREJ) BY DR. ISSERLIS

Number of books lodged at Labour Exchange on or about 25 th of month to September, 1937, thereafter one week earlier.-MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE

|  | AVERAGE OF DAILY RATES. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Paris } \\ & \text { f. to } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Brus- } \\ \text { sels } \\ \text { b, to } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Milan } \\ & \text { 1. to } \end{aligned}$ | $\left\lvert\, \begin{gathered} \text { Berlin } \\ \text { Rm.to } £ \end{gathered}\right.$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Amster- } \\ & \text { dam } \\ & \text { fl. to } £ \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { War- } \\ \text { saw } \\ \text { z. to } £ \end{gathered}$ | Prague kc. to £ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Zurich } \\ & \text { f. to } £ \end{aligned}$ | Stockholm kr . to $£$ | $\left\lvert\, \begin{gathered} \text { NewYork } \\ \$ \text { to } £ \end{gathered}\right.$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Mon- } \\ \text { treal } \\ \text { \$ to } £ \end{gathered}$ | Buenos Aires§ p. to $£$ | Rio de Janeiro d. per mil. | Bombay <br> d. perrup. | Hong. <br>  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Kobe } \\ & \text { d. per ye } \end{aligned}$ |
|  | For 1919 to 1934 Ratrs See Earlikr Bulletins. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| JAN. | $74 \cdot 36$ 73.92 | 20.99 20.89 | 57.47 57 | 12.15 | 7.21 | 25:82 | 116.66 | 15.06 | 19.40 | 4.875 | 4.878 | 18.98 | $3 \cdot 28$ | 18.156 | 21.87 | 14.01 |
| MAB. | $72 \cdot 11$ | 21.01 | 57.17 | 11.82 | 7.03 | 25.20 | 113.74 | 14.68 | 19.40 | $4 \cdot 776$ | 4.820 | 18.88 | $3 \cdot 15$ | 18.127 | $24 \cdot 13$ | 14.09 |
| APR. | 73.28 | $28 \cdot 49$ | 58.28 | 12.00 | $7 \cdot 17$ | 2561 | 115.57 | 14.93 | 19.40 | 4.835 | 4.85 | 18.90 | 3.01 | $18 \cdot 117$ | 26.28 | $14 \cdot 10$ |
| MAY | $74 \cdot 19$ | 28.85 | 59.37 | 12.22 | 7.23 |  | 117.30 | $15 \cdot 13$ $15 \cdot 10$ | 19.40 19.40 | 4.890 4.936 | 4.892 4.939 | 18.91 | 2.72 | 18.128 | $29 \cdot 18$ | $14 \cdot 14$ |
| JUNE | $74 \cdot 68$ | 29:13 | 775 | 12.21 | $7 \cdot 27$ |  | 117. |  | 19.40 |  | 4.939 | 8.70 | $2 \cdot 61$ | '126 | 28 | 14.13 |
| JULY | $74 \cdot 79$ | 29.30 | $60 \cdot 25$ | $12 \cdot 27$ | 7.29 |  | 11 |  | 19 |  |  |  | $2 \cdot 62$ | 18.125 | $25 \cdot 80$ | $14 \cdot 14$ |
| AUG. | 75.01 | $29 \cdot 43$ | 60.49 | $12 \cdot 32$ | 7.33 |  | 119.46 | $15 \cdot 19$ | 19.40 | 4.971 | 80 | 18.52 | 2.58 | $18 \cdot 125$ | $24 \cdot 33$ | $14 \cdot 18$ |
| SEPT | 74.84 | 29.25 | $60 \cdot 46$ | 12.25 | 7.30 | 26.20 | 119.20 | 15.17 | 19.40 | 4.933 | 4.967 | 1837 | 2.62 | 18.125 | $24 \cdot 37$ | $14 \cdot 11$ |
| OCI. | 74.49 | 29.13 | 60.30 | 12:20 | 7.24 | 26.06 | 118.48 | 15.08 15.18 | 19.40 19.40 | 4.908 4.925 | 4.976 4.976 | 18.01 | 7 | 18.125 | $24 \cdot 09$ | 14.05 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| JAN. | $74 \cdot 86$ | 29:29 | 71 | $12 \cdot 28$ | 728 | 26.20 | 11 | 15 | 19. | 4.960 | 3 | 18.24 | $2 \cdot 68$ | $18 \cdot 152$ | ¢6 | C4 |
| FEB. | 74.84 | 29.34 | $62 \cdot 15$ | 12.29 | 7.28 | 26.20 | 119.21 | $15 \cdot 14$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.996 | 4.993 | 18.07 | 2.74 | $18 \cdot 125$ | $15 \cdot 74$ | 14.08 |
| MAR. | $74 \cdot 92$ | 29.28 | $62 \cdot 35$ | 12.29 | $7 \cdot 27$ | $26 \cdot 21$ | 119.31 | $15 \cdot 14$ | 19.40 | 4.971 | 4.977 | 18.04 | $2 \cdot 73$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 15.93 | 13.98 |
| APR. | 75.00 | 29.22 | $62 \cdot 66$ | 12.28 | 7.28 | 26.24 | 119.50 | 15.17 | 19.40 | 4.944 | 4.967 | 17.98 | 2.71 | $18 \cdot 125$ | $15 \cdot 80$ | 14.03 |
| MAY | 75-47 | 29.35 | 63.03 | $12 \cdot 34$ | $7 \cdot 35$ | 26.55 | 119.92 | $15 \cdot 36$ | 19.40 | 4.971 | 4.979 | $18 \cdot 00$ | 2.71 | 18.125 | 15.71 | 1406 |
| JUNE | $76 \cdot 14$ | 29.70 | 63.84 | 12.46 | $7 \cdot 42$ | 26.71 | 121.28 | $15 \cdot 48$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | 5.020 | 5.032 | $18 \cdot 13$ | $2 \cdot 72$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | $15 \cdot 44$ | 14.07 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { JULY } \\ & \text { AUG. } \\ & \text { SEP. } \end{aligned}$ | $75 \cdot 86$76.33 | 29.7229.81 | 63.65 | 12.45 | $\begin{array}{r} 7 \cdot 38 \\ 7 \cdot 40 \end{array}$ | 26.59 | 120.97 | $15 \cdot 35$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | 5.0235.028 | 5.027 | 18.42 | $2 \cdot 77$ | 18.125 | $15 \cdot 33$ | 14.03 |
|  |  |  | 63 |  |  |  | 121.59 | $15 \cdot 42$ | $19 \cdot 40$ |  | 5.026 | 18.02 | $2 \cdot 80$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | $14 \cdot 60$ | 14.05 |
|  | 76.74 | 29.84 | 64:26 | 12.57 | $7 \cdot 58$ | 26.78 | $122 \cdot 17$ | 16.01 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 5.041 | 5.039 | 17.76 | $2 \cdot 81$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | $14 \cdot 86$ | 14.04 |
| OCT. | 105.09 | 29-10 | $92 \cdot 96$ | 12.19 | $9 \cdot 13$ | 26.16 | 134-39 | $21 \cdot 31$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 900$ | 4.898 | 17.56 | 2.87 | 18.125 | 14.88 | 14.03 |
| NOV. | 105:17 | 28.91 | $92 \cdot 86$ | $12 \cdot 15$ | 9.05 | 26.00 | 138.09 | 21.27 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.888 | 4.880 | 17.54 | $2 \cdot 89$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 14.95 | 14.03 |
| DEC. | 105.14 | 29.03 | $93 \cdot 19$ | 12.19 | 8.99 | 26.00 | $139 \cdot 26$ | 21.35 | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 907$ | 4.903 | 16.42 | $2 \cdot 93$ | $18 \cdot 144$ | 14.93 | 13.96 |
| JAN. | 105•14 | 280 | 93.23 | 12.19 | 8.96 | 26.00 | 140. | $21 \cdot 39$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.908 | 4.909 | $16 \cdot 16$ | $2 \cdot 95$ | 8.151 | 14.95 | 95 |
| FEB. |  | 29.02 | 92.99 | 12.16 | 8.95 | 25.89 | $140 \cdot 30$ | 21.44 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.894 | 4.895 | 16.24 | 3.01 | $18 \cdot 142$ | 14.94 | 13.98 |
| MAR. | $105 \cdot 11$ 106.31 | 28.99 | $92 \cdot 81$ | 12.15 | 8.93 | 25.72 | $140 \cdot 00$ | 21.43 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.885 | 4.882 | 16.23 | 3.01 | $18 \cdot 125$ | $14 \cdot 64$ | 14.00 |
| APR. | 109.31 | $29 \cdot 15$ | 93*40 | 12.22 | 8.98 8.99 | 25.89 | 141:01 | 21.54 | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 916$ | 4.909 | $16 \cdot 17$ | 3.07 | $18 \cdot 125$ | 14.94 | 14.00 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { MAY } \\ & \text { JUNE } \end{aligned}$ |  |  | 93.85 | $12 \cdot 30$ | 8.99 | 26.07 | $141 \cdot 71$ | 21.60 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.939 | 4.931 | 16.24 | $3 \cdot 13$ | 18.125 | $14 \cdot 9$ |  |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & 110.32 \\ & 110.82 \end{aligned}$ | $29 \cdot 26$ | $93 \cdot 80$ | $12 \cdot 31$ | $8 \cdot 98$ | 26.03 | 141.63 | 21.57 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.935 | 4.937 | 16.2 | $3 \cdot 22$ | 18.125 | 14.78 | 13.98 |
| JULY <br> AUG. <br> SEPT | $130 \cdot 34$ | 29.50 | 94.34 | 12.35 | 9.01 | 22 | 142 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 8.125 |  |  |
|  | 132.85 |  | 94.67 | 1239 | 9.0 | $2{ }^{2}$ | 142.83 | 21.70 | 19.40 | $4 \cdot 983$ | 4.983 | 16.49 | $3 \cdot 15$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 14.92 | 14.00 |
| SEPT. | 140.37 | 29.42 | $94 \cdot 14$ | $12 \cdot 34$ | 8.98 | 26.25 | $141 \cdot 75$ | 21.57 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.961 | 4.954 | 16.50 | $3 \cdot 12$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| NOV. | $\begin{aligned} & 147.97 \\ & 147.19 \end{aligned}$ | 29.37 | 94.91 | 12.37 | 8. 96 | 26.37 | 141.56 | 21.52 | 19.40 | 4.956 | 4.954 | 16.56 | $2 \cdot 83$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| DEC. | $\begin{aligned} & 147 \cdot 19 \\ & 147 \cdot 16 \end{aligned}$ | $29 \cdot 41$ | $94 \cdot 99$ | $12 \cdot 40$ | 8.99 | 26.37 | 142.20 |  | 19.40 19.40 | 4.994 | 4.990 | 16.86 | 2.77 | 18.125 | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| 1938 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 17. | 64 | $18 \cdot 125$ | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| JAN. | $\begin{aligned} & 149 \cdot 89 \\ & 152 \cdot 87 \\ & 159 \cdot 63 \\ & 160 \cdot 90 \\ & 175 \cdot 14 \\ & 178 \cdot 17 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 29 \cdot 53 \\ & 29.56 \\ & 29.53 \\ & 29.54 \\ & 29.50 \\ & 29 \cdot 23 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 95 \cdot 00 \\ & 95 \cdot 37 \\ & 94.75 \\ & 94 \cdot 63 \\ & 94.42 \\ & 94 \cdot \varepsilon 2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 12 \cdot 41 \\ & 12 \cdot 41 \\ & 12 \cdot 39 \\ & 12 \cdot 38 \\ & 12.36 \\ & 12 \cdot 31 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 8.97 \\ & 8.97 \\ & 8.97 \\ & 8.96 \\ & 8.97 \\ & 8.96 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 26 \cdot 37 \\ & 26 \cdot 43 \\ & 26.39 \\ & 26 \cdot 39 \\ & 26.35 \\ & 26 \cdot 29 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 142.43 \\ & 142.71 \\ & 142.29 \\ & 142.86 \\ & 142.76 \\ & 142.61 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 21 \cdot 62 \\ & 21 \cdot 60 \\ & 21.63 \\ & 21 \cdot 67 \\ & 21.75 \\ & 21 \cdot 66 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 19 \cdot 40 \\ & 19 \cdot 40 \\ & 19 \cdot 40 \\ & 19 \cdot 40 \\ & 19 \cdot 40 \\ & 19 \cdot 40 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 5.000 \\ & 5.018 \\ & 4.985 \\ & 4.979 \\ & 4.965 \\ & 4.660 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 5.001 \\ & 5.016 \\ & 4.997 \\ & 5.006 \\ & 5.007 \\ & 5.012 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 17 \cdot 04 \\ & 18 \cdot 83 \\ & 19 \cdot 39 \\ & 19 \cdot 46 \\ & 19 \cdot 00 \\ & 19 \cdot 02 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} * 2 \cdot 83 \pm+1 \\ * 2.82+t \\ 2.81 \pm+ \\ 2.81 \pm+ \\ 2.81 \pm+ \\ 2.81+t \end{gathered}$ | 18125 | $15 \cdot \mathrm{CO}$ | 14.00 |
| FEB. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $18 \cdot 125$ | $15 \cdot 0$ | 14.00 |
| APR. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $18 \cdot 125$ | 14.92 | $13 \cdot ¢$ |
| MAY |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 18.051 | 14.84 | 14.00 |
| JUNE |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 17.910 17.795 | 14.91 14.94 | 14.00 14.00 |
| JULY | $\begin{aligned} & 178.15 \\ & 178.55 \\ & 178.42 \\ & 178.71 \\ & 178.68 \\ & 177.48 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 29 \cdot 14 \\ & 28.92 \\ & 28.45 \\ & 28.20 \\ & 27 \cdot 84 \\ & 27 \cdot 72 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 93.71 \\ & 92.75 \\ & 91.27 \\ & 90.64 \\ & \varepsilon 9.51 \\ & 88.75 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 12 \cdot 27 \\ & 12.17 \\ & 12.02 \\ & 11.90 \\ & 11.76 \\ & 11.65 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{\|l} 8.95 \\ 8.94 \\ 8.90 \\ 8.77 \\ 8.67 \\ 8.59 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 26 \cdot 20 \\ & 25.93 \\ & 25.50 \\ & 25.36 \\ & 25.04 \\ & 24.78 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 142 \cdot 51 \\ & 141 \cdot 32 \\ & 139 \cdot 36 \\ & 138 \cdot 60 \\ & 137 \cdot 34 \\ & 136 \cdot 36 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 21 \cdot 54 \\ & 21.32 \\ & 21 \cdot 25 \\ & 20.99 \\ & 20 \cdot 79 \\ & 20 \cdot 65 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 19 \cdot 40 \\ & 19.40 \\ & 19 \cdot 40 \\ & 19 \cdot 40 \\ & 19 \cdot 40 \\ & 19 \cdot 40 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 4.921 \\ & 4.881 \\ & 4.805 \\ & 4.769 \\ & 4.710 \\ & 4.671 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 4.959 \\ & 4.897 \\ & 4.831 \\ & 4.812 \\ & 4.742 \\ & 4.706 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 18.94 \\ & 18.87 \\ & 19.00 \\ & 18.99 \\ & 20.09 \\ & 20.55 \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & 17 \cdot 904 \\ & 17.987 \\ & 17.902 \\ & 17.933 \\ & 17.9 .6 \\ & 17.9<3 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 14 \cdot 99 \\ & 15.00 \\ & 15 \cdot 00 \\ & 14.97 \\ & 14 \cdot 94 \\ & 15 \cdot 00 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 14 \cdot 00 \\ & 14.00 \\ & 14 \cdot 00 \\ & 14.00 \\ & 14 \cdot 00 \\ & 14 \cdot 00 \end{aligned}$ |
| AUG. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| SEPT |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| NOV. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| DEC. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1939 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| JAN. | $\begin{aligned} & 177 \cdot 49 \\ & 176 \cdot 98 \\ & 176.86 \\ & 176.73 \\ & 176 \cdot 74 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 27 \cdot 63 \\ & 27.79 \\ & 27.85 \\ & 27.80 \\ & 27.51 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 88 \cdot 73 \\ & 89.05 \\ & 89.08 \\ & 89.00 \\ & 89 . c 1 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 11 \cdot 64 \\ & 11.67 \\ & 11 \cdot 68 \\ & 11.67 \\ & 11 \cdot 67 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 8.61 \\ & 8.74 \\ & 8.82 \\ & 8.81 \\ & 8.73 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 24 \cdot 70 \\ & 24.84 \\ & 24 \cdot 89 \\ & 24.90 \\ & 24 \cdot 94 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 136 \cdot 26 \\ 136 \cdot 82 \\ (a) \\ 136 \cdot 31 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 20 \cdot 67 \\ & 20.66 \\ & 20 \cdot 71 \\ & 20.68 \\ & 20.82 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 19 \cdot 40 \\ & 19 \cdot 40 \\ & 19 \cdot 40 \\ & 19 \cdot 40 \\ & 19 \cdot 40 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 4.669 \\ & 4.687 \\ & 4 \cdot 686 \\ & 4.681 \\ & 4.682 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 4 \cdot 705 \\ & 4 \cdot 708 \\ & 4.704 \\ & 4 * 04 \\ & 4 \cdot 698 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 20 \cdot 35 \\ & 20.35 \\ & 20.30 \\ & 20.21 \\ & 20.62 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 3 \cdot 06+1 \\ & 3 \cdot 06+ \\ & 3 \cdot 06++ \\ & 2 \cdot 84+ \\ & 2 \cdot 7+1 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 17 \cdot 037 \\ & 17 \cdot 937 \\ & 17.966 \\ & 17 \cdot 937 \\ & 17 \cdot 910 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 15.00 \\ & 14.93 \\ & 14.91 \\ & 14.74 \\ & 14.81 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 14 \cdot 00 \\ & 14 \cdot 00 \\ & 14 \cdot 00 \\ & 14.00 \\ & 14 \cdot 00 \end{aligned}$ |
| FEB. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| MAR. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| MAY |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Week en ${ }^{\text {ding }}$ June 3176.72 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 27.50 \\ & 27.52 \\ & 27.54 \\ & 27.53 \\ & 27.54 \\ & 27.54 \\ & 27.55 \\ & 27.56 \end{aligned}$ | 89.06 89.08 89.04 89:00 89.00 $88 \cdot 99$$89 \cdot 03$ 89.06 | $\begin{aligned} & 11.67 \\ & 11.68 \\ & 11.67 \\ & 11.67 \\ & 11.67 \\ & 11.67 \\ & 11.67 \\ & 11.67 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 8.74 \\ & 8.80 \\ & 8.82 \\ & 8.82 \\ & 8.82 \\ & 8.82 \\ & 8.81 \\ & 8.76 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 24 \cdot 87 \\ & 24.92 \\ & 24 \cdot 87 \\ & 24.87 \\ & 24.87 \\ & 24.87 \\ & 24 \cdot 87 \\ & 24.87 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 136 \cdot 30+ \\ & 136 \cdot 42+ \\ & 136 \cdot 5+ \\ & 136 \cdot 5+ \\ & 136 \cdot 5+ \\ & 136 \cdot 5+ \\ & 136 \cdot 5+ \\ & 136 \cdot 5+ \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 20.76 \\ & 00 \cdot 76 \\ & 20.78 \\ & 20.77 \\ & 20.77 \\ & 20.77 \\ & 20.77 \\ & 20.76 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 19 \cdot 40 \\ & 19 \cdot 40 \\ & 19 \cdot 40 \\ & 19 \cdot 40 \\ & 19 \cdot 40 \\ & 1940 \\ & 19 \cdot 40 \\ & 19 \cdot 40 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 4.683 \\ & 4.685 \\ & 4.683 \\ & 4.682 \\ & 4.682 \\ & 4.681 \\ & 4.682 \\ & 4.683 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 4 \cdot 693 \\ & 4 \cdot 690 \\ & 4 \cdot 693 \\ & 4 \cdot 693 \\ & 4 \cdot 694 \\ & 4 \cdot 694 \\ & 4 \cdot 691 \\ & 4 \cdot 688 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 20.22 \\ & 20.22 \\ & 20.21 \\ & 20.21 \\ & 20.21 \\ & 20.20 \\ & 20.23 \\ & 20.24 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2.78 \dagger \\ & 2.78 \dagger \\ & 2.70 \dagger \\ & 2.69 \dagger \\ & 2.64 \dagger \\ & 2.62 \dagger \\ & 2.62 \dagger \\ & 2.62 \dagger \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 17.875 \\ & 17.901 \\ & 17.927 \\ & 17.911 \\ & 17.924 \\ & 17.901 \\ & 17.906 \\ & 17.906 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 14 \cdot 94 \\ & 14.92 \\ & 14 \cdot 84 \\ & 14.81 \\ & 14 \cdot 81 \\ & 14.81 \\ & 14.81 \\ & 14 \cdot 75 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 14 \cdot 00 \\ & 14: 00 \\ & 14.00 \\ & 14.00 \\ & 14.00 \\ & 14 \cdot 00 \\ & 14 \cdot 00 \\ & 14 \cdot 00 \end{aligned}$ |
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## UNITED KINGDOM.

Additional Figures published since fuly 22nd, 1939.


## INTERNATIONAL SURVEY.

August 4th, 1939.

THE upward turn in business activity in the United States has recently made undeniable progress. In May the adjusted Federal Reserve Board index of industrial production stood at 92 (\% of 1923-25). In June it moved up to 97 . This compares with 98 in March and 77 in June, 1938. Preliminary data for July suggest that, saving seasonal influences, the June level has at least been maintained. The Annalist monthly index of business activity was 91 in June, as against 86 in May and 74 in June, 1938.

The rise of these indices of production and general activity is mainly due to a substantial increase in the output of steel, coal and automobiles, in the consumption of electricity and in the volume of freight carloadings. The weekly index of steel mill activity reached $60 \%$ of capacity at the end of July owing to rising demand from widely varying quarters, and it is expected soon to rise further when buying for the new automobile year begins.

Business sentiment in the United States is now optimistic about the domestic outlook and less concerned with the European political outlook. Amongst the causes of optimism special attention must be drawn first to recent profit reports which, after several years of an abnormally low profit level, are very encouraging ; and secondly, to the unprecedented volume of idle funds seeking investment which have depressed interest rates to the lowest level in history.

In the United Kingdom the programme of expansion has not yet encountered the labour shortages which must sooner or later reduce the rate of progress. On July Ioth the number of insured persons employed was estimated at $12,900,000$. The number of unemployed was about $\mathrm{I}, 250,000$. The employment figure is the highest ever recorded. The unemployment figure is the lowest recorded since 1929. The Government's programme has been considerably facilitated by a spontaneous reduction in much private activity that would normally compete with it for the supply of labour and materials. It is thus possible that the summer and autumn may pass before "bottlenecks" seriously impede further expansion.

In France employment and industrial output continue to expand, and this is less due to defence activity than in the United Kingdom. In Germaily signs of strain continue to accumu-
late as the supply of labour, materials and equipment more and more falls short of the demands of government activity. Signs of strain are also in evidence in Italy, where statistics of activity do not show changes commensurate with the rising budget deficits. Business activity in the smaller Western European countries is now at very satisfactory levels.

Although the total volume of activity in the world is now approaching that of 1937, prices of most raw materials are still much below the levels of that year. The only important commodity the price of which appears likely to rise considerably this year is rubber, world stocks of which are now lower than they have been for many years. The rubber export quota has been raised to $60 \%$ for the third and fourth quarters of the year, but this may not fully meet anticipated demand. The non-ferrous metal markets are also buoyant, but the elasticity of supply must be very considerable, for output is still well below capacity. Cotton and wheat prices are likely to remain very low for a considerable time. For the next twelve months the United States Government is to grant a subsidy of $\mathrm{I} \frac{1}{2}$ cents per lb . on cotton exports. It is possible that by the end of that period, crop control will have raised cotton prices.

Even apart from the abundance of wheat and cotton supplies, the prices of raw materials are moderately low as compared with 1937. This is, no doubt, partly because of the still uncertain state of business in the United States. But more important a factor seems to be that in spite of the clearly rising demand in Europe, speculators have been so doubtful of future governmental policies that they have feared to operate in the commodity markets as they did in 1937.

The recovery of France is now reflected in the statistics of international trade. Her exports, in particular, have now reached much higher levels than those of a year ago in both volume and value. During May and June Greater Germany appeared to reverse the trend of the previous year by returning an active balance. The significance of the German trade statistics, however, is uncertain, and the state of German trade therefore requires further investigation. There have been signs in May and June that the passive balance of trade of the United Kingdom is increasing, but the change has not yet become a considerable one.

The security markets in London and on the Continent have fluctuated according to sentiment regarding the international situation. In New York, however, there has been a strong upward trend during the last month. The Dow-Jones index reached the figure of 144.0 at the end of July, as against II5.6 in mid-April.

Gold movements fell in June to small proportions, but rose again in July. It is believed that by now the governments of the Western European countries have domiciled large quantities of gold in the United States.

The principal currencies of the world have been very stable during the past month, except in the case of the guilder, the value of which has
fluctuated somewhat owing to political uncertainty in Holland. Amongst other currencies, the Shanghai dollar has slumped owing to doubts concerning British policy in the Far East, while the fall in the price of wheat has induced a widening in the forward discount of the Argentine free peso.

If new political developments are discounted, the general business outlook for the world as a whole appears to be very fair for some months ahead, as far as the volume, if not the character, of activity is concerned. If the current American movement continues, it is fairly certain that the 1937 volume of business in the world as a whole will be surpassed.

# RECENT MOVEMENTS IN UNITED STATES. 

## Information communicated by Miss DOROTHY WESCOTT, Assistant Editor of the Review of Economic Statistics, Harvard University.

Fuly 19th, 1939.
GENERAL SUMMARY. - June brought sharp improvement in industrial production in the United States, cancelling the decline that had occurred in April and May. While the sharpness of the rise was due largely to increased output of steel and of bituminous coal, other important lines of industry also contributed to the upward movement. Retail trade, as measured by department-store sales, was higher than in May, although slightly below March-April levels. Wholesale commodity prices continued their downward drift, and the dollar volume of business was practically the same as in May. Stock prices weakened, and at the close of June the allinclusive price index of the New York Stock Exchange was lower than a month earlier. The inflow of gold decreased, and, as in May, a considerable part of the gold imported was earmarked for foreign central banks.

On June 30th the fiscal year of the federal government ended. During the year the total interest-bearing debt of the government increased $\$ 3,300 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $\$ 39,900 \mathrm{Mn}$. at the end of June. Government receipts, though $9 \%$ below those of the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1938, were larger than in any other year for which comparable records are available; expenditures reached a new high level, rising $20 \%$ above the total a year earlier, and $2 \%$ above those in 1936, the previous high year.

June was marked by the passage of important appropriation bills for the new fiscal year ending June 30th, 1940. On June 30th the President
signed an agricultural appropriation bill authorising expenditures of $\$ \mathrm{I}, 200 \mathrm{Mn}$., and the relief act providing $\$ \mathrm{I}, 800 \mathrm{Mn}$. for relief expenditures during the new fiscal year. On June 21st the President recommended to the Congress a programme of governmental loans on selfliquidating projects to be extended over a period of two to seven years and involving loans of $\$ 3,800 \mathrm{Mn}$. Considerable publicity accompanied this proposal, but no final Congressional action on the recommendation has yet been taken. ${ }^{\star}$ The failure of the Senate to pass before the expiration of the last fiscal year the monetary bill authorising continuance of the President's power to devalue the dollar and to continue the $\$ 2,000 \mathrm{Mn}$. stabilization fund, was followed on July 5 th by passage of the bill, restoring to the President monetary powers that had automatically expired on June 30th, extending the stabilization fund for two years, and raising the price at which the government shall purchase newly-mined domestic silver to 7I.II cents an ounce.

BUSINESS VOLUMES.-Seasonally corrected data for bank debits in selected centres outside New York City, which measure the dollar volume of business, were in the first half of June lower than in May ; the second half of June, however, brought sharp advance and the index for the entire month was practically the same as in May. For electric power production, another index of general business activity, substantial improvement appeared in June, the

[^54]FINANCE, PRICES.


INTERNAL ACTIVITY, TRADE, EMPLOYMENT.

adjusted index rising above any other month in the first half-year. The rate of activity at steel mills continued the advance begun at mid-May, and operations in June averaged $53 \%$ of capacity, compared with the May average of $48 \%$. Daily average output of steel ingots rose substantially, and since June usually is a month of sharp decline, the seasonally-adjusted index advanced from 74 to 90 ( $\%$ of 1923-25), the highest index since January. This increase in steel output reflected to a great extent orders placed during the period of price concessions in May. Orders in June are reported to have compared favourably with May, although no appreciable gain occurred. Pig-iron production rose more than $27 \%$, the adjusted index moving sharply upward to firstquarter levels. In early June operations at automobile factories fell considerably as labour difficulties again developed at important plants ; but settlement of the strikes by mid-June resulted in an expansion of output for the month as a whole, above April and May levels. Cottonmill activity increased week by week, stimulated at least in part by increased sales following the announcement of plans for curtailment of print cloth production during the third quarter of the year. Output of bituminous coal in June-the first complete month of activity following the settlement of the six-weeks' strike that began in early April-was only slightly under firstquarter levels.

Larger shipments of coal were chiefly responsible for the increase of $6 \frac{1}{2} \%$ in total freight car loadings during June, allowance having been made for seasonal changes ; if coal shipments are excluded from the total, the rise over May amounts to slightly more than $2 \%$. Most of this $2 \%$ increase reflected substantially greater shipments of grain. Seasonally-adjusted shipments of forest products and of ore were somewhat greater than in May; the important miscellaneous class (comprising largely shipments of materials and products of manufacture) and small-lot shipments (presumably responsive to activity in wholesale and retail trade) were practically unchanged ; while loadings of livestock decreased. The value of construction awards declined further in June, after allowance for seasonal changes, reflecting decreases in all classes of construction except non-residential. Since the first of the year, the construction index has dropped fairly steadily, the June index being about $30 \%$ under that for January. For the six months, January through June, seasonallycorrected contracts have been $33 \%$ higher than
in the corresponding period of 1938 , and $17 \%$ under the second half of last year.

COMMODITY PRICES.-Wholesale commodity prices in June continued their downward drift, although as in other months this year the decline was very small. At the close of June the " all commodities" index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics was 3\% lower than a year earlier, and approximately $2 \%$ under the level at the close of 1938. Most of the decline resulted from sharp decreases in prices of farm products and foods; the index of prices of industrial commodities, after falling about $\mathrm{I} \%$ in the second half of last year, has since remained practically unchanged. At mid-June, the price indices for farm products and foods were the lowest in five years. While the index of industrial commodities has shown little change in recent months, it has fluctuated at the lowest level since early 1936.

Price indices of commodities sensitive to changing industrial conditions remained in June close to May levels, although changes among the individual sensitive commodities were mixed. Wheat prices, following a substantial advance in May, dropped sharply on reports of improved crop conditions and larger supplies ; hide prices, after advancing late in May, remained unchanged at this higher level ; wool prices, likewise, remained unchanged throughout June at the level to which they had risen in late May ; and print cloths advanced almost continuously, quotations at the close of June being the highest since last November. Cotton prices fluctuated in response to crop reports, active demand for cotton textiles, the signing of the agreement between Great Britain and the United States to exchange cotton for rubber, and Congressional action on parity payments. On June 8th spot prices at New York rose to 10 cents per lb., the highest since August, 1937, but subsequently dropped to 9.7 I cents. Raw silk prices declined irregularly during the month. Steel scrap quotations at Pittsburgh rose between the first and last week of the month, while prices in the Chicago market showed a net decline.

MONEY AND CREDIT.-The monetary gold stock of the United States continued to rise in June, but the increase that took place during the four weeks ending June 28th, though substantial, was considerably smaller than in earlier months this year. The inflow of gold from abroad in June was reflected largely in increased deposits of foreign central banks with the reserve banks. This advance of deposits of foreign banks, together with larger Treasury deposits with the
reserve banks and increases in other federal reserve accounts, offset to a great extent the expansionary effects on member bank reserve balances of increases in gold stock and Treasury currency, and of declines in money in circulation and in Treasury cash held at the reserve banks. As a result, the increase in reserve balances of the member banks was the smallest of the past few months. But in only one week of June was there a decline in reserve balances and, therefore, by the close of the month a new high figure had been reached.

The advance in excess reserves over the month was checked, however, since reserve requirements were increased because of a large rise in demand deposits of member banks. Between the end of May and the end of June, adjusted demand deposits rose $\$ 255 \mathrm{Mn}$., and the average for June was the highest on record (Table, page 334). This rise in deposits during June was due chiefly to larger investment holdings of member banks, whereas in earlier months this year increases in deposits reflected to a great extent the inflow of gold. Because of the increase in investments, total earning assets of reporting member banks in the final week of June were the highest since October, 1937. Security loans during the month fell sharply, while commercial loans showed only a small net change.

SPECULATION AND FINANCE.-Stock prices during June fluctuated within narrow limits, and the total volume of share trading was the smallest of any month since August, 1921. Although quotations averaged higher than in May, the net movement over the month was downward. In the first io days prices continued the advance of the latter part of May, and the three leading classes of stocks-industrials, railroads, utilities-regained the levels of late March, prior to the severe decline occasioned at the close of that month by developments in Europe and by unfavourable reports of firstquarter business activity in this country. The second half of June, however, brought sharp decreases, attributed to renewed disturbances in Central Europe, critical developments in the Far East, and a disturbed political and industrial situation at home. At the close of June, the Dow-Jones index of industrial shares was between $5 \%$ and $6 \%$ under the index at the end of May ; railroads had dropped $9 \%$ and utilities $3 \%$. Corporate bond prices were firm during most of June, although in the latter part of the month average prices tended to decline. The greater part of the drop in average prices reflected
declines in both high and second-grade rails ; industrial and utility bond prices at the close of June were only slightly lower than a month earlier. In the opening days of the month, prices of Treasury bonds advanced to new high levels, but thereafter declines occurred, cancelling advances since the first half of May.

Total security flotations in June, amounting to $\$ 604 \mathrm{Mn}$., were higher than in June, 1938, and above issues of any other month in the first half of this year, with the exception of May, when refunding operations of the Home Owners' Loan Corporation raised the total substantially. June flotations were fairly evenly divided between corporate and public issues, $47 \%$ of the total representing corporate issues and $53 \%$ public. Most of the corporate issues offered during the month, however, were for refunding operations, only $10 \%$ representing new capital requirements; while for public flotations the reverse was true$80 \%$ for new capital and $20 \%$ for refunding. In the first six months of 1939, total issues of securities have been about double those in the first half of 1938. Of this increase, $79 \%$ has represented issues of securities of governmental units and agencies of the federal government; $2 \%$ Canadian government issues; and $19 \%$ corporate flotations.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS.-The outstanding economic development thus far in July has been the sharp rise in stock prices at the middle of the month, carrying the Dow-Jones indices of industrial, railroad and utility shares back to the levels of mid-March. On July 18th share trading was the greatest of any day this year, with the exception of March 3Ist, when fears of war in Europe induced heavy liquidation. Only fragmentary reports of July industrial activity are now available. These reports indicate a rather sharp decline in both steel operations and electric-power production during the first week of the month, reflecting rather extensive closings of plants over the July $4^{\text {th }}$ holiday week-end. Subsequently, the rate of steel operations is estimated to have risen sharply.* New orders for steel products thus far this month are reported to be in lower volume than in late June. Automobile production is declining, as preparations for new-model output are being made ; labour troubles in certain plants, however, are affecting progress on new-car plans. Sensitive commodity prices have continued to fluctuate within narrow limits, with the net change downward since the close of June.

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# CANADA. 

