

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

VOL. XXXIV.—No. 11.]

NOVEMBER, 1926.

[PRICE SIXPENCE NET.]

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

EMPLOYMENT.

EMPLOYMENT remained bad on the whole during October. In many industries, including iron mining, iron and steel manufacture, the tinplate trade, heavy engineering, shipbuilding, and most of the textile trades, it continued seriously affected by the shortage of fuel resulting from the coal-mining stoppage. There was some improvement in the cotton and pottery industries, but there was a seasonal decline in the building trades.

Among the workpeople (numbering approximately 12,000,000) insured against unemployment under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed at 25th October, 1926, was 13·6,* as compared with 13·7*† at 20th September, 1926, and 11·4 at 26th October, 1925. Among the members of those trade unions from which returns were received, the percentage unemployed was 13·6 at the end of October, 1926, the same percentage as at the end of September, 1926, as compared with 11·3 at the end of October, 1925. The total number of applicants for employment registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 1st November, 1926, was approximately 1,610,000, of whom 1,234,000 were men and 292,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls; at 27th September, 1926, it was 1,582,000, of whom 1,198,000 were men and 295,000 were women; and at 26th October, 1925, it was 1,295,000, of whom 1,032,000 were men and 196,000 were women. The figures relating to September, 1926, and those for 1st November, 1926, are exclusive of workpeople in the coal-mining industry who ceased work on account of the dispute.

WAGES.

In the industries for which statistics are regularly compiled by the Department, the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation during October resulted in an increase of nearly £21,000 in the weekly full-time wages of nearly 310,000 workpeople, and in a reduction of £200 in those of 850 workpeople. These figures do not include the effect of any changes in the rates of wages of coal miners which may have been made on or after resumption of work, as to which complete statistics are not yet available.

The principal groups of workpeople whose rates of wages were increased included textile bleaching, dyeing, finishing, etc., operatives in Yorkshire, Lancashire and Scotland, iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen in the Midlands, iron miners in Cleveland and Cumberland,

* These percentages include coal mining, those miners who were not disqualified for benefit under the Unemployment Insurance Acts by reason of the dispute being taken as unemployed for the purpose of the percentage, but not those who ceased work owing to the dispute. In other industries (excluding coal mining) the percentage of unemployment at 25th October was 14·1, as compared with 14·2 at 20th September, 1926.

† The figures for September, 1926, have been revised.

blastfurnacemen in Cleveland, blastfurnacemen and iron and steel workers in South Wales and Monmouthshire, and sheet steel millmen and galvanisers in various districts in England and Wales. There were also increases in the minimum rates of wages fixed under the Trade Boards Acts for workpeople employed in boot and shoe repairing.

During the ten completed months of 1926 the changes reported to the Department, in the industries for which statistics have been compiled, resulted in net increases amounting to £17,000 in the weekly full-time wages of 140,000 workpeople, and in net reductions of nearly £70,000 in those of 770,000 workpeople. These figures are exclusive of the effects of any recent changes in rates of wages in the coal-mining industry. In the corresponding period of 1925, there were net increases of £77,000 in the weekly full-time wages of 840,000 workpeople, and net reductions of over £150,000 in those of 890,000 workpeople.

COST OF LIVING.

At 1st November the average level of retail prices of all the commodities taken into account in the statistics compiled by the Ministry of Labour (including food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, and miscellaneous items) was approximately 79 per cent. above that of July, 1914, as compared with 74 per cent. a month ago and 76 per cent. a year ago. The corresponding figures for food alone were 69, 63 and 72 respectively.

The rise in the index-number at 1st November, as compared with a month earlier, was mainly due to increases in the retail prices of coal, eggs and potatoes.

These statistics are designed to indicate the average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families, and accordingly, in making the calculations, the changes in the prices of the various items included are combined in proportions corresponding with the relative importance of those items in pre-war working-class family expenditure.

TRADE DISPUTES.

At the beginning of October about 900,000 workpeople in the coal-mining industry continued to be involved in the stoppage of work which began on 1st May. The aggregate number of working days lost by workpeople taking part in the dispute was about 18½ million in October, making a total of 126½ million since the beginning of the stoppage.

Apart from the coal-mining dispute, the number of trade disputes, involving stoppages of work, reported to the Department as beginning in October was 12; in addition, 9 disputes which began before October were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The total number of workpeople involved in these 21 disputes (including those thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 3,000, and the estimated aggregate duration of such disputes in October was about 10,000 working days.

COAL-MINING INDUSTRY DISPUTE.

THE Executive Committee of the Miners' Federation met on 15th October "further to consider ways and means of carrying out the decisions arrived at by the mining districts" with regard to the continuance of the dispute. The decisions referred to were published in the article on the coal dispute in the MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE for October (pages 358 and 359).

As a result of this meeting action to be taken with regard to the various decisions was further defined; thus it was stated, as regards the withdrawal of safety men, that arrangements were being made for a meeting with the National Federation of Enginemen, Boilermen and Mechanics, and that the General Council of the Trades Union Congress had been communicated with as regards the embargo on all foreign coal and a levy. It was also announced that "the Executive have undertaken at the request of any District to utilise the services of all the miners' Members of Parliament and Executive, and all miners' leaders, so that they can be sent to the various areas." In connection with this campaign it was decided to call a special meeting of the Executive on the following Tuesday at the miners' offices in Basford, Nottingham.

Discussions with other Trade Unions.

On the 22nd October the question of levying the membership of affiliated unions and the request of the miners for an embargo upon imported coal was discussed with the General Council of the Trades Union Congress, and it was decided to call a special conference of the Executive members of affiliated Unions for Wednesday, 3rd November, to deal with the question of the levy. As regards the embargo, the General Council considered that this was a matter upon which it must consult the principal unions affected, and a meeting convened by the General Council took place on 2nd November between the Executive Committee of the Miners' Federation, and representatives of the principal Transport Workers' Unions, five members of the General Council being present. The following resolution was passed:—

"This Conference, having discussed the proposals of the Miners' Federation for an embargo on imported coal, decided to adjourn, to enable the representatives of the General Council to report to the National General Council."

The meeting called to deal with the question of a levy took place on 3rd November, as arranged. In the course of an official statement made at the close of the Conference, Mr. W. M. Citrine, the Secretary of the Trades Union Congress, said that "about 800 delegates were present . . . The miners' case was stated by Mr. A. J. Cook, and the financial position of the Federation was explained by Mr. W. P. Richardson, the treasurer. The position of the Unions generally was then submitted by various speakers, and the following resolution was ultimately adopted by an overwhelming majority:—

"That this special conference of Executive Councils of Trade Unions affiliated to the T.U.C. congratulates the miners on their magnificent fight, and with a view to enabling their resistance to be continued until an honourable settlement is secured each Executive Council here represented pledges itself to call for a special daily contribution of not less than one penny from every one of its members for every day such member is working until the dispute is settled. Each Executive Council further pledges itself to set in motion the whole of its machinery so that all contributions shall be forwarded to its Head Office and remitted to the Miners' Federation regularly and without delay."

Meanwhile, on 26th October, a private meeting had taken place between the Prime Minister, who was accompanied by the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Minister of Mines, and representatives of the General Council, and on 30th October, a Committee of the General Council met the Executive Committee of the Miners' Federation to discuss the question of attempting to reopen negotiations.

Negotiations with Government Resumed.

Following upon this, negotiations were resumed between the Government and the Miners' Federation, and a delegate conference was called by the Federation on the 4th and 5th November. On 6th November, the miners having accepted the principle of district agreements in accordance with the national principles, the Government put forward the following statement of the national principles which it was suggested should be observed in all district agreements:—

1. The minimum percentage addition to basis rates shall be that provided for in the 1921 agreement, this minimum to be paid whatever hours worked.
2. The ratio for the division of the net proceeds of the industry between wages and profits to range between 87 : 13 and 85 : 15, according to the circumstances of the districts.
3. The present method of ascertaining proceeds to be retained.
4. The subsistence allowance for low-paid day-wage men to be continued, the level of these allowances to be the subject of further consideration.
5. In the absence of a national agreement, each district to give its guarantee to the Prime Minister.

As a result of discussion with the owners, the Mines Department on 6th November were enabled to address to the Miners' Federation the following letter regarding what were understood to be the views of the owners in the Districts. (The Mining Association had made it clear that, while they were willing to transmit the views of the Districts, it must be understood that the Association had not,

and did not desire to have, any power to commit the districts or to negotiate on their behalf):—

"I am directed by the Secretary for Mines to send you the following statement of the general principles which the Government understand the owners in each district are prepared to follow in negotiating district settlements. As the Prime Minister told you to-day, the owners in North Wales have intimated that that district will require special consideration, and there is at present no definite information about Cumberland or Kent. The principles are as follow:—

(1) That wages should continue to be determined by the results of the industry in the district, ascertained jointly by accountants appointed by each side, with provision as hitherto for joint test audits, and the reference of any question arising therefrom to the independent chairman of the District Board, and that the owners in each district should discuss with the workmen's representatives any method suggested for removing doubts about the fairness of transfer prices.

(2) That the ratio for division of net proceeds between workmen and owners should range between 87 to wages and 13 to profits and 85 to wages and 15 to profits.

(3) That the minimum percentage on basis rates should, subject to district settlements on hours and working conditions, be not less than the equivalent of 20 per cent. on standard rates.

(4) That the subsistence wage to be paid to low-paid day-wage men be settled by arbitration in the district in the event of failure of the two sides to agree.

Colonel Lane-Fox understands that it is proposed that, subject to mutual agreement, the districts should be as in the list annexed."

The Districts referred to were as follows:—Scotland, Northumberland, Durham, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire, Nottinghamshire and Derby, South Derby, Leicester, Cannock Chase, Warwickshire, South Wales, Somerset, North Wales, Bristol, North Staffordshire, South Staffordshire, Shropshire.

The Executive Committee decided to refer the Government proposals to their delegate conference, and this conference considered them on the 10th and 11th November. As a result the following statement was made:—

"The Conference, after a very lengthy and careful examination of the Reports from the various districts and from the Executive Committee regarding its interviews with the Government, unanimously decided in favour of the following resolution:—

That the report of the Executive Committee and the reports from the Districts to be accepted, and the Committee to be authorised to continue the negotiations with the Government unfettered."

Amended Proposals of Government.

As a result of this and of discussions which took place during the 11th November, the Government handed to the miners the following amended proposals, which were submitted to their national delegate conference on the following day:—

(1) The Miners' Federation undertake to do all in their power to promote an immediate resumption of work by means of district settlements; the hours to be worked not being excluded from the district negotiations.

(2) As regards the wages on which work is to be immediately resumed, the owners have informed the Government that in every district except Northumberland, Durham, Cumberland, and North Wales they have offered to pay temporarily, after the resumption of work, a general district percentage on basis rates not less than that prevailing on April 30, 1926, and in districts (other than the above) where there was a subsistence wage under clause 7 of the 1924 Agreement, the same subsistence wage.

(3) The owners have also informed the Government that they are ready in each district to appoint at once a special joint sub-committee on transfer prices.

(4) Further, the owners have informed the Government that workmen shall be reinstated as opportunity offers, without prejudice to the men at present at work.*

(5) As regards the permanent terms of employment, any district agreement that embodies certain general principles shall be regarded as a "standard" agreement; that is to say, any agreement that contains provisions for all the following matters:—

- (a) A District Board with an independent chairman;
- (b) Periodical determination of the trading results of the industry, ascertained jointly by accountants appointed by each side, with provision for test audits and reference of any question arising therefrom to the independent chairman of the District Board.
- (c) Periodical regulation of the district percentage in accordance with paragraph (b) above; the ratio of division of net proceeds being not less favourable to the owners than 87 : 13 and not less favourable to the miners than 85 : 15; and the net proceeds being ascertained in accordance with the third schedule of the National Agreement of 1924, but without prejudice to any variation which may be made by the District Board or in default of agreement of the District Board by the independent chairman of that Board.
- (d) A minimum percentage on basis not less than the equivalent of 20 per cent. on standard; the standard for the purposes of this paragraph being the basis rate in force for the time being (in Scotland, the 1888 basis) plus the percentage paid on basis in July, 1914 (or

* This paragraph has since been withdrawn by the Government at the request of the Miners' Federation. (See below.)

the equivalent thereof where part of the 1914 district percentage has been merged in basis rates), plus any percentage that may be agreed to be paid to pieceworkers in respect of an underground working day shorter than eight hours.

(e) The payment of subsistence wages to low-paid day-wage men at the rate paid in April last until the pay next following the 31st January, 1927, and thereafter at a rate to be determined by the District Board or in default of agreement of the District Board by the independent chairman of that Board.

(f) A duration of at least three years, without prejudice to the variation of the district agreements by agreement between the parties thereto or to any provision that it may contain for the alteration of any of its terms within that period by the District Board or in default of agreement of the District Board by the independent chairman of that Board.

6. The Government, as soon as they are satisfied that paragraph 1 of this memorandum has been complied with, undertake to introduce legislation by which any district agreement, other than a "standard" agreement, may, if it is on the basis of a longer underground working day than that prevailing in the district in April last, be made the subject of appeal, by either party to the agreement, to a national arbitral authority on any of the matters set out in paragraph 5 of this memorandum in respect of which it is less favourable to the party appealing than a "standard" agreement would be. No appeal will lie as respects any "standard" district agreement or any agreement made on the basis of an underground working day not longer than that prevailing in the district in April last.

7. The national arbitral authority will consist of such members of the Industrial Court (not having any connexion with the coal-mining industry) as the Minister of Labour may direct, and will be assisted by two assessors, one appointed by each of the parties to the appeal.

8. When an agreement is made the subject of appeal to the national arbitral authority, the authority may, in respect of the matter under appeal, make such modifications therein as they think fit within the standard conditions, or may, if they think fit, confirm it without modification. The agreement thereafter will have effect as approved by the national arbitral authority.

9. The Act giving these powers to the national arbitral authority will have effect for six months only.

10. The Government will forthwith take the necessary steps to put into force the provisions of the Mining Industry Act of 1926 relating to recruitment.

The Government followed the submission of these terms with a statement, issued on the afternoon of November 12th, to the effect that "in order to prevent any possible misapprehensions the Government think it desirable to make clear that the proposed terms of settlement . . . do not represent an agreement with the colliery owners.

"If they are accepted and carried out by the miners, the Government will proceed independently with the legislation proposed."

Miners' Delegate Conference recommends Acceptance of Terms.

On Saturday, 13th November, the miners' delegate conference decided, by 432,000 votes to 352,000, to refer the proposals to the district miners' associations with the recommendation for acceptance of the terms. A vote on the question of taking a ballot resulted in 427,000 against, as compared with 357,000 in favour.

Meanwhile the owners had taken exception to certain references to their attitude contained in the proposals, particularly to the fact that there was no reference in Clause 2 to any stipulation as to hours and working conditions to which the payment of the rates which they had offered on resumption of work was to be subject; to the form of Clause 3 in referring to a special joint committee on transfer prices instead of "special sub-committees of District Boards to deal with the methods of fixing" these; and disclaiming any responsibility for the intention of the owners expressed in paragraph 4 of the terms. In the course of his reply to Mr. Evan Williams, the Minister of Mines stated that "The Memorandum is divisible into two quite distinct parts. Clauses 5 to 10 are what I may call the operative clauses—namely, those which set out what the Government as distinct from the owners have offered to do by way of legislation. I acknowledge at once that you have made it quite clear to the Government that colliery owners would object to these clauses, both on principle and in respect of certain specific matters contained in them. The Government accept all responsibility for these clauses of the memorandum and have never suggested that they were agreed in any way with the owners generally or with you personally.

"Clauses 2, 3 and 4 are in a different category. They consist only of recitals of certain items which the Government understood the district owners' associations would be prepared to include in their offers to the men. While not agreeing with all you say about the origin of Clause 4, I may say at once that your complaint about this has now been met by the fact that we have complied with the request of the Miners' Federation that this clause should be withdrawn. Clause 3, so far as I can see, does nothing which is in conflict with your own version of it. As regards Clause 2, I think your recollection is at fault . . . I may add, however, that it has, in fact, been made clear to the Miners' Federation, beyond the possibility of doubt, that these offers are understood by us to be on the basis of increased hours and that the Government cannot give any guarantee about working conditions. We have also since informed them that Kent should have been included among the exceptions named in the clause, and also that we have now received word that a considerable proportion of the pits in Somerset and Bristol are not prepared to offer April rates."

PRINCIPAL VARIATIONS IN NUMBERS OF INSURED PERSONS RECORDED AS UNEMPLOYED.

THE following Table indicates for Great Britain and Northern Ireland the industries in which the numbers of insured persons recorded as unemployed at 25th October, 1926, differed from the figures for 20th September, 1926, to the extent of 1,500 or more. The Table shows the increases and decreases for males and females separately, together with the total net variation for all insured industries.

Industry.	Increase (+) or Decrease (–) in Numbers recorded as Unemployed at 25th October, 1926, as compared with 20th September, 1926.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Cotton	– 9,012	– 16,707	– 25,719
Pottery, Earthenware, etc.	– 2,568	– 4,525	– 7,093
Hosiery	– 571	– 2,990	– 3,561
Woollen and Worsted	– 461	– 1,832	– 2,293
Railway Service	– 2,199	– 11	– 2,210
Tailoring	– 953	– 1,092	– 2,045
Jute	– 471	– 1,362	– 1,833
Iron and Steel Tube Making	– 1,804	– 14	– 1,818
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Ironfounding	– 1,590	– 193	– 1,783
*Other Food Industries	+ 272	– 1,930	– 1,658
Hand Tool, Cutlery, Saw, File Making	– 1,552	– 70	– 1,622
Manufacture of Tin Plates	+ 1,320	+ 223	+ 1,543
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	+ 1,203	+ 805	+ 2,008
Rubber Manufacture	+ 813	+ 1,325	+ 2,138
Shipping Service	+ 2,410	+ 46	+ 2,456
Local Government	+ 2,315	+ 211	+ 2,526
Paper and Paper Board Making	+ 1,882	+ 878	+ 2,760
Public Works Contracting, etc.	+ 3,117	+ 13	+ 3,130
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	+ 4,173	+ 21	+ 4,194
Hotel, Boarding House, Club Services	+ 2,355	+ 6,094	+ 8,449
Building	+ 11,020	+ 16	+ 11,036
Net Variation for above industries	+ 9,699	– 21,094	– 11,395
Total Net Variation for all insured industries	+ 9,553	– 21,989	– 12,436

REVISED PERCENTAGES OF INSURED PERSONS UNEMPLOYED, JULY, 1925, TO JUNE, 1926.

THE numbers of insured persons are estimated once a year, at the end of October in respect of the previous July. The estimated figure for Great Britain at July, 1925, was 11,623,000; for July, 1926, it is estimated at 11,774,000. The corresponding figures for Great Britain and Northern Ireland are 11,892,000 and 12,041,000 respectively. The increase shown by these figures obviously did not all take place at the end of the year, and the intervening monthly figures accordingly require some adjustment. The available evidence goes to show that the increase was fairly evenly spread over the twelve months, and the adjustment has been made on that basis. The amended figures, with re-calculated percentages, are given below. Persons insured under the Special Schemes for the Banking and Insurance Industries, numbering approximately 124,000, are included.

Month.	Great Britain.		Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	
	Estimated numbers insured.	Percentage of insured persons unemployed.	Estimated numbers insured.	Percentage of insured persons unemployed.
1925.				
July	11,623,000	10·8	11,892,000	11·2
August	11,636,000	11·9	11,904,400	12·0
September	11,648,000	11·7	11,916,800	12·0
October	11,661,000	11·0	11,929,300	11·4
November	11,673,000	10·7	11,941,700	11·0
December	11,686,000	10·1	11,954,100	10·4
1926.				
January	11,698,000	10·7	11,966,500	11·0
February	11,711,000	10·1	11,978,900	10·4
March	11,724,000	9·5	11,991,300	9·8
April	11,736,000	8·8	12,003,800	9·1
May	11,749,000	14·1	12,016,200	14·3
June	11,761,000	14·3	12,028,600	14·6

EMPLOYMENT OF DISABLED EX-SERVICE MEN.

THE latest returns show that there are approximately 28,000 firms on the King's National Roll. The number of disabled ex-Service men employed by these firms is approximately 370,000.

At 26th October, 1926, the number of men in training was 614, and the number awaiting training, 84. Since August, 1919, 99,449 men have terminated training.

* This group, which includes miscellaneous industries, corresponds with that under the same heading in the Tables on pages 411 and 413.

EIGHTEENTH ABSTRACT OF LABOUR STATISTICS.

A NEW edition (the Eighteenth) of the Abstract of Labour Statistics of the United Kingdom (Cmd. 2740) has been compiled by the Ministry of Labour and is now on sale. Before the war, the Abstract was published at intervals of approximately one year, but the present edition is the first to appear for nearly 12 years, publication having been suspended, after the issue of the 17th edition early in 1915, on grounds of economy. During the long period which has elapsed since the publication of that edition the need for a volume containing a summary of the principal statistics relating to labour has become increasingly apparent, and the present volume has accordingly been prepared.

The statistics are presented in 14 main sections, dealing respectively with—

- Population;
- Employment, unemployment and unemployment insurance;
- Wages and hours of labour;
- Profit-sharing and labour co-partnership;
- Wholesale and retail prices and cost of living;
- Strikes and lock-outs;
- Industrial accidents and diseases and workmen's compensation;
- Trade unions, trades councils, and employers' associations;
- Co-operative societies, friendly societies and building societies;
- National health insurance;
- Old age pensions;
- Poor-law relief;
- Migration;
- Building plans approved.

The figures summarised are largely compiled from information collected by the Ministry of Labour; but summaries are also given of statistics relating to labour matters published by other Government departments. In the case of serial Tables the figures cover, so far as possible, the years 1910-1925.

Copies of the volume may be obtained (price 4s. net) from H.M. Stationery Office, Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C. 2, and branches (see the front page of the cover of this GAZETTE), or ordered through any bookseller.

EARNINGS AND HOURS IN THE CLOTHING INDUSTRIES.*

IN the following Tables particulars are given of the earnings and hours of labour in the clothing industries in 1924, as shown by the returns received from employers in response to the general inquiry instituted last year by the Ministry of Labour. The details supplied in the returns relate to four dates in 1924, viz., the weeks ended 19th January, 12th April, 12th July and 18th October. The figures given below are subject to slight revision when later returns are included. For an explanation of the scope and nature of the inquiry, reference should be made to the article on page 196 of the June issue of this GAZETTE.

I.—NUMBER OF RETURNS RECEIVED AND NUMBER OF WORKPEOPLE COVERED.

The number of returns received, giving information regarding earnings, and the average number of workpeople covered, as shown by the average of the numbers in the four weeks specified above, in this group of industries, are as shown below:—

Industry.	Number of	
	Returns received.	Workpeople covered.†
Tailoring (retail bespoke) ...	3,813	16,863
Tailoring (ready-made)† ...	2,490	82,699
Dressmaking ...	3,117	33,408
Mantle and costume making ...	642	18,646
Shirt, blouse, etc., making... ..	895	47,675
Corset making ...	114	7,131
Millinery ...	2,080	13,356
Felt and silk hat making ...	72	8,369
Boot and shoe making (bespoke) and repairing... ..	4,525	14,876
Boot and shoe making (ready-made) ...	719	93,145
Glove making ...	107	5,203
Furriery ...	415	5,700
Laundries ...	2,349	71,704
Dyeing and dry-cleaning ...	192	9,632
Other clothing‡ ...	1,896	58,251
All the above ...	23,426	486,658

The following Table shows the total number of workpeople, including adults and juveniles, employed by firms which have made returns as to earnings, in each of the four specified weeks of 1924, together with the proportions of males and females employed, as shown by the averages of the numbers in the four weeks:—

* Particulars relating to the Textile Industries were given in the June issue of this GAZETTE, to the Pottery, Brick, Glass, Chemical, etc., Industries in the July issue, to the Iron and Steel, Engineering, Shipbuilding and other Metal Industries in the August and September issues, and to the Paper, Printing and Woodworking Industries in the October issue.
† Averages of the numbers employed in the four weeks.
‡ Including firms described as Ready-made or Wholesale Tailors and also "Clothiers" or "Clothing Manufacturers," not otherwise defined, employing 50 or more workpeople.
§ Including straw hat, cap, artificial flower, umbrella, walking-stick making, etc., and also workpeople employed by firms described as "Clothiers" or "Clothing Manufacturers" employing less than 50 workpeople, and those employed by certain firms engaged in more than one of the sections specified above.

Industry.	Number of workpeople employed in the week ended				Proportion of	
	19th Jan.	12th Apr.	12th July.	18th Oct.	Males.	Females.
Tailoring (retail bespoke)*	15,409	17,666	17,727	16,651	45.0	55.0
Tailoring (ready-made)*	77,998	84,102	85,420	83,277	26.0	74.0
Dressmaking ...	30,886	34,175	34,426	34,143	2.4	97.6
Mantle and costume making ...	17,828	18,977	18,951	18,826	15.0	85.0
Shirt, blouse, etc., making ...	46,039	48,138	48,533	47,992	7.1	92.9
Corset making ...	7,265	7,392	6,969	6,899	9.5	90.5
Millinery ...	12,638	13,852	13,413	13,520	5.2	94.8
Felt and silk hat making	7,900	8,261	8,695	8,622	52.0	48.0
Boot and shoe making (bespoke) and repairing ...	14,866	14,642	14,905	15,090	89.7	10.3
Boot and shoe making (ready-made) ...	90,892	93,203	94,460	94,027	60.3	39.7
Glove making ...	5,005	5,184	5,313	5,309	39.9	60.1
Furriery... ..	5,447	5,673	5,650	6,029	45.4	54.6
Laundries ...	70,034	71,532	72,835	72,416	15.7	84.3
Dyeing and dry-cleaning	9,001	9,818	9,897	9,814	35.8	64.2
Other clothing†	56,135	58,792	59,277	58,798	19.4	80.6
All the above ...	467,343	491,407	496,471	491,413	28.6	71.4

II.—AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS.

The following Table shows the average actual earnings per head, in the four specified weeks, of the workpeople employed by the firms making returns, together with the average earnings of males and of females, as shown by those returns which gave separate particulars. It should be observed that the workpeople covered by the returns include workers of all ages, including boys and apprentices and other juveniles. Owing to the fact that certain firms were unable to separate the wages paid to males and females respectively, the numbers of males and females for whom particulars are given separately in Sections (B) and (C) of the Table add to less than the total numbers given in Section (A) of the Table.

The relative levels of average earnings shown for the different industries are, of course, affected by the variations in the proportions of males and females, and of adults and juveniles employed.

Industry.	Number of Workpeople covered.†	Average earnings (for time actually worked) in the week ended				Average of the Earnings in the four weeks.
		19th Jan.	12th April.	12th July.	18th Oct.	
(A) ALL WORKPEOPLE.						
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Tailoring (retail be-spoke) ...	16,863	36 11	44 3	42 2	40 3	41 0
Tailoring (ready-made)* ...	82,699	32 4	37 4	35 11	34 3	35 0
Dressmaking ...	33,408	28 1	29 5	29 10	29 5	29 3
Mantle and costume making ...	18,646	34 0	36 8	35 5	35 3	35 4
Shirt, blouse, etc., making ...	47,675	26 9	27 10	27 9	26 10	27 3
Corset making ...	7,131	27 3	29 8	30 0	28 6	28 10
Millinery ...	13,356	29 4	30 0	28 11	27 10	29 0
Felt and silk hat making ...	8,369	38 9	44 9	48 5	43 1	43 10
Boot and shoe making (bespoke) and re- pairing ...	14,876	46 7	47 8	48 9	48 8	47 11
Boot and shoe making (ready-made) ...	93,145	44 8	46 2	46 2	44 5	45 4
Glove making ...	5,203	31 7	34 11	36 9	35 6	34 9
Furriery ...	5,700	45 8	49 10	49 8	52 8	49 6
Laundries ...	71,704	30 3	30 2	30 3	29 8	30 1
Dyeing and dry- cleaning ...	9,632	35 0	38 5	37 4	37 6	37 1
Other clothing† ...	58,251	31 10	33 7	34 0	33 5	33 3
All the above ...	486,658	34 4	36 6	36 4	35 3	35 7
(B) MALES.						
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Tailoring (retail be-spoke) ...	6,706	49 2	60 7	57 6	55 9	55 11
Tailoring (ready-made)* ...	15,436	53 1	61 10	59 6	57 2	58 0
Dressmaking ...	746	50 4	52 11	52 3	53 6	52 3
Mantle and costume making ...	2,095	63 2	68 5	64 8	67 3	65 11
Shirt, blouse, etc., making ...	2,962	53 5	54 1	54 3	53 6	53 10
Corset making ...	340	51 5	52 10	51 11	49 10	51 6
Millinery ...	646	44 2	47 3	44 2	44 0	44 11
Felt and silk hat making ...	2,849	52 3	58 2	62 11	57 10	57 11
Boot and shoe making (bespoke) and re- pairing ...	12,222	49 6	50 9	51 11	51 6	50 11
Boot and shoe making (ready-made) ...	43,425	53 9	56 3	55 8	53 9	54 11
Glove making ...	2,023	49 9	55 3	58 7	55 8	54 10
Furriery ...	2,349	61 7	66 2	62 10	66 2	64 3
Laundries ...	10,012	48 3	48 3	48 2	48 0	48 2
Dyeing and dry- cleaning ...	2,474	53 10	55 6	55 0	54 2	54 8
Other clothing† ...	9,471	53 4	57 0	57 0	57 4	56 3
All the above ...	113,756	52 7	56 5	55 9	54 6	54 10

* See footnote † in previous column.

† See footnote § in previous column.

‡ Averages of the numbers employed in the four weeks.

Industry.	Number of Work-people covered.*	Average earnings (for time actually worked) in the week ended				Average of the Earnings in the four weeks.
		19th Jan.	12th April.	12th July.	18th Oct.	
(C) FEMALES.						
Tailoring (retail bespoke) ...	8,197	s. d. 25 2	s. d. 30 0	s. d. 29 6	s. d. 27 5	s. d. 28 2
Tailoring (ready-made)† ...	43,824	24 10	28 5	27 1	25 11	26 7
Dressmaking ...	30,130	27 2	28 6	29 0	28 6	28 4
Mantle and costume making ...	11,849	28 5	30 10	29 8	29 8	29 8
Shirt, blouse, etc., making ...	38,516	24 7	25 9	25 7	24 9	25 2
Corset making ...	3,250	22 7	25 2	24 4	22 7	23 8
Millinery ...	11,867	28 7	28 7	27 11	26 11	28 0
Felt and silk hat making ...	2,628	23 9	27 6	25 9	25 7	25 8
Boot and shoe making (bespoke) and repairing ...	1,409	26 11	27 7	27 2	27 11	27 5
Boot and shoe making (ready-made) ...	28,534	30 7	31 1	31 7	30 1	30 10
Glove-making ...	3,047	19 8	21 5	22 11	23 0	21 9
Furriery ...	2,830	33 11	36 8	38 0	40 4	37 3
Laundries ...	53,692	26 10	26 9	26 10	26 2	26 8
Dyeing and dry-cleaning ...	4,445	25 0	28 8	27 10	28 8	27 7
Other clothing‡ ...	39,405	26 3	28 5	27 5	27 0	27 3
All the above ...	283,623	26 6	28 2	27 9	27 0	27 5

III.—NORMAL HOURS OF LABOUR.

The following Table shows the proportion of the workpeople employed by firms making returns on this subject, whose *normal* weekly hours, exclusive of mealtimes, in the week ended 18th October, 1924, fell within the limits stated, and the average normal hours :—

Industry.	Number of Work-people covered.*	Percentage of employees whose normal weekly hours were						Average weekly normal hours
		44 or less.	44½ to 46½.	47	47½ to 47¾.	48	Over 48.	
Tailoring (retail bespoke) ...	15,588	Per cent. 16.2	Per cent. 9.2	Per cent. 5.3	Per cent. 3.0	Per cent. 53.5	Per cent. 12.8	47.3
Tailoring (ready-made)† ...	82,142	10.0	12.4	8.3	3.2	62.1	4.0	47.3
Dressmaking ...	34,058	45.3	23.5	8.0	1.4	19.6	2.2	45.2
Mantle and costume making ...	18,769	35.2	28.3	6.3	5.0	18.2	7.0	45.8
Shirt, blouse, etc., making ...	47,930	47.1	27.9	7.2	1.9	14.7	1.2	44.9
Corset making ...	6,897	42.5	37.2	5.1	0.3	14.9	...	44.8
Millinery ...	13,357	44.0	18.9	9.9	1.9	21.2	4.1	44.9
Felt and silk hat making ...	8,622	8.4	82.7	...	0.5	7.3	1.1	46.4
Boot and shoe making (bespoke) and repairing... ‡	14,527	9.7	4.6	3.5	2.3	73.2	6.7	47.6
Boot and shoe making (ready-made) ...	93,993	0.3	7.2	1.9	0.4	89.6	0.6	47.9
Glove making ...	5,295	38.2	5.1	46.1	0.1	6.4	4.1	45.8
Furriery ...	5,955	20.9	20.9	9.6	11.4	30.3	6.9	46.5
Laundries ...	72,000	10.8	3.1	2.5	2.0	79.9	1.7	47.0
Dyeing and dry-cleaning ...	9,814	2.4	13.1	62.3	2.0	15.9	4.3	47.1
Other clothing‡ ...	58,371	21.5	19.2	16.2	3.8	33.1	6.2	46.5
All the above ...	487,318	18.5	15.2	8.1	2.3	52.6	3.3	46.7

IV.—HOURS ACTUALLY WORKED.

The following Table shows the average number of hours *actually* worked in the four specified weeks by the workpeople employed by firms who were able to supply these particulars :—

Industry.	Number of Work-people covered.*	Average hours worked in the week ended				Average Hours worked in the four weeks.
		19th Jan.	12th April.	12th July.	18th Oct.	
Tailoring (retail bespoke) ...	5,481	39.6	45.8	44.7	42.5	43.3
Tailoring (ready-made)† ...	33,823	42.5	46.1	44.7	43.3	44.2
Dressmaking ...	13,322	41.4	44.0	44.0	43.7	43.3
Mantle and costume making ...	6,754	43.8	44.5	44.1	42.9	43.8
Shirt, blouse, etc., making ...	20,938	41.2	42.5	41.4	41.1	41.6
Corset making ...	2,362	37.0	40.1	39.6	36.7	38.3
Millinery ...	5,115	43.8	44.3	44.2	43.7	44.0
Felt and silk hat making ...	2,147	43.3	42.7	44.7	43.7	43.6
Boot and shoe making (bespoke) and repairing ...	5,944	45.2	45.5	45.7	45.7	45.5
Boot and shoe making (ready-made) ...	38,947	47.0	46.7	46.8	44.8	46.3
Glove making ...	2,252	38.0	39.7	41.6	41.1	40.1
Furriery ...	3,164	44.8	45.3	45.1	46.6	45.5
Laundries ...	28,450	44.7	44.6	44.9	44.6	44.7
Dyeing and dry-cleaning ...	5,638	36.2	48.4	47.4	47.9	45.2
Other clothing‡ ...	23,403	42.5	44.7	44.5	43.9	43.9
All the above ...	197,740	43.3	45.1	44.7	43.8	44.2

V.—AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS.

The following Table shows the average earnings per hour of those workpeople covered by returns which showed the number of hours actually worked.

* Averages of the numbers employed in the four weeks.
† See footnote ‡ in first column on page 396.
‡ See footnote § in first column on page 396.

As some firms were unable to give particulars of the total number of hours worked, the average weekly earnings obtained by multiplying the average hourly earnings shown below by the average hours shown in Section IV do not correspond precisely with the average weekly earnings shown in Section II. Comparisons of the average earnings shown for different industries are, of course, affected by the different proportions of males and females and of adults and juveniles employed as between one industry and another.

Industry.	Number of Work-people covered.*	Average Hourly earnings in the week ended				Average Hourly Earnings in the four weeks.
		19th Jan.	12th April.	12th July.	18th Oct.	
Tailoring (retail bespoke) ...	5,481	d. 10.9	d. 11.2	d. 11.0	d. 10.9	d. 11.0
Tailoring (ready-made)† ...	33,823	9.0	9.5	9.5	9.3	9.3
Dressmaking ...	13,322	7.8	7.8	7.9	7.9	7.8
Mantle and costume making ...	6,754	9.1	9.6	9.5	9.7	9.5
Shirt, blouse, etc., making ...	20,938	7.9	7.9	8.0	7.9	8.0
Corset making ...	2,362	8.5	8.6	8.9	9.0	8.7
Millinery ...	5,115	7.9	8.0	7.7	7.7	7.8
Felt and silk hat making ...	2,147	11.1	11.8	12.7	11.9	11.9
Boot and shoe making (bespoke) and repairing ...	5,944	12.8	13.1	13.3	13.2	13.1
Boot and shoe making (ready-made) ...	38,947	11.5	11.8	11.8	11.8	11.7
Glove making ...	2,252	9.6	10.0	10.3	10.1	10.0
Furriery ...	3,164	12.8	13.6	13.3	13.6	13.4
Laundries ...	28,450	8.1	8.0	8.0	7.9	8.0
Dyeing and dry-cleaning ...	5,638	11.2	9.3	9.2	9.2	9.6
Other clothing‡ ...	23,403	8.8	8.6	9.2	9.1	8.9
All the above ...	197,740	9.5	9.6	9.7	9.6	9.6

VI.—EXTENT OF SHORT TIME.

The following Table shows the proportion of workpeople employed by the firms making returns, who were reported to be working less than full time, together with the average number of hours lost per week by such workpeople, and the average time lost by all the workpeople covered by the returns. Workpeople "stood-off" for the whole of any of the weeks specified have been regarded as unemployed and have not been taken into account in compiling the statistics.

Industry.	Number of Work-people covered.*	Proportion of Workpeople on Short Time in the week ended			
		19th Jan.	12th April.	12th July.	18th Oct.
Tailoring (retail bespoke) ...	11,788	Per cent. 37.0	Per cent. 12.2	Per cent. 15.8	Per cent. 28.0
Tailoring (ready-made)† ...	71,358	28.9	8.6	14.7	24.1
Dressmaking ...	29,105	20.1	5.1	6.0	8.7
Mantle and costume making ...	16,703	18.1	9.0	9.3	15.2
Shirt, blouse, etc., making ...	40,095	23.6	14.9	19.4	23.3
Corset making ...	5,326	55.9	36.8	47.4	59.6
Millinery ...	11,949	4.6	1.3	4.1	6.4
Felt and silk hat making ...	6,003	49.0	27.1	10.7	27.9
Boot and shoe making (bespoke) and repairing ...	12,347	15.6	14.8	14.3	12.5
Boot and shoe making (ready-made) ...	86,145	26.0	23.5	24.5	32.4
Glove making ...	4,430	29.1	23.3	8.1	19.7
Furriery ...	5,119	19.0	10.0	5.7	1.1
Laundries ...	63,954	19.0	18.2	17.5	20.0
Dyeing and dry-cleaning ...	9,002	67.2	1.0	4.2	2.4
Other clothing‡ ...	50,699	21.2	11.9	13.8	16.0
All the above ...	424,023	24.8	14.5	16.2	21.6

Industry.	Average Number of Hours lost (a) by those who worked less than Full Time and (b) by all Workpeople covered in the week ended							
	19th Jan.		12th April.		12th July.		18th Oct.	
	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)
Tailoring (retail bespoke) ...	16.7	6.2	11.0	1.3	12.4	2.0	14.2	4.0
Tailoring (ready-made)† ...	12.5	3.6	10.0	0.9	10.5	1.5	11.7	2.8
Dressmaking ...	12.6	2.5	9.1	0.5	9.5	0.6	11.7	1.0
Mantle and costume making ...	13.0	2.3	7.4	0.7	9.5	0.8	11.4	1.7
Shirt, blouse, etc., making ...	9.8	2.3	8.2	1.2	10.1	2.0	11.2	2.6
Corset making ...	14.2	7.9	11.5	4.2	14.7	7.0	13.7	8.1
Millinery ...	12.5	0.6	8.7	0.1	10.1	0.4	10.9	0.7
Felt and silk hat making ...	11.4	5.6	9.7	2.6	10.0	1.1	10.4	2.9
Boot and shoe making (bespoke) and repairing ...	10.8	1.7	10.9	1.6	9.9	1.4	10.4	1.3
Boot and shoe making (ready-made) ...	9.3	2.4	10.0	2.4	9.1	2.2	11.6	3.8
Glove making ...	14.7	4.3	12.2	2.8	14.7	1.2	12.4	2.5
Furriery ...	11.2	2.1	10.9	1.1	12.0	0.7	14.2	0.2
Laundries ...	8.3	1.6	7.8	1.4	7.4	1.3	7.8	1.6
Dyeing and dry-cleaning ...	12.7	8.5	9.1	0.1	2.6	0.1	6.5	0.2
Other clothing‡ ...	12.3	2.6	10.2	1.2	10.7	1.5	10.9	1.7
All the above ...	11.3	2.8	9.5	1.4	9.7	1.6	11.1	2.4

* Averages of the numbers employed in the four weeks.
† See footnote ‡ in first column on page 396.
‡ See footnote § in first column on page 396.

MEMBERSHIP OF TRADE UNIONS, TRADE UNION FEDERATIONS, AND TRADES COUNCILS.

TRADE UNIONS.

ON page 423 statistical Tables are given relating to the membership of Trade Unions in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at the end of 1925, based on information collected by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, and by the Registrar of Friendly Societies for Northern Ireland, from Trade Unions registered under the Trade Union Acts, and by the Ministry of Labour from unregistered Unions. They relate to all organisations of employees—including those of salaried and professional workers, as well as those of manual wage earners—which are known to include among their functions that of negotiating with employers with the object of regulating the conditions of employment of their members.

Totals for 1925,* and Comparison with 1924.

The total number of such Unions known to have been in existence at the end of 1925 was 1,144, as compared with 1,159 at the end of 1924. The number of Unions dissolved in 1925, so far as reported, was 26, with an aggregate membership of 3,000 at the end of 1924, and 7 Unions, with an aggregate membership of 5,000, amalgamated with other Unions; while 18 new Unions, with a total membership of 3,000, were reported as formed during the year.

The total membership at the end of 1925 was approximately 5,522,000,* as compared with 5,534,000 at the end of 1924, showing a very slight decrease of 12,000, or 0.2 per cent. The number of male members was about 4,690,000, a decrease of 31,000, or 0.7 per cent., as compared with the previous year, and the number of female members was 832,000, an increase of 19,000, or 2.3 per cent. The total of 5,522,000 includes about 32,000 members in Irish Free State branches, and 27,000 members in other overseas branches of certain Unions (compared with 31,000 in Irish Free State branches and 31,000 in other overseas branches, in the previous year). It also includes a number of persons (principally teachers) who are members of more than one society, and are therefore counted more than once in the figures. When allowance is made for these cases the net number of members in Great Britain and Northern Ireland is estimated to have been nearly 5,450,000 at the end of 1925, as compared with rather more than 5,450,000 at the end of 1924. Of this total, approximately 84,000 was the membership of societies or branches of societies in Northern Ireland.

The detailed Table I on page 423 shows that, of the 33 groups under which the Unions have been classified, there was a decrease in the total membership in 17 groups and an increase in 16 groups, the changes being usually small. The largest numerical changes were an increase of about 20,000 in railway service, increases of 10,000 in the national and local government, the wool textile, and the paper, printing, &c., groups, and decreases of 30,000 in mining and quarrying, 20,000 in the metal groups and 10,000 in agriculture. The most important percentage changes were a decrease of 23 per cent. in agriculture and an increase of 15 per cent. in the wool textile group. Considerable percentage changes were also shown in the food (+7.5), printing (+7), hosiery (-13), pottery and glass (-7), iron and steel (-6), and water transport (-6) groups.