Information communicated by B. A. and A. F. W. PLUMPTRE of the University of Toronto.

$$
\text { Fuly 27th, } 1939 .
$$

CONDITIONS in Canada have been improving in recent months, as evidenced by a number of factors. The most important of these have been (a) generally satisfactory agricultural conditions, especially in the three Prairie provinces, where there is prospect of the biggest crop of wheat since the nineteentwenties; (b) a sharp increase in exports; (c) increased activities in certain lines of capital goods, especially residential building; and (d) the rising expenditures of the Dominion government which herald a general election, probably in the early autumn.

The seasonally-adjusted index of industrial production has been higher than in the first quarter of the year and is still gaining, an important contributory factor being mineral production, which reached a new maximum in May. Car loadings have been higher in the first quarter, and in May were higher than in any similar month since 1930, not excluding the active year of 1937. The volume of construction was fairly steady, failing to show the full normal seasonal rise: the seasonallycorrected index of employment in construction which touched I3O in March (\% of 1926) fell in June to 109, at which level it is still slightly higher than in June, 1938. There is, however, likelihood of a rise in this index, based partly upon increasing government expenditures and partly upon a number of special measures taken by the Dominion government to encourage the capital-goods industries. Some indication of better things to come may be found in the level of building permits in 58 cities. In the first half of 1939 these were greater than in any period since 1931, excepting only 1937; and the current prices of building materials are lower than in 1937, although higher than in 1931. Wholesale trade, which for the first four months of the year held level with the same period in 1938, forged ahead in May; the general index of retail sales overtook the 1938 figures in April and went farther ahead in May ; the index of sales from country general stores, which had been lagging 10\% behind 1938 during the late winter, nearly caught up in May. The most unsatisfactory element in the local
trade situation was the production of automobiles for home consumption, which fell from 71,000 in the first half of 1938 to 61,000 in the same period of 1939.

Canadian imports were lower in April this year than last, but in May they were greater. Exports (excluding gold) during the first four months of 1939, were roughly equal to those of 1938 ; but in May and June of this year were $\$ 24 \mathrm{Mn}$. greater. In agricultural and vegetable products alone the increase was some 89 Mn .; in wood products and paper it was \$7. Mn. Gold production was running at a $10 \%$ higher level in the latter period. Amongst the vegetable products exported is an increasing amount of canned goods,» Canada gaining part of the English market at the expense of countries, such as Italy and Spain, in the case of which political developments have impeded exports to Great Britain in the past few years. The general level of export prices in the second quarter of 1939 has been slightly higher than in the first ; but it has been very much lower than in the same quarter of 1938 (61 as compared with 76). These movements have been caused chiefly by changes in the prices of farm products, especially wheat. The fall of export prices has been chiefly responsible for a fall in the general level of Canadian wholesale prices ; but retail prices have remained practically unchanged during the past year.

The financial situation has remained easy. Bank loans for general (non-financial) purposes have gained seasonally and are some $\$ 50 \mathrm{Mn}$. more than a year ago. Better prospects on the Prairies, and a larger carry-over of wheat are no doubt contributory factors. Despite the increase of their loans the banks have again added to their security holdings, which reached another maximum at the end of April. There was an appreciable movement from short to long-term securities in their holdings, and in those of the Bank of Canada in the middle of May, resulting from the maturity and conversion of a Dominion government issue. Dominion and other giltedged securities have remained at or near top

[^56]|  | FINANCE． |  |  |  |  | PRICES． |  |  |  | TRADE AND PRODUCTION |  |  |  |  |  |  | EMPLOYMENT． |  |  |
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| 1933 Av． | 68 | 94 | 250 | ． 115.5 | 193 | 51 | 70 | 67 | 78 | 37 | 107 45 | 63 22 | 180 77 | 100 28 | 278 170 | 81 67 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 1934 Av． | 86 | 82 | 274 | 111.5 | 195 | 59 | 73.5 | 71.5 | 79 | 43 | 55 | 28 | 94 | 28 36 | 170 | 67 70 | 77 109 | 81 | 84 |
| 1935 Av ． | 94 | 74 | 263 | 104 | 208 | 63 | 73 | 72 | 79 | 46 | 62 | 26 | 103 | $51 \cdot 5$ | 197 | 71 | 109 | 91 | － 96 |
| 1936 Av ． | 119 | 67 | 299 | 91.5 | 221 | 70 | 74 | 74 | 81 | 53 | 80 | 2 | 10 | 515 | 197 | 71 | 97 | 88 | 100 |
| 1937 Av． | 127 | 69 | 293 | 96 | 235 | 87 | 80 | 85 | 83 | 67 | 8 | 39 | 1154 | 46 | 208 | 74 | 87 | 104 | 104 |
| 1936 |  |  |  |  |  | 87 | 80 | 85 | 83 | 67 | 84 | 32 | 127 | 58 | 220 | 80 | 101 | 115 | 115 |
| JAN．．． | 113 | 72 | 299 | 95 | 214 | 66 | 73 | 73 | 81 | 41 | 54 | 25 | 108 | 70 | 173 | 71 | 74 | 99 |  |
| FEB．．． | 121 | 71 | 277 | 95 | 215 | 66 | 72 | 72 | 80 | 42 | 60 | 29 | 105 | 44 | 180 | 70 | ＋18 | 100 | 98 99 |
| MAR．．． | 117 | 70 | 260 | 94 | 220 | 65.5 | 72 | 72 | 80 | 53 | 73 | 30 | 105 | 52 | 192 | 72 | 78 | 100 | 99 97 |
| APRIL | 116 | 70 | 277 | 95 | 223 | 65 | 72 | 72 | 80 | 42 | 46 | 17 | 113 | 39 | 193 | 71 | 79 | 103 | 99 |
| MAY．．． | 113 | 69 | 298 | 92 | 219 | 65 | 72 | 72 | 80 | 59 | 81 | 40 | 109 | 39 | 190 | 73 | 87 | 103 | 102 |
| JUNE | 114 | 67 | 313 | 87 | 221 | 64.5 | 72 | 72 | 80 | 58 | 80 | 37 | 113 | 48 | 201 | 74 | 87 97 | 105 | 102 |
| JULY | 114 | 65 | 289 | 86 | 217 | 66 | 73 | 74 | 80 | 54 | 85 | 42 | 112 | 44 | 203 | 74 | 103 | 105 | 106 |
| AUG．．． | 115 | 63 | 262 | 87 | 217 | 73 | 75 | 76 | 81 | 50 | 93 | 41 | 116 | 38 | 222 | 75 | 109 | 108 | 107 |
| SEPT． | 120 | 63 | 313 | 91 | 226 | 74 | 75 | 76 | 81 | 53 | 84 | 41 | 124 | 45 | 251 | 77 | 104 | 109 | 110 |
| OCT．．． | 127 | 66 | 333 | 93 | 226 | 76 | 75 | 77 | 81 | 65 | 103 | 56 | 126 | 44 | 263 | 77 | 100 | 108 | 111 |
| NOV．．． | 132 | 65 | 330 | 92 | 227 | 77 | 75 | 77 | 81 | 66 | 110 | 63 | 122 | 43 | 220 | 76 | 80 | 107 | 110 |
| DEC．．． | 129 | 64 | 340 | 91 | 230 | 82 | 77 | 80 | 82 | 53 | 95 | 51 | 121 | 41 | 206 | 78 | 61 | 102 | 104 |
| 1937 | 137 | 65 | 323 | 92 | 233 | 86 | 78 | 81 | 82 | 52 | 78 | 36 | 119 | 38 | 192 |  | 57 | 105 |  |
| FEB．．． | 142 | 68 | 273 | 92 | 237 | 36 | 79 | 83 | 82 | 49 | 65 | 26 | 118 | 46 | 186 | 76 | 53 | 108 | 103 |
| MAR．．． | 147 | 73 | 319 | 84 | 237 | 90 | 80 | 86 | 82 | 71 | 85 | 28 | 122 | 83 | 214 | 76 | 54 | 111 | 103 |
| APRIL | 136 | 73 | 338 | 96 | 238 | 91 | 81 | 86 | 82 | 57 | 60 | 20 | 129 | 86 | 208 | 79 | 71 | 114 | 106 |
| MAY．．． | 132 | 71 | 277 | 97 | 237 | 88 | 80 | 85 | 83 | 77 | 92 | 33 | 126 | 56 | 210 | 79 | 105 | 118 | 114 |
| JUNE | 189 | 69 | 289 | 97 | 238 | 84 | 80 | 85 | 83 | 76 | 96 | 37 | 131 | 64 | 214 | 81 | 128 | 119 | 118 |
| JULY | 133 | 69 | 272 | 97 | 232 | 93 | 82 | 88 | 83 | 72 | 92 | 34 | 131 | 49 | 219 | 80 | 140 | 118 | 120 |
| AUG．．． | 135 | 68 | 261 | 98 | 234 | 85 | 82 | 86 | 84 | 70 | 92 | 31 | 127 | 54 | 231 | 80 | 144 | 121 | 123 |
| SEPT． | 119 | 68 | 273 | 98 | 237 | 86 | 81 | 85 | 84 | 70 | 84 | 29 | 127 | 58 | 262 | 82 | 144 | 122 | 126 |
| OCT．．． | 106 | 70 | 291 | 99 | 233 | 86 | 81 | 85 | 84 | 82 | 94 | 39 | 133 | 54 | 260 | 81 | 132 | 119 | 125 |
| NOV．．． | 103 | 65 | 293 | 97 | 235 | 84 | 81 | 83 | 84 | 81 | 101 | 45 | 134 | 48 | 235 | 80 | 104 | 116 | 122 |
| DEC．．． | 104 | 64 | 308 | 94 | 233 | 84 | 80 | 83 | 84 | 53 | 73 | 29 | 125 | 64 | 204 | 86 | 82 | 109 | 113 |
| 1938 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| JAN．．． | 107 | 66 | 244 | 91 | 231 | 86 | 82 | 84 | 84 | 50 | 72 | 30 | 114 | 49 | 187 | 78 | 72 | 110 | 110 |
| FEB ．．． | 107 | 65 | 218 | 92 | 232 | 85 | 82 | 84 | 84 | 47 | 61 | 20 | 107 | 37 | 180 | 77 | 71 | 110 | 108 |
| MAR．．． | 99 | 65 | 237 | 93 | 234 | 83 | 82 | 83 | 84 | 65 | 75 | 23 | 110 | 53 | 199 | 78 | 72 | 111 | 105 |
| APRIL | 98 | 64 | 240 | 97 | 241 | 82 | 81 | 82 | 84 | 49 | 52＊ | 13 | 114 | 57 | 185 | 76 | 88 | 111 | 107 |
| MAY | 100 | 62 | 246 | 96.5 | 240 | 77＋ | 79 | 80 | 84 | 67 | 69 | 19 | 112 | 50 | 190 | 76 | 114 | 112 | 112 |
| JUNE | 100 | 62 | 273 | 99 | 246 | 77－ | 79 | 80 | 84 | 59 | 68 | 23 | 109 | 50 | 187 | 80 | 125 | 112 | 113 |
| JULY | 107 | 63 | 247 | 99 | 239 | 71 | 78 | 79 | 84 | 56 | 68 | 24 | 110 | 51 | 183 | 78 | 128 | 110 | 112 |
| AUG．．． | 105 | 63 | 237 | 98 | 242 | 64 | 77 | 76 | 85 | 57 | 71 | 22 | 111 | 53 | 213 | 77 | 134 | 114 | 115 |
| SEPT． | 99 | 65 | 266 | $102 \cdot 5$ | 245 | 64 | 76 | 74 | 84 | 56 | 74 | 29 | 121 | 53 | 250 | 79.5 | 143 | 112 | 117 |
| OCT．． | 110 | 63 | 298 | 105 | 248 | 64 | 75 | 74 | 84 | 64 | 90 | 40 | 121 | 62 | 257 | 80 | 123 | 111 | 115 |
| NOV．．． | 110 | 62 | 297 | 103 | 250 | 65 | 74 | 73 | 84 | 63 | 88 | 38 | 128 | 48 | 219 | 79 | 113 | 110 | 114 |
| DEC．．． | 107 | 62 | 291 | 100 | 250 | 65 | 74 | 73 | 84 | 44 | 71 | 29 | 118 | 63 | 178 | 79 | 96 | 104 | 108 |
| 1939 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| JAN ．．． | 103 | 62 | 251 | 98 | 246 | 65 | 74 | 73 | 83 | 44 | 72 | 27 | 114 | 40 | 171 | 78 | 89 | 106 | 106 |
| FEB ．．． | 104 | 62 | 205 | 98 | 247 | 65 | 74 | 73 | 83 | 40 | 59 | 19 | 114 | 56 | 160 | 76 | 94 | 107 | 106 |
| MAR．．． | 104 96 | 61 | 243 | 100 | 249 | 65 | 73 | 73 | 83 | 58 | 71 | 21 | 115 | 47 | 191 | $76 \dagger$ | 92 | 107 | 105 |
| APRIL | 96 | 63 | 247 | 101 | 251 | $65 \cdot 5$ | 73 | 73 | 83 | 42 | 51 | 17 | 119 | 51 | 179 | $79 \dagger$ | 94 | 108 | 106 |
| MAY．．． | 99 97 | 62 60 | 284 283 | 102 | 252 | 65 | 73 73 | 74 73 | 83 $83+$ | 73 | 82 $78+$ | 28 | 123 | 49 | 215 | $81 \dagger$ | 115 | 111 | 113 |

＊Series revised from April，1938，to exclude exports of foreign gold coin．＋Provisional．
Dates of Series ：Cols．4，5，16－18，end of month；1－2，6－9，averages．Source：Dominion Bureau of Statistics．

Col．1．－＂Investors＇Index．＂Index of current market valuation of shareholders＇equity in about 100 companies
2．－Weighted index of yield to maturity or call date（whichever gives lowest）of 6 taxable federal issues maturing in not less than 7 years．
3．－From 32 banking centres，comprising about $85 \%$ of total debits Excludes debits to accounts of central bank since its founding in April，1935．Largely influenced by financial transactions
4．－Refers to operations in Canada only．Includes loans to pro－ vincial and municinal governments．
5．－Includes governmental deposits．Excludes all deposits with provincial，postal and Quebec savings banks，and with trust companies．
6－9．－Col． 6 comprises 70 items ；col．7， 322 items ；col．8， 567 items；col． 9 comprises separate groups for food，fuel，rent， clothing，sundries（including services）
，，11．－Excludes most exports of both monetary and non－monetary gold ；includes gold in small quantities only，shipped as dust， quartz，etc．
，12．－Comprises＂animal products＂and＂vegetable products＂ groups ：includes partly and fully manufactured products in
some cases made from imported raw materials，e．g．，rubber products
Col．13．－Adjusted for seasonal variation．Includes 41 weighted series largely representing foreign trade in raw materials．Tends to overstate amplitude of cyclical fluctuations，probably with an upward bias
14．－Based on value of contracts awarded，deflated annually for changes in union rates of wages，and monthly for changes in prices of building materials．
，15．－Revenue freight only；excludes cars received from U．S． connections．
，，16．－Index of value，comprising 13 groups adjusted for number of business days and for seasonal variation．Refers to depart－ ment，＂variety，＂and chain stores only，representing chiefly urbansales．Base－Av． $1930=100 \%$ ．Monthly series com－ menced January，1929．Annual estimates from 1923.
17．－Includes workers on relief projects．
，19．－Establishments with over 15 employees only．Includes part－ time workers on same basis as full－time．Excludes farm labourers and civil servants，and underweights the service industries．

## Canada]

prices. The securities of the Prairie governments have recovered somewhat on the basis of the prospects of a bumper crop : an influence which does not seem to have affected the securities of implement and transport companies as much as might have been expected.

A feature of Canadian security markets, which has been more important qualitatively than quantitatively, has been the inflow of funds foom Europe. In the first four months of 1939 the net sales of securities to countries other than the United States and the United Kingdom, were $\$$ II. 7 Mn ., compared with $\$ 3.0 \mathrm{Mn}$. in the first four months of 1938 and \$6.I Mn. in the same period of 1937. A further inflow of capital from Europe has come in the form of direct investment. ${ }^{\star}$ The Bata Shoe Company is engaged in establishing a factory which, it is forecast, will employ 1,800 people. Ex-Czechoslovakians have also established the Pacific Veneer Company. The Financial Post reports that a number of other establishments will come into operation soon. The Dominion government is permitting a small amount of immigration of skilled labour in connection with the foreign capital. In general, however, as a result of continued unemployment throughout the country and other factors, refugees and other would-be immigrants find it very difficult to obtain entry into Canada unless they are very well-to-do.

Canada is the only British Dominion where unemployment has remained chronic during the nineteen-thirties. Information regarding the problem is being gradually improved $\dagger$; and present indications are that the level of unemployment has for four years been fluctuating around and above $15 \%$ of the total number of wage-earners (excluding from that category young people never yet employed). Since the beginning of the nineteen-thirties unemployment has been below 10\% only during the autumn of 1937 , since when it has risen

[^57]sharply. The latest figure is $17.7 \%$ for the end of April, 1939; substantially higher than a year (16.5) and two years previously (15.7). The immediate outlook is for some improvement, not only on the basis of the normal seasonal movement, but also in view of the general business improvement and the preelection expenditures described above.

The condition of public finances is still unsatisfactory. The numbers on relief are fluctuating in the neighbourhood of 200,000 ; and if substantial improvement in general conditions does not take place the numbers are likely to increase by perhaps 50,000 , for they have not yet (owing to a normal lag) fully reflected the increase in unemployment since 1937. Dominion government revenues for the months of April and May were $\$_{10} \mathrm{Mn}$. lower than in 1938, and ordinary expenditures were higher by $\$_{I} \mathrm{Mn}$. In addition, there was half-a-million capital expenditure on national defence in the current year, and an increase of more than a million in relief works and grants to the provinces for relief. The deficits on the Canadian National Railways were, however, somewhat reduced. Further threats to Dominion finances are to be found in increased outlays to be undertaken before the general elections, and above all, in the government commitments in regard to the Prairie wheat crop. The government will pay a minimum price of 70 cents per bushel on the first 5,000 bushels delivered by any Prairie farmer and 60 cents upon further deliveries if they are made (as almost all of them will be) through any co-operative marketing agency. With estimates of the wheat crop running in the neighbourhood of 400 Mn . bushels (including areas other than the Prairies), and with the price of wheat falling well below 60 cents, the government's liability is being talked of in figures well up in the tens of millions of dollars. A new type of Dominion government expenditure appearing in recent figures is the deficit of TransCanada Air Lines, amounting at present to somewhat less than $\$_{100,000}$ a month. In the mining districts of the North, Canada has led the world in the development of air freight, but the development of passenger and mail services by air has been relatively slow.

## FRANCE

## Information communicated by M. MICHEL HUBER, Directeur des Etudes à l'Institut de Statistique de l'Université de Paris.

Fuly 31st, I939.

ON July 30th the Council of Ministers issued about thirty decree laws, some of which are of exceptional importance.
Firstly, the life of the present Chamber of Deputies is prolonged until June Ist, 1942. Then among other political measures may be cited the establishment of unified control over broadcasting and of a committee for propaganda, both responsible to the Prime Minister, and various measures affecting the safety of the State and the powers of the services which watch over foreign activities on French soil.

The "family code" which is a feature of the decrees, and comprises 167 articles, shows the determination of the Government to solve the French population problem by measures sufficiently strong to be effective. The existing bounties on births are replaced by a bounty on the first legitimate child, fully capable of survival, which is born within the first two years of marriage. The system of family allowances is unified for all classes of workers, employers and wage-earners, including civil servants. They are payable from the second child onwards.

These bounties and allowances are based on an average monthly wage, calculated separately for communes of less than 2,000 inhabitants and for those of more than 2,000 in each Department. The bounty on births is equal to double the calculated monthly wage, with a minimum of 2,000 francs. The family allowances amount to $10 \%$ of the average wage for the second child, $30 \%$ for the third and $20 \%$ for each further child.

Two important measures are intended to encourage country people to remain on, or to return to the land. Firstly, loans $(5,000$ to 20,000 francs) to young peasant families who have worked in agriculture for five years and undertake to remain on the land for at least ten years. Secondly, the institution of a contract for deferred wages for children of agricultural families working with their parents after the age of 18 years without receiving actual wages. These deferred wages are to be taken into account when an inheritance is shared, so that the children who have left the countryside for paid employment in the towns will not be at an advantage.

Several articles relate to maternal and infant welfare-inspection of maternity homes, prevention of abortion, a campaign against infant mortality, modification of the adoption laws and the guardianship of illegitimate children.

For the protection of the race measures are to be taken against unnatural practices, the traffic in drugs and alcoholism. Finally, instruction in demographical science and medical inspection of school children are to be introduced.

Reductions in succession duties are granted where there are three children or more, amounting to complete exemption in respect of sums not exceeding 150,000 francs shared between at least five children.

The cost to the State will be of the order of I,450 Mn . francs per annum. To meet this, the Family Code institutes a surtax of 300 francs per hectolitre of pure alcohol, and a progressive tax of $3 \%$ to $20 \%$ on the taxable income of bachelors, widowers and childless divorcees.

The corn decree-law has a double purpose : (a) to liquidate the surplus of the 1938 harvest, viz., 18 Mn . quintals, worth about 3 Md . francs ; (b) to assure the future without further recourse to the public treasury by levies on the surpluses of future harvests. The legal price of corn will be fixed by the Government, which will be advised by but will not be obliged to adopt the proposals of the Corn Bureau.

Profits of firms working for national defence will be subject to control and severe limitation, according to a progressive scale, eliminating entirely all profits in excess of $10 \%$.

Other decrees relate to financial matters (opening of credits in the year 1939), or to administrative matters concerning Paris (status of personnel, control of expenditure and of markets) and Marseilles (organisation of public assistance, etc.).

In a broadcast speech on July 29th, M. Reynaud, Minister of Finance, set forth the reasons for the steps taken for the restoration of the country, and drew attention to the present situation. He emphasised the progress in exports in June, 1939- $25 \%$ greater in volume and $40 \%$ greater in value than in June, 1938. This progress is not due to rearmament ; the value of exports is practically equal to that of all orders for national defence. The index of


* July, 1914
§ 1st Qr., 1914
Provisional
$\pm$ Including Sinking Fund since 1928.
+ Revaluation of Gold Reserve. $2 \frac{1}{2} \%$ on Nov. 24 th.
a From May


TRADE, OUTPUT, TRANSPORT \& EMPLOYMENT.

| 1913 Av . | IMPORTS.* |  |  |  | EXPORTS.* |  |  |  | OUTPUT. |  |  |  |  |  |  | SHIPPING. |  | RAILWAYS |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 送 ثे <br> Mn.f. | Mn.f. | $\frac{\text { 号 }}{\text { 를 }}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \dot{\Phi} \\ & \text { L. } \end{aligned}$ | Mn.f. | Mn.f. Mn.f. Mn.f. |  |  | Weight  <br> of  <br> Im. Ex- <br> ports. ports. |  |  | 000 Metric 'Tons. |  |  |  | Tonnage of Ships with Cargoes. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | Mn.f. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 702 | 153 | 411 | $\frac{\text { Mn.f. }}{138}$ | 573 | 70 | 155 | \| 348 | 3.68 | 1.84 |  | 3720 | 756 | \| 581 |  | $2 \cdot 87$ | $2 \cdot 17$ |  |  |  |
| 1924 | 3327 | 745 | 2158 | 424 | 3456 | 336 | 874 | 2246 | $4 \cdot 71$ | 2.45 |  | 3667 | 638 | 75 |  | 55 | $2 \cdot 72$ |  | $61 \cdot 4$ |  |
| 1933 Av. | 2369 | 800 | 1149 | 419 | 1539 | 212 | 396 | 931 | $4 \cdot 04$ | $2 \cdot 09$ |  | 3903 | 7 | 552 | 87 | $4 \cdot 51$ | $3 \cdot 75$ | 218 | 45*2 | $71 \cdot 3$ |
| 1934 Av. | 1925 | 62.4 | 948 | 354 | 1488 | 215 | 430 | 842 | $3 \cdot 79$ | $2 \cdot 36$ |  | 3967 | 513 | 512 | 89 | $4 \cdot 38$ | $3 \cdot 62$ | 208 | $42 \cdot 5$ | 71.4 |
| 1935 Av . | 17461 | 520 | 932 | 294 | $1291 \ddagger$ | 206 | 355 | 730 | $3 \cdot 72$ | 2.44 |  | 3851 | 483 | 522 | 92 | $4 \cdot 25$ | 3.70 | 188 | $40 \cdot 1$ | 68.4 |
| 1936 Av. | 2118 | 650 | 1149 | 318 | 1291 | 206 | 372 | 713 | 4.01 | 2.41 | 85 | 3769 | 520 | 558 | 95 | $4 \cdot 40$ | 3.66 | 191 | 41.7 | $70 \cdot 5$ |
| $\begin{gathered} 1937 \mathrm{Av} . \\ 1936 \end{gathered}$ | 3533 | 895 | 2098 | 540 | 1995 | 281 | 702 | 101 | $4 \cdot 78$ | 2.53 | 88 | 3693 | 660 | 658 | 105 | 4.56 | $3 \cdot 70$ | 242 | 41.7 | 66.4 |
| JAN. . | 2014 | 565 | 1158 | 281 | 1203 | 191 | 331 | 681 | 3 | 2.59 | 86 | 4087 | 8 | 1 | 105 | 6 | 23 | 166 | 37.7 | - |
| FEB. . | 2051 | 647 | 1114 | 290 | 1229 | 177 | 366 | 686 | $3 \cdot 86$ | $2 \cdot 59$ | 86 | 3855 | 501 | 535 | 95 | $3 \cdot 80$ | 3.09 | 175 | $41 \cdot 1$ | $69 \cdot 6$ |
| MAR. | 1959 | 565 | 1085 | 306 | 1245 | 182 | 362 | 701 | 3.98 | $2 \cdot 20$ | 88 | 3956 | 543 | 575 | 97 | 3.94 | $3 \cdot 28$ | 175 | $42 \cdot 3$ | $70 \cdot 2$ |
| APRIL. | 2128 | 676 | 1118 | 334 | 1200 | 189 | 325 | 686 | 412 | $2 \cdot 39$ | 87 | 4059 | 524 | 571 | 93 | $4 \cdot 13$ | $3 \cdot 58$ | 186 | 39.7 | $70 \cdot 1$ |
| MAY | 1968 | 614 | 1060 | 295 | 1172 | 174 | 355 | 643 | 3.99 | $2 \cdot 52$ | 87 | 3870 | 554 | 609 | 92 | $4 \cdot 62$ | 3.77 | 185 | 39.4 | $70 \cdot 4$ |
| JUNE | 1831 | 557 | 1002 | 272 | 1156 | 174 | 296 | 685 | 3.74 | 2.37 | 81 | 3434 | 470 | 503 | 84 | $4 \cdot 27$ | 3.65 | 178 | $38 \cdot 6$ | $70 \cdot 4$ |
| JULY | 1860 | 543 | 1038 | 279 | 1104 | 168 | 308 | 628 | 3.72 | $2 \cdot 10$ | 83 | 3915 | 519 | 542 | 88 | 5.03 | 4.20 | 205 | 38.5 | $70 \cdot 5$ |
| AUG. | 1764 | 513 | 958 | 294 | 1170 | 179 | 337 | 654 | $3 \cdot 89$ | $2 \cdot 37$ | 76 | 3154 | 465 | 460 | 82 | $4 \cdot 83$ | $4 \cdot 04$ | 208 | $37 \cdot 2$ | 70.5 |
| SEP' | 1859 | 625 | 920 | 314 | 1190 | 183 | 360 | 647 | 3.98 | $2 \cdot 41$ | 80 | 3484 | 492 | 545 | 91 | $4 \cdot 60$ | 3.87 | 207 | $40 \cdot 3$ | $70 \cdot 8$ |
| OCT. | 2243 | 760 | 1143 | 340 | 1463 | 261 | 399 | 803 | 4.01 | 2.46 | 85 | 4165 | 551 | 627 | 104 | 4.71 | 4.05 | 216 | 46.3 | 71.0 |
| NOV. | 2699 | 839 | 1477 | 383 | 1710 | 299 | 527 | 884 | 4.24 | 2.58 | 88 | 3436 | 552 | 581 | 104 | $4 \cdot 19$ | 3.48 | 200 | $46 \cdot 3$ | $70 \cdot 7$ |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { DEC. ... } \\ 1937 \end{gathered}$ | 3039 | 892 | 1715 | 432 | 1651 | 300 | 498 | 853 | 4.75 | $2 \cdot 37$ | 91 | 3813 | 558 | 591 | 107 | $4 \cdot 77$ | $3 \cdot 63$ | 192 | 43.2 | $70 \cdot 5$ |
| JAN. .. | 3332 | 886 | 1972 | 474 | 1769 | 283 | 575 | 911 | 4.76 | 2.42 | 90 | 3623 | 590 | 607 | 103 | $4 \cdot 19$ | 3.35 | 187 | $40 \cdot 1$ | $70 \cdot 1$ |
| FEB. ... | 3667 | 1004 | 2171 | 492 | 1695 | 237 | 610 | 848 | $5 \cdot 35$ | 2.37 | 92 | 3710 | 574 | 524 | 98 | 3.77 | 3.05 | 201 | $42 \cdot 5$ | 69.0 |
| MAR. . | 3216 | 785 | 1892 | 539 | 1829 | 267 | 607 | 955 | 4.60 | 2:26 | 93 | 4087 | 649 | 679 | 106 | $4 \cdot 44$ | 3.52 | 210 | 41.3 | 68.0 |
| APRIL. | 3300 | 831 | 1992 | 477 | 1973 | 278 | 734 | 961 | 4.95 | 2.61 | 91 | 3910 | 654 | 684 | 101 | 4.47 | 3.70 3.97 | 206 | 41.9 39.8 | $67 \cdot 6$ |
| MAY ... | 3070 | 761 | 1856 | 452 | 1761 | 255 | 621 | 885 | 4.55 | $2 \cdot 46$ | 89 | 3414 | 666 | 654 | 101 | 4.81 | 3.97 | 205 | 39.8 | 66.8 |
| JUNE.. | 3719 | 844 | 2171 | 704 | 2003 | 245 | 744 | 1014 | $5 \cdot 16$ | $2 \cdot 68$ | 88 | 3509 | 685 | 685 | 98 | 4.72 | 3.90 | 222 | 41.8 | $65 \cdot 2$ |
| JULY | 3204 | 777 | 1880 | 547 | 1871 | 247 | 659 | 965 | 4.57 | 2.55 | 85 | 3530 | 699 | 685 | 102 | 5.48 | 4.38 | 265 | 39.7 36.9 | 64.4 |
| AUG. .. | 3179 | 782 | 1878 | 519 | 1859 | 229 | 666 | 964 | 4.47 | 2.48 | 76 | 2587 | 645 | 559 | 93 | 4.44 | 3.68 3 | 277 | 36.9 41.4 | $64 \cdot 4$ $61 \cdot 8$ |
| SEPI | 3478 | 839 | 2106 | 533 | 2074 | 268 | 770 | 1036 | 4.56 | 2.48 | 84 | 3673 | 687 | 662 | 102 | 4.58 | $3 \cdot 78$ | 292 | $41 \cdot 4$ | $64 \cdot 8$ |
| OCI'. | 3714 | 959 | 2200 | 555 | 2364 | 343 | 847 | 1174 | $4 \cdot 57$ | $2 \cdot 81$ | 88 | 4044 | 701 | 705 | 113 | 5.28 | 4.26 | 284 | $45 \cdot 6$ |  |
| NOV.... | 3938 | 1012 | 2339 | 587 | 2385 | 354 | 802 | 1229 | 4.72 | 2.64 | 91 | 4073 | 688 | 673 | 115 | 4.21 | 3.36 3.43 | 262 | $44 \cdot 7$ | 65.6 |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { DEC. ... } \\ 1938 \end{gathered}$ | 4574 | 1258 | 2720 | 596 | 2357 | 369 | 792 | 1196 | 5:15 | $2 \cdot 61$ | 91 | 4161 | 679 | 675 | 124 | $4 \cdot 36$ | 3.43 | 296 | 44.7 | $66^{\circ} 0$ |
| JAN... | 3885 | 962 | 2367 | 556 | 2439 | 310 | 867 | 1262 | 4•12 | $2 \cdot 79$ | 87 | 3613 | 643 | 623 | 120 | 3.55 | 2.77 | 253 | 39.8 |  |
| FEB. . | 4287 | 1127 | 2543 | 617 | 2309 | 288 | 843 | 1178 | $4 \cdot 63$ | $2 \cdot 31$ | 86 | 3685 | 556 | 564 | 107 | 3.86 | 3.04 | 257 | 41.4 |  |
| MAR, ... | 3526 | 891 | 2082 | 553 | 2226 | 294 | 687 | 1245 | 3.89 | $2 \cdot 10$ | 85 | 4294 | 553 | 562 | 113 | 3.74 | 2.87 3.52 | 264 | $42 \cdot 0$ 39.8 | 65.6 |
| APRIL | 3888 | 1022 | 2276 | 610 | 2356 | 366 | 703 | 1287 | $4 \cdot 18$ | 1.98 | 82 | 4042 | 479 | 500 | 106 | 4.37 4.51 | 3.52 3.71 | 278 | 39.8 41.2 | 64.7 65.7 |
| MAY. | 3852 | 1100 | 2123 | 629 | 2330 | 331 | 714 | 1285 | 3.88 | 2.17 | 82 | 3734 3830 | 483 | 502 | 108 | 4.51 4.85 | 4. 16 | 289 | 40.6 | $65 \cdot 9$ |
| JUNE... | 3826 | 1015 | 2246 | 565 | 2303 | 313 | 717 | 1273 | 4.04 | $2 \cdot 11$ | 83 | 3830 | 463 | 480 | 110 | 4.85 | $4 \cdot 16$ | 289 | 406 | 659 |
| JULY | 3501 | 982 | 2003 | 511 | 2286 | 302 | 700 | 1284 | 3.54 | $2 \cdot 13$ | 81 | 3730 | 433 | 436 | 108 | 4.70 | 3.83 | 301 | 38.5 35.5 |  |
| AUG.... | 3709 | 984 | 2253 | 472 | 2486 | 300 | 814 | 1372 | $3 \cdot 87$ | 2.26 | 71 | 2776 | 419 | 419 | 100 | 4.69 | 4.03 | 300 |  |  |
| SEPT... | 3534 | 1027 | 2027 | 480 | 2653 | 333 | 996 | 1324 | 3.76 | $2 \cdot 21$ | 80 | 3944 | 446 | 470 | 107 | 4.86 | 4.18 3.65 | 313 | 39.8 43.1 | $\begin{aligned} & 65 \cdot 2 \\ & 66 \cdot 3 \end{aligned}$ |
| OCT. ... | 3878 | 1153 | 2236 | 489 | 2830 | 456 | 867 | 1505 | 4.20 | 2.20 | 81 | 4234 | 494 | 511 | 119 | 4.42 4.17 | 3.65 3.53 | 310 297 | 43.1 42 | 67.0 |
| NOV. ... | 3871 | 1099 | 2216 | 556 | 3059 | 509 | 926 | 1624 | 3.45 | 2.38 2.33 | 85 | 4188 | 521 | 534 576 | 119 | 4.17 4.27 | 3.44 | 303 | $40 \cdot 3$ | 67.2 |
| DEC.... 1939 | 4214 | 1133 | 2426 | 655 | 3292 | 594 | 999 | 1699 | 3.57 | $2 \cdot 33$ | 86 | 4430 | 560 | 576 | 130 | $4 \cdot 27$ | 3.44 | 303 | 40 | 68.8 |
| JAN.... | 3978 | 1109 | 2290 | 579 | 2820 | 423 | 830 | 1567 | 3.24 | 1.95 | 88 | 4214 | 571 | 593 | 143 | 3.47 3.65 | 2.78 3.04 | 272 281 | $40 \cdot 8$ $41 \cdot 9$ | $68 \cdot 8$ $70 \cdot 8$ |
| FEB. . . | 4519 | 1217 | 2597 | 705 | 3036 | 404 | 1012 | 1620 | 3.88 5.33 | 2.53 | 90 | 3932 4393 | 539 615 | 572 | 140 | 365 | 295 | 289 | 42.2 | 71.0 |
| MAR.... | 3991 | 1030 | 2276 | 685 | 2880 3034 | 405 | 884 910 | 1591 | 3.33 3.69 | 1.96 2.33 | 93 | 4393 4131 | 615 602 | 666 | 129 | 3.21 4.21 | 3.46 | 311 | 406 | 70.9 |
| APRIL. | 4125 | 1157 | 2253 | 715 | 3034 | 437 | 910 | 1687 | 3.69 3.91 | 1.963 2.54 | 97 | 4312 | 699 | 739 | 129 | $4 \cdot 43$ | $3 \cdot 63$ | 302 | 40.4 | $71 \cdot 2$ |
| JUNE... | 4072 | 1126 | 2277 | 669 | 3207 | 472 | 911 | 1824 | 4•16 | 2.72 |  | 4531 |  | 769 |  |  |  | 330 | $43 \cdot 0$ |  |
| JULY | 3514 |  |  |  | 288 |  |  |  | 3.72 | $2 \cdot 68$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

* Import figures are based upon declared values. Export figures declared values since 1927, previously based on official values.