While the total male membership of all groups showed a decrease of 0.7 per cent., the total female membership showed an increase of 2.3 per cent., no less than 20 of the 28 groups of Unions which have female membership showing some increase. The largest change in female membership was in the wool textile group, which showed an increase of 10,000, or 33 per cent. Nineteen other groups showed a combined increase in female membership of 18,000, while 8 groups showed a combined decrease of 9,000.

Comparison with 1913 and with 1920.

The second of the detailed Tables given on page 423 shows the total membership (also subdivided into male and female) in each of the main groups of Unions at the end of 1913 and of 1920, 1923, 1924 and 1925. Though there was a slight decrease in total membership compared with 1924 there was an increase of 2 per cent. compared with 1923. In comparison with 1920, when Trade Union membership reached its highest point, every group showed a decline. The membership of the general labour group at the end of the year was less than two-fifths of its total in 1920, and that of the metal, building, "other manufacturing industries," commerce, and miscellaneous groups was less than three-fifths. The membership of the agriculture group, which, like the metal and miscellaneous groups, has declined continuously since 1920, was less than one-fourth of its total in that year. The smallest decline was in the teaching group, which did not reach its maximum until 1922.

Compared with 1913 the cotton group showed a slight decrease, but in all other groups there were increases, ranging from about 2 per cent. in the mining and quarrying group to more than 100 per cent. in the agriculture, "other textile," and paper, printing, etc., groups.

The female membership of the general labour group in 1925 was less than one-third that of 1920, and in six other groups there was a decline of more than 50 per cent. In comparison with 1913, however, there was an increase in every group; nearly all of the groups, indeed, had more than doubled in size.

* The figures for 1925 are provisional and may be subject to slight revision when further information is available. The figures for earlier years have been revised as necessary in accordance with the latest information. The subdivision of the total membership into male and female is not exact, as estimates have been made for some Trade Unions which are unable to state precisely the numbers of males and of females comprised within their membership.

Totals for 1892-1925.

The following Table shows the total number of Unions known to have been in existence in Great Britain and Northern Ireland in each year from 1892 to 1925, and their aggregate membership to the nearest thousand. (The figures of membership include members in overseas branches and in Irish Free State branches of such Unions, but wholly exclude Unions having their head offices in the Irish Free State) :—

Year.	Number of Trade Unions at end of Year.	Membership* at end of Year.			Percentage Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on Total Membership of previous Year.
		Males.	Females.	Total.	
		Thousands.	Thousands.	Thousands.	Per Cent.
1892 ...	1,233	Not available.	Not available.	1,576	...
1893 ...	1,279			1,559	- 1.1
1894 ...	1,314			1,530	- 1.9
1895 ...	1,340			1,504	- 1.7
1896 ...	1,358	1,466	142	1,608	+ 7.0
1897 ...	1,353	1,584	147	1,731	+ 7.6
1898 ...	1,326	1,608	144	1,752	+ 1.2
1899 ...	1,325	1,761	150	1,911	+ 9.1
1900 ...	1,323	1,868	154	2,022	+ 5.8
1901 ...	1,322	1,873	152	2,025	+ 0.1
1902 ...	1,297	1,857	156	2,013	- 0.6
1903 ...	1,285	1,838	156	1,994	- 1.0
1904 ...	1,256	1,802	165	1,967	- 1.3
1905 ...	1,244	1,817	180	1,997	+ 1.6
1906 ...	1,282	1,999	211	2,210	+ 10.7
1907 ...	1,283	2,263	250	2,513	+ 13.7
1908 ...	1,268	2,230	255	2,485	- 1.1
1909 ...	1,260	2,214	263	2,477	- 0.3
1910 ...	1,269	2,287	278	2,565	+ 3.5
1911 ...	1,290	2,804	335	3,139	+ 22.4
1912 ...	1,252	3,026	390	3,416	+ 8.8
1913 ...	1,269	3,702	433	4,135	+ 21.0
1914 ...	1,260	3,708	437	4,145	+ 0.3
1915 ...	1,229	3,868	491	4,359	+ 5.2
1916 ...	1,225	4,018	626	4,644	+ 6.5
1917 ...	1,241	4,621	878	5,499	+ 18.4
1918 ...	1,264	5,324	1,209	6,533	+ 18.8
1919 ...	1,360	6,600	1,326	7,926	+ 21.3
1920 ...	1,362	6,995	1,342	8,337	+ 5.2
1921 ...	1,250	5,617	1,005	6,622	- 20.6
1922 ...	1,204	4,745	871	5,616	- 15.2
1923 ...	1,163	4,597	816	5,413	- 3.6
1924 ...	1,159	4,721	813	5,534	+ 2.2
1925 ...	1,144	4,690	832	5,522	- 0.2

It will be seen from the following figures that a large part of the reduction in the total number of Trade Unions in recent years has been due to amalgamations, and that the number of new Unions and of dissolutions and amalgamations has tended to decrease.

Year.	New Unions formed (other than by amalgamations).	Reductions due to		Net Increase (+) or Reduction (-).
		Dissolutions.	Amalgamations.	
1921 ...	45	72	85	- 112
1922 ...	30	40	36	- 46
1923 ...	17	41	17	- 41
1924 ...	27	17	14	- 4
1925 ...	18	26	7	- 15

FEDERATIONS OF TRADE UNIONS.

Returns obtained by the Department show that at the end of 1925 the gross total membership of Federations of Trade Unions in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as reported to the Department, was about 4,213,000. Corresponding figures are given below for the end of each year since 1913 :—

Year.	Number of Federations.	Approximate Gross Total Membership.
1913 ...	125	4,370,000
1914 ...	137	4,730,000
1915 ...	148	4,943,000
1916 ...	163	4,980,000
1917 ...	182	6,481,000
1918 ...	152	8,631,000
1919 ...	134	9,896,000
1920 ...	116	10,749,000
1921 ...	105	8,639,000
1922 ...	95	6,236,000
1923 ...	92	5,648,000
1924 ...	90	4,503,000†
1925 ...	84	4,213,000

The number of federations has shown a decline at the end of every year since 1917. In some years the decline was mainly due to the merging of local into national organisations.

In many instances Trade Unions, or branches of Trade Unions, are affiliated to more than one Federation, and therefore a large number of Trade Union members are counted more than once in the gross membership given above. In the following Table the actual or estimated federated membership of each federated Trade

* See note * in previous column.

† Revised figures. The reduction shown in comparison with 1923 is partly due to a change in the basis of membership of one large federation, which formerly returned the gross membership in all industries of its constituent Unions, but now bases its fees upon their membership in the industries with which it deals.

Union is counted once only, irrespective of the number of Federations to which the Trade Union was affiliated. The Table shows for the years 1924 and 1925, (a) the total membership (to the nearest thousand) of the Trade Unions in each group, (b) the net federated membership (whether of Trade Unions or of sections or branches of Trade Unions), and (c) the percentage proportion of (b) to (a).

Group of Trade Unions.	Total Membership of Trade Unions. (000's omitted.)		Net Federated Membership of Trade Unions affiliated to Federations. (000's omitted.)		Percentage Proportion of Federated Membership to Total Membership.	
	1924.	1925.	1924.	1925.	1924.	1925.
Agriculture, Horticulture, etc. ...	61	47	...	...	...	...
Mining and Quarrying ...	971	938	949	916	98	98
Metals, Machines, Conveyances, etc. ...	704	682	365	333	52	49
Textile ...	617	626	572	599	93	96
Clothing (including Boot and Shoe) ...	166	168	65	65	40	39
Woodworking and Furnishing ...	66	67	51	52	77	77
Paper, Printing, etc. ...	194	207	184	196	95	95
Building ...	331	334	257	201	78	60
Railway Service ...	507	529	68	71	13	13
Other Transport ...	523	519	157	112	30	22
Commerce, Finance, etc. ...	219	222	101	98	46	44
National and Local Government ...	320	334	121	101	38	30
Teaching ...	195	196	...	...	...	...
Miscellaneous ...	167	165	95	59	57	36
General Labour ...	493	488	121	111	25	23
Totals ...	5,534	5,522	3,106	2,914	56	53

The proportion of federated membership at the end of 1925 showed a decrease in eight groups, an increase being shown in one group (textile), while in six groups no change was shown. The decrease was greatest in the building group, where it was due to the secession of Unions of bricklayers, masons and plasterers from the National Federation of Building Trades Operatives.

The General Federation of Trade Unions included at the end of 1925 nearly 120 Trade Unions, which paid fees to the Federation on a membership of 711,000.

Among other Federations, those which had the largest membership were the Miners' Federation of Great Britain; the Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades; the Northern Counties Textile Trades Federation and the United Textile Factory Workers' Association (representing the cotton industry); the National Association of Unions in the Textile Trades (representing other textile industries); the Printing and Kindred Trades Federation; the National Federation of Building Trades Operatives; the National Transport Workers' Federation; and the National Federation of Professional Workers.

TRADES COUNCILS.

At the end of 1925 the number of Trades Councils in Great Britain and Northern Ireland known to the Department as existing wholly or partly for industrial purposes (including industrial sections of local Labour Parties) was 480, as compared with 488 in the previous year and 329 in 1913. A few Councils, existing wholly for political purposes, are excluded from these figures. The total Trade Union membership represented for industrial purposes on these Councils through payment of fees by local Trade Union branches or by local Trade Unions, as shown by returns obtained by the Department from the Councils, was approximately 2,244,000 in 1925, compared with 2,258,000 in 1924 and with 1,495,000 in 1913. These figures represent about 41 per cent of the total membership of Trade Unions in 1925 and 1924, and 36 per cent in 1913. It should be observed that the number of members in respect of whom fees are paid is sometimes considerably less than the full membership of the Trade Union or the Trade Union branch affiliated.

The following Table shows the geographical distribution of these Councils in 1913, 1924 and 1925:—

District.	Number of Trades Councils.			Total Trade Union Membership represented for industrial purposes, by payment of fees. (000's omitted.)		
	1913.	1924.	1925.	1913.	1924.	1925.
Northern Counties and Cleveland ...	14	22	21	60	107	102
Yorkshire (excluding Cleveland) ...	35	38	38	152	212	214
Lancashire, Cheshire and Isle of Man ...	58	69	70	403	459	486
N. and W. Midland Counties ...	53	69	69	266	447	430
S. Midland & E. Counties ...	39	73	70	74	166	161
London ...	17	26	26	103	247	225
South-Eastern Counties ...	27	52	53	46	91	86
South-Western Counties ...	14	28	26	21	70	74
Wales and Monmouthshire ...	36	56	52	126	181	158
Scotland ...	35	52	53	230	256	284
Northern Ireland ...	1	3	2	14	22	24
Totals ...	329	488	480	1,495	2,258	2,244

NATIONAL COAL TRIMMING TARIFF.

REPORT OF COURT OF INVESTIGATION.

THE Court of Investigation, appointed by the Minister of Labour on 20th September,* at the request of the parties, "to inquire into the respective demands of the shipowners and trimmers as submitted to the Court, and to make recommendations to the parties thereon," heard evidence from the parties on various dates in October. As the members of the Court did not find it possible to reach complete agreement on all the questions at issue, they requested the Chairman (Mr. Harold Morris, K.C.) to issue a Report himself: the Report, however, embodies, with slight modifications, the provisional agreements reached on certain points by the Court as a whole.

The shipowners, through the Shipping Federation, claimed a general reduction of the 1920 tariff of piecework rates for coal trimming, which had already been reduced by 33½ per cent., by a further 16½ per cent.; that is to say, they asked that the rates payable under the tariff should be reduced to 50 per cent. of the 1920 rates. They also claimed a number of detailed alterations in certain clauses of the tariff. The workpeople, through the Transport and General Workers' Union, counterclaimed *either* for the postponement of the claim, pending the settlement of the coal mining dispute and the resumption of trade, *or*, alternatively, for a restoration of 10 per cent. of the amount already taken from the tariff, and for an alteration in clauses 25 and 26 of the tariff relating to "easy trimmers." The Court over-ruled the men's application for postponement, but added the assurance that the workpeople's case would not be prejudiced in any way by the fact that they were at present out of work.

The Chairman's Report begins with a brief description of the work of coal trimming; the workpeople and their conditions of work, including method of employment, wages and hours of labour and negotiating machinery; and the history of the coal-trimming tariff. The tariff was drawn up in 1920, and applies to the ports of the four main coal exporting areas, *viz.*, the Tyne, the Bristol Channel, the Humber, and the East Coast of Scotland. (At other ports, where, generally speaking, coal export is of comparatively minor importance, the wages of trimmers are settled under the agreements applicable to dock labourers.) The tariff rates represent, with a few exceptions, a slight increase on the 1919 rates, which were themselves considerably more than double the pre-war rates, the percentage increase varying from 116 in the Bristol Channel to 140 on the Tyne.

The tariff came into force in August, 1920, and there have since been three reductions, of 10 per cent. in August, 1921, of 15 per cent. in January, 1922, and of 8½ per cent. in August, 1922. Repeated applications for the further reduction of the rates to 50 per cent. have hitherto been unsuccessful.

Appended to the Report is a Table showing the estimated weekly earnings at the North-East Coast ports and at the Bristol Channel ports for a series of years. According to this Table the average earnings at the North-East Coast ports were £7 4s. 2d. in the second half of 1921; they were £5 15s. in 1925, and rose slightly to £6 3s. in the first four months of the present year (before the coal stoppage). There is, however, a very wide range of earnings as between the different ports. At the Bristol Channel ports the average for all ports has fallen from £7 3s. 7d. in the period from August, 1921, to January, 1922, to £4 5s. 6d. in 1925 and £4 18s. 5d. in the four months of 1926 before the coal stoppage.

The Report deals first with the various detailed alterations suggested in certain clauses of the tariff. These are highly technical and cannot be given here; but it may be mentioned that the Chairman estimates the total net effect of all the clause amendments with which he has dealt as something like a reduction of 1½ per cent. on tariff rates in the Bristol Channel and of 2½ per cent. on the North-East Coast; while the corresponding figure for the other areas "probably lies somewhere between 1½ and 2½ per cent."

As regards the employers' claim for a general reduction of 16½ per cent., and the workpeople's counterclaim for an increase of 10 per cent., the Report examines at length the arguments of the parties. The following paragraphs are taken from the concluding section of the Report:—"After full consideration I have come to the conclusion that I am not in a position to accept the employers' suggestion that the workpeople are receiving more than the inherent value of their services. . . . I can only say that the tendencies operating before the war were likely to produce rates which if anything erred and still err on the side of generosity. It is possible, however, to consider the present rates from another aspect. The figures given show that the real value of those rates is fairly comparable with that of pre-war rates. I am, therefore, entitled to ask whether, having regard to the state of the coal shipping industry and the need for strict economy in every direction, it is reasonable to ask the trimmers to make a further contribution to ease the employers' position, or whether, on the other hand, it is reasonable to ask the employers to add to their expenses by increasing rates at the present time."

"So far as the workpeople's counter-claim is concerned I am unable to find any evidence showing any improvement in the shipping industry which would justify me in putting an increased burden upon the employers."

"As to the employers' application, on the other hand, I have reached the conclusion that some reduction is justifiable. Freight rates are now actually below pre-war level and exports are low. Trimming charges represent a small but not a negligible fraction of the shipowners' expenses, and the owners are undoubtedly now in a position in which they must seek economies in every possible item, however

* See last month's issue of this GAZETTE, page 365.

small. Nevertheless, I think that the reduction asked for is too large. The effect of granting in full the claim of the employers would be an immediate reduction of about 5s. 6d. in the £ on present earnings. The compulsory and sudden lowering of the workpeople's standard of living which such a reduction would involve could not fail to create hardship, particularly as they are at present seriously impoverished by the long stoppage.

"I have, therefore, had to consider what smaller reduction is justifiable, and in doing so, have had to take into account the probable effect upon future earnings of any reduction in rates which may be adopted. There is little doubt that for a few months after trade resumes, exports will be heavy and earnings correspondingly high; but, inasmuch as it is impossible to gauge the extent and duration of the boom, I am of opinion that this is a factor which ought not to weigh heavily. . . .

"I am of opinion and recommend that the reduction in rates should be 6½ per cent. so as to reduce the present rates to 60 per cent. of the 1920 tariff rates."

EMPLOYMENT AND INSURANCE HISTORY OF A SAMPLE OF PERSONS INSURED AGAINST UN- EMPLOYMENT IN GREAT BRITAIN.

THE Ministry of Labour have prepared a Report, which is now in the hands of the printer and will shortly be issued by H.M. Stationery Office, on an investigation into the employment and insurance history of a sample of persons insured against unemployment in Great Britain.

Previous investigations made on a sample basis by the Ministry of Labour have related to *unemployed* persons, and no corresponding analysis has been available hitherto as to the composition and insurance record of the whole body of insured workpeople, employed and unemployed alike. The present investigation was therefore designed to fill the gap.

The investigation was based upon an examination of a sample of the ledger accounts of persons who have been insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain, at some time or other since November, 1920, exclusive of persons insured under the Special Schemes for the Banking and Insurance Industries.

The Report will be divided into five main sections:—

(1) An analysis of the movement into and out of insurance; the age distribution of insured persons within the various industries; and transfers from one insured industry to another.

(2) Contributions and benefit recorded in respect of the whole body of insured persons, analysed according to industry; various ranges of total contributions; age groups; and period in insurance.

(3) Analyses of the number of individuals who have claimed benefit; the age distribution of benefit claimants at various dates; contributions paid by benefit claimants; incidence of waiting periods; and changes in the personnel of benefit claimants.

(4) Personal circumstances of benefit claimants.

(5) Analyses relating to benefit claimants who at the date of the investigation had ceased to attend at Employment Exchanges.

EARNINGS OF GERMAN COAL-MINERS.

Wirtschaft und Statistik (the journal of the Federal Statistical Department of Germany) for September, 1926, reports that the wages per shift of miners in the Rhenish-Westphalian coalfield were increased, as from 1st September, in accordance with an arbitration award made binding upon the industry, by amounts varying from 3.9 to 4.5 per cent. of the rates previously in force. The old and the new rates per shift are compared below:—

	Former Rates.	Rates now in Force.
	R. Mk.	R. Mk.
Contract Hower*	8.05	8.40
Hower-Timberman	7.00	7.30
Surface Mechanic	7.00	7.30
Semi-skilled Surfaceman	6.40	6.65
Unskilled Surfaceman	5.60	5.85

In addition to these rates "social allowances" are paid as before, viz., a household allowance of 16 Reichspfennigs per shift with a further 16 Reichspfennigs per shift for each child.

In July, 1926, the relation in the undermentioned mining areas between the rates fixed by collective agreement for contract hewers and surface workers and their actual earnings stood as follows:—

Mining Area.	CONTRACT HEWERS (per shift).		SURFACE WORKERS (per shift).	
	Rates.†	Actual Earnings.	Rates.†	Actual Earnings.
	R. Mk.	R. Mk.	R. Mk.	R. Mk.
West Upper Silesia	6.50	7.52	4.14	4.40
Lower Silesia	4.65	5.97	4.09	4.43
Ruhr	8.53	8.66	6.08	6.26
Aix-la-Chapelle	7.35	7.88	5.40	5.59
Saxony	6.71	6.89	5.03	5.52
Weighted average	8.17	8.40	5.72	5.93

* On an average for each pit.

† Inclusive of "social allowances" on the scale applicable to a married man with two children under 14, but excluding free coal.

TRADE UNIONS IN THE UNITED STATES.

The *Monthly Labour Review* of the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics for August, 1926, contains a summary of a forthcoming bulletin of the Bureau entitled "Handbook of American Trade Unions." The study covers all "bona-fide labour organisations functioning nationally, a bona-fide labour organisation being defined as 'a group of wage or salaried workers organised for the purpose of employing economic or political pressure to improve their material condition.'" The Report states that, while it is a settled policy of some unions not to divulge their membership, it is nevertheless possible in the case of organisations affiliated to the American Federation of Labour to estimate their membership from their voting strength at the annual conventions of the Federation; when more definite figures have not been reported, these estimates have been used in the Report.

It was found that 156 organisations came within the definition. Of these 107 are affiliated to the American Federation of Labour, while 49 function entirely outside it. Of these 49, some have never been identified with the American Federation of Labour in any way. This is especially true of railways, in which the "Big Four" brotherhoods have always maintained separate existence and exclusive control. Except for the railroad brotherhoods, some organisations in the Post Office, and the Loyal Legion of Loggers and Lumbermen, the unions not affiliated to the American Federation of Labour are seceders from, or "dual" to, an organisation within the Federation. These dual unions are found to some degree in all industries, except the printing trades.

The aggregate membership of organisations covered by the study was 4,443,523, viz., 3,383,997 in the American Federation of Labour and 1,059,526 in the independent organisations and the Industrial Workers of the World. These figures include the Canadian membership of the American international unions (a total of 201,981 in 1924, according to a report of the Canadian Department of Labour).

The following Table shows the numbers of organised workers in the various industries so far as the Report permits of classification:—

Industry.	Number of Unions.	Total Membership.
Building	17	1,123,825
Metals and Machinery	15	279,225
Transport:*		
Affiliated to A.F.L.	12	454,200
Independent	22	701,090†
Paper	3	17,800
Printing	8	154,880
Textile	2	51,000
Boot and Shoe	3	58,200
Garment	4	326,200
Other Clothing	8	45,800
Food, Liquor and Tobacco	9	130,240
Mining, Oil and Lumber:		
United Mine Workers of America	1	500,000
Other	4	35,200
Glass and Clay	9	31,300‡
Woodworking	4	14,915
Public Service and Amusements:		
Theatrical and Musical	3	161,000
Post Office	13	193,631
Other Public Service	5	62,800
Clerical	2	12,500
Miscellaneous	12	78,537
Industrial Workers of the World	1	30,000

LABOUR DISPUTES IN HOLLAND IN 1925.

THE Dutch Central Statistical Office has recently published a report§ on the industrial disputes which were recorded in 1925. As will be seen from the following Table for the years 1923-1925, the number of disputes and the number of undertakings and workpeople affected showed an increase in 1925 as compared with the previous year, but the number of working days lost was very much less than in 1924. This was due entirely to a strike of textile workers which lasted from 26th November, 1923, to 30th June, 1924, and involved a loss of 2,754,664 days in 1924.

Year.	Number of Strikes and Lock-outs.	Number of Undertakings Affected.	Number of Workers on Strike or Locked out.	Number of Working Days lost in consequence of Disputes commenced during the Year.
1923	289	1,455	56,400	1,216,400
1924	239	1,159	27,100	3,156,010
1925	262	1,628	31,700	786,600

Of the 262 disputes recorded in 1925, 250 are stated to have been strikes, and 12 lock-outs. Of these disputes 64 per cent. arose over questions of wages and working hours, as compared with 63 per cent. in 1924, and 62 per cent. in 1923. In 29 per cent. of the 1925 disputes, the workpeople were successful in obtaining their demands, in 32 per cent. the employers were successful, while the remainder either resulted in compromise or their final result was unknown.

* Broadly speaking, the affiliated unions cover maintenance and shop work, while unions covering operation and administration are independent.

† Excluding two unions, the Brotherhood of Railroad Station Employees and Clerks and the Railroad Yardmasters of North America.

‡ Excluding one union, the Window Glass Cutters and Flatteners' Association.

§ *Werkstakingen en Uitsluitingen gedurende het Jaar 1925*. Central Statistical Office, The Hague.

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

Summary: Average Increases since July, 1914.

All Items included	...	...	79%
Food only ...	...	...	69%

FOOD.

There was an appreciable rise in the average level of the retail prices of the principal articles of food during October. This was mainly due to increases in the prices of eggs and potatoes, by approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ d. each and $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per 7 lb. respectively, on the average. The retail price of milk was also higher at 1st November than a month earlier in a number of towns. On the other hand, decreases were recorded in the average prices of butter and of bacon.

As a net result of all the changes recorded, the average increase over the level of July, 1914, in the retail prices (in Great Britain and Northern Ireland) of the articles of food included in these statistics was about 69 per cent. above the pre-war level as compared with 63 per cent. a month earlier and 72 per cent. a year ago.

In the following Table is given a comparison of retail prices of these articles of food in July, 1914, and at 1st October, and 1st November 1926:—

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated— to the nearest $\frac{1}{2}$ d.).			Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) at 1st Nov., 1926, as compared with		
	July, 1914.	1st Oct., 1926.	1st Nov., 1926.	July, 1914.	1st Oct., 1926.	1st Nov., 1926.
Beef, British—						
Ribs ...	s. d. 0 10	s. d. 1 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	s. d. 1 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	+ 0 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	— 0 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	— 0 0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Thin Flank ...	0 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	+ 0 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—						
Ribs ...	0 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	+ 0 3	...	...
Thin Flank ...	0 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	+ 0 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	+ 0 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	...
Mutton, British—						
Legs ...	0 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	+ 0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...
Breast ...	0 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	+ 0 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...
Mutton, Frozen—						
Legs ...	0 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 0	1 0	+ 0 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...
Breast ...	0 4	0 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	+ 0 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...
Bacon (streaky)*	0 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 8	1 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	+ 0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	— 0 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	...
Flour ... per 7 lb.	0 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 6	1 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	+ 0 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	+ 0 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	...
Bread ... per 4 lb.	0 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 10	0 10	+ 0 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...
Tea ...	1 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	+ 0 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...
Sugar (granulated) ...	0 2	0 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	+ 0 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...
Milk ... per quart	0 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	+ 0 3	+ 0 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	...
Butter—						
Fresh ...	1 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 11	1 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	+ 0 8	— 0 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	...
Salt ...	1 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	+ 0 7	— 0 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	...
Cheese†	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 1	1 1	+ 0 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...
Margarine ...	0 7	0 8	0 8	+ 0 1	...	...
Eggs (fresh) ... each	0 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	+ 0 2	+ 0 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	...
Potatoes ... per 7 lb.	0 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	+ 0 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	+ 0 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	...

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

Article.	Average Percentage Increase at 1st November, 1926, as compared with July, 1914.			Corre- sponding General Average for 1st Oct., 1926.
	Large Towns (Popula- tions over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	General Average.	
Beef, British—	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ribs ...	76	72	74	75
Thin Flank ...	47	46	46	46
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—				
Ribs ...	44	39	42	42
Thin Flank ...	15	15	15	13
Mutton, British—				
Legs ...	79	80	79	80
Breast ...	60	57	59	59
Mutton, Frozen—				
Legs ...	78	69	74	74
Breast ...	30	29	29	27
Bacon (streaky)*	77	74	75	79
Fish ...	146	112	129	123
Flour ...	72	74	73	71
Bread ...	76	72	74	72
Tea ...	57	63	60	61
Sugar (granulated) ...	78	69	74	70
Milk ...	83	88	85	79
Butter—				
Fresh ...	52	59	56	58
Salt ...	49	48	49	53
Cheese†	50	53	51	51
Margarine ...	18	12	15	15
Eggs (fresh) ...	155	159	157	95
Potatoes ...	74	38	56	38
All above articles of Food (Weighted Percentage Increase) ...	70	67	69	63

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

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

RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT.

As regards *rents*, inquiries which have been made into the changes which have taken effect under the Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Acts indicate that the average increase in the rents of working-class dwellings between July, 1914, and 1st November, 1926, was approximately 50 per cent. Of the total increase about two-fifths is accounted for by increases on account of rates and water charges and about two-fifths is on account of the landlord's responsibility for repairs, increases on account of the higher level of mortgage interest permitted by the Acts falling within the remaining one-fifth.

As regards *clothing*, owing to the wide range of quotations, both now and before the war, to changes in qualities and in stocks held by retailers, and to variations in the extent to which different articles and qualities have been affected by price changes, it is impossible to make an *exact* calculation of the increase in prices; but information as to the movements of prices of men's suits and overcoats, underclothing and hosiery, textile materials and boots, received from retailers in the principal towns, indicates that at 1st November the level of retail prices of articles in this group, taking goods of the kinds purchased by the working classes and so far as possible the same qualities of goods at each date, averaged between 115 and 120 per cent. higher than in July, 1914.

In the *fuel and light* group, there were further increases during October in the retail prices of coal in many towns, and at 1st November, the prices, per cwt., averaged about 240 per cent. above those of July, 1914. The prices of gas at 1st November were usually the same as at 1st October, and averaged between 70 and 75 per cent. above the pre-war level. The prices of lamp oil, candles and matches at 1st November were also about the same as a month earlier. Taking the fuel and light group as a whole, the average increase at 1st November, as compared with July, 1914, was about 155 per cent.

ALL ITEMS.

If the average increases in the cost of all the foregoing items are combined in accordance with their relative importance in pre-war working-class family expenditure, allowance being also made for the increase in the prices of soap, soda, domestic ironmongery, brushware and pottery, tobacco, fares and newspapers (averaging about 80 per cent.), the resultant general average increase for 1st November is, approximately, 79 per cent.* over the level of July, 1914, as compared with 74 per cent. at 1st October and 76 per cent. a year ago.

The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities and, as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are taken in 1926 as in 1914) is to show the *average increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the pre-war standard of living of working-class families* (i.e., the standard actually prevailing in working-class families before the war, irrespective of whether such standard was adequate or not). Owing to the variations in the amounts of increase in the prices of different commodities it is probable that economies or re-adjustments in expenditure have been effected in many families, especially in those cases where incomes have not increased so much as prices. On the other hand, it is probable that the standard of living has been raised in some families in which wages have been increased in greater proportion than prices. No allowance is made in the figures for any such alterations in the standard of living, as to which trustworthy statistics are not available.

SUMMARY TABLE: 1915 TO 1926.

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

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

Month.	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926
Jan. ...	10-15	35	65	85-90	120	125	165	92	78	77	80	75
Feb. ...	15	35	65-70	90	120	130	151	88	77	79	79	73
Mar. ...	15-20	35-40	70	90	115	130	141	86	76	78	79	72
April ...	15-20	35-40	70-75	90-95	110	132	133	82	74	73	75	68
May ...	20	40-45	75	95-100	105	141	128	81	70	71	73	67
June ...	25	45	75-80	100	105	150	119	80	69	69	72	68
July ...	25	45-50	80	100-105	105-110	152	119	84	69	70	73	70
Aug. ...	25	45-50	80	110	115	155	122	81	71	71	73	70
Sept. ...	25	50	80-85	110	115	161	120	79	73	72	74	72
Oct. ...	30	50-55	75-80	115-120	120	164	110	78	75	76	76	74
Nov. ...	30-35	60	85	120-125	125	176	103	80	75	80	76	79
Dec. ...	35	65	85	120	125	169	99	80	77	81	77	...

NOTE.

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

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

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

EMPLOYMENT remained bad on the whole during October. In many industries, including ironmining, iron and steel manufacture, the tinplate trade, heavy engineering, shipbuilding, and most of the textile trades it continued seriously affected by the shortage of fuel resulting from the coal-mining stoppage. There was some improvement in the cotton and pottery industries, but there was a seasonal decline in the building trades.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

Among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts, numbering approximately 12,000,000, and working in practically every industry, except agriculture and private domestic service, the percentage unemployed at 25th October, 1926, was 13·6*, as compared with 13·7*† at 20th September, 1926, and with 11·4 at 26th October, 1925. For males alone the percentage at 25th October was 14·8, as compared with 14·7† at 20th September; for females the figure at 25th October was 10·3, as compared with 11·0† at 20th September. Among members of trade unions from which returns were received, the percentage unemployed was 13·6 at the end of October, 1926, as compared with 13·6 at the end of September, 1926, and with 11·3 at the end of October, 1925. The total number of persons (insured and uninsured) registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 1st November, 1926, was approximately 1,610,000, of whom 1,234,000 were men and 292,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls; at 27th September, 1926, it was 1,582,000, of whom 1,198,000 were men and 295,000 were women; and at 26th October, 1925, it was 1,295,000, of whom men numbered 1,032,000 and women 196,000. The figures relating to September and 1st November, 1926, are exclusive of workpeople in the coal-mining industry who ceased work on account of the dispute.

The following Table shows, month by month since October, 1925, (a) the percentages unemployed among members of those Trade Unions from which returns are obtained, (b) the percentages unemployed among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and (c) the approximate number (to the nearest 1,000) of persons on the registers in Great Britain and Northern Ireland:—

Month.	Percentage Unemployed (at or near end of month) among					Numbers registered at Local Offices (Insured and Uninsured).
	Trade Unions making Returns.	Insured Workpeople.†				
		Males.	Females.	Total.		
1925.						
October	11·3	12·7	7·7	11·4	1,295,000	
November	11·0	12·2	7·8	11·0	1,227,000	
December	11·0	11·5	7·3	10·4	1,166,000	
1926.						
January	10·6	12·1	8·1	11·0	1,237,000	
February	10·4	11·4	7·7	10·4	1,169,000	
March	10·1	10·8	7·1	9·8	1,070,000	
April	10·0	10·0	6·7	9·1	1,034,000	
May	13·2	14·9	12·6	14·3	1,675,000	
June	12·9	15·4	12·2	14·6	1,699,000	
July	13·2	15·1	12·7	14·4	1,664,000	
August	13·3	14·9	11·6	14·0	1,606,000	
September	13·6	14·7	11·0	13·7	1,582,000	
October	13·6	14·8	10·3	13·6	1,610,000	

Mining and Quarrying.—In the coal-mining industry the dispute which commenced on 1st May continued throughout October. The iron mining industry remained practically at a standstill. At the mines covered by the returns received, there was a decrease of 81·5 per cent. in the number employed as compared with October, 1925. The average number of days worked by the mines that were working was 4·96 in October, 1926, compared with 5·10 in September, 1926, and 5·46 in October, 1925. In the West Lothian shale mines there was an increase of 4·4 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed as compared with the previous month. At limestone quarries employment was reported as slack in the Buxton district, and bad in the Clitheroe and Weardale districts. At slate quarries in North Wales it continued fairly good. It remained good at tin mines, but at china clay quarries there was a considerable amount of short time owing to coal shortage.

Manufacture of Pig Iron, Iron and Steel, and Tinplate.—The pig-iron industry continued almost at a standstill, and at the end of October, only 5 furnaces were in blast, the same as in September, as compared with 136 in October, 1925.

In the iron and steel trades employment continued to be seriously affected by the dispute in the coal-mining industry, and was very bad. In the tinplate and steel sheet trades employment continued to be seriously affected by the shortage of suitable fuel; many mills were idle and much short time was reported. The number of tinplate and steel sheet mills in operation at the end of October, 1926, was

* These percentages include coal mining, those miners who were not disqualified for benefit under the Unemployment Insurance Acts by reason of the dispute being taken as unemployed for the purpose of the percentages (excluding coal-mining), the percentage of unemployment at 25th October was 14·1, as compared with 14·2 at 20th September.
† The percentages for some recent months have been revised. See page 395.

319, as compared with 303 in September, 1926, and 524 in October, 1925.

Engineering, Shipbuilding, and Metal Trades.—In the engineering trades employment continued to suffer from restrictions in the supply of fuel, power, and materials due to the dispute in the coal-mining industry. It remained very bad, on the whole, and somewhat worse than in the previous month. Much short time continued to be worked in the textile machinery and railway engineering sections; at some locomotive plants the working week was restricted to three days. There was a further slight improvement in the electrical engineering section, and conditions on motor work improved in the Midlands, but in marine engineering a further decline was experienced. In the shipbuilding and ship-repairing trades employment showed a further decline and was very bad. In the other metal trades employment continued to be affected adversely by the dispute in the coal-mining industry and was still moderate on the whole. It was good in the lock, latch and key trades; fair in the stove and grate, and needle and fishing-tackle trades; moderate in the brasswork, tube, cutlery, and jewellery and plated-ware trades; and slack or bad in the sheet metal, file, wire, hollow-ware, nut and bolt, metallic bedstead, anvil and vice, and chain and anchor trades.

Textile Trades.—There was some improvement in employment in the cotton trade, owing partly to better coal supplies in certain districts, and partly to reductions in the price of raw material. The shortage and high price of coal, however, continued to restrict production severely in many districts, and employment was still bad in all the principal departments except the Egyptian spinning section, in which, with few exceptions, the mills worked full time. In the wool textile industry employment continued slack; in some districts fuel difficulties restricted employment, and in all sections of the industry short time working was prevalent.

Employment in the hosiery trade was still slack; but showed an improvement as compared with the previous month; in the silk and artificial silk trades, taken together, it was fairly good in the Eastern Counties, and fair in the Macclesfield district; in the lace trade it continued bad, with much unemployment and short time working; employment in the linen trade continued bad; in the jute trade it was slack. In the textile bleaching, printing, dyeing, etc. trades employment continued very slack.

Clothing Trades.—Employment in the tailoring trade showed a slight improvement, but remained slack on the whole, with much short time working; it continued to be affected by the coal-mining dispute. In the dressmaking trade employment continued fair on the whole; in the London blouse and light-underclothing trade it was reported as fair, but not so good as in the previous month. In the corset trade there was a slight improvement in some districts, but employment was quiet; in the shirt and collar trade it remained fair generally. In the felt hat trade much short time was still being worked. In the boot and shoe trades employment continued poor.

Leather Trades.—Employment in the tanning and currying section was fair, and there was a further slight improvement in most centres; with saddlery and harness makers it continued slack, and in the portmanteau, trunk and fancy leather section it remained moderate.

Building, Woodworking, etc.—Employment in the building trades it showed a further slight decline; it was fairly good with skilled operatives other than painters, and moderate, on the whole, with unskilled workers. It was very good generally with plasterers; fairly good with carpenters, bricklayers and slaters; fair with plumbers; and quiet at most centres with masons. With painters there was a further general seasonal decline and employment was slack; with tradesmen's labourers it continued generally moderate. With brickmakers employment continued to be adversely affected by the shortage of fuel, and some short time was still worked.

Employment in the furnishing trades was fairly good; with mill-sawyers it showed a slight improvement as compared with the previous month, and was fair on the whole; with coachbuilders it declined further; with packing case makers and coopers it continued bad.

Paper Manufacture, Printing and Bookbinding.—Employment in the paper trade continued moderate on the whole. With letterpress printers it was also moderate on the whole; at Manchester and Birmingham it was still bad and at Glasgow it was slack. With electrotypers and stereotypers employment was generally good; with lithographic printers it was fair, on the whole, and some short time was worked at several of the large centres; with bookbinders it showed little change as compared with September.

Pottery and Glass.—Employment in the pottery trade in North Staffordshire showed a further improvement. In the glass trades employment continued bad on the whole, but showed an improvement in bottle-making.

Agriculture and Fishing.—In agriculture in England and Wales at the end of October the supply of labour was generally equal to the demand, though in a few eastern counties there was some scarcity of workers for the lifting of sugar beet. In Scotland the supply of labour was sufficient for requirements, except in some parts of South-West Forfar, where extra hands for potato-lifting were difficult to obtain, and in North Ayr, where there was a scarcity of milkers. With fishermen employment continued slack at most ports.

Dock Labour and Seamen.—Employment with dock labourers continued slack generally; with seamen it was slack on the whole and showed a decline as compared with the previous month.

TRADE UNION PERCENTAGES OF UNEMPLOYED.

TRADE UNIONS with a net membership of 824,198 in branches covered by the returns received, reported 112,195 (or 13·6 per cent.) of their members as unemployed at the end of October, 1926.

Trade.	Member-ship of Unions reporting at end of October, 1926.	Unemployed at end of October, 1926.*		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentage Unemployed as compared with a	
		Num-ber.	Per-cent-age.	Month before.	Year before.
Engineering and Ship-building ...	338,139	77,029	22·8	+ 0·1	+ 7·5
Miscellaneous Metal ...	49,688	6,029	12·1	+ 0·1	+ 6·0
Textiles:—					
Cotton ...	55,567	5,892	10·6	- 0·4	+ 5·5
Other ...	65,851	3,291	5·0	+ 0·1	+ 1·3
Printing, Bookbinding and Paper ...	105,948†	5,930	5·6	...	+ 2·5
Furnishing ...	29,778	2,451	8·2	- 1·0	+ 4·4
Woodworking ...	37,794	3,688	9·8	- 0·4	+ 4·6
Clothing:—					
Boot and Shoe ...	81,214	4,442	5·5	- 0·2	+ 0·5
Other Clothing ...	46,628	1,921	4·1	+ 0·5	+ 1·9
Leather ...	5,448	649	11·9	- 0·4	- 0·4
Glass... ..	1,081	48	4·4	+ 0·4	+ 3·3
Tobacco‡ ...	7,062	825	11·7	+ 2·5	+ 0·8
Total ...	824,198	112,195	13·6§	...	+ 2·3§

UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED INDUSTRIES.

Division.	Estimated Numbers Insured at July 1926. (Totals.)	Percentage Unemployed at 25th October, 1926.			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Total Percentages as compared with a	
		Males.	Females.	Total.	Month before.	Year before.
London ...	2,105,400	8·1	4·0	6·8	+ 0·2	- 0·3
S.-Eastern ...	840,200	5·7	4·7	5·5	+ 0·8	+ 0·1
S.-Western ...	810,900	9·5	6·0	8·7	+ 1·2	...
Midlands ...	1,777,400	11·7	11·7	11·7	- 1·3	+ 3·3
N.-Eastern ...	2,020,500	21·2	14·0	19·7	+ 0·2	+ 4·8
N.-Western ...	2,145,700	16·5	15·2	16·1	- 1·0	+ 4·8
Scotland ...	1,323,100	20·4	9·8	17·5	+ 0·2	+ 2·4
Wales ...	626,800	21·9	13·7	21·1	+ 0·7	- 1·5
N. Ireland...	267,300	24·7	18·1	22·1	- 0·1	- 2·6
Total ...	12,041,000	14·8	10·3	13·6	- 0·1	+ 2·2

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

INFORMATION as to employment, derived from returns furnished by employers and employers' associations, is summarised below:—

(a) CERTAIN MINING AND METAL TRADES.

Trade.	Workpeople included in the Returns for October, 1926.	October, 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
			Month before.	Year before.
Iron Mining ...	1,304	Days Worked per week by Mines. 4·96	Days. - 0·14	Days. - 0·50
Shale „ ...	2,753	5·72	- 0·04	- 0·13
Pig Iron ...	...	Furnaces in Blast 5	Number.	Number.
Tinplate and Steel Sheet ...	...	Mills working 319	+ 16	- 205
Iron and Steel ...	32,492	Shifts Worked (one week). 171,139	Per cent. - 0·2	Per cent. - 54·7

(b) OTHER TRADES.

Trade.	Number of Workpeople Employed.			Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 23rd Oct., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 23rd Oct., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.¶
Textiles:—		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Cotton ...	83,360	+ 4·0	- 5·1	142,135	+ 6·7	- 13·1
Woollen...	64,388	+ 0·3	- 0·7**	130,294	- 1·8	- 1·5**
Worsted...	89,485	+ 0·1	- 2·7**	165,214	- 0·7	- 9·9**
Boot and Shoe ...	51,263	- 0·3	+ 0·3	107,760	- 1·3	- 2·0
Pottery ...	11,071	+ 5·2	- 10·3	21,908	+ 12·5	- 7·4
Brick ...	7,999	+ 0·3	- 11·7	21,752	+ 1·3	- 7·3

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

† The returns actually received cover a larger number, but to preserve comparability the number taken for this Table is that corresponding with the figures available for previous dates.

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

§ Coalmining is not included in the figures for October, 1926, and September, 1926; it is included, however, in those for October, 1925. If coalmining is excluded throughout, the increase in October, 1926, over October, 1925, is 4·7.

¶ Including persons insured under the Banking and Insurance Special Schemes.

¶ Comparison is affected by changes in rates of wages in some cases.

** Computed as explained in the article on page 83 of the March, 1926, GAZETTE.

UNEMPLOYMENT CHART.

(1) PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT THE END OF EACH MONTH AMONG MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS:—

Thick Curve ————— = 1926.

Thin Curve ————— = 1925.

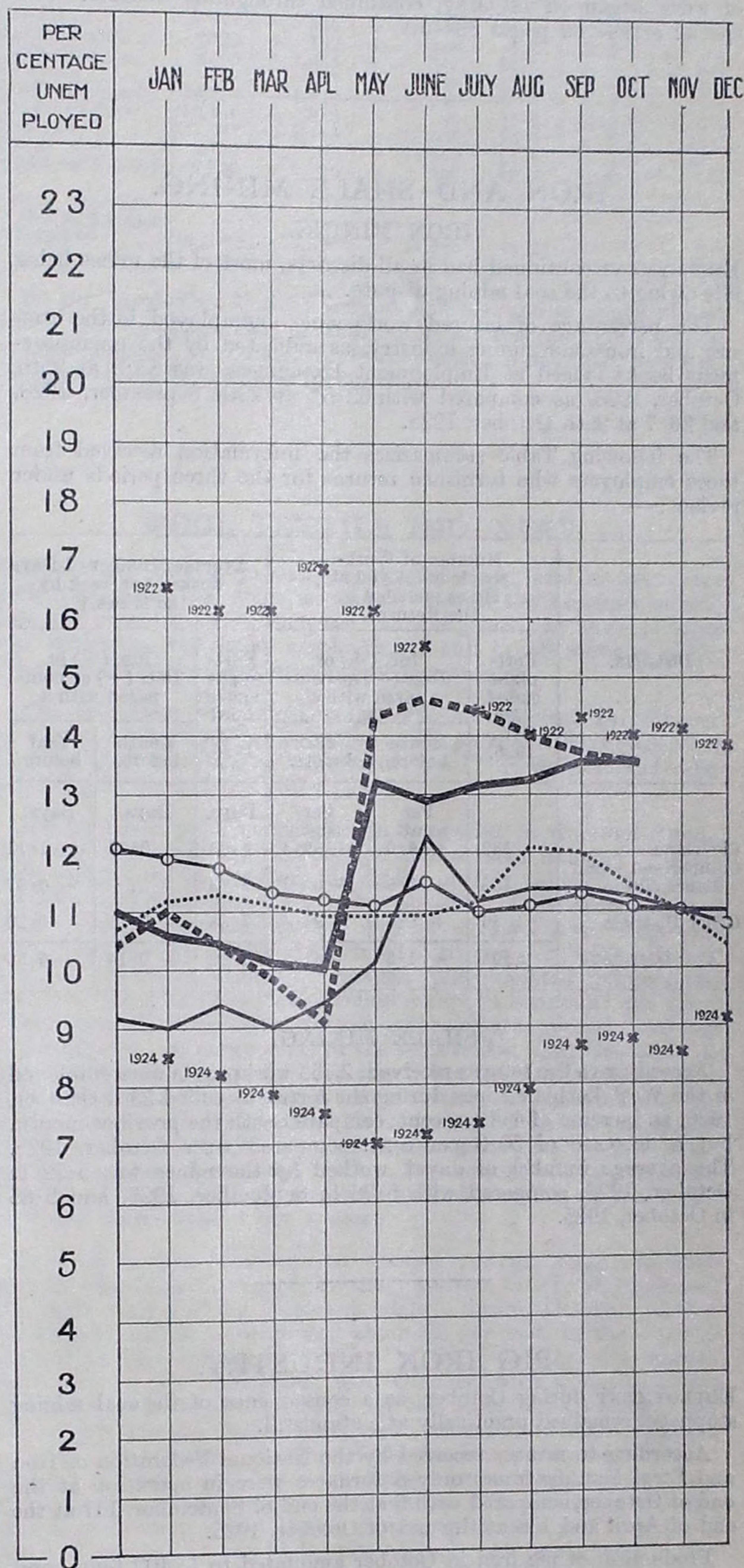
Chain Curve -o-o-o-o-o-o-o = Mean of 1922-25.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of Trade Union Members unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1922-1925.

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

Thick Dotted Curve - - - - - = 1926.

Thin Dotted Curve - - - - - = 1925.



NOTE.

The figures relate to Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

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

The figures for insured workpeople are briefly explained, and are analysed in detail, on pages 410 to 413. The figures in respect of 1926 have been revised. See article on page 395.

DETAILED REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

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

COAL MINING.

THE dispute in this industry, as a result of which a general stoppage of work began on 1st May, continued throughout October. (See special article on pages 394-5.)

IRON AND SHALE MINING.

IRON MINING.

EMPLOYMENT continued bad in all districts, most of the mines being idle owing to the coal mining dispute.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed in the iron-ore and ironstone mining industry, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 63.9 at 25th October, 1926, as compared with 62.6* at 20th September, 1926, and 26.7 at 26th October, 1925.

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

Districts.	Number of Workpeople employed at Mines included in the Returns.			Average Number of Days worked per week by the Mines.†		
	Fortnight ended 23rd Oct., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) as compared with a		Fortnight ended 23rd Oct., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) as compared with a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Cleveland ...	389	– 4.0	– 89.4	4.02	– 0.49	– 1.11
Cumberland and Lancashire ...	835	+ 3.6	– 62.1	5.33	...	– 0.67
Other Districts ...	80	+ 8.1	– 93.4	5.66	– 0.11	+ 0.20
ALL DISTRICTS	1,304	+ 1.5	– 81.5	4.96	– 0.14	– 0.50

SHALE MINING.

According to the returns received, 2,753 workpeople were employed in the West Lothian mines during the fortnight ended 23rd October, 1926, an increase of 4.4 per cent, compared with the previous month, but a decrease of 30.8 per cent. compared with October, 1925. The average number of days† worked by the mines was 5.72 in October, 1926, compared with 5.76 in September, 1926, and 5.85 in October, 1925.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during October, as a consequence of the coal mining stoppage, remained practically at a standstill.

According to returns received by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers only 5 furnaces were in operation at the end of October, compared with 5 at the end of September, 147 at the end of April and 136 at the end of October, 1925.

Production of pig iron in October amounted to 13,100 tons, compared with 12,500 tons at the end of September and 473,700 tons at the end of October, 1925.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 63.0 on 25th October, 1926, as compared with 67.8† on 20th September, 1926, and 21.4 on 26th October, 1925.

* The figures for September have been revised.
† The figures show the number of days (allowance being made in all the calculations for short time) on which iron, shale, etc. were got from the mines included in the returns. It is not necessarily implied that all the persons worked every day the mines were open. Mines not working are omitted in computing the average number of days worked.

IRON AND STEEL TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in October was still seriously affected by the dispute in the coal mining industry and continued very bad.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the number of unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 53.0 on 25th October, 1926, as compared with 52.3† on 20th September, 1926, and 24.3 on 26th October, 1925.

According to returns received from firms employing 32,492 workpeople in the week ended 23rd October, 1926, the volume of employment in that week (as indicated by the number of workpeople employed, combined with the number of shifts during which work was carried on in each department) decreased by 0.2 per cent. as compared with September, and by 54.7 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

The average number of shifts during which the works were open was 5.3 in each of the three periods.

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

—	No. of Workpeople employed by firms making returns.			Aggregate number of Shifts.*		
	Week ended 23rd Oct., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) as compared with a		Week ended 23rd Oct., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) as compared with a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
DEPARTMENTS.		Per cent.	Per cent.		Per cent.	Per cent.
Open Hearth Melting						
Furnaces ...	1,707	+ 7.6	– 78.9	9,131	+ 3.7	– 79.8
Puddling Forges ...	342	– 13.9	– 88.9	1,374	– 23.5	– 89.2
Rolling Mills ...	10,732	– 0.2	– 59.6	51,108	– 2.7	– 61.3
Forging and Pressing	1,658	– 5.6	– 43.7	7,836	– 5.0	– 49.7
Founding ...	7,049	– 4.0	– 8.9	39,519	– 4.4	– 10.2
Other Departments ...	4,513	+ 1.3	– 38.6	25,591	+ 1.2	– 37.2
Mechanics, Labourers	6,491	+ 11.1	– 58.0	36,580	+ 9.2	– 58.4
TOTAL... ..	32,492	+ 1.1	– 54.4	171,139	– 0.2	– 54.7
DISTRICTS.						
Northumberland, Durham and Cleveland	4,890	– 17.7	– 65.6	25,403	– 21.8	– 68.4
Sheffield and Rotherham... ..	11,880	+ 8.1	– 35.4	63,630	+ 7.6	– 33.6
Leeds, Bradford, etc... ..	1,031	+ 6.3	– 44.9	5,223	+ 11.7	– 47.3
Cumberland, Lancs. and Cheshire ...	3,129	– 0.1	– 58.6	14,227	– 9.0	– 62.5
Staffordshire ...	2,843	+ 46.3	– 55.4	14,185	+ 45.3	– 57.1
Other Midland Counties	1,574	– 6.1	– 59.2	9,054	– 7.0	– 57.2
Wales and Monmouth	5,952	– 0.8	– 23.0	32,861	+ 1.2	– 22.6
Total, England and Wales ...	31,299	+ 2.1	– 47.8	164,583	+ 0.4	– 48.7
Scotland ...	1,193	– 19.4	– 89.4	6,556	– 13.9	– 88.6
TOTAL... ..	32,492	+ 1.1	– 54.4	171,139	– 0.2	– 54.7

The production of steel ingots and castings, as returned by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, amounted to 92,900 tons in October, 1926, as compared with 95,700 tons in September, 1926, and 652,400 tons in October, 1925.

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT was still seriously affected by the shortage of suitable fuel; many mills continued to be idle and much short time was reported. At the end of October, 319 tinplate and steel sheet mills were in operation at the works for which information is available, compared with 303 in the previous month and with 524 in October, 1925. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 51.5 on 25th October, 1926, as compared with 46.7† on 20th September, 1926, and with 8.9 on 26th October, 1925.

* The figures relate to the number of shifts during which the works were in operation, taken in conjunction with the numbers of men employed. No account is taken of the time lost by individuals owing to absenteeism, etc., and it is not intended to imply that the number of shifts shown were actually worked by all the men employed.
† The figures for September have been revised.

The following Table shows the number of mills in operation at the end of October, 1926, at the works covered by the returns received:—

Works.	Number of Works Open			Number of Mills in Operation		
	At end of Oct., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		At end of Oct., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
Tinplate ...	43	...	- 28	229	+ 23	- 172
Steel Sheet	7	- 2	- 6	90	- 7	- 33
TOTAL ...	50	- 2	- 34	319	+ 16	- 205

The exports of tinned and galvanised plates and sheets in October, 1926, amounted to 84,064 tons, or 22,114 tons more than in September, 1926, but 38,275 tons less than in October, 1925.

ENGINEERING.

EMPLOYMENT during October continued to suffer from restrictions in the supply of fuel, power and materials, due to the dispute in the coal mining industry. It remained very bad on the whole and was somewhat worse than in the previous month. Much short time continued in operation in the textile machinery and railway engineering sections; at some locomotive plants the working week was restricted to three days. There was a further slight improvement in the electrical engineering section, and conditions on motor work improved in the Midlands; but in marine engineering a further decline was experienced. Compared with a year before employment was much worse in all sections.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 25th October, 1926, and the increase or decrease as compared with a month ago and a year ago.

Division.	Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 25th October, 1926.						Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a	
	Engineering, Iron and Steel Founding.	Electrical Engineering.	Marine Engineering, etc.	Constructional Engineering.	Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles, and Aircraft.	TOTAL.		
							Month before.	Year before.
London ...	6,333	405	91	137	2,350	9,316	- 28	+ 748
South-Eastern ...	2,828	444	166	72	1,495	5,005	+ 563	+ 1,529
South-Western ...	2,508	112	437	86	1,205	4,348	+ 74	+ 908
Midlands ...	12,572	1,493	45	1,466	13,046	28,622	- 2,113	+ 11,630
North-Eastern ...	31,671	806	10,513	2,646	1,088	46,724	+ 1,186	+ 13,812
North-Western ...	29,755	1,717	254	219	2,497	34,442	- 736	+ 12,609
Scotland ...	20,344	398	4,723	2,123	980	28,568	+ 2,213	+ 7,177
Wales ...	2,913	49	52	131	257	3,402	- 301	+ 1,914
Northern Ireland	1,810	18	2,229	9	236	4,302	+ 19	+ 605
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	110,734	5,442	18,510	6,889	23,154	164,729	+ 877	+ 50,932
Percentages Unemployed at 25th October, 1926.								
London ...	7.5	3.6	14.2	4.7	6.6	6.9	...	+ 0.6
South-Eastern ...	6.7	5.1	4.9	11.3	5.6	6.1	+ 0.7	+ 1.7
South-Western ...	7.1	3.6	6.9	11.2	5.1	6.3	+ 0.1	+ 1.1
Midlands ...	13.9	6.3	2.9	22.8	13.9	13.2	- 1.0	+ 5.4
North-Eastern ...	25.4	10.2	48.3	34.5	9.6	26.9	+ 0.6	+ 8.2
North-Western ...	21.3	9.2	19.7	8.9	13.0	19.0	- 0.4	+ 7.0
Scotland ...	24.0	13.4	26.7	37.2	9.8	23.6	+ 1.8	+ 6.3
Wales ...	42.6	13.2	24.8	17.0	13.4	33.6	- 3.0	+ 19.4
Northern Ireland	24.8	7.8	40.6	22.5	13.4	29.0	+ 0.1	+ 4.4
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	18.0	7.1	31.7	25.1	10.3	16.4	+ 0.1*	+ 5.1
Ditto, Sept., 1926*	17.9	7.4	30.3	22.3	10.9	16.3	...	...
Ditto, Oct., 1925	12.0	5.5	25.5	10.8	7.2	11.3	...	...

On the North-East Coast employment remained very bad and continued to decline, especially in marine and heavy engineering. In Yorkshire it remained bad, some decline being experienced, and in Lincolnshire conditions were still bad with no improvement. In Lancashire and Cheshire employment remained bad, although it improved a little on the whole. In the Birmingham and Coventry district an improvement was experienced on motor and electrical work; on general engineering work little improvement was shown. In Nottingham, Derby and Leicester employment remained bad.

In London and in the Eastern and Southern Counties employment was still moderate on the whole, and fairly good in the electrical, motor and aircraft sections. In South Wales a further improvement was reported but conditions were still very bad. In Scotland conditions remained very depressed, employment showing a further decline. At Belfast it was very bad and showed little change.

* The figures for September have been revised.

SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING.

EMPLOYMENT continued very bad during October, and again showed a decline compared with the previous month, owing to the continued dispute in the coal mining industry and the consequent shortage of materials. Compared with a year ago, when employment was already very bad, a heavy decline was shown.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 25th October, 1926, and the increase or decrease as compared with 20th September, 1926, and with a year ago:—

Divisions.	Total Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 25th October, 1926.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) as compared with a		Percentage Unemployed at 25th October, 1926.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in percentage as compared with a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before. *	Year before.
London ...	2,677	+ 146	— 751	23.5	+ 1.2	— 4.1
South-Eastern ...	775	+ 152	+ 102	8.7	+ 1.7	+ 1.9
South-Western	4,893	+ 1,524	+ 942	20.5	+ 6.4	+ 4.8
Midlands ...	47	— 1	— 19	15.7	— 0.3	— 7.9
North-Eastern ...	40,304	+ 1,119	+ 5,958	64.0	+ 1.7	+ 12.7
North-Western	10,816	— 239	— 96	33.5	— 0.7	+ 0.2
Scotland ...	31,947	+ 1,713	+ 6,836	53.9	+ 2.9	+ 15.1
Wales ...	5,784	— 150	+ 1,242	54.8	— 1.4	+ 13.1
Northern Ireland	6,236	— 70	— 164	42.7	— 0.5	+ 8.3
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	103,479	+ 4,194	+ 14,050	46.2	+ 1.9	+ 9.2

On the North-East Coast nearly two-thirds, and in Scotland and Wales more than one-half, of the insured workpeople were recorded as unemployed. In London and the South employment was bad, though not nearly so bad as in the North.

WOOL TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry continued slack, and showed very little change on the whole as compared with the previous month, but was worse than in October of last year. In some districts fuel difficulties restricted employment, and in all sections of the industry short-time working continued prevalent.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 16.3 on 25th October, as compared with 17.2* on 20th September and with 10.8 on 26th October, 1925.

The improved position reported in September in the wool sorting, combing and preparing branches of the worsted industry was not fully maintained in October, the decline mainly taking the form of reduced working hours. About 55 per cent. of the workpeople in these branches covered by the returns received from employers worked short time in the week ended 23rd October, with a loss of nearly 16 hours each on the average. With worsted spinners also there was a tendency towards decline except in Scotland; and about 43 per cent. of the spinners covered by the returns received lost over 11 hours each, on an average, in the week ended 23rd October. In worsted weaving there was no marked change in the Bradford and Keighley districts, but an improvement at Huddersfield, and also to a slight extent at Leeds. The returns received from employers for the week ended 23rd October showed that 32 per cent. of the weavers worked short time, with a loss on an average of about 10½ hours each; while 3 per cent. worked overtime to the extent of over 6 hours each on an average.

In both woollen spinning and woollen weaving there was little general change with regard to the numbers totally unemployed, but short time working increased slightly during October. About 39 per cent. of the spinners and about 42 per cent. of the weavers covered by the employers' returns in these departments worked short time in the week ended 23rd October, with a loss of about 10½ hours each on the average; on the other hand nearly 6 per cent. of the spinners worked overtime to the extent of about 9½ hours each on an average. In the Huddersfield district employment declined and was slack, but a few firms were working overtime and one or two night shifts were in operation. In the heavy woollen district of Dewsbury and Batley employment remained very poor, and was affected by the high price of fuel. At Leeds, and in the Yeadon and Guiseley districts, there was a decline. In the woollen trade of Stockport employment continued fair.

In the blanket trade in the heavy woollen district employment was fair and better than a year ago; at Witney employment was described as moderately good.

In the flannel trade of Rochdale and Saddleworth there was a further slight improvement, but a considerable amount of short time was still worked.

* Revised figures.

† These figures do not take into account other forms of under-employment, such as "playing for warps," and tending one instead of two looms.

In Scotland there was a further slight improvement, especially in the tweed industry; more factories were fully employed than for some time past, and in some cases there was still a shortage of skilled workers in the weaving and mending departments.

In the Yorkshire carpet industry employment was reported as bad and as worse than in September and a year ago; much short time was worked. In the carpet industry as a whole there was a slight improvement as compared with September, but employment was restricted by the shortage of fuel.

The following Table shows, for the principal districts and departments of the industry, the percentage changes between the week ended 25th September and that ended 23rd October in the numbers of workpeople employed and in the total wages paid by firms from whom information was received:—

Departments :	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 23rd Oct., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before.	Index figure. (Jan. 1926 = 100.)	Week ended 23rd Oct., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before.	Index figure. (Jan. 1926 = 100.)
WORSTED SECTION :						
Wool Sorting and Combing ...	10,696	- 1.1	98.9	23,521	- 5.3	84.1
Spinning ...	42,025	- 0.1	96.1	63,432	- 0.9	92.4
Weaving ...	22,267	+ 1.7	107.0	43,799	+ 1.2	101.0
Other Depts. ...	12,524	- 0.8	91.6	30,671	+ 0.1	92.4
Not specified ...	1,973	+ 0.9	108.4	3,791	+ 4.5	98.5
Total—Worsted	89,485	+ 0.1	98.3	165,214	- 0.7	93.1
WOOLLEN SECTION :						
Wool Sorting and Combing ...	1,031	- 0.4	98.4	2,419	- 0.8	101.8
Spinning ...	14,583	+ 0.5	97.0	30,951	- 1.8	101.6
Weaving ...	26,710	+ 1.0	108.7	47,899	- 0.6	109.4
Other Depts. ...	19,658	- 1.3	90.3	43,675	- 3.7	92.6
Not specified ...	2,406	+ 3.4	99.8	5,350	+ 4.6	103.9
Total—Woollen	64,388	+ 0.3	99.5	130,294	- 1.8	101.0
CARPET SECTION ...	10,148	+ 0.6	98.9	17,585	+ 2.8	79.5
Total—Wool Textile Industry	164,021	+ 0.2	98.5	313,093	- 1.0	95.4
Districts* :						
WORSTED SECTION :						
Bradford ...	40,693	- 0.2	97.0	76,140	- 2.3	87.3
Huddersfield ...	10,251	+ 1.6	105.9	22,866	+ 5.2	109.4
Halifax ...	10,615	+ 0.8	95.9	17,359	- 3.0	85.9
Leeds ...	8,856	- 2.6	98.0	16,427	+ 0.3	97.0
Keighley ...	9,605	+ 0.9	99.0	16,546	- 2.0	100.9
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	3,446	+ 1.7	98.9	5,560	+ 1.4	104.2
Total, West Riding	83,466	+ 0.1	98.4	154,898	- 0.9	92.6
West of England and Midlands ...	3,882	- 0.1	98.9	6,766	- 2.8	92.5
Lancs ...	333	+ 0.9	115.9	636	+ 3.6	111.1
Scotland ...	1,804	+ 2.0	96.5	2,914	+ 17.3	130.3
Total—Worsted	89,485	+ 0.1	98.3	165,214	- 0.7	93.1
WOOLLEN SECTION :						
Huddersfield ...	14,273	- 0.5	98.1	30,444	- 6.7	91.1
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	12,288	- 0.4	100.0	24,531	- 0.6	106.7
Leeds ...	9,563	- 1.6	95.6	19,725	- 4.9	98.0
Halifax and Calder Vale ...	2,624	+ 0.7	103.0	5,385	- 3.2	98.1
Bradford ...	1,275	+ 3.3	107.7	3,023	+ 4.1	107.0
Total, West Riding	40,023	- 0.6	98.7	83,108	- 4.0	98.2
Lancs ...	5,198	+ 1.0	99.5	11,049	+ 4.5	108.1
West of England and Midlands ...	4,265	+ 1.8	105.9	7,715	+ 2.9	116.4
Scotland ...	14,874	+ 1.9	99.8	28,372	+ 1.5	103.7
Wales ...	28	- 33.3	44.4	50	- 26.5	52.0
Total—Woollen	64,388	+ 0.3	99.5	130,294	- 1.8	101.0
CARPET SECTION ...	10,148	+ 0.6	98.9	17,585	+ 2.8	79.5
Total—Wool Textile Industry	164,021	+ 0.2	98.5	313,093	- 1.0	95.4

In the worsted section of the industry, taken as a whole, the returns received from employers show that 40 per cent. of their workpeople were on short time in the week ended 23rd October, with a loss, on the average, of nearly 12 hours† each. In the woollen section the returns show that in the same week about 37½ per cent. of the workpeople lost nearly 10½ hours† each on the average. In the carpet section the employers' returns show about 39 per cent. on short time to the extent of about 8½ hours each on the average. The corresponding particulars for overtime were 3 per cent., averaging over 6 hours each, in the worsted section, and 3½ per cent. averaging 8 hours each, in the woollen section. In the carpet section there was practically no overtime.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of Employment Exchanges in the principal wool textile trade centres at the 25th October, 1926:—

* Most of the districts are indicated by the names of their principal towns, but neighbouring towns and areas are included in each case.
† See note † on page 405.

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 25th October, 1926.						Total.
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Wool Sorting ...	270	8	278	416	2	418	696
Wool Washing and Preparing ...	270	199	469	699	349	1,048	1,517
Wool Combing ...	119	81	200	742	707	1,449	1,649
Wool Carding ...	401	52	453	1,051	149	1,200	1,653
Woollen Spinning ...	298	104	402	595	356	951	1,353
Worsted Drawing and Spinning ...	337	770	1,107	678	3,740	4,418	5,525
Wool Winding and Warping ...	116	21	137	273	168	441	578
Worsted Winding and Warping ...	54	123	177	127	1,142	1,269	1,446
Woollen Weaving ...	128	472	600	462	3,736	4,198	4,798
Worsted Weaving ...	118	559	677	202	1,850	2,052	2,729
Other Processes ...	611	63	674	1,318	344	1,662	2,336
TOTAL ...	2,722	2,452	5,174	6,563	12,543	19,106	24,280

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with the 20th September, 1926:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Wool Sorting ...	+ 47	- 1	+ 46	+ 68	...	+ 68	+ 114
Wool Washing and Preparing ...	- 30	- 24	- 54	- 115	- 19	- 134	- 188
Wool Combing ...	- 59	- 18	- 77	- 101	- 198	- 299	- 376
Wool Carding ...	+ 8	- 25	- 17	- 133	- 59	- 192	- 209
Woollen Spinning ...	- 7	+ 12	+ 5	+ 60	- 11	+ 49	+ 54
Worsted Drawing and Spinning ...	+ 66	- 43	+ 23	- 111	- 53	- 164	- 141
Wool Winding and Warping ...	+ 32	- 6	+ 26	+ 34	- 11	+ 23	+ 49
Worsted Winding and Warping ...	+ 12	- 37	- 25	- 24	- 23	- 47	- 72
Woollen Weaving ...	- 7	+ 21	+ 14	+ 292	+ 213	+ 505	+ 519
Worsted Weaving ...	+ 21	- 40	- 19	+ 8	- 1,011	- 1,003	- 1,022
Other Processes ...	+ 26	- 2	+ 24	- 59	+ 45	- 14	+ 10
TOTAL ...	+ 109	- 163	- 54	- 81	- 1,127	- 1,208	- 1,262

The imports of raw wool (sheep's or lambs') were 33,615,500 lbs., while re-exports amounted to 27,521,900 lbs. in October, 1926, compared with 24,196,500 lbs. and 10,318,500 lbs. respectively in September, 1926, and with 31,815,800 lbs. and 35,394,200 lbs. in October, 1925.

The exports of woollen and worsted yarns were 3,845,700 lbs. compared with 3,115,800 lbs. in September, 1926, and with 4,786,500 in October, 1925.

The exports of woollen and worsted tissues were 11,716,200 square yards, compared with 12,314,700 square yards in September, 1926, and 12,421,100 square yards in October, 1925.

The exports of blankets were 118,518 pairs, 91,229 pairs and 79,988 pairs in October, 1926, September, 1926, and October, 1925, respectively.

COTTON INDUSTRY.

DURING October there was some improvement in this industry, in both spinning and weaving, owing partly to improvement in coal supplies in certain districts, and partly to reductions in the price of raw material. The shortage and high cost of coal, however, continued to restrict production severely in many districts, and employment was still bad in all the principal departments, except the Egyptian spinning section, in which, with few exceptions, the mills worked full time.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 19.7 on the 25th October, 1926, as compared with 24.1 on the 20th September, 1926, and with 7.0 on the 26th October, 1925.

Employment with spinners in the Oldham, Ashton, Stockport and Stalybridge districts continued bad, and was worse than a year ago; generally speaking, half time or less continued to be worked during the month. An improvement was, however, reported at Oldham, owing to a better supply of fuel. In the manufacturing department in the Oldham district employment continued very slack; practically all the weavers were under-employed. In the Bolton district employment with spinners was reported as moderate, but as better than a month earlier; with card-room workers it was fair, but not so good as in September; in the weaving department employment remained bad. At Leigh employment with spinners was described as fair, but not so good as a month earlier. At Rochdale and at Bury continued depression was reported.

In the weaving department there was some improvement in the employment situation at Blackburn and Accrington; but under-employment still prevailed to a serious extent. At Burnley no improvement was reported, and employment was considerably worse than a year ago; many mills closed down for alternate weeks owing to shortage of coal and lack of orders. At Preston prolonged stoppages at many mills were reported during the month. At Darwen several mills were able to restart, owing to increased supplies of fuel; but the whole of the looms were not running in the mills that were open, and

under-employment remained severe. At Great Harwood the depression continued. In the Rossendale Valley about 30 per cent. of the workpeople were unemployed, and many under-employed, mostly tending only half the usual number of machines. At Nelson and Colne few of the weavers were totally unemployed, but practically the whole were under-employed, that is, tending half or three-quarters of the normal number of looms. At Padiham employment was reported as bad, and showed a further decline as compared with September. At Todmorden there was some improvement during the month; 80 per cent. of the weavers were, however, still suffering from various forms of under-employment.

In Yorkshire employment generally continued bad, with much short time; a number of firms closed down, and short time was general. Firms at Hebden Bridge, however, resumed full time owing to improved supplies of coal.

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

DEPARTMENTS.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 23rd Oct., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 23rd Oct., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Preparing ...	11,751	+ 2.7	- 3.8	18,517	+ 8.7	- 11.1
Spinning... ..	21,455	+ 2.0	- 2.3	35,582	+ 6.5	- 9.4
Weaving... ..	34,133	+ 6.8	- 7.5	55,155	+ 7.0	- 16.7
Other	7,964	- 0.3	- 6.1	18,781	+ 3.1	- 10.5
Not Specified ...	8,057	+ 4.1	- 3.0	14,100	+ 9.0	- 13.7
TOTAL	83,360	+ 4.0	- 5.1	142,135	+ 6.7	- 13.1
DISTRICTS.						
Ashton	4,146	+ 1.5	- 5.9	6,427	+ 18.4	- 17.5
Stockport, Glossop and Hyde	7,976	+ 7.0	- 0.1	13,290	+ 4.4	- 8.9
Oldham	9,769	+ 0.1	+ 0.2	17,345	+ 7.4	- 11.8
Bolton and Leigh ...	14,911	- 0.1	- 2.2	25,738	- 0.4	- 4.0
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden and Todmorden	8,147	+ 0.6	- 7.2	12,699	+ 12.8	- 20.8
Manchester	5,091	+ 8.0	+ 3.4	7,390	- 0.9	- 13.6
Preston and Chorley ...	5,987	+ 7.0	- 6.5	9,829	+ 7.2	- 12.8
Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen	8,455	+ 24.5	- 4.3	14,658	+ 32.2	- 16.0
Burnley, Padiham, Colne and Nelson	8,825	- 7.7	- 18.2	18,849	- 1.0	- 20.8
Other Lancashire Towns ...	3,274	+ 20.4	- 17.9	5,092	+ 19.2	- 17.9
Yorkshire Towns	4,326	+ 8.0	- 0.3	7,173	+ 2.9	- 8.0
Other Districts	2,453	- 0.4	+ 0.7	3,645	- 3.2	- 4.0
TOTAL	83,360	+ 4.0	- 5.1	142,135	+ 6.7	- 13.1

Returns from firms employing 80,875 workpeople in the week ended 23rd October showed that about 21½ per cent. of these workpeople were on short time in that week, with a loss of about 17 hours on the average.

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of Employment Exchanges in the principal cotton trade centres at 25th October, 1926:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding casuals) on the Register at 25th October, 1926.						
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Card and Blowing Room ...	487	1,655	2,142	1,937	7,424	9,361	11,503
Spinning ...	2,274	1,647	3,921	9,588	7,437	17,025	20,946
Beaming, Winding and Warping ...	614	1,300	1,914	2,970	10,817	13,787	15,701
Weaving ...	1,993	3,939	5,932	8,121	24,052	32,173	38,105
Other Processes	530	109	639	1,235	394	1,629	2,268
Total ...	5,898	8,650	14,548	23,851	50,124	73,975	88,523

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 20th September, 1926:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Card and Blowing Room ...	- 28	+ 30	+ 2	- 246	- 3,489	- 3,735	- 3,733
Spinning	- 150	+ 18	- 132	- 1,698	- 3,146	- 4,844	- 4,976
Beaming, Winding and Warping ...	- 25	- 317	- 342	- 63	- 2,145	- 2,208	- 2,550
Weaving	- 19	+ 945	+ 926	- 896	- 3,812	- 4,708	- 3,782
Other Processes	+ 48	+ 8	+ 56	- 99	- 27	- 126	- 70
Total	- 174	+ 684	+ 510	- 3,002	- 12,619	- 15,621	- 15,111

The imports (less re-exports) of raw cotton (including cotton linters) were 141,744,700 lbs. in October, 1926, compared with 59,994,800 lbs. in September, 1926, and with 178,051,800 lbs. in October, 1925.

The exports of cotton yarn were 13,463,100 lbs. in October, 1926, compared with 12,142,000 lbs. in September, 1926, and with 17,855,100 lbs. in October, 1925.

The exports of cotton piece goods were 307,744,700 square yards as compared with 311,686,300 square yards in the previous month, and with 366,606,600 square yards in October, 1925.

BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY.

Employment in October was again poor, and in nearly all centres short-time working remained prevalent. There was little change, on the whole, as compared either with the previous month or with October, 1925.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 12.2 on 25th October, as compared with 12.7* on 20th September and with 10.5 on 26th October, 1925.

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

	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended 23rd Oct., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 23rd Oct., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.†
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
England and Wales:—						
London	1,886	+ 0.1	- 6.4	4,142	+ 1.9	- 11.2
Leicester	8,369	- 2.3	- 0.5	17,592	- 5.8	- 7.7
Leicester Country District	2,076	- 0.6	- 2.2	4,389	- 0.8	- 0.0
Northampton... ..	6,801	- 0.5	+ 1.6	15,616	- 2.4	+ 8.2
Northampton Country District	7,987	- 0.0	- 0.5	16,983	+ 1.6	- 3.8
Kettering	3,568	+ 0.8	+ 2.2	8,189	- 2.0	- 1.7
Stafford and District ...	2,641	+ 0.5	+ 15.0	5,445	- 2.9	+ 29.6
Norwich and District ...	4,215	+ 0.6	+ 3.9	8,288	- 1.6	+ 2.2
Bristol, Kingswood and District	1,805	- 2.7	- 8.2	3,388	- 9.0	- 10.8
Leeds and District	1,769	+ 2.7	- 4.2	3,806	+ 4.2	- 3.7
Lancashire (mainly Rossendale Valley) ...	4,849	- 1.2	- 2.4	9,803	+ 1.9	- 8.7
Birmingham and District	1,040	- 0.1	+ 0.4	1,651	- 2.2	- 15.4
Other parts of England and Wales	1,748	+ 1.5	+ 3.4	3,179	- 0.3	- 8.9
England and Wales	48,754	- 0.4	+ 0.3	102,471	- 1.6	- 2.2
Scotland	2,509	+ 2.6	+ 0.8	5,289	+ 3.9	+ 1.9
Great Britain	51,263	- 0.3	+ 0.3	107,760	- 1.3	- 2.0

Returns from firms employing over 46,000 workpeople in the week ended 23rd October, 1926, showed that 45½ per cent. of these workpeople worked short time in that week, with a loss of 12¾ hours each, on an average.

Employment in London was moderate; it showed a slight improvement with some firms as compared with September, but was considerably worse on the whole than a year ago. At Leicester it showed a decline and was very slack; nearly two-thirds of the operatives were losing an average of about 18 hours each per week in short-time working. A considerable amount of short time was also worked at Northampton, nearly 57 per cent. of the operatives losing about 10 hours each on an average. At Wellingborough, although the majority of operatives worked short time, there was a slight improvement over September. At Finedon employment was bad during most of October; in the Higham and Rushden area it was poor, and slightly worse than in September; on the other hand, an improvement was reported at Raunds and at Irthlingborough. At Kettering short time continued at most factories.

At Stafford employment was moderate; a little more short time was worked than in September, but compared with a year ago there was a marked improvement. A large number of women were on short time at Norwich, but a slight improvement was reported with male operatives. Employment declined in the Bristol and Kingswood area, and was worse than in October of last year, most of the operatives being on short time; some firms, however, were working fairly regularly. Employment was also bad at Street. At Leeds, on the other hand, there was a slight improvement, in which firms supplying the heavier types of footwear shared. Employment was generally moderate in the Rossendale Valley, but at Bacup there was a slight improvement, and some large firms were fairly well occupied.

In Scotland there was a fairly general improvement, and employment was fair in most of the principal districts.

* Revised figure.

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

The following Table shows the number of men and of women (other than casuals) on the registers of employment exchanges in the principal centres of the boot and shoe industry at 25th October, 1926:—

1926.

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 25th October, 1926.						Total.
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Boot and Shoe Manu- facture :							
Preparing Depart- ment	95	20	115	87	20	107	222
Rough Stuff De- partment	399	14	413	202	7	209	622
Clicking Department	663	2	665	835	29	864	1,529
Closing Department	10	771	781	11	1,098	1,109	1,890
Making Department	1,779	48	1,827	1,412	25	1,437	3,264
Finishing Depart- ment	1,097	414	1,511	859	214	1,073	2,584
Slipper Making ...	200	33	233	716	417	1,133	1,366
Clog Making...	27	2	29	1	1	2	31
Repairing and Hand- sewn Work ...	468	3	471	47	2	49	520
TOTAL	4,738	1,307	6,045	4,170	1,813	5,983	12,028

The exports of boots and shoes in October, 1926, amounted to 125,745 dozen pairs, or 5,903 dozen pairs more than in September, 1926, but 159 dozen pairs less than in October, 1925.

PAPER MANUFACTURE, PRINTING, AND BOOKBINDING.

EMPLOYMENT in the paper trade during October was moderate on the whole, and worse than in the previous month. Full time was worked in certain districts, but employment was generally affected by the shortage of fuel, and a good deal of short time or irregular working was reported.

With letterpress printers, employment was again moderate on the whole. At Manchester and Birmingham it was still bad and at Glasgow slack, and at the two last named centres it was reported as worse than in the previous month. With electrotypers and stereotypers employment was generally good.

In the lithographic printing trade employment was fair on the whole; it was, however, reported as bad, and worse than in September, at Manchester, and some short time was worked at this and several other large centres. With lithographic artists employment was again moderate in London and slack at Manchester.

Employment in the bookbinding trade remained about the same as in September, and was worse than during October, 1925.

The percentage unemployed among insured workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts in the printing and book-binding trades was 5.5 at 25th October, compared with 5.7* at 20th September and 4.2 at 26th October, 1925. In the paper and paper board industry, the percentage was 12.3 at 25th October, compared with 7.4* at 20th September and 5.9 at 26th October, 1925. In the cardboard box, paper-bag and stationery trades, the percentage was 5.4 at 25th October, compared with 5.8* at 20th September and 4.7 at 26th October, 1925.

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

	No. of Members of Unions at end of October, 1926.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) on a	
		Oct., 1926.	Sept., 1926.	Oct., 1925.	Month before.	Year before.
Letterpress Printing:						
London ...	41,770	5.4	5.5	2.4	— 0.1	+ 3.0
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire.	18,309	4.5	5.4	2.6	— 0.9	+ 1.9
Midland and Eastern Counties.	12,791	2.9	2.9	2.0	...	+ 0.9
Scotland ...	7,705	6.3	5.5	2.4	+ 0.8	+ 3.9
Other Districts ...	12,730	4.0	4.1	2.2	— 0.1	+ 1.8
Total ...	93,305	4.8	5.0	2.4	— 0.2	+ 2.4
Lithographic Printing	10,594	3.7	3.8	2.9	— 0.1	+ 0.8
Bookbinding ...	23,020	4.7	4.8	2.6	— 0.1	+ 2.1

BUILDING TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT showed a further slight decline during October; it was fairly good with skilled operatives, other than painters, and moderate, on the whole, with unskilled workers. It was again adversely affected in some districts by a shortage of materials arising out of the continued stoppage in the coal-mining industry.

As regards individual occupations, employment remained very good generally with plasterers, and a shortage of this class of labour was reported in a number of towns; employment declined somewhat with carpenters and bricklayers, but was fairly good, on the whole; there was also a slight decline with masons, and employment was quiet at most centres; it continued fair with plumbers and fairly good with slaters. There was a further general seasonal decline with

* Revised figures.

painters and employment remained slack; it continued generally moderate with tradesmen's labourers.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts who were unemployed at 25th October, 1926, together with the increase or decrease in the percentages as compared with the previous month and with October, 1925:—

OCCUPATIONS.	Estimated Number of Insured Workpeople at July, 1926.	Total Number Unemployed at 25th Oct., 1926.	Number included in previous Column who were Temporarily Stopped.	Percentage Unemployed.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in percentage as compared with	
					A Month before.	A Year before.
Carpenters ...	126,460	7,003	488	5.5	+ 0.8	+ 2.8
Bricklayers ...	72,150	3,717	634	5.2	+ 1.0	+ 3.6
Masons ...	25,240	1,729	228	6.9	+ 1.6	+ 3.5
Slaters ...	5,710	304	23	5.3	— 0.1	+ 1.5
Plasterers ...	19,720	363	28	1.8	+ 0.3	+ 0.7
Painters ...	112,930	20,030	794	17.7	+ 4.1	+ 0.6
Plumbers ...	31,860	2,263	143	7.1	— 0.1	+ 1.5
Labourers to above ...	245,860	32,443	1,906	13.2	+ 1.2	+ 1.8
All other occupations ...	161,110	24,512	1,763	15.2	+ 0.8	+ 1.9
Total ...	801,040	92,364	6,007	11.5	+ 1.3	+ 1.8
DIVISIONS.						
London ...	162,020	18,678	28	11.5	+ 2.1	— 0.1
South-Eastern ...	123,470	6,173	46	5.0	+ 0.8	— 0.2
South-Western ...	98,750	7,866	156	8.0	+ 1.1	+ 1.0
Midlands ...	91,230	9,739	1,680	10.7	+ 0.3	+ 3.1
North-Eastern ...	103,190	16,252	2,009	15.7	+ 1.7	+ 4.8
North-Western ...	104,350	14,046	1,123	13.5	+ 0.8	+ 2.6
Scotland ...	73,690	9,494	520	12.9	+ 2.6	+ 1.8
Wales ...	29,310	5,816	434	19.8	+ 2.3	+ 7.2
Northern Ireland ...	15,030	4,300	11	28.6	+ 0.4	+ 1.8
Great Britain and Northern Ireland ...	801,040	92,364	6,007	11.5	+ 1.3	+ 1.8

The above Tables show the new estimates for July, 1926, of the numbers of insured persons in the various building industry occupations. A comparison between these figures and those for July, 1925, is shown in the following Table:—

Changes in the Estimated Numbers Insured, July, 1925–July, 1926.

Occupations.	Estimated insured July, 1925.		Estimated insured July, 1926.		Increase (+) or Decrease (—).	
	Number.	Percentage of industry total.	Number.	Percentage of industry total.	Number.	Percentage of 1925 occupational figure.
Carpenters ...	114,030	15.1	126,460	15.8	+ 12,430	+ 10.9
Bricklayers ...	65,120	8.6	72,150	9.0	+ 7,030	+ 10.8
Masons ...	23,840	3.2	25,240	3.2	+ 1,400	+ 5.9
Slaters ...	5,310	0.7	5,710	0.7	+ 400	+ 7.5
Plasterers ...	17,880	2.4	19,720	2.5	+ 1,840	+ 10.3
Painters ...	108,590	14.4	112,930	14.1	+ 4,340	+ 4.0
Plumbers ...	28,610	3.8	31,860	3.9	+ 3,250	+ 11.3
Labourers to above ...	229,210	30.4	245,860	30.7	+ 16,650	+ 7.3
All other occupations ...	161,530	21.4	161,110	20.1	— 420	— 0.03
Total ...	754,120	100.0	801,040	100.0	+ 46,920	+ 6.2

It will be seen that there are important increases in four of the principal skilled occupations, viz., carpenters, bricklayers, plasterers and plumbers. The percentage increase in the number of slaters is also slightly above the average for the industry as a whole, while painters show an increase of less than that average. The last-mentioned occupation represented a smaller proportion of the whole industry at July, 1926, than at July, 1925, while each of the four first mentioned represents a higher proportion of the industry as a whole.

BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

Returns from Local Authorities in 142 of the principal urban areas in Great Britain (except the London County Council area), with a total population of 16,061,000, show that in October, 1926, plans were passed for buildings of an estimated cost of £4,693,100, as compared with £5,914,200 in September, 1926, and £5,880,800 in October, 1925. Of the total for October, 1926, dwelling-houses accounted for £3,209,400; factories and workshops for £196,300; shops, offices, warehouses and other business premises for £364,700; and other buildings, and additions and alterations to existing buildings, for £922,700.

BRICK TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT during October continued to be adversely affected by the shortage of coal. Short time was still worked in many districts. In the Peterborough district, employment continued good.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed in the brick, pipe, tile, etc., trades, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 18.9 at 25th October, 1926, as compared with 17.8* at 20th September, 1926, and 7.4 at 26th October, 1925.

* Revised figures.

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

Districts.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 23rd Oct., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 23rd Oct., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.*
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire.	1,630	Per cent. - 4.7	Per cent. - 15.8	£ 4,384	Per cent. + 5.5	Per cent. - 9.9
Midlands and Eastern Counties.	5,135	+ 2.8	- 2.7	14,208	+ 1.2	+ 4.0
South and South-West Counties and Wales.	1,147	- 3.4	- 30.6	2,914	- 3.6	- 34.1
Scotland	87	+ 1.2	- 55.2	246	...	- 51.4
TOTAL	7,999	+ 0.3	- 11.7	21,752	+ 1.3	- 7.3

Returns from employers relative to short time working showed that of 7,653 workpeople employed by firms furnishing information, 415, or 5 per cent., were working, on an average, 11 hours less than full time in the week ended 23rd October, 1926.

POTTERY TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in North Staffordshire showed a further improvement as a consequence of increased fuel supplies, and some sections were well employed. At Worcester also employment improved, but at Derby, Bristol and in the stoneware section in Scotland employment continued slack.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 20.9 at 25th October, 1926, as compared with 30.5 at 20th September, 1926, and 13.9 at 26th October, 1925.

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

BRANCHES.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 23rd Oct., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 23rd Oct., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
China Manufacture ...	1,238	+ 5.7	- 11.6	£ 2,490	+ 9.2	+ 0.6
Earthenware Manufacture ...	7,978	+ 6.2	- 11.9	15,748	+ 16.4	- 9.9
Other Branches (including unspecified) ...	1,855	+ 0.5	- 1.2	3,670	+ 0.4	- 0.7
TOTAL	11,071	+ 5.2	- 10.3	21,908	+ 12.5	- 7.4
DISTRICTS.						
North Staffordshire ...	9,021	+ 6.3	- 6.9	16,820	+ 16.8	- 3.5
Other Districts	2,050	+ 0.5	- 22.8	5,088	+ 0.4	- 18.3
TOTAL	11,071	+ 5.2	- 10.3	21,908	+ 12.5	- 7.4

Returns from employers relative to short-time working showed that of 10,353 workpeople employed by firms furnishing information, 3,001, or 29 per cent., were working on an average about 9 hours less than full time in the week ended 23rd October, 1926.

SEAMEN.

DURING October employment continued slack on the whole, and was worse than in September. A declining tendency was noticeable towards the end of the month, particularly at the liner ports. Among insured workpeople in the shipping service the percentage unemployed at 25th October, 1926, was 20.7, compared with 18.8 at 20th September, 1926, and 20.5 at 26th October, 1925.

The demand for men on the Thames was brisk in the first half of October, but declined later. It was very quiet on the Tyne, except in the lower reaches, where there was increased activity. The demand was insignificant on the Wear and generally slack on the Tees. It was quiet at Hull until the close of the month, when an improvement occurred. The demand at Southampton remained fairly brisk until the latter part of the month, when there was a substantial falling-off. It was again moderate at Bristol and moderate to fair at Avonmouth. At Newport the demand was negligible, and at Cardiff it was generally fair, but declined in the last week of October. It continued quiet to fair at Swansea. In the foreign-going trade on the Mersey the demand was fairly good until the last week of the month, when it declined. It was again fairly brisk at Manchester. The demand on the Clyde was moderate to fair. It was quiet at Leith and brisk on the whole at Belfast.

The following Table shows the number of seamen shipped in

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

British registered foreign-going vessels at the undermentioned ports of Great Britain and Northern Ireland during October :—

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in				
	Oct., 1926.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Ten months ended	
		Month before.	Year before.	Oct., 1926.	Oct., 1925.
ENGLAND & WALES :					
Liverpool†	11,714	— 2,829	— 669	119,042	126,536
Manchester	1,185	— 387	+ 225	9,755	8,567
London	10,879	— 1,273	+ 2,281	96,313	80,918
Southampton... ..	10,927	— 2,545	+ 143	105,054	99,298
Tyne Ports	1,168	+ 355	— 1,227	13,664	20,608
Sunderland	53	— 123	— 449	1,719	3,072
Middlesbrough ...	312	— 136	— 48	3,426	3,877
Hull	1,497	— 400	+ 360	14,618	14,577
Bristol†	1,194	— 411	+ 11	11,535	10,991
Newport, Mon. ...	72	— 129	— 704	5,462	7,877
Cardiff§	917	— 242	— 1,376	15,740	24,458
Swansea	612	+ 185	— 507	6,898	7,024
SCOTLAND :					
Leith	334	— 44	— 80	3,469	3,661
Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth ...	89	— 239	— 203	2,885	3,483
Glasgow	3,668	— 964	— 164	31,727	31,579
NORTHERN IRELAND :					
Belfast	448	+ 163	+ 195	1,943	1,833
TOTAL for above Ports	45,069	— 9,019	— 2,212	443,250	448,359

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT during October remained generally slack.

Among insured workpeople in the canal, river, harbour and dock service, 32.0 per cent. were unemployed at 25th October, 1926, as compared with 32.2 per cent. at 20th September, 1926, and with 30.0 per cent. at 26th October, 1925.

London.—The following Table shows the average daily number of dock labourers employed at docks and wharves in respect of which returns were received for each week of the month.

Period.	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London.				
	In Docks.			At Wharves making Returns.	Total Docks and Principal Wharves.
	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, etc.	Total.		
Week ended—					
2nd October, 1926	5,426	1,582	7,008	7,807	14,815
9th " ...	4,939	1,857	6,796	7,720	14,516
16th " ...	4,838	1,819	6,657	7,891	14,548
23rd " ...	4,462	2,307	6,769	8,359	15,128
30th " ...	4,469	1,836	6,305	7,897	14,202
Average for 5 weeks ended 30th October, 1926	4,827	1,880	6,707	7,935	14,642
Average for Sept., 1926	4,934	1,833	6,767	7,594	14,361
Average for Oct., 1925	5,123	2,020	7,143	8,102	15,245

Tilbury.—The average daily number of dock labourers employed during October was 1,182, compared with 1,043 in September, and with 1,103 in October, 1925.

East Coast.—Employment was still generally bad at the North-East coast ports, although there was a small improvement on the Tyne, due to increased coal imports. On the Humber and at the East Anglian ports employment was mainly fair.

Liverpool.—Employment was still quiet, but again showed a slight improvement. The average weekly number of dock labourers registered at the clearing houses under the Liverpool Docks scheme as employed in the five weeks ended 29th October was 15,964, compared with 15,212 in September, and with 16,749 in October, 1925. The average weekly amount of wages paid to these men through the clearing houses was £45,218 in the five weeks ended 29th October, compared with £42,692 in September, and with £48,724 in October, 1925.

Other Ports in England and Wales.—Employment at the South Wales ports remained slack, though the importation of coal continued to provide work at Cardiff, Newport and Swansea. At Bristol and Avonmouth there was an improvement. Employment was fair at Southampton. It showed a slight improvement, though still described as slack, at Plymouth and other south-western ports.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—A substantial amount of employment was provided at Leith, Glasgow, Ardrossan, Grangemouth and Bo'ness by imports of coal. Employment was good at Dundee on jute imports. At Belfast employment declined.

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

† Including Birkenhead and Garston.

‡ Including Avonmouth and Portishead.

§ Including Barry and Penarth.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED INDUSTRIES.

The statistics here presented show, industry by industry, the estimated number of persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, the number and percentage of such persons who were unemployed on the 25th October, 1926 (exclusive of persons in the coal-mining industry who ceased work on account of the dispute), and the increase or decrease at that date in the total percentages unemployed compared with a month earlier, a year ago, and two years ago, respectively.

The Unemployment Insurance Acts provide, subject to certain exceptions, for the compulsory insurance against unemployment of substantially all employed persons. The principal classes of persons who are excepted from such compulsory insurance are juveniles under 16 years of age, persons employed otherwise than by way of manual labour at a rate of remuneration exceeding in value £250 per annum, persons employed in agriculture and private domestic service, and outworkers. Persons employed by local public authorities, railways and certain other public utility undertakings, members of the police forces, and persons with rights under a statutory superannuation scheme may, in certain circumstances, also be excepted.

An unemployment book, on which is recorded, *inter alia*, the industry in which he is employed, is issued to every insured person, and this book must be lodged at an Employment Exchange whenever the insured person to whom it relates makes a claim for unemployment benefit, or, without claiming benefit, ceases to be employed in an insured trade. The book must be removed and deposited with the employer for stamping as soon as employment in an insured trade is resumed.

Insured persons who are disqualified for the receipt of unemployment benefit under the trade dispute disqualification are not included in the numbers unemployed, unless they are definitely maintaining registration for other employment.

The files of "lodged" books at the Employment Exchanges thus furnish for each industrial group a record of the unemployment of insured persons. In arriving at this figure the books of those persons who are known to be working in an uninsured trade, or to be sick or deceased, or who are known to have emigrated or gone

abroad, are of course excluded. In cases where information on these points is lacking the books remain in the "lodged" files, and are included in the statistics of unemployment, for a period of two months from the date on which the insured person was last in touch with the Employment Exchange.

This last item determines in the main the difference between the total number of unemployed persons given in the following Table and the figure given on page 413 showing the total number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges. The difference would be greater were it not that this latter figure includes uninsured persons who are maintaining registration. These do not appear in the figures of "books lodged," which relate solely to insured persons.

The statistics of unemployment in insured industries are presented in two separate Tables, one showing the numbers recorded as unemployed, and the other showing the estimated number insured and the percentages unemployed.

Each of these Tables gives an analysis of the figures, distinguishing between persons who are wholly unemployed (in the sense that they are definitely without a job) and those who are temporarily stopped or suspended from the service of an employer. The figures under the heading "temporary stoppages" include those persons recorded as unemployed on the date of the return who were either on short time or were otherwise stood off or suspended on the definite understanding that they were to return to their former employment within a period of six weeks from the date of suspension. In cases where there was no definite prospect of return within six weeks the individuals have been included in the statistics as "wholly unemployed." The only exception to this rule arises in the small number of cases where, although the expectation of resumption within the six weeks' period was not realised, a definite date for resumption of work had nevertheless been fixed. In such cases the individuals concerned have been included under the heading "temporary stoppages." The figures given in the grand total columns in both Tables are strictly comparable with the corresponding figures published each month since July, 1923.

NUMBERS OF INSURED PERSONS RECORDED AS UNEMPLOYED AT 25TH OCTOBER, 1926.

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.									GREAT BRITAIN ONLY.		
	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED.			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.			WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED, TEMPORARY STOPPAGES, AND CASUALS.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Fishing ...	5,377	45	5,422	214	5	219	5,591	50	5,641	5,566	49	5,615
Mining:—												
Coal Mining* ...	105,438	646	106,084	...	...	...	105,438	646	106,084	105,391	646	106,037
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining and Quarrying ...	2,979	...	2,979	6,806	2	6,808	9,785	2	9,787	9,762	2	9,764
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining ...	741	...	741	32	...	32	773	...	773	773	...	773
Stone Quarrying and Mining ...	3,394	12	3,406	2,690	3	2,693	6,084	15	6,099	5,643	15	5,658
Slate Quarrying and Mining ...	189	2	191	15	...	15	204	2	206	203	2	205
Other Mining and Quarrying ...	2,208	49	2,257	1,093	30	1,123	3,301	79	3,380	3,164	77	3,241
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pit Digging ...	817	16	833	406	9	415	1,223	25	1,248	1,190	25	1,215
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products:—												
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	3,527	15	3,542	4,971	2	4,973	8,498	17	8,515	8,496	17	8,513
Artificial Stone and Concrete Manufacture ...	2,115	64	2,179	987	31	1,018	3,102	95	3,197	3,088	95	3,183
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting Works ...	1,013	34	1,047	554	21	575	1,567	55	1,622	1,467	55	1,522
Brick, Tile, etc., Making ...	6,977	945	7,922	6,691	1,077	7,768	13,668	2,022	15,690	13,348	2,022	15,370
Pottery, Earthenware, etc. ...	2,971	3,442	6,413	4,232	4,763	8,995	7,203	8,205	15,408	7,173	8,202	15,375
Glass Trades:—												
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scientific Glass) Manufacture ...	2,073	293	2,366	2,035	173	2,208	4,108	466	4,574	4,101	466	4,567
Glass Bottle Making ...	2,971	211	3,182	2,182	272	2,454	5,153	483	5,636	5,149	483	5,632
Ammunition Explosives, Chemicals, etc.:—												
Chemicals Manufacture ...	6,800	753	7,553	3,537	276	3,813	10,337	1,029	11,366	10,192	1,027	11,219
Explosives Manufacture ...	1,283	591	1,874	314	262	576	1,597	853	2,450	1,592	853	2,445
Paint, Varnish, Japan, Red and White Lead Manufacture ...	687	193	880	226	30	256	913	223	1,136	912	223	1,135
Oil, Grease, Glue, Soap, Ink, Match, etc., Manufacture ...	4,727	945	5,672	1,201	167	1,368	5,928	1,112	7,040	5,888	1,100	6,988
Metal Manufacture:—												
Pig Iron Manufacture (Blast Furnaces)	4,684	35	4,719	10,696	25	10,721	15,380	60	15,440	15,374	60	15,434
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling Furnaces, Iron and Steel Rolling Mills and Forges ...	29,828	258	30,086	72,427	321	72,748	102,255	579	102,834	102,221	579	102,800
Manufacture of Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc. ...	4,678	229	4,907	2,908	61	2,969	7,586	290	7,876	7,354	289	7,643
Manufacture of Tin Plates ...	2,377	143	2,520	12,260	1,597	13,857	14,637	1,740	16,377	14,637	1,740	16,377
Iron and Steel Tube Making ...	2,488	119	2,607	4,473	27	4,500	6,961	146	7,107	6,957	146	7,103
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Rope Manufacture ...	1,902	329	2,231	2,821	169	2,990	4,723	498	5,221	4,712	498	5,210
Engineering, etc.:—												
General Engineering: Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding ...	66,697	1,659	68,356	41,423	955	42,378	108,120	2,614	110,734	106,315	2,609	108,924
Electrical Engineering ...	3,415	735	4,150	913	379	1,292	4,328	1,114	5,442	4,310	1,114	5,424
Marine Engineering, etc. ...	16,631	22	16,653	1,829	28	1,857	18,460	50	18,510	16,232	49	16,281
Constructional Engineering ...	4,056	46	4,102	2,777	10	2,787	6,833	56	6,889	6,824	56	6,880
Construction and Repair of Vehicles:—												
Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft ...	17,821	1,357	19,178	3,645	331	3,976	21,466	1,688	23,154	21,234	1,684	22,918
Construction and Repair of Carriages, Carts, etc. ...	2,118	151	2,269	596	78	674	2,714	229	2,943	2,631	229	2,860
Railway Carriage, Wagon and Tram-car Building ...	4,393	43	4,436	7,653	58	7,711	12,046	101	12,147	12,028	101	12,129

* The figures are exclusive of persons in the coal-mining industry who ceased work on account of the dispute which commenced on 1st May, 1926.

INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.									GREAT BRITAIN ONLY.		
	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.			WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED, TEMPORARY STOPPAGES, AND CASUALS.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ...	99,196	247	99,443	4,016	20	4,036	103,212	267	103,479	96,988	255	97,243
Metal Trades :—												
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding ...	7,860	481	8,341	6,408	213	6,621	14,268	694	14,962	14,153	694	14,847
Electrical Wiring and Contracting ...	1,206	38	1,244	106	2	108	1,312	40	1,352	1,291	40	1,331
Electrical Cable, Wire and Electric Lamp Manufacture ...	3,547	1,931	5,478	637	388	1,025	4,184	2,319	6,503	4,175	2,319	6,494
Hand Tool, Cutlery, Saw, File Making ...	2,645	673	3,318	3,330	378	3,708	5,975	1,051	7,026	5,968	1,051	7,019
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc., Manufacture ...	1,452	1,094	2,546	2,086	1,209	3,295	3,538	2,303	5,841	3,535	2,303	5,838
Brass and Allied Metal Wares Manufacture ...	1,801	910	2,711	419	410	829	2,220	1,320	3,540	2,212	1,320	3,532
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus ...	342	22	364	97	7	104	439	29	468	437	29	466
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc., Manufacture ...	1,827	1,142	2,969	649	281	930	2,476	1,423	3,899	2,449	1,423	3,872
Other Metal Industries ...	9,841	5,387	15,228	5,007	2,777	7,784	14,848	8,164	23,012	14,672	8,164	22,836
Textile Trades :—												
Cotton ...	9,801	14,857	24,658	29,004	60,174	89,178	38,805	75,031	113,836	38,799	75,027	113,826
Woolen and Worsted ...	5,378	5,515	10,893	11,853	18,779	30,632	17,231	24,294	41,525	17,102	24,234	41,336
Silk ...	787	902	1,689	892	2,687	3,579	1,679	3,589	5,268	1,679	3,589	5,268
Linen ...	4,546	10,251	14,797	1,899	4,863	6,762	6,445	15,114	21,559	907	2,380	3,287
Jute ...	1,776	2,614	4,390	641	1,575	2,216	2,417	4,189	6,606	2,416	4,189	6,605
Hemp Spinning and Weaving, Rope, Cord, Twine, etc., Making ...	696	1,289	1,985	391	928	1,319	1,087	2,217	3,304	898	1,809	2,707
Hosiery ...	633	2,994	3,627	983	6,076	7,059	1,616	9,070	10,686	1,580	8,918	10,498
Lace ...	552	381	933	939	807	1,746	1,491	1,188	2,679	1,490	1,188	2,678
Carpet Manufacture ...	512	571	1,083	645	1,634	2,279	1,157	2,205	3,362	1,157	2,204	3,361
Other Textile Industries ...	974	2,443	3,417	442	1,586	2,028	1,416	4,029	5,445	1,315	3,537	4,852
Textile, Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc. ...	4,293	1,407	5,700	15,462	5,128	20,590	19,755	6,535	26,290	19,109	6,065	25,174
Leather and Leather Goods :—												
Tanning, Currying and Dressing ...	2,269	414	2,683	1,186	225	1,411	3,455	639	4,094	3,452	638	4,090
Saddlery, Harness and other Leather Goods Manufacture ...	1,216	513	1,729	324	405	729	1,540	918	2,458	1,512	914	2,426
Clothing Trades :—												
Tailoring ...	5,781	5,691	11,472	2,194	13,282	15,476	7,975	18,973	26,948	7,281	18,693	25,974
Dress and Mantle Making and Millinery ...	628	3,669	4,297	74	1,865	1,939	702	5,534	6,236	684	5,264	5,948
Hat and Cap (including Straw Plait) Manufacture ...	699	1,134	1,833	425	679	1,104	1,124	1,813	2,937	1,121	1,811	2,932
Blouses, Shirts, Collars, Underclothing, etc., Making ...	433	2,525	2,958	55	2,845	2,900	488	5,370	5,858	350	3,427	3,777
Other Dress Industries ...	661	477	1,138	163	520	683	824	997	1,821	814	988	1,802
Boot, Shoe, Slipper and Clog Trades	7,038	2,390	9,428	5,523	2,819	8,342	12,561	5,209	17,770	12,376	5,203	17,579
Food, Drink and Tobacco :—												
Bread, Biscuit, Cake, etc., Making ...	8,437	2,806	11,243	575	421	996	9,012	3,227	12,239	8,297	3,066	11,363
Grain Milling ...	1,913	187	2,100	375	49	424	2,288	236	2,524	2,192	227	2,419
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery ...	1,846	2,121	3,967	385	3,954	4,339	2,231	6,075	8,306	2,211	6,059	8,270
Other Food Industries ...	4,340	4,638	8,978	567	858	1,425	4,907	5,496	10,403	4,791	5,421	10,212
Drink Industries ...	5,474	1,849	7,323	320	487	807	5,794	2,336	8,130	5,265	2,292	7,557
Tobacco, Cigar, Cigarette and Snuff Manufacture ...	628	976	1,604	23	244	267	651	1,220	1,871	567	1,085	1,652
Sawmilling, Furniture and Woodwork :—												
Sawmilling and Machined Woodwork ...	5,096	187	5,283	763	90	853	5,859	277	6,136	5,673	277	5,950
Wood Box and Packing Case Making ...	1,442	156	1,598	383	110	493	1,825	266	2,091	1,751	266	2,017
Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc. ...	5,792	849	6,641	605	264	869	6,397	1,113	7,510	6,255	1,100	7,355
Other Woodworking ...	1,890	429	2,319	554	261	815	2,444	690	3,134	2,311	666	2,977
Printing and Paper Trades :—												
Paper and Paper Board Making ...	1,862	569	2,431	3,087	1,377	4,464	4,949	1,946	6,895	4,728	1,864	6,592
Cardboard Boxes, Paper Bags and Stationery ...	1,058	1,231	2,289	132	635	767	1,190	1,866	3,056	1,162	1,810	2,972
Wall Paper Making and Paper Staining ...	130	49	179	9	20	29	139	69	208	138	69	207
Stationery and Typewriting Requisites (not paper) ...	140	103	243	19	19	38	159	122	281	158	122	280
Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding	8,970	3,662	12,632	531	694	1,225	9,501	4,356	13,857	9,276	4,230	13,506
Building and Construction of Works :—												
Building ...	86,192	165	86,357	5,985	22	6,007	92,177	187	92,364	87,882	182	88,064
Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	34,493	35	34,528	1,777	...	1,777	36,270	35	36,305	34,503	33	34,536
Other Manufacturing Industries :—												
Rubber Manufacture ...	2,995	1,856	4,851	2,383	2,742	5,125	5,378	4,598	9,976	5,374	4,596	9,970
Oilcloth, Linoleum, etc., Manufacture ...	553	72	625	3,422	416	3,838	3,975	488	4,463	3,971	487	4,458
Brush and Broom Making ...	570	248	818	324	263	587	894	511	1,405	864	511	1,375
Scientific and Photographic Instrument and Apparatus Manufacture ...	477	229	706	51	116	167	528	345	873	521	343	864
Musical Instrument Making ...	1,207	116	1,323	181	8	189	1,388	124	1,512	1,379	124	1,503
Toys, Games, and Sports Requisites Manufacture ...	383	283	666	87	69	156	470	352	822	466	351	817
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply Industries ...	10,412	151	10,563	932	16	948	11,344	167	11,511	10,848	155	11,003
Transport and Communication :—												
Railway Service ...	12,054	293	12,347	7,740	33	7,773	19,794	326	20,120	19,484	323	19,807
Tramway and Omnibus Service ...	5,071	258	5,329	804	57	861	5,875	315	6,190	5,815	314	6,129
Other Road Transport ...	22,517	187	22,704	1,885	10	1,895	24,402	197	24,599	23,453	196	23,649
Shipping Service ...	25,281	278	25,559	1,161	11	1,172	26,442	289	26,731	25,695	285	25,980
Canal, River, Dock and Harbour Service ...	55,311	123	55,434	5,106	44	5,150	60,417	167	60,584	59,260	166	59,426
Other Transport and Communication and Storage ...	2,787	129	2,916	74	6	80	2,861	135	2,996	2,829	135	2,964
Distributive Trades ...	67,662	27,423	95,085	6,150	4,805	10,955	73,812	32,228	106,040	70,408	31,596	102,004
Commerce, Banking, Insurance and Finance ...	5,826	1,005	6,831	167	47	214	5,993	1,052	7,045	5,820	1,034	6,854
Miscellaneous Trades and Services :—												
National Government ...	9,441	923	10,364	335	64	399	9,776	987	10,763	8,737	919	9,656
Local Government ...	23,044	635	23,679	1,532	39	1,571	24,576	674	25,250	23,313	668	23,981
Professional Services ...	2,616	887	3,503	185	43	228	2,801	930	3,731	2,719	913	3,632
Entertainments and Sports ...	5,271	1,780	7,051	153	85	238	5,424	1,865	7,289	5,264	1,844	7,108
Hotel, Boarding House, Club Services ...	11,847	18,976	30,823	243	392	635	12,090	19,368	31,458	11,760	19,114	30,874
Laundries, Dyeing and Dry Cleaning ...	1,266	3,767	5,033	52	852	904	1,318	4,619	5,937	1,283	4,397	5,680
Other Industries and Services ...	24,857	1,503	26,360	1,064	567	1,631	25,921	2,070	27,991	25,078	2,022	27,100
TOTAL ...	956,916	166,478	1,123,394†	348,578	163,914	512,492	1,305,494	330,392	1,635,886*	1,265,350	311,451	1,576,801

* The figures are exclusive of persons in the coal-mining industry who ceased work on account of the dispute which commenced on 1st May.
† Including 82,264 Casuals (Males 81,486, Females 778).

NUMBERS INSURED AND PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED.

GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.																
INDUSTRY.	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS AT JULY, 1926.			PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 25TH OCTOBER, 1926.									INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN TOTAL PERCENTAGES AS COMPARED WITH			GREAT BRITAIN ONLY. TOTAL PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 25TH OCT., 1926.
				WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.						
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.	20TH SEP., 1926.	26TH OCT., 1925.	27TH OCT., 1924.	
Fishing	26,090	880	26,970	20.6	5.1	20.1	0.8	0.6	0.8	21.4	5.7	20.9	+ 2.2	+11.6	+10.3	21.0
Mining:—	1,220,550	7,320	1,227,870	8.6	8.8	8.6	...	...	...	8.6	8.8	8.6	- 0.2	-11.3	- 1.7	8.6
Coal Mining*	15,280	40	15,320	19.5	...	19.4	44.5	5.0	44.5	64.0	5.0	63.9	+ 1.3	+37.2	+41.8	64.2
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining and Quarrying	5,250	40	5,290	14.1	...	14.0	0.6	...	0.6	14.7	...	14.6	- 3.0	+ 3.8	- 2.5	14.6
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining	40,820	330	41,150	8.3	3.6	8.3	6.6	0.9	6.5	14.9	4.5	14.8	+ 1.1	+ 7.5	+ 9.6	14.1
Stone Quarrying and Mining	10,860	10	10,870	1.7	20.0	1.8	0.2	...	0.1	1.9	20.0	1.9	- 0.1	- 0.1	+ 0.7	1.9
Slate Quarrying and Mining	17,920	1,630	19,550	12.3	3.0	11.5	6.1	1.8	5.8	18.4	4.8	17.3	- 0.5	+10.6	+10.9	17.0
Other Mining and Quarrying	14,960	170	15,130	5.5	9.4	5.5	2.7	5.3	2.7	8.2	14.7	8.2	+ 2.0	+ 4.6	+ 3.8	8.1
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pit Digging	11,560	160	11,720	30.5	9.4	30.2	43.0	1.2	42.5	73.5	10.6	72.7	+ 0.9	+55.5	+59.9	72.6
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products:—	15,230	1,230	16,460	13.9	5.2	13.2	6.5	2.5	6.2	20.4	7.7	19.4	+ 1.0	+ 4.2	+ 0.9	19.4
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	17,970	950	18,920	5.6	3.6	5.5	3.1	2.2	3.1	8.7	5.8	8.6	+ 2.3	+ 5.1	+ 0.8	8.2
Artificial Stone and Concrete Manufacture	75,230	7,680	82,910	9.3	12.3	9.6	8.9	14.0	9.3	18.2	26.3	18.9	+ 1.1	+11.5	+11.1	18.8
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting Works	35,220	38,590	73,810	8.4	8.9	8.7	12.1	12.4	12.2	20.5	21.3	20.9	- 9.6	+ 7.0	+10.0	20.9
Brick, Tile, etc., Making	21,320	5,270	26,590	9.7	5.6	8.9	9.6	3.2	8.3	19.3	8.8	17.2	+ 1.5	+ 6.8	+ 3.5	17.2
Glass Trades:—	15,910	2,100	18,010	18.7	10.0	17.7	13.7	13.0	13.6	32.4	23.0	31.3	- 5.4	+ 6.1	+ 6.0	31.3
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scientific Glass) Manufacture	72,680	21,850	94,530	9.4	3.4	8.0	4.8	1.3	4.0	14.2	4.7	12.0	- 0.4	+ 2.2	+ 3.0	11.9
Glass Bottle Making	12,520	6,070	18,590	10.2	9.7	10.1	2.6	4.4	3.1	12.8	14.1	13.2	- 0.9	+ 5.5	+ 4.4	13.2
Ammunition Explosives, Chemicals, etc.:—	13,450	3,900	17,350	5.1	4.9	5.1	1.7	0.8	1.4	6.8	5.7	6.5	+ 0.7	+ 1.5	+ 1.6	6.5
Chemicals Manufacture	59,550	20,850	80,400	7.9	4.5	7.1	2.1	0.8	1.7	10.0	5.3	8.8	+ 0.1	+ 2.1	+ 1.4	8.7
Explosives Manufacture	24,210	280	24,490	19.3	12.5	19.3	44.2	8.9	43.7	63.5	21.4	63.0	- 4.8	+41.6	+45.7	63.1
Paint, Varnish, Japan, Red and White Lead Manufacture	189,980	3,870	193,850	15.7	6.7	15.5	38.1	8.3	37.5	53.8	15.0	53.0	+ 0.7	+28.7	+29.5	53.1
Oil, Grease, Glue, Soap, Ink, Match, etc., Manufacture	39,120	3,370	42,490	12.0	6.8	11.5	7.4	1.8	7.0	19.4	8.6	18.5	+ 0.2	+ 7.4	+ 6.5	18.2
Metal Manufacture:—	27,290	4,500	31,790	8.7	3.2	7.9	44.9	35.5	43.6	53.6	38.7	51.5	+ 4.8	+42.6	+45.3	51.5
Pig Iron Manufacture (Blast Furnaces)	26,580	1,760	28,340	9.4	6.8	9.2	16.8	1.5	15.9	26.2	8.3	25.1	- 6.4	+ 7.4	+ 9.1	25.1
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling Furnaces, Iron and Steel Rolling Mills and Forges	20,830	4,240	25,070	9.1	7.8	8.9	13.6	3.9	11.9	22.7	11.7	20.8	- 3.0	+ 6.5	+ 7.5	20.8
Manufacture of Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc.	572,820	43,100	615,920	11.6	3.8	11.1	7.3	2.3	6.9	18.9	6.1	18.0	+ 0.1	+ 6.0	+ 2.7	17.9
Manufacture of Tin Plates	61,240	15,760	77,000	5.6	4.7	5.4	1.5	2.4	1.7	7.1	7.1	7.1	- 0.3	+ 1.6	+ 1.6	7.1
Iron and Steel Tube Making	57,370	1,000	58,370	29.0	2.2	28.5	3.2	2.8	3.2	32.2	5.0	31.7	+ 1.4	+ 6.2	+14.2	30.8
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Rope Manufacture	26,370	1,060	27,430	15.4	4.3	15.0	10.5	1.0	10.1	25.9	5.3	25.1	+ 2.8	+14.3	+11.9	25.1
Engineering, etc.:—	201,780	22,260	224,040	8.8	6.1	8.6	1.8	1.5	1.7	10.6	7.6	10.3	- 0.6	+ 3.1	+ 0.7	10.3
General Engineering: Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	19,350	2,350	21,700	10.9	6.4	10.5	3.1	3.3	3.1	14.0	9.7	13.6	- 2.1	+ 2.0	+ 1.1	13.4
Electrical Engineering	54,970	1,320	56,290	8.0	3.3	7.9	13.9	4.4	13.7	21.9	7.7	21.6	+ 0.1	+14.1	+13.1	21.7
Marine Engineering, etc.	220,820	3,300	224,120	44.9	7.5	44.4	1.8	0.6	1.8	46.7	8.1	46.2	+ 1.9	+ 9.2	+14.8	46.4
Constructional Engineering	82,160	8,330	90,490	9.6	5.8	9.2	7.8	2.5	7.3	17.4	8.3	16.5	- 2.0	+ 6.1	+ 3.4	16.5
Construction and Repair of Vehicles:—	12,740	1,170	13,910	9.5	3.2	8.9	0.8	0.2	0.8	10.3	3.4	9.7	- 0.2	+ 3.6	+ 2.3	9.8
Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft	56,030	31,880	87,910	6.3	6.1	6.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	7.5	7.3	7.4	+ 0.6	+ 1.9	+ 0.6	7.4
Construction and Repair of Carriages, Carts, etc.	24,620	10,520	35,140	10.7	6.4	9.4	13.6	3.6	10.6	24.3	10.0	20.0	- 4.6	+ 7.2	+ 7.1	20.0
Railway Carriage, Wagon and Tram-car Building	15,020	11,380	26,400	9.7	9.6	9.6	13.9	10.6	12.5	23.6	20.2	22.1	+ 0.5	+11.1	+ 5.6	22.1
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	19,180	11,980	31,160	9.4	7.6	8.7	2.2	3.4	2.7	11.6	11.0	11.4	- 1.3	+ 1.3	- 5.6	11.3
Metal Trades:—	6,610	490	7,100	5.2	4.5	5.1	1.4	1.4	1.5	6.6	5.9	6.6	+ 1.4	+ 1.8	+ 0.3	6.6
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding	25,400	20,070	45,470	7.2	5.7	6.5	2.5	1.4	2.1	9.7	7.1	8.6	- 2.0	+ 0.6	- 2.1	8.6
Electrical Wiring and Contracting	117,970	68,450	186,420	8.3	7.9	8.2	4.3	4.0	4.1	12.6	11.9	12.3	- 0.3	+ 3.1	+ 0.3	12.3
Electrical Cable, Wire and Electric Lamp Manufacture	210,730	368,460	579,190	4.7	4.0	4.3	13.7	16.4	15.4	18.4	20.4	19.7	- 4.4	+12.7	+ 8.1	19.7
Hand Tool, Cutlery, Saw, File Making	106,380	148,370	254,750	5.1	3.7	4.3	11.1	12.7	12.0	16.2	16.4	16.3	- 0.9	+ 5.5	+ 8.3	16.3
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc., Manufacture	21,350	29,870	51,220	3.7	3.0	3.3	4.2	9.0	7.0	7.9	12.0	10.3	- 1.5	+ 3.2	+ 4.9	10.3
Brass and Allied Metal Wares Manufacture	28,000	61,590	89,590	16.2	16.6	16.5	6.8	7.9	7.6	23.0	24.5	24.1	- 0.8	- 8.1	+13.0	20.5
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus	13,430	28,130	41,560	13.2	9.3	10.6	4.8	5.6	5.3	18.0	14.9	15.9	- 4.4	+ 3.3	+ 5.2	15.9
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc., Manufacture	7,490	12,250	19,740	9.3	10.5	10.1	5.2	7.6	6.6	14.5	18.1	16.7	- 0.1	+ 1.7	- 0.7	16.3
Other Metal Industries	21,190	76,700	97,890	3.0	3.9	3.7	4.6	7.9	7.2	7.6	11.8	10.9	- 3.7	+ 4.2	+ 3.4	10.8
Textile Trades:—	8,110	10,890	19,000	6.8												

* The figures for September and October, 1926, are exclusive of persons in the coal-mining industry who ceased work on account of the dispute which commenced on 1st May, 1926.

GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.															GREAT BRITAIN ONLY. TOTAL PER- CENTAGE UNEM- PLOYED AT 25TH OCT., 1926.				
INDUSTRY.	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS AT JULY, 1926.			PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 25TH OCTOBER, 1926.									INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (—) IN TOTAL PER- CENTAGE AS COMPARED WITH 20TH SEPT., 1926. 26TH OCT., 1925. 27TH OCT., 1924.						
				WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.									
				Males.	Females.	Total.	Males	Fe- males.	Total.	Males	Fe- males.	Total.				Males	Fe- males.	Total.	
Food, Drink and Tobacco :—																			
Bread, Biscuit, Cake, etc., Making ...	94,280	51,550	145,830	8.9	5.4	7.7	0.7	0.9	0.7	9.6	6.3	8.4	+ 0.5	— 0.6	— 1.5	8.1 7.9			
Grain Milling ...	28,020	3,580	31,600	6.8	5.2	6.6	1.4	1.4	1.4	8.2	6.6	8.0	+ 0.4	+ 3.4	+ 3.0				
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery ...	27,110	49,630	76,740	6.8	4.3	5.2	1.4	7.9	5.6	8.2	12.2	10.8	+ 0.7	+ 5.2	+ 3.4	10.8 9.0			
Other Food Industries ...	56,430	57,750	114,180	7.7	8.0	7.9	1.0	1.5	1.2	8.7	9.5	9.1	— 1.5	+ 0.5	— 1.1				
Drink Industries ...	87,950	23,180	111,130	6.2	8.0	6.6	0.4	2.1	0.7	6.6	10.1	7.3	+ 0.3	+ 0.8	+ 0.4	6.9 3.9			
Tobacco, Cigar, Cigarette and Snuff Manufacture ...	15,040	29,620	44,660	4.2	3.3	3.6	0.1	0.8	0.6	4.3	4.1	4.2	— 0.2	— 0.7	— 2.9				
Sawmilling, Furniture and Woodwork :—																			
Sawmilling and Machined Woodwork	55,090	2,940	58,030	9.3	6.4	9.1	1.3	3.0	1.5	10.6	9.4	10.6	— 0.3	+ 1.6	+ 1.0	10.4 15.7			
Wood Box and Packing Case Making	11,170	1,950	13,120	12.9	8.0	12.2	3.4	5.6	3.7	16.3	13.6	15.9	+ 0.1	+ 4.6	+ 2.6				
Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc.	88,170	19,640	107,810	6.6	4.3	6.2	0.7	1.4	0.8	7.3	5.7	7.0	— 0.4	+ 1.7	+ 0.3	6.9 12.1			
Other Woodworking ...	19,270	5,680	24,950	9.8	7.6	9.3	2.9	4.5	3.3	12.7	12.1	12.6	— 1.2	+ 1.6	+ 1.6				
Printing and Paper Trades :—																			
Paper and Paper Board Making ...	40,780	15,190	55,970	4.6	3.7	4.3	7.5	9.1	8.0	12.1	12.8	12.3	+ 4.9	+ 6.4	+ 4.5	11.9 5.3			
Cardboard Boxes, Paper Bags and Stationery ...	19,840	37,230	57,070	5.3	3.3	4.0	0.7	1.7	1.4	6.0	5.0	5.4	— 0.4	+ 0.7	— 1.0				
Wall Paper Making and Paper Staining ...	4,000	1,390	5,390	3.3	3.5	3.3	0.2	1.5	0.6	3.5	5.0	3.9	— 0.1	+ 0.6	+ 1.0	3.8 5.5			
Stationery and Typewriting Requisites (not paper) ...	2,220	2,910	5,130	6.3	3.5	4.7	0.9	0.7	0.8	7.2	4.2	5.5	— 1.6	+ 0.1	— 0.6				
Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding	163,700	88,850	252,550	5.5	4.1	5.0	0.3	0.8	0.5	5.8	4.9	5.5	— 0.2	+ 1.3	+ 0.4	5.4 11.2			
Building and Construction of Works :—																			
Building ...	793,170	7,870	801,040	10.9	2.1	10.8	0.7	0.3	0.7	11.6	2.4	11.5	+ 1.3	+ 1.8	+ 1.2	21.7 16.5			
Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	162,820	1,330	164,150	21.2	2.6	21.0	1.1	...	1.1	22.3	2.6	22.1	+ 1.9	+ 5.4	+ 3.9				
Other Manufacturing Industries :—																			
Rubber Manufacture ...	34,760	25,540	60,300	8.6	7.3	8.0	6.9	10.7	8.5	15.5	18.0	16.5	+ 3.5	+ 7.0	+ 4.7	30.1 12.9			
Oilcloth, Linoleum, etc., Manufacture	12,470	2,380	14,850	4.4	3.0	4.2	27.5	17.5	25.9	31.9	20.5	30.1	— 5.0	+ 24.9	+ 25.4				
Brush and Broom Making ...	5,940	4,800	10,740	9.6	5.2	7.6	5.5	5.4	5.5	15.1	10.6	13.1	— 0.4	+ 0.9	+ 1.6	3.9 6.1			
Scientific and Photographic Instrument and Apparatus Manufacture	14,440	7,970	22,410	3.3	2.9	3.2	0.4	1.4	0.7	3.7	4.3	3.9	— 0.3	— 0.3	— 1.7				
Musical Instrument Making ...	19,870	4,680	24,550	6.1	2.5	5.4	0.9	0.1	0.8	7.0	2.6	6.2	— 1.6	+ 1.4	+ 0.5	7.2 6.0			
Toys, Games, and Sports Requisites Manufacture ...	5,970	5,390	11,360	6.4	5.3	5.9	1.5	1.2	1.3	7.9	6.5	7.2	— 1.6	— 1.1	— 3.2				
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply Industries ...	178,820	6,560	185,380	5.8	2.3	5.7	0.5	0.2	0.5	6.3	2.5	6.2	+ 0.2	+ 0.3	...	12.5 4.8			
Transport and Communication :—																			
Railway Service ...	152,630	8,020	160,650	7.9	3.7	7.7	5.1	0.4	4.8	13.0	4.1	12.5	— 1.4	+ 5.8	+ 6.0	15.1 20.6			
Tramway and Omnibus Service ...	124,450	5,290	129,740	4.1	4.9	4.1	0.6	1.1	0.7	4.7	6.0	4.8	+ 0.5	+ 0.8	+ 1.6				
Other Road Transport ...	155,930	4,770	160,700	14.4	3.9	14.1	1.2	0.2	1.2	15.6	4.1	15.3	+ 0.7	+ 1.4	— 0.7	32.0 14.2			
Shipping Service ...	123,590	5,820	129,410	20.5	4.8	19.8	0.9	0.2	0.9	21.4	5.0	20.7	+ 1.9	+ 0.2	+ 0.4				
Canal, River, Dock and Harbour Service ...	186,860	2,250	189,110	29.6	5.5	29.3	2.7	1.9	2.7	32.3	7.4	32.0	— 0.2	+ 2.0	+ 6.1	6.9 3.2			
Other Transport and Communication and Storage ...	19,040	2,040	21,080	14.6	6.3	13.8	0.4	0.3	0.4	15.0	6.6	14.2	+ 0.1	— 0.4	— 2.2				
Distributive Trades ...	914,270	596,580	1,510,850	7.4	4.6	6.3	0.7	0.8	0.7	8.1	5.4	7.0	...	+ 0.8	+ 0.3	6.6 9.4			
Commerce, Banking, Insurance and Finance ...	149,040	71,120	220,160	3.9	1.4	3.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	4.0	1.5	3.2	+ 0.2	...	— 0.4				
Miscellaneous Trades and Services :—																			
National Government ...	123,040	28,430	151,470	7.7	3.2	6.8	0.2	0.3	0.3	7.9	3.5	7.1	+ 0.3	— 0.3	— 2.2	3.2 11.1			
Local Government ...	242,390	18,860	261,250	9.5	3.4	9.1	0.6	0.2	0.6	10.1	3.6	9.7	+ 1.0	+ 1.1	+ 1.3				
Professional Services ...	68,800	47,420	116,220	3.8	1.9	3.0	0.3	0.1	0.2	4.1	2.0	3.2	+ 0.1	...	— 0.5	10.7 4.7			
Entertainments and Sports ...	42,060	22,900	64,960	12.5	7.8	10.9	0.4	0.3	0.3	12.9	8.1	11.2	+ 1.7	— 0.3	— 2.4				
Hotel, Boarding House, Club Services	107,490	185,890	293,380	11.0	10.2	10.5	0.2	0.2	0.2	11.2	10.4	10.7	+ 2.9	— 0.9	— 2.7	4.7 22.7			
Laundries, Dyeing and Dry Cleaning	23,430	98,800	122,230	5.4	3.8	4.1	0.2	0.9	0.8	5.6	4.7	4.9	+ 0.3	...	— 1.8				
Other Industries and Services ...	89,680	32,360	122,040	27.7	4.6	21.6	1.2	1.8	1.3	28.9	6.4	22.9	...	...	— 3.0		
Total ...	8,843,800	3,197,200	12,041,000	10.8	5.2	9.3	4.0	5.1	4.3	14.8*	10.3*	13.6*	— 0.1	+ 2.2	+ 2.7	13.4			

* These percentages include coal-mining, those miners who were not disqualified for benefit under the Unemployment Insurance Acts by reason of the dispute being taken as unemployed for the purpose of the percentage, but not those who ceased work owing to the dispute. If coal-mining were excluded, the percentage of unemployment in other trades at 25th October, 1926, would be Males, 15.7, Females, 10.3, Total, 14.1, as compared with 15.6, 11.0, and 14.2 respectively at 20th September, 1926. The percentage for Great Britain only at 25th October, exclusive of coal-mining, is 13.9, compared with 14.0 at 20th September, 1926.