TRANSPORT.
Shipping.-Tonnage of ships of all nationalities entered and cleared (with cargoes) during the month.
Rallways.-Average weekly receipts and daily average number of trucks loaded on all the principal railways (including Alsace-Lorraine),

## France]

industrial production has advanced from 83 in October, 1938, to 100 in June, 1939. The cubic capacity of new buildings was $56 \%$ more in the first half of 1939 than in the first half of 1938. Contrary to the fears expressed in some quarters, the extension of hours and the discontinuance of certain public works have not increased unemployment. In fact at present $36 \%$ of the workers are doing overtime, compared with $3 \%$ eight months ago, and only $7 \%$ are working less than 40 hours a week, instead of $16 \%$. Further, the number of assisted unemployed has not ceased to fall-in November, 1938, there were 39,000 more than a year earlier, in June, 1939, 21,000 less than a year before.

The exchange equalisation fund is to make a transfer of 5 Md . gold to the Bank of France, the second in four months. The Treasury position is favourable; the success of the three year national defence bonds has been such that the rate has been reduced from $4 \%$ to $3 \frac{1}{2} \%$ as from July 3Ist. Tax evasion is being suppressed. In spite of the burden of armaments, the rise in the cost of living has been slackened- $14 \%$ two years ago, $6.2 \%$ last year and $4.3 \%$ this year.
M. Reynaud concluded : " France is adapting herself to her new destiny-she can and must gain the bloodless war which is imposed upon her."

In June indirect taxes, monopolies, etc., yielded 122 Mn . more than the budget estimates. The tax on turnover and allied taxes account for I,II8 Mn., including 64 Mn . in respect of armament tax.

BANK OF FRANCE. Milliard Framen

| 1937-38 | Apr. <br> 14th | $\begin{aligned} & 1938 \\ & \text { July } \\ & \text { 13th } \end{aligned}$ | Oct. 13th | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Jan. } \\ & \text { 12th } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1939 \\ & \text { Apr. } \\ & \text { 13th } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { July } \\ & 13 \mathrm{th} \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Gold | $55 \cdot 8$ | $55 \cdot 8$ | 55.8 | 87-3* | $87 \cdot 3$ | $92 \cdot 3$ |
| Foreign Assets-Bills and Sight Deposits . | 0.8 | 0.7 | $0 \cdot 7$ | 0.8 | 87 | 02.3 0.7 |
| Discounts (commercial) | $10 \cdot 1$ | $5 \cdot 5$ | $15 \cdot 9$ | $5 \cdot 7$ | $5 \cdot 0$ | $4 \cdot 2$ |
| Advances ... .. | 3.7 | 3.6 | 3.9 | 3.5 | 3.4 | $3 \cdot 5$ |
| Sinking Fund Bonds | $5 \cdot 6$ | $5 \cdot 6$ | $5 \cdot 6$ | $5 \cdot 5$ | $5 \cdot 5$ | ¢ 5 |
| Note Circulation ... | 98.1 | $101 \cdot 1$ | 113.4 | $110 \cdot 2$ | $112 \cdot 1$ | 125.3 |
| Deposits, Treasury and Sinking Fund | $2 \cdot 2$ | $3 \cdot 3$ | $3 \cdot 7$ | 5.3 | 17 3.7 | 5•1 |
| ,, Private | 21.5 | $12 \cdot 7$ | 20.9 | $23 \cdot 4$ | 14.0 | $15 \cdot 2$ |
| Reserve Ratio (\%) | $45 \cdot 8$ | $47 \cdot 6$ | $40 \cdot 4$ | $62 \cdot 7$ | $62 \cdot 4$ | 64.$)$ |

* After the revaluation.

The note circulation of the Bank of France, which was down to 120 Md . on June 22 nd, exceeded 123 Md . on July I3th and $122 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{Md}$. on July 20th. The gold reserve has been unchanged since April 20th. The reserve ratio is still about $64 \%$.

The exchanges remained stable in Julysterling at 176.72, the dollar at 37.74. The

Equalisation Fund stood at $18,835 \mathrm{Mn}$. at the end of March, against 17,423 at the end of February. It transferred 2 Md . in March to the fund for the support of rentes, and it will soon transfer 5 Md . to the Bank of France.

The security market has been depressed during July; the volume of business on certain days was insignificant. The index of the volume of dealings in shares (\% of 1931) fell to I6, I2 and II, and that for bonds to 43,45 and 40 for the three weeks ending July 22nd.

After a tentative recovery on July 18th, the level of quotations has shown no great change. For the same three weeks the index of prices (\% of 1913) of 300 French shares was 230, 231, 230 , that for 25 foreign shares $329,326,324$, and that for 36 French rentes and bonds $83.7,83.4$ and 83.7.


The total value of public issues of securities amounted to 681 Mn. in June, compared with 548 Mn . in May. The average rate of bonds was $5.45 \%$, compared with $5.75 \%$ in the previous month and $7.35 \%$ a year before.

The general index of industrial production advanced from 95 in March and April to 97 in May. The greatest improvements were in metallurgy ( 82 to 87 ), mines ( 98 to IOI), chemicals (II3 to II6). Progress was small in the metal trades ( 92 to 93 ) and building ( 77 to 78 ), whilst there was a fall in automobiles (IO4 to IOI).

Compared with May, 1938, the general index ( 97 instead of 82 ) was up $18 \%$.

In this connection it may be pointed out that the Statistique Générale has completely revised
[France
this index from 1928.* Consequently the figures in the table on p. 00, col. 00 , have been revised.

Production of electricity in May ( $1,366 \mathrm{Mn}$. Kwh.) was $14.6 \%$ in excess of May, 1938. The total from hydro works had increased $36 \%$, whilst that of the thermo works had decreased $24 \%$.

The fall in the number of assisted unemployed continues at the rate of about 6,000 a week. The total was 325,000 on July 25 th, compared with 350,000 a month before and 347,000 a year before.

Receipts of the National Railway Co. are improving- 342,345 and 348 Mn . in the three weeks ended July I5th, compared with 320-330 in preceding weeks.

There was a slight fall in imports from May to June, from 4,080 to $4,072 \mathrm{Mn}$., but a rise of 145 Mn . in exports from 3,062 to $3,207 \mathrm{Mn}$. The apparent deficit was reduced from 1,OI7 to 865 Mn . Since 1929 the Statistique Générale has published indices of external trade showing the fluctuations in the trade after allowing for price changes. An interesting innovation is

[^58]DISTRIbUTION OF SPECIAL TRADE. Mn. Krance

| Six Months | Imports |  | Exports |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1938 | 1939 | 1938 | 1939 |
| Great Britain | 1693 | 1417 | 1635 | 2148 |
| Germany... ... | 1844 | 1510 | 983 | 81 |
| Belgium \& Luxembourg | 1603 | 1723 | 188 | 2251 |
| Switzerland | 474 | 562 | と67 | 11 yl |
| Italy ... | 265 | 359 | 216 | 210 |
| Spain ... | 172 | 62 | 228 | 113 |
| U.S.A. ... ... ... | 2757 | 2301 | 688 | 1134 |
| Brazil .. | 288 | 334 | 142 | 15 L |
| Argentina . | 491 | 620 | 361 | 474 |
| Other Countries | 7617 | 8450 | 3123 | 4427 |
| Total Foreign Countries | 17210 | 17848 | 10141 | 12900 |
| Algeris, Colonies and Protectorates... | 6054 | 7917 | 3823 | 5140 |
| Total ... | 23264 | 24765 | 13964 | 18040 |

announced in the April-June Bulletin, p. 422, viz., the calculation of the volume of trade with (a) the colonies and protectorates, (b) with foreign countries. It is shown that from 1932-8 the volume of colonial imports into France rose from $100 \%$ to $145 \%$, whilst that of foreign imports fell from $100 \%$ to $87 \%$. The index of French exports to the colonies rose from 100 to IIO and to foreign countries from IOO to 102 ; there was a minimum about 1935-6.

The weekly index of wholesale prices of 45 commodities (\% of July, 1914) was around

|  |  | $\begin{gathered} 1937 \\ \text { Quarters. } \end{gathered}$ |  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} 1938 \\ \text { Quarters. } \end{gathered}$ |  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} 1939 \\ \text { Quarters. } \end{gathered}$ |  | \% Chang . |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 2nd Qr. } \\ & 1937 \text { to } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{\|l\|l\|} 2 \text { nd } \mathrm{Qr} \\ 1938 \text { to } \end{array}$ |  |  |
|  |  | 1st | 2nd | 3 rd | 4th |  |  |  |  | 1st | 2nd | 3rd | 4th | 1st | 2nd | 1938 | 1939 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vegetable Food |  |  | 654 609 | $\begin{aligned} & 736 \\ & 668 \end{aligned}$ | 760 707 | 783 743 | 895 69 | 745 | 810 | 804 | 785 | +315 <br> +15 | + 12 <br> $+\quad 16$ |
| Animal Food Sugar, Coffee, Cocoa | 4 | 608 541 | 667 | 668 | 614 | 618 | $62+$ | 653 | 671 | 706 | 723 | + 10 | + 16 |
| Total Food ... | 20 | 613 | fily | 687 | 109 | 734 | 163 | 747 | 756 | 773 | 751 | +23 | - 2 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Minerals and Metals | 7 | 680 |  | 785 | 732 | 746 805 | 838 | 854 | 854 | 876 | 917 | + 38 | + 9 |
| Pig Iron ${ }^{\text {Iron Bars }}$. $\quad .$. | 1 | 549 | 702 | 751 | 822 | 855 | 857 | 861 | 861 | 921 | $\stackrel{27}{5}$ | $\begin{array}{r}\text { + } \\ + \\ + \\ \hline\end{array}$ | +8 $+\quad 8$ $+\quad 6$ |
| Copper $\ldots$... $\ldots$ | 1 | 456 | 440 | 533 | 428 | 439 | 451 | 870 | 590 | 547 832 | ${ }_{861}$ | $+\quad 3$ $+\quad 1$ | $+\quad 63$ $+\quad 6$ |
| Lead ... | 1 | 947 | 805 | 931 800 | 781 | 794 899 | 812 943 | 944 | 992 | 1017 | 1024 | $+23$ | + 9 |
| Coal | 1 | 732 | 769 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 706 | 726 | 788 | 747 | +19 |  |
| Cotton ... | 1 | 567 | 572 | 561 | 507 | 569 | 596 | 619 | 619 | 550 | 532 | $+\quad 4$ $+\quad 6$ | + $\quad 3$ |
| Wool | 1 | 523 | 538 | 643 | 545 | 534 | 569 303 |  | 351 | 395 | 469 | + 32 | + 55 |
| Silk... ... | 1 | 239 | 229 | 292 | 292 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hides, Skins, Tallow | 3 | 369 799 | 329 | 868 | 1022 | 943 | 1056 | 1082 | 1030 | 1028 | 1103 | + 32 | + 4 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{array}{ll}\text { Alcohol } \\ \text { Petroleum } & \ldots \\ \end{array}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Soda Compounds ...... |  |  | +21 $+\quad 7$ | + ${ }^{+}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 946 | 950 | 971 |  | 1 | 1009 | 1 | 927 | 956 | $+21$ | + 5 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Food and Materials | 25 | 574 | 591 | 6675 | 680 | 696 | 723 | 733 | 746 | 767 '5 | 777 | +20 | + 7 |
|  | 45 | 592 | 604 | 675 | 600 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## France]

686 from June ioth to July Ioth ; it fell to 680 and 68I in the next two weeks, mainly owing to foodstuffs.

The retail index numbers which rose in May, advanced only slightly in June-from 738-9 for the Paris index of 13 items, and from 756-8 for that of 34 items. The cost of living index numbers calculated by the Departmental commissions for May (\% of 1930) show an average level of $\mathbf{1 2 2 . 5}$, or little different from that of February last, and 7 points higher than in May, 1938 (II5.3).

Transactions of the ordinary savings banks with the Deposit Bank showed 300 Mn. excess of
deposits in June. From July ist to 15 th the excess was 74 Mn . francs.

In spite of the heavy cost of national defence, the improvement in the French economy continues and extends even to non-sheltered sectors which are not directly favoured by rearmament orders. Industrial production has regained its 1928 level, which has not been exceeded since the winter of 1929-30. Activity, which is no longer bridled by too strict an application of the 40-hour week, maintains a larger margin of improvement, exports still enjoying the difference between internal and world prices. Needless to repeat, all future development nevertheless depends upon international events.

## GERMANY.

Information communicated by Dr. M. J. ELSAS.

## REVIEW OF FIRST HALF OF 1939.

THE outstanding political event of the first half of 1939 was the German annexation of Bohemia and Moravia. This event marked a turning point in political developments.

There is reason to believe that the conquest of Czechoslovakia has been an error even from the point of view of the German Government. For it has brought the democratic countries closer together and induced them to arm on a scale that Germany and Italy will not be able to match. Further, it has aggravated the economic troubles of Germany. It is true that several hundred million marks of gold and foreign exchange were captured in Prague, wherewith foreign raw materials might be bought. But otherwise Czechoslovakia, like Austria, has turned out to be a burden. The new Protectorate, like Austria, is unable to provide raw materials beyond its own requirements. Moreover, its industries have lost a substantial portion of their foreign markets and thus ceased to be the fruitful source of foreign exchange that they once were.

The annexation of Bohemia and Moravia has marked a turning point in another respect. Until this year the growing shortage of raw materials had induced a continuous increase in the production of artificial substitutes. Now, however, there appears to be a shortage of these
substitutes themselves. Although the output of iron has increased steadily, it has not been sufficient to meet the demand, so that, as an example, materials such as timber and cement have been used in larger proportions for building. As the demand for timber has increased, the rate of felling has also increased until at last forests have been wildly stripped, and now there is a shortage of timber. At the same time the demand for timber increases because it is the source of the principal textile substitutes. At the end of June Field-Marshal Goering declared that timberfelling could not be accelerated further. Indeed, it was necessary rather to increase the area of planting. If this is done, then it will mean that areas which now have other uses will have to be reserved for afforestation. The case of timber is only a typical example of how, in the endless search for a sufficiency of raw materials, one kind of shortage is met only by creating another kind of shortage.

A further instructive example is that of coal. The shortage of coal has become increasingly noticeable, so that this year shifts have been lengthened from 8 to $8 \frac{3}{4}$ hours. But the result of this measure has disappointed expectations. It is true that there has been a small increase in output, but the working strength has also been
increased, so that there has actually been a decline in rate of output per head considering the longer shift.

The output figures of the United Steel Company show a decline in the second quarter of the year, as compared with the first quarter for both coal and coke; and it was in the second quarter that shifts were lengthened. Output of pig iron was nearly $2 \%$ higher, but that of steel was nearly $3 \%$ lower. The shortage of coal has caused a heavy decline in stocks, and pithead stocks in the Ruhr fell to 2.4 Mn . tons on July ist, which was half the amount shown on January ist. The decline in Ruhr exports (313,000 tons in June, as against 321,000 in May) is attributed by the Press both to a decline in daily output and to a shortage of trucks.

The number of new state projects grows ever more gigantic, but it also becomes ever more difficult to carry out even a portion of those projects already in hand. The opening of the Salzgitter iron ore mines, which are to be the foundation of the Hermann Goering Works, is being seriously hindered by the lack of suitable coke supplies. Such difficulties, however, do not appear to hinder the production of new plans, such as, for example, the expenditure of many milliards of marks on equipment for the railways, the widening of the Kiel Canal, the construction of a great number of new rural dwellings and the reconstruction of great cities such as Berlin and Munich.

In actual fact, however, the construction of new houses, to take one example, has declined in a startling fashion. Scarcity of materials and scarcity of labour have combined to produce this result. In May there were one and three-quarter million jobs vacant, but only one million applicants for work, so that even in the best circumstances three-quarters of a million jobs had to remain vacant. The former reserve of unemployed in Austria and Czechoslovakia has not merely been practically absorbed, but has now given way to a definite shortage of labour. Thus in Austria not only has the supply of skilled workers given out, but there is already a shortage of unskilled workers in certain industries, such as, for example, building.

The attempt to deal with the problem of labour shortage is twofold. First, the number of workers is increased by forcing independent traders and craftsmen, and also women, into industrial employment. Secondly, the hours of work have been raised in some industries to II and 12 hours a day. The other side of the picture is not lacking. The injuries to health
are shown in increased illness and death figures. But the efficiency of the workers is not only thus decreased ; reports are increasing daily, that they are retaliating against their treatment by ca' canny.

For more than three years the raising of wages has been forbidden. Here, too, a turning point has been reached this year. It is true that wages have not been increased, since that is forbidden, but the workers receive every possible kind of social relief or else they are put into other wage-categories. This has reached such an extent, that the authorities admit that the trend of wage rates has escaped their control. The maintenance of a low level of wages was a most important principle, as only through this was it possible to keep prices down, and only through low wagerates could the relatively small supply of consummers' goods be brought into line with the demand.

This year, also, a turning point has been reached in the financial policy of the Reich. Hitherto, it was possible to supply the financial needs of the Reich with treasury-bills, in so far as they were not covered by loans. With the change in the presidency of the Reichsbank this year, financial methods have been radically altered. The abandonment of previous methods was, however, in no way voluntary. The disposal of Government loans, and, therefore, the funding of part of the increasing debt became more and more difficult. Now, this year, the authorities have gone over to the policy of creating government-bills (so-called tax certificates). These instruments of credit serve firstly to finance the needs of the State; secondly, they can be used in the payment of taxes, in that certain advantages are granted (though not in all cases) to those who have held the bills over certain periods; and thirdly, they have the function of a means of circulation, i.e., of a money substitute. As was anticipated, the results of this experiment are lamentable. It is true that traders are obliged to accept these tax certificates, but suppliers of goods that are in demand look after their own interests, by showing preference to buyers who pay in cash as opposed to those who pay partly in taxcertificates. The certificates fluctuate considerably on the stock-exchange; the second series, which are interest-bearing, have already fallen considerably below par. In addition, the use of these bills for the payment of taxes will have an adverse effect on the future tax-receipts of the Reich, and in so far as they are not used for the payment of taxes (only certain people can use them to their own advantage), the Treasury

|  | STOCKS \& SHARES. |  |  | BANKING. |  |  |  |  |  | த் |  | WHOLESALE. |  |  |  | $\begin{array}{r} \text { RE- } \\ \text { TAIL } \end{array}$ | REAL |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | capital Issues by |  | Reichsbank. |  | Note Circulation. |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\stackrel{\infty}{\sim} \infty$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Inde } \\ \mathrm{Pr} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Nos, of } \\ & \hline 8 \text { of } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  <br> Mks. <br> Mn . | Marks Mn. |  |  |  | ब = \# \% \% \% |  | Mks. <br> p. Kg. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Aug., |  |  |  | July, |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pre-War |  |  |  | 6100 |  | 1914 4500 |  |  | $4 \cdot 2$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1914 \\ & 3 \cdot 15 \end{aligned}$ | 815 | 81.0 |  | 100 | 100 | 100 | 1913 100 |
|  |  |  | $49 \cdot 4$ | 4350 | 377 | 3500 | 5.56 | 11715 | 3.44 | 4.87 | 326 | $39 \cdot 6$ | 63 | $86 \cdot 7$ | $93 \cdot 4$ | 118.5 | 111.2 |
| 1933 Av. 1934 Av . | 67.3 77.5 | $24 \cdot 9$ 17.7 | $49 \cdot 4$ $20 \cdot 1$ | 4854 | 606 | 3727 | 5.62 | 11759 | $2 \cdot 53$ | 4.47 | 234 | $42 \cdot 1$ | 63 | 95.9 | 98.4 | + | 106.6 |
| 1934 Av . 1935 Av . | 90.4 | 17.1 | $22 \cdot 2$ | 4899 | 805 | 3920 | 6.02 | 13178 | 2.485 | 3.61 | 243 | $55^{\circ} 2$ | 63 | $102 \cdot 2$ | $101 \cdot 8$ | 123.0 | 105.4 |
| 1936 Av . | $99 \cdot 9$ | $2 \cdot 9$ | $49 \cdot 6$ | 5146 | 672 | 4478 | 6.47 | 14810 | 2.485 | 3.22 | 215 | 41.0 | 63 | 104.9 | 104-1 | 124.5 | 103.9 |
| 1937 Av. | 111.7 | $13 \cdot 5$ | $34 \cdot 3$ | 5920 | 715 | 5073 | 7.03 | 10735 | 2.491 | 3.07 | 189 | $40 \cdot 4$ | 63 | 104.6 | $105 \cdot 9$ | $125 \cdot 1$ | $103 \cdot 3$ |
| 1936 | $91 \cdot 8$ | 0.4 | 21.8 | 4962 | 690 | 4097 | 6.09 | 14397 | 2.488 | 3.62 | 263 | 54.5 | 63 | 105.2 | 103.6 | $124 \cdot 3$ | 104.2 |
| IVEB... | 91.8 | 0.1 | 14.8 | 4597 | 605 | 4172 | $6 \cdot 20$ | 14457 | 2.458 | $3 \cdot 25$ | 230 | 38.5 | 63 | $104 \cdot 8$ | 103.5 | $124 \cdot 3$ | 104.0 |
| MAR... | $93 \cdot 3$ | 11.4 | 13.0 | 4824 | 572 | 4267 | 6.27 | 14372 | $2.46{ }^{\prime}$ | $3 \cdot 0$ | 226 | $39 \cdot 0$ | 63 | $104 \cdot 5$ | 103.6 | 124.2 | 104.0 |
| APR. | 96.2 | 2.0 | 14.2 | 4989 | 776 | 4348 | $6 \cdot 35$ | 14429 | 2.4-9 | $3 \cdot 37$ | 181 | $39 \cdot 5$ | 63 | 105.0 | 103.8 | $124 \cdot 3$ | 103.9 |
| MAY. | $99 \cdot 3$ | $4 \cdot 2$ | $10 \cdot 7$ | 4849 | 650 | 4430 | 6.44 | 14649 | 2.490 | $3 \cdot 37$ | 234 | 40.5 | 63 | $105 \cdot 3$ | $103 \cdot 7$ | $124 \cdot 3$ | 104.0 |
| JUNE | 101.6 | , | $8 \cdot 5$ | 5203 | 677 | 4389 | 6.35 | 14735 | 2.489 | 3.0 | 208 | 40.0 | 63 | 1057 | 104.0 | 124.5 | 104.0 |
| JULY | $103 \cdot 1$ | 76 | 197.6 | 5371 | 804 | 4471 | 6.45 | 14654 | 2.484 | 3.0 | 218 | 39.5 | 63 | 106.1 | 104.2 | $125 \cdot 3$ | $103 \cdot 8$ |
| AUG... | $101 \cdot 8$ | - | 68.5 | 4815 | 640 | 4540 | 6.54 | 15463 | 2.488 | $3 \cdot 37$ | 193 | 39.5 | 63 | 106.4 | $104 \cdot 8$ | 125.4 | $103 \cdot 2$ |
| SEPT. | $100 \cdot 1$ | $7 \cdot 3$ | 22.0 | 5288 | 669 | 4657 | 6.65 | 15417 | 2.490 | $3 \cdot 12$ | 178 | $40 \cdot 5$ | 63 | 105.0 | $104 \cdot 2$ | 124.4 | $103 \cdot 9$ |
| OC'I.. | $100^{\circ} 0$ | $2 \cdot 2$ | 18.1 | 5928 | 694 | 4713 | 6.71 | 15017 | 2.495 | $3 \cdot 37$ | 199 | $39 \cdot 9$ | 63 | $103 \cdot 8$ | $104 \cdot 3$ | $124 \cdot 4$ | 104-1 |
| NOV ... | 106.6 | 0.1 | 194.0 | 5085 | 622 | 4674 | 6.65 | 15245 | 2.491 | $3 \cdot 37$ | 212 | $39 \cdot 6$ | 63 | 103.2 | 104-3 | $124 \cdot 3$ | $104 \cdot 2$ |
| 1) EC... | $105 \cdot 4$ | $0 \cdot 1$ | $12 \cdot 4$ | 5834 | 667 | 4980 | 6.96 | 15246 | $2 \cdot 490$ | 3.0 | 235 | 41.5 | 63 | 103.6 | 105.0 | $124 \cdot 3$ | 104•1 |
| 1937 | $1(6.6$ | $80 \cdot 3$ | $86 \cdot 7$ | 5405 | 775 | 4799 | 6.72 | 15311 | 2.490 | $3 \cdot 37$ | 226 | $42 \cdot 2$ | 63 | 103-2 | $105 \cdot 3$ | $124 \cdot 5$ | $104 \cdot 1$ |
| FEB ... | 108.1 | $49 \cdot 1$ | 725 | 5018 | 731 | 4816 | 6.74 | 15300 | 2.490 | 3.0 | 206 | $40 \cdot 2$ | 63 | $103 \cdot 4$ | $105 \cdot 5$ | 124.8 | 103.9 |
| MAR. | $109 \cdot 3$ |  | $15 \cdot 3$ | 5800 | 716 | 4938 | 6.84 | 16058 | 2.490 | $2 \cdot 87$ | 235 | $39 \cdot 9$ | 63 | $103 \cdot 9$ | 106.2 | 125.0 | 103.9 |
| APR... | $110 \cdot 6$ | - | $8 \cdot 8$ | 6263 | 789 | 4979 | 694 | 16155 | 2.490 | 3.0 | 234 | $41 \cdot 3$ | 63 | $103 \cdot 9$ | $105 \cdot 9$ | $125 \cdot 1$ | 103.5 |
| MAY... | 111.8 | 0.7 | $10 \cdot 3$ | 5552 | 736 | 4902 | 6.85 | 16907 | 2.490 | 2.75 | 180 | $40 \cdot 7$ | 63 | 104•1 | $105 \cdot 8$ | $125 \cdot 1$ | 103.4 |
| JUNE | 112.8 | - | 6.7 | 6048 | 715 | 4991 | 6.94 | 16904 | $2 \cdot 497$ | 3.0 | 181 | $40 \cdot 5$ | 63 | $107 \cdot 6$ | 1060 | $125 \cdot 3$ | $103 \cdot 4$ |
| JULY | 114.6 | $17 \cdot 5$ | 33.4 | 6119 | 707 | 5111 | $7 \cdot 10$ | 16857 | 2.498 | $3 \cdot 25$ | 177 | $40 \cdot 1$ | 63 | $105 \cdot 7$ | $106 \cdot 4$ | 126.2 | $103 \cdot 3$ |
| AUG... | $115 \cdot 7$ | 9.8 | 14.4 | 5747 | 625 | 5115 | 7.09 | 16926 | 2.491 | $3 \cdot 0$ | 151 | $40 \cdot 3$ | 63 | 106.4 | $106 \cdot 7$ | 126.0 | $102 \cdot 5$ |
| SEPT. | 114.8 | - | $13 \cdot 4$ | 5979 | 649 | 5256 | 7.26 | 17602 | 2.494 | 3-12 | 163 | 39.8 | 63 | 105.4 | 106.2 | $125 \cdot 1$ | $102 \cdot 7$ |
| OCT... | 113.2 | 2.7 | $29 \cdot 6$ | 6377 | 675 | 5275 | 7.28 | 17574 | 2.494 | $3 \cdot 25$ | 175 | 39.9 | 63 | $105 \cdot 0$ | $105 \cdot 9$ | 124.8 | $102 \cdot 9$ |
| NUV... | 112.0 | 1.0 | $10 \cdot 7$ | 5965 | 729 | 5196 | $7 \cdot 18$ | 17655 | 2.490 | $2 \cdot 87$ | 177 | 40.0 | 63 | $104 \cdot 7$ | $105 \cdot 5$ | 124.9 | $102 \cdot 8$ |
| I) EC... | 111.3 | 1.5 | 111.6 | 6762 | 732 | 5493 | 7.50 | 17570 | $2 \cdot 483$ | 3.0 | 159 | 39.6 | 63 | 104.6 | 105.5 | 124.8 | $102 \cdot 9$ |
| JAN ... | 113.8 | 5.8 | $41 \cdot 9$ | 6110 | 826 | 5199 | $7 \cdot 14$ | 18910 | 2.486 | $3 \cdot 37$ | 179 | $37 \cdot 7$ | 63 | 105.0 | 105.5 | 124.9 | 103.7 |
| FDPP... | 113.6 | $12 \cdot 3$ | $4 \cdot 2$ | 5431 | 761 | 5278 | 7.24 | 18975 | 2.479 | 3.25 | 183 | $40 \cdot 7$ | 63 | $105 \cdot 7$ | $105 \cdot 5$ | $125 \cdot 2$ | 103.5 |
| MAR. . | 113.9 | 7.5 | 10.4 | 6685 | 823 | 5621 | 7.57 | 19098 | 2.473 | 3.0 | 185 | $40 \cdot 7$ | 63 | 105.6 | $105 \cdot 8$ | 125.5 | 103.7 |
| APR... | 114.8 | 1.7 | 57.5 | 6105 | 1221 | ¢086 | 8.09 | 20739 | 2.493 | 3.25 | 151 | 38.1 | 63 | 105•7 | $105 \cdot 6$ | 125.6 | 103.7 |
| MAY... | 112.7 | 33.2 | $4 \cdot 4$ | 6157 | 955 | 6268 | 8.23 | 21593 | 2.489 | $3 \cdot 12$ | 156 | $37 \cdot 7$ | 63 | $105 \cdot 8$ | $105 \cdot 4$ | 125.9 | 103.7 |
| JUNE | $110 \cdot 5$ | 1.0 | $19 \cdot 2$ | 6495 | 1010 | 6440 | 8.48 | 22445 | 2.492 | $3 \cdot 12$ | 166 | $38 \cdot 2$ | 63 | 106.0 | 105.6 | 126.0 | $104 \cdot 1$ |
| JULY | $107 \cdot 9$ | $5 \cdot 5$ | 83.6 | 6539 |  | 6659 | 8.72 | 22936 | 2.485 | $3 \cdot 37$ | 174 | $38 \cdot 3$ | 63 | 105.6 | 105.5 | 126.8 |  |
| AUG... | $102 \cdot 2$ | 1.9 | 409.4 | 6779 | 863 | 6863 | 8.95 | 23763 | $2 \cdot 490$ | $3 \cdot 12$ | 165 | 38.7 | 63 | 106.6 | $106 \cdot 1$ | 126.5 |  |
| SEPT. | $103 \cdot 2$ | 3.5 | 7'1 | 7091 | 902 | 8023 | $10 \cdot 17$ | 23827 | 2.496 | $2 \cdot 75$ | 139 | 38.1 | 63 | 105.6 | 105.6 | 125.2 | 107:0 |
| OC'I.... | $107 \cdot 5$ | 1.0 | 107.8 | 6962 | 901 | 7753 | 9.86 | 25676 | 2.499 | $2 \cdot 75$ | 141 | $37 \cdot 9$ | 63 | $105 \cdot 7$ | $105 \cdot 9$ | 124.9 |  |
| NOV ... | 106.0 | - | $11^{\circ} 0$ | 6723 | 949 | 7743 | $9 \cdot 86$ | 25660 | $2 \cdot 497$ | 3.0 | 155 | $38 \cdot 1$ | 63 | 106.8 | 106.0 | 125.0 |  |
| DEC.... | 103.1 | - | $19 \cdot 8$ | 7617 | 1027 | 8222 | 10.40 | 27180 | 2.496 | $3 \cdot 12$ | 180 | 38.2 | 63 | 107.2 | 106.7 | $125 \cdot 3$ | 108.4 |
| JAN... | $103 \cdot 9$ | 1.0 | 48.0 | 6877 | 916 | 7816 | 9.94 | 28110 |  | 3.25 | 152 |  | 63 |  |  |  |  |
| FEB. | $104 \cdot 8$ | - | $19 \cdot 5$ | 6258 | 1028 | 7939 | 10.08 | 29537 | 2.493 | 3.87 2.87 | 129 | 38.1 | 63 | $107 \cdot 6$ | 106.5 | 1257 |  |
| MAR.. | $102 \cdot 9$ | $9 \cdot 8$ | $64 \cdot 3$ | 7591 | 964 | 8310 | 10.50 | 30676 | 2493 | 3.0 | 145 | $39 \cdot 2$ | 63 | $107 \cdot 8$ | 106.7 | 126.0 |  |
| APR.. | $103 \cdot 5$ | 0.6 | 14.9 | 6480 | 1126 | 8518 | 10.73 | 31890 | 2.493 | $3 \cdot 12$ | 99 | 38.0 | 63 | $107 \cdot 3$ | 106.4 | 125.9 |  |
| MUNE | $102 \cdot 6$ | $10 \cdot 5$ | $\begin{array}{r} 133 \cdot 0 \\ 77 \cdot 3 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 7020 \\ & 8013 \end{aligned}$ |  | $8525$ | 10.82 |  | 2.493 | $2 \cdot 75$ | 117 | 38.5 | 63 | $107 \cdot 8$ | 106.5 | 120.1 |  |
| JUNE |  |  | $77 \cdot 3$ | 8013 | $\begin{array}{r} 925 \\ 1033 \end{array}$ | 8731 |  |  | 2.493 | $2 \cdot 75$ | 122 | $38 \cdot 2$ | 63 | 108.7 | 107.0 | 126.5 |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { JULY } \\ & \text { AUG ... } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $2.493$ | $3.12$ |  | $34 \cdot 8$ |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $2.493$ | $30$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

- $\cdot$ New Index, \% of December, 1935.

[^59]

FINANCE
Share Index.-

## Note Circulation. -

End of month
st of $m$ )nth

```
PRICES.
    Wholesale-
            Silver.-
            Pig Iron.
            Food and All Items.
                            Retail-
                            Reich
                    wAGES
```

lst of month.
Monthly average. Wirtschaft und Statistik.
Statistisches Reichsamt Index - average for month and middle of month respectively
For middle of month. Eildienst des statistischen Reichsamtes
Index of Real Wages, Based upon hourly money wages from Wirtschaft und Statistik and the Official Cost of Living Index. \% of 1919 until after 1937, then $t w$ of December 1935. Figures for 1st of month. After 1937, 1st of month, \%of December, 1935.

TRADE，TRANSPORT，EMPLOYMENT．

|  | external trade．： |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | OUTPUT |  |  | SHIPPING． <br> HAMBURG． <br> Tonnage． |  |  | EMPLOYM＇N ${ }^{\text {a }}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | IMPORTS． |  |  |  | EXPORTS． |  |  |  | Estim＇d value in Gold Marks |  |  |  | ェ் <br> 000 Metric Tons． |  |  |  |  |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 馬 } \\ & \text { H } \end{aligned}$ |  | Weigh |  |  | \％ <br> ons． | 感感晟 |  | 范 品 <br> Mn ． |  |  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { 遤 } \\ \text { 苗 } \\ \text { 000 } \\ \text { Tons. } \end{gathered}$ | 遏 Ü U． 000 Tons． |  |  |  |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { r're-War } \\ \text { Average } \end{gathered}$ | 607＊ |  |  |  | 614＊ |  |  |  | 934 | 850 | 1474 | 910 | 981 | 1182 | 1203 |  |  |  |  |
| 1933 Av．．．． | 293 | 37 | 244 | 11 | 348 | 18 | 296 | 35 | 384 |  | 916 | 439 | 624 | 1485 | 1495 | 153.0 | 4876 |  |
| 1934 Av．．．． | 370 | 40 | 315 | 15 | 377 | 13 | 326 | 38 | 395 | 388 | 1042 | 728 | 624 990 | 1540 | 1540 | 178.2 | 4879 |  |
| 1935 Av．．． | 394 | 31 | 355 | 8 | 418 | 8 | 363 | 46 | 346 | 356 | 1177 Ş | 1045s | 13408 | 1535 | 1527 | 176．9ss | 2159 | $64 \cdot 5$ |
| 1936 Av ．．．． | 427 | 43 | 379 | 5 | 440 | 3 | 390 | 48 | 351 | 397 | 1320 | 1275 | 1595 | 1601 | 1566 | 218.4 | 1635 | 68.5 |
| $\begin{gathered} 1937 \mathrm{Av} . . . . \\ 1936 \end{gathered}$ | 499 | 74 | 420 | 4 | 555 | 2 | 499 | 54 | 455 | 492 | 1535 | 1329 | 1651 | 1645 | 1650 |  | 932 | $74 \cdot 1$ |
| ．1N．．．．．．．．． | 412 | 46 | 360 | 4 | 441 | 3 | 387 | 50 | 363 | 382 | 1368 | 1279 | 1584 | 1466 | 1456 | 193.9 | 2508 | 63.4 |
| FEB． | 386 | 43 | 339 | 4 | 402 | 3 | 353 | 45 | 334 | 373 | 1263 | 1173 | 1489 | 1459 | 1526 | 189.1 | 2520 | $62 \cdot 8$ |
| MAR．．．．． | 409 | 53 | 352 | 4 | 391 | 3 | 342 | 46 | 355 | 379 | 1287 | 1251 | 1558 | 1582 | 1510 | 215.5 | 2515 | 63.4 |
| APRIL ．．． | 428 | 50 | 374 | 4 | 406 | 3 | 361 | 42 | 361 | 365 | 1188 | 1211 | 1467 | 1612 | 1624 | 198.9 | 1937 | 654 |
| MAY．．．．．．． | 426 | 46 | 376 | 4 | 413 | 3 | 364 | 46 | 337 | 372 | 1216 | 1228 | 1568 | 1708 | 1686 | $210 \cdot 6$ | 1763 | 67.4 |
| ．UNE ．．．．．． | 460 | 49 | 406 | 4 | 437 | 3 | 389 | 45 | 360 | 370 | 1230 | 1242 | 1631 | 1686 | 1667 | 212.0 | 1491 | $69 \cdot 3$ |
| ．UULY | 473 | 38 | 430 | 5 | 426 | 3 | 374 | 49 | 346 | 395 | 1338 | 1312 | 1712 | 1730 | 1744 | 225.5 | 1315 | $70 \cdot 4$ |
| AUG． | 442 | 35 | 402 | 5 | 443 | 2 | 392 | 49 | 346 | 409 | 1299 | 1362 | 1725 | 1718 | 1707 | 2150 | 1170 | $71 \cdot 2$ |
| SEPT． | 442 | 32 | 405 | 5 | 468 | 2 | 419 | 77 | 336 | 412 | 1335 | 1350 | 1721 | 1636 | 1635 | $237 \cdot 7$ | 1098 | 71.6 |
| UC＇T． | 426 | 37 | 382 | 7 | 491 | 2 | 437 | 52 | 356 | 431 | 1460 | 1379 | 1705 | 1579 | 1539 | $258 \cdot 4$ | 1035 | $72 \cdot 4$ |
| NOV． | 397 | 43 | 349 | 5 | 462 | 2 | 410 | 50 | 356 | 422 | 1388 | 1257 | 1507 | 1521 | 1462 | $235 \cdot 6$ | 1076 | 72.4 |
| DEC． 1937 | 421 | 40 | 376 | 5 | 506 | 2 | 452 | 52 | 367 | 457 | 1468 | 1258 | 1470 | 1520 | 1239 | 228.4 | 1197 | $72 \cdot 3$ |
| JAN． | 391 | 34 | 353 | 4 | 487 | 2 | 434 | 51 | 336 | 415 | 1487 | 1292 | 1534 | 1370 | 1449 | 211.6 | 1479 | $70 \cdot 9$ |
| KEB． | 347 | 40 | 304 |  | 495 | 2 | 445 | 48 | 347 | 406 | 1403 | 1191 | 1520 | 1430 | 1366 | 216.2 | 1853 | $69 \cdot 2$ |
| MAR． | 427 | 63 | 360 | 3 | 540 | 2 | 482 | 55 | 409 | 462 | 1509 | 1301 | 1582 | 1634 | 1591 | $233 \cdot 3$ | 1611 | 69.4 |
| APRIL | 493 | 75 | 413 | 3 | 597 | 2 | 538 | 56 | 477 | 492 | 1572 | 1306 | 1645 | 1562 | 1630 | 241.6 | 1245 | $71 \cdot 5$ |
| MAY | 471 | 79 | 388 | 4 | 537 | 2 | 483 | 52 | 447 | 456 | 1390 | 1313 | 1608 | 1863 | 1757 |  | 961 | $74 \cdot 3$ |
| JUNE | 557 | 100 | 452 |  | 586 | 2 | 524 | 59 | 503 | 480 | 1540 | 1304 | 1659 | 1680 | 1766 |  | 776 | $75 \cdot 0$ |
| JULY | 561 | 91 | 465 | 5 | 603 | 2 | 536 | 65 | 500 | 530 | 1592 | 1345 | 1654 | 1856 | 1906 |  | 648 | 75.7 |
| AUG．．．． | 556 | 78 | 473 | 5 | 612 | 2 | 553 | 56 | 482 | 541 | 1535 | 1362 | 1663 | 1853 | 1／796 |  | 563 | 76.0 |
| SEP＇T | 540 | 72 | 463 | 4 | 583 | 2 | 531 | 50 | 462 | 494 | 1563 | 1349 | 1690 | 1663 | 1707 |  | 509 | 76.4 |
| OCT．．．． | 546 | 87 | 454 | 5 | 579 | 2 | 524 | 53 | 485 | 544 | 1611 | 1418 | 1711 | 1571 | 1592 |  | 469 | 77.0 |
| NOV．．．． | 542 | 94 | 441 | 6 | 533 | 2 | 480 | 51 | 483 | 533 | 1599 | 1372 | 1789 | 1666 | 1576 |  | 502 | 77.2 |
| DEC． | 562 | 80 | 476 | 6 | 508 | 2 | 452 | 54 | 531 | 552 | 1624 | 1400 | 1762 | 1598 | 1660 |  | $5: 2$ | 77.2 |
| JAN．．．． | 516 | 70 | 441 | 5 | 458 | 1 | 410 |  | 483 | 446 | 1594 | 1438 | 1812 | 1674 | 1579 |  | 994 | $75 \cdot 7$ |
| FEB． | 449 | 70 | 375 | 4 | 429 | ， | 389 | 38 | 455 | 436 | 1518 | 1349 | 1770 | 1429 | 1481 |  | 1051 | 73.6 |
| MAR． | 495 | 78 | 413 | 4 | 472 | 1 | 428 | 43 | 462 | 478 | 1668 | 1521 | 1919 | 1682 | 1730 |  | 946 | 75.4 |
| APRIL | 496 | 83 | 408 | 4 | 431 | 1 | 387 | 43 | 430 | 423 | 1450 | 1442 | 1766 | 1781 | 1735 |  |  |  |
| MAY | 523 | 75 | 443 | 4 | 431 |  | 388 | 42 | 455 | 427 | 1529 | 1545 | 1896 | 1876 | 1861 |  | 422 | $78 \cdot 4$ 795 |
| JUNE | 535 | 77 | 452 | 3 | 463 | 1 | 419 | 42 | 429 | 403 | 1487 | 1509 | 1831 | 1719 | 1796 |  | 338 | $7{ }^{7} 5$ |
| JULY | 507 | 68 | 434 | 5 | 468 | 1 | 424 | 43 | 417 | 439 | 1576 | $\overline{1525 * * * ~}$ | 1981＊＊＊ | 1789 | 1701 |  | 292 | 79.9 |
| AUG． | 620 | 73 | 542 | 5 | 443 | 1 | 401 | 41 | 457 | 419 | 1583 | 1585 | 2015 | 1982 | 2024 |  | 218 | $80 \cdot 4$ |
| SEPT．．．．．． | 572 | 94 | 474 | 4 | 394 | 1 | 353 | 40 | 450 | 416 | 1506 | 1541 | 1984 | 1771 | 1771 |  | 179 | 80.6 |
| OCT． | 534 | 113 | 416 | 4 | 406 |  | 357 | 47 | 475 | 467 | 1564 | 1611 | $2(57$ | 1763 | 1713 |  | 156 | 81.4 81.5 |
| NOV．．．．．． | 516 | 95 | 417 |  | 404 | 2 | 356 | 46 | 462 | 430 | 1567 | 1601 | 2032 | 1691 |  |  |  |  |
| DEC 1939 | 524 | 83 | 435 | 5 | 406 | 2 | 352 | 52 | 486 | 479 | 1571 | 1596 | 1544 | 1677 | 1607 |  | 152 | $82 \cdot 0$ |
| JAN．．．． | 444 | 59 | 379 |  | 424 | 2 | 378 | 44 | 410 | 419 | ${ }^{\text {\％} 623}$ | $16 \times 3$ | 2096 | 1530 |  |  |  | 81.1 |
| FEB． | $4^{2} 2$ | 62 | 363 | 7 | 396 | 1 | 352 | 42 | 426 | 388 456 | 1485 | 1529 | 1955 | 1465 | 1524 1625 |  | $302^{\circ}$ 197 | $80 \cdot 2$ 81.4 |
| MARCH ．．． | 494 | 66 56 | 422 431 | 6 | 404 373 | 2 | 355 324 | 47 46 | 454 | 456 437 | 1637 1409 | 1730 | 18215 | 1707 | 1884 |  | $134^{\circ}$ | 82.6 |
| MAY |  |  | 474 | 4 | 435 | 2 | 382 | 51 | 439 | 485 | 1578 | 1677 | 2070 | 1860 | 1776 |  | $94^{\circ}$ | $83 \cdot 4$ |
| JUNE ．．．．．． |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 443 | 537 |  |  |  |  |  |  | $70^{\circ}$ |  |
| JULY |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $48^{\circ}$ |  |

＊Including Luxemburg．§Subsequently includes Saar．† Series discontinued．＊＊Including Austria．† Excluding reparations but including gold and ilver before 1935．ONew Reich－Jan．824，000，Feb．646，000，March 456，000，Apr．324，000，May 216，000，June 151 000，July 106，000．

NOTES AND SOURCES．

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS．
Weight
Values in Gold Marks－
COAL OUTPUT．
SHIPPING．
RAILWAY GOODS RECEIPTS－ UNEMPLOYMENT－

[^60]
## Germany]

will find the repayment of the bills a difficult task. At the same time it must be emphasised, that if the experiment had been more successful, it would have undoubtedly led to an enormous inflation.

In conclusion, it can be said that economic difficulties have increased to an extraordinary degree, and that the German economy to-day resembles a machine of which the gear has been set to such an extent above normal, that the machine has already begun to grow hot. How the economy would function in time of war, with a higher demand on man-power and materials, is unimaginable.

## RECENT MOVEMENTS.

In July new decrees were issued regarding the tax certificates. Henceforth neither of the two types of bills need be accepted in payment for more than $20 \%$ of any account. The type called Series II need no longer be accepted for $40 \%$ of an account, this having become a distinct hardship to the receiver owing to the large discount on the current value of these bills. It is further decreed that Series I may be acquired directly from the Treasury in return for cash, but a duty of $\mathrm{I} \%$ will be charged upon them. In practice this type of bill will not be bought, except when it stands above par, which is not at present the case.

The money market was rather firm until the middle of July. The Discount Company's rates rose to $2 \frac{3}{4} \%$ for daily money. The cause of the shortage of money is not entirely clear. All kinds of reasons are given in the Press. Thus the issue of industrial debentures is said to have taken the money off the market ; the receipt of the tax delivery bills by industrial firms in return for their goods has reduced their liquidity ; and finally, the State Railways are said to have paid for the coal delivered to them in the second week of July to the extent of $60 \%$ in bank acceptances and $40 \%$ in tax delivery bills.

The mid-July Reichsbank statement shows a total bill portfolio of $8,040 \mathrm{Mn}$. marks, as against $5,693 \mathrm{Mn}$. in July, 1938. The note circulation totalled $8,334 \mathrm{Mn}$. marks, as against $6,080 \mathrm{Mn}$. a year ago. The total amount of money in circulation totalled $\mathrm{I} 0,500 \mathrm{Mn}$. marks, or nearly $2,440 \mathrm{Mn}$. more than a year ago. Following the new Reichsbank law which was issued in June, the Bank's holding of private bills is not shown separately from its holding of treasury bills, but the two are lumped together. However, the treasury bill holding has hitherto
been only a minor item in the account, though no doubt it may become important in the future.

The Bourse showed further weakness in July. To some extent this has been due to the widening of the discount on Series II of the tax delivery bills to $6 \frac{1}{2} \%$. But mainly it has been due to political apprehensions. However, some influence must be attributed to the fact that recent issues of industrial debentures have not been as successful as they would have been not long ago. The Allgemeine Elektrizitätsgesellschaft 50 Mn . loan was offered at no less than $5 \%$ interest. When in the second half of July it was decreed that the so-called speculation tax (tax on share profits) will be abolished for the next two years, share values improved by $\mathrm{I} \%$.

Foreign trade in June closed with an active balance of 94 Mn . marks. This figure covers the area of Germany proper, Austria, the Sudetenland and the Memelland, but not Bohemia and Moravia. Since the trade figures for the Greater Reich have been available only since April, the current statistics are not easily compared with those of last year. As compared with May, imports rose in June by 3 Mn. marks and exports by 53 Mn . It is stated, however, and this applies also to May, that certain changes have been made in the basis of the trade statistics. Foreign goods which are sent to Germany for some further working up and are then sent abroad, are now entered in Germany's 'special trade' statistics, i.e., they are not considered to belong to the entrepôt trade. Other changes have been made which tend to show a higher value for exports than under the former system. According to the Press there was little increase in exports from May to June, if these statistical changes are discounted. For the first half of the year an export surplus of 58 Mn . marks is shown. It is probable that in view of these statistical changes, there was, in fact, no export surplus at all.

In July new trade agreements were concluded with France and Switzerland. The most important provision of the agreement with France deals with the exchange of German coke for French iron ore. Deliveries on both sides are to be increased. The trade agreement between France and Czechoslovakia is to be renewed. Imports of French Colonial timber are to be facilitated. The rate of interest on the Dawes and Young Loans is to be reduced, but a sinking fund is to be set up for them. Finally, the French Government declares itself ready to free 20 Mn . francs of Czechoslovak assets immobilised in France.

In the second half of July an agreement was concluded with Roumania, whereby the terms of the agreement of last March are more closely defined. Germany is to deliver the capital goods with which Roumanian agriculture can produce the agricultural products needed by Germany. The products which are here especially concerned are live-stock products, oilseeds and leguminous plants.

According to the Reich Statistical Office $21,800,000$ persons were in employment at the end of June, or about 162,000 more than a month previously. The number of males employed rose by 74,000 , that of females by 88,000 . This was possible only because of the absorption of women who hitherto were not members of the labour force. The number of unoccupied jobs rose further. At the end of June the number of unemployed was 48,000 . Of these only 5,000 are given as fully employable.

There are only two sources of labour supply which can still be tapped. These are inde-
pendent traders and women. According to a decree of last March independent traders who are in receipt of any form of public assistance, or who fail to meet either private or public obligations, may have their shops closed by the authorities. As for women, discussions are now proceeding about the possibility of employing mothers of children in some cases for half-days. More labour is required especially for agriculture. The gathering of the harvest is this year a great problem, for hundreds of thousands of farmworkers have been absorbed by the programme of fortification works, as well as by the armed forces. The possibility of using labour-saving machines in agriculture is considered, but the production of these machines calls for labour and materials which are already bespoken.

According to Wirtschaft und Statistik the birth rate was 20.8 per thousand during the first quarter of 1939, as against 20 in that of 1938. The death rate, however, rose to 14.4 per thousand, as against 12.2 in 1938.

## ITALY.

## Information communicated by Professor C. OTTOLENGHI, formerly of the Royal University of Turin.

## fuly 3 Ist, 1939.

THE policy of self-sufficiency continues to be developed, with its effects upon production, external trade, and the relationship between prices of goods and services.

One remarkable result is in respect of grain production. In spite of unfavourable weather the present harvest exceeds 80 Mn . quintalsa good harvest, sufficient for consumption, and attained by the application of progressive technique, distributing varıous kinds of seed according to the various types of soil in the country, etc., and so obtaining greater yield. Nevertheless, the price of grain will be controlled until the 1940 harvest at the level of 135 lire for soft grain and 150 lire for hard.

The desired reduction in the adverse trade balance has been achieved. In certain months there has been a favourable balance, and in the aggregate for five months the balance has been favourable.

Population.-In the first five months of 1939 the total of live births was 441,000 ( 24 per 1,000 ), or 8,700 less than a year earlier. On the other hand, the marriage rate rose; the number was 118,100 in 1939, or 2,100 more than in
1938. The number of deaths was 268,000 , compared with 275,000 .

Industrial Production.-There was an increase in the first four months compared with last year, the index numbers being II4, 116,120 and II9, compared with 105, 113,115 and 109.

Data for the principal products in the first four months of 1939 and 1938 are given below.

The output of electricity increased during 1939 and was higher than in 1938 :-

| ELECTRICITY (Mn. Kwh.) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. |
| 1257 | 1131 | 1205 | 1139 |
| 1279 | 1173 | 1339 | 1341 |

The internal production of cellulose for the use of textile, paper and chemical industries, was considerably increased as follows :-

|  | CELLULOSE (tons) |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. |
|  | Fand | 3030 | 3058 | 4022 | 3030 |
| 1938 | $\ldots$ | 3664 | 3895 | 4580 | 5023 |
| 1939 | $\ldots$ |  | 3767 |  |  |

Important textile series are shown in the next table. They show fluctuations in the two periods.

| PRODUCTION | OF ARTIFICIAL | FIBRES | $(000$ tons $)$ |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr |
| 1938 | $\ldots$ | 11.8 | 10.9 | 12.0 | 11.4 |
| 1939 | $\cdots$ | 10.4 | 9.8 | 10.3 | 11.1 |



## NOTES AND SOURCES

Average daily rate (Direzione generale del Tesoro), Borsa di Milano),
Deposits on current account and note circulation at end of month
Savings bank deposits at end of month. From $1936 \%$ of 1928 , previously \% of $1918, ~$ Clearings-total for mont
Bankruptcies (Boll. mensile dell' Istituto centrale di Statistica-Ufficia Statistica del Consiglio provinciale dell' Economia di Milano).
Official index number published by the Ministry of Corporations.
Quantities imported and exported per month (Statistica del Commercio spectaie d'importazion d'esportazione Mro delle Jinanze).
Values per month (Boll. mensile dell' Istituto centrale),


## TRANSPORT.

## Shipping -

PRICES WHOLESALE

Monthly Total of Goods nassing through All Ports, (Boll. mensile di statistica del istituto centrale di Statistica
Monthly Total of Merchandise sent on the State Railways. (Rivista delle comunicaziont ferroviarie del Ministero delle Comunicazioni.)
Wholesale prices of selected commodities at end of month. (Boll. del consiglio provinciale dell'Economia di Milano, e Listino ufficiale della Rorsa merci del consialin provinciale dell'Economia di Genova.). Indici generali dell'Istituto centrale di Statistica.
Istituto Centrale di Statistica
Dsta for end of month. (Boll. mensile dell'Istituto centrale di Statistica)

## Italy]



The next table shows the output of fuel and petroleum products. A general rise appears in these two fields of production :-


Lastly, the following indices relate to industry as a whole.


Finance.-The Bourse, which, in the early months of the year, had been affected by the international uncertainty and had shown a downward tendency, from April to July showed an upward tendency and was generally firm. In the whole of the economic field securities are rising, in some instances considerably, in spite of the fact that renewed capital increases have increased the volume of shares on the market. The number of new companies formed in May was 175 with capital I7 Mn. lire. At the end of May, consequently, the total number of existing companies was 21,407 with capital 54 Md ., compared with 51.5 Md . in the corresponding period of 1938.

Different tendencies appear in the deposits in the post office and in other savings banks. The latter show no change, whereas the former, which are a Government concern, show a slight upward tendency in their deposits ; at the end of March (latest available data) they reached 29.8 Md., compared with 26.I Md. in March, 1938.

There was a slight rise in the number of bankruptcies and of protested bills, corresponding to the development of enterprise. Bankruptcies
declared in April and May respectively numbered 257 and 267 , with liabilities of 20 Mn . and 22 Mn ., compared with 191 and 203 in the corresponding months of 1938. Total protested bills numbered 47 and 48 thousand in March and April, compared with 33 and 34 thousand.

Movements in the chief exchange rates will be found in cols. I-3 of the table on p. 352. They show the stability of the lira.

External Trade and Transport.-According to the statistics of external trade, including East Africa and other Italian possessions, the value of imports in the first five months of 1939 showed a rise from 705 Mn . in January to 896 Mn . in May, with an aggregate of 4, I33 Mn. in the five months, or a diminution of 876 Mn ., compared with a year earlier.

In the same period the value of exports rose considerably, from 684 in January to 945 Mn . in April, but fell to 876 Mn . in May, and the aggregate was $4,152 \mathrm{Mn}$., and 26 Mn . less than in 1938. As a result of the great reduction in imports the balance of trade in the five months, which was passive in 1938 ( 830 Mn . lire), was transformed into an active one (19 Mn.) in 1939, no doubt owing to the self-sufficiency policy. If trade with Italian East Africa and other possessions is excluded, the value of imports was $4,012 \mathrm{Mn}$., compared with $4,909 \mathrm{Mn}$. in the corresponding period of 1938, and that of exports 3,291 Mn., compared with 3,163 Mn., so that the adverse balance was 72 I Mn ., compared with $1,746 \mathrm{Mn}$. in 1938.

The following figures show the value of imports and exports to and from the principal countries in March, April and May, in Mn. lire:-

|  | GERMANY |  | FRANCE |  | U.K. |  | U.S.A. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Imp | Exp | Imp. | Ex | Imp | Exp. | Im |  |
|  |  |  | 16 | 33 | 57 | , |  |  |
|  | 214 | 64 | . | 39 | 52 | 53 | 76 |  |
| Ma | 213 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Total transport by land and sea greatly increased during the year. The aggregate for the first five months of private goods traffic on the State railways was $19,436,000$ tons, compared with 18,841,000 a year before. The total volume of goods embarked or disembarked at all ports was 19,100,000 tons, compared with $16,300,000$ in the first five months of 1938. Goods loaded in the first five months of 1939 were $5,902,000$ tons, and goods unloaded 13,198,000 tons.

Prices.-The national index of prices ( $\%$ of 1928) calculated by the Central Institute of Statistics, fell from 97.9 in April to 96.7 in May, and 96.5 in June In the same period the index
of raw materials fell from 94.8 to 92.6 , that of partly manufactured materials went from II4 to II4.6 and that of finished goods from 95.8 to 95.6 .

The national index of the cost of living rose
from IOI. 5 to 102.9 from April to May, that for foodstuffs only from 96.1 to 96.3. The cost of living may be said to have remained constant in Italy.

## BELGIUM.

## Information communicated by l'Institut des Sciences économiques, University of Louvain.

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\text { Fuly 31st, } 1993 .
$$

THE predominant feature of the past three months has been the great recovery in the iron and steel trades, and the maintenance of a very high level of activity in the coal mines. The index of iron and steel production rose from 94.6 in March to II3.2 in June. The I938 and 1937 averages were 84.9 and I30.2 ( $\%$ of 1923-5).

External trade figures, though not so remarkable, indicate an analogous development. The value of exports has increased since April. In the first five months of 1939 the total slightly exceeded that of the corresponding period of 1938. Imports have been increasing since the end of last year and are nearly at the level of the early months of 1938 . Detailed analysis shows that it is " mineral products, metals and metal goods" which have determined the present position.

The recovery is, nevertheless, still limited and mainly directed towards external markets. Thus, though the index of production rose from IO2 in February to about IIO in June, compared with average levels of 98 in 1938 and I21 in 1937, and though the transport statistics denote the same development, unemployment statistics indicate a setback compared with the first half of I938, underlying the seasonal improvement.

In fact, in the majority of industries not included in the index of production, activity has declined. Building especially is affected. The recovery in iron and steel production is simultaneous with an. increase in the number of unemployed in metallurgy as a whole. That is to say, that the recovery affects only those branches where labour is of less importance. The position in zinc production is also less favourable.

The textile industry, for which the index of production has moved in the same way as the general index, shows stationary unemployment as compared with last year.

The second characteristic feature of recent developments is the reaction in the exchange
position of the belga, entailing the return of important liquid assets and reductions in the discount rate. The gold reserves of the National Bank, 17.5 Md. on April I7th, rose to 20.5 Md. on July 17th. Advances by the Central Bank have returned to their normal level, thus indicating the financial ease of the banks and of industry. The discount rate, after standing at $4 \%$ and $3 \%$, fell to $2 \frac{1}{2} \%$ at the beginning of July.

The reaction appeared also, but with some delay and in an incomplete fashion, on the money market. The most recent rate of allocation of three months Treasury bills was $2.27 \%$, compared with $2.5 \%$ in May and $1.5 \%$ at the beginning of the year. The international political situation was a cause in this case, as also in the security market, whose course has copied that of foreign markets.

The index of share prices is again at the lowest levels of the previous crisis, and the rate of capitalisation of shares is the highest recorded since 1930. Fixed interest shares, though falling also, are still far from their pre-1935 levels.

The index of wholesale prices has hardly varied since the beginning of the year ( 599 in February, 597 in July). This relative stability covers a slight improvement in prices of industrial materials and in vegetable products. But on the contrary animal products, which protectionist measures had maintained at a high level, have continued to fall.

The movement of retail prices is fairly clear ; their more than seasonal fall is satisfactory from the point of view of the equilibrium between internal and external prices. The disparity in terms of the cost of living, as compared with England, which the weakness of sterling increased from 125 to 135 in January, has diminished by 4 points.

The upshot of this analysis is that armament programmes have already favoured those sectors of industry directly interested. But it is still too soon to deduce the more general effects.

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Dates of Series．－Cols，1，2，1st of month ；4，5，4th－10th；6，7，Average； 8, Average second half of month； 9,15 th ；16，for 25 working days ； 17，at end of month or year ； 18,30 －day month ；19，calendar month．

## NETHERLANDS.

## (Joint report issued by the Central Bureau of Statistics and the Netherlands Economic Institute.)

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\text { fuly 28th, } 1939 .
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DURING the second quarter of 1939 the improvement in trade conditions, which was already noticeable in the first quarter of this year, continued. The recovery, which is still progressing, is gradually inducing a decided rise from the relatively low levels at which most economic indices stood until quite recently.

Owing to this recovery various difficulties are beginning to make themselves felt on the labour market. The protracted state of unemployment of a considerable body of available workers and the economic changes, which have increased the importance of some industries in comparison with others, have caused a certain shortage of skilled and in some cases even of unskilled labour in some branches of industry. Notwithstanding this, there was still a total of about 260,000 unemployed in June, 1939. The existence of this considerable unemployment simultaneously with shortage of labour emphasises the vital necessity of re-training.

The character of the recovery is a feature which deserves further attention. During the first quarter of 1939 the improvement was mainly limited to the domestic market, whereas exports showed stagnation or even a decline. At the moment a further improvement in the domestic market (in which connection armament and public works play an important part) is helped by a not unimportant increase in exports.

The influence of the recovery, both on the domestic market and in respect to orders from abroad, can easily be traced in several industries. Whereas until recently there were always industries showing an increase in unemployment notwithstanding betterment in other branches of industry, in the past quarter there has been no important branch of trade where unemployment figures have not appeared decidedly more favourable than in 1938.

The significance of armament orders in regard to business activity is rather considerable. Furthermore, the influence of the Government in the building industry is of great importance, as in preceding quarters. On the other hand,
private building activity has remained at a level which, although higher than in the years of deepest depression, cannot yet be called favourable.

The agricultural situation in general shows little change. Although the total export value of the principal products was maintained rather well and domestic prices increased somewhat, thereby creating the possibility of some improvement in the general situation, yet the latter can still not be considered to be favourable.

The above-mentioned rise in exports, an important factor in the general revival, derives its significance above all from the fact that it is not based on incidental circumstances. The great activity in various countries, mainly due to the ever-increasing armament programmes, results in a growing demand for goods.

As far as imports are concerned, in this respect also a satisfactory increase is noticeable. The 1937 level, however, has not yet been reached. In particular, the imports of raw materials and implements were much larger.

The traffic figures on the whole are likewise favourable. Above all the traffic indices in respect to the domestic trade situation show a further upward trend. Wholesale prices were subject to little or no change in the second quarter after a continuous decline since the middle of 1937. The cost of living decreased somewhat, whereas incomes went up. The growth of purchasing power is evident from the rise in retail sales and from the higher revenues from the turnover tax.

The money and capital markets were again greatly influenced by international political factors; moreover, during recent weeks the cabinet crisis has played a part. The outstanding phenomena were the continued flight of capital and the almost complete stagnation in capital issues.