WORK OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.*

At 25th October, 1926, the total number of persons on the registers of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain was 1,516,171; in Great Britain and Northern Ireland it was 1,569,135.

Comparative figures for men, boys, women and girls, separately, for 27th September and 25th October are given below†:—

—	27th Sept., 1926.		25th October, 1926.			
	Total.	Persons normally in regular employment.		Persons normally in casual employ- ment.	Total.	
		Wholly Unemployed.	Temporary Stoppages.			
	Great Britain.					
Men ...	1,161,981	751,422	340,708	80,587	1,172,717	
Boys ...	43,542	30,636	10,238	173	41,047	
Women ...	278,948	113,445	148,610	746	262,801	
Girls ...	43,280	28,701	10,874	31	39,606	
Total...	1,527,751	924,204	510,430	81,537	1,516,171	
	Great Britain and Northern Ireland.					
Men ...	1,198,375	781,742	343,131	83,226	1,208,099	
Boys ...	44,226	31,135	10,369	174	41,678	
Women ...	295,090	125,060	153,194	753	279,007	
Girls ...	43,991	29,120	11,200	31	40,351	
Total...	1,581,682	967,057	517,894	84,184	1,569,135	

The following Table gives particulars relating to certain branches of the work of Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland during the four weeks ended 25th October, 1926. Of the 86,091 vacancies filled, 42,555 were for men, 25,211 for women, and 18,325 for juveniles:—

Week ended	Applications from Employers.		Vacancies Filled.†	Number of Workpeople on Registers.†
	During Week.	At end of Week.		
27th Sept., 1926 ...	24,689	16,341	20,534	1,581,682
4th Oct., 1926 ...	23,699	15,583	20,893	1,626,433
11th " " ...	27,375	16,032	23,313	1,589,030
18th " " ...	23,761	15,985	20,874	1,573,529
25th " " ...	24,235	15,737	21,011	1,569,135
Total (4 weeks) ...	99,070	...	86,091	...

* The term "Employment Exchange," as used in this connection, includes Ministry of Labour Employment Exchanges and Branch Employment Offices, and also Juvenile Employment Bureaux under the control of Local Education Authorities which are exercising powers under Sec. 107 of the Education Act, 1921, and Sec. 6 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1923.

† The figures include all workpeople on the Registers of Exchanges with the exception of those who ceased work in the coal-mining industry on account of the dispute. They include persons "suspended" or "stood off," and those who, although employed on a basis of systematic short time, were not actually at work on the date in question.

‡ "Vacancies filled" include certain types of cases (described as Class B placings) in which the work of the Exchanges was limited; for instance, obtaining for an employer former employees, or placing the same men on relief works in alternate weeks. During the four weeks ended 20th September, 1926, the average number of such placings was 3,991 per week. The average number of placings of casual workers, such as dock labourers and coal porters, during the four weeks ended 25th October, 1926, was 600 per week.

The following Table shows for each of the Employment Exchange administrative areas, and for the principal towns therein, the number of persons registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland on 25th October, 1926. In certain cases (e.g., Bristol, Birmingham, Sheffield, Liverpool, Glasgow, etc.) the figures cover more than one Exchange area:—

Area.	Number of Persons on Registers at 25th October, 1926.*				Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) as compared with 27th Sept., 1926.
	Men.	Women.	Juven-iles.	Total.	
London Division ...	104,617	20,014	8,083	132,714	+ 4,173
South-Eastern Division ...	32,096	7,159	4,019	43,274	+ 3,666
Brighton ...	1,682	472	353	2,507	+ 605
Chatham ...	1,777	229	622	2,628	+ 414
Ipswich ...	1,893	279	112	2,284	+ 482
Norwich ...	2,471	847	114	3,432	+ 219
Rest of South-Eastern	24,273	5,332	2,818	32,423	+ 2,910
South-Western Division ...	53,338	8,332	4,704	66,374	+ 6,431
Bristol ...	11,003	2,173	862	14,038	+ 193
Plymouth ...	4,250	568	566	5,384	+ 4
Portsmouth ...	5,071	645	518	6,234	+ 611
Reading ...	1,146	76	166	1,388	+ 59
Southampton ...	4,961	414	604	5,979	+ 983
Swindon ...	1,160	93	145	1,398	+ 87
Rest of South-Western	25,747	4,363	1,843	31,953	+ 4,494
Midlands Division ...	138,865	47,228	8,218	194,311	− 17,783
Birmingham ...	26,113	12,136	813	39,062	− 385
Coventry ...	4,279	935	110	5,324	− 855
Cradley Heath ...	4,239	710	109	5,058	+ 35
Derby ...	2,922	914	475	4,311	− 9
Leicester ...	4,990	2,644	171	7,805	− 1,328
Northampton ...	1,665	483	128	2,276	− 83
Nottingham ...	6,707	2,988	515	10,210	− 1,693
Smethwick ...	3,494	949	160	4,603	− 630
Stoke-on-Trent ...	9,270	4,380	594	14,244	− 5,227
Walsall ...	4,165	1,050	285	5,500	− 475
West Bromwich ...	3,299	574	269	4,142	− 255
Wolverhampton ...	4,714	1,082	345	6,141	− 184
Rest of Midlands	63,008	18,383	4,244	85,635	− 6,694
North-Eastern Division ...	321,877	50,013	18,446	390,336	+ 1,792
Barnsley ...	2,895	639	163	3,697	+ 30
Bradford ...	9,787	5,737	622	16,146	+ 281
Darlington ...	4,831	195	237	5,263	+ 651
Dewsbury ...	1,229	991	240	2,460	− 696
Doncaster ...	1,238	288	390	1,916	− 59
Gateshead ...	10,666	1,024	1,138	12,828	+ 479
Grimsby ...	4,274	307	375	4,956	+ 764
Halifax ...	3,537	2,087	152	5,776	+ 43
Hartlepool ...	10,507	219	477	11,203	− 446
Huddersfield ...	3,690	2,323	353	6,366	− 115
Hull ...	11,605	701	896	13,202	+ 981
Leeds ...	16,787	8,535	1,218	26,540	− 1,013
Lincoln ...	2,414	249	113	2,776	+ 62
Middlesbrough ...	23,398	593	761	24,752	+ 816
Newcastle-on-Tyne ...	16,933	2,019	1,055	20,007	− 112
Rotherham ...	7,540	261	466	8,267	+ 42
Sheffield ...	31,278	2,778	1,504	35,560	− 992
South Shields ...	10,191	534	675	11,400	+ 72
Stockton-on-Tees ...	9,767	287	466	10,520	+ 450
Sunderland ...	20,860	1,052	790	22,702	+ 269
York ...	1,855	209	108	2,172	+ 87
Rest of North-Eastern	116,595	18,985	6,247	141,827	+ 198
North-Western Division ...	220,215	93,543	19,689	333,447	− 16,734
Accrington ...	6,129	2,398	359	8,886	− 2,652
Ashton-under-Lyne ...	3,553	2,460	334	6,347	+ 146
Barrow ...	5,242	239	355	5,836	− 67
Birkenhead ...	5,811	365	354	6,530	+ 391
Blackburn ...	6,274	7,963	661	14,898	+ 137
Blackpool ...	1,700	711	244	2,655	+ 1,039
Bolton ...	6,571	2,425	453	9,449	− 147
Burnley ...	4,770	6,780	405	11,955	+ 1,326
Bury ...	2,208	1,697	143	4,048	− 576
Chorley ...	2,288	2,380	337	5,005	+ 1,869
Liverpool ...	43,561	5,709	4,321	53,591	+ 313
Manchester ...	23,798	8,672	2,118	34,588	+ 341
Nelson ...	1,738	1,249	126	3,113	+ 237
Oldham ...	7,604	4,841	499	12,944	− 6,202
Preston ...	4,521	3,770	276	8,567	− 947
Rochdale ...	3,841	2,933	386	7,160	− 1,405
St. Helens ...	4,969	486	632	6,087	+ 129
Salford ...	9,065	4,023	1,148	14,236	+ 921
Stockport ...	2,897	1,652	234	4,783	− 2,580
Warrington ...	3,376	1,004	380	4,760	+ 632
Wigan ...	5,816	3,031	436	9,283	− 1,435
Rest of North-Western	64,483	28,755	5,488	98,726	− 8,204
Scotland Division ...	182,752	29,800	11,807	224,359	+ 4,219
Aberdeen ...	5,464	833	324	6,621	+ 860
Clydebank ...	3,252	261	186	3,699	+ 300
Dundee ...	5,606	2,911	384	8,901	− 360
Edinburgh ...	12,808	2,573	1,073	16,454	+ 318
Glasgow ...	68,014	9,464	4,403	81,881	+ 2,957
Greenock ...	11,108	825	370	12,303	+ 938
Motherwell ...	8,163	336	396	8,895	+ 46
Paisley ...	3,796	399	245	4,440	+ 331
Rest of Scotland	64,541	12,198	4,426	81,165	− 1,171
Wales Division ...	118,957	6,712	5,687	131,356	+ 2,656
Cardiff ...	12,702	1,102	758	14,562	− 91
Llanelli ...	6,522	612	400	7,534	+ 148
Newport ...	6,820	384	310	7,514	+ 8,500
Swansea ...	8,680	439	797	9,916	− 137
Rest of Wales	84,233	4,175	3,422	91,830	+ 11,236
Northern Ireland ...	35,382	16,206	1,376	52,964	− 967
Belfast ...	23,889	9,580	832	34,301	− 953
Londonderry ...	1,813	941	48	2,802	− 75
Lurgan ...	630	541	19	1,190	− 32
Lisburn ...	522	440	42	1,004	− 97
Newry ...	852	334	18	1,204	− 253
Rest of Northern Ire-land	7,676	4,370	417	12,463	+ 443
Great Britain and Northern Ireland ...	1,208,099	279,007	82,029	1,569,135	− 12,547

* The figures are exclusive of persons in the coal-mining industry who ceased work on account of the dispute which commenced on 1st May.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

COMPOSITION OF STATISTICS.

ON page 410 an explanation is given of the unemployment statistics published weekly in the Press, and monthly in this GAZETTE. The following Table gives figures relating to the 25th October, 1926, for the total of each group included in these statistics. Lines 2 to 5 make up the number of persons on the register; while, by omitting the uninsured persons (line 5) and including lines 1 and 6, the number of books lodged, or, in other words, the number of insured persons recorded as unemployed, is obtained.

	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.
1. Unemployed — Special Schemes ...	2,052	14	224	11	2,301
2. Claims admitted or under consideration ...	1,064,086	21,240	234,368	15,858	1,335,552
3. Claimants disqualified, but maintaining registration ...	83,488	1,084	10,548	583	95,703
4. Insured non-claimants on main file ...	13,790	1,484	2,053	1,444	18,771
5. Uninsured persons on Register ...	11,353	17,239	15,832	21,721	66,145
6. Two months' file ...	72,905	5,207	41,838	4,524	124,474
Persons on Register (lines 2-5) ...	1,172,717	41,047	262,801	39,606	1,516,171
Books Lodged (lines 1-4 and 6) ...	1,236,321	29,029	289,031	22,420	1,576,801

CLAIMS TO EXTENDED BENEFIT.

Claims to "extended" benefit—i.e., benefit beyond that to which the claimant is entitled in respect of contributions paid—are submitted to Local Committees, composed, in the main, of representatives of employers and workpeople. The following Table gives an analysis of the recommendations of these Committees in Great Britain during the period 14th September to 11th October, 1926:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Applications considered by Committees during period ...	282,404	48,325	330,729
Applications admitted by Committees during period:—			
(a) For 12 weeks ...	58,303	3,816	62,119
(b) For less than 12 weeks ...	186,546	29,709	216,255
Applications definitely recommended for disallowance during period:—			
<i>General Conditions:</i>			
Not normally insurable and not seeking to obtain a livelihood by means of insurable employment ...	1,908	904	2,812
Insurable employment not likely to be available ...	1,416	324	1,740
Not a reasonable period of insurable employment during the preceding two years ...	13,324	2,165	15,489
Not making every reasonable effort to obtain suitable employment or not willing to accept suitable employment ...	9,787	3,808	13,595
<i>Special Conditions:</i>			
Single persons residing with relatives ...	5,540	2,478	8,018
Married women who could look for support from their husbands ...	...	2,491	2,491
Married men who could look for support from their wives ...	215	...	215
Working short time but earning sufficient for maintenance ...	3,601	1,868	5,469
Aliens ...	15	...	15
Total definitely recommended for disallowance ...	35,806	14,038	49,844
Applications during the period recommended for postponement for a definite time ...	1,749	762	2,511

UNEMPLOYMENT FUND.

During the five weeks ended 30th October, 1926, the receipts and payments of the Unemployment Fund were approximately as shown in the following Table:—

	Five weeks ended 30th Oct., 1926.	Four weeks ended 25th Sept., 1926.	Five weeks ended 31st Oct., 1925.
Contributions (Receipts):—			
By Employers ...	£ 1,340,000	£ 1,090,000	£ 1,870,000
„ Employed Persons ...	1,170,000	950,000	1,680,000
„ Service Departments (Admiralty, War Office and Air Ministry) ...	20,000	30,000	20,000
„ Exchequer ...	990,000	800,000	1,250,000
Total ...	3,520,000	2,870,000	4,820,000
Payments:—			
Benefit ...	5,420,000	4,360,000	4,290,000
Other Payments* ...	470,000	370,000	490,000
Total ...	5,890,000	4,730,000	4,780,000
Treasury Advances Outstanding ...	18,810,000†	16,470,000†	7,875,000‡

* Includes refunds at age 60 and compensation for the abolition thereof, cost of administration, etc.

† Excludes sum apportioned to Irish Free State on account of the deficit of the Unemployment Fund as at 31st March, 1922. This sum with interest up to 31st December, 1925, amounts to £332,431 8s. 3d.

‡ Includes sum apportioned to Irish Free State on account of the deficit of the Unemployment Fund as at 31st March, 1922. This sum with interest up to 30th June, 1925, amounted to £324,277 17s. 1d., the matter not being settled at this stage.

CHANGES IN THE ESTIMATED NUMBERS OF INSURED PERSONS IN THE VARIOUS INDUSTRIES.

THE number of persons in industry who are insured against unemployment under the Unemployment Insurance Acts is estimated once a year on the basis mainly of information derived from the exchange of unemployment books,* in July of each year. The classes of persons who are within the scope of the Acts are indicated in the introduction to the unemployment tables on page 410 of this issue.

While a comparison between the estimates for July, 1926, and July, 1925, in respect of any individual industry shows the net change that has occurred in the interval, it is clear that such a figure represents a balance between the effects of various counter-acting influences. On the one hand there is a constant wastage due to deaths, emigration, transfers to other industries, and passing of individuals out of insurance through entry into business on their own account, or through rises in salary for non-manual workers above the £250 limit, or through retirement from employment, etc. On the other hand there is a constant flow into the industry (unless it is rapidly declining), consisting mainly of juveniles under 18, to replace such wastage, or as the result of expansion in business, or both. Some industries are also being recruited from other industries.

Figures are available with regard to the *net* effect of these various influences, and also with regard to the movement into insurable

employment within each industry of persons who have not previously been within the scope of the scheme. Precise figures are not available for each of the other items already mentioned, but it is possible from those already known to gauge their net effect as a whole.

The only indeterminable off-set against the *losses* from any industry consists of transfers thereto from other industries, of persons already insured. This, of course, can only operate in the case of individual industries. When industry as a whole is considered, the transfers cancel each other out.

In framing the following Table, percentages of the estimated number of insured persons in each industry at July, 1925, have been worked for males, females and totals separately, in respect of (a) the estimated numbers insured at July, 1926 (cols. 3, 7 and 11) and (b) the number of new entrants to insurance between July, 1925, and June, 1926, inclusive (cols. 4, 8 and 12).

The figures in cols. 5, 9 and 13 show in most cases the gross movement out of the industry (after reduction, as indicated above, by transfers from other industries). They represent the difference between the index number for July, 1926, and the sum of the index number for July, 1925, (100) and the percentage addition for new entrants. The figures relate to Great Britain and do not include Northern Ireland.

TABLE SHOWING, FOR VARIOUS INDUSTRY GROUPS, THE ESTIMATED NUMBERS OF INSURED WORKPEOPLE IN GREAT BRITAIN AT JULY, 1926, AND THESE NUMBERS, TOGETHER WITH THE NEW ENTRANTS AND THE LOSSES DURING THE TWELVE MONTHS JULY, 1925, TO JUNE, 1926, EXPRESSED AS PERCENTAGES OF THE ESTIMATED NUMBERS INSURED AT JULY, 1925.

INDUSTRY.	MALES.				FEMALES.				TOTAL.			
	Estimated Number Insured, July, 1926.	Percent- age of July, 1925, Number.	New Entrants July, 1925- June, 1926. Per cent.	Gross Losses (-) Further additions (+) Per cent.	Estimated Number Insured, July, 1926.	Percent- age of July, 1925, Number.	New Entrants July, 1925- June, 1926. Per cent.	Gross Losses (-) Further additions (+) Per cent.	Estimated Number Insured, July, 1926.	Percent- age of July, 1925, Number.	New Entrants July, 1925- June, 1926. Per cent.	Gross Losses (-) Further additions (+) Per cent.
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.
Mining :—												
Coal Mining	1,220,210	99.1	3.2	— 4.1	7,320	85.6	13.5	— 27.9	1,227,530	99.0	3.2	— 4.2
Other Mining and Quarrying, etc.	103,290	100.6	5.0	— 4.4	2,210	104.2	22.5	— 18.3	105,500	100.7	5.3	— 4.6
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products :—												
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	11,560	99.7	1.1	— 1.4	160	133.3	17.5	+ 15.8	11,720	100.0	1.4	— 1.4
Artificial Stone, Concrete and Cement, etc., Manufacture	32,700	109.3	4.1	+ 5.2	2,160	128.7	16.0	+ 12.7	34,860	110.4	4.8	+ 5.6
Brick, Tile, etc., Making	74,100	106.5	7.1	— 0.6	7,670	98.6	12.7	— 14.1	81,770	105.7	7.6	— 1.9
Pottery, Earthenware, etc.	35,130	102.7	4.4	— 1.7	38,570	98.8	8.4	— 9.6	73,700	100.6	6.6	— 6.0
Glass Trades... ..	37,160	99.1	1.8	— 2.7	7,370	96.9	18.6	— 21.7	44,530	98.8	7.3	— 8.5
Ammunition, Explosives, Chemicals, Paints, Oils, etc.	157,430	98.8	3.2	— 4.4	52,450	100.6	9.4	— 8.8	209,880	99.2	4.7	— 5.5
Metal Manufacture :—												
Pig Iron Manufacture, Steel Melting and Iron Puddling Furnaces, etc.	214,080	97.1	2.2	— 5.1	4,150	78.3	8.2	— 29.9	218,230	96.6	2.4	— 5.8
Manufacture of Tin Plates	27,280	114.4	5.9	+ 8.5	4,500	104.2	12.4	— 8.2	31,780	112.8	6.9	+ 5.9
Other Metals	86,070	99.9	2.6	— 2.7	9,360	100.3	7.5	— 7.2	95,430	99.9	3.0	— 3.1
Engineering, etc. :—												
General Engineering : Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	565,710	98.0	4.6	— 6.6	42,900	98.6	11.9	— 13.3	608,610	98.2	5.1	— 6.9
Electrical Engineering	61,020	99.8	5.2	— 5.4	15,750	102.3	11.1	— 8.8	76,770	100.3	6.4	— 6.1
Marine Engineering, etc.	51,900	94.3	1.9	— 7.6	980	95.2	4.7	— 9.5	52,880	94.3	2.0	— 7.7
Constructional Engineering	26,330	105.0	3.0	+ 2.0	1,060	104.0	5.1	— 1.1	27,390	104.9	3.1	+ 1.8
Construction and Repair of Vehicles :—												
Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft	200,140	104.4	5.9	— 1.5	22,140	103.2	9.7	— 6.5	222,280	104.3	6.2	— 1.9
Construction and Repair of other Vehicles... ..	73,710	97.1	3.9	— 6.8	3,670	84.2	9.3	— 25.1	77,380	96.4	4.2	— 7.8
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ...	206,450	93.9	2.8	— 8.9	3,080	99.4	11.2	— 11.8	209,530	93.9	2.9	— 9.0
Metal Trades :												
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding	81,700	106.0	5.6	+ 0.4	8,320	104.5	11.8	— 7.3	90,020	105.9	6.2	— 0.3
Electrical Wiring, Electrical Cable and Lamps	68,440	109.8	9.9	— 0.1	33,030	105.3	15.2	— 9.9	101,470	108.3	11.7	— 3.4
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery etc., Manufacture	25,160	98.9	5.0	— 6.1	20,050	102.6	7.6	— 5.0	45,210	100.6	6.1	— 5.5
Other Metal Industries	182,640	101.8	6.0	— 4.2	102,780	103.2	11.7	— 8.5	285,420	102.3	8.0	— 5.7
Textile Trades :—												
Cotton	210,700	101.0	4.6	— 3.6	368,370	100.2	5.9	— 5.7	579,070	100.4	5.4	— 5.0
Woollen and Worsted	105,720	99.2	4.0	— 4.8	147,810	98.7	6.5	— 7.8	253,530	98.9	5.5	— 6.6
Silk	21,340	115.6	4.5	+ 11.1	29,870	105.1	10.3	— 5.2	51,210	109.2	8.0	+ 1.2
Hosiery	21,060	95.5	5.2	— 9.7	76,160	101.6	10.4	— 8.8	97,220	100.3	9.2	— 8.9
Other Textile Industries	56,160	98.6	5.2	— 6.6	103,650	98.1	8.8	— 10.7	159,810	98.2	7.5	— 9.3
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	81,540	102.4	3.3	— 0.9	28,520	97.1	8.4	— 11.3	110,060	100.9	4.6	— 3.7
Leather and Leather Goods	45,630	95.6	4.7	— 9.1	21,340	100.0	13.1	— 13.1	66,970	96.9	7.3	— 10.4
Clothing Trades :—												
Tailoring	65,050	98.6	7.2	— 8.6	124,510	99.4	10.1	— 10.7	189,560	99.1	9.1	— 10.0
Other Dress Industries	41,390	98.8	6.5	— 7.7	182,750	102.1	12.8	— 10.7	224,140	101.5	11.5	— 10.0
Boot, Shoe, Slipper and Clog Trades	91,060	99.2	5.1	— 5.9	53,740	103.8	8.9	— 5.1	144,800	100.8	6.5	— 5.7

* A brief outline of the method of computing the estimate appeared in the issue of this GAZETTE for November, 1925, page 380.

INDUSTRY.	MALES.				FEMALES.				TOTAL.			
	Estimated Number Insured, July, 1926.	Percentage of July, 1925, Number.	New Entrants July, 1925-June, 1926. Per cent.	Gross Losses (-) Further additions (+) Per cent.	Estimated Number Insured, July, 1926.	Percentage of July, 1925, Number.	New Entrants July, 1925-June, 1926. Per cent.	Gross Losses (-) Further additions (+) Per cent.	Estimated Number Insured, July, 1926.	Percentage of July, 1925, Number.	New Entrants July, 1925-June, 1926. Per cent.	Gross Losses (-) Further additions (+) Per cent.
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.
Food, Drink and Tobacco :—												
Bread, Biscuit, Cake, etc., Making	89,430	103.0	7.3	- 4.3	50,640	102.0	13.8	-11.8	140,070	102.6	9.6	- 7.0
Other Food Industries ...	109,890	103.0	4.2	- 1.2	110,490	97.0	13.4	-16.4	220,380	99.8	8.1	- 8.3
Drink, Tobacco, etc., Manufacture	100,130	102.1	3.1	- 1.0	51,070	93.9	7.9	-14.0	151,200	99.2	4.8	- 5.6
Sawmilling, Furniture and Wood-work :—												
Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc. ...	87,090	106.0	8.6	- 2.6	19,430	106.0	13.0	- 7.0	106,520	106.0	9.4	- 3.0
Other Woodworking ...	84,020	100.9	7.7	- 6.8	10,510	95.5	13.7	-18.2	94,530	100.2	8.4	- 8.2
Printing and Paper Trades :—												
Paper, Cardboard Boxes, Stationery, etc. ...	66,260	105.5	4.3	+ 1.2	55,930	100.7	11.8	-11.1	122,190	103.2	7.8	- 4.6
Printing, Publishing and Book-binding ...	161,200	103.2	6.1	- 2.9	87,410	102.3	11.3	- 9.0	248,610	102.9	7.9	- 5.0
Building and Construction of Works :—												
Building ...	778,250	106.2	6.4	- 0.2	7,760	99.5	17.3	-17.8	786,010	106.1	6.5	- 0.4
Public Works Contracting, etc....	157,950	109.5	11.0	- 1.5	1,320	157.2	34.5	+22.7	159,270	109.8	11.2	- 1.4
Other Manufacturing Industries :—												
Rubber Manufacture ...	34,730	101.7	4.4	- 2.7	25,520	96.9	9.7	-12.8	60,250	99.5	6.7	- 7.2
Musical Instrument Making ...	19,820	111.2	6.5	+ 4.7	4,680	124.1	12.8	+11.3	24,500	113.5	7.6	+ 5.9
Other Manufacturing Industries	38,640	106.5	6.3	+ 0.2	20,480	104.6	8.3	- 3.7	59,120	105.8	7.0	- 1.2
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply Industries	175,790	104.4	2.1	+ 2.3	6,480	95.9	6.4	-10.5	182,270	104.1	2.3	+ 1.8
Transport and Communication :—												
Railway Service ...	151,030	95.3	5.0	- 9.7	7,950	92.1	12.2	-20.1	158,980	95.1	5.3	-10.2
Shipping Service and Fishing ...	146,310	101.2	6.2	- 5.0	6,600	102.3	11.3	- 9.0	152,910	101.3	6.4	- 5.1
Canal, River, Dock and Harbour Service ...	183,350	98.7	1.4	- 2.7	2,220	104.2	15.7	-11.5	185,570	98.7	1.6	- 2.9
Other Transport and Communication and Storage ...	293,960	104.0	5.0	- 1.0	11,990	100.6	12.9	-12.3	305,950	103.9	5.3	- 1.4
Distributive Trades ...	895,300	103.6	10.9	- 7.3	586,560	103.0	15.2	-12.2	1,481,860	103.4	12.6	- 9.2
Commerce, Banking, Insurance and Finance ...	146,410	102.0	5.5	- 3.5	70,330	98.1	6.4	- 8.3	216,740	100.7	5.8	- 5.1
Miscellaneous Trades and Services :—												
National Government ...	118,520	98.5	6.9	- 8.4	27,690	96.4	14.9	-18.5	146,210	98.1	8.4	-10.3
Local Government ...	235,970	101.4	4.0	- 2.6	18,750	97.4	10.9	-13.5	254,720	101.1	4.5	- 3.4
Hotel, Boarding House, Club Services...	105,860	102.5	8.6	- 6.1	183,900	98.2	26.6	-28.4	289,760	99.7	20.2	-20.5
Laundries, Dyeing and Dry Cleaning ...	22,960	102.7	8.4	- 5.7	97,060	104.5	13.7	- 9.2	120,020	104.2	12.7	- 8.5
Other Industries and Services ...	196,240	102.8	9.8	- 7.0	101,560	103.9	19.8	-15.9	297,800	103.2	13.2	-10.0
TOTAL ...	2,680,970	101.5	5.5	- 4.0	3,092,730	100.7	12.3	-11.6	11,773,700	101.3	7.3	- 6.0

For the purpose of the above Table the industries in which insured persons are employed have been arranged into 56 groups instead of the 100 for which the statistics of unemployment are usually given. It has been assumed that all the new entrants during the year July, 1925, to June, 1926, remained within the scheme at the end of that year. This is undoubtedly true of all but a very small minority. The figures relating to the numbers insured at July, 1926, are not, however, affected by this consideration, and the only result, therefore, of reducing the percentages for new entrants would be to reduce the figures representing the losses and to increase the figures representing the further additions, over and above the new entrants. There would thus be no effect on the relative position of one industry to another as regards expansion or contraction during the year.

An examination of the percentage figures shows that the industry groups may be divided roughly into three classes: namely (1) those industries in which the numbers insured have increased considerably as compared with July, 1925, and in which the percentage of new entrants has apparently been increased by transfers from other industries, or where the percentage of losses is low; (2) those industries in which there has been little change in the numbers insured and (3) those industries in which there was a decrease in the numbers insured and where the percentage of new entrants is low and the percentage of losses is high. The figures relating to females are clearly of little importance except in those industries in which females are largely employed.

In the first category the outstanding examples are musical instrument making; the manufacture of tin plates; the manufacture of artificial stone, concrete, cement, etc.; constructional engineering; gas, water and electricity supply; and the silk and artificial silk industry. Silk manufacture and musical instrument making are the only industries of those mentioned in which the percentage of new entrants is comparatively high. In all of them the natural losses have been more than off-set by apparent transfers from other industries.

With this group may also be included brick, tile, etc., making; construction and repair of motor vehicles, cycles and aircraft; stove, grate, pipe and general ironfounding; electrical wiring, cables, lamps, etc., furniture making, upholstering, etc.; the building industry; public works contracting; and the miscellaneous manufacturing industries which include oil cloth and linoleum; brushes

and brooms; scientific and photographic instruments and apparatus; and toys, games and sport requisites.

It is clear that all these industries, together with others such as the distributive trades; laundries, dyeing, etc., which are concerned mainly with the home market, have experienced a considerable measure of expansion during the year.

The second category, in which there has been little change during the year, include mining and quarrying (other than coal mining); coke ovens and by-product works; pottery, earthenware, etc.; ammunition, explosives, chemicals, etc.; manufacture of metals other than iron, steel, and tinplates; electrical engineering; watches, clocks, plate, jewellery, etc.; the cotton industry; hosiery; textile bleaching, etc.; boots and shoes; certain food industries; paper; rubber; and commerce and finance. In the majority of these industries there have been slight net increases. Generally speaking, except in those industries which employ a large proportion of female workers, the percentage of new entrants was comparatively low and was about balanced by the losses from the industry.

In the third category the outstanding example is shipbuilding and ship repairing, which has a net loss during the year of 6.1 per cent. of the numbers insured at July, 1925. The percentage of new entrants is low and the losses are high. Then follow marine engineering; iron and steel manufacture; railway service (non-permanent workers); construction and repair of vehicles other than motors and cycles, the leather industries; general engineering, engineers' iron and steel founding; miscellaneous textile industries; and woollen and worsted.

These industries appear to have experienced some measure of contraction in varying degrees. The proportions of new entrants have been comparatively low and the losses comparatively high.

It will be observed that among females the percentage figures for new entrants and for losses are much larger than in the case of males. This is principally because, on the average, the industrial and insurance history of females is shorter than that of males, and there is therefore a greater proportion of changes in the personnel of females in employment. In a few industries it will be observed that the proportion of males increased during the year while the proportion of females decreased. The total figures for all industries taken together show that a larger proportion of the increase in the insured population consisted of males than of females. The principal industries in which this tendency may be observed are pottery,

earthenware, etc.; textile bleaching, printing, dyeing, etc.; food, drink and tobacco; paper and stationery manufacture; rubber manufacture; and commerce, banking, insurance and finance. In the silk industry males show a higher proportion of increase than females, although there are increases with both sexes.

The contrary tendency may be observed in the manufacture of

watches, clocks, plate and jewellery; in hosiery; and in the clothing industries.

In order to trace the movement over a rather longer period in the industries which show the greatest change, figures are given below of the estimated numbers insured at July of 1923, 1924, 1925 and 1926. The figures in this Table relate to *Great Britain and Northern Ireland*.

TABLE SHOWING THE CHANGES BETWEEN JULY, 1923, AND JULY, 1926, IN THE TOTAL ESTIMATED NUMBERS OF INSURED WORKPEOPLE IN CERTAIN INDUSTRIES IN GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.
(A) INDUSTRIES IN WHICH INCREASES HAVE OCCURRED.

Industry.	July, 1923.		July, 1924.		July, 1925.		July, 1926.		Percentage increases (+) and decreases (-) based on estimated number insured at July, 1923.			Increase (+) or decrease (-) in numbers insured July, 1923-July, 1926.
	Number.	Per-centage of total insured Popu-lation.	Number.	Per-centage of total insured Popu-lation.	Number.	Per-centage of total insured Popu-lation.	Number.	Per-centage of total insured Popu-lation.	July, 1924.	July, 1925.	July, 1926.	
Artificial Stone and Concrete Manu- facture	10,660	0·09	11,800	0·10	13,720	0·12	16,460	0·14	+ 10·7	+ 28·7	+ 54·4	+ 5,800
Silk (including Artificial Silk) ...	37,800	0·33	41,720	0·36	46,890	0·39	51,220	0·43	+ 10·4	+ 24·1	+ 35·5	+ 13,420
Brick, Tile, etc., making	61,300	0·53	70,490	0·60	78,510	0·66	82,910	0·69	+ 15·0	+ 28·1	+ 35·2	+ 21,610
Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	126,600	1·10	134,580	1·15	148,880	1·25	164,150	1·36	+ 6·3	+ 17·6	+ 29·7	+ 37,550
Musical Instrument making	19,600	0·17	19,880	0·17	21,640	0·18	24,550	0·20	+ 1·4	+ 10·4	+ 25·3	+ 4,950
Electrical Cable, Wire and Electric Lamp Manufacture	72,200	0·63	74,940	0·64	81,350	0·68	87,910	0·73	+ 3·8	+ 12·7	+ 21·7	+ 15,710
Distributive Trades... ..	1,250,000	10·88	1,352,110	11·60	1,458,200	12·26	1,510,850	12·56	+ 8·2	+ 16·6	+ 20·9	+ 260,850
Tramway and Omnibus Service ...	109,400	0·95	119,320	1·02	121,160	1·02	129,740	1·08	+ 9·1	+ 10·7	+ 18·6	+ 20,340
Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft ...	192,700	1·68	203,340	1·74	214,840	1·81	224,040	1·86	+ 5·5	+ 11·5	+ 16·3	+ 31,340
Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc.	93,500	0·82	96,760	0·83	101,680	0·86	107,810	0·90	+ 3·5	+ 8·7	+ 15·3	+ 14,310
Laundries, Dyeing and Dry cleaning	106,600	0·93	112,870	0·97	117,290	0·99	122,230	1·02	+ 5·9	+ 10·0	+ 14·7	+ 15,630
Building	711,000	6·19	721,560	6·19	754,120	6·35	801,040	6·65	+ 1·5	+ 6·1	+ 12·7	+ 90,040
Miscellaneous metal industries ...	166,000	1·45	175,550	1·51	180,820	1·52	186,420	1·55	+ 5·8	+ 8·9	+ 12·3	+ 20,420
Printing, Publishing and Book- binding	229,000	1·99	240,140	2·06	245,340	2·06	252,550	2·10	+ 4·9	+ 7·1	+ 10·3	+ 23,550
Road Transport other than Tram- way and Omnibus Service	146,000	1·27	150,430	1·29	156,220	1·31	160,700	1·33	+ 3·0	+ 7·0	+ 10·1	+ 14,700
Professional Services	107,100	0·93	110,680	0·95	113,280	0·95	116,220	0·97	+ 3·3	+ 5·8	+ 8·5	+ 9,120
Local Government	244,000	2·12	243,710	2·09	258,370	2·17	261,250	2·17	- 0·1	+ 6·0	+ 7·2	+ 17,250
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Ironfounding	174,200	1·52	171,550	1·47	178,650	1·50	185,380	1·54	- 1·5	+ 2·6	+ 6·4	+ 11,180
Manufacture of Tin Plates... ..	85,200	0·74	81,870	0·70	85,560	0·72	90,490	0·75	- 3·9	+ 0·4	+ 6·2	+ 5,290
Cotton	29,950	0·26	29,260	0·25	28,170	0·24	31,790	0·26	- 2·3	- 5·9	+ 6·1	+ 1,840
Total of above industries ...	571,000	4·97	562,390	4·82	576,720	4·85	579,190	4·81	- 1·5	+ 1·0	+ 1·4	+ 8,190
Total of above industries ...	4,543,810	39·56	4,724,950	40·51	4,981,410	41·89	5,186,900	43·08*	+ 4·0	+ 9·6	+ 14·2	+ 643,090

(B) INDUSTRIES IN WHICH DECREASES HAVE OCCURRED.

Coal Mining	1,256,000	10·94	1,260,350	10·84	1,240,450	10·43	1,227,870	10·20	+ 0·3	- 1·2	- 2·2	- 28,130
Woollen and Worsted	271,000	2·36	260,890	2·24	257,700	2·17	254,750	2·12	- 3·7	- 4·9	- 6·0	- 16,250
Bread, Biscuit, Cake, etc., making	157,700	1·37	144,540	1·24	141,790	1·19	145,830	1·21	- 8·3	- 10·1	- 7·5	- 11,870
General Engineering: Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding	669,000	5·83	627,380	5·38	627,280	5·27	615,920	5·12	- 6·2	- 6·2	- 7·9	- 53,080
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling Furnaces, Iron and Steel Rolling Mills and Forges	212,700	1·86	207,270	1·78	200,130	1·68	193,850	1·61	- 2·6	- 5·9	- 8·9	- 18,850
Marine Engineering, etc.	66,300	0·58	66,110	0·57	61,720	0·52	58,370	0·48	- 0·3	- 6·9	- 12·0	- 7,930
National Government	179,600	1·56	160,970	1·38	156,490	1·32	151,470	1·26	- 10·4	- 12·9	- 15·7	- 28,130
Railway Service (non-permanent workers)	191,100	1·66	173,210	1·47	168,610	1·42	160,650	1·33	- 9·4	- 11·8	- 15·9	- 30,450
Pig-Iron Manufacture (Blast Fur- naces)	29,300	0·26	30,190	0·26	25,780	0·22	24,490	0·20	+ 3·0	- 12·0	- 16·4	- 4,810
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing Construction and Repair of Carri- ages, Carts, etc.	270,200	2·35	255,090	2·18	241,700	2·03	224,120	1·86	- 5·6	- 10·5	- 17·1	- 46,080
Total of above industries ...	27,700	0·24	24,550	0·20	24,630	0·21	21,700	0·18	- 11·4	- 11·1	- 21·7	- 6,000
Total of above industries ...	3,330,600	29·00	3,210,550	27·53	3,146,280	26·46	3,079,020	25·57	- 3·6	- 5·5	- 7·6	- 251,580

The first four columns of percentage figures in the above Table indicate the proportion which each industry represents of the total insured population.

The industries named represented as a whole approximately the same proportion of the total in 1926 as in 1923 (68·67 per cent. as compared with 68·56 per cent.), but there were important changes in this respect in the relative position of each. Thus the Distributive trades during the three years 1923 to 1926 have increased from a proportion of 10·88 per cent. to 12·56 per cent.; Building increased from 6·19 per cent. to 6·65 per cent.; Public Works Contracting from 1·10 per cent. to 1·36 per cent.; Brick, tile, etc., making from 0·53 per cent. to 0·69 per cent.; Silk (which includes artificial silk) from 0·33 per cent. to 0·43 per cent.; and Artificial stone and concrete manufacture from 0·09 to 0·14.

On the other hand the Cotton industry, although showing an increase in numbers, declined from 4·97 per cent. of the total insured to 4·81 per cent. Among the industries where decreases in numbers have occurred, it will be observed that Coal-mining declined from a proportion of 10·94 per cent. to 10·20 per cent.; General Engineering declined from 5·83 per cent. to 5·12 per cent.; Shipbuilding and

ship-repairing from 2·35 per cent. to 1·86 per cent.; Iron and Steel manufacture and Pig iron from 2·12 per cent. to 1·81 per cent. and Woollen and Worsted from 2·36 per cent. to 2·12 per cent.

The last four columns of the Table show the changes between 1923 and 1926 within each industry, apart from its position in industry as a whole. Here again the industries associated with the Building industry show the heaviest percentage increases, while among the other industries Silk (including artificial silk) is prominent for the proportion of its growth.

Musical instrument making and the electrical industries have also important increases.

Among the industries showing decreases, the highest proportion of loss occurs in the Construction and repair of Carriages, Carts, etc., an industry which has doubtless felt the effect of the growth of the motor industry. Shipbuilding and ship repairing; Pig-iron manufacture; and Marine engineering, which have been subject to acute industrial depression, also show heavy percentage decreases. General engineering shows a reduction of 7·9 per cent. on the numbers at July, 1923.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

Rates of Wages.

In the industries covered by the Department's statistics* the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in October in Great Britain and Northern Ireland resulted in an aggregate increase of nearly £21,000 in the weekly full-time wages of about 309,000 workpeople, and in a reduction of £200 in the weekly wages of 850 workpeople.

These figures, and also those shown in the next column relating to the changes in wages during the period January to October, do not include the effect of the terms under which a considerable number of coal miners have resumed work. The particulars which would enable the Department to compute the effect of the changes which have taken place are not yet available.

The groups of industries principally affected were as follows:—

Group of Industries.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by		Amount of Changes in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
			£	£
Metal	85,000	250	6,200	110
Textile	85,000	...	3,400	...
Clothing	62,000	...	5,800	...
Other	77,000	600	5,400	90
Total	309,000	850	20,800	200

The increases in wages in the metal group affected mainly workpeople employed in the iron and steel industries. The percentage payable on standard rates to blastfurnacemen in Cleveland was increased by an amount equivalent to over 2½ per cent. on current wages, and there was an increase equal to nearly 2 per cent. on current wages in the percentage payable to blastfurnacemen and iron and steel workers in South Wales and Monmouthshire. The wages of iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen in the Midlands were increased by the equivalent of about 3½ per cent. on current wages, and steel sheet millmen and galvanisers in various districts of England and Wales had their wages increased by over 1½ per cent. on current rates. There were also increases in the rates payable to blastfurnacemen in Cumberland and Scotland. Bobbin makers in England and Wales received increases amounting to 1s. and 6d. per week in the case of men and of women respectively.