The international political situation is a constant menace to our economic life. Although on the one hand armament orders have a stimulating effect, on the other hand they impair trade activity. At the moment, however, stimulating effects clearly predominate.

|  | sTOCKS \& SHARES. |  |  | BANK OF THE NETHERLANDS. |  |  | MONEY. |  | PRICES. |  | TRADE, OUTPUT, EMPLOYMENT, |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\square$ |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \dot{\text { i }} \\ & \text { E } \\ & \text { E\# } \\ & \text { む } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Index No. of imported Materials (net) $b$. | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Exports of finished } \\ & \text { products. } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |
|  | $\begin{gathered} 1921 / 25 \\ =100 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{\|c\|} \text { Mn. } \\ \text { Gld. } \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 0000 \\ & \text { G1d. } \end{aligned}$ |  | Mn. Gld. |  | \% | \% | $\begin{aligned} & 1926- \\ & \left\lvert\, \begin{array}{r} 1930 \\ =100 \end{array}\right. \end{aligned}$ | Oct. 23 - <br> Sep. 24 <br> $=100$ |  |  | $\begin{array}{r} 1930 \\ =100 \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} \% \\ \text { \% of } \\ 1925-7 \end{gathered}$ | Mn. tons. | $\begin{aligned} & 000 \\ & \text { tons } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 000 \\ & \text { tons } \end{aligned}$ | \% |
| 1918 A |  |  |  | 316 |  | $4 \cdot 8$ | $4 \cdot 65$ |  |  | $\dagger \dagger$ |  |  |  |  |  |  | 156 |  |
| 1924 Av | 90 | 28 | 30 | 975 | 2331 | 38 | 4.94 | $3 \cdot 96$ |  |  | 197 | 138 |  | 85 | $3 \cdot 57$ |  | 490 | $8 \cdot 8$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2.87 | $1 \cdot 11$ |  | $78 \cdot 9$ | 101 | 60 | 125 | 57 | 3.21 | 365 | 1049 | 27.8 |
| 1933 Av... | 35 | 22 | 28 | 926 891 | 1445 1444 | 175 132 | 2.87 2.50 | 1.11 | 62.9 63.0 | $78 \cdot 9$ $73 \cdot 1$ | -87 | 59 | 131 | 63 | 3.95 | 329 | 1028 | 28.05 § |
| 1934 Av... | 32 $30 \cdot 4$ | 22 3 | 27 | 8919 | 1444 | 132 59 | 2.99 3 | $3 \cdot 15$ | 61.5 | $77 \cdot 1$ | 78 | 56 | 126 | 65 | $4 \cdot 10$ | 253 | 990 | 31.7 32.7 |
| 1985 Av... | $35 \cdot 3 a$ | 13 | 49 | 760 | 1564 | 78 | $2 \cdot 84$ | 1.73 | 63.8 | $75 \cdot 0$ | 85 | 62 | 139 | 63 | 4.86 6.19 | 243 | 1193 | 32.7 26.9 |
| 1987 Av... | $66^{\circ} 0$ | 6 | 75 | 818 | 1863 | 498 | 2 | -28 | $76 \cdot 2$ | $77 \cdot 7$ | 129 | 96 | 178 | 84 | 6.19 | 256 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | 1502 | 62 | 3.24 | $2 \cdot 39$ | $62 \cdot 4$ |  | 79 | 50 | 131 | 51 | 6.02 | 243 | 1058 | 37.8 |
| JAN.. | 36.0 37.2 | 66 1 | 42 | 748 | 1425 | 62 58 | 3.24 2.55 | 1.27 | 62.0 | 7 $74 \cdot 2$ | 74 | 50 | 129 | 55 | $4 \cdot 58$ | 237 | 960 | 36.6 |
| MAB. | 35.7 | 1 | 29 | 762 | 1222 | 73 | 2.50 | 1.21 | 61.5 | 742 | 79 | 55 | 131 | 60 | $4 \cdot 26$ | 262 | 1015 | 33.9 32.5 |
| APRIL ... | 34.2 | 1 | 28 | 759 | 1137 | 88 | 2.50 | $1 \cdot 16$ | 61.1 |  | 81 | 57 | 137 | 60 | 61 | 23 | 1020 | 32.7 |
| MAY ...... | 33.5 |  | 30 | 764 | 1488 | 80 | 2.56 | $2 \cdot 17$ | 61.0 | ¢74.2 | 76 | 53 | 133 | 52 | 4.59 | 224 | 979 | 31.7 |
| JUNE | 34.4 | - | 29 | 752 | 1529 | 42 | 4.28 | 4.02 | 61.6 |  | 77 | 53 | 129 | 52 | 1 | 245 | 985 | 31 |
| JULY | $34 \cdot 9$ |  | 32 | 747 | 1643 | 1. 50 | $3 \cdot 10$ | 2.04 | $62 \cdot 3$ |  | 80 | 60 | 125 | 62 | 5:74 | 219 | 1120 | 31.4 |
| AUG.. | $35 \cdot 7$ | 3 | 23 | 744 | 1333 | 54 | 3.00 | $1 \cdot 36$ | $62 \cdot 7$ | 7447 | 82 | 63 | 133 | 59 | 4.93 | 219 | 1077 | 30.9 |
| SEPT | $36.2{ }^{\circ}$ | 3 | 44 | 761 | 1379 | 77 | 3.00 | $1 \cdot 32$ | $62 \cdot 6$ |  | 82 | 72 | 140 | 76 | 4.47 | 237 | 1131 | 0 |
| OCT. | 48.4 | 4 | 133 | 765 | 1856 | 69 | $2 \cdot 83$ | 1.95 | $68 \cdot 2$ | 75.5 | 92 | 76 | 148 | 82 | $5 \cdot 00$ | 272 | 1182 | 31.1 |
| NOV. | $54 \cdot 9$ | 55 | 99 | 775 | 1963 | 102 | 2.50 | -96 | $69 \cdot 5$ | $75 \cdot 8$ | 101 | 77 | 156 | 75 | $4 \cdot 86$ | 248 | 1 | 2 |
| DEC. | 56.5 | 21 | 54 | 777 | 2294 | 178 | 2.03 | -82 | 71.0 | $75 \cdot 5$ | 114 | 80 | 176 | 75 | $5 \cdot 28$ | 273 | 1134 | 32.7 |
| 1937 | $64 \cdot 4$ | 7 | 94 | 780 | 2121 | 204 | 2 | -62 | 73.0 | 75.9 | 106 | 73 | 176 | 66 | $5 \cdot 32$ | 233 | 1096 | 34.3 |
| FEB. | 68.7 | 11 | 115 | 772 | 1596 | 259 | 2 | . 41 | 74.0 | 75.8 | 105 | 79 | 179 | 74 | 5.45 | 246 | 1090 | 31.9 |
| MAR. | $71 \cdot 7$ | 3 | 106 | 786 | 1805 | 296 | 2 | -31 | 76.0 | 76.0 | 125 | 94 | 180 | 77 | 5.98 | 267 | 1228 | 29.5 |
| APRIL | $69 \cdot 4$ | 20 | 78 | 792 | 2039 | 318 | 2 | 125 | $77 \cdot 1$ | 77.0 | 142 | 101 | 189 | 95 | 6.82 | 261 | 1208 | 26.5 |
| MAY | 66.5 | 2 | 46 | 812 | 1598 | 462 | 2 | - 25 | 76.7 | $77 \cdot 1$ | 128 | 90 | 192 | 90 | 6.05 | 239 | 1090 | 24.5 |
| JUNE | $65 \cdot 2$ | 6 | 61 | 805 | 1680 | 567 |  | - 25 | $76 \cdot 3$ | $78 \cdot 1$ | 140 | 95 | 192 | 85 | 6.46 | 255 | 1207 | 23.4 |
| JULY | $67 \cdot 9$ | 2 | 77 | 825 | 2138 |  |  | -22 | $77 \cdot 5$ | 78.5 | 146 | 102 | 205 | 86 | 6.48 | 264 | 1246 | 23.9 |
| AUG.. | $72 \cdot 6$ | 6 | 59 | 822 | 1460 | 10 | 2 | -19 | $77 \cdot 6$ | 78.7 | 122 | 98 | 188 | 82 | 6.47 | 248 | 1209 | 24.0 |
| SEPT | 68.5 | 3 | 73 | 829 | $1659)$ |  | 2 | - 20 | 76.9 | 78.5 | 130 | 113 | 170 | 90 | 5.71 | 250 | 1238 | 23.9 |
| OCT. | $60 \cdot 1$ | 10 | 78 | 864 | 2258 |  | 2 | -20 | $77 \cdot 0$ | $79 \cdot 1$ | 149 | 106 | 150 | 91 | 7.46 | 285 | 1260 | 24.5 |
| NOV. | 58.0 | , | 24 | 873 | 2169 | 3 | 2 | -24 | $76 \cdot 3$ | 79•1 | 130 | 98 | 155 | 89 | 5.62 | 268 | 1225 |  |
| DEC. | $59 \cdot 1$ | 1 | 87 | 858 | 1835 | ¢8 | 2 | -24 | $75 \cdot 6$ | 78.9 | 128 | 98 | 166 | 84 | 6.41 | 254 | 1224 | $29 \cdot 8$ |
| JAN. ${ }^{1938}$ | 62.0 | 3 | 44 | 860 | 1721 | . 591 | 2 | -19 | $75 \cdot 2$ | 78.7 | 119 | 82 | 164 | 74 | $6 \cdot 14$ | 245 | 1158 | 31.9 |
| FEB. | 61.5 | 3 | 42 | 869 | 1440 | [. 718 | 2 | -16 | $74 \cdot 2$ | 78.5 | 118 | 82 | 163 | 73 | $5 \cdot 16$ | 208 | 1041 | 29.7 |
| MAR | $60 \cdot 0$ | 4 | 55 | 888 | 1553 | - 820 | 2 | -16 | 73.2 | $78 \cdot 1$ | 120 | 90 | 146 | 80 | 5.95 | 232 | 1239 | 26.8 |
| APRIL | 58.1 | 0 | 29 | 908 | 1412 | 839 | 2 | -16 | 72.5 | 78.2 | 115 | 81 | 135 | 76 | $6 \cdot 15$ | 217 | 1112 | 24.8 |
| MAY. | 58.4 | 1 | 29 | 920 | 1537 | 799 | 2 | -16 | 71.9 | 78.7 | 110 | 83 | 125 | 74 | 5.72 | 244 | 1086 | 23.9 22.9 |
| JUNE | $57 \cdot 8$ | 4 | 31. | 906 | 1477 | 807 | 2 | -18 | 71.6 | -79.5 | 119 | 81 | 129 | 77 | 6.06 | 253 | 1029 | $22 \cdot 9$ |
| JULY | $61 \cdot 3$ | 3 | 43 | 920 | 1630 | 771 | 2 | -19 | $71 \cdot 3$ | 378.5 | 120 | 78 | 135 | 71 | 6.21 | 253 | 1136 | $22 \cdot 3$ |
| AUG...... | $61 \cdot 2$ | 2 | 23 | 912 | 1512 | 730 | 2 | -19 | $70 \cdot 8$ | $78 \cdot 3$ | 116 | 90 | 145 | 72 | $7 \cdot 20$ | 260 | 1126 | 21.8 |
| SEPT. ... | 58.5 | 3 | 32 | 1005 | 1709 | 648 | 2 | -42 | $70 \cdot 5$ | 78.5 | 117 | 101 | 147 | 84 | 6.66 | 272 | 1086 | 21.8 |
| OCT. ..... | 61.8 | 4 | 42 | 1033 | 1451 | 658 | 2 | -31 | $70 \cdot 9$ | 78.4 | 127 | 98 | 159 | 80 | 6.81 |  | 1170 | $21 \cdot 9$ |
| NOV...... | . $62 \cdot 3$ | 6 | 41 | 994 | 1717 | 726 | 2 | - 20 | $70 \cdot 2$ | $77 \cdot 9$ | 119 | 92 | 171 | 92 | $6 \cdot 50$ | 260 | 1143 | $23 \cdot 3$ |
| DEC..... | - 61.8 | 5 | 27 | 978 | 1516 | 700 | 2 | -19 | $70 \cdot 6$ | -78.4 | 117 | 82 | 183 | 73 | 6.46 | 327 | 1161 | $28 \cdot 6$ |
| JAN...... | $59 \cdot 3$ | 100 | 56 | 972 | 1546 | 665 | 2 | -19 | $70 \cdot 2$ | 2 | 112 | 79 | 181 | 76 | 5.76 | 278 | 1138 | 28.9 |
| FEB... | 58.0 | 9 | 30 | 967 | 1709 | 682 | 2 | -19 | 69.9 | - | 105 | 73 | 172 | 75 | $5 \cdot 13$ | 234 | 1004 | 26.0 |
| MAR .... | $59 \cdot 3$ | 1 | 35 | 973 | 1787 | 62.0 | 2 | . 33 | 69.8 | $78 \cdot 3$ | 123 | 97 | 172 | 94 | $6 \cdot 30$ | 261 | 1195 | 22.5 |
| APRIL ... MAY | . $\begin{array}{r}54.9 \\ 56.1\end{array}$ | 0 | 30 | 1022 | 1625 | 462 | 2 | 1.28 | 69.8 | - | 122 | 82 | 177 | 80 | 5.81 |  | 1008 | 20.5 |
| MAY ..... | . 56.1 | 0 | 18 23 | 1036 999 | 1804 | 388 | ? | . 81 | $70 \cdot 0$ | - | 124 | 91 | 186 | 82 | $5 \cdot 53$ |  | 1072 | 18.5 |
|  |  |  |  |  | 1871 | 413 | 2 | 56 | 69.9 | $77 \cdot 0$ | 139 | 98 | 190 | 85 | 6.45 |  |  |  |
| JULY |  |  |  | 1014 |  | 355 | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| * Jan, to June figures include Pernis and Vonderlingerplaat. <br> *Amsterdam. + Without gold \& silver, bullion \& cash. t+ Last month of Quarter. New ${ }^{\circ}$ Up to Sept. 27th when gold standard was abandoned. <br> 8 \{ Number of days lost divided by total number of possible working days Trade Union members only. <br> 8 \{ Note,-Pottery and Agriculture not always included. <br> a First 9 months. <br> $b$ New Series. <br> q Based on new index in 1937. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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## POLAND.

Information supplied by the Polish Institute for Economic Research.

## THE ECONOMIC SITUATION OF POLAND IN APRIL-JUNE, 1939.

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\text { fuly 31st, } 1939 .
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THE uncertain political situation in Europe since the end of March has affected money market conditions in Poland, causing an increase in the demand for cash reserves. Owing to the expansion of credits by the Bank of Poland, the additional demand for cash reserves was fully met without causing any difficulties in the functioning of the credit system. The increase in cash reserves took place chiefly in March and April. During these two months, the amount of bank-notes in circulation and of sight liabilities of the Bank of Poland rose from 1,587 Mn. zlotys at the end of February to I,970 Mn. at the end of April. By the end of May this figure rose to $2,001 \mathrm{Mn}$. zlotys and remained practically unchanged in June at the level of $2,006 \mathrm{Mn}$. The increase in the demand for cash reserves automatically raised the requirements for coinage, which induced the Government to increase the amount of coinage in circulation by 50 Mn . zlotys. The influence of the political situation, as well as of money market conditions upon the investment market, was comparatively moderate. The index of bond prices at the end of June was 91.2, as against 98.8 at the end of March and 103.5 at the end of February. The index of industrial share prices declined more sharply and was 46.0 at the end of June, as against 52.9 at the end of March and 54.6 at the end of February. The issue of the Air-Defence Loan did not affect the investment market to any great extent, as the loan was mainly subscribed by the general public, which usually takes little part in investment operations. The subscriptions came to about 390 Mn . zlotys, apart from about 100 Mn . zlotys donated outright for national defence. The aggregate amount must be regarded as considerable, in view of the fact that it is equivalent to approximately $20 \%$ of the annual budget of the country.

The changes on the money and the investment market did not greatly affect the general economic situation, which continued to be favourable. The general index of industrial production rose from 123.5 for the period January-March to 128.I for April-June. The, largest gain was noted for the group of producers' goods, notably in the iron and steel industry,
the index of which rose from 102.5 to I19.7, as also in the metal-using and the electricalengineering industries. This was due to the large volume of public works, private residential construction, and capital investments in industry. Likewise, the output of coal increased considerably as a result not only of the favourable export conditions, but also of the general movement to increase stocks held by manufacturers and merchants. The output of consumers' goods remained virtually unchanged. The textile, clothing and leather industries showed some fall in production, which was, however, set off by larger output in the remaining branches of the group, chiefly in the foodstuff industries; The decline in the production of some consumers' goods, particularly in the textile industry, was not caused by a fall in consumption, but chiefly by a reduction in the stocks held by the merchants, who had to face a curtailment of credits granted to them. Naturally, the subscriptions to the Air-Defence Loan and the donations for national defence had a restrictive influence on consumption.
Wholesale prices during April-June rose slis . The index of wholesale prices in June was . as against 55.I in March. This increast
prices, t
it hiefly caused by a rise in grain ex of which was 43.I in June, as against 30. n March. Prices of industrial goods rose s. htly from 57.3 to 57.5 , mainly as a result of higner prices of imported raw materials and semi-mai ufactures. In addition, prices of timber and of mineral building materials increased somewhat in connection with the favourable development of public investment and private residential construction.

The favourable economic situation caused imports to increase considerably, from 309 to 336 Mn . zlotys during the quarter under review, as compared to the previous one. Imports of raw materials and semi-manufactures showed the largest increase. On the other hand, exports showed a slight seasonal decline, from 340 to 333 Mn . zlotys. This was due to the seasonal drop in grain exports, whereas exports of animal products increased as usual at this time of the year. Exports of industrial goods developed favourably.

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# LONDON \& CAMBRIDGE ECONOMIC SERVICE 

MONTHLY BULLETIN VOLUME XVII. BULLETIN VIII.<br>AUG. 23rd, 1939

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## LONDON $\mathfrak{E}$ CAMBRIDGE ECONOMIC SERVICE

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Subscribers are reminded that the Service is prepared to answer enquiries and to supply further statistics on special subjects. No charge is made unless considerable labour is entailed.

A. Index of Price of Industrial Shares, see Tablè p. 377, col. I
B. Board of Trade Index-Total excluding Foods, see Table p. 379, col. 5 .
C. Value of Exported Manufactures ( $\star$ normal seasonal variation removed), see Table p. 383, col. 17.
D. Average of Bank Rate, Bankers' Deposit Rate, Day-to-Day Rate and Three Months' Bill Rate, see Table p. 377, cols. 5, 6.

## EVENTS OF THE MONTH

July 23rd-August 22nd, 1939.

Wed. July 26th U.S.A.-fapan
Wed. Aug. 2nd U.K.-Poland
$, \#, ~ U . S . A . ~$

Thurs. » 3rd U.S.A.
" , " France
Fri. „ IIth International
Sat. „ I9th Germany-
U.S.S.R.

Mon. „2Ist GermanyU.S.S.R.

Tues. „, 22nd U.K.
Aug. I3th-22nd International
U.S. Government denounces Treaty of Commerce and Navigation with Japan.
U.K. Government grants credits of $£ 8 \mathrm{Mn}$. to Poland.

House of Representatives cuts Deficiency Appropriation Bill from \$216 Mn. to $\$ 53 \mathrm{Mn}$. and refuses to consider Spending-Lending Bill.
House of Representatives shelves Housing Bill, involving $\$ 800 \mathrm{Mn}$. Import quotas on numerous articles abolished.
Anglo-Franco-Soviet Staff talks begin in Moscow.
Trade Pact concluded, involving German credit to U.S.S.R. of 200 Mn. marks.
Announcement of intention of German and Soviet Governments to conclude pact of non-aggression.
Government issues statement re-affirming pledge to Poland against aggression.
German Press campaign against Poland intensified. Series of meetings between Foreign Ministers of Germany, Italy and Hungary. Militarisation of Danzig admitted.

# THE GENERAL BUSINESS POSITION. 

UNITED KINGDOM.*

## August 21st, 1939.

There has been no change in general industrial tendency during the past month. The total number of persons occupied in ordinary industry, on Government work direct or indirect, or with the Forces has again increased, and in July the percentage of unemployment among insured persons was in the aggregate lower than in any previous comparable record, and is down to 4.5 in the South-Western Division. There has, no doubt, already been some transference of occupations, which cannot be measured till the results of the issue or new insurance books in July is available. The actual reserve of labour is still considerable and maybeincreased by slackening of employment in house-building. But if the rate of Government expenditure increases further, the difficulties of finding suitable men in the places where they are wanted will increase, and it may be necessary to organise and direct labour moredefinitely.

Independent private enterprise is discouraged and new capital issues are nearly non-existent. The most recent statistics of retail sales indicate some check in consumption other than of food, in spite of the increased sums in the hands of the wage-earning class.

Owing to the reduction of prices of
cereals the retail food index-number is lower than a year ago, and there have been few increases in the prices of the other commodities that are included in the cost of living. Wholesale prices of materials in general have moved very little in recent months. There has been some variation in sensitive prices, but so far there is unused capacity for the production of copper, tin and rubber. If industry in the United States makes more rapid progress, a general rise of prices may occur.

Imports of materials and of some manufactured goods are at a higher level than last year, and the quantity of food and materials imported has been greater than in 1937. Exports have maintained their more moderate increase over 1938. With the relatively low prices of food, cotton and some other materials, the increased quantity of imports has been obtained with an adverse visible balance of trade smaller than in 1938 for Jan.-July, but slightly greater for July alone.

The increase of employment taken by itself would suggest boom conditions, but the present development differs from those that have preceded crises in the past, in the stagnation of the stock-exchange, the absence of new investment, and, so far at least, the stationariness of prices.

## ANALYSIS OF RECENT MOVEMENTS.

## UNITED KINGDOM.

FINANCE.-Bank of England.-The peak of the seasonal rise in the Bank of England's note circulation was reached on August 9 th, with a total of $£_{5} 51.9 \mathrm{Mn}$., or $£_{2} 24 \mathrm{Mn}$. more than the the 1938 peak, and the note reserve of the Banking Department fell to $£_{2} 2.5 \mathrm{Mn}$. Thus but for the transfer of $£_{20} \mathrm{Mn}$. of gold to the Bank early in July the reserve would have fallen far below the normal minimum. The fall in the reserve was almost exactly offset by an
increase in Government Securities, but total deposits fell to under $£_{1} 150 \mathrm{Mn}$. in consequence of a further decline in Discounts and Advances. As meanwhile Government Deposits rose further to the high level of $£ 3 \mathrm{I} .8 \mathrm{Mn}$., Bankers' Deposits fell to no more than $£ 81.7 \mathrm{Mn}$., or nearly $£ 25 \mathrm{Mn}$. less than on the corresponding date of 1938.

The return for August 16th shows some reversal of these movements. A seasonal decline in the note circulation to $£ 512.4 \mathrm{Mn}$. has been
accompanied by only a trifling fall in the Banks' holdings of securities, and total deposits have
 ment Deposits have fallen to $£ 27.5 \mathrm{Mn}$., so that Bankers' Deposits have risen to a more normal level of $£ 94.7 \mathrm{Mn}$. This is, however, still well below the level of a year ago.

It is clear from the approximate maintenance of the clearing banks' cash reserves in July that the decline in Bankers' Deposits at the Bank of England has not been fully reflected in the banks' total cash holdings. Nevertheless, the continued low level of Bankers' Deposits is somewhat surprising in view of the Treasury's increasing financial requirements for purposes of rearmament.

No doubt steps will be taken to increase them, probably by a reduction in Government Deposits, when or before the expected defence loan is issued.

Clearing Banks.-Bank Discounts, which in April and May were rising much more slowly than the total of Treasury bills issued by tender, have recently been rising faster. Though the increase in the average issue of tender bills from June to July was only about $£ 26 \mathrm{Mn}$., the average Discounts of nine London clearing banks rose by $£ 28.4 \mathrm{Mn}$., while in addition, their short loans, the bulk of which are against bills, rose by $£ 6.4 \mathrm{Mn}$. In view of the rise of about $£ 20 \mathrm{Mn}$. in the 'tap' bill average total for July, it seems possible that the Exchange Account was replacing with 'tap' bills some of the tender bills purchased earlier in the market, thus causing the volume of bills actually available to the market to rise more rapidly than the tender bill issue, and correspondingly increasing the opportunities of the banks to acquire bills.

Even with the latest increase, the average Discounts of the nine banks, at $£_{2} 69.3 \mathrm{Mn}$., were still about $£_{2}^{26} \mathrm{Mn}$. lower than in July, 1938, while short loans, at $£ 146.9 \mathrm{Mn}$., were also slightly lower. The return of the quick assets ratio (the ratio of Cash plus short loans plus Discounts to Deposits) to a normal level has, however, been facilitated by further declines from June to July of $£ 7.3 \mathrm{Mn}$. in Advances and $£_{3} \cdot 3 \mathrm{Mn}$. in Investments. The total of Advances, at $£ 934.5 \mathrm{Mn}$., was thus reduced to about the level of July, 1938, while Investments, at $£ 553.9$ Mn ., were over $£ 35 \mathrm{Mn}$. lower than a year before. The total of Deposits, at $\AA_{2}, 122 \mathrm{Mn}$., was therefore $£ \preceq \mathrm{IM}$. lower on the year, and the quick assets ratio, at $30.1 \%$, was only slightly lower than a year before.

The continued fall in Investments at a time when the quick assets ratio has been rising
rapidly would seem to indicate that the inadequacy of this ratio was not the only reason for the decline in Investments. Further light on the banks' views as to what in present circumstances constitutes a desirable level for their investment holdings will no doubt be shed when the expected new defence loan is issued this autumn. The absence of any appreciable rise in Advances during the past year confirms the impression, recorded last month, that the transfer of factors to armament and defence work has been facilitated by a reduction in private investment; otherwise, it might have been expected that the need of additional finance for carrying out Government contracts would have necessitated a considerable increase in bank advances.

The July figures for bank clearings show some signs of increasing activity. Though the total of Town clearings fell to the lowest level recorded for some years, the decline from June was no more than seasonal, while Country clearings showed a more than seasonal rise to a level above the high figure recorded in July, 1937. Provincial clearings remained slightly above the 1938 level. Of the eleven provincial centres only three (Bradford, Manchester and Newcastle) showed increases over the year, but all three rises were substantial, while the falls in the remaining centres, except Liverpool and Leicester, were small.

Security Prices.-Prices of Industrial securities showed a fairly sharp recovery in the second half of July, and though there was some reaction in the first half of August, our midmonthly index still shows a substantial improvement over the mid-July low. Prices of fixed interest securities, on the other hand, continued to sag slowly, though they were still above the low point reached in April last. Our crude index of foreign bond prices showed a slight fall, due to small declines in the obligations of a large number of countries, but was still above the midApril level. Despite the increased issue of Treasury bills, short money rates have tended to fall slightly.

New Capital Issues.-The July figures of new capital issues, as compiled by the Midland Bank, show a return to almost complete stagnation in the new issue market, both on home and overseas account.

Government Finance.-During the past month the rate of Government expenditure has slackened, at least for the moment, while revenue has increased. In the four weeks ending August 12th the expenditure on Ordinary Account was only $£ 62.8 \mathrm{Mn}$., as compared with $£ 77 \mathrm{Mn}$. in June-July and $£ 90.2 \mathrm{Mn}$. in July-August, 1938.

Even with the addition of the $£ 27 \mathrm{Mn}$. spent on Loan Account, against $£ 19.5 \mathrm{Mn}$. last month and nothing a year ago, the month's expenditure was $\mathrm{f}_{6.7} \mathrm{Mn}$. less than in June-July, and slightly below July-August last year. Over the same period the Ordinary Revenue has risen from $£ 60.2 \mathrm{Mn}$. last year to nearly $£ 67 \mathrm{Mn}$. in consequence of larger yields from Income Tax, Estate Duties, N.D.C., Customs and Excise. Thus, for the first time for many months, the total deficit for the month at $£ 22.8 \mathrm{Mn}$. is smaller than that for the corresponding month of the previous year. In recent months the deficit has been running at a level of $£_{1} 5$ to $£ 30 \mathrm{Mn}$. higher than in 1938-9. While the check to the rise in Expenditure is no doubt purely temporary, the continued increase in Revenue is encouraging, and it seems likely that the original estimates for the year will be substantially exceeded.

The smaller deficit for the month is reflected in a smaller increase in the Floating Debt, which rose by only $£ 26 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ \mathrm{r}, \mathrm{I} 26 \mathrm{Mn}$., as compared with a rise of $£ 45 \mathrm{Mn}$. last month. Part of the rise again took place in 'tap' Treasury bills, which rose by $£ 8 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 57 \mathrm{I} \mathrm{Mn}$., and the total of Treasury bills issued by tender increased by only $£_{1} 6 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 5$ Io Mn. This figure is still $£ 45 \mathrm{Mn}$. below the level of a year ago.

The rise in 'tap' bills may be due to increased holdings by the Exchange Equalisation Account, which has probably been obliged to sell a certain amount of gold during the past month, though in view of the increased dealings by the Account in 'tender' bills, the 'tap' bill figures are nowadays little guide to its month-to-month activities. Alternatively, it is not unlikely that the Departments are increasing their bill holdings with a view to placing themselves in a position to take up part of the new defence loan expected in the autumn.

Foreign Exchanges.-During the past month the beginning of the seasonal commercial demand for dollars, together with periodic increases in anxiety about the international political situation, has at times obliged the British Exchange Equalisation Account to give a certain amount of support to the market. It does not seem, however, that it has had any serious difficulty in preventing the sterling-dollar rate from falling below $4.68 \frac{1}{8}$, at which level it has steadily remained since the beginning of August. The franc-sterling rate has been even more rigidly pegged, and has remained unchanged at $176 \frac{23}{3}$ throughout the past month.

Gold Movements.-There was a considerable net outflow of gold in July, exports being higher and imports lower than in June. Exports totalled $£ 43.4 \mathrm{Mn}$., of which $£ 38.9 \mathrm{Mn}$. went to the United States. Imports totalled only $£_{\text {II }} .9 \mathrm{Mn}$., of which $£ 7.3 \mathrm{Mn}$. came from South Africa and $£ 2.3 \mathrm{Mn}$. from Holland.

Owing to the prevalence of the custom of earmarking gold, little reliable indication of the operations of the various Exchange Accounts can be obtained from the figures of gold movements.

During the first half of August movements were on much the same scale as in July. During the period July 3Ist-August I4th exports totalled $£ 222.8 \mathrm{Mn}$., of which $£ 9.0 \mathrm{Mn}$. went to Canada, $£ 8.4$ to the United States, $£ \mathrm{I} .9 \mathrm{Mn}$. to Siam, and £I.7 Mn. to Belgium. Imports totalled $£ 7.3 \mathrm{Mn}$., of which $£ 4.6 \mathrm{Mn}$. came from South Africa and $£ \mathrm{I} .2 \mathrm{Mn}$. from France.

PRICES AND WAGES.-The general stationariness of prices, that has been observed since the early autumn of last year, continued in July and in the first half of August. The only important change in July was a further reduction in the prices of cereals, which has brought the Statist index number down.

With a seasonal fall in the price of potatoes, the index of retail food prices has fallen. The whole movement from February ist to August Ist has been the same in 1939 as in 1938, that is, a very slight fall. The seasonal movement downwards in these months, which occurred in the period 1923-29, has not taken place in recent years.

The Cost of Living Index was very nearly the same on August ist as on January Ist this year, and August Ist, 1937 and 1938.

Since our last Bulletin there has been no change in wage rates that affects our indexnumber.

TRADE AND OUTPUT.-The Board of Trade's estimates of the volume and average values of imports and exports are now available for the second quarter of the year. The following tables show the estimates for the last nine quarters. In the table of imports, manufactures are divided into groups A and B , which as nearly as possible contain respectively articles which undergo further processes and finished goods. The indices of volume and of price are obtained by revaluing all items at the average 1935 values of similar goods.

The import figures for the second quarter of the year show a remarkable recovery in volumes

# Value of Exports of the Produce and Manufactures of the United Kingdom in the 2nd Qrs. of 1924, 1938 and 1939. 



As values are given to two decimal places only, the totals are not always identical with the sum of the items.

## EXPORTS OF MANUFACTURES

Value of chief articles exported in the 2nd Qrs. of 1938 \& 1939 to the principal countries concerned


RETAINED IMPORTS.
$a=$ Declared Value, £Mn.
$b=$ Index of Volume ( 1935 Quarterly Average $=100$ )
$c=$ Index of Price ( 1935 Average values $=100$ )

in comparison with the second quarter of 1938. The aggregate volume of retained imports was $9 \%$ greater than in 1938 and 3\% greater than in I937. It has been surpassed in recent years only by the volume shown in the fourth quarter of 1937 , when a peak was reached. The recovery is shown in similar fashion by each of the major groups. The average price of all imports was considerably less than in the second quarter alike of 1938 and of 1937. Over the year the average price of food imports showed a fall of $9 \%$, that of materials one of $2 \%$. The average price of manufactures, however, was slightly higher than a year previously. The recovery in imports in the second quarter of the year was thus due to a sharp increase in demand at lower prices than were ruling in the previous two years.

Similar calculations for exports of U.K. produce show that the total volume of exports in the second quarter of the year was about $7 \frac{1}{2} \%$ greater than in 1938, but $9 \frac{1}{2} \%$ less than in 1937. The second quarter of 1937 , it should be noted, showed a volume only slightly less than the highest for any quarter in recent years. The average price of exports was slightly less than in 1937 and considerably less than in 1938. The most striking improvement was shown by coal exports, which increased in volume by $14 \frac{1}{2} \%$ over the year and by $3 \frac{1}{2} \%$ over 1937. Exports of other materials and manufactures recovered to a position about midway between that of 1937 and that of 1938 . Prices were generally lower than in 1938. The average price of coal exports was considerably higher than in 1937 (the increase in volume being thus the more remarkable), that of other materials somewhat lower and that of manufactures about the same.

EXPORTS OF U.K. PRODUCE.


The table on page 366 of the geographical distribution of exports of U.K. produce in the second quarters of 1938 and 1939 shows the following principal changes-U.S.A. $(+75 \%)$, Norway, Sweden and Denmark ( $+26 \%$ ), Germany and Austria ( $-21 \%$ ). In the first quarter of the year exports to the United States increased by $39 \%$, as compared with the corresponding period of the previous year. The effect of the Anglo-American Trade Agreement which came into force on Jan. Ist, 1939, has apparently been progressively beneficial to the British export trade. Shipments of tin to the United States, which are highly fluctuating and therefore sometimes affect the statistics unduly, rose from $£ 6,000$ to $£ 648,000$ in the second quarters, but they rose similarly in the first quarters from $£ 5,000$ to $£ 623,000$.

The value of food imports was lower in July than in June, principally owing to reduction in dairy produce and fruit. But when allowance is made for the fall of prices, it is probable that the aggregate quantity of food imported was about the same as a year ago. Other Imports were of nearly the same value in June and July this year. In comparison with July, 1938, there were considerable increases in importation of iron-ore, metal products generally, timber, raw wool, and jute, raw and manufactured.

The total value of Exports was only $\mathbf{1} \%$ higher in July than in June and nearly $8 \%$ higher than in July, 1938. As in 1938, the increase from June to July is less than was to be expected from earlier experience, when a considerable addition

## A. TOTAL IMPORTS OF RAW MATERIALS—REVALUED AT 1935 AVERAGE PRICES. $\dagger$ <br> WITH CERTAIN PARTLY MANUFACTURED GOODS BUT EXCLUDING RUBBER. £Mn.

| Qrs. | 1936 |  | 1937 |  |  |  | 1938 |  |  |  | 1939 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 |
| Pig-iron, \&c. . $\quad$. | $1 \cdot 3$ | 8 | $\cdot 9$ | 1.2 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 22 | - 6 | - 5 | $\cdot 4$ | - 6 |  |
| Copper, tin, lead, zinc | 4.7 | $5 \cdot 0$ | $4 \cdot 9$ | 6.7 | 7.5 | 6.8 | 5.5 | $6 \cdot 7$ | 5.2 | 54 | $4 \cdot 8$ | 5.0 |
| Yarns | $2 \cdot$ | $\stackrel{.}{2}$ | -2 | .1 1.9 | . 2 | - ${ }^{2}$ | . 2 | - 2 | . 3 | - 3 | 3 | $\cdot 3$ |
| Leather ... . |  | $2 \cdot 1$ | 1.9 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 16 | 1.4 | $1 \cdot 3$ | 1.5 | 14 | $1 \cdot 7$ | $1 \cdot 9$ |
| Mineral, (non-metals) | 1.2 | $1 \cdot 2$ | $1 \cdot 1$ | 1.4 | 1.5 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 1.2 | $1 \cdot 1$ | 1.2 | 1.0 | 1.5 |
| Iron Ore ...... | $1 \cdot 9$ | 1.6 | 1.6 | $2 \cdot 2$ | 2.4 | $2 \cdot 3$ | 2.9 | 1.7 | 1.0 | - 7 | 0.9 | 1.9 |
| Non-Ferrous Metals | 3.4 | $3 \cdot 2$ | 3.0 | 4.5 | 3.7 | 4.5 | 3.6 | 43 | 3.6 | $3 \cdot 3$ | 3.5 | $3 \cdot 5$ |
| Wood ... | $15 \cdot 1$ | $12 \cdot 1$ | 6.6 | $9 \cdot 1$ | $16 \cdot 3$ | $12 \cdot 9$ | $5 \cdot 6$ | 6.8 | 10.9 | $10 \cdot 0$ | $5 \cdot 8$ | 77 |
| Oil Seeds, \&c. | $5 \cdot 9$ | $6 \cdot 1$ | $7 \cdot 7$ | $7 \cdot 4$ | 6.2 | 6.8 | $8 \cdot 1$ | 8.4 | $7 \cdot 2$ | $6 \cdot 1$ | $7 \cdot 5$ | 9.6 |
| Hides $\quad \cdots$... | 4.2 | 4.8 | 4.8 | 4.2 | 4.7 | 3.8 | 3.9 | $3 \cdot 3$ | 4.0 | 3.4 | 3.6 | 3.6 |
| Paper Materials ... | 3.0 | $3 \cdot 3$ | $2 \cdot 7$ | 3.4 | $3 \cdot 5$ | 4.0 | 3.4 | $2 \cdot 7$ | 2.5 | 3.2 | $2 \cdot 8$ | 3.5 |
| Textiles (other than Cotton and Wool) | 2.4 | 3.7 | 4.8 | 2.9 | 1.9 | 2.9 | 4.2 | $2 \cdot 5$ | 2.3 | 3.5 | 3.9 | 3.7 |
| Cotton ... ... | 9.9 | 13.5 | 13.2 | $10 \cdot 3$ | $7 \cdot 2$ | $17 \cdot 1$ | 11.9 | $7 \cdot 3$ | $7 \cdot 8$ | 8.2 | 7.9 | $7 \cdot 8$ |
| Wool | 4.7 | $9 \cdot 3$ | $10 \cdot 8$ | 10.9 | $4 \cdot 9$ | 7.2 | $10 \cdot 3$ | 12.4 | $6 \cdot 1$ | 8.7 | $13 \cdot 6$ | $13 \cdot 4$ |
| All above groups, and Miscellaneous | $62 \cdot 9$ | $70 \cdot 1$ | 668 | 68-3 | $66 \cdot 9$ | $76 \cdot 1$ | $67 \cdot 1$ | $61 \cdot 3$ | 56.9 | 58.4 | $60 \cdot 4$ | 66.5 |
| Excl. cotton and woolTotal Imports | $48 \cdot 3$ | $47 \cdot 3$ | $42 \cdot 8$ | $47 \cdot 1$ | $57 \cdot 8$ | $51 \cdot 8$ | 44.9 | 41.6 | $43 \cdot 0$ | 41.5 | 乙8.9 | $45 \cdot 3$ |

B. EXPORTS OF U.K. MANUFACTURES—REVALUED AT 1935 AVERAGE PRICES. £Mn. $\dagger$


* Including footwear.
+ Based upon estimates published in the Board of Trade Journal.
to woollen exports took place at this time of year.

| IMPOR'S | LESS | RE-EXPOR'S. £Mn |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 1938 |  | 1939 |  |  |
| Food, \&c.- | May | June | July | May | June | July |
| Grain | 6.2 | 7.2 | $5 \cdot 8$ | 4.3 | 5.7 | $5 \cdot 5$ |
| Meat | $7 \cdot 4$ | 8.2 | 8.5 | 77 | 8.1 | 76 |
| Dairy Produce | 6.7 | 72 | 7.8 | 6.5 | $7 \cdot 5$ | $6 \cdot 3$ |
| Fruit \& Vegetables | $4 \cdot 8$ | 4.5 | 3.0 | 4.6 | 4.6 | $2 \cdot 5$ |
| Tobacco ... ... | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 0.5 | 0.5 8.8 | 1.0 |
| Other | 8.1 | 9.8 | 9.5 | 8.9 |  |  |
| Total | $33 \cdot 9$ | 37.6 | 35.4 | $32 \cdot 5$ | 35.2 | $31 \cdot 9$ |
| Materials- |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cotton |  | 1.5 | 2.0 | 4.0 | 3:3 | $2 \cdot 8$ |
| Wool |  | 2.9 | 2.3 | 3.5 | 2.7 | $2 \cdot 7$ |
| Seeds \& Oils Hides \& Skius | 2.6 0.1 | 26 0.2 | 2.7 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.9 |
| Timber ... | $3 \cdot 0$ | 4.2 | $4 \cdot 7$ | 3.0 | 4.7 | $5 \cdot 4$ |
| Rubber ... | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.2 |
| Non-ferrous metals | $1 \cdot 3$ | 1.2 | $1 \cdot 3$ | 1.4 | $1 \cdot 3$ | $1 \cdot 3$ |
| Other ... | $3 \cdot 9$ | 3.6 | 3.0 | $5 \cdot 0$ | 50 | $4 \cdot 3$ |
| Total | 17.0 | 17.0 | $17 \cdot 3$ | 20.0 | 19.9 | 19.5 |
| Manufactures- |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| A. Iron, Steel | 0.8 | 07 | 0.7 |  |  |  |
| Non-ferrous | $2 \cdot 4$ | 2.7 | 2.4 | 3.2 | 3.2 | $3 \cdot 9$ |
| Tlimber ... | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 4.5 |
| Oils | 3.5 1.7 | 3.6 <br> 1.6 | 3.5 <br> 1.5 | 3.4 <br> 2.2 | 49 <br> 2.2 | 4.5 <br> 2.3 |
| Total | $9 \cdot 0$ | $9 \cdot 1$ | 8.6 | $10 \cdot 7$ | 126 | $13 \cdot 1$ |
| B. Total | 7.8 | 76 | 7.5 | 9.8 | 9.7 | $9 \cdot 5$ |
| All Imports (net) ... | 68.2 | $71 \cdot 6$ | 69.3 | $73 \cdot 5$ | $77 \cdot 9$ | $74 \cdot 6$ |

Under Manufactures, A includes commodities used in further manufacture and transport; 'Other' contains leather, paper and motor accessories. B includes all other manufactures.

The Table below shows in some detail the recent movements.

The adverse balance of visible trade in merchandise was $£ 34 \mathrm{Mn}$. in July, 1939, nearly $£ 32 \mathrm{Mn}$. in July, 1938 , and $£ 3 \mathrm{I}$ Mn. in July, 1937.

| EXPORI'S | OF B May | $\begin{gathered} \text { RITISH } \\ 1938 \\ \text { June } \end{gathered}$ | PRO July | CE. | $\begin{gathered} \text { £Mn. } \\ 1939 \\ \text { June } \end{gathered}$ | July |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Beverages* ... | $1 \cdot 1$ | 1.1 | 1.0 | 1.4 | 1.5 | $1 \cdot 0$ |
| Tobaceo ... | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 |
| Food ... | $1 \cdot 3$ | $1 \cdot 2$ | 1.5 | 1.4 | 1.5 | 1.6 |
| Total | $2 \cdot 8$ | $2 \cdot 7$ | 2.9 | $3 \cdot 2$ | 3.4 | 3.0 |
| Materials- |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Coal | 3.5 | $3 \cdot 1$ | $3 \cdot 2$ | $3 \cdot 8$ | 3.7 | $3 \cdot 8$ |
| Wool .... | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.5 |
| Oils and fats | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Other | $0 \cdot 8$ | 0.7 | 0.8 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.8 |
| Total | $4 \cdot 9$ | 4.5 | $4 \cdot 7$ | $5 \cdot 4$ | $5 \cdot 2$ | $5 \cdot 3$ |
| Manufactures- |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Non-ferrous metals | - 12 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 1.4 | 12 | 1 |
| Iron, steel, machinery | 10.2 | 9.9 | $9 \cdot 7$ | 14 $10 \cdot 3$ | 12 | $1 \cdot 3$ |
| Vehicles ... | 106 | 4.1 | $3 \cdot 2$ | 10.3 3.9 | 9.6 3.9 | 9.8 |
| Cotton . | 39 | 3.7 | 4.0 | 3.9 4.4 | 3.9 4.0 | 3.4 4.5 |
| Wool $\quad \ldots$. | 1.7 | 1.8 | $2 \cdot 3$ | $4 \cdot 4$ $2 \cdot 1$ | 4.0 2.0 | 4.5 26 |
| Other textiles and apparel... ... |  | 1.8 | $2 \cdot 1$ | 21 | 2.0 | 26 |
| Chemicals $\quad . .$. | 2.1 1.9 | 1.8 | 2.1 1.7 | 2.4 | $2 \cdot 3$ | 2.2 |
| Other | 4.9 | 5:0 | 5.1 | 2.4 5.8 | 2.2 5.3 | 2.0 |
| Total ... <br> Total exports of | $29 \cdot 5$ | 28.8 | 29.0 |  |  |  |
|  |  | 28 | 290 | 327 | $30 \cdot 5$ | 310 |
| British Produce | 38.2 | 36.9 | 37.5 | $42 \cdot 3$ | $39 \cdot 9$ | $40 \cdot 4$ |

The output of iron and of steel was at nearly the same rate in July as in June. There was the usual seasonal fall in coal output.

Building plans approved in July were valued in the aggregate at $30 \%$ less than in July, 1938, in spite of a considerable increase in plans for fctories.

## UNEMPLOYMENT. - The most recent

 detailed account is for July Ioth, a date which precedes the calling-up of the first batch of Militia. Under the General Insurance Scheme the percentage unemployed has fallen from 12.9 on July 18th, 1938, to 9.7 on June 12th, 1939, and 9.I on July 10th, 1939. In the Agricultural Scheme the percentages at the same dates were $4.3,4.2$ and 3.9. As there has been no general re-classification of the occupations of insured persons since July, 1938, the reduction in unemployment attributable to any one industry or to agriculture may be in part due to persons having found work in other industries or government employment or having joined the Forces. At present, we have not sufficient information to allow us to make any adjustment of numbers so as to ascertain the number actually employed in any one industry.As the figures stand, reduction in unemployment over the twelve months is found in every industry except slate quarrying, professional services and hotel service. In the four weeks to July ioth the reduction is not quite so general, since there has been less employment in clothing industries, public works, and (paradoxically) in Government service.

INSURED MALES UNEMPLOYED.

| January | Wholly Unemployed |  |  |  | Temporarily Stopped |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Year | 1938 | 1939 |  | 1938 | 1939 |
|  | ... | 879 | 957 | ... | 177 | 216 |
| February | ... | 887 | 938 | ... | 177 | 179 |
| March ... |  | 873 | 905 | ... | 187 | 147 |
| April ... | ... | 864 | 846 | ... | 213 | 149 |
| May | .. | 854 | 786 | ... | 248 | 121 |
| June .. |  | 842 | 718 | ... | 297 | 125 |
| July |  | 813 | 651 | ... | 312 | 118 |
| August | $\ldots$ | 816 | - | $\ldots$ | 278 | - |
| September | - | 848 | - | ... | 267 | - |
| October |  | 895 | - |  | . 195 | - |
| November |  | 917 | - | ... | 201 | - |
| December | ... | 917 | - |  | 188 | - |

Attention may be called to the Table on page 371, Unemployment by Districts. There it is seen that the decrease in unemployment over 12 months is most marked in Wales, the NorthEastern area, and North Ireland. It is greater than the general decrease in the United Kingdom also in the Midlands, North and North-Western area, nearly the same as the general decrease in

Scotland，but less in London and the Southern Divisions．

On July Ioth，568，000 men in Great Britain between the ages 16 and 65 were unemployed， though they had had some work during the past
six months．The great majority of these had， however，been out of work less than six weeks．In fact，of all the applicants for benefit and allowances $44 \%$ had registered for less than six weeks．

INSURED PERSONS UNEMPLOYED．UNITED KINGDOM．ooo＇s（nearest）． Males and Females．Aged 16－65．Excluding Agriculture．
A Wholly Unemployed．
B．Temporarily Stopped．

|  | June, |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { July } 18 \text { th, } \\ & 1938 \end{aligned}$ |  |  | June， |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { July } 10 \text { th, } \\ 1939 \end{gathered}$ |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B | Total | A | B |
| Building ．．．．．． | 131 | 126 | 4. | 142 | 137 | 5. | 118 | 115 | 4 | 119 | 115 | 4 |
| Public Works ．．． | 106 | 104 | 3 | 115 | 112 | 3 | 93 | 94 | 2 | 103 | 101 | 2 |
| Coal $\quad . .$. | 156 | 86 | 70 | 191 | 82 | 109 | 112 | 75 | 37 | 103 | 65 | 38 |
| Cotton ．．． | 142 | 50 | 92 | 113 | 50 | 63 | 55 | 37 | 17 | 49 | 33 | 16 |
| Wool $\quad$ ．． | 51 | 16 | 35 | 48 | 15 | 32 | 20 | 39 | 10 | 14 | 7 | 7 |
| Other Textiles | 117 | 60 | 57 | 119 | 65 | 55 | 60 | 9 | 21 | 57 | 36 | 21 |
| Clothing ．．． | 79 | 41 | 38 | 84 | 44 | 39 | 48 | 32 | 16 | 58 | 34 | 24 |
| Distribution | 185 | 174 | 11 | 174 | 163 | 11 | 167 | 156 | 11 | 150 | 140 | 11 |
| Other Industries | 646 | 488 | 158 | 626 | 474 | 154 | 479 | 410 | 69 | 430 | 365 | 64 |
| Hotels | 58 | 57 | 2 | 54 | 52 | 2 | 63 | 60 | 3 | 56 | 54 | 2 |
| Commerce，Pro－ fessions，\＆c．．．． | 158 | 150 | 8 | 153 | 145 | 8 | 151 | 142 | 9 | 143 | 136 | 7 |
| Totals | 1829 | 1352 | 478 | 1817 | 1339 | 481 | 1369 | 1170 | 139 | 1282 | 1086 | 196 |
| Males | 1375 | 1671 | 304 | 1382 | 1061 | 320 | 1057 | 926 | 131 | 990 | 836 | 124 |
| Females ． | 455 | 281 | 174 | 438 | 277 | 160 | 312 | 244 | 69 | 292 | 220 | 72 |

## UNEMPLOYMENT BY DISTRICTS

PERCENTAGE OF INSURED PERSONS UNEMPLOYED．－GREAT BRITAIN AND N．IRELAND．

|  |  | 或 से |  |  | 䂞 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \dot{0} \\ & \stackrel{y}{\Delta} \\ & \stackrel{y}{3} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 滒 } \\ & \text { 荡 } \\ & \text { z } \end{aligned}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1938 | $\begin{gathered} \text { July } \quad\{ \\ 18 \\ \text { Aug. } 15 \\ \text { Sept. } 12 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{r} (a) 13 \cdot 1 \\ \text { (b) } 12 \cdot 9 \\ 12.6 \\ 12.8 \end{array}$ | r $\begin{array}{r}(a) 13 \cdot 7 \\ b, 13 \cdot 6 \\ 13.2 \\ 13 \cdot 5\end{array}$ | （a）11．5 | （ $\begin{array}{r}7 \cdot 6 \\ \text {（a）} 7 \cdot 6\end{array}$ | 6.7 <br> 6.8 <br> 7.2 | $7 \cdot 2$ <br> $6 \cdot 9$ <br> $7 \cdot 4$ | $11 \cdot 6$ $11 \cdot 7$ 11.0 | 14.8 $14 \cdot 6$ 14.7 | 17.7 18.2 19.0 | $19 \cdot 7$ $19 \cdot 2$ $18 \cdot 7$ | 16.6 $15 \cdot 5$ 16.2 | $\begin{aligned} & 24 \cdot 7 \\ & 24 \cdot 2 \\ & 24 \cdot 8 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 33 \cdot 0 \\ & 27 \cdot 7 \\ & 26.7 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \cdot 5 \\ & 1 \cdot 6 \\ & 1 \cdot 6 \end{aligned}$ |
| 1939 | Oct． 17 Nov． 14 Dec． 12 Jan．16 Feb．13 Mar．13 Apr． 17 May 15 June 12 July 10 | $12 \cdot 7$ 13.0 12.9 14.3 13.4 12.3 11.6 10.6 9.7 9.1 | $13 \cdot 5$ 13.9 14.0 15.3 14.3 13.1 12.4 11.2 10.4 9.7 | 10.8 107 10.2 11.6 11.1 10.2 9.7 9.0 7.9 7.4 | （b） 8.3 | 8.4 9.0 9.3 11.1 10.1 8.6 79 7.0 5.7 5.4 | $\begin{aligned} & 8.5 \\ & 8.8 \\ & 8.6 \\ & 9.6 \\ & 9.0 \\ & 7.9 \\ & 7.2 \\ & 6.3 \\ & 5.1 \\ & 4.5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 10.0 \\ 9.8 \\ 9.4 \\ 10.5 \\ 9.5 \\ 8.5 \\ 8.4 \\ 7.4 \\ 7.0 \\ 6.9 \end{array}$ | $13 \cdot 0$ $13 \cdot 1$ 12.8 14.7 13.1 12.0 11.8 11.0 9.9 88 | $17 \cdot 1$ $17 \cdot 2$ 16.9 $18 \cdot 3$ 17.2 $16 \cdot 1$ $15 \cdot 2$ 14.1 $13 \cdot 6$ 12.4 | $19 \cdot 0$ $19 \cdot 3$ 19.4 21.2 $20 \cdot 1$ $19 \cdot 0$ $17 \cdot 7$ $16 \cdot 1$ 14.9 14.1 | $15 \cdot 6$ $16 \cdot 2$ $16 \cdot 7$ $18 \cdot 4$ $17 \cdot 1$ $16 \cdot 2$ $15 \cdot 4$ 14.1 12.7 11.9 | $23 \cdot 6$ $24 \cdot 9$ $25 \cdot 3$ $25 \cdot 7$ 25.9 $23 \cdot 0$ $21 \cdot 0$ $18 \cdot 1$ 16.8 15.7 | $25 \cdot 8$ $26 \cdot 0$ $25 \cdot 1$ $28 \cdot 2$ $25 \cdot 9$ $26 \cdot 3$ $26 \cdot 3$ $22 \cdot 7$ $21 \cdot 0$ $21 \cdot 7$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1.7 \\ & 1.8 \\ & 1.9 \\ & 2.0 \\ & 1.9 \\ & 1.9 \\ & 1.9 \\ & 1.8 \\ & 1.7 \\ & 1.5 \end{aligned}$ |

$\begin{array}{ll}\text {（a）Old series．} & \text {（b）New series including certain domestic workers．}\end{array}$
Regional Percentages prior to October，1938，based upon numbers insured in July，1937；subsequently upon numbers insured in Julv， 1938.

## STOCKS OF STAPLE COMMODITIES.

Table supplementary to the summary table, p.2, Special Mem. 32

| Berinning of |  | (1) <br> American <br> Cotton. <br> 1,000 bales | (2) Tin. <br> 1,000 tons. | (3) Copper.$\begin{aligned} & 1,000 \\ & \text { tons. } \end{aligned}$ | (4) <br> Lead. <br> 1,000 tons. |  | (5) Spelter. <br> 1,000 <br> tons. | $\begin{array}{\|c\|} \hline \text { (6) } \\ \text { Ruhner. } \\ \vdots \\ 1,000 \\ \text { tons. } \end{array}$ | (7) <br> Sugat, <br> 1,000 <br> tons | (8) <br> '1 ea <br> Mn lbs | (9) <br> Coffee. <br> Mn bags. |  | (10) <br> Wheat. <br> Mn. bushels. | (11) Petroleum <br> Mn. barrels. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | U.S. |  |  | U.K. | A |  |  |  |  | B |  |  |
| 1935 |  |  | 9,070 | $15 \cdot 5$ | $524 \cdot 1$ | $209 \cdot 8$ | $19 \cdot 4$ | 118 | 679 | 7,887 | 279 | 6.6 | * | 448 | 565 |
|  | Jan, ... | 8,581 | 19.2 | $520 \cdot 4$ | 203.2 | 18.9 | 110 | 654 | 8,058 | 267 | 6.9 | 19.0 | 411 | 570 |
|  | April... | 8,581 | 14.4 | $517 \cdot 7$ | $206 \cdot 3$ | $17 \cdot 1$ | 111 | €52 | 6,170 | 225 | $7 \cdot 5$ | 15.5 | 313 | 566 |
|  | July | 8,141 | 11.5 | 474.6 | $200 \cdot 6$ | $9 \cdot 3$ | 104 | 644 | 4,688 | 216 | $7 \cdot 6$ | * | 367 | 547 |
| 1936 | Jan. | 7,488 | 13.5 | 433.2 | 198.5 | 7.0 | 83 | 586 | 6,237 | 247 | 78 | $22 \cdot 1$ | 397 | 542 |
|  | April... | 6,768 | 16.5 | 431.5 | 199.5 | $6 \cdot 3$ | 80 | 556 | 6,671 | 232 | 8.2 | $22 \cdot 2$ | 349 | 551 |
|  | July ... | 6,384 | 15.0 | $409 \cdot 8$ | 205.8 | 6.7 | 88 | 491 | 4,990 | 199 | $8 \cdot 1$ | $20 \cdot 8$ | 221 | 546 |
|  | Oct. | 6,508 | $15 \cdot 1$ | $339 \cdot 2$ | 179.0 | $7 \cdot 1$ | 82 | 462 | 2,983 | 201 | 7.8 | * | 282 | 528 |
| 1937 | Jan. | 6,044 | 21.8 | $315 \cdot 3$ | 153.9 | $6 \cdot 1$ | 57 | 434 | 5,389 | 215 | 7.9 | \# | 267 | 521 |
|  | April.. | 5,745 | $22 \cdot 0$ | $275 \cdot 3$ | 122.5 | $7 \cdot 1$ | 34 | 417 | 6,026 | 161 | $8 \cdot 1$ | 26.2 | 255 | 541 |
|  | July .. | 5,345 | 21.1 | $268 \cdot 2$ | 101.2 | $6 \cdot 3$ | 32 | 387 | 4,388 | 125 | 7.9 | $22 \cdot 6$ | 129 | 554 |
|  | Oct. | 6,652 | 20.9 | 307.8 | 81.0 | $7 \cdot 9$ | 33 | 428 | 2,816 | 130 | $7 \cdot 4$ | $22 \cdot 4$ | 253 | 564 |
| 1938 | Jan. ... | 8,183 | $24 \cdot 1$ | $412 \cdot 3$ | $115 \cdot 3$ | 7.0 | 79 | 501 | 6,067 | $1 ¢ 8$ | 7.0 | 28.1 | 284 | 575 |
|  | April... | 9,839 | $24.6$ | $482.4$ | $128 \cdot 1$ | 12.0 | 125 | 539 | 6,889 | 167 | $7 \cdot 4$ |  | 229 | 592 |
|  | May ... | 10,543 | $25 \cdot 3$ | 492.5 | $139 \cdot 7$ | 12.0 | 142 | 542 | 6,521 | 144 | 7.5 |  | 197 | 590 |
|  | June... | 11,280 | 23.7 | 495.0 | 146.4 | 11.2 | 154 | 523 | 5,955 | 138 | $7 \cdot 4$ |  | 158 | 584 |
|  | July ... | 12,059 | $24 \cdot 3$ | $492 \cdot 4$ | $145 \cdot 8$ | $9 \cdot 4$ | 157 | 525 | 5,255 | 141 | $7 \cdot 2$ |  | 140 | 584 |
|  | Aug.... | 12,808 | 25.0 | 481.2 | $137 \cdot 7$ | $9 \cdot 0$ | 155 | 529 | 4,713 | 141 | 7.0 |  | 198 | 578 |
|  | Sept.... | 13,056 | 25.7 | 441.5 | 125.6 | 8.8 | 153 | 516 | 4,226 | 157 | $7 \cdot 3$ |  | 2 ¢ 4 | 576 |
|  | Oct. | 13,222 | 26.7 | 408.4 | $117 \cdot 3$ | $9 \cdot 3$ | 142 | 499 | 3,401 | 169 | 76 |  | 333 | 570 |
|  | Nov. ... | 13,289 | $27 \cdot 2$ | 379-2 | 104.9 | $9 \cdot 7$ | 143 | 488 | 4,129 | 186 | 75 |  | 364 | 563 |
|  | Dec. ... | 13,277 | 27.0 | 379*1 | $102 \cdot 9$ | 95 | 132 | 458 | 5, 58 | $\ulcorner 08$ | 7.4 |  | 377 | 554 |
| 1939 | Jan. . | 13,230 | 27.8 | $408 \cdot 2$ | 1029 | 11.0 | 138 | 427 | 6,064 | 221 | $7 \cdot 4$ |  | 430 | 554 |
|  | Feb. .. | 13,326 | $30 \cdot 9$ | 428.6 | 104.6 | 129 | 139 | 442 | 5,819 | 231 | 79 |  | 417 | 554 |
|  | March | 13,423 | $32 \cdot 1$ | $440 \cdot 3$ | $109 . C$ | 14.0 | 139 | 429 | 6,131 | 215 | $7 \cdot 8$ |  | 389 | 554 |
|  | April... | 13,329 $\dagger$ | 31.1 | 455.4 | 108.9 | 13.5 | 139 | 406 | 6,542 | 187 | 7.8 |  | $353+$ | 559 |
|  | May ... | 13,442 $\dagger$ | $30 \cdot 6$ | $466 \cdot 7$ | $110 \cdot 2$ | $13 \cdot 3$ | 140 | 383 | 6,116 | 160 | $7 \cdot 9$ |  | $336 \dagger$ | 559 |
|  | June... | 13,526 $\dagger$ | 28.6 | 465*1 | $115 \cdot 4$ | $1: 77$ | 141 | 378 | 5,384 | 147 | $8 \cdot 3$ |  | $394 \dagger$ |  |
|  | July ... Aug... | $\begin{aligned} & 13,703 \uparrow \\ & 13,950 * \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 24: 0 \\ & 24: 8 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 374.4 \\ & 345: 8 \end{aligned}$ | $115 \cdot 5$ | $\begin{aligned} & 12 \cdot 2 \\ & 11.7 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 142 \\ & 138 \end{aligned}$ | 355 | 4,803 | $\begin{aligned} & 139 \\ & 132 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 8 \cdot 0 \\ & 8 \cdot 1 \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & 296 \dagger \\ & 345 \dagger \end{aligned}$ |  |

$\dagger$ Preliminary figure.
| April, 1935, onwards includes whole buffer stock.
$\star$ Not available.
$\ddagger$ Revised Series.
(I) Total supply seasonally corrected, exclusive of European and Asiatic mill stocks.
(2) Visible Supply plus estimate of Straits stocks
3) Total world stocks of refined copper only.
N.B.-This is not the same series as that discontinued since Oct., 1931.
(4) U.K. stocks in official warehouses
(5) Visible supply in U.K. and U.S
6) Crude rubber stocks (outside regulated areas) in UK U.S.A., Singapore, Penang, Para and Manaos plus estimated afloat as published by the International Rubber Regulation Committee
(7) Total visible supply.
(8) Tea Brokers' Association, London stocks.
(9) (A) Visible supply. (B) Interior Brazil stock and San Paulo Pledged stock. Figures supplied by Messrs. Duuring \& Zoon
(10) Stanford Wheat Studies Estimates of World's Visible Supply.
(II) Total crude petroleum, natural gasolene (ex at plants), refined products.

|  | 1936 |  |  | 1937 |  |  |  | 1938 |  |  |  | 1939 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 2nd } \\ & \mathrm{Qr} . \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 3rd } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 4th } \\ & \mathrm{Qr} . \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 1st } \\ & \text { Quc. } \end{aligned}$ | 2nd Qr. | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 3rd } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 4th } \\ & \mathrm{Qr} . \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 1st } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 2nd } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{Zrd} \\ & \mathrm{Qr} . \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 4th } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \text { st } \\ & \text { Qr. } \end{aligned}$ | 2nd Qr. |
| BUILDING PLANS APPROVED : |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{array}{lccc}\text { Houses } & . . & & \text { ¢.. } \\ \text { Other } & \ldots . & \ldots & , \text {, }\end{array}$ | 20.9 11.9 | 17.7 $10 \cdot 1$ | 17.8 9.9 | 15.7 13.4 | 18.6 | 155 9.6 | 17.9 9.2 | 15.7 9.7 | $17 \cdot 3$ | 14.1 | $12 \cdot 9$ | 14.0 | 13.0 |
| Total ... ... , | $32 \cdot 8$ | $27 \cdot 8$ | $27 \cdot 7$ | $29 \cdot 1$ | $29 \cdot 7$ | $25 \cdot 1$ | $27 \cdot 1$ | 25.4 | 26.4 | $23 \cdot 1$ | $22 \cdot 7$ | 24.2 | $23 \cdot 1$ |
| PRODUCTION: <br> Board of Trade Index |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Board of Prade \% of 1930 | $122 \cdot 3$ | $121 \cdot 3$ | $131 \cdot 7$ | 1311 | 133.6 | $130 \cdot 1$ | 136.4 | $132 \cdot 1$ | 121.7 | 117.0 | 1260 | 131.0 | 133.4 |
| Electricity Mn. Units | 4345 | 4289 | 6050 | 6194 | 5027 | 4869 | 6814 | 6637 | 5315 | 5207 | 7216 | 7546 | 6026 |
| Artificial Silk Mn. lbs. | 36.2 | 36.9 | 36.2 | 36.0 | 39.9 | 39.8 | $39 \cdot 1$ | 38.0 | $35 \cdot 1$ | 32.7 | 34.5 | 39.8 | 44.1 |
| Private Cars \& Taxis 000 Commercial Vehicles 000 | 99 27 | 76 27 | 96 30 | 107 31 | 106 30 | 81 27 | 86 26 | 98 31 | 92 25 | 67 23 | 84 24 | 109 26 | 106 28 |
| Motor Spirit for Consumption ... Mn. galls, | 328 | 352 | 306 | 294 | 345 | 346 | 312 | 299 | 351 | 389 | 309 | 313 | 373 |
| SHIPPING LAID UP: <br> British ... 000 net tons | 457 | 373 | 193 | 75 | End of 57 | Quarter 53 | 95 | 233 | 245 | 363 | 242 | 311 | 274 |
| Foreign $\cdots$.. , | 46 | 30 | 20 | 15 | 5 | 46 | 79 | 107 | 87 | 92 | 110 | 76 | 8 |
| Total $\ldots$, | 502 | 403 | 212 | $9)$ | 61 | 99 | 174 | 339 | 332 | 456 | 452 | 418 | 282 |
| EXCHANGE EQUALISA- |  |  |  | March |  | Sept. |  | March |  | Sept. |  | March |  |
| TION ACCOUNT: <br> Gold held Mn. fine oz |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 31 s t . \\ & 26.67 \end{aligned}$ |  | 30 th. $39 \cdot 85$ |  | 친t $\mathbf{4 2} 55$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & 30 \text { th } \\ & 21.68 \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} 31 \mathrm{st} \\ 49 \cdot 49 \end{gathered}$ |  |

## A NOTE ON THE ENTREPÔT TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

By A. Shenfield.

FOR some centuries the United Kingdom has been the centre of a very important entrepôt trade, and for a long time this trade has accounted for a considerable proportion of the total trade of this country. Indeed, it is surprising to see how large a proportion this was at one period. Thus, during the second half of the 19th century the value of exports of foreign and colonial produce was in most years well in excess of $25 \%$ of the value of exports of United Kingdom produce, and also well in excess of $15 \%$ of total imports. In the first decade of this century the corresponding figures ranged between $21.1 \%$ and $24.2 \%$, and between $12.5 \%$ and $15.3 \%$. In the first post-war decade the relative importance of our re-exports found a lower level, only to drop to a still lower one in the present decade. The following table shows the course of the absolute value of our re-exports and of their value relative to that of exports of domestic produce and of total imports.

The first year given is 1854 , because reliable official import and re-import returns are first available for that year.

RE-EXPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL PRODUCE $\mathrm{A}=$ Declared Value, £Mn. $\quad \mathrm{B}=\%$ of exports of U.K. Produce

|  | A | B | C |  | A | B | C |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1854 | 18.6 | $19 \cdot 1$ | 12-2 | 1921 | 106.9 | 15.2 | $9 \cdot 9$ |
| 1861 | 35.0 | $28 \cdot 5$ | 16.4 | 192 | 154.0 | $19 \cdot 9$ | 11.7 |
| 1871 | $60 \cdot 5$ | $27 \cdot 1$ | 18.3 | 1929 | 109.7 | $15 \cdot 1$ | $9 \cdot 0$ |
| 1881 | $63 \cdot 1$ | 27.0 | $15 \cdot 9$ | 1932 | 51.0 | 14.0 | $7 \cdot 3$ |
| 1891 | $61 \cdot 9$ | $25 \cdot 0$ | 14.2 | 1936 | $60 \cdot 8$ | $13 \cdot 8$ | 7.2 |
| 1901 | $67 \cdot 8$ | $24 \cdot 2$ | 130 | 1937 | $75 \cdot 1$ | 14.4 | $7 \cdot 3$ |
| 1906 | 851 | 22.7 | 14.0 | 1933 | $61 \cdot 6$ | $13 \cdot 2$ | 6. |
| 1911 | $102 \cdot 8$ | $22 \cdot 6$ | $15 \cdot 1$ | 1939* | 28.1 | 119 |  |
| 913 | 1096 | 21.0 | $14 \cdot 3$ |  | rst Six | Ionth |  |

Since 1923 the area of reference of the U.K. trade statistics has excluded Southern Ireland. Our re-exports to Southern Ireland are a substantial proportion of the whole of our re-exports. Thus, according to the Board of Trade's estimates, the value of foreign and colonial produce shipped to the Irish Free State was $£_{\mathrm{II} .2 \mathrm{Mn} \text {. in 1924, }}$ $£_{10} 10 \mathrm{Mn}$. in 1929, $£_{55} .7 \mathrm{Mn}$. in 1937, and again $£ 5.7 \mathrm{Mn}$. in 1938. If Southern Ireland had not been separated, the United Kingdom would have shown considerably smaller re-export figures than they have done, and the contrast between the pre-war and post-war periods would have been the more striking.

The course of our re-exports during the whole period from the middle of the last century
until the present day falls into a number of fairly well-marked stages. From 1850 to the early 'seventies our total foreign trade increased very fast, and our entrepôt trade even faster. From the early 'seventies to the late 'nineties our total foreign trade increased rather slowly and the ratio of our entrepôt trade to total trade fell back slightly. From the late 'nineties until 1914 our total foreign trade again increased rapidly, but our entrepôt trade, although it increased considerably in absolute value, continued to fall off relatively to our total trade. In the post-war years our total trade increased in value until 1929, declined from 1929 to 1933, increased from 1933 to 1937, since when it has fallen off once again. But our entrepôt trade reached its peak in 1925, after which it declined steadily and rapidly until 1933. From 1933 to 1937 it increased at much the same rate as our total trade, but since then it has fallen off much more rapidly. Thus during the period July, 1938, to June, 1939, in the first half of which exports of United Kingdom produce and imports fell irregularly and in the second half of which they recovered considerably, re-exports fell consistently month by month.

Statistics of the value of imports and exports often mask the important developments of trade owing to fluctuations of prices; and this is especially the case where re-exports are concerned, for raw materials which are subject to great fluctuations in price account for a large proportion of entrepôt trade. Statistics of the volume of imports and exports are subject to many errors, owing to the defectiveness of the basic data. This is especially the case where comparison over a lengthy period is desired, for the nature of goods bearing the same name changes very considerably with time. For this reason the Board of Trade, in estimating the volume and average price of British trade in recent years has frequently changed the base year of calculation. Thus in its current estimates it takes 1935 as the base year, having previously employed the years 1930 and 1924. The series of indices which it has published cannot be assimilated into one series with a common base without risk of considerable error. The figures given in the following table, which shows the course of import, export and re-export volumes from 1854 to 1938, must therefore not be regarded as more than very rough approximations and must be used with the greatest reserve.

For the years 1854 to 1929 they have been calculated from estimates made by an independent
investigator ${ }^{\star}$. These have been linked on to the Board of Trade's estimates for more recent years.

## INDICES OF VOLUME

$\mathrm{A}=$ Imports.
$\mathrm{B}=$ Exports of U.K. Produce. $\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{Re}$-exports.

|  |  | $\mathbf{A}$ | $\mathbf{B}$ | $\mathbf{O}$ |  |  | A | B | C |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1854 | $\ldots$ | 100 | 100 | 100 | 1913 | $\ldots$ | 564 | 502 | 518 |
| 1861 | $\ldots$ | 135 | 130 | 162 | 1921 | $\ldots$ | 429 | 247 | 404 |
| 1871 | $\ldots$ | 211 | 204 | 277 | 1925 | $\ldots$ | 625 | 399 | 533 |
| 1831 | $\ldots$ | 274 | 264 | 322 | 1929 | $\ldots$ | 674 | 448 | 403 |
| 1891 | $\ldots$ | 359 | 288 | 395 | 1932 | $\ldots$ | 600 | 286 | 295 |
| 1901 | $\ldots$ | 465 | 315 | 442 | 1936 | $\ldots$ | 686 | 346 | 289 |
| 1906 | $\ldots$ | 496 | 405 | 475 | 1937 | $\ldots$ | 754 | 378 | 300 |
| 1911 | $\ldots$ | 516 | 462 | 494 | 1938 | $\ldots$ | 720 | 335 | 280 |

According to these figures the difference between the movements of import volumes and export volumes is striking. For even if allowance is made for a large degree of error it shows how in spite of the contemporary decline in international trade the volume of imports has maintained a steady upward trend to this day, whereas that of exports has never recovered the 1913 level. The amplitude of the movement of re-export volumes has been greater than that of export volumes. While re-exports grew more rapidly than exports in pre-war and the immediate post-war years, they have declined more rapidly during the present decade.

The long-term trend of our entrepôt trade has without doubt been downwards for some time, in comparison with our total trade; and the forces working against this trade have recently gained such strength that it is doubtful whether, failing great changes in the commercial policy of governments, even a general world upswing in business activity would succeed in raising its absolute value.

The following table shows the course of development since igor.
EXPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL PRODUCE.

|  |  | $19: 1$ | 1913 | 1924 | 1929 | 1937 | 193 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Food ... |  | 122 | $15 \cdot 9$ | 29.8 | 26.0 | 13.2 | 12 |
| Tea |  | 1.4 | $2 \cdot 3$ | 6.9 | $7 \cdot 9$ | 4.8 | 4. |
| Materials |  | 367 | 641 | 72.2 | 54.3 | 36.9 | 30 |
| Raw Cotton... |  | $5 \cdot 0$ | 9.1 | 11.6 | $4 \cdot 6$ | 2.0 | $1 \cdot 3$ |
| Raw Wool |  | $10 \cdot 8$ | 13.6 | $31 \cdot 3$ | 24.9 | 14.4 | 12 |
| Hides and Skins |  | 4.8 | 8.4 | $13 \cdot 1$ | $12 \cdot 8$ | $11 \cdot 7$ | 9 |
| Rubber |  | $3 \cdot 6$ | 14.8 | $10 \cdot 1$ | $5 \cdot 4$ | $4 \cdot 4$ | 2. |
| Manufactures |  | 18.9 | 29.5 | 33.7 | 28.9 | 24.4 | 18 |
| Copper | $\ldots$ | 1.7 | $1 \cdot 3$ | 0.7 | 05 | $6 \cdot 3$ | 4 |
| Tin |  | 2.5 | 6.1 | 2.5 | $2 \cdot 5$ | 3.4 | 2 |
| All non-ferrous m | tals | 4.7 | 8.3 | 3.8 | $4 \cdot 4$ | $13 \cdot 6$ | 9 |
| Leather | ... | 1.8 | $2 \cdot 4$ | 1.8 | $2 \cdot 2$ | 1.2 | 0 |
| Total... |  | $67 \cdot 8$ | 1037 | 1400 | 1100 | 751 | $61 \cdot 6$ |

The most important section of our entrepôt trade is thus concerned with raw materials. In 1938 raw materials accounted for $£ 30 \mathrm{Mn}$. out of a total of $£ 62 \mathrm{Mn}$., in 1929 for $£, 54 \mathrm{Mn}$. out of $£$ IIo Mn., and in 1913 for $£ 64 \mathrm{Mn}$. out of a total of $£$ iro Mn . If the non-ferrous metals,

[^61]which the Board of Trade lists among manufactures, are included, materials consistently account for well over $50 \%$ of the whole. By far the most prominent of these commodities are now raw wool, hides and skins and non-ferrous metals. In the decade immediately before the war rubber ran raw wool very close for the place of first importance.