In the textile group the principal bodies of workpeople whose wages were increased were operatives in the bleaching, dyeing, finishing, etc., industries. In Yorkshire such workpeople received increases equivalent to nearly 2 per cent. on their current rates, while in Lancashire and Scotland adult male workers received an increase of 1s. per week and adult female workers an increase of 8d. per week.

The principal change in the clothing group affected workpeople employed in boot and shoe repairing, who received increases as a result of the raising of the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts, the increases in the minimum rates amounting to 2s. or 3s. per week in the case of adult timeworkers. There were also increases in the wages of dyers and dry cleaners in England and Scotland, amounting to 2s. and 1s. per week in the case of men and of women respectively.

Among the changes affecting workpeople in other industrial groups, there were increases in the wages of iron miners in Cleveland

and Cumberland; these amounted to about 6½ per cent. on current rates in Cleveland, and to 2d. or 3d. per shift in the case of adult workers in Cumberland. Workpeople employed by waterworks undertakings had their wages increased by ½d. per hour in London and various districts in the Northern and Midland counties. The wages of wholesale warehouse workers at Manchester were increased by 1s. 3d. and 6d. per week in the case of men and women respectively. There were also increases of 2s. and 1s. 6d. per week in the wages of bakers at Liverpool and Edinburgh respectively. The minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts were increased by ½d. per hour in the case of adult workers employed in brush and broom making, and by amounts varying from ½d. to ¾d. per hour in the case of those employed in the paper box, paper bag, and perambulator and invalid carriage making industries.

Of the total increase of £20,800 per week, £13,700 took effect under sliding scales based on the cost of living, including nearly £8,000 under scales arranged by Trade Boards and £700 under scales arranged by joint standing bodies of employers and workpeople; £5,600 took effect under sliding scales based on selling prices; and the remainder was chiefly the result of direct negotiation between employers and workpeople.

Of the total reduction of £200, the greater part was the result of direct negotiation between employers and workpeople. Reductions preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work accounted for about £40.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES REPORTED IN JANUARY-OCTOBER, 1926.

Group of Industries.	Approximate Number of Workpeople† affected by net		Net Amount of Change in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
			£	£
Mining and Quarrying ...	15,000	9,000	2,200	840
Brick, Pottery, Glass, Chemical, etc....	5,600	1,220	820	180
Iron and Steel ...	11,750	120,000	1,550	20,800
Engineering, Shipbuilding and Other Metal ...	1,850	46,000	420	5,250
Textile	8,000	130,000	370	7,600
Clothing	1,000	116,000	40	12,800
Food, Drink and Tobacco	24,500	19,000	1,900	1,750
Woodworking, etc. ...	550	12,000	60	1,150
Paper, Printing, etc. ...	17,000	210	1,900	20
Building and Allied Industries	38,500	120	5,400	10
Transport	1,850	194,000	670	10,250
Public Utility Services...	14,000	103,000	1,600	7,500
Other	750	20,000	120	1,650
Total	140,350	770,550	17,050	69,800

In the corresponding period of 1925 there were net increases of £77,000 in the weekly full-time wages of 840,000 workpeople, and net reductions of over £150,000 in those of 890,000 workpeople.

Hours of Labour.

Apart from any changes in hours of labour which have been made in the case of coal miners who have resumed work, as to which complete statistics are not yet available, no important changes in hours were reported in October.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING OCTOBER, 1926.

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
AGRICULTURE.				
Agriculture	Somerset	2 Oct.	Male agricultural labourers ...	Minimum rates previously in operation extended, to apply to a week of 50 hours in lieu of 52 hours.†
	Gloucestershire ...	12 Oct.	Male agricultural labourers (other than carters, shepherds, and stockmen).	Minimum rates previously in operation extended, to apply to a week of 50 hours in summer and 48 hours in winter, in lieu of 50 hours throughout the year.‡
MINING AND QUARRYING.				
Iron Mining	Cumberland... ..	11 Oct.	Workpeople employed at iron ore mines.	Increases of 2d. per shift in the bargain price, of 1½d. per shift for winding enginemen, of 1d. per shift for other underground and surface workers, and of ½d. per shift for boys under 16 years; also temporary increases previously granted increased by 2d. per shift on miners' minimum wage, by 1½d. per shift for winding enginemen, by 1d. per shift for other men, and by ½d. per shift for boys.
	Cleveland	25 Oct.	Ironstone miners	Increase of 10·8 per cent. on standard rates, making wages 74·3 per cent. above the standard, plus 1d. to 5d. per shift for lower paid men.
Lead Mining	Wearhead and Alledale.	27 Sept.	Underground and surface workers...	<i>Decreases in bonuses of ½d. or ¾d. per shift for lead ore dressers, enginemen, and surface labourers, and of 1d. per shift for other classes.</i>
Quarrying	West Cumberland ...	11 Oct.	Limestone quarry workers...	Increases of 1d. per shift for blacksmiths and joiners, of 1½d. per shift for other men, and of ½d. per shift for boys under 16 years.

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

† In addition to the numbers quoted, wages stand at the same level as at the beginning of the year in the case of nearly 230,000 workpeople, whose wages have been increased and reduced by equal amounts during the year.

‡ The minimum rates of wages referred to took effect under an Order of the Agricultural Wages Board, in accordance with the provisions of the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924.

§ Under selling-price sliding-scale arrangements.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING OCTOBER, 1926 (*continued*).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRIES.				
Pig Iron Manufacture.	Cleveland and Durham. Tees-side ...	3 Oct.	Blastfurnacemen ...	Increase of 3 per cent.* on standard rates, making wages 14½ per cent. above the standard of 1919 (plus, in some cases, an output or input bonus). Minimum rate after change for scale labourers, 6s. per shift, plus 14½ per cent.
	West Cumberland and North Lancashire.	2nd full pay in Oct.	Cokemen and by-product workers	Increase in bonuses† of amounts varying according to base rates, from 2.6d. to 7d. per week, making total amount of bonuses from 2s. 6.1d. to 6s. 4.5d. per week.
	South Wales and Monmouthshire.	1 Oct.	Workpeople (excluding skilled craftsmen and bricklayers on maintenance work and also labourers) employed at blastfurnaces.	Increase‡ of 2½ per cent., making wages 51 per cent. above the standard. Minimum rate for labourers, 4s. 5½d. per shift, plus 51 per cent.
	West of Scotland ...	31 Oct.§	Blastfurnacemen ...	Increase‡ of 4 per cent. on standard rates, making wages 15 per cent. above the standard.||
Iron and Steel Manufacture.	Certain districts in England and Wales.¶	4 Oct.	Workpeople (excluding certain lower paid day-wagemen) employed at blastfurnaces.	Increase‡ of 2½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 47½ per cent. above the standard.
	Midlands and part of South Yorkshire and South Lancashire.	4 Oct.	Steel sheet millmen...	Increase‡ of 5 per cent. on standard rates, making wages 45 per cent. above the standard.**
	South Wales and Monmouthshire.	1 Oct.	Workpeople employed in iron-puddling furnaces and iron and steel rolling mills and forges.	Increase‡ of 2½ per cent., making wages 51 per cent. above the standard. Minimum rate for labourers, 4s. 5½d. per shift, plus 51 per cent.
ENGINEERING, SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING.				
Railway Service	Derby and Wolverton.	1st full pay after 30 Sept.	Men employed in melting shops and in iron and steel-rolling mills.	Basis rates fixed at 33s. per week at Derby and 32s. per week at Wolverton, plus in each case a war wage of 16s. 6d.
OTHER METAL INDUSTRIES.				
Galvanising	England and Wales††	4 Oct.	Watchmen employed by the London, Midland and Scottish Railway.	Increase‡ of 2½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 47½ per cent. above the standard.
Bobbin and Shuttle Manufacture.	England and Wales	1st pay day in Oct.	Workpeople employed in galvanising departments (excluding process of annealing).	Increase‡ of 1s. per week for men 21 years of age and over, and of 6d. per week for women 18 years of age and over. Rates after change: men—higher skilled, 63s. 6d.; lesser skilled, 54s.; labourers, 44s.; women, 25s. 6d.
	Lancashire‡‡		Workpeople employed in the bobbin-making industry; also shuttle makers employed by certain firms at Blackburn and Garston.	Addition to base rates increased‡ from 48 to 52 per cent. Minimum daywork rate after change: 1s. per hour, plus 52 per cent. (1s. 6.24d. per hour).
	Yorkshire ...		Shuttlemakers ...	Addition to base rate increased‡ from 51 to 55 per cent. Minimum daywork rate after change: 10½d. per hour, plus 55 per cent. (1s. 4.275d. per hour).
Stamped or Pressed Metal Wares.	Great Britain ...	25 Oct.	Shuttlemakers ...	General minimum time rate fixed under Trade Boards Acts reduced from 55s. 6d. to 49s. 6d. per week of 47 hours. (See also page 429.)
TEXTILE INDUSTRIES.				
Woollen and Worsted.	Yorkshire and Lancashire.	1st full pay week in Oct.	Juvenile workers employed in the worsted spinning industry:— Rovers, pilers, oilers, tape stitchers, takers-off, and head doffers. Assistant warehousemen and jobber lads.	Basic rate of 12s. 9d. per week adopted.§§
	Yorkshire and Lancashire.	1st full pay week in Oct.	All other workers ...	Scale of basic rates adopted starting at 13s. at under 18 years and 16s. at 18 and under 18½ years and increasing to 25s. at 20½ and to 26s. 10½d. at 21 years.§§
	Various districts in Yorkshire.¶¶	1st full pay week in Oct.	Juvenile workers employed in the worsted manufacturing industry:— Male workers ...	Basic rate of 12s. 6d. per week adopted as the minimum.§§
			Female workers ...	Scale of basic rates adopted starting at 12s. 6d. at under 17 years and increasing to 16s. at 18 and under 18½ years, 26s. at 20½ and under 21, and to 27s. 9d. at 21 years.§§
			Juvenile workers employed in the woollen manufacturing industry (other than woollen spinning):— Male workers ...	Scale of basic rates adopted starting at 12s. 6d. at under 17 years and increasing to 17s. at 18 and over.§§
			Female workers ...	Scale of basic rates adopted starting at 8s. per week at 14 and under 14½ years, increasing to 17s. per week at 18 and under 18½ years, 26s. at 20½ and under 21, and to 27s. 9d. at 21 years.§§
Hosiery Manufacture.	Huddersfield District.¶¶¶	1st full pay week in Oct.	Workpeople employed in pattern weaving:— Adult male workers ...	Scale of basic rates adopted starting at 8s. per week at 14 and under 14½ years, increasing to 17s. at 18 years.§§
			Workers 17 and under 21 years	Basic rates adopted for competent workers of 33s. per week in the worsted section and 30s. per week in the woollen section; in the case of those not fully competent, basic rates adopted, in the worsted section, for a six months' probationership of 28s. 10½d. during the first three months and 31s. during the second 3 months, and in the woollen section for a probationership of three months of 28s. 10½d. per week.§§
	Leicester ...	1st pay day in Oct.	Workpeople employed in the lambs' wool and worsted yarn spinning industry (excluding workpeople such as engineers, etc.).	Scale of basic rates adopted starting at 14s. per week at 17 and under 17½ years and increasing to 28s. at 20½ and under 21 years.§§
	Dumfries ...	1st pay in Oct.	Workpeople employed in hosiery manufacture.	Bonus increased‡ from 3d. to 3½d. in the shilling on earnings. Minimum rates after change: timeworkers—men, 42s. 6d., women, 25s. 6d., plus in each case 3½d. in the shilling; pieceworkers, 25 per cent. above time rates.

* This change did not take effect under the sliding scale, but was the result of an agreement to revert to the arrangement whereby the standard selling price for the purpose of sliding-scale adjustments should be 54s. per ton as fixed by the agreement of November, 1919.

† Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.

‡ Under selling-price sliding-scale arrangements.

§ The change took effect from the pay starting nearest 1st November—in most cases this was 31st October.

¶ In the case of the lower paid men who were not affected, wages remained at 21 per cent. above the standard.

¶¶ The change took effect under an arrangement made by the Sheet Trade (Conciliation) Board. The districts concerned are principally in Staffordshire, Cheshire, Tees-side, South Wales and Monmouthshire.

** Men on base earnings of not more than 5s. 10d. per shift have been, since 2nd November, 1925, in receipt of bonuses varying according to earnings from 2d. to 10d. per shift for dayworkers, and from 2½d. to 11d. per shift for shiftworkers.

†† Certain firms—members of the Galvanising Conciliation Board.

‡‡ Excluding certain workpeople employed at Blackburn and Garston.

§§ These rates are all subject to an addition of 10 per cent. and to a cost-of-living wage of 72½ per cent. on the total.

¶¶ Huddersfield District, the Heavy Woollen district, Calder Vale, Brighouse, Elland, Morley, Leeds, Yeaton and Guiseley.

¶¶¶ The rates apply also to firms in districts outside Huddersfield who follow Huddersfield methods.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING OCTOBER, 1926 (*continued*).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
TEXTILE INDUSTRIES (<i>continued</i>).				
Drift Nets Mending.	Great Britain ...	4 Oct.	Female workers :— Other than homeworkers ...	Minimum weekly rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts at 4s. for workers in their 1st six months of employment in the trade, and 6s. in their 2nd six months' employment. (See p. 388 of October GAZETTE.)
Elastic Web Weaving.	Leicester ...	1st pay after 17 Oct. 1st pay day in Nov.†	Homeworkers ... Elastic web weavers (male workers)	General minimum piece rate fixed under the Trade Boards Acts at 5s. 6d. per net. (See p. 388 of October GAZETTE.) Bonus increased* from 14s. to 15s. in the pound.
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.	Yorkshire (majority of firms) and certain firms in Lancashire.†	1st pay day in Nov.‡	Workpeople employed in the dyeing and finishing trades.	Cost-of-living wage increased* from 74½ per cent. to 78 per cent. on basic rates for timeworkers, from 59½ per cent. to 62½ per cent. for pieceworkers (except pressers), and from 44½ per cent. to 46½ per cent. for pressers. Minimum rates after change: timeworkers—The Bradford Dyers' Association, Ltd.—men 21 and over—28s., plus 8 per cent., plus 78 per cent. on total, plus 2s.; other firms—men 21 and over, 30s. 3d., plus 78 per cent., plus 2s.; women 18 and over, 18s., plus 78 per cent., plus 1s. 3d.
	Lancashire, Cheshire, and Derbyshire (majority of firms) and certain firms in Yorkshire§; also Scotland.	1st pay day in Nov.‡	Workpeople employed in the bleaching, dyeing, calico printing and finishing trades (except waste bleachers, machine calico printers, engineers, mechanics, etc., employed in repair and maintenance of plant).	Males: Cost-of-living wage increased* from 22s. 7d. to 23s. 7d. per week for those 21 years and over, and by smaller amounts for those under 21. Females: Cost-of-living wage increased* from 13s. 5d. to 14s. 1d. per week for those 18 years and over in Lancashire, Cheshire, and Derbyshire, and for those 21 years and over in Scotland, and by smaller amounts for those under these age limits in the respective districts. Minimum rates after change: Lancashire—men, 28s., plus 23s. 7d., plus 2s.; women, 18s., plus 14s. 1d., plus 1s. 3d. Scotland—men, 25s., plus 23s. 7d., plus 2s.; women, 15s., plus 14s. 1d., plus 1s. 3d.
	West Riding of Yorkshire.	1st pay day in Nov.‡	Mechanics employed in dyeworks...	Increase* of 1s. per week. Rates after change: Bradford, Leeds, and Shipley, 65s. 10d.; other towns, 64s. 10d.
	Bolton and Bury Districts.	1st pay day in Nov.‡	Mechanics employed in the textile dyeing, bleaching, etc. industry.	Cost-of-living wage increased* from 22s. 7d. to 23s. 7d. per week. Total rate after change, 63s. 7d.
	Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, and Scotland.	1st pay day in Nov.‡	Engravers, etc. employed in calico print works.	Cost-of-living wage increased* from 31s. to 32s. 2d. per week for engravers, and from 22s. 7d. to 23s. 7d. per week for turners, polishers and varnishers.
	Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, Scotland, and Belfast.	1st pay day in Nov.‡	Engravers employed in engraving works.	Cost-of-living wage increased* from 28s. to 29s. 2d. per week for men, from 16s. 7d. to 17s. 2d. per week for women, with corresponding increases for youths under 21.
CLOTHING INDUSTRIES.				
Felt-Hat Making	Atherstone and Bedworth.	Week ending 23 Oct.	Male pieceworkers ...	Bonus of 30 per cent. on piecework lists previously paid increased* to 32½ per cent.
Boot and Shoe Repairing, etc.	Great Britain ...	1 Oct.||	Workpeople employed in boot and shoe repairing, etc.:— Male and female workers wholly or mainly employed in making bespoke hand-sewn leather footwear. Male workers employed as pressmen who are responsible for cutting and costing. Male workers 21 years and over employed in operating power sole-stitchers and Blake, etc. machines. All other adult male workers; also female workers employed on benching and/or finishing in the repairing of leather footwear. Male indentured apprentices ... Male learners and other male workers under 21 years of age. Female workers (other than those mentioned above).	Increases* in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of the following amounts for the classes named respectively. (See p. 388 of October GAZETTE):— Increase* of 3s. per week. Minimum rate after change, 65s. Increase* of 3s. per week. Minimum rate after change, 70s. Increases* of 2s. or 3s. per week. Increase* of 3s. per week. Minimum rate after change, 60s. Increases* of from 3d. to 3s. 6d. per week. Increase* of from 1s. to 2s. per week. Increase* of 1s. per week for those 14 and under 17 years, and of 2s. per week for those 17 years and over. Minimum rates after change: 13s. at 14, increasing to 42s. at 21 and over.
			Pieceworkers ... Workpeople employed in the dyeing and dry cleaning trade.	Increases* of 2½ or 5 per cent. on list prices. Increase* of 2s. per week for men 21 and over, and of 6d. or 1s. per week for youths under 21, and for women and girls. Rates after change: men—skilled dyers, 68s. or 73s.; dyers (one colour), 63s.; wet or dry cleaners, finishers, glazers, and other skilled workers, 58s.; labourers, 53s.; women, 21 and over, 29s.
Dyeing and Dry Cleaning.	England and Scotland.	1st pay day in Oct.		
FOOD, DRINK AND TOBACCO INDUSTRIES.				
Baking and Confectionery.	Liverpool, Birkenhead and Wallasey.	18 Oct.	Bakers and confectioners ...	Increase* of 2s. per week for adult workers and 1s. per week for juniors. Rates after change for daywork: forehands and ovenmen, 72s.; tablehands, 66s.
Distilling	Edinburgh and Leith Campbeltown ...	18 Oct. 1 Oct.	Bakers and confectioners ... Distillery workers (except mashmen and head maltmen).	Increase* of 1s. 6d. per week. Minimum rate after change, 75s. Decrease of 5s. per week. Minimum rate after change, 50s.
WOODWORKING AND FURNITURE INDUSTRIES.				
Lace Web Upholstery.	Long Eaton (certain firms).	2 Sept.	Apprentices ...	Scale of rates adopted, starting at two-ninths of the journeymen's rate during the first year, and increasing to two-thirds of the journeymen's rate during the fifth year.

* Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.

† The change applied to workers employed by firms who are members of the British Cotton and Wool Dyers' Association, Ltd. (Slubbing Section), the Leeds Dyers' and Finishers' Federation, the Yorkshire Indigo, Scarlet and Colour Dyers, Ltd., the Leeds and District Worsted Dyers' and Finishers' Association, Ltd., the Huddersfield and District Master Dyers' Association, the Yorkshire Dyers' Federation, the West Riding of Yorkshire Master Slubbing Dyers' Association, The Bradford Dyers' Association, Ltd., and the Employers' Federation of Cotton Yarn Bleachers, Dyers, and Sizers (certain firms). Except in a few cases in the Bradford area the change did not apply to workpeople employed in the home dyeing and finishing departments of woollen and worsted manufacturers.

‡ In respect of the preceding pay period.

§ The change applied to workpeople employed by firms who are members of the Federation of Calico Printers, the Employers' Federation of Dyers and Finishers, the Employers' Federation of Bleachers and the Employers' Federation of Cotton Yarn Bleachers, Dyers, and Sizers (certain firms). At Hebden Bridge the increases for timeworkers were similar to those in Lancashire (see above). For pieceworkers the cost-of-living wages were increased from 64 per cent. to 67 per cent. for netherwood cutters, from 58 per cent. to 61 per cent. for hand cutters, from 49 per cent. to 51 per cent. for menders, and from 55 per cent. to 57 per cent. for all other pieceworkers.

|| In cases where this date did not coincide with the beginning of the weekly pay period, the changes operated from the beginning of the next following weekly pay period.

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
WOODWORKING AND FURNITURE INDUSTRIES (continued).				
Perambulator and Invalid Carriage Manufacture.	Great Britain	1 Oct.*	Workpeople employed in the perambulator and invalid carriage making industry:—	Increases† in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of the following amounts for the classes named respectively (see p. 388 of the October GAZETTE):—
			Timeworkers 21 and over:—	
			Male workers	Increases† of ½d. or ¾d. per hour. General minimum time rate after change: 1s. per hour (higher rates apply to special classes).
			Female workers	Increases† of ½d. per hour. General minimum time rate after change: 7d. per hour (higher rates apply to special classes).
			Timeworkers under 21 years:—	
			Male workers (except porters and labourers).	Increases† of from 6d. to 1s. 9d. per week. Minimum rates after change: 12s. 6d. at 15, increasing to 39s. at 20.
Paper Box Making.	Great Britain	1 Oct.*	Male porters and labourers	Increases† of ½d. or ¾d. per hour. Minimum rates after change: 8½d. at 18, increasing to 10½d. at 20.
			Female workers	Increases† of from 6d. to 1s. 3d. per week. Minimum rates after change: 11s. at 15, increasing to 28s. at 20.
			Pieceworkers	Piecework basis time rates fixed at 10 per cent. above the appropriate general minimum time rates.
			PAPER, PRINTING AND ALLIED INDUSTRIES.	
			Workpeople employed in paper-box making:—	Increases† in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of the following amounts for the classes named respectively (see p. 388 of October GAZETTE):—
			Male timeworkers:—	
Paper Bag Making.	Great Britain	1 Oct.*	Other than learners... ..	Increases† of 1s. to 2s. 6d. per week. General minimum time rate after change, 51s.
			Learners	Increases† of from 6d. to 2s. per week. Minimum rates after change: 13s. at under 15 years, increasing to 44s. at 20.
			Female timeworkers:—	
			Other than learners... ..	Increases† of 1s. per week (29s. 6d. to 30s. 6d.).
			Learners	Increases† of from 6d. to 1s. 6d. per week (except for those starting at 14 years in their first six months' employment for whom there was no change).
			Pieceworkers	Increases† in the minimum piecework basis time rates of 3s. per week (54s. 6d. to 57s. 6d.) for men and 1s. per week (31s. 6d. to 32s. 6d.) for women.
Building	Norwich	Aug.	Workpeople employed in paper-bag making:—	Increases† in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of the following amounts for the classes named respectively (see p. 388 of October GAZETTE):—
			Male timeworkers:—	
			Other than learners... ..	Increases† of from 1s. to 3s. per week. General minimum time rate after change, 55s.
			Learners	Increases† of from 6d. to 2s. 6d. per week.
			Female timeworkers:—	
			Other than learners... ..	Increases† of 1s. 6d. per week (29s. to 30s. 6d.).
Waterworks Undertakings.	London	2 Oct.	Learners	Increases† of from 6d. to 1s. 6d. per week (except for those starting at 14 years in the first six months of employment).
			Female pieceworkers	Increases† in the minimum piecework basis time rate of 1s. per week (31s. to 32s.).
			BUILDING AND ALLIED TRADES.	
			Plasterers	See footnote †.
			PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICES.	
			Manual workers	Increases† of ½d. per hour. Hourly rates after change for labourers: North-East Area, majority rate, 1s. 1½d.; Yorkshire Area, 1s. 0½d. to 1s. 3d.; Midland Area, minimum rates, Zone A, 1s. 1d., Zone B, 1s., Zone C, 10½d., Zone D, 9½d.
Electricity Supply Undertakings.	West Hartlepool	1 Oct.	Able bodied male manual workers employed by the Metropolitan Water Board.	Increases† of 1s. 11½d. per week, making the bonus 23s. 6d. per week for men over 21 years of age, 17s. 6d. per week for youths 18 to 21 years doing full men's work, and 11s. 9d. per week for youths 18 to 21 years not doing full men's work; also increases of 1s. or 6d. per week for boys 16 to 18 years. Rates after change: stokers, 36s. 6d. per week; trenchmen, 32s. 6d.; jointers, 34s. 6d. to 38s. 6d.; labourers, 31s. 6d.; plus in each case bonuses as above.
			Adult male manual workers	Increases† of 9d. per week for Grade D areas, of 10d. per week for Grades C and B, and of 8d. per week for Grade A. Minimum weekly rates after change for labourers: Grade D areas, 50s. 6d.; Grade C, 49s. 7d.; Grade B, 48s.; Grade A, 41s. 7d.
			Adult male workers (excluding those whose wages are regulated by movements in other trades).	Decrease† of ½d. per hour. Scheduled minimum rates after change for general labourers: Zone A areas, 51s., Zone B, 47s., Zone C, 43s.†
			Manual workers	Increases† of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: street sweepers, 11½d.; general labourers, 1s. 2d.; roadmen and carters, 1s. 3d. per hour.
			Unskilled manual workers in non-trading and water departments.	Increases† of 1s. per week. Rates after change: general labourers, 52s.; refuse collectors (drivers), 54s. 11d.
			Manual workers employed in non-trading and water departments.	Increases† of 9d. per week. Rates after change: labourers, roadmen, scavengers and horse drivers, 42s. 8d.; refuse collectors, 44s. 8d.
Non-Trading Services of Local Authorities.	Ipswich	{ 1 July 30 Sept. 29 Oct.	General labourers, horse drivers and roadmen.	Decrease† of 1s. 4d. per week.
			Manual workers in non-trading, works, and electricity departments.	Increases† of 1s. 4d. per week (46s. 8d. to 48s.).
				Increases of 4s. 6d. per week for workpeople on weekly wages not exceeding 70s.; of 1½d. per hour for workpeople on hourly wages not exceeding 70s. per week; and of 1d. per hour for craftsmen on wages between 70s. and 80s. 8d. per week.
				Rates after change: general yard and road labourers, 1s. 6½d. per hour; road sweepers, refuse collectors and one horse carters, 66s. 8d. per week.
			Able bodied male manual workers	Increases† of 1-120th of the minimum basic rates recommended by the Provincial Joint Industrial Council in November, 1921, making the reduction now applicable to such rates 13-60ths. Scheduled minimum weekly rates after change (including the special increase of 2s. given in 1925): Grade A1 areas, 48s. 3d.; Grade A2, 46s. 8d.; Grade B1, 45s. 1d.; Grade B2, 41s. 2d.; Grade C1, 39s. 8d.; Grade C2, 38s.**

* In cases where this date did not coincide with the beginning of the weekly pay period, the changes operated from the beginning of the next following weekly pay period.

† Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.

‡ In the October issue of this GAZETTE (p. 383) an entry was published showing that the rate of wages had been raised from 1s. 6d. to 1s. 7d. per hour by an agreement between certain employers of plasterers and the National Association of Operative Plasterers, etc. In amplification of this statement it is to be observed that the Norwich Master Builders' Association was not a party to the agreement, and that the new rate is not recognised by that Association nor by the National Joint Council for the Building Industry.

§ The increase affects those undertakings in the areas mentioned which follow the wages agreements of the National Joint Industrial Council for the Waterworks Industry.

|| The undertakings affected are those which follow the wages agreements of the South Midlands Joint Industrial Council for the Waterworks Industry and include:—Grade D: Southampton (town area); Grade C: Reading (pays higher rates); Grade A: Southampton (country area); West Gloucestershire Water Co. (pays higher rates).

¶ This decrease was due under the sliding scale to take effect in July, but it was agreed to postpone it until 1st September. The Undertakings affected are those which follow the wages agreements of the Devon and Cornwall Joint Industrial Council for the Electricity Supply Industry, and include Plymouth (Zone A). In the case of Exeter it was agreed that the change should not take place.

** The Authorities affected are those which follow the wages agreements of the Provincial Joint Industrial Council and include:—Grade A1: Bournemouth; Grade B1: Basingstoke, Winchester, Farnborough; Grade B2: Marlow. The rates paid by some of the Authorities differ slightly from the rates quoted above. Oxford and the Hampshire County Council made an increase of 1/60th, and pay minimum rates 2s. less than those quoted for A1 and C1 respectively.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING OCTOBER, 1926 (continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
MISCELLANEOUS INDUSTRIES.				
Brush and Broom Manufacture.	Great Britain	1 Oct.*	Workpeople employed in brush and broom making:— Experienced male timeworkers† Other male timeworkers, female pan hands and other female timeworkers, and learners.§ Male and female pieceworkers Apprentices	Increases† in the minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts of the following amounts for the classes named respectively (see p. 388 of October GAZETTE):— Increase† of ½d. per hour (1s. 2½d. to 1s. 2½d.). Increase† of ½d. per hour. General minimum time rates after change at 21 and over: men, 11½d.; women, 6½d.
Warehousing	Manchester	1st pay day in Oct.	Workpeople employed in wholesale warehouses (clothing, millinery, cotton, etc.).	Increase† of 1 per cent., leaving wages 17½ per cent. below the list. Increases† proportionate to the above. Increases† of from 3d. to 1s. 3d. per week for male workers, and of from 3d. to 9d. per week for female workers. Minimum rates after change: male workers, 10s. 6d. at 14, increasing to 22s. 6d. at 18, 38s. 6d. at 21, and to 51s. 6d. at 23 and over; female workers, 10s. at 14 years, increasing to 20s. 6d. at 18, and to 29s. at 21 and over.
Button Manufacture.	Great Britain	18 Oct.	Certain classes of male workers employed in button making.	Re-classification of workers to whom the minimum rates previously fixed under the Trade Boards Acts apply, certain operations (including pressing, grinding, bending, dyeing, and skimming) being added to those covered by the higher scale of rates, and turners and cutters by machine not responsible for setting their tools being transferred to the lower scale of rates. (See also page 429.)

* In cases where this date did not coincide with the beginning of the weekly pay period, the changes operated from the beginning of the next following weekly pay period.

† Under cost-of-living sliding-scale arrangements.

‡ Men 21 years and over with three years' experience in certain operations and those of all ages who have served at least five years' apprenticeship in on or more of these operations.

§ Excluding male workers under 14½, 15 and under 15½, 16 and under 18, and 19 and under 21 years, and female workers under 14½, 15 and under 15½, and 16 and under 18 years. In the case of female pan hands, the rates previously paid remain unchanged for those employed on broom heads up to 11½ in., stock and banisters up to 8½-in. blade, middles made of all fibre, or fibre and drafts mixed, up to 3½ in., and outsides of any material up to and including 3½ in., banisters (whisk) up to 7½-in. blade, made with common Venetian tops (imported as tops), sweeps' brushes up to and including 5-in. head, and toy hearth brushes up to and including 3½ in.; both made with fibre, fibre and drafts, drafts only, or china, below 3 in. For female learners, the increase was confined to those starting at 16 and under 21 in their first six months, and those starting at 21 years in their third three months.

CHANGES IN WAGES TAKING EFFECT IN NOVEMBER, 1926.

The following groups of workpeople are among those affected by changes in wages already reported as having been arranged to take effect in November: *Increases.*—Steel smelters and millmen in various districts in England and Scotland; Siemens steel makers in South-West Wales; blastfurnacemen in Cumberland; boot and shoe makers in Great Britain; leather belt makers. *Decrease.*—Tinplate workers in South Wales and Monmouthshire (except lower-paid men).

TRADE DISPUTES.*

(1) COAL MINING DISPUTE.

At the beginning of October, about 900,000 workpeople in the coal mining industry continued to be involved in the general dispute in that industry which began on 1st May. The aggregate number of working days lost by workpeople taking part in this dispute was about 18½ million in October, making a total of 126½ million since the beginning of the stoppage. A special article on the subject of this dispute, in continuation of articles in previous issues of this GAZETTE, appears on pages 394-5 of the current issue.

(2) OTHER DISPUTES.

The other disputes in progress in October involved only small numbers of workpeople. A statistical summary relating to these other disputes is given below, the corresponding figures for a month earlier and a year earlier also being given.

Month.	Number of Disputes in progress in Month.			Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress in Month.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress in Month.
	Started before beginning of Month.	Started in Month.	Total.		
October, 1926	9	12	21	3,000	10,000
September, 1926	17	16	33	2,000	15,000
October, 1925	31	49	80	43,000	440,000

Causes.—Of the twelve disputes beginning in October, six, directly involving 500 workpeople, arose on wages questions, and six, directly involving 1,800 workpeople, on other questions.

Results.—Settlements were effected in the case of ten new disputes, directly involving nearly 2,300 workpeople, and of six old disputes, directly involving 100 workpeople. Of these disputes, four, directly involving 1,700 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople, three, directly involving 200 workpeople, in favour of the employers, and nine, directly involving 500 workpeople, were compromised. In the case of one other dispute, directly involving 20 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

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

(3) TOTALS FOR FIRST TEN MONTHS OF 1925 AND 1926.*

The following Table summarises the figures for Great Britain and Northern Ireland for the first ten months of 1926, as compared with the corresponding period of 1925:—

Groups of Industries.	January to Oct., 1925.			January to Oct., 1926.		
	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.
General Strike ...	...	...	...	1	1,580,000	15,000,000
Mining and Quarrying.	151	119,000	2,671,000	50	1,094,000	127,821,000
Brick, Glass, Pottery, etc.	11	1,000	4,000	5	3,000	43,000
Engineering	18	6,000	37,000	15	3,000	64,000
Shipbuilding	20	5,000	31,000	6	1,000	4,000
Other Metal	41	11,000	92,000	36	9,000	138,000
Textile	51	171,000	3,168,000	29	16,000	187,000
Clothing	25	5,000	35,000	9	1,000	8,000
Food, Drink, and Tobacco.	21	4,000	41,000	16	2,000	6,000
Woodworking and Furnishing	25	4,000	84,000	12	2,000	35,000
Paper, Printing, etc.	12	18,000	71,000	3	1,000	42,000
Building, Decorating, Contracting, etc.	45	5,000	74,000	37	3,000	31,000
Transport	39	22,000	46,000	39	23,000	168,000
Public Administration Services.	21	2,000	14,000	8	1,000	29,000
Other	30	32,000	151,000	13	1,000	19,000
Total	510	405,000	6,519,000	279	2,740,000*	143,595,000

[The usual tabular statement of principal disputes is omitted, as, apart from the coal mining stoppage, there were no disputes in October involving large numbers of workpeople.]

* In making up the totals for the several months of the year, the figures have been amended in accordance with the most recent information. Workpeople involved in more than one dispute are counted more than once in the totals; the amount of such duplication is, however, not very considerable, except in the mining and quarrying group in 1926, when about 44,000 workpeople were involved in more than one dispute, and in the case of industries involved in the General Strike in May.

MEMBERSHIP OF TRADE UNIONS.

[NOTE.—The figures given for 1925 are provisional and subject to slight revision when certain information, at present outstanding, has been received. Some Unions are unable to state exactly the number of males and of females, respectively, comprised within their total membership, and in these cases estimates have been furnished. The totals shown for males and for females, therefore, are only approximate. The industrial classification used for the purpose of the analysis into groups of Unions follows that adopted for the current edition of the Ministry of Labour Directory of Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, &c., which is based upon the standard industrial classification drawn up for the Population Census. The total membership of each Union has been included in the group with which the majority of the members are believed to be connected, a separate group being made for Unions of general workers. A review of the figures appears on page 398.]

I.—NUMBER OF UNIONS IN GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AT THE END OF 1925, WITH MEMBERSHIP (MALE, FEMALE, AND TOTAL) AND PERCENTAGE INCREASE OR DECREASE IN MEMBERSHIP COMPARED WITH 1924.

Group of Unions.	No. of Trade Unions at end of 1925.	Membership at end of						Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in Membership at end of 1925 compared with end of 1924.		
		1925.			1924.					
		Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Agriculture, Horticulture, etc.*	3	46,149	1,113	47,262	60,448	1,045	61,493	— 23.7	+ 6.5	— 23.1
Mining and Quarrying...	120	933,747	4,135	937,882	966,806	4,129	970,935	— 3.4	+ 0.1	— 3.4
Pottery and Glass	22	16,626	12,326	28,952	18,341	12,720	31,061	— 9.4	— 3.1	— 6.8
Metals, Machines, Conveyances, etc.*:										
Iron, Steel, Tinplate, etc., Manufacture	7	86,611	1,042	87,653	92,487	1,053	93,540	— 6.4	— 1.0	— 6.3
Engineering, Ironfounding, Shipbuilding, Other Metal Working and Vehicle Building†	110	588,002	6,760	594,762	604,062	6,562	610,624	— 2.7	+ 3.0	— 2.6
Textile:										
Cotton	172	139,909	230,095	370,004	142,193	227,325	369,518	— 1.6	+ 1.2	+ 0.1
Wool, Worsted and Shoddy	28	50,622	41,095	91,717	48,549	30,862	79,411	+ 4.3	+ 33.2	+ 15.5
Flax and Jute	23	10,454	25,215	35,669	10,926	24,979	35,905	— 4.3	+ 0.9	— 0.7
Hosiery	6	3,577	16,689	20,266	4,343	19,039	23,382	— 17.6	— 12.3	— 13.3
Bleaching, Dyeing, Finishing, etc.	34	61,624	19,154	80,778	60,894	18,817	79,711	+ 1.2	+ 1.8	+ 1.3
Other Textile	25	11,472	16,177	27,649	11,938	16,737	28,675	— 3.9	— 3.3	— 3.6
Clothing:										
Boot and Shoe	9	63,186	27,942	91,128	60,998	27,195	88,193	+ 3.6	+ 2.7	+ 3.3
Tailoring and Other Clothing	20	30,796	45,754	76,550	31,910	45,499	77,409	— 3.5	+ 0.6	— 1.1
Food, Drink and Tobacco	7	23,843	5,205	29,048	22,913	4,100	27,013	+ 4.1	+ 27.0	+ 7.5
Woodworking and Furnishing:										
Furnishing	8	29,533	3,858	33,391	28,588	3,566	32,154	+ 3.3	+ 8.2	+ 3.8
Other	26	32,131	1,044	33,175	32,941	1,023	33,964	— 2.5	+ 2.1	— 2.3
Paper, Printing, etc.	27	152,741	54,349	207,090	143,353	50,805	194,158	+ 6.5	+ 7.0	+ 6.7
Building, Public Works Contracting, etc.:										
Bricklayers and Masons	4	65,917	...	65,917	65,071	...	65,071	+ 1.3	...	+ 1.3
Carpenters and Joiners	1	114,521	...	114,521	112,050	...	112,050	+ 2.2	...	+ 2.2
Painters and Decorators	7	50,828	...	50,828	53,746	...	53,746	— 5.4	...	— 5.4
Builders' Labourers*	7	59,151	...	59,151	59,159	...	59,159	— 0.0	...	— 0.0
Other	22	43,452	...	43,452	41,425	...	41,425	+ 4.9	...	+ 4.9
Other Manufacturing Industries†	38	19,459	5,799	25,258	20,550	5,669	26,219	— 5.3	+ 2.3	— 3.7
Transport†:										
Railway Service	9	523,100	5,664	528,764	501,986	4,868	506,854	+ 4.2	+ 16.4	+ 4.3
Water Transport	17	88,257	219	88,476	93,947	306	94,253	— 6.1	— 28.4	— 6.1
Other (Road Transport, Dock Labour, etc.)	16	417,962	12,757	430,719	416,344	12,362	428,706	+ 0.4	+ 3.2	+ 0.5
Commerce, Distribution and Finance:										
Commerce and Distribution	15	101,825	40,938	142,763	99,495	39,650	139,145	+ 2.3	+ 3.2	+ 2.0
Banking and Insurance	24	73,534	5,355	78,889	74,060	5,423	79,483	— 0.7	— 1.3	— 0.7
National and Local Government‡	264	271,134	62,326	333,460	261,701	58,640	320,341	+ 3.6	+ 6.3	+ 4.1
Teaching†	17	67,585	128,680	196,265	62,122	132,824	194,946	+ 8.8	— 3.1	+ 0.7
Entertainments and Sport	8	27,374	5,470	32,844	27,008	6,960	33,968	+ 1.4	— 21.3	— 3.3
Miscellaneous||	44	44,315	4,664	48,979	44,108	4,538	48,646	+ 0.5	+ 2.8	+ 0.7
General Labour¶	4	440,595	47,815	488,410	446,449	46,398	492,847	— 1.3	+ 3.1	— 0.9
TOTALS†...	1,144	4,690,032	831,640	5,521,672	4,720,911	813,094	5,534,005	— 0.7	+ 2.3	— 0.2

II.—MEMBERSHIP (MALE, FEMALE, AND TOTAL) AT THE END OF EACH OF THE YEARS 1913, 1920, 1923, 1924 AND 1925.

Group of Unions.	Males.					Females.					Total.				
	1913.	1920.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1913.	1920.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1913.	1920.	1923.	1924.	1925.
	Thou- sands.	Thou- sands.	Thou- sands.	Thou- sands.	Thou- sands.	Thou- sands.	Thou- sands.	Thou- sands.	Thou- sands.	Thou- sands.	Thou- sands.	Thou- sands.	Thou- sands.	Thou- sands.	Thou- sands.
Agriculture, Horticulture, etc.*	20	207	79	60	46	1	3	1	1	1	21	210	80	61	47
Mining and Quarrying ...	919	1,149	920	957	934	1	8	4	4	4	920	1,157	924	971	938
Metals, Machines, Conveyances, etc.*†	559	1,155	728	696	674	1	18	8	8	8	560	1,173	736	704	682
Textile:	158	165	141	142	140	214	295	229	228	230	372	460	370	370	370
Cotton ...	58	86	56	61	62	9	32	17	19	19	67	118	73	80	81
Bleaching, Dyeing, Finishing, etc. ...	48	81	75	76	76	36	174	95	91	99	84	255	170	167	175
Other Textile ...	83	110	93	93	94	25	126	69	73	74	108	236	162	166	168
Clothing ...	45	81	59	62	62	1	6	4	4	5	46	87	63	66	67
Woodworking and Furnishing ...	84	155	138	143	153	7	72	49	51	54	91	227	187	194	207
Paper, Printing, etc. ...	243	563	357	331	334	...	...	...	...	...	243	563	357	331	334
Building, Public Works Contracting, etc.*	53	93	63	62	60	4	47	24	22	23	57	140	87	84	83
Other Manufacturing Industries**	327	606	474	502	523	...	12	4	5	6	327	618	478	507	529
Transport†:	366	638	446	510	506	1	12	12	13	13	367	650	458	523	519
Railway Service ...	100	279	167	174	175	20	121	44	45	47	120	400	211	219	222
Other ...	211	367	293	262	271	23	95	66	58	63	234	462	359	320	334
Commerce, Distribution and Finance	49	63	61	62	68	64	134	136	133	128	113	197	197	195	196
National and Local Government‡	57	130	72	71	72	3	25	14	12	10	60	155	86	83	82
Teaching†	322	1,067	375	447	440	23	162	40	46	48	345	1,229	415	493	488
Entertainments and Sport	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Miscellaneous††	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
General Labour¶	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS†	3,702	6,995	4,597	4,721	4,690	433	1,342	816	813	832	4,135	8,337	5,413	5,534	5,522

* The figures are exclusive of the membership of General Labour Unions, for which see "General Labour." See also note in italics at head of page.