Our entrepôt trade is thus mainly the product of the organisation of international commodity markets. In the middle of the last century when organised large-scale commodity markets of this type hardly existed outside the United Kingdom, and the Low Countries, it was most convenient for both the Continent and the new overseas countries to buy the greater part of the overseas commodities which they needed through the United Kingdom markets. In the period 1870 to 1914 the free commercial policy of the United Kingdom strengthened the position of these markets, but the new commercial centres on the Continent and in the United States inevitably attracted some of the trade which under earlier conditions would have passed through the United Kingdom.

Immediately after the war of 1914-1919, the United Kingdom commodity markets quickly re-established themselves while chaotic conditions continued for some time on the Continent. Thus there was a strong stimulus to our re-export trade. But after 1925, when the world appeared to have returned to " normal" conditions, the influences working against it grew in power. The decline of the merchant as a result of improvement in communications and the growth of large-scale integrated commercial-industrial concerns, is a familiar development of present times ; and the decline of our entrepôt trade while Free Trade was still the policy of the United Kingdom and before barter between states became an important form of commerce, is to be attributed to these influences.

The continued decline of re-exports, in relation to the rest of our trade, during the present decade, is due to the addition of the effects of exclusive commercial policies to these developments of civilisation. Thus our entrepôt
trade has suffered and will probably continue to suffer from both welcome and unwelcome changes in the world's economic organisation. In the near future the importance of the international commodity markets is likely to continue to decline, at least as far as the physical distribution of goods is concerned. The tendency towards bilateral trading between national areas must reduce the amount of trade which can pass through them, though it is possible that they will continue to play an important role as price-indicators and centres of speculation.

However, the decline in the volume of goods which move physically through Great Britain in order to pass from one foreign hand to another, may not entail a corresponding loss of income to British firms. It is rare for a country to classify its imports both according to country of origin and according to country of consignment. This is done, however, by Sweden. In the Swedish returns for 1936, 1937 and 1938 the value of goods re-exported from the United Kingdom to Sweden is shown as about $£ .4 .8 \mathrm{Mn}$., £ $£ .9 \mathrm{Mn}$. and $£ 7.0 \mathrm{Mn}$. respectively. The Board of Trade returns the value of re-exports to Sweden in those years as $£ 0.9 \mathrm{Mn}$., $£ 0.95 \mathrm{Mn}$. and $£ \mathrm{I} . \mathrm{I} \mathrm{Mn}$. respectively after conversion at the rate of 19.40 kr . to the $£$. The disparity between these figures cannot be entirely due to differences in valuation and methods of recording. It is without doubt largely due to the sale of foreign and colonial produce by British firms to Sweden without physical passage through the United Kingdom. Statistics which suggest such trade before 1936 are not available, nor is it at all possible to estimate the total value of such trade. But unless AngloSwedish transactions are very exceptional, it must be considerable ; and it is probably a type of trade which is growing relatively to that which appears in the returns of the Board of Trade.

Nevertheless, it is not unreasonable to read in the re-export statistics of the United Kingdom not merely the decline of a substantial source of income, but also the relative decline of merchant activities in Britain, and, in the most recent years, the disintegration of the international economy.

FINANCE.


FINANCE.


* Bank Rate 2 per cent. since June 30th, $1932 . \quad$ i.e. excl. Metropolitan. $386 . \quad$ Includes Whitsun.

STOCKS \& SHARES-

NEW CAPITAL ISSUES-

## BANK CLEARINGS-

BANK OF ENGLANDPRINCIPAL BANKSTREASURY BILLS-

MONEY-

## PRICES.



[^62]PRICES AND WAGES.

$\dagger$ Average of daily quotations for year.

OUTPUT AND INTERNAL ACTIVITY.


OUTPUT AND INTERNAL ACTIVITY．

|  | OUTPUT． |  |  |  |  | RETAIL SALES． |  |  |  |  |  | RAILWAYs． |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Coal． <br> Tons <br> Mn ． | Pig <br> Tons <br> 000 | Steel． <br> Tons <br> 000 | Elec－ tricity． <br> Mn． <br> Units． |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { ذi } \\ & \text { ث⿴囗 } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  | Stan <br>  | Freight Weight $\begin{gathered} \text { 运 } \\ 0000 \text { to } \end{gathered}$ | Traffi uge Ra $\qquad$ <br>  <br> ns． | ilways． Re． ceipts． All Goods． $\mathfrak{M n}$ ． |
| 1924 Av ．． | 21.2 | 520 | 641 | 508 | $2 \cdot 11$ |  |  |  | 115 |  |  | 544 | 1743 | 551 | 8.89 |
| 1229 Av ．． | 20.7 | 581 | 756 | 858 | $4 \cdot 74$ | － | － | － | 132 | $71 \cdot 1$ |  | 515 | 1722 | 545 | 8.91 |
| 1933 Av．． | 16.7 | 316 | 551 | 1130 | 7.01 | 83 | 76 | 80 | 135 | $90 \cdot 1$ |  | 33 | 1270 | 333 | 6.23 |
| 1934 Av．． | $17 \cdot 8$ | 458 | 694 | 1289 | 7.76 | 87 | 79 | 82 | 137 | 96.4 | 18.9 | 375 | 1329 | 392 | 6.57 |
| 1935 Av ．． | 18.0 | 493 | 775 | 1464 | $10 \cdot 32$ | 90 | 85 | 87 | 140 | 101．3 | 23.0 | 375 | 1355 | 391 | 6.62 |
| 1936 Av ．．． | $18 \cdot 3$ | 586 | 912 | 1685 | $12 \cdot 11$ | 95 | 92 | 93 | 147 | 105•3 | $25 \cdot 3$ | 398 | 1362 | 421 | 6.93 |
| 1937 Av．． | $19 \cdot 4$ | 651 | 1019 | 1909 | 12.90 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 154 | 109．8 | 26.0 | 416 | 1442 | 454 | $7 \cdot 29$ |
| 1986 JAN．．． | 20.0 | 538 | 802 | 1970 | 11.94 | 93 | 88 | 90 | 139 | $94 \cdot 5$ |  | 366 |  |  | 6.99 |
| FEB．．．．． | $19 \cdot 6$ | 565 | 917 | 1824 | 11.70 | 71 | 88 | 80 | 135 | $86 \cdot 9$ | 21.3 | 384 | 1500 | 397 | $7 \cdot 14$ |
| MAR．．．．． | 18.8 | 572 | 899 | 1753 | 12.40 | 79 | 89 | と4 | 141 | $96 \cdot 2$ | 34.9 | 400 | 1444 | 435 | $7 \cdot 24$ |
| APR．．． | $18.0^{\circ}$ | 588 | 984 | 1554 | 10.87 | 94 | 94 | 94 | 141 | 104.4 | 283 | 377 | 1258 | 415 | $7 \cdot 58$ |
| MAY． | 17.9 | 597 | 901 | 1457 | 12.97 | 102 | 89 | 95 | 140 | 111.7 | 316 | 398 | 1349 | 449 | 7.05 |
| JUNE | $17.1^{\circ}$ | 601 | 924 | 1324 | 12.32 | 94 | 93 | 93 | 140 | 112.0 | $24 \cdot 8$ | 373 | 1205 $1240+$ | 432 $424+$ | 6.48 8.50 .1 |
| JULY | $16 \cdot 3$ | 601 | 857 | 1403 | 13.81 | 100 | ¢8 | 94 | 142 | $121 \cdot 5$ | 25.0 | 378 | 1156 | 381 | 6．29 |
| AUG．．． | $17.9^{\circ}$ | 574 | 853 | 1332 | $9 \cdot 86$ | 73 | 87 | ¢0 | 135 | 116.2 | 14.2 | 401 | 1298 | 409 | 8.80 |
| SEPT | 17.7 | 607 | 941 | 1544 | 13.24 | 85 | 89 | 87 | 149 | 113.9 | 21.6 | 421 | 1295 | 414 | 7.01 |
| OCT | 18.5 | 588 | 952 | 1860 | 13.49 | 103 | 92 | 97 | 151 | ＇108．5 | $24^{\circ}$ | 436 | 1377 | 452 | 7.41 |
| NOV． | 18.8 | 600 | 927 | 2010 | 11.76 | 100 | 94 | 97 | 155 | 97.0 | 23.8 | 437 | 1463 | 451 | 7.47 |
| DEC．．． | 18．8 $\ddagger$ | 606 | 959 | 2180 | 10.95 | 142 | 109 | 125 | 201 | $100 \cdot 6$ | 27.8 | 403 | 1476 | 429 | 7－10 |
| JAN．．． | $19 \cdot 3$ | 588 | 935 | 2176 | 11.74 | 94 | 91 | 93 | 148 | 96.0 | 28.8 | 389 | 1422 | 422 | 6.89 |
| FEB．． | $20 \cdot 3$ | 604 | 996 | 1944 | 11.72 | 77 | 94 | 86 | 146 | 93.5 | $22 \cdot 9$ | 404 | 1542 | 415 | 7.40 |
| MAR． | 19.8 § | 614 | 1061 | 2074 | 12.52 | ¢0 | 104 | 97 | 149 | 104.1 | 38.4 | 419 | 1572 | 422 | 7.60 |
| APR． | 20.4 | 635 | 991 | 1832 | 13.67 | 97 | 95 | 96 | 152 | $115 \cdot 1$ | $31 \cdot 1$ | 416 | 1446 | 440 | 7.29 |
| MAY | $19.9{ }^{\circ}$ | 629 | 1072 | 1621 | $12 \cdot 18$ | 109 | 107 | 108 | 145 | 109－3 | $28 \cdot 3$ | 414 | 1441 | 457 | 7.23 |
| JUNE ．．． | 18.8 | 653 | 1014 | 1574 | 14.06 | 98 | 97 | 98 | 146 | 121.0 | $30 \cdot 6$ | 411 | $\begin{aligned} & 1367 \\ & 1371+ \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 465 \\ & 470.1 \end{aligned}$ | 7.02 7.031 |
| JULY | 17.3 | 659 | 951 | 1588 | 14.60 | 106 | 97 | $1(2$ | 144 | 128.1 | $27 \cdot 9$ | 386 | 1244 |  | 640 |
| AUG．．．．． | $18.8{ }^{\circ}$ | 645 | 945 | 1529 | 10.80 | 76 | 94 | 85 | 141 | $120 \cdot 1$ | $16 \cdot 3$ | 422 | 1370 | 463 | $7 \cdot 11$ |
| SEPT． | 19.2 | 678 | 1066 | 1752 | 14.40 | 92 | 97 | 95 | 152 | 117.9 | $20 \cdot 3$ | 442 | 1446 | 470 | 746 |
| OCT． | 19.6 | 695 | 1061 | 2029 | 13.57 | 102 | 100 | 101 | 156 | $108 \cdot 9$ | $21^{\circ}$ | 442 | 1439 | 487 | 7.87 |
| Nuv．．．． | 19.9 | 711 | 1080 | 2285 | 13.72 | 105 | 102 | 104 | 157 | 1036 | $20 \cdot 6$ | 429 | 1515 | 496 | 7.99 |
| DEC．．． | $20.1 \pm$ | 707 | 1056 | 2497 | 11．83 | 152 | 120 | 135 | 207 | 99.7 | $25 \cdot 8$ | 412 | 1558 | 462 | 7.49 |
| 1938 | $20 \cdot 3$ | 688 | 1050 | 2382 | 12.51 | 98 | 99 | 98 | 151 | 97.4 | 24.9 | 375 | 1457 | 440 | 719 |
| FEB．．． | $20 \cdot 6$ | 693 | 1058 | 2145 | $12 \cdot 19$ | 76 | 102 | 89 | 146 | $92 \cdot 4$ | 19.0 | 392 | 1536 | 458 | 7.55 |
| MAR．．． | $20 \cdot 0$ | 645 | 982 | 2111 | 13.27 | 84 | 102 | 93 | 150 | 108.8 | $35 \cdot 5$ | 400 | 1498 | 460 | 7.67 |
| APR． | 18.58 | 617 | 961 | 1849 | 10.56 | 103 | 110 | 107 | 149 | 119.7 | $25 \cdot 6$ | 382 | 1296 | 398 | 6.93 6.75 |
| MAY | 18.1 | 571 | 877 | 1854 | 13.38 | 100 | 103 | 101 | 147 | 109.7 | 24.6 |  |  |  |  |
| JUNE． | $17.4{ }^{\circ}$ | 506 | 742 | 1612 | 11.11 | 105 | 107 | 106 | 145 | $121 \cdot 4$ | 22.6 |  | $\begin{aligned} & 1184 \\ & 1209 \dagger \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 356 \\ & 347 \uparrow \end{aligned}$ | 6.26 .1 |
| JULY ．． | 16.6 | 459 | 640 | 1656 | 11.64 | 109 | 102 | 105 | 146 | 127.7 | $20 \cdot 8$ | 324 | 11069 | 323 | 5.58 6.24 |
| AUG．．． | $17.1^{\circ}$ | 401 | 604 | 1679 | 9．31 | 77 | 99 | 88 | 141 | 127.9 | 14.6 | 350 | 1199 |  | 6.24 6.76 |
| SEPT．．． | 17.4 | 401 | 692 | 1872 | 11.78 | 89 | 102 | 96 | 155 | 133.8 | 17.1 | 375 | 1289 | 344 | ${ }^{7} 17$ |
| OCT．．．．． | 19.1 |  | 800 | 2195 | 11.75 |  | 103 |  | 157 | 1054 |  | 374 | 1373 |  | 6.98 |
| NOV | 18.8 19.10 | 431 403 | 789 614 | 2346 2675 | $12 \cdot 41$ 10.39 | 15 | 102 122 | 102 | 159 210 | 1054 1016 | 23.6 26.0 | 360 | 1437 | 320 | 6.74 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { DEC... } \\ & 1939 \end{aligned}$ | 19：1 ${ }^{\circ}$ | 403 | 614 | 2675 | $10 \cdot 39$ | 154 | 122 | 138 | 210 | 1016 | 26.0 27.3 |  | $\frac{1436}{}$ | 298 |  |
| JAN | 19.2 | 452 | 744 | 2704 | 11.82 12.48 | $\begin{aligned} & 98 \\ & 79 \end{aligned}$ | 98 103 | $\begin{aligned} & 98 \\ & 91 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 154 \\ & 149 \end{aligned}$ | ${ }_{96} 98$ | $\begin{aligned} & 27.3 \\ & 23.5 \end{aligned}$ | 344 376 | $\begin{aligned} & 1436 \\ & 1486 \end{aligned}$ |  | 7．22 |
| FEB．． | 19.7 | 516 | ${ }_{1030}$ | 2508 | $15 \cdot 50$ | 86 | 105 | 96 | 152 | 117.9 | $29 \cdot 3$ | 398 | 144 | 374 | 737 |
| APR | $19 \cdot 35$ | 568 | 1136 | 2046 | 13.44 | 103 | 113 | 108 | 150 | $121 \cdot 4$ | ${ }^{25 \cdot 6}$ |  | 1374 |  |  |
| MAY． | 19.2 | 625 | 1116 | 2068 | 15.72 | 109 | 112 | 111 | $\begin{aligned} & 147 \\ & 150 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 121 \cdot 5 \\ & 130 \cdot 1 \end{aligned}$ | $28 \cdot 3$ 26.5 |  |  |  |  |
| JUNE | 18.4 | 668 | 1078 | 1912 | $14 \cdot 92$ | 100 | 105 | 103 | 150 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| JULY | 17.5 | 671 | 1079 | 1918 |  |  |  |  | 149 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## PIG IRON，STEEL CASTINGS <br> ELECTRICITY－ <br> ARTIFICIAL SILK－

RETAIL SALES－
POST OFFICE RECEIPTS－
MOTOR SPIRIT－
NEW REGISTRATIONS RAILWAY TRAFFIC

WEIGHT WEIGHT

Total for 4 weeks ending approximately at end of month－BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL． FEDERATION．
Output of authorised undertakings．EL Excise Statistics．－BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAI
Rayon，yarn and waste，derived from Excitmental Stores，Co－operatives，multiple and independent shops．For Revised index of vaiue Trade Journal，Feb．9th，1939．－BANK OF ENGLAND．
discussion see Board telegraph，telephone，savings bank and postal orders．－BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL Daily averages，ex Imports entered for home consumption．－BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL
Cars taxed on H．P．in Great Britain．Ministry of Transport Returns，
Tonnage of goods carried on the Railways of Great Britain during the month，excluding free－hauled．
Monthly receipts for goods traffic，excluding cost of collection and delivery till January，1928，then excluding receipts for collection and dellvery．－MINISTR $\bar{Y}$ OF TRANSPORT

EXTERNAL TRADE.


## EXTERNAL TRADE.

|  | TOTAL IMPORTS (Values). |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { NET } \\ & \text { IMPORTS } \\ & \text { Total. } \\ & £ \mathrm{Mn} . \end{aligned}$ |  | EXPORTS OF U.K. GOODS (Values). |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | GOLD. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Food, Drink and Tobacco. $£ \mathrm{Mn}$. | $\begin{aligned} & \underset{\text { Raw }}{\text { Materials. }} \\ & £ \mathrm{Mn} . \end{aligned}$ | Manufactures. £Mn. | Total (including Miscellaneous £Mn. |  |  |  |  | Food, Drink and Tobacco. £Mn. |  | Raw Materials, £Mn. |  | Manufactures. $£ \mathrm{Mn}$. |  | $\quad$Total <br> (including <br> Miscellaneous) <br> $£ \mathrm{Mn}$. |  | $\mathrm{I}_{\text {Imports }}$ | Exports |
| 1924 Av... | 47.6 * | 33.3 * | 25.0 大 | 106.4 | * $\dagger$ | $11 \cdot 7$ | 94*8 | * $\dagger$ | $4 \cdot 7$ | * | 8.9 | * | 51.6 | $\star$ | 66.8 | 夫 | 30 | 4.1 |
| 1929 Av.. | $44 \cdot 8$ | $28 \cdot 3$ | $27 \cdot 9$ | 101.9 | - | $9 \cdot 1$ | 92.8 | - | $4 \cdot 6$ | - | $6 \cdot 6$ | - | 47.8 | - | $60 \cdot 8$ | - | 5.2 | 6.5 |
| 1933 Av... | 28.5 | 15.0 | 12.6 | 56.5 |  | $4 \cdot 1$ | $52 \cdot 4$ | - | $2 \cdot 3$ | - | 3.8 | - | 23.4 |  | $30 \cdot 6$ |  | 21.0 | 50 |
| 1934 Av | 29.1 | 17.5 | 14.3 | $61 \cdot 3$ |  | $4 \cdot 3$ | $57 \cdot 1$ | - | $2 \cdot 5$ |  | $4 \cdot 0$ | - | $25 \cdot 4$ | - | $33 \cdot 0$ | - | $21 \cdot 9$ | $10 \cdot 7$ |
| 1935 Av ... | $29 \cdot 9$ | 17.8 | 15.4 | $63 \cdot 5$ | - | 4.6 | 58.9 | - | $2 \cdot 5$ | - | 4.4 |  | 27.4 |  | 35.5 | - | 203 | 14.5 |
| 1936 Av .. | $32 \cdot 2$ | 20.8 | 17.8 | 71.1 | - | $5 \cdot 1$ | 66.0 79.4 | - | 3.0 |  | $4 \cdot 3$ |  | 28.4 | - | 36.8 | - | $26^{2}$ | 7.2 |
| 1937 Av... | $35 \cdot 9$ | $26 \cdot 3$ | $22 \cdot 9$ | 85.7 |  | $6 \cdot 3$ | $79 \cdot 4$ |  | $3 \cdot 2$ | - | $5 \cdot 4$ | - |  |  | 43.4 | - | $24 \cdot 6$ | 18.0 |
| $\begin{gathered} 1936 \\ \text { JAN... } \end{gathered}$ | 31.231 .4 | $22 \cdot 419 \cdot 2$ | 16.016 .9 | $70 \cdot 0$ | $67 \cdot 9$ | $4 \cdot 3$ | 65.6 | $62 \cdot 9$ | $2 \cdot 8$ | $2 \cdot 7$ | $4 \cdot 1$ | 42 | 26.6 | 26.6 | 34.5 | 34.5 | 12.2 | 8 |
| FEB. | 27.529 .7 | $18.9 \quad 19.5$ | $\begin{array}{lll}15.7 & 16.8\end{array}$ | $62 \cdot 3$ | 66.2 | $5 \cdot 7$ | 56.7 | 59.4 | $2 \cdot 5$ | 2.6 | $4 \cdot 1$ | 42 | 27.6 | 28.6 | $35 \cdot 1$ | 36.4 | 9.7 | 2.4 |
| MAR. | $30.230 \cdot 9$ | $\begin{array}{llll}19 \cdot 6 & 18.9\end{array}$ | $17.9 \quad 17 \cdot 1$ | 68.0 | $67 \cdot 2$ | $5 \cdot 9$ | $62 \cdot 1$ | $63 \cdot 6$ | $2 \cdot 9$ | $3 \cdot 1$ | $4 \cdot 1$ | $4 \cdot 1$ | 28.6 | $27 \cdot 6$ | 36.5 | 35.7 | $12 \cdot 9$ | 3.9 |
| APR. | 28.431 .1 | $20.0 \quad 20 \cdot 4$ | $17.918 \cdot 2$ | 66.7 | 70.1 | $5 \cdot 9$ | $60 \cdot 7$ | 66.5 | $2 \cdot 4$ | 2.7 | 3.9 | $4 \cdot 1$ | $26^{\circ}$ |  | 33.4 | 34.8 | 18.0 | 3 |
| MAY | $\begin{array}{lll}31.6 & 81.9 \\ 31.5 & 32.5\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ll}19 \cdot 9 & 19 \cdot 9 \\ 19 \cdot 3 & 20 \cdot 2\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{lll}17 \cdot 2 & 17 \cdot 1 \\ 16.4 & 17 \cdot 0\end{array}$ | $69 \cdot 2$ $67 \cdot 6$ | $69 \cdot 4$ $70 \cdot 1$ | $5 \cdot 6$ 50 | 63.5 62.6 | 64.5 66.0 | 2.7 2.6 | 2.9 3.0 | 4.5 | 4.3 3.7 | 28.2 24.9 |  | 36.4 32.1 | 36.0 34.5 | 21.8 19 | 6.4 |
| JULY | 29.9 $31 \cdot 1$ | $20 \cdot 121.5$ | 18.218 .5 | 7 | 71.6 | 50 | 63.7 | $66 \cdot 9$ | 3.0 | 3.2 | 4.6 | 4.6 | 31 | $30 \cdot 3$ | $40 \cdot 1$ | $39 \cdot 1$ | 41.5 | 2 |
| AUG. | $29.0 \quad 30 \cdot 6$ | $18.820 \cdot 1$ | $17 \cdot 8 \quad 17 \cdot 4$ | $66 \cdot 1$ | 68.6 | $4 \cdot 4$ | 61.6 | 646 | 2.8 |  | 4.0 | 4.3 | 27.5 | $28 \cdot 3$ | 35.3 | 36.5 | 60.0 | 6 |
| SEPT | 32.9 33.1 | $19 \cdot 628.7$ | $19 \cdot 1 \quad 19 \cdot 4$ | $71 \cdot 9$ | 75.5 | 3.9 | 68.0 | $69 \cdot 1$ | 3.0 | $2 \cdot 9$ | $4 \cdot 3$ | 4.5 | 28.8 | $29 \cdot 6$ | 37.0 | 37.9 | 33.6 | $3 \cdot 9$ |
| OCT. | 38.9 33.2 | 21.5 ¢8.0 | $19.8 \quad 18.2$ | $80 \cdot 5$ | 74.7 | $4 \cdot 5$ | 76.1 | 68.2 | 3.6 | $3 \cdot 1$ | 4.8 | 4.4 | 32.2 | $30 \cdot 1$ | 41.8 | 38.7 | 19.8 | 18.9 |
| NOV. | 37.138 .0 | 22.822 .1 | $18.417 \cdot 7$ | 78.7 | 73.2 | $4 \cdot 3$ | $74 \cdot 3$ | 67.4 | 3.8 | 3.0 | 4.6 | $4 \cdot 2$ |  |  | 38.4 | 36.5 | 29.4 | $12 \cdot 9$ |
| DEC. | 37.734 .1 | $26.1 \quad 22 \cdot 1$ | $19.2 \quad 19 \cdot 5$ | 83.7 | 76.4 | $6 \cdot 1$ | $77 \cdot 6$ | 70.4 | 3.4 | $3 \cdot 3$ | $4 \cdot 9$ | $4 \cdot 9$ | $30 \cdot 3$ |  | $40 \cdot 5$ | 41.0 | 35.8 | 15.8 |
| JAN. | 32.0 38.2 | $25 \cdot 728.0$ | $17.618 \cdot 6$ | $75 \cdot 7$ | 73.2 | $5 \cdot 1$ | $70 \cdot 6$ | $67 \cdot 7$ | 30 | $2 \cdot 9$ | $5 \cdot 1$ | 5.2 | 29.9 | 29.9 | $39^{1} 1$ | $39 \cdot 1$ | 11.8 | 17.0 |
| FEB. | 30.734 .4 | 22.128 .9 | 18.620 .6 | 71.7 | 78.1 | 6.9 | 64.8 | $70 \cdot 2$ | $3 \cdot 1$ | $3 \cdot 4$ | 4.9 | 5.2 |  | $31 \cdot 6$ | 38.6 | 41.2 | 41.7 | $17 \cdot 3$ |
| MAR. | 35.3 55.8 | $25.0 \quad 24 \cdot 2$ | $22 \cdot 1 \quad 21 \cdot 1$ | $82 \cdot 9$ | 81.6 | 6.7 | 76.2 | 78.0 | 2.9 | 8.0 | $5 \cdot 3$ | 5.3 5.9 |  | 32.9 34.5 | 43.5 | $42 \cdot 3$ | 37.6 33.1 | $21 \cdot 9$ 31.0 |
| APR. | $32.936 \cdot 1$ | $26^{\circ} 026.4$ | 23.624 .0 | 83.0 | $87 \cdot 1$ | 7.3 | 75.7 | 83.0 | 3.1 | 3.5 3.3 | $5 \cdot 6$ 5.5 | 6.9 5.2 |  |  | 43.0 | 44.8 | 33.1 11.7 | 31.7 |
| MAY.. | 34.234 .4 | $\begin{array}{ll}25 \cdot 6 & 25.6\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ll}22 \cdot 9 & 23 \cdot 7 \\ 24 \cdot 4 & 25 \cdot 3\end{array}$ | 83.2 88.2 | 83.2 91.5 | 7.4 7.1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $47 \cdot 4$ | 32:0 | 27.7 |
| JUNE | $35.8 \quad 36.9$ | $27.4 \quad 28.7$ | $24.425 \cdot 3$ | 88.2 | 91.5 | $7 \cdot 1$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| JULY | 34.035 .4 | $26.3 \quad 28 \cdot 1$ | $24.6 \quad 25 \cdot 1$ | 85.5 | 86.2 | 6.8 | 78.7 | 82.7 | $3 \cdot 3$ | 3.5 3.0 | $6 \cdot 0$ $5 \cdot 3$ | 5.9 |  |  |  | 46.3 | 44.1 30.7 |  |
| AUG. | $34.8 \quad 36.6$ | $26.7 \quad 28 \cdot 6$ | 24.724 .1 | 86.6 | 89.8 | 6.9 | 80.0 | 84.0 85.9 | 3.0 |  | 5.3 5.4 |  | 33.4 34 | 34.4 35.5 | 42.5 44 | 44.1 | 30.4 |  |
| SEPT. | $\begin{array}{lll}36.2 & 36.4 \\ 43.4 & 37.1\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ll}26.5 & 30 \cdot 8 \\ 27.9 & 29.9\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ll}24.6 & 24.9 \\ 24.4 & 29.4\end{array}$ | 87.8 96.2 | $92 \cdot 7$ $89 \cdot 9$ | 5.2 5.7 | 82.6 90.5 | 88.9 81.1 | 3.4 | 3.4 | $5 \cdot 8$ | $5 \cdot 3$ |  |  | 47.2 | $43 \cdot 8$ | 12.7 | 14.6 |
| OCT. | $43.437 \cdot 1$ | $\begin{array}{ll}27.9 & 29.9 \\ 28.3 & 97.4\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ll}24.4 & 22.4 \\ 25 \cdot 3 & 24.3\end{array}$ | 96.2 97.3 | $89 \cdot 9$ 90.7 | $5 \cdot 7$ $5 \cdot 3$ | 91.9 | 88.0 | 4.0 | $3 \cdot 2$ | $5 \cdot 3$ | 5.0 |  | 34.0 | $45 \cdot 2$ | 48.4 | 129 | 90 |
| NOV | 43.138 .4 | $\begin{array}{ll}28.3 & 27.4 \\ 27.3 & 23.1\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ll}25 \cdot 3 & 24 \cdot 3 \\ 23 \cdot 3 & 23 \cdot 6\end{array}$ | $97 \cdot 3$ 94.3 | 90.7 86.3 | 5.3 50 | ${ }_{89} 81$ | 80.6 | 3.5 |  | 4.9 | $4 \cdot 9$ | $33 \cdot 3$ | 34.0 | 43.9 | 44.4 | $11 \cdot 3$ | $8 \cdot 3$ |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { DEC. } \\ 1938 \end{gathered}$ | $42 \cdot 838.7$ | 27.323 .1 | $23 \cdot 323.6$ | $94 \cdot 3$ | 86 | 50 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| JAN... | $\begin{array}{lll}36.1 & 36.8\end{array}$ | $25 \cdot 7 \quad 22 \cdot 0$ | $22.5 \quad 23 \cdot 8$ | $84 \cdot 9$ | $82 \cdot 2$ | 4.8 | $80 \cdot 1$ | \% $\% \cdot 7$ | 3.0 | 3.0 | 4.7 | 4.7 |  |  | 41.2 | $41 \cdot 2$ $39 \cdot 8$ | 12.7 14.8 |  |
| FEB | $33.2 \begin{array}{ll}37 \cdot 2\end{array}$ | $22.5 \quad 23 \cdot 3$ | $19.5 \geqslant 1.6$ | $75 \cdot 7$ | $82 \cdot 6$ | $5 \cdot 5$ | $70 \cdot 2$ | 26.1 | $2 \cdot 8$ | 3.0 |  |  |  |  | 42.2 | 41.1 | 28.8 | $13 \cdot 0$ |
| MAR | 37.138 .0 | 24.023 .3 | $\begin{array}{lll}23.2 & 22.1\end{array}$ | 84.9 | 84.0 | 5.5 | 79.4 68.7 |  | 2.8 |  | 4.5 | 4.9 |  |  | 37.3 | 38.9 | 20.6 | 9.9 |
| APR. | 32.135 .2 | $\begin{array}{ll}21.5 & !1 \cdot 9 \\ 20.4 & 20.3\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ll}19.7 & 20.0 \\ 19.4 & 19.3\end{array}$ | 73.7 75.4 | 775 | 7.2 | 68.2 | 69.3 | $2 \cdot 8$ | 3.0 | 4.9 | 4.7 |  |  | 38.2 | $37 \cdot 9$ | 27.4 | $7 \cdot 8$ |
| MAY | $\begin{array}{ll}35.2 & 35 \cdot 5 \\ 38.4 & 39 \cdot 7\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ll}20.4 & 20.3 \\ 19.4 & 20.4\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ll}19.4 & 19.3 \\ 18.1 & 18.7\end{array}$ | 5 | 79.4 |  | 71.5 |  |  |  | 4.5 |  | 28.8 |  | 36.9 | $39 \cdot 3$ | 29.6 | 11.5 |
|  | 38.4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 37.5 |  |  |  |
| JULY | $36.3 \quad 37.8$ | $19.2 \begin{array}{ll}19 & 20.5\end{array}$ | 17.718 .0 | 73.9 | $77 \cdot 0$ | 4.6 $5 \cdot 0$ | $69 \cdot 3$ 69.1 | 72.9 72.5 | 2.9 |  | 4.5 |  |  | 28.9 | $36 \cdot 3$ | $37 \cdot 7$ | $12 \cdot 9$ | 27.9 |
| AUG. | $\begin{array}{llll}35.1 & 37.0 \\ 37.7 & 38.0\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ll}10.3 & 21.8 \\ 18.0 & 20.9\end{array}$ | 18.0 18.7 18.9 | $74 \cdot 1$ 75 | 78.1 | 4.0 | 71.0 | 72.1 | $3 \cdot 1$ | 3.0 | 4.6 | 4.9 |  | 32.0 | 39.8 | $40 \cdot 9$ | 36.4 | $90 \cdot 3$ |
| SEPT | $\begin{array}{ll}37.7 & 38.0 \\ 39.3 & \text { s. } 6\end{array}$ | 18.0 19.0 20.9 20.3 | $\begin{array}{ll}18.7 & 18 \cdot 9 \\ 20.2 & 18.6\end{array}$ | 75.0 79 | 78.4 | $5 \cdot 4$ | 73.6 | $65 \cdot 9$ | 3.7 | 3.8 | 5:3 | 4.8 |  | 30.3 | $42 \cdot 6$ | $39 \cdot 7$ | 29.4 | $73 \cdot 5$ |
| OCT. | $\begin{array}{ll}39 \cdot 3 & 38.6 \\ 39.1 & 34.8\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ll}18.7 & 18.1\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{lll}19.7 & 18.9\end{array}$ | 78.0 | 72.3 | $5 \cdot 1$ | 72.9 | $66 \cdot 1$ | 3.8 |  | $5 \cdot 4$ | 5.0 |  | 31.8 | 42.9 | 41.0 | $3 \cdot 9$ | 24.4 |
| DEC. . | $\begin{array}{ll}39 \cdot 1 & 34.8 \\ 35 \cdot 4 & 32.1\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ll}19.8 & 16.8\end{array}$ | $17 \cdot 8 \quad 18 \cdot 1$ | $74 \cdot 1$ | 68.1 | 4.8 | $69 \cdot 3$ | 62.6 |  |  |  |  | 29.4 |  | 39.1 | $39 \cdot 6$ |  | $21 \cdot 7$ |
| 1939 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 39.5 | $39 \cdot 5$ | 4.7 | 12.5 |
| JAN. | $\begin{array}{ll}35.0 & 35.2 \\ 30.2 & 39.9\end{array}$ | 21.518 .4 | $\begin{array}{ll}18.4 & 19.4 \\ 17.6 & 19.5\end{array}$ | $75 \cdot 6$ 65.5 | $\begin{aligned} & 73.7 \\ & 71.6 \end{aligned}$ | $4 \cdot 8$ |  | $68 \cdot 1$ | $2 \cdot 5$ |  | 4.3 |  |  | 32.3 | 38.1 | 40.4 | 3.5 | $35 \cdot 1$ |
| MAR. | $\begin{array}{ll}35 \cdot 7 & 36 \cdot 5\end{array}$ | $19 \cdot 6$ 19.0 | $\begin{array}{ll}181.9 & 20.9\end{array}$ | 78.0 | $77 \cdot 2$ | 4.9 | 73.1 | 74.9 | 3. | 3.2 | 4.8 | . |  |  | 31.6 | 30.4 | 12.0 | $87 \cdot 9$ |
| APR. | $\begin{array}{llll}30 \cdot 3 & 33 \cdot 3\end{array}$ | $19 \cdot 5 \quad 19 \cdot 9$ | $19.7 \quad 20.0$ | $70 \cdot 1$ | 78.8 | 4.6 | 65.5 | 71.9 |  |  |  |  |  |  | $42 \cdot 3$ | 41.8 | 31.9 | $94 \cdot 7$ |
| MAY | $33.6 \quad 33.9$ | $22.8 \quad 22.7$ | $\begin{array}{lll}21.5 & 21.3\end{array}$ | 78.5 | 78.5 | 50 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 39.9 |  | $17 \cdot 6$ | $28 \cdot 7$ |
| JUNE | $36.1 \quad 37 \cdot 2$ | $22.1 \quad 23.2$ | $23.3 \quad 24.2$ | 82 | 8.3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 11.9 | 43.4 |
| Y | $32.9 \quad 34.3$ | $21.5 \quad 22 \cdot 7$ | $23.5 \quad 23.9$ | $78 \cdot 3$ | 81.5 | $3 \cdot 7$ |  |  |  |  | $5 \cdot 3$ |  |  |  |  |  | 119 | 43.4 |

SHIPPING, UNEMPLOYMENT.