† The total membership shown for all Trade Unions includes members in the Irish Free State and other overseas branches numbering approximately 60,000 in 1925, of whom 29,000 were engineers and other metal workers, and 18,000 were railwaymen and other transport workers. In compiling the figures for teachers, while certain associations, the majority of whose members are also members of the National Union of Teachers, have been omitted, others, which have also some members in this Union, have been included, but the extent of this duplication is not ascertainable precisely. When allowance is made for all these factors, the net number of Trade Union members in Great Britain and Northern Ireland is estimated to have been nearly 5,450,000 at the end of 1925, compared with rather more than 5,450,000 at the end of 1924.

‡ Leather, chemicals, rubber, brushes, musical instruments, etc.

§ The figures exclude Teachers', Tramway Workers', and General Labour Unions, for which see "Teaching," "Transport" and "General Labour."

|| Including Unions of clerks, chemists, foremen, etc., when not classifiable by industry.

¶ Including General Enginemen.

** Comprising the Pottery and Glass, Food, Drink and Tobacco, and Other Manufacturing Industries groups shown in Table I.

†† Comprising the Entertainments and Miscellaneous groups shown in Table I.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.

THE total number of cases* of poisoning, anthrax, and epitheliomatous and chrome ulceration in Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported under the Factory and Workshop Act during October, 1926, was 40. Five deaths* were reported during the month, three due to epitheliomatous ulceration and two due to lead poisoning. In addition, sixteen cases of lead poisoning among house painters (including one death), and two cases among house plumbers came to the knowledge of the Home Office during October, but notification of these cases is not obligatory.

(a) CASES OF LEAD POISONING.

Among Operatives engaged in—

Smelting of Metals	...	...
Plumbing and Soldering	...	...
Shipbreaking	...	...
Printing	...	...
Tinning of Metals	...	...
Other Contact with Molten Lead	...	1
White and Red Lead Works	...	1
Pottery†	...	2
Vitreous Enamelling	...	...
Electric Accumulator Works	...	2
Paint and Colour Works	...	...
Indiarubber Works	...	1
Coach and Car Painting	...	1
Shipbuilding	...	2
Paint used in Other Industries	...	1
Other Industries	...	...

TOTAL OF ABOVE ... 11

HOUSE PAINTING	...	16
HOUSE PLUMBING	...	2

(b) CASES OF OTHER FORMS OF POISONING.

Aniline Poisoning	...	6
-------------------	-----	---

(c) CASES OF ANTHRAX.

Wool	...	1
------	-----	---

(d) CASES OF EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION.

Pitch	...	3
Tar	...	4
Oil	...	10

TOTAL, EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION

...	...	17
-----	-----	----

(e) CASES OF CHROME ULCERATION.

Manufacture of Bichromates	...	...
Dyeing and Finishing	...	4
Chrome Tanning	...	...
Other Industries	...	1

TOTAL, CHROME ULCERATION

...	...	5
-----	-----	---

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

THE number of workpeople, other than seamen, reported as killed in the course of their employment in Great Britain and Northern Ireland during October, 1926, was 117, as compared with 97 in the previous month and with 207 in October, 1925. Fatal accidents to seamen numbered 73 in October, 1926, as compared with 31 in the previous month, and with 44 a year ago.

RAILWAY SERVICE.

Brakemen and Goods Guards	...	1
Engine Drivers	...	2
Firemen	...	1
Guards (Passenger)	...	1
Permanent-Way Men	...	3
Porters	...	...
Shunters	...	...
Mechanics	...	2
Labourers	...	...
Miscellaneous	...	4
Contractors' Servants	...	...

TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE

...	...	14
-----	-----	----

MINES.

Underground	...	21
Surface	...	4

TOTAL, MINES

...	...	25
-----	-----	----

QUARRIES over 20 feet deep

...	...	5
-----	-----	---

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Cotton	...	...
Wool, Worsted and Shoddy	...	...
Other Textiles	...	1
Textile Bleaching and Dyeing	...	...
Metal Extracting and Refining	...	...
Metal Conversion, including Rolling Mills and Tube Making	...	4
Metal Founding	...	3
Engineering and Machine Making	...	4
Boiler Making and Constructional Engineering	...	5
Locomotives, Railway and Tramway Carriages, Motors, Aircraft	...	4

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS (continued):

Other Metal Trades	...	3
Shipbuilding	...	2
Wood	...	2
Gas	...	2
Electric Generating Stations	...	2
Clay, Stone, Glass, etc.	...	3
Chemicals, etc.	...	2
Food and Drink	...	1
Paper, Printing, etc.	...	2
Tanning, Currying, etc.	...	...
Rubber Trades	...	...
Other Non-Textile Industries	...	2

PLACES UNDER SS. 104-106, FACTORY ACT, 1901.

Docks, Wharves, etc.	...	12
Buildings	...	12
Warehouses and Railway Sidings	...	3

TOTAL, FACTORY ACTS

...	...	69
-----	-----	----

Construction or Repair of

Tramway	...	1
Construction of Tunnel	...	2
Demolition of Aerodrome	...	1

Total (excluding Seamen)

...	...	117
-----	-----	-----

SEAMEN.

Trading Vessels, Sailing	...	...
" " Steam	...	63
Fishing Vessels, Sailing	...	2
" " Steam	...	8

TOTAL, SEAMEN

...	...	73
-----	-----	----

Total (including Seamen)

...	...	190
-----	-----	-----

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

† Of the two persons affected in the Pottery industry one was a female.

POOR LAW RELIEF IN GREAT BRITAIN.

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

THE number of persons* relieved on one day† in October, 1926, in the thirty-one selected areas named below was 1,054,807, or 5.4 per cent. less than in the previous month, but 35.4 per cent. more than in October, 1925. The numbers relieved at these three dates were equivalent, respectively, to rates of 589, 623† and 437† per 10,000 of the estimated population.

Selected Urban Areas.	Number of persons* in receipt of Poor Law Relief on one day† in October, 1926.				Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with a	
	Indoor.	Out-door.	Total.	Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population.	Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
<i>Metropolis.</i>						
West District ...	9,136	7,698	16,834	202	+ 10	— 1
North District ...	10,611	20,637	31,248	303	+ 11	+ 9
Central District ...	2,359	2,796	5,155	383	+ 16	— 42
East District ...	10,126	67,055	77,181	1,184	+ 71	+ 96
South District ...	19,442	79,041	98,483	502	+ 22	— 1
TOTAL, Metropolis ...	51,674	177,227	228,901	496	+ 24	+ 14
West Ham ...	4,517	49,390	53,907	703	— 32	— 255
<i>Other Districts.</i>						
Newcastle District	2,712	71,567	74,279	1,465	+ 3	+ 780
Stockton and Tees District ...	1,232	22,673	23,905	860	+ 57	+ 276
Bolton, Oldham, etc.	4,307	10,154	14,461	183	— 5	+ 31
Wigan District ...	1,877	66,144	68,021	1,491	— 73	+ 1,208
Manchester District	9,286	41,339	50,625	483	...	+ 124
Liverpool District	10,034	59,879	69,913	557	+ 15	+ 62
Bradford District ...	1,837	7,042	8,879	239	— 2	+ 58
Halifax and Huddersfield ...	1,416	3,022	4,438	118	— 9	...
Leeds ...	2,726	17,254	19,980	419	— 51	+ 143
Barnsley District ...	988	93,447	94,435	2,834	— 72†	+ 2,532
Sheffield ...	2,552	35,113	37,665	727	— 77	+ 197
Hull District ...	1,831	13,799	15,630	486	+ 28	+ 54
North Staffordshire	2,310	19,316	21,626	515	— 282	+ 311
Nottingham District	2,162	15,655	17,817	377	— 667	+ 92
Leicester ...	1,166	3,902	5,068	209	+ 18	+ 41
Wolverhampton District ...	3,408	18,125	21,533	287	— 52	+ 19
Birmingham ...	7,364	20,420	27,784	293	+ 8	+ 24
Bristol District ...	2,473	14,635	17,108	412	— 3	+ 41
Cardiff and Swansea	2,602	29,772	32,374	673	— 1	+ 271
TOTAL, "Other Districts"	62,283	563,258	625,541	598	— 52†	+ 257
TOTAL, Districts in England and Wales ...	118,474	789,875	908,349	573	— 29†	+ 161
SCOTLAND.						
Glasgow District ...	5,715	85,054	90,769	944	— 98	+ 81†
Paisley and Greenock District ...	862	13,205	14,067	730	— 183	+ 12†
Edinburgh ...	1,607	19,827	21,434	508	+ 20	+ 121†
Dundee and Dunfermline ...	768	6,152	6,920	318	— 15	+ 110†
Aberdeen ...	569	3,847	4,416	281	+ 27	+ 70†
Coatbridge and Airdrie	385	8,467	8,852	867	— 284	+ 190†
TOTAL for the above Scottish Districts ...	9,906	136,552	146,458	714	— 72	+ 91†
TOTAL for above 31 Districts in Oct., 1926...	128,380	926,427	1,054,807	589	— 34†	+ 152†

ASSISTED PASSAGES UNDER THE EMPIRE SETTLEMENT ACT, 1922.

THE number of assisted passages from Great Britain and Northern Ireland granted during October, 1926, in connection with agreed schemes under the Empire Settlement Act, and the total number of such passages granted from the inception of these schemes, together with the number of departures during the same periods, are shown in the following Table:—

Assisted Passage Schemes.	Assisted Passages Granted in Oct., 1926.	Total Assisted Passages Granted.		Departures in Oct., 1926.	Total Departures.	
		1922 to 1925.	Jan.-Oct., 1926.		1922 to 1925.	Jan.-Oct., 1926.
To Australia	2,852	82,149†	25,845†	2,564	78,689	28,154†
" New Zealand	944	25,621†	8,232†	678	22,625	9,083†
" Canada:						
Dominion of Canada	688	21,375†	19,037†	1,124	21,489	18,329
Province of Ontario	...	1,367	...	...	1,356	...
" South Africa	20	167	268	19	79	141
Minor Schemes	153	5,582	1,064†	125	4,939	867
Total	4,657	136,261†	54,446†	4,510	129,177	56,574†

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

* The figures include dependants, but exclude casuals, lunatics in asylums, registered hospitals and licensed houses, and persons receiving out-door medical relief only.

† The figures for England and Wales relate to 30th October, and those for Scotland to 15th October.

‡ Revised figures.

RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

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

I.—FOOD.

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

Country.	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.*					Latest figures available.	
	July, 1923.	July, 1924.	July, 1925.	July, 1926.		Rise.	Date.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.		
UNITED KINGDOM ...	62	62	67	61	69		1926. 1 Nov.
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.							
Czechoslovakia ...	...	737	816	776	778		Sept.
Denmark ...	88	100	110	59	59		July
Egypt (Cairo)† ...	52	48	58	58	58		July
Finland ...	868	916	1,007	967	1,010		Sept.
France (Paris)† ...	221	260	321	474	524		Oct.
„ (other towns)† ...	249§	300§	351§	510§	510		Aug.
Germany ...	...	...	54	45	45		Sept.
Holland (The Hague) ...	...	67	76	68	64		Sept.
Italy (Milan) ...	396	408	502	554	552		Sept.
„ (Rome) ...	382	369	427	498	502		Aug.
Norway ...	118	148	160	98	91		Oct.
Spain (Madrid)† ...	72	82	90	86	87		Sept.
„ (Barcelona)† ...	65	72	82	63	59		Sept.
Sweden† ...	60	59	69	56	57		Oct.
Switzerland ...	66	70	69	59	58		Sept.
United States ...	44	40	59	54	55		Sept.
BRITISH DOMINIONS, & C.							
Australia ...	64	49†	56	59	55		Sept.
Canada ...	37	34	41	49	47		Oct.
India (Bombay):							
Native families ...	48	51	52	55	53		Sept.
„ European do....	...	80	78	72	72		July
Irish Free State ...	82	85	88	74	74		July
New Zealand ...	42	48	51	49	48		Sept.
South Africa ...	16	17	20	16	17		Sept.

II.—ALL ITEMS.

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

Country.	Items on which Computation is based.¶	Percentage Increase as compared with July, 1914.¶				Latest figures available.	
		July, 1923.	July, 1924.	July, 1925.	July, 1926.	Rise.	Date.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	
UNITED KINGDOM ...	A,B,C,D,E	69	70	73	70	79	1926. 1 Nov.
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.							
Belgium ...	A,C,D,E	329	393	409	537	605	Oct.
Czechoslovakia (Prague) ...	A,B,C,D,E	600	589	641	...	623	Sept.
Denmark ...	A,B,C,D,E	104	114	119	84	84	July
Estonia (Tallinn) ...	A,B,C,D,E	...	...	14††	11††	8††	Sept.
Finland ...	A,B,C,D,E	990	1,032	1,094	1,018	1,081	Sept.
France (Paris) ...	A,B,C,D,E	231**	267**	301**	439**	439	3rd qr.
Germany ...	A,B,C,D,E	...	...	43	42	42	Oct.
Greece (Athens) ...	A,B,C,D,E	933	1,225	1,372	1,708	1,718	Aug.
Holland (Amsterdam) ...	A,B,C,D,E	74†	73†	79†	...	74	Mar.
Italy (Milan) ...	A,B,C,D,E	387	412	498	549	557	Sept.
„ (Rome) ...	A,B,C,D,E	350	349	395	462	463	Aug.
Luxemburg ...	A,C,D	340	381	415	509	611	Oct.
Norway ...	A,B,C,D,E	139†	151†	161†	118†	118	Oct.
Poland (W'rsaw) ...	A,B,C,D,E	...	...	57	77	88	Sept.
Sweden ...	A,B,C,D,E	74	71	76	72	71	Oct.
Switzerland ...	A,B,C,D	...	...	68	62	61	Sept.
United States ...	A,B,C,D,E	70†	69†	74†	75†	75	June
BRITISH DOMINIONS, & C.							
Australia ...	A,B	56**	48**	55**	...	61	2nd qr.
Canada ...	A,B,D	46	44	46	50	48	Oct.
India (Bombay):							
Native families ...	A,B,C,D	53	57	57	57	55	Sept.
„ European do. ...	A,B,C,D,E	...	65	60	59	59	July
Irish Free State ...	A,B,C,D,E	80	83	88	82	82	July
New Zealand ...	A,B,C,D,E	58§	60§	63§	61	63	Sept.
South Africa ...	A,B,C,D,E	30	32	33	30	30	Sept.

* Exceptions to this are: France (other towns), August, 1914; The Hague, January to July, 1914; Rome and Milan, January to June, 1914; Switzerland, June, 1914; Amsterdam, Spain, South Africa, average, 1914; Germany, average, 1913-1914. † Figure for June. ‡ Fuel and light are also included in these figures. § Figure for August. ¶ A = Food; B = House-Rent; C = Clothing; D = Fuel and light; E = Other or Miscellaneous Items. ¶ Exceptions to this are: Amsterdam, 1911-1913; France, Poland, Australia and South Africa, average for 1914; Belgium, April, 1914; Greece, March, 1914; Rome and Milan, January to June, 1914; Germany, Egypt, average 1913-1914; Switzerland and Luxemburg, June, 1914; United States, 1913. ** Figure for 3rd Quarter. †† These figures are calculated on a gold basis.

EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

[N.B.—The following paragraphs include an abstract of such official information as is available with regard to the state of employment abroad, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fluctuations in employment in each country from period to period. The bases of the official statistics published in the various countries are, however, not the same as those of the United Kingdom statistics; and therefore the figures quoted below cannot properly be used with those on pp. 402-403 to compare the actual level of employment in the United Kingdom with that of other countries. For details of the bases of the unemployment statistics of the various countries, reference should be made to the Reports on Statistics of Unemployment issued by the International Labour Office. (Studies and Reports, Series C., No. 7, and Series N., No. 7.)]

FRANCE.*

Unemployment in October.—The total number of unemployed persons remaining on the "live register" of the Exchanges on 30th October, 1926, was 9,750 (5,949 men and 3,801 women). At the end of September (2nd October) the corresponding total was 11,649, and at the end of October, 1925, 11,099. The total number of vacancies remaining unfilled on 30th October was 6,306 (3,710 for men and 2,596 for women), as compared with 10,475 at the end of September (2nd October) and 8,974 at the end of October, 1925. During the last week of October, the Exchanges succeeded in placing 24,692 persons in situations, including 9,902 dock workers at seaports, and in addition found employment for 1,529 foreign immigrants.

GERMANY.†

Employment in September.—The *Reichsarbeitsblatt* states that the improvement in employment reported in August was maintained in September. A decline in the demand for workpeople in agriculture in certain localities was more than counterbalanced by a slight recovery in building and by a gradually increasing demand for workers in the large majority of other trades, particularly textiles and clothing.

The returns from statutory health insurance societies showed an increase in the number of members‡ in employment, the total on 1st October being 13,763,971 as compared with 13,672,700 on 1st September, an increase of 0.7 per cent.

Returns relating to unemployment among 3,368,201 organised workers were submitted by 38 national trade unions. Of these 513,364, or 15.2 per cent. were out of work on 25th September, as compared with 16.7 per cent. on 28th August and 4.5 per cent. at the end of September, 1925. In addition 427,380, or 12.7 per cent., were working short time, as against 15.0 per cent. on 28th August and 8.5 per cent. at the end of September, 1925.

The following Table gives particulars of total unemployment among the principal Unions included in the returns:—

UNIONS.	Membership reported on at end of September, 1926.	Percentage Totally Unemployed at end of Month.		
		Sept., 1926.	August, 1926.	Sept., 1925.
S.D. = Social-Democratic. H.D. = Hirsch - Duncker (neutral). C. = Christian.				
All Unions making Returns ...	3,368,201	15.2	16.7	4.5
Metal (S.D.) ...	637,560	19.5	20.9	5.1
„ (H.D.) ...	77,326	10.8	11.0	5.6
Textile (S.D.) ...	282,594	14.4	16.5	2.8
„ (C.) ...	68,010	8.3	11.0	1.3
Clothing (S.D.) ...	69,833	26.9	32.1	5.4
Boot and shoe (S.D.) ...	73,321	21.9	28.2	4.5
Food, tobacco, etc. (S.D.) ...	51,244	13.5	15.2	6.8
Food and drink (S.D.) ...	68,283	5.0	5.3	2.6
Tobacco (S.D.) ...	53,843	16.2	17.2	7.5
Woodworking (S.D.) ...	265,182	24.4	27.2	4.2
Printing (S.D.) ...	76,400	8.4	8.2	1.7
Bookbinding (S.D.) ...	50,576	15.1	17.6	3.8
Building (S.D.) ...	325,412	16.0	17.8	4.6
Carpenters (S.D.) ...	87,594	17.9	18.4	5.2
Transport (S.D.) ...	253,603	8.9	8.5	4.8
Factory workers (trades not distinguished) (S.D.) ...	359,478	13.2	15.1	5.6
Engine drivers and firemen (S.D.) ...	45,390	11.9	12.7	6.4
Factory and transport (S.D.) ...	50,612	9.7	10.6	5.8
Municipal and State workers (S.D.) ...	166,422	1.7	1.7	0.8

Figures relating to the number of persons in receipt of benefit in respect of total unemployment are available for 15th October, on which date the total was 1,339,194. On 1st October, the corresponding figure was 1,394,105, and on 15th September, 1,483,458.

At the end of September the employment exchanges making returns reported 2,000,581 persons on the "live register" as against 2,147,056 at the end of August. The number of vacant situations at the end of September was 31,040, as compared with 31,185 at the end of August. During the month of September there were, on an average, 493 applications for each 100 vacancies registered at the Exchanges, as compared with 557 in August.

AUSTRIA.

Unemployment in September.—According to the issue of *Statistische Nachrichten* (the journal of the Austrian Department of Statistics) for 25th October, 1926, the number of persons in receipt of unemployment benefit in Austria was 148,111 at the end of September, as compared with 151,053 at the end of the preceding month and 119,004 at the end of September, 1925. In Vienna alone there were 81,375 persons in receipt of benefit at the middle of October and 83,015 at the end of September.

* *Bulletin du Marché du Travail*, 5th November, 1926. Paris.

† *Reichsarbeitsblatt*, 1st November, 1926. Berlin.

‡ "Members" of these societies are persons under obligation to pay insurance premiums. During unemployment they are relieved of this obligation; hence paying members are assumed to be in employment.

HOLLAND.*

Unemployment in September.—The journal of the Dutch Statistical Office contains preliminary figures compiled by the State Department of Unemployment Insurance and Employment Exchanges, which show that out of 262,115 members of subsidised unemployment funds making returns for the week ended 25th September, 1926, 14,803 (5·6 per cent.) were unemployed during the whole week, and 4,807 (1·8 per cent.) for less than six days. In the corresponding week of the preceding month (ended 28th August, 1926) the percentages were respectively 5·5 and 1·9.

BELGIUM.

Unemployment in September.—According to the *Revue du Travail* for 31st October, provisional figures based on returns received by the Ministry of Industry and Labour from 145 unemployment insurance societies show that 1·2 per cent. of the 576,819 members covered were totally unemployed on 2nd October, as compared with 1·2 per cent., also at the end of August and 0·8 per cent. at the end of September, 1925.

SWITZERLAND.†

Unemployment in September.—On 30th September, 1926, the number of applications remaining on the "live register" of Employment Exchanges making returns to the Federal Labour Department was 12,803, as compared with 11,818 at the end of August and 10,356 at the end of September, 1925. Offers of situations made by employers on these dates numbered 1,985, 1,969 and 2,468 respectively. There were thus on an average 645 applications for each 100 vacancies on 30th September, as compared with 600 on 31st August and 420 on 30th September, 1925.

DENMARK.‡

Unemployment in October.—Returns for the whole country, made to the Danish Statistical Department by trade unions and by the public Employment Exchanges, show that out of 268,964 workpeople, 18·6 per cent. were unemployed on 29th October, as against 16·8 per cent. on 1st October and 13·5 per cent. at the end of October, 1925.

SWEDEN.§

Unemployment in September.—The percentage of members of trade unions making returns who were unemployed on 30th September, 1926, was 9·1, as compared with 8·2 on 31st August, and 8·5 on 30th September, 1925.

POLAND.

Unemployment in September.—According to the official journal of the Central Statistical Office of Poland,|| the estimated number of unemployed on 25th September, 1926, was 217,606, as compared with 244,552 on 28th August, and 195,040 at the end of September, 1925. These figures are based on returns from Employment Exchanges. On 25th September last, the number of unemployed persons entitled to relief was 112,659, as against 121,285 on 28th August, 1926.

UNITED STATES.¶

Employment in September.—Figures relating to the volume of employment in September, based on returns from 10,276 establishments in 54 industries, are published by the Federal Bureau of Labour Statistics. These establishments reported 3,091,346 persons employed in September, as against 3,043,402 in August, representing an increase of 1·7 per cent. The aggregate wages paid for September show an increase of 0·5 per cent. as compared with August, and the average earnings per head a decrease of 1·2 per cent., this being due to the general observance of Labour Day.

Index Number of Employment, September.—If the monthly average index number of employment in manufacturing industries in 1923 be taken as 100, the corresponding figure for September, 1926, is 92·2, as compared with 90·7 in August and 90·9 in September, 1925.

CANADA.

*Employment in October.***—For 1st October, 1926, returns were received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from 5,918 firms, with an aggregate of 865,013 upon their pay rolls. On 1st September, the same firms reported 862,782 employed and the total for October thus shows an increase of 2,231 persons. If employment in the week ended 17th January, 1920, be represented by 100, the index number of employment for 1st October, 1926, is 105·2, as compared with 104·9 at the beginning of the preceding month and 98·3 on 1st October, 1925.

Trade Union Unemployment in September.††—On 30th September, 1926, 3·3 per cent. of the aggregate membership of trade unions making returns were unemployed, as compared with 2·5 at the end of August, and 5·7 per cent. at the end of September, 1925.

NEW ZEALAND.‡‡

Unemployment in August.—Returns relating to unemployment in August were furnished to the Census and Statistics Office by trade unions having an aggregate membership of 47,142. Of these, 3,912, or 8·3 per cent., were out of work for more than three days during the week ended 14th August, as compared with 6·6 per cent. in the week ending 15th May. These returns are published at quarterly intervals.

* *Maandschrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek*, 30th October, 1926. The Hague.

† *Sozialstatistische Mitteilungen*, October, 1926. Berne.

‡ *Statistiske Efterretninger*, 6th November, 1926. Copenhagen.

§ Information supplied by the Swedish Department of Social Affairs.

|| *Wiadomości Statystyczne*, 20th October, 1926. Warsaw.

¶ *Employment in Selected Industries*, September, 1926. Washington.

** *The October Employment Situation*, 1926. Ottawa.

†† Information supplied by the Canadian Department of Labour, Ottawa.

‡‡ *Monthly Abstract of Statistics*, September, 1926. Wellington.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

Employer and Workman Act, 1875.

PIECE-WORKERS IN THE TEXTILE TRADES—WAGES—LEGALITY OF DEDUCTIONS—NEGLIGENT WORK.

In this case, the respondent, N. Hart, brought a claim against her employers, The Riversdale Mill Co., Ltd., under the above Act, for the sum of 6d., being the balance of wages alleged to be due to her and unlawfully deducted by her employers, who counterclaimed for 1s. in respect of damages sustained by them through the negligence of the respondent. It was explained that the usual method of paying cotton weavers on piece-work was to pay them the sum specified in a standard list for each perfect piece of cloth. The rates of pay were settled by an agreement between the employers' Association and the employees' Union. An implied condition was that the prices on the list should apply to good merchantable cloth, produced by the respondent by performing her work without negligence and in a careful manner. There was a practice to pay more than the standard price if the materials provided by her employer were found to be defective, as payment for extra work; but, on the other hand, if the weaver's workmanship was not up to the required standard, it had been for many years a custom to pay a sum less than the sum contained in the standard list, being a reasonable amount, assessed by the employer, in respect of the loss suffered by him for damage to his cloth.

For the purposes of this case, it was admitted that the deduction of 6d. which was made was both fair and reasonable, and less than the actual loss sustained by the employers. It was also admitted that the respondent was negligent, and that the 1s. claimed by the employers was a fair claim. Section 3 of the Truck Act, 1831, provides as follows:—

"The entire amount of the wages earned by or payable to any artificer in any of the trades hereinafter enumerated in respect of any labour by him done in any such trade shall be actually paid to such artificer in the current coin of this realm, and not otherwise; and every payment made to any such artificer by his employer, of or in respect of any such wages, by the delivering to him of goods or otherwise than in the current coin aforesaid, except as hereinafter mentioned, shall be and is hereby declared illegal, null and void."

The employers' contention was that this Section did not apply to deductions for bad work, that the amount of wages "earned by" and the amount "payable to" were not necessarily the same thing, and in this case, on account of certain bad work, the amount shown in the standard list was not "earned," but the amount on that list was subject to a deduction for bad work. It was further urged that the Truck Act, 1896, had no application to the case under consideration by reason of an order made by the Home Secretary in March, 1871, exempting the cotton-weaving industry. As a consequence of this, it was argued that that industry was free to make contracts permitting reductions for bad work. The respondents agreed that the Truck Act, 1896, had no application to the case, but based their claim on Section 3 of the Act of 1831. The Justices had held that the employers had made an illegal deduction of 6d. by way of a fine from respondent's wages, and gave judgment for the respondent for 6d. On the counterclaim the Justices gave judgment in the employers' favour for 1s. The employers appealed.

In delivering his judgment, the Lord Chief Justice said the first question for consideration was what was the amount of wages payable to the workman under his contract with the employers. The contract between the parties was that wages should be paid in accordance with the list agreed between the employees' Union and the employers' Association, and that if the workmanship was bad the employers should be entitled to compensation, the amount to be assessed by them. The employers' argument seemed to be that no deduction should be regarded as having been made from wages, as the amount of wages was not ascertained until certain deductions have been made. In his opinion "the entire amount of the wages" was the amount specified in the agreed list, and not that amount less an uncertain sum to be assessed by the employers. In his view, the Truck Act, 1831, rendered illegal any deduction by an employer other than the deduction expressly authorised by that Act. Even if the custom to make deductions for bad work had been acquiesced in by the workman, it would still have been illegal, as a contravention of the Act of 1831. His Lordship said that he had the misfortune to differ from the other members of the Court. Mr. Justice Avery took the view that the respondent was employed to weave merchantable cloth, for which she should be paid in accordance with the standard list, but subject to a fair deduction for bad work. Sixpence was admitted to be a fair deduction, and therefore the amount paid to the respondent less the 6d. represented the full amount of wages due to her. Dealing with the Truck Act, 1831, he said he found nothing in that Act expressly forbidding a deduction for bad work in the calculation of wages. He saw no difference in principle between the present case and that of any piece worker, the amount of whose wages could not be calculated till it was ascertained what work had in fact been performed. Mr. Justice Salter, agreeing with Mr. Justice Avery, said that the appellants had not made any deduction from wages earned, they had made deductions from the standard list. By a majority the appeal was allowed, and leave to appeal was given.—*Riversdale Mill Co., Ltd., v. Hart. High Court of Justice, King's Bench Division. November 11, 1926.*

Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924.

AGRICULTURAL WAGES—MINIMUM RATE—PROHIBITION AGAINST REDUCTION FOR BOARD AND LODGING.

In 1924, the respondent engaged a farm labourer at 8s. a week, with board and lodging which was estimated at 17s. a week. At the time of his engagement the labourer stated that he was 18 years

of age, and he remained in the respondent's employment until August, 1925. The Agricultural Wages Board established by the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924, made an Order in March, 1925, whereby the minimum wages for farm labourers in the area in question were fixed at 24s. a week for labourers of 18 years of age, with an ascending scale up to 32s. a week for labourers of 21 years of age.

In July, 1925, the Agricultural Wages Committee made an Order prohibiting the reckoning of any benefit as payment of wages in lieu of cash. In August, 1925, an information was preferred against the respondent for paying the labourer less than the minimum rate, and it was stated, though not proved at the hearing, that the labourer was 21 years of age. The Justices held that the respondent was entitled to set off the value of the board and lodging against the wages due; but, as there had been no agreement as to the amount due for board and lodging, the respondent had committed a technical offence, and they imposed a small fine and ordered him to pay the labourer 3s. 7d.

Section 7 (2) of the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1924, provides as follows:—"In any proceedings against a person under this Section, it shall lie with that person to prove that he has paid wages at not less than the minimum rate." A Court of the King's Bench Division held that there was no right of set-off, and that, until the prosecution had proved the age of the labourer, there was no onus on the respondent under Section 7 (2), and that although it was now too late to prove that his age was 21 and not 18, the Justices had taken a wrong view as to the estimated value of the board and lodging, and the case must be remitted to them with a direction that it should be calculated for the period from July, 1925.—*Jones v. Harris. High Court of Justice, King's Bench Division. October 13, 1926.*

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS, 1920-26.

DECISIONS GIVEN BY THE UMPIRE.

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

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

The following are recent decisions of general interest:—

Case No. 3477/26, revised. (28/10/26.) Section 8 (1) of the Principal Act—Trade Dispute.

MINERS' DISPUTE—COAL HEWERS LOST EMPLOYMENT OWING TO STOPPAGE DUE TO DISPUTE—SUBSEQUENTLY COLLIERY CLOSED ON ACCOUNT OF UNPROFITABLE WORKING—NO PROSPECT OF RE-OPENING ON TERMS AGREED BY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION—HAD PREVIOUSLY CLOSED AS UNPROFITABLE, AND OWED WORKING PRIOR TO STOPPAGE TO SUBVENTION.

The applicants, who normally were coal hewers at a Durham colliery, lost their employment on the 30th April, when a stoppage of work occurred at the colliery in consequence of a dispute in the mining industry regarding wages and the conditions of work. Accordingly their claims for unemployment benefit were disallowed under the provisions of Section 8 (1) of the principal Act.

The applicants alleged that they had evidence of their employers' intention to close the colliery permanently on the ground that it could not be worked economically. The employers, however, explained that certain terms were agreed to by the Durham Coal Owners' Association for the re-opening of the collieries in the county. After full consideration it was decided on the 13th July that, upon these terms, which were presumed to be the most favourable to the owners likely to be reached, certain collieries owned by the company could not profitably be worked. They could be re-opened only by paying a much lower wage to the workmen. Thereupon steps were taken to preserve the machinery and plant by withdrawing it from below ground. The employers emphasised that the collieries were not totally abandoned, but were closed until the position of the coal industry was so changed as to render profitable working possible.

It appeared that the pits in question had previously been closed as unprofitable, and the Company had been enabled to work them for the period prior to the stoppage only owing to the subvention.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claims should be allowed as from the 14th July. The Court took the view that the colliery at which the applicants were employed should be deemed to have ceased from that date.

* Volumes containing the collected decisions of the Umpire are published by H.M. Stationery Office. Decisions given prior to 31st December, 1925, have been published in pamphlet form and later embodied in bound volumes, the latest being a volume of selected decisions given during the year 1925 (H.M. Stationery Office: price 7s. 6d. net). Decisions given subsequent to December, 1925, are printed in pamphlet form and may be obtained as and when issued, on payment of an annual subscription. All inquiries and applications should be made to H.M. Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown on the front cover of this GAZETTE.

The Insurance Officer did not agree with the Court's recommendation. He was of the opinion that the stoppage of work due to the dispute which took place at the end of April should be held to continue until there was a general settlement. Until the terms of such settlement were known the employers were not in a position to say definitely whether these collieries would be abandoned or not; but they did say that there was no present intention to abandon the collieries.

The Umpire considered the evidence and gave a decision, but subsequently a letter dated 24th July, 1926, from the chief collieries agent of the applicants' employers, to the secretary of the local lodge of the Durham Miners' Association, was brought to his notice. The letter confirmed the applicants' allegation regarding the permanent closure of the colliery owned by their employers on economic grounds.

The Umpire, in view of this additional information, then gave the following decision:—

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

"Since I gave my decision in this case there has been brought to my notice a letter of July 24th, 1926, by the chief collieries agent of the applicants' late employers, which shows that after July 13th there was no longer a stoppage of work which was due to a trade dispute at the collieries therein referred to.

"This letter, I am told, was produced at the Court of Referees, but it was not before me when I gave my decision. It is not quite in accord with the employers' report of August 8th, or with the evidence given by a representative of the firm at the Court of Referees but I accept it (as apparently the Court of Referees did) as stating the true position.

"Accordingly I agree with the recommendation of the Court of Referees."

Case No. 3644/26. (4/10/26.) Section 8 (1) of the Principal Act—Trade Dispute.

MINERS' DISPUTE—ARMATURE WINDER IN CENTRAL ENGINEERING SHOP AT COLLIERY LOST EMPLOYMENT WEEK AFTER STOPPAGE—SHOP EXECUTED WORK ALSO FOR FIRM'S BUSINESSES OTHER THAN COLLIERIES—ENGAGED ON PRODUCTION AS WELL AS MAINTENANCE.

It appeared that the applicant, an armature winder at a colliery owned by an iron and steel company, lost his employment on the 6th May, 1926, owing to a stoppage of work which commenced at the colliery on the 30th April in consequence of the national mining dispute; and his claim for unemployment benefit was accordingly disallowed under the provisions of Section 8 (1) of the principal Act.

The applicant explained that he was employed in a central department where armature winding was done for the various businesses owned by his firm, including the iron works, cement works, limestone mines, and collieries. His wages did not fluctuate with those of the miners, nor was he interested in the dispute.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim should be disallowed. The Court considered that the applicant belonged to a grade or class of worker participating in the dispute.

The applicant's association appealed to the Umpire against the disallowance, maintaining that the applicant was not participating in nor financing the dispute. He was in a department governed by conditions which were under the ægis of the Electrical Trades Union and the Steelworkers' Association for Scotland, and were in no way affected by the dispute or any association of miners. Moreover, the department in which the applicant worked, although situated in the grounds of the colliery, was a separate department engaged in the work of repairing and rewinding armatures for all the firm's businesses, and was controlled from the company's head office.

Subsequently it was ascertained that the applicant's department was a central engineering shop. His work was mainly in connection with repairs, but some new work (e.g., the making of field coils) was undertaken. Formerly it was the firm's custom to send the work out to large electrical establishments, but latterly they had employed their own armature winders for reasons of economy.

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

"The applicant was employed as an armature winder in a central engineering shop. I have no evidence as to where the shop was; but, assuming it was on the colliery premises, I am satisfied that it was a separate department in which there were carried on certain, branches of work (including armature winding) which are commonly carried on as separate businesses on separate premises from the ordinary work of a colliery."

Case No. 3876/26. (19/10/26.) Section 8 (1) of the Principal Act—Trade Dispute.

MINERS' DISPUTE—COLLIER, UNEMPLOYED THROUGH STOPPAGE, SECURED WORK ON TAR SPRAYING FOR LOCAL COUNCIL—LOST EMPLOYMENT AFTER FOUR WEEKS UPON COMPLETION OF JOB—BELONGED TO MINERS' FEDERATION—REGULARLY ENGAGED IN ANOTHER OCCUPATION—NOT ESSENTIAL TO HAVE RELINQUISHED MINING WORK.

On completion of a job of tar spraying for the local district council upon which he had been engaged for a month, the applicant became unemployed on the 23rd August, 1926. He had previously been a

collier, and had lost that employment in consequence of the national stoppage of work which commenced at the coal mines on the 30th April, 1926. Accordingly, his claim for unemployment benefit, made on the 24th August, was disallowed under the provisions of Section 8 (1) of the principal Act.

The applicant maintained that he was entitled to benefit, since his unemployment was due to the completion of the work upon which he was last employed. He had been a miner for 17 years, and was a member of a miners' union. He was prepared to return to the mines if work became available, but in the meantime he was willing to accept any kind of work.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim should be allowed.

The Insurance Officer did not agree with the Court's recommendation. He was of the opinion that, since the applicant had been employed for 17 years as a miner, he should not be regarded as "regularly engaged in some other occupation" merely by reason of his four weeks' work at tar spraying.

The applicant's association appealed to the Umpire against the disallowance, submitting the applicant's statement that when he was engaged by the district council on the 29th July he was under the impression that the employment was permanent. Although he was a member of the Miners' Federation he intended ultimately to transfer to the General Workers' Union.

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

"I agree with the recommendation of the Court of Referees."

"The applicant has become regularly engaged in another occupation during the stoppage of work in the mining industry; it is not essential to the fulfilment of this condition that he should have relinquished mining work."

Case No. 4001/26. (25/10/26.) Section 8 (1) of the Principal Act—Trade Dispute.

MINERS' DISPUTE—MINER, UNEMPLOYED THROUGH STOPPAGE, SUBSEQUENTLY WORKED FOR PARISH COUNCIL—SPECIFICALLY ENGAGED FOR FOUR WEEKS TO HELP REDUCE ARREARS OF WORK AT CEMETERY—NOT REGULARLY ENGAGED IN SOME OTHER OCCUPATION.

The applicant lost his employment as a colliery worker owing to a stoppage of work which commenced at the colliery on the 30th April, 1926, in consequence of the national dispute in the mining industry. Subsequently he was engaged by the local parish council for an agreed period of four weeks, in order to assist in reducing the arrears of work at a cemetery. He again became unemployed on the 24th July, upon completion of the agreed period, and made a claim for unemployment benefit two days later, which was disallowed under the provisions of Section 8 (1) of the principal Act.

The applicant appealed against the disallowance to the Court of Referees.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim should be disallowed, the Court being of the opinion that the loss of employment was by reason of a stoppage of work due to a trade dispute.

The applicant's association appealed to the Umpire, who gave the following decision:—

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

"The applicant obtained four weeks' work at a cemetery, and it is stated that, owing to the work being in arrears at the cemetery, he was engaged for four weeks only. This statement seems to me to negative the suggestion that he became regularly engaged at the cemetery."

Case No. 4114/26. (30/10/1926.) Section 8 (1) of the Principal Act—Trade Dispute.

MINERS' DISPUTE—HUTCH REPAIRER LOST EMPLOYMENT OWING TO STOPPAGE—DURING PRESSURE OF WORK HUTCHES HAD OCCASIONALLY BEEN BOUGHT FROM OUTSIDE FIRMS—NOT A SEPARATE BUSINESS.

The applicant, a colliery hutch repairer, lost his employment on the 30th April, 1926, owing to a stoppage of work at the colliery in consequence of the national dispute in the mining industry. His claim was accordingly disallowed under the provisions of Section 8 (1) of the principal Act.

The applicant maintained that he was in the same category as the wagon repairers, who were regarded as being in separate premises from coal mining. He was able normally to cope with the amount of work, but in the event of a bad smash it was necessary, either to purchase the hutches from an outside maker or to obtain the assistance of the wagon builders. His wage during the two years prior to the stoppage was 7s. 8½d. per day, and previously was at the rate of 5s. per hutch. He was not a member of any trade union.

Recommended by the Court of Referees that the claim should be disallowed. The Court were of the opinion that hutch repairing should not be regarded as a separate business, even though it was stated that outside firms had sometimes done this work.

The applicant was granted leave to appeal to the Umpire, who gave the following decision:—

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

"I agree with the recommendation of the Court of Referees."

"Hutch repairing is carried on at all collieries, and is not a branch of work which is commonly carried on as a separate business from mining."

INDUSTRIAL COURTS ACT, 1919, AND CONCILIATION ACT, 1896.

INDUSTRIAL COURT DECISIONS.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL CLERKS, OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER OF STAMPS AND TAXES FOR SCOTLAND.—Association of Executive Officers and other Civil Servants *v.* Board of Inland Revenue. *Difference.*—Salary scale—claim for increase. *Decision.*—The Court decided against the claim. Issued 7th October, 1926. (1253.)

WAR DEPARTMENT, ALDERSHOT.—Trade Union Side *v.* Official Side of the Miscellaneous Trades Joint Council for Government Departments. *Difference.*—Basic rates of pay—Claim for increase—Wiremen and Wiremen's Mates. *Decision.*—The Court decided that there is no ground for disturbing the existing rates of the men concerned. Issued 11th October, 1926. (1254.)

MACHINISTS (GRIMSBY, IMMINGHAM AND NEW HOLLAND).—A.E.U. *v.* L.N.E.R. *Difference.*—Claim for an advance of 2s. 6d. per week in accordance with agreement dated 8th August, 1916. *Decision.*—The Court were satisfied that due notice had been given to terminate the agreement of 8th August, 1916, and accordingly decided that the claim for an automatic advance in terms of that agreement could not be sustained. Issued 19th October, 1926. (1255.)

DISTRICT POSTMASTERS AND ASSISTANT DISTRICT POSTMASTERS LONDON.—Association of Executive Officers and other Civil Servants *v.* Post Office. *Difference.*—Salary scales—Claim for increase. *Decision.*—The Court awarded the following annual basic scales of pay with effect as from the date of issue: (1) District Postmasters—£550–20–650, with an allowance of £50 each in addition to the Postmasters in charge of the S.W. and S.E. Districts; (2) Assistant District Postmasters—£400–15–500 with an allowance of £50 each in addition to Assistant Postmasters in the S.W. and S.E. Districts and to the Assistant Postmaster in charge of the Battersea area. With regard to the claim for retrospective payment the Court decided that in the special circumstances present in this case, the holders at the date hereof of each of the following posts, viz., the Postmasterships of the W.C., W., Paddington, S.W., and E. District Post Offices should enter the new scale with an additional increment of £20 on their present salary and accrued increment up to the date of this decision. Issued 21st October, 1926. (1256.)