Unemployment, Other Industries.-Cols. 11 to 13 , opposite.


16-65 years. Ex. Agriculture and any disquelified for benefit by trade dispute. N.B.-Changes in method of enumeration in Sept., 1997 and July, 1988.

Upper line, old basis. Lower line, new basis.

SHIPPING-ENTERED
SHIPPING FREIGHTS-
UNEMPLOYMENT
INSURED PERSONS-

Tonnage of British and Foreign vessels entering and leaving British ports with cargoes during month.-BOARD OF TRADE MONTHLY ACCOUNTS OF TRADE \& NAVIGATION. For description see Journal of RSS, Part I, OF 1938.-PREPARED BY DR. ISSERLIS.

Number of Labour Exchange on or about 25th of month to September, 1937, thereafter one Neek earlier.-MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE.

|  | average of daily rates. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Paris } \\ & \text { f. to } £ \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Brus. } \\ & \text { sels } \\ & \text { b. to } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Milan } \\ & \text { 1. to } £ \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{\|l\|} \text { Berlin } \\ \text { Rm.to } \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Amster- } \\ & \text { dam } \\ & \text { flo to } £ \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { War- } \\ & \text { saw } \\ & \text { z. to } £ \end{aligned}$ | Prague kc. to £ | Zurich <br> f. to $£$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Stock- } \\ & \text { holm } \\ & \text { kr. to } £ \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { NewYork } \\ & 8 \text { to } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Mon- } \\ & \text { treal } \\ & \text { \& to } f \end{aligned}$ | Buencs <br> Aires§ <br> p. to $£$ | $\left\|\begin{array}{c} \text { Rio de } \\ \text { Janeiro } \\ \text { d. per mil. } \end{array}\right\|$ | Bombay <br> d. perrup. | Hong. <br> kong <br> d. per 8 | Kobe <br> . peryen |
|  | For 1919 to 1934 Ratrs See Earlier Bulletins. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| For 1919 to 1934 Ratrs See Earlier Bulletins. |  |  | $57 \cdot 47$ | 12.22 | 7-26 | 25.97 | 117.33 | 15'15 | 19.40 | 4.895 | 4.867 | 19.41 ${ }^{\text {F }}$ | 321 | $18 \cdot 107$ | 21.21 | 14.00 |
| JAN. | 74.36 73.92 | $20 \cdot 89$ | $57 \cdot 43$ | $12 \cdot 15$ | 7.21 | 25.82 | 116.66 | 15.06 | 19.40 | 4.875 | 4.878 4.820 | 18.98 18.88 | 3.28 3.15 3 | $18 \cdot 156$ 18.127 | $21 \cdot 87$ $24 \cdot 13$ | 14.01 14.09 |
| MAR. | $72 \cdot 11$ | $21 \cdot 01$ | 57-17 | 11.82 | 7.03 | 25.20 | 113.74 | 14.68 | 19 | 4.835 | 4.856 | 18.90 | 3.01 | 18.117 | 26.28 | 14.09 14.10 |
| APR. | $73 \cdot 28$ | 28.49 | 58.28 | 12.00 | $7 \cdot 17$ | 2561 | 115.57 | .93 | 19.4 | 4.890 | 4.892 | 18.91 | 272 | $18 \cdot 128$ | $29 \cdot 18$ | 14.14 |
| MAY | $74 \cdot 19$ | 28.85 | $59 \cdot 37$ | $12 \cdot 22$ | 7.23 |  | 117.30 | $15 \cdot 10$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.936 | 4.939 | 18.70 | 2.61 | $18 \cdot 126$ | 28.02 | 14.13 |
| JUNE | 74.68 | $29 \cdot 13$ | 59.75 | 21 | 7.27 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| JULY |  |  | 60.25 | $12 \cdot 27$ | 7.29 | $26 \cdot 18$ | 118.77 | $15 \cdot 13$ | 19.40 | 4.956 | 4.963 | 18.65 | 62 | $18 \cdot 125$ | 25.80 | $14 \cdot 14$ |
| AUG | 75.01 | $29 \cdot 43$ | $60 \cdot 49$ | 12.32 | $7 \cdot 33$ | 26.21 | $119 \cdot 46$ | $15 \cdot 13$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.971 | 4.980 | 18.52 | 2.58 | 18.125 | $24 \cdot 33$ | 14.18 |
| SEPT. | 74.84 | $29 \cdot 25$ | 60.46 | 12.25 | $7 \cdot 30$ | 26.20 | $119 \cdot 20$ | 15.17 | 19.40 | 4.933 | 4.967 4.976 | 18.37 | 2.62 | 18.125 | 24.37 | $14 \cdot 11$ |
| OCT. | 74.49 | 29.13 | $60 \cdot 30$ | 12.20 | 7.24 | 26.06 | 118.48 | 15.08 | 19.40 19.40 | 4.908 4.925 | 4.976 4.976 | 18.09 | 2.72 | 18.125 18 | 24.09 17.91 | 14.05 14.02 |
| NOV. | 74.77 | $29 \cdot 15$ |  | 12.25 | 7.26 7 | $26 \cdot 15$ | 118.89 | $15 \cdot 20$ | 19.4019.40 | $4 \cdot 829$ | 4.975 | 18.06 | $2 \cdot 68$ | 18.126 | 16.04 | 14.01 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { DEC. } \\ & \text { 1936 } \\ & \text { JAN. } \end{aligned}$ |  | 29.24 | 61.71 |  | 7.277.28 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 16. |  |
|  |  |  |  | 12.28 |  | 26.20 |  |  |  | 4.960 | 4.963 | 18.24 | $2 \cdot 68$ | $18 \cdot 152$ |  |  |
|  | 74.86 74.84 | 29.34 | $62 \cdot 15$ | 12.29 | 7.28 | 26.20 | $\begin{aligned} & 119 \cdot 21 \\ & 119 \cdot 31 \end{aligned}$ | $15 \cdot 14$15.14 | 19.40 | $\begin{aligned} & 4.996 \\ & 4.971 \end{aligned}$ | 4.9934.977 | 18.07 | 2.74 | 18.1125 | 15.74 | 14.04 14.08 |
| MAR. | 74.92 | 29:28 | 62.35 | 12.29 | $7 \cdot 27$ | 26.21 |  |  |  |  |  | 18.04 | $2 \cdot 73$ | 18-125 | 1593 | 13.98 |
| APR. | 75.00 | 29.22 | 62.66 | 12.28 | $7 \cdot 28$ | 26.24 | $119 \cdot 50$ | 15.17 | $19 \cdot 4$ | 4.944 | $\begin{aligned} & 4.979 \\ & 5.032 \end{aligned}$ | 17.98 | 2.71 |  | 15.71 | 14.03 |
| MAY | $75 \cdot 47$ | $29 \cdot 35$ | 63.03 | 12.34 | $7 \cdot 35$ | 26.55 | $119 \cdot 92$$121 \cdot 28$ | $15 \cdot 36$$15 \cdot 48$ | $\begin{aligned} & 19 \cdot 40 \\ & 19.40 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 4 \cdot 971 \\ & 5.020 \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & 18.00 \\ & 18.13 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2.71 \\ & 2.72 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 18 \cdot 125 \\ & 18 \cdot 125 \end{aligned}$ | $15 \cdot 44$ | $\begin{aligned} & 14.06 \\ & 14.07 \end{aligned}$ |
| JUNE | $76 \cdot 14$ | 29.70 | 63.84 | 12.46 | $7 \cdot 42$ | 26.71 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| JULY | $75 \cdot 86$ | 29.72 | $63 \cdot 65$ | $12 \cdot 45$ | 7-38 | 26.59 | 120.97 |  | $19 \cdot 40$ | 23 | 5-027 | 18.42 | $2 \cdot 77$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 33 | 14.03 |
| AUG. | 76.33 | 29.81 | 63.84 | 12.49 | $7 \cdot 40$ | $26 \cdot 73$26.78 | $121 \cdot 69$$122 \cdot 17$ | $15 \cdot 42$16.01 | 19.4019.40 | 5.0285.041 | $5 \cdot 026$ | 17.76 | $2 \cdot 80$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 14.90 |  |
| SEP. | 76.74 | 29.84 | 64.26 | 12.57 | $7 \cdot 58$ |  |  |  |  |  | 5.039 |  | $2 \cdot 81$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 14.86 | 14.04 |
| OCT. | 105.09 | 29-10 | 92.96 | $12 \cdot 19$ | $9 \cdot 13$ | 26.16 | $134 \cdot 39$138.09 | $21 \cdot 31$21.27 | 19.40 19.40 | $\begin{aligned} & 4.900 \\ & 4.888 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 4.898 \\ & 4.880 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 17.56 \\ & 17.54 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2.87 \\ & 2.89 \end{aligned}$ | 18.12518.125 | 14.8814.95 | 14.0314.03 |
| NOV. | 105•17 | 28.91 | 92.86 | $12 \cdot 15$ | 9.05 | 26.00 |  |  | 19.40 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| DEC. | 105•14 | 29.03 | 93-19 | $12 \cdot 18$ | 8.99 | 26.00 | 139.26 | 21.35 |  | 4.907 | 4.903 | $\begin{aligned} & 17.54 \\ & 16.42 \end{aligned}$ | 2.93 | $18 \cdot 144$ | 14.93 | 13.56 |
| 1987 | 105•14 | $29 \cdot 11$ | $93 \cdot 23$ | $12 \cdot 19$ | 8.96 | 26 | $140 \cdot 48$ | 21.39 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.9 | 4.909 | $16 \cdot 16$ | 2.953.01 | $\begin{aligned} & 18 \cdot 151 \\ & 18 \cdot 142 \end{aligned}$ | 14.9514.94 | 13.9513.9814.00 |
| FEB. | $105 \cdot 11$ | 29.02 | 92:99 | $12 \cdot 16$ | 8.95 | 25.89 | $140 \cdot 30$ | $\begin{aligned} & 21.44 \\ & 21.43 \end{aligned}$ | $19 \cdot 40$19.40 | $\begin{aligned} & 4.891 \\ & 4.885 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 4.895 \\ & 4.882 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 16.24 \\ & 16.23 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |
| MAR. | 108.31 | 28.99 | 92.81 | 12.15 | 8.93 | 25.72 | 140.00 |  |  |  |  |  | 3.013.07 | $18 \cdot 125$ | 14.94 |  |
| APR. | 109-31 | $29 \cdot 15$ | 93.40 | 12.22 | 8.98 | 26.07 | 141.71141.63 | 21.54 | 19.40 | $4 \cdot 916$ | 4.909 | $16 \cdot 17$ |  | $18 \cdot 125$ | 14.94 | 14.00 14.00 |
| MAY | $110 \cdot 32$ | 29.28 | $93 \cdot 85$ | $12 \cdot 30$ | 8.99 |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & 21.60 \\ & 21.57 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 19.40 \\ & 19 \cdot 40 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 4.939 \\ 4.935 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 4.931 \\ & 4.937 \end{aligned}$ | 16.24 | 3.133.22 | 18.12518.125 | 14.9114.78 | 14.0013.98 |
| JUNE | 110.82 | 29.26 | $93 \cdot 80$ | $12 \cdot 31$ | 8.98 | 26.03 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| JULY | $130 \cdot 34$ | 29.50 | $94 \cdot 34$ | $12 \cdot 35$ | 9.01 | 26.22 | $142 \cdot 41$ | 21.67 | 19.40 | 66 | 72 | 16.43 | 22 | $18 \cdot 125$ | $4 \cdot 68$ | 13.97 |
| AUG. | 132.85 | 29:59 | $94 \cdot 67$ | $12 \cdot 39$ | $9 \cdot 03$ | 26.3626.25 | $\begin{aligned} & 142 \cdot 83 \\ & 141.75 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 21.70 \\ & 21.57 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 19 \cdot 40 \\ & 19 \cdot 40 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 4.983 \\ & 4.961 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 4: 983 \\ & 4.954 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 16.49 \\ & 16.50 \end{aligned}$ | $3 \cdot 12$ | $\begin{aligned} & 18 \cdot 125 \\ & 18 \cdot 125 \end{aligned}$ | 14.9215.00 | 14.0014.00 |
| SEPT | 140.37 | 29.42 | $94 \cdot 14$ | 12.34 | 8.98 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| OCT. | 147.97 | 29.39 | $94 \cdot 18$ | 12.33 | 8.96 | 26.2526.37 | $\begin{aligned} & 141.56 \\ & 142.06 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 21.52 \\ & 21.58 \end{aligned}$ | 19.401940 | 4.9564.994 | $\begin{aligned} & 4.954 \\ & 4.990 \end{aligned}$ | 16.5616.86 | $2 \cdot 83$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| NOV. | $147 \cdot 19$ | 29.37 | 94.91 | 12.37 | 9.01 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $2 \cdot 77$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| DEC. | 147.16 | $29 \cdot 41$ | $94 \cdot 99$ | 12.40 | $8 \cdot 99$ | 26.37 | $142 \cdot 20$ | 21.61 | 19.40 | 4.997 | 4.998 | 17.01 | 2.64 | 18.125 | $15 \cdot 00$ | 14.00 |
| 1988 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 18.125 | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| FEB. | 152:87 | 29.56 | 95-37 | 12.41 | 8.97 | 26.43 | 142.71 | 21.60 | 19.40 | $5 \cdot 018$ | 5.016 | 18.83 | $282+$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| MAR. | 159.63 | $29 \cdot 53$ | 94.75 | $12 \cdot 39$ | 8.97 | $26 \cdot 39$ | 142.29 | 21.63 | 19.40 | 4.985 | 4.997 | $19 \cdot 39$ | $2 \cdot 81+$ | $18 \cdot 125$ | 14.92 | 13.96 |
| APR. | $160 \cdot 90$ | 29.54 | 94.63 | $12 \cdot 38$ | 8.96 | 26.39 | $142 \cdot 86$ | 21.67 | 19.40 | 4.979 | 5.006 | $19 \cdot 46$ | $2 \cdot 81 \ddagger+$ | 18.051 | 14.84 | 14.00 |
| MAY | $175 \cdot 14$ | 29.50 | 94.42 | $12 \cdot 36$ | 8.97 | 26.35 | $142 \cdot 76$ | 21.75 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.965 | 5.007 | 19.00 | 2.81t | 17.910 | 14.91 | 14.00 |
| JUNE | 178.17 | 29.23 | 94:22 | 12.31 | 8.96 | 26.29 | $142 \cdot 61$ | 21.66 | 19.40 | $4 \cdot 960$ | 5.012 | 19.02 | $2 \cdot 81$ | 17.795 | 14.94 | 14.00 |
| JULY | $178 \cdot 15$ | $29 \cdot 14$ | 93.71 | 12.27 | 8.95 | 26.20 | 142.51 | 21.54 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.931 | 4.959 | 18.94 | $2 \cdot 83 \pm$ | 17.504 | 14.99 | 14.00 |
| AUG. | 178.55 | 28.92 | 92.75 | 12.17 | 8.94 | 25.93 | 141.32 | 21.32 | 19.40 | 4.881 | $4 \cdot 897$ | 18.87 | $2.88{ }^{\text {¢ }}+$ | 17.897 | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| SEPT. | 178.42 | $28 \cdot 45$ | 91.27 | 12.02 | 8.90 | 25.50 | $139 \cdot 36$ | 21.25 | 19.40 | $4 \cdot 805$ | 4.831 | 19.00 | $2 \cdot 93 \ddagger$ | 17.902 | $15 \cdot 00$ | 14.00 |
| OCT. | 178.71 | 28.20 | 90.64 | 11.90 | 8.77 | $25 \cdot 36$ | 138.60 | 20.99 | 19.40 | $4 \cdot 769$ | 4-812 | 18.99 | $2 \cdot 98 \pm$ | 17.933 | 14.97 | 14.00 |
| NOV. | 178.68 | 27.84 | 89.51 | 11.76 | 8.67 | 25.04 | 137.34 | 20.79 | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 710$ | 4.742 | 20.09 | $3.021+$ | 17.936 | $14 \cdot 04$ | 14.00 |
| DEC. | 177.48 | 27.72 | 88.75 | 11.65 | 8.59 | $24 \cdot 78$ | $136 \cdot 36$ | 20.65 | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 671$ | 4.706 | 20.55 | $3.66 \ddagger \dagger$ | 17.923 | 15.00 | 14:00 |
| JAN. | 177.49 | 27.63 | 88.73 | 11.64 | 8.61 | 24.70 | 136.26 | 20.67 | $19 \cdot 40$ |  | 4.705 | $20 \cdot 35$ |  | 17.937 | 15.00 | 14.00 |
| FEB. | 176.98 | 27.79 | 89.05 | 11.67 | 8.74 | 24.84 | 136.82 | 20.66 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.687 | $4 \cdot 708$ | 20.35 | $3.06{ }^{\ddagger}+$ | 17.937 | 14.93 | 14.00 |
| MAR. | 176.86 | 27.85 | 89.08 | 11.68 | 8.82 | 24.89 | (a) | 20.71 | 19.40 | $4 \cdot 686$ | 4-704 | $20 \cdot 30$ | $3.06 \ddagger+$ | 17.966 | 14.91 | 14.00 |
| APR. | 176.73 176.74 | 27.80 | 89.00 | 11.67 | 8.81 | 24.90 |  | $20 \cdot 68$ | 19.40 | 4.681 | 4.704 | 20.21 | $2 \cdot 841$ | 17.937 | 14.74 | 14.00 |
| MUNE | 176.73 | 27.51 27.53 | 89.01 89.04 | 11167 | 8.73 8.81 | $24 \cdot 94$ 24.88 | $\begin{aligned} & 136 \cdot 31 \\ & 136 \cdot 45 \end{aligned}$ | $20 \cdot 82$ 20.77 | 19.40 19.40 | 4.682 4.683 | 4.698 4.692 | 20.22 20.22 | $\stackrel{2.77 \dagger}{2.71 \dagger}$ | 17.910 17.911 | 14.81 14 | 14.00 |
| $\left\|\begin{array}{cc} \text { Week en } \\ \text { July } \end{array}\right\|$ | ${ }_{176}^{\text {ding }} 173$ | 27.54 | 89.00 | 11.67 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 4.81 |  |
| , | $176 \cdot 72$ | 27.54 | 88.99 | 11.67 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | $176 \cdot 72$ | 27.55 | 89.03 | 11.67 | 8.81 | 24.87 | $136 \cdot 50+$ | 20.77 | 19.40 | 4.682 | 4.691 | 20.23 | $2 \cdot 62+$ | 17.906 | 14.81 | 14.00 |
| ", 2 | 176.72 | 27.56 | 89.06 | 11.67 | 8.76 | 24.87 | $136 \cdot 50+$ | $20 \cdot 76$ | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 682$ | $4 \cdot 688$ | $20 \cdot 24$ | $2 \cdot 62+$ | 17.906 | 14.75 | 14.00 |
| , 29 | $176 \cdot 72$ | 27.56 | 89.05 | 11.67 | 8.77 | 24.87 | $136 \cdot 50+$ | 20.75 | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 681$ | 4.689 | $20 \cdot 20$ | $2 \cdot 62 \dagger$ | 17.906 | 14.75 | 1400 |
| Aug. 5 | $176 \cdot 72$ | 27.56 | 89.00 | 11.67 | 8.80 | 24.87 | $136 \cdot 50+$ | 20.74 | $19 \cdot 40$ | $4 \cdot 681$ | $4 \cdot 680$ | $20 \cdot 20$ | $2 \cdot 62 \dagger$ | 17.922 | 14.75 | 14.00 |
| , 12 | $176 \cdot 72$ | 27.56 | 89.00 | 11.67 | 8.77 | 24.87 | $136.50+$ | 20.74 | 19.40 | 4.681 | $4 \cdot 680$ | $20 \cdot 20$ | $2 \cdot 62 \dagger$ | 17.037 | 14.69 | 14.00 |
| $\cdots$ | 176.72 | 27.56 | 89.00 | 11.67 | 8.72 | 24.87 | 136.50-1 | 20.73 | $19 \cdot 40$ | 4.681 | 4.681 | $20 \cdot 20$ | $2 \cdot 6$ \% | $1^{\prime} / 937$ | 14.69 | 14.00 |

$\ddagger$ Official Rate

* Nomina
$\dagger$ Sellers
Average 14th to 31 st. Average 1st to 12 th $27^{\circ} 67 \mathrm{~d}$. per $\$$.
§ Paper pesos to £.
(a) Average March 1st to 14th 187'04; subsequently nominal until May 4th.
: Average 15 th to 31 st. Average 1st to 7 th, 2.58d. per mil.


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[^0]:    *An international survey appears on the 7th of each month in the Supplement to the Bulletin.

[^1]:    * See special article on p. I6.

[^2]:    ${ }^{*}$ The percentages for beef, mutton and butter are in each case the average of the two published quotations.

[^3]:    * The exact figures are still under consideration

[^4]:    $\dagger$ Excluding rubber tyres after 1924.

[^5]:    * Owing to the incidence of dates, the exact figures for the end of the quarter cannot be computed. The figure on March 19th was $£ 289 \mathrm{Mn}$., and that on April 9th $£ 305 \mathrm{Mn}$.

[^6]:    * Partly Estimated
    † Includes artificial silk from 3rd Qr. 1925

[^7]:    ( 16-65 years. Ex. Agriculture and any disqualitied for benefit by trade dispute,

    - NORMAL SEASONADE line, ola basis, Lower line, new basis.
    N.B.
    -Changes in method of en

[^8]:    * This index is based on freight car loadings, steel-mill activity, electric power production, automobile output, lumber production and cotton-mill activity.

[^9]:    - Provisional

[^10]:    * In January, 1939, the value of imports was $3,978 \mathrm{Mn}$. fr., compared with $3,892 \mathrm{Mn}$. in 1938, and of exports $2,820 \mathrm{Mn}$. compared with 2,45I Mn.

[^11]:    * At the end of January the note circulation totalled 7,816 Mn. marks, as against $5,200 \mathrm{Mn}$. a year ago. The figures of notes and coin are available only up to the end of December, when the total was $10,404 \mathrm{Mn}$. marks as against $7,499 \mathrm{Mn}$. in 1937.

[^12]:    * Ufficio Centrale
    - Confederazione industriale
    $\ddagger$ Borsa de Milano.

[^13]:    * A further comparison can be made between cols. 6 and 7 on p. 62 .

[^14]:    * Of these 125,000 were classed as employable.

[^15]:    $\dagger$ Labour Gazette, Ottawa, Dec., 1938, p. 1323.

[^16]:    * Citizens' Research Institute, Toronto, Tax Conference Report No. I6I.

[^17]:    * An international survey appears on the 7 th of each month in the Supplement to the Bulletin.

[^18]:    16-65 years. Ex. Agriculture and any disqualified for beneflt by trade dispute, N.B.-Changes in method of enumeration in Sept., 1937 and July, 1938 .

    * NORMAL SEASONAL CHANGE REMOVED.

    TRANSPORT :
    SHIPPING-ENTERED
    SHIPPING FREIGHTS

    ## UNEMPLOYMENT

    INSURED PERSONS

    Tonnage of British and Forelgn vessels entering and leaving British ports with cargoes during month.-BOARD
    Cr TRADE MONTHLY ACCOUNTS OF TRADE \& NAVIGATION. For description see Journal of RSS, Part I chamber of Shipping index number as published by " The Statist.

    Number of bor about 25 th of month to September, 1037, thereafter on week earlier.-MINISTRY OF LABOUR GABe on

[^19]:    *Import figures are based upon declared values. Export figures declared values since 1927, previously based on official values.

[^20]:    PRICES
    Wholesale－

    Silver．－
    pig Iron．
    Food and All Items．－
    Retail－
    Reichs Index．－ WAGES．－

    1st of month．
    Monthly average．Wirtschaft und Statistik． Statistisches Reichsamt Index－average for month and middle of month respectively．
    For middle of month．Eildienst des statistischen Reichsamtes．
    Wirtschaft und Statistik．Weighted average for skilled workers in 12 occupations．Avarage for month．Based on hourly wages from 1981. previously on weekly wages After 1997，1st of previouk on week y wages．After 1987，1st of month，$\%$ of December， 1935

[^21]:    Wirtschaft und Statistik.
    Statistiches Reichsamt-Merchandise and bullion included
    Excluding Saar till April, 1935-Wirtschaft und Statistik
    Statistiches Reichsamt.
    Wirtschaft und Statistik
    Total No. of Persons Unemployed on 1st of month. Wirtschaft und Statistik. Trade Union percentages
    for end of month, but given as for following month to be comparable with previous column. Series dis. continued after March. 1938, Subsequently percentages of working place capacity occupied.

[^22]:    * In view of an anticipated crop for the 1938-9 season of over 5 Mn . bags (over 2 Mn . in excess of last season's), wheat imports on last season's scale are not likely to be required.

[^23]:    *An international survey appears on the 7 th of each month in the Supplement to the Bulletin.

[^24]:    * NORMAL SEASONAL charige removed.

[^25]:    * NORMAL SEASONAL CHANGE REMOVED

[^26]:    Total for 4 weeks ending approximately at end of month.-BOARD OF TRADE BRITESH IRON AND STEEL FEDERATION.
    
    Rayon, yarn and waste, derived from Excise Statistics, -BOARD OF TRADE Moriple and independent shops. For Revised index of value of sales in Departmental Stores, CNK OF ENGLAND. liscussion see Board of rade Journa, Feb, 9th, bank and postal orders.-BGARD OF TRADE JOURNAL Imports entered for home consumption.-BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL.
    Tonnage of roods carried on the Railways of Great Britain during the month, excluding frce-hauled.
    Tonnage of goods carried on traffic, excluding cost of collection and delivery till January, 1928, then excluding receipts for collection and delivery.-MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT.

[^27]:    ＊July，1914．§ 1st Qr．， 1914.
    March 25th
    $\ddagger$ Including Sinking Fund since 1928.

    ## FINANCE，

    Value of Stocks and Shares－Index numbers for end of month．
    Clearing House Returns．－
    Exchanses，
    Bank of France．－
    RICES
    Wholesale－
    Retail．－
    Total clearings during the month at the Bankers＇Clearing House of Paris Midale of maily rates in Paris

    Index calculated by the Statistique Génerale de la France for 45 commodities at the end of the month．
    Index for Paris calculated（1）for 34 commodities by the Statistique Génerale during the month，giving each commodity a weight corresponding to the consumption of a family of four persons：（2）for all expenses of a vorking－class home according to the Paris Commission on the Cost of Living．

[^28]:    * Of this $£ 5 \mathrm{Mn}$. represents the credit given to China to stabilise her exchange rates.

[^29]:    * For a detailed analysis of current trends in foreign trade, subscribers are referred to an article entitled "World Trade, 1937-38," in the Supplement to the Bulletin, April 7th, 1939.

[^30]:    * Four-week month.

[^31]:    * NORMAL SEASONAL CHANGE REMOVED

[^32]:    : Average 15th to 31st. Average 1st to 7th, 2.58d. per mil

[^33]:    1. Provincial and municipal governments and school districts
    2. Agricultural-

    | 1937 | 1938 |
    | ---: | ---: |
    | Mn. $\mathbf{S}$ | Mn. $\$$ |
    | 121.6 | $137 \cdot 3$ |

    (a) Farmers' loans, cattle loans,
    (b) Loans to grain dealers, grain exporters and seed merchants
    57.5
    $56 \cdot 8$
    $\stackrel{30.8}{-} 88 \cdot 3 \xrightarrow{91 \cdot 7} 148 \cdot 5$

[^34]:    * Includes newly-mined gold sold abroad but held in Canada under earmark.
    + Statistics of capital movements, collected directly but not necessarily covering all movements, indicate a net outflow of capital funds of $\$ 160 \mathrm{Mn}$. in 1938 and $\$ 199 \mathrm{Mn}$. (revised) in 1937.
    $\ddagger$ Revised figures.

[^35]:    ${ }^{\star}$ On April 27th the note circulation rose to 125 Md . and

[^36]:    * At the end of April the law relating to increased profits was changed. For the years 1939-40 the tax is to be $15 \%$ of the profit increase. The first 6,000 marks of income are free of this tax, also the first 1,200 marks of increase in the years 1939-40.

[^37]:    * Jan. to June figures include Pernis and Vonderlingerplaat

[^38]:    * An international survey appears on the 7th of each month in the Supplement to the Bulletin

[^39]:    Under Manufactures, A includes commodities used in further manufacture and transport; 'Other' contains leather, paper and motor accessories. B includes all other manufactures.

[^40]:    Based upon estimates published in the Board of Trade Journal.

[^41]:    * NORMAL SEASONAL CHANGE REMOVED

[^42]:    OUTPUT-COAL
    PIG IRON. STEEL CASTINGS

    ## ELECTRINGOTS

    ARECTRICICY-SILK-
    RETAIL SALES SILK-
    POST OFFICE RECEIPTS-
    MOTOR SPIRIT-
    MOTOR SPIRIT-
    WEIGHT
    Total for 4 weeks ending approximately at end of month.-BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL
    Output for standar mon monthly figures issued by the BRITISH IRON AND STEEL FEDERATION.
    Output of authorised undertakings.-ELECTRICITY COMMISNIN OF TRADE JOURNAL.
    Rayon, yarn and waste, derived from excise ental Stores, Co-operatives, multiple and independent shops. For discussion see Board of Trade Journal, Feb. 9th, 1939.-BANK OF ENGLAND.
    discussion see Board of Trade Journal, Imports entered for home consumption.-BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL.
    Tonnage of goods carried on the Railways of Great Eritain during the month, excluding free-hauled
    Monthly recelpts for goods trafflc, excluding cost of collection and delivery till January, 1928, then excluding receipts for collection and delivery.-MINISTR Y OF TRANSPORT.

[^43]:    ＊NORMAL SEASONAL CHANGE REMOVED

[^44]:    End of month, $\dagger 241$ Cities outside New York adjusted for season § Comparable figures not avail ${ }^{\text {FF }}$. Dept, of Labor, New index, \% of 1923-25 mid-month. Series from Sept., 1934

[^45]:    * Provisional.

[^46]:    Wirtschaft und Statistik
    Statistiches Reichsamt－Merchandise and bullion included
    Excluãing Saar till April，1935－Wirtschaft und Statistit
    Statistiches Reichsamt．
    Wirtschaft und Statistik
    Tot No Wirtschait und Statistik．Trade Union percentage
    for of ollowing month to be comparable with previous column
    chap

[^47]:    ${ }^{1}$ On May 26th a loan of $£ 5 \mathrm{Mn} .3 \frac{1}{2} \%$ Inscribed Stock, redeemable 1954-59, was issued in London at $96 \frac{1}{2} \%$. The issue was heavily over-subscribed.
    ${ }^{2}$ This addition raised the internal debt (which had been $£ 106.5 \mathrm{Mn}$. in 1933) to $£ 178.7 \mathrm{Mn}$. The external debt, unchanged during 1938-9 at £IOI.I Mn., had decreased from $£ 165.7 \mathrm{Mn}$. in 1933. Thus, since 31st March, I933, $£ 64.6 \mathrm{Mn}$. had in effect been transferred from external to internal debt, and internal (and total) debt had been further increased by $£ 7.6 \mathrm{Mn}$. In the same period, redemption funds fell from $£ 2 \mathrm{I} .8 \mathrm{Mn}$. to $£ 8.4 \mathrm{Mn}$.

[^48]:    * An international survey appears on the 7 th of each month in the Supplement to the Bulletin.

[^49]:    * Excluding Sundays and Bank Holidays (i.e., not Good Friday), the number of days was:1938 March
    27
    27

[^50]:    * Year ended September, from 1927 onwards. †1919-20, March 31st; 1921-25, Highest Quarter; 1920-37, Census Neptember.
    § Vehicles and chassis (private and commercial) only. Motor cycles and motor car parts and accessories excluded. $\ddagger$ Provisional.

[^51]:    $\star$ The total profit on the revaluation was $£ 95 \mathrm{Mn}$., but of this $£ 9 \mathrm{Mn}$. was retained by the Bank of England to enable it to write down the value of its securities. In addition, as the Bank still held some 1. 4 Mn . ounces of gold previously sold to it by the Account at par, the revaluation of this amount merely reimbursed the Account for the nominal loss incurred on the original sale. Of the $£_{85} \mathrm{Mn}$. transferred to the Account, only $£ 8 \mathrm{I} \mathrm{Mn}$. therefore represents profit.

[^52]:    * NORMAL SEASONAL CHANGE REMOVED

[^53]:    Average 14th to 31st. Average 1st to 12th 27'67d. per \$
    $136^{\circ} 31$ is Average May 4th to 31st.

[^54]:    * Rejected by House of Representatives on Aug. 2nd.

[^55]:    * See provisional figures in table on page 335.

[^56]:    * See The Monthly Revierw of the Bank of Nova Scotia, Toronto, July, 1939, "The Economics of the Can Opener."

[^57]:    * The Canadian Balance of International Payments, The Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa, 1939, is a new and extremely useful monograph.
    + The principal sources of information are described and employed in The Monthly Revierv of the Bank of Nova Scotia, Toronto, June, 1939," "The Extent and Nature of Unemployment in Canada.

[^58]:    * See Bulletin de la Statistique Générale de la France, April-June, 1939, page 467.

[^59]:    $\dagger$ New Index. Aug., 1934

[^60]:    Wirtschaft und Statistik．
    Statistiches Reichsamt－Merchandise and bullion incl：ded
    Excluding Saar till April，193j－Wirtschaft und Statistik
    Statistiches Reichsamt
    Wirtschaft und Statistib
    Total No，of Persons Unemployed on lst of month．Wirtschaft und Statistik．Trade Union percentage or end of month，but given as for following month to be comparable with previous column．Series dis continued after March，1933．Subsequently percentages of sorking place capacity occupied

[^61]:    * See Schlote: "Entwicklung und Strukturwandlungen des englischen Aussenhandels." Institut für Weltwirtschaft.

    Kiel, 1938.

[^62]:    ^ NORMAL SEASONAL CHANGE REMOVED.