RAILWAYS ACT, 1921. NATIONAL WAGES BOARD.

FINDINGS were issued by the Railway National Wages Board on the 27th October on the following cases referred to them:—

(1) *Engine driver, Gorton, L.N.E.R., shunting duties; and (2) Drivers and firemen, Edinburgh (Waverley), L.N.E.R., passenger shunting turns.*—The Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen submitted to the Board applications (1) from Driver J. Barrett, Gorton, for payment of the 15s. rate of wages whilst employed shunting coaches from the main line into the Wash House Sidings, and (2) from drivers and firemen, Edinburgh (Waverley), that as Edinburgh (Waverley, East End) passenger shunting turns Nos. 1 and 2 perform train miles and work with a brake van on each turn, they should be considered as train turns of duty. The questions were raised as matters of interpretation of the Board's finding of 18th December, 1923. The Company's representative submitted that the claims were not matters of interpretation, but of application of the Board's finding. The Board by a majority decided that the cases were not matters of interpretation and that they had, therefore, no jurisdiction to deal with them; that the cases should go before the Central Wages Board, and, if parties failed to arrive at an agreement, appeal could then be made to the National Wages Board.

Interpretation of Finding of 9th December, 1925: "New entrants appointed to adult grades in the permanent service."—The case submitted by the National Union of Railwaymen was that of an underman at Alloa, who entered the service of the L.N.E.R. in July, 1925, in a temporary capacity, but continued in the service. On 3rd March, 1926, he was placed on the permanent staff, and the Company thereupon reduced his rate to the "B" rate, relying on the Board's Finding of 9th December, 1925. The Union contested the Company's right to do this on the ground that the Finding does not authorise the payment of the "B" rate in the case of a man who was in the service prior to 1st February, 1926.

The Board decided that the construction placed by the Union on their Finding of 9th December, 1925, was incorrect.

Engine cleaners reaching 20 years of age after 1st February, 1926: Rates of pay: Interpretation of Finding of 9th December, 1925.—The National Union of Railwaymen submitted the case of a cleaner on the L.M.S., who reached the age of 20 years on 15th March, 1926, and who was then put on the "B" rate of 42s. per week. They contended that the man should have been paid the current rate for the position at that time, namely, 45s. per week, relying on the phrases in the Finding of 9th December, 1925: "Those who enter the service of the Companies for the first time," and "New entrants appointed to adult grades." They also submitted that nothing in the National Agreements makes a junior and an adult grade for cleaners. The Companies contended there is nothing in the finding as to "B" rates which definitely makes cleaners an exception to the general rule laid down by the Board, and that there is no justification for differentiating between cleaners and traffic grades.

With one dissentient the Board find that (a) Cleaners in the

service of the Companies before the 1st February, 1926, are entitled to receive "A" rates on reaching age 20. (b) Cleaners entering the service of the Companies on or after 1st February, 1926, are entitled to "B" rates only on reaching age 20.

Payment for Fogging Duties.—The National Union of Railwaymen submitted a question concerning the payment for fogging duties of two undermen employed by the L.M.S. at Toton Sidings. On the day in question, the two men were called out at 2 a.m. and 1.45 a.m. and performed 5½ and 5¾ hours fogging duties respectively. The Union contended that as a consequence they were unfitted to take up their succeeding ordinary turn of duty and were, therefore, entitled to a standard day's pay and for that turn to be treated as one of the ordinary turns of the week. They relied on Clause 2 (b), (v), of Circular Letter No. 1858 (which relates to fogging and snow-storm duties outside ordinary working hours) and on Clause 26 of a Memorandum, dated 21st December, 1920 (which relates to resting time in respect of emergency and special duties). The Company submitted that the latter clause did not apply to fogging duties and that the former clause did not rule that four hours fogging duty unfits a man for taking up the remainder of his day's work, but merely suggested the possibility of it.

The Board expressed the opinion that clause 2 of Circular Letter No. 1858 deals with payment only and is not intended to lay down rules as to the fitness or otherwise of men to carry out their ordinary duties in conjunction with fogging and snow-storm duties; that these duties properly come within the expression "Emergency and Special Duties" and that clause 26 of the Memorandum of 21st December, 1920, lays down the principle under which a man is to be regarded as unfitted; and that, therefore, the men in question were entitled to 9 hours' rest at the conclusion of their fogging duties and were not liable to the deduction of pay made.

Cleaners working in adult positions: Rate proper to be paid in interpretation of Finding of 9th December, 1925.—The National Union of Railwaymen raised a question, arising out of the Board's Finding of 9th December, 1925, concerning the rates of pay of cleaners put on work usually performed by adult shedmen.

The Board decided that cleaners in receipt of an "A" rate at the time when called upon temporarily to fill a higher grade post shall be paid the "A" rate of that post, provided that the requisite number of hours have been worked. Cleaners who are in receipt of a "B" rate at the time when called upon temporarily to fill a higher-grade post, shall be paid the "B" rate of that post, provided that the requisite number of hours have been worked.

Regrading of signal lampman's post at Ibrox, L.M.S.—The National Union of Railwaymen submitted for a ruling the matter of the regrading of the signal lampman's post at Ibrox, where in April, 1923, the signal lampman was moved at his own request, and the Company filled the vacancy with a junior. The Union contended that the Company's action was a contravention of the Board's finding of 24th January, 1922, which provided that the raising of the adult age from 18 to 20 should not in itself be held to be a justification for regrading as a junior position any post which is graded as an adult position. The Company contended that the occurrence of the vacancy provided a suitable opportunity to adjust an anomaly which had been in existence for a number of years, and that the work was proper for a junior. At the hearing, the parties were not in agreement as to the facts concerning the duties attaching to the post and an agreed statement of this aspect of the case was subsequently furnished. This statement shows that when the junior was appointed to the post, the duties of the position were not altered in the manner contended by the Company.

In these circumstances, the Board decided that the question of whether the work was in fact proper for a junior, was a matter for settlement by the parties and referred it back to them.

TRADE BOARDS ACTS.

Orders, Notices, etc., Recently Issued.

I.—CONFIRMING ORDERS.

Button Manufacturing Trade Board (Great Britain).

Order No. V (19), dated 12th October, 1926, confirming general minimum time rates and overtime rates for certain classes of male workers employed in those branches of the trade included by the Trade Boards (Button Manufacturing) Order, 1925, which are not included by the Trade Boards (Button-Making) Order, 1919, and confirming the variation of general minimum time rates, piecework basis time rates and overtime rates for certain other classes of male workers and specifying the 18th October, 1926, as the date from which such rates should become effective.

Stamped or Pressed Metal Wares Trade Board (Great Britain).

Order No. Q. 33, dated 19th October, 1926, confirming the variation of general minimum time rates and overtime rates for certain classes of male workers and specifying the 25th October, 1926, as the date from which such rates should become effective.

Brush and Broom Trade Board (Great Britain).

Order M (43), dated 28th October, 1926, confirming an additional general minimum piece rate for male workers employed on shaving-brush making and confirming the variation of certain general minimum piece rates for male workers employed on Hairs and for female Drawing Hands and specifying the 1st November, 1926, as the date from which such rates should become effective.

Coffin Furniture and Cerement Making Trade Board (Great Britain).

The Order V (18), dated 29th January, 1926, which varied minimum rates of wages for female workers in the cerement-making section of the trade for limited periods as from the 1st February, 1926, ceased to have effect as from the 30th October, 1926. The minimum rates of wages applicable to such workers as from the 1st November, 1926, are the minimum rates appropriate to the cost-of-living figure of 74 as specified in Column II of Section VI and in Sections VII and VIII of Part I of the Order U (16), dated 2nd December, 1924. No change in the minimum rates applicable is involved.

II.—NOTICES OF PROPOSAL.

Flax and Hemp Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal F.H. (25), dated 23rd October, 1926, to vary minimum rates of wages for certain classes of male and female workers.

Proposal F.H. (26), dated 23rd October, 1926, to vary minimum rates of wages for certain classes of male apprentices and improvers to Tenting and Dressing.

Objection period expires 22nd December, 1926.

Paper Box Trade Board (Great Britain).

Proposal B (12) to fix minimum rates of wages for male and female workers in those branches of the trade newly brought within the scope of the Trade Board by the Trade Boards (Button Manufacturing) Order, 1925.

Objection period expires 19th December, 1926.

Linen and Cotton Handkerchief and Household Goods and Linen Piece Goods Trade Board (Northern Ireland).

Proposal N.I.H.H.G. (N.29), dated 27th October, 1926, to vary minimum rates of wages for certain classes of male and female workers.

III.—ALTERATION IN THE COST-OF-LIVING INDEX FIGURE.

Higher minimum rates of wages have become operative in the chain trade as from the 1st November, 1926. The minimum rates now applicable are those appropriate to the cost-of-living figure of 74, and are set out in the Confirming Orders C (17) and C (19), col. 10.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

FACTORY ORDERS.—*Factory and workshop orders.* 1926 Edition. Home Office. (S.O. publication; price 3s. 6d.)

FOOD PRICES.—*Report by the Food Council to the President of the Board of Trade on wholesale tea prices.* (S.O. publication; price 1s.)

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.—(1) *Report of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies for the year 1924. Part II. Friendly Societies.* (S.O. publication; price 4s.) (2) *Friendly Societies, orders and branches. Statistical Summaries showing the operations of friendly societies in the years 1915–1924, and of orders and branches in the years 1910, 1916–1918, 1920, 1922 and 1924.* (S.O. publication; price 9d.)

INDUSTRIAL DISEASES.—*Report on the incidence of silicosis in the pottery industry.* Home Office. (S.O. publication; price 1s. 6d.)

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE.—*I. Report by the British Government delegates to the Minister of Labour (i) on the eighth session, 26 May–5 June, 1926. (Cmd. 2749; price 3d.); (ii) on the ninth session, 7–24 June, 1926. (Cmd. 2750; price 3d.) II. (a) Draft convention and recommendation adopted by the Conference at its eighth session, 26 May–5 June, 1926; (b) Draft conventions and recommendations adopted by the Conference at its ninth session, 7 June–24 June, 1926. (Cmd. 2745; price 1s.)*

A preliminary notice of the proceedings at the eighth session appeared in the June issue of this GAZETTE, page 206.

LABOUR STATISTICS.—*Eighteenth Abstract of Labour Statistics of the United Kingdom, 1926.* Ministry of Labour. (Cmd. 2740; price 4s.) (See page 396.)

MEN'S INSTITUTES.—*Work of men's institutes in London.* Educational Pamphlet No. 48. Board of Education. (S.O. publication; price 3d.)

MINING.—*Output and employment at metalliferous mines, quarries etc., during the quarter ended 31st March, 1926.* (S.O. publication; price 4d.)

POOR LAW RELIEF.—*Return showing the number of persons in receipt of Poor Law relief in England and Wales on the night of the 1st January, 1926 (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper No. 164 of Session 1924–25).* Ministry of Health. (H.C. 134; price 1s. 3d.)

ROAD FUND.—*Report on the administration of the Road Fund for the year 1925–1926.* Ministry of Transport (S.O. publication; price 1s.)

Includes expenditure on road works which have been expedited for the relief of unemployment.

SAFETY.—*Fencing and other safety precautions for power presses.* Safety Pamphlet No. 9. 2nd edition. Home Office. (S.O. publication; price 1s. 6d.)

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.—*Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920 to 1925. Decisions given by the Umpire respecting claims to benefit. Vol. IV. Selected decisions given during the calendar year 1925 (together with index).* Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publication; price 7s. 6d.)

VITAL STATISTICS.—(1) *The Registrar-General's statistical review of England and Wales for the year 1925. (New Annual Series No. 5) Tables; Part I, Medical. Part II, Civil.* (S.O. publications; price 15s. and 5s. respectively.) (2) *Registrar-General for Scotland. 71st Annual Report, being for the year 1925.* (S.O. publication; price 10s. 6d.)

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, OCTOBER, 1926.

ADMIRALTY.

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

Chatham: Portland Cement: British Standard Cement Co., London, E.C.—**Llanreath, Pembroke Dock: New Residence:** W. Davies, Pembroke Dock.—**Priddy's Head (Plymouth): Corrugated Steel Sheets:** J. Lysaght, Ltd., Bristol. **Steel Work for Tide Gauge:** Braithwaite & Co., Engineers, Ltd., Newport, Monmouth.—**H.M. Naval Yard Abroad: Steelwork:** J. Lysaght, Ltd., Bristol. **Steelwork:** Horseley Bridge & Engineering Co., Ltd., Tipton, Staffs.—**Railway Materials:** Bolling & Lowe, Ltd., London, E.C.

(Contract and Purchase Department.)

Alternators, Motor: Newton Bros. (Derby), Ltd., Derby; W. Mackie & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Batteries:** D.P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell, Derbyshire; Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Bells, Electric:** A. Graham & Co., London, S.E.; Wm. McGeoch & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Boards, Charging, etc:** Wm. Whipp & Bourne, Ltd., Manchester.—**Boots, Half and Shoes:** John Horrell & Son, Ltd., Raunds; Owen Smith, Raunds. **Boxes, Junction, etc.:** Engineering & Lighting Equipment Co., St. Albans; Hawkers, Ltd., Birmingham; Pinnacle Switchgear, Ltd., Weybridge.—**Braid Shalloon and Braid Silk:** Brough, Nicholson & Hall, Ltd., Leek; G. Hattersley & Sons, Ltd., Keighley.—**Brushes:** C. H. Leng & Sons, Birmingham; Brushes, Ltd., St. Albans; I. S. Varian & Co., Dublin; Star Brush Co., Ltd., London, N.; Vale & Bradnack, Walsall.—**Brushes, Tooth:** Titterton & Howard, Ltd., London, W.—**Cables, Multicore, lead covered:** Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Cans, Oil:** Reads, Ltd., Liverpool.—**Capstans, Electrically driven:** Cowans, Sheldon & Co., Ltd., Carlisle.—**Chain, Rigging and Pitched:** Henry Reece, Cradley; Woodhouse Bros., Cradley Heath; Edge & Sons, Ltd., Shifnal; R. Sykes & Son, Ltd., Cradley Heath; H. Wood & Co., Ltd., Chester.—**Chemicals:** United Alkali Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd., Chester; F. Allen & Sons (Poplar), Ltd., London, E.—**Cloth, Blue:** Wm. Lupton & Co., Leeds; John Hainsworth & Sons, Farsley.—**Cloth, Linen Duck:** Boase Spinning Co. (1920), Ltd., Dundee; Richards, Ltd., Aberdeen; Ulster Weaving Co., Ltd., Belfast.—**Cocks, G.M. and Plated:** E. Foster & Son, Ltd., Halifax; Sir J. Laing & Sons, Ltd., Sunderland; Player & Mitchell, Birmingham; Rainsford & Lynes, Ltd., Birmingham; Shiphams & Co., Ltd., Hull; Young & Co., Glasgow.—**Coils:** H. W. Sullivan, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Compressors, Air:** Fullerton Hodgart & Barclay, Ltd., Paisley; Reavell & Co., Ltd., Ipswich.—**Cruiser:** Palmer's Shipbuilding & Iron Co., Ltd., Hebburn-on-Tyne.—**Drawers, Brown Cotton:** Simpkin, Son & Emery, Hinckley.—**Drill, White Cotton:** Ritchie & Eason, Ltd., Manchester; A. & S. Henry & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Joshua Hoyle & Sons, Ltd., Manchester.—**Drive for Planing Machine, Electric:** Stothert & Pitt, Ltd., Bath.—**Drysaltery:** Gregory Reeves & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Enamels:** R. Kearsley & Co., Ltd., Ripon; Farquhar & Gill, Ltd., Aberdeen.—**Equipment, Mechanical Transport:** Roadless Traction, Ltd., Hounslow.—**Fearnought:** James Clay & Sons, Sowerby Bridge; L. Harwood & Co., Ltd., Luddendenfoot.—**Fittings, Electric Lighting:** General Electric Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Engineering & Lighting Equipment Co., Ltd., St. Albans; Wm. McGeoch & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Player & Mitchell, Birmingham; Dugdill & Co., Ltd., Hazel Grove; Dorman & Smith, Ltd., Manchester.—**Flannel:** J. Sandiford & Sons, Ltd., Rochdale; R. Schofield, Ltd., Rochdale; J. Smith (Milnrow), Ltd., Milnrow.—**Flour:** Buchanan's Flour Mills, Ltd., Liverpool; W. Vernon & Sons, Ltd., London, E.—**Frameworks, W/T:** Park Royal Engineering Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—**Furnace, Electric:** Electric Furnace Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Glass Shades and Globes:** Ackroyd & Best, Ltd., Morley, near Leeds; Butterworth Bros., Ltd., Manchester; Joseph Fleming & Co., Stourbridge; New English Glass Manufacturers, Ltd., Dudley Port, Staffs.—**Hoists:** Laurence Scott & Co., Ltd., Norwich; MacTaggart, Scott & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh.—**Hollow Ware:** T. & C. Clark & Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton; A. Kenrick & Sons, Ltd., West Bromwich; J. & J. Siddons, Ltd., West Bromwich.—**Jean, Blue:** John Bentley & Sons (Radcliffe), Ltd., Manchester.—**Jointing and Rings, Rubber:** Liverpool Rubber Co., Ltd., Liverpool.—**Lace:** Gold: G. Kenning & Son, London, E.C.—**Lathe, Turret:** Alfred Herbert, Ltd., Coventry.—**Linoleum:** Fife Linoleum Co., Ltd., Kirkcaldy.—**Locks and Gear:** Banks & Rushton, Willenhall; J. & E. Bates & Sons, Ltd., Wolverhampton; H. Harrison & Sons, Ltd., Willenhall; J. Parkes & Sons, Ltd., Willenhall; J. Smith & Son, Ltd., Wolverhampton; J. Spink & Son, Wolverhampton; Walsall Locks & Cart Gear, Ltd., Walsall.—**Machine, Hydraulic Testing:** W. & T. Avery, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Machine, Punching and Shearing:** James Bennie & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Machines, Vegetable Paring:** Imperial Machine Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—**Motor Boats:** J. H. Pounder & Co., Ltd., Hartlepool; R. J. Perkins & Sons, Whitstable.—**Motors:** Harding, Churton & Co., Leeds.—**Note Magnifiers and Tuners:** Radio Instruments, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Plates, Chequered Steel:** Port Talbot Steel Co., Ltd., Port Talbot; South Durham Steel & Iron Co., Ltd., West Hartlepool.—**Plates, Steel, Ship:** Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Cardiff; Dorman, Long & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough.—**Propellers:** J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Pump Unit, Experimental:** Drysdale & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Pumps, Steam Driven Distiller:** Frank Pearn & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Rope, Steel Wire:** Whitecross Co., Ltd., Warrington; R. Hood Haggie & Son, Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; Warrington Wire Rope Works, Ltd., Liverpool; Joseph Crawhall &

Sons, Ltd., Gateshead-on-Tyne; Edwin Ellis & Co., Ltd., London, E.; Excelsior Wire Rope Co., Ltd., Cardiff; Binks Bros., Ltd., London, E.—**Screws:** British Screw Co., Ltd., Leeds; Butler, Spragg & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; H. Cox Screw Co., Ltd., Birmingham; T. Eaves, Ltd., Birmingham; Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds Birmingham; T. Haddon & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; A. Stokes & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Shirts, White, Officers':** Welch, Margetson & Co., Ltd., Londonderry; Young & Rochester, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Shirts, White, Soft:** J. Desmond & Co., Ltd., Londonderry; Frank Lane, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Socks, Blue:** Dickens, Armitage & Co., Ltd., Leicester; F. R. Fenwick & Co., Ltd., Consett; J. Glazebrook & Co., Ltd., Countesthorpe, Leicester; S. D. Stretton & Sons, Ltd., Leicester; Wolsey, Ltd., Leicester.—**Soda Ash:** Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd., Chester; United Alkali Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Stockings, Blue:** F. Main, South Wigston; J. Glazebrook & Co., Ltd., Leicester.—**Suits, Bluett, Overall:** Redman Bros., Hebden Bridge; The "Wescot" Overall Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Egham.—**Tin and Japanned Wares:** Ash Bros. & Heaton, Ltd., Birmingham; T. G. Blood, Birmingham; Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Froggatt & Taylor, Ltd., Bilston; M. J. Hart & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Lawden & Poole, Birmingham; Orme, Evans & Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton; Welsh Tinsplate & Metal Stamping Co., Ltd., Llanelly.—**Tractor:** J. I. Thorneycroft & Co., Ltd., Southampton.—**Transformers:** British Thomson Houston Co., Ltd., Rugby; Foster Engineering Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Ferranti, Ltd., Lancashire; English Electric Co., Ltd., Stafford.—**Tubes, Deck, and Bulkhead Glands, etc.:** Hawkers, Ltd., Birmingham; Wm. McGeoch & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Highton & Sons, Ltd., London, E.; Fairless Engineering Supplies Co., Ltd., Stockton-on-Tees.—**Valves, Sluice, G.M.:** J. Broadfoot & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow; Shiphams & Co., Ltd., Hull.—**Valves, W/T:** Mullard Radio Valve Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.; Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End.—**Vehicles, 30-cwt. W.D. Subsidy Type:** Guy Motors, Ltd., Wolverhampton.—**Voice Pipes and Gear, Flexible:** Power Flexible Tubing Co., Ltd., London, N.; Interlock Metal Hose Co., London, N.—**Winches, Electrically driven:** Harfield & Co., Ltd., Blaydon-on-Tyne.

WAR OFFICE.

Ablution Ranges: Wilmer & Sons, Ltd., London, E.—**Activated Charcoal:** Sutcliffe, Speakman & Co., Ltd., Leigh, Lancs.—**Asbestos Metal Protected Sheets:** Wolverhampton Corrugated Iron Co., Ltd., Ellesmere Port, near Birkenhead.—**Blinds, Window, &c.:** Tidmarsh & Sons, London, N.—**Cable, Electric:** Callendars Cable & Construction Co., Ltd., Leigh, Lancs; British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Helsby, Lancs; Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E.; Siemens Bros., Ltd., London, S.E.; W. T. Henley Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Canvas, Flax, Grey:** Stevenson & Sons, Dungannon; Boase Spinning Co. (1920), Ltd., Dundee.—**Cases, Battery:** Barrow, Hepburn & Gale, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Cases, Lamp:** C. F. Timbers, London, S.E.—**Cases, Mattress, S.S.:** S. B. Sadler & Sons, Burnham-on-Crouch.—**Chassis, 6-Wheeled:** Crossley Motors, Ltd., Manchester.—**Cloth, D.M., W.P., 56-in.:** J. Watkinson & Sons, Ltd., Huddersfield; A. W. Hainsworth & Sons, Leeds; J. Hainsworth & Sons, Leeds; H. Booth & Sons, Leeds; G. H. Hirst & Co., Ltd., Batley; J. Harper & Sons, Bradford.—**Coats, Great, Drab:** J. Hammond & Co. (1922), Ltd., Newcastle; J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.; H. Lotery & Co., Ltd., London, E.; J. Smith & Co. (Derby), Ltd., Derby.—**Cord, Cotton, Khaki:** Hollins Mill Co., Manchester.—**Cotton Rags:** E. Austin & Sons (London), Ltd., London, E.—**Cresoli:** Killgerm Co., Ltd., Cleckheaton.—**Drill, No. 2, Drab, 28-in.:** Haslams, Ltd., Manchester; Fothergill & Harvey, Ltd., Littleborough; A. S. Henry & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Drill, No. 2, Khaki, 28-in.:** English Fustian Manufacturing Co., Ltd. (Moss Bros. branch), Hebden Bridge; E. Spinner & Co., Preston.—**Drill, No. 4, Brown, 28-in.:** English Fustian Manufacturing Co., Ltd. (Moss Bros. branch), Hebden Bridge; Fothergill & Harvey, Ltd., Littleborough; J. Bright & Bros., Ltd., Rochdale; A. S. Henry & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Duck, Cotton, Black:** Sir E. Armitage & Sons, Ltd., Manchester.—**Duck, Flax, White:** A. Blyth & Co., Kirkcaldy; Boase Spinning Co. (1920), Ltd., Cupar.—**Ethyl-iodoacetate:** British Dyestuffs Corporation, Ltd., Manchester.—**Fireplaces, C.I., for Barrack Rooms:** Forth & Clyde & Sunnyside Iron Cos., Ltd., Falkirk.—**Flannel, Shirting:** Kelsall & Kemp, Rochdale; J. Bradbury & Co. (Saddleworth), Ltd., Upper Mill, Oldham; J. Smith (Milnrow), Ltd., Milnrow, Rochdale; Jones, Evan & Co., Ltd., Newtown; Wm. Clegg, Ltd., Rochdale.—**Generating Sets, Spares:** Douglas Motors, Ltd., Bristol.—**Linen, Brown, 33-in.:** Ulster Weaving Co., Ltd., Belfast.—**Locomotive Car:** Electromobile, Ltd., Otley.—**Lorry, F.W.D.:** Four Wheel Drive Lorry Co., Ltd., Slough.—**Manhole Covers & Frames:** Forth & Clyde & Sunnyside Iron Cos., Ltd., Falkirk.—**Overalls, Combination:** Johnson & Sons, Ltd., Gt. Yarmouth; Briggs, Jones & Gibson, Ltd., Manchester.—**Paint, P.F.U. Lead, White:** Locke, Lancaster & W. W. & R. Johnson & Sons, Ltd., London, E.—**Pantaloons, Cotton, Cord:** Beaty Bros. (Manchester), Ltd., Manchester; Airedale Clothing Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**Petrol Storage Outfits:** Bywater & Co., London, W.C.—**Piping, Cast Iron:** Staveley Coal & Iron Co., Ltd., Chesterfield; Birtley Iron Co., Birtley, Durham.—**Piping, "Spun" Iron:** Stanton Ironworks Co., Ltd., near Nottingham.—**Serge, Blue, No. 2:** H. Booth & Son, Leeds.—**Serge, S.D.:** P. Womersley & Sons, Pudsey; Fox Bros. & Co., Ltd., Wellington, Som.; J. Watkinson & Sons, Ltd., Holmfirth; J. Harper & Sons, Calverley, Leeds; R. Gaunt & Sons, Farsley, Leeds; A. W. Hainsworth & Sons, Leeds; T. H. Harper, Ltd., Bradford; H. Booth & Sons,

Leeds.—Serge, White Lining : J. Berry & Sons, Ltd., Ashburton; J. Churchward & Sons, Ltd., Harbertonford.—**Shalloon :** J. Clough & Son, Shipley; C. B. Brook & Co., Ltd., Drighlington.—**Sheets, Barrack, Linen :** Baxter Bros. & Co., Ltd., Dundee; T. McLaren & Sons, Kirkcaldy.—**Shirts, Flannel :** J. Desmond & Co., Ltd., Londonderry; Vowles & Co., Ltd., London, E.; Chamberlins, Ltd., Norwich.—**Silk Cloth :** Ireland & Wishart, Ltd., Kirkcaldy; Wilman & Sons, Ltd., Hadfield; E. H. Sellers & Sons, Ltd., Thongsbridge.—**Steamer, Twin Screw :** H. Robb, Ltd., Leith.—**Tables, Soldiers' Tops, 6-ft. :** W. H. Beal, Ltd., Hull.—**Tartan, Highland, Rank & File :** Sime, Sanderson & Co., Ltd., Galashiels.—**Touring Car, 6-Wheeled :** Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Trucks, Goods, Second Hand :** L.M. & S. Rly. Co., Derby.—**Turbo-Alternator, 1,000 K.W. :** Richardsons, Westgarth & Co., Ltd., Hartlepool.—**Tweed, Blue, No. 2 :** Colbeck Bros., Ltd., Wakefield; A. W. Hainsworth & Sons, Leeds.—**Tyres :** Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Br. Goodrich Rubber Co., Ltd., Bradford-on-Avon.—**Wall Paper :** J. Line & Sons, Ltd., London, W.—**White Spirit (Turpentine Substitute) :** Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Works Services :** *Building Works and Services :* Artificers' Works at Catterick Camp : G. Dougill & Sons, Darlington. Erection of W.O.'s Quarters at Salisbury : Wort & Way, Salisbury. Drainage, Royal Arsenal, Woolwich : G. Greenwood & Sons, Ltd., London, S.W. Hamilton Barracks, M.S. Quarters, Sanitary Annexes, Bathrooms, &c. : James Brown, Hamilton. Christchurch, Married Quarters, Sanitary Annexe, Bathrooms, &c. : T. Conway, Ltd., Weymouth. Feltham, R.A.S.C. M.T. Depot, Improvement to Regimental Institute : R. Mansell, Croydon. Woolwich, Grand Depot Barracks, Reappropriations to provide Dining Room, &c. J. B. Edwards & Co., London, W. Guildford, Artificers' Works : E. J. Logan, London, W.C. Catterick Camp, Resurfacing Roads : Peter Harle (Sunderland), Ltd., Sunderland. Sheffield, Hillsborough Barracks, Improvements to Married Quarters : Wm. Kirkham, Ltd., Sheffield. *Installations :* Didcot, Heating Apparatus : H. J. Cash & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Richmond Barracks, Electric Lighting : Gray Bros. (Newcastle), Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

AIR MINISTRY.

Aircraft : A. V. Roe & Company, Ltd., Newton Heath, Manchester.—**Aircraft, Floats for :** Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes.—**Aircraft, Modification of :** Vickers, Limited, Weybridge.—**Aircraft, Reconditioning of Spares for :** Fairey Aviation Company, Ltd., Hayes.—**Aircraft, Spares :** Blackburn Aeroplane & Motor Co., Ltd., Leeds; Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; Gloucestershire Aircraft Co., Ltd., Cheltenham; Vickers, Limited, Weybridge; Westland Aircraft Works, Yeovil.—**Aircraft, Work on :** Gloucestershire Aircraft Co., Ltd., Cheltenham.—**Buildings and Works Services :** Builders Work (Upavon) : James & Crockerell, Durrington, Salisbury. Generating Sets (Hinaidi) : Vickers Petters, Ltd., Ipswich. Heating and Hot Water Supply (Tangmere) : The Brightside Foundry and Engineering Co., Ltd., Birmingham. Lifts (Halton Hospital) : Medway's Safety Lift Co., London, S.E. Quarters (Duxford) : A. Negus & Sons, Cambridge. Re-roofing Flight Sheds, Boscombe Down : James & Crockerell, Durrington, Salisbury. Re-roofing Sheds (Turnhouse) : Glasgow Steel Roofing Co., Possil Park, Glasgow. Semi-Diesel Oil Engines : Babcock & Wilcox, London, E.C. Underground Mains (North Weald) : Malcolm and Allan, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Clutches, Generator :** G. E. Mortley, Sprague & Co., Ltd., Tunbridge Wells.—**Coats, great, warm, blue :** L. Silberston, London, E.—**Control Resistance and Voltmeters :** British Radio Corporation, Ltd., Weybridge.—**Cord Elastic, Shock Absorber :** Luke Turner & Co., Ltd., Deacon Street, Leicester.—**Engines, Aircraft :** A. D. C. Aircraft Company, Ltd., London, W.C.; Wm. Beardmore & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; Burney & Blackburne, Ltd., Bookham; Peter Hooker, Ltd., London, E.; Rolls-Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Engines, Aircraft, Fitting Crankcases to :** D. Napier & Son, Ltd., Acton.—**Engines, Aircraft, Modification of :** Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Parkside, Coventry.—**Engines, Aircraft, Overhaul of :** Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Engines, Aircraft, Reconditioning of :** Rolls-Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Engines, Aircraft, Reconstruction of :** Wm. Beardmore & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Engines, Aircraft, Repair of :** Rolls-Royce Ltd., Derby.—**Engines, Aircraft, Repair of Spares :** Rolls-Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Engines, Aircraft, Spares :** Gillett, Stephen & Co., Ltd., Bookham; Rolls-Royce Ltd., Derby.—**Ford Vehicles and Chassis :** W. J. Reynolds, East Ham.—**Frocks, Khaki, Drill :** J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.—**Generators :** W. Mackie & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; G. E. Mortley, Sprague & Co., Ltd., Tunbridge Wells; Small Electric Motors, Ltd., Beckenham.—**Heenan Fell Air Brakes :** Heenan Froude, Ltd., Worcester.—**Hose Petroflex :** Hobdell Way & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Oil, Castor :** Hull Oil Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Stoneferry, Hull; Premier Oil Extracting Mills, Ltd., Stoneferry, Hull.—**Plugs, Sparking, Dummy :** H. M. Hobson, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Receivers, T.F., Modified :** Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Roller Bearings, Repair of :** Hoffmann Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Chelmsford.—**Serge, Blue Grey :** Fox Bros. & Co., Ltd., Wellington, Somerset; Jos. Harper & Sons, Eccleshill, Bradford; Jos. Watkinson & Sons, Ltd., Holmfirth, Nr. Huddersfield.—**Spruce, Silver :** Gliksten & Sons, Ltd., Stratford, E.; Mallinson & Sons, Ltd., London, E.—**Trousers, Blue :** H. Lotery & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Tyres, Wheels, etc., Aero :** Palmer Tyre, Ltd., London, E.C.

POST OFFICE.

Conduits—Laying : Wallington (Surrey); Southwick (Sussex); H. Collingridge, London, W.C. Leigh (Lancs); Bamber Bridge (Lancs); W. Pollit & Co., Ltd., Bolton. Newport-Cross Keys (Mon.): G. F. Leadbeter, Newport (Mon.). Metropolitan Exchange Area; City—New Western Junction : Greig & Matthews, London,

E.C. Leeds (North and East) : W. Turner (Ardwick) Ltd., Manchester. Cleethorpes (Lincs); St. Marychurch (Torquay) : J. F. Hodge, Rednal, Birmingham. Stoke-on-Trent; Chorlton-cum-Uxbridge (South Mid District); Hendon (Church Rd.) N.W.; Southwark S.E. (Blackfriars Rd.); Croydon (Scarbrook Rd.) : H. Farrow, London, N.W. Shalford (Surrey); Leicester-Wigston Junc.; Scarborough (Yorks); Bicester (Oxon) and; Brackley (Northants); Looe : Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Northfield, Birmingham. Dudley & Tipton (Staffs); Syston (Leicester) : Moore & Rowley, Northfield, Birmingham. Cowden, Hawkhurst, Pembury and Wingham (Kent) : G. Archer & Son, London, W. Minster (Thanet) and Broughton (Kent) : J. E. Billings & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Bilston, Willenhall and Darlaston (Staffs) : Whittaker Ellis Ltd., London, S.W. Paisley : R. & C. Murray, Paisley.—**Loading Manholes—Constructing :** London-Uxbridge (London District) : Greig & Matthews, London, E.C.—**Telephone Exchange Equipment :** Blackburn : Automatic Telephone Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Willesden : General Electric Co., Ltd., Stoke, Coventry. Cambridge; Bradford; Reigate (Surrey); Palmers Green; Sevenoaks; Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, W.C. Bury Corporation; Greenock Corporation; Earl of Dudley's Round Oak Works, Ltd. (Staffs); The Moss Gear Co., Ltd. (Birmingham); Relay Automatic Telephone Co., Ltd., London, S.W. Museum : Ericsson Telephones, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Telephonic Repeater Station—2 Wire Repeater Equipment—Installation, etc. :** Canterbury : General Electric Co., Ltd., Stoke, Coventry.—**Ventilating Plant :** Royal (London) Telephone Exchange : New Alldays & Onions, Ltd., Birmingham.

Apparatus, Mail Bag, exchanging : Jas. Smith & Son, London, N.—**Apparatus, Telephonic :** Automatic Telephone Mfg. Co., Ltd., Liverpool; Ericsson Telephones, Ltd., Beeston, Notts.; International Electric Co., Ltd., London, N.; Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, N. or N.W.; Telephone Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Apparatus, Testing, Protective and Miscellaneous :** Phoenix Telephone & Electric Works, Ltd., London, N.W.; T. Watson, London, N.W.—**Apparatus, Wireless :** Standard Telephones & Cables, Ltd., London, N. or N.W.—**Battery Stores :** C. A. Vandervell & Co., Ltd., London, W.—**Cabinets, Telephone :** Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Cable, various :** British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Prescott, Lancs.; Callenders Cable & Construction Co., Ltd., Belvedere, Kent; Connollys (Blackley), Ltd., Blackley, Manchester; Enfield Cable Works, Ltd., Brimsdown, Middlesex; W. T. Glover & Co., Ltd., Trafford Park, Manchester; Hackbridge Cable Co., Ltd., Hackbridge; W. T. Henleys Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.; Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E.; Pirelli General Cable Works, Ltd., Southampton; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Carriers for Bicycles :** Middlemores (Coventry), Ltd., Coventry.—**Chloride of Manganese :** Everitt & Co., Ltd., Liverpool.—**Cloth, various :** Jas. Banks & Sons, Ltd., Pudsey, Leeds; H. Booth & Sons, Gildersome, near Leeds; Caledon Woollen Mills Co., Ltd., Caledon, Co. Tyrone; Jas. Casson, Ltd., Elland, Yorks.; W. C. Forrest & Co., Ltd., Pudsey, Leeds; Fox Bros. & Co., Ltd., Wellington, Somerset; W. C. Gaunt, Bradford; Greengates Worsted Co., Apperley Bridge; John Hainsworth & Sons, Farsley, near Leeds; John Halliday & Co., Ltd., Pudsey, Leeds; Jas. Harper & Sons, Bradford; W. & T. Huggan, Bramley, Leeds; John D. Johnstone, Leeds; J. J. L. & C. Peate, Ltd., Guiseley, near Leeds; J. W. Whitworth, Ltd., Luddenden Foot, Yorks.; P. Womersley & Sons, Pudsey, Leeds.—**Containers for Mail Bags :** J. & F. Howard, Ltd., Bedford.—**Cords for Telephones :** British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Helsby, Lancs.; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Ducts :** Hepworth Iron Co., Ltd., Hazlehead, Sheffield.—**Ironwork, Telegraphic :** Bullers, Ltd., Tipton, Staffs.; Guest, Keen & Nettlefold, Ltd., Darlaston; Wilkes, Ltd., Darlaston.—**Oil, Fuel :** Asiatic Petroleum Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Parts for Bicycles :** Components, Ltd., Bournbrook, Birmingham; New Hudson, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Pedals, Bicycle :** Components, Ltd., Bournbrook, Birmingham.—**Pins and Cotters :** Thos. Parish & Son, Halesowen.—**Pipe :** British Mannesmann Tube Co., Ltd., Landore, South Wales; Warrington Tube Co., Ltd., Latchford, Warrington.—**Plates, Earth :** Baldwins, Ltd., London, E.—**Switches, Electric Light :** H. Incedon & Co., Ltd., Walsall.—**Vans, Delivery :** W. H. Perry, London, N.—**Victualling of Cable Ships :** John Henderson & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Wire, Cadmium Copper :** R. Johnson & Nephew, Ltd., Manchester; F. Smith & Co., incorporated in The London Electric Wire Co., & Smiths, Ltd., Salford, Manchester.—**Wire, Switchboard :** General Electric Co., Ltd., (Peel-Conner Telephone Works), Coventry.—**Wadhurst, T. E., Alterations and Additions :** Luck Bros., Wadhurst.

H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

Envelopes : Chapman & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Stencils :** D. Gestetner, Ltd., London, N.—**Tags, India :** Faire Bros., Ltd., Leicester.—**Paper of various descriptions :** J. Brown & Co., Ltd., Penicuik, Midlothian; J. Cropper & Co., Ltd., Kendal; Fisher & Co., Ltd., Tamworth; Imperial Paper Mills, Gravesend; Wm. Joynson & Son, St. Mary Cray; New Northfleet Paper Mills, Ltd., Northfleet; Portals, Ltd., Whitechurch; Star Paper Mills Co., Ltd., Feniscowles; Ryburndale Paper Mills, Ltd., Ripponden, nr. Halifax; Wiggins, Teape & Alex Pirie (Sales), Ltd., Chorley.—**Vellums (Mock) Writing :** H. Band & Co., Brentford.—**Printing, Ruling, Binding, etc. :** Group 104 (1927) Inland Revenue—Specified Items (part) : H.M. Stationery Office Press, Harrow. Group 104 (1927) Inland Revenue—Specified Items (part) : C. Tinling & Co., Ltd., Prescott. Group 105 (1927) Inland Revenue—Specified Items (part) : J. Corah & Son, Ltd., Loughborough. Group 105 (1927) Inland Revenue—Specified Items (part) : C. Tinling & Co., Ltd., Prescott. 84,000 Infantry Training Vol. (Binding only) : Adams & Harrison, London, E.C.

CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Bags : Levy Bros. & Knowles, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Barges :** H. Robb, Ltd., Leith.—**Barges and Dredger :** Lobnitz & Co., Ltd., Renfrew, Scotland.—**Bends, etc. :** Scottish Tube Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Bituminous Solution, etc. :** J. Dampney & Co., Ltd., London.—**Blankets :** A. Preston & Sons, Earlsheaton, Dewsbury.—**Boiler :** F. Pearn & Co., Ltd., West Gorton, Manchester.—**Boilers :** Babcock & Wilcox, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Brake Fittings :** Vacuum Brake Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Brake Gear :** North British Loco. Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Cement :** Bell's Portland & Everite Co., London, S.E.; Cement Marketing Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; T. Beynon & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Chassis :** Albion Motor Car Co., Ltd., Scotstoun, Glasgow.—**Clothing :** Fox Bros. & Co., Wellington.—**Somerset; Hobson & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.; T. Briggs (Ldn.), Ltd., London, E.C.—Coal :** Watts, Watts & Co., London, E.C.—**Colas :** Asphalt Cold Mix, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Colfix :** Montgomerie, Stobo & Co., Bridgeton, Glasgow.—**Concrete Block-making Machines :** Winget (1924), Ltd., London, S.W.—**Cotton Wool, etc. :** Vernon & Co., Ltd., Preston.—**Coupler Spares :** A.B.C. Coupler & Engineering Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Crane :** Cowans, Sheldon & Co., Ltd., Carlisle.—**Crushing and Screening Plants :** Edgar Allen & Co., Ltd., Tinsley, Sheffield.—**Culverting :** Wall's Ltd., Birmingham.—**Fencing :** ham.—**Drill :** J. H. Greenhow & Co., Manchester.—**Fishplates :** Barrow Hematite Steel Co., Ltd., E.C.—**Flannel :** Kelsall & Kemp, Rochdale.—**Gauze, etc. :** T. Locker & Co., Ltd., Warrington, Lancs.—**Guttering :** J. Lysaght, Ltd., London, E.C.—**House for Acetylene Gas Plant :** J. Westwood & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Ironwork :** P. & W. Maclellan, Ltd., Glasgow; Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Joinery :** Boulton & Paul, Ltd., Norwich.—**Lathe :** Craven Bros. (Manchester), Ltd., Reddish, Stockport.—**Lathes :** J. Lang & Sons, Ltd., Johnstone, nr. Glasgow.—**Locomotive :** Motor Rail & Tramcar Co., Ltd., Bedford.—**Lorries :** J. I. Thornycroft & Co., London, S.W.; Morris Commercial Cars, Ltd., Soho, Birmingham.—**Machinery :** Douglas & Grant, Ltd., Kirkcaldy.—**Metal :** Phosphor Bronze Co., London, S.E.—**Mortar Pans, etc. :** V. & R. Blakemore, London, E.C.—**Oil :** Vacuum Oil Co., London, S.W.—**Oleum Ricini :** Premier Oil Extracting Mills, Ltd., London, E.C.; Hull Oil Manufacturing Co., Hull.—**Oleum Terebinth :** J. Arnott & Son, Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.—**Paper :** J. Dickinson & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Pile Frame :** Ransome Machinery Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Pipes :** Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Glasgow; The Stanton Ironworks Co., nr. Nottingham; Cochrane & Co. (M'bro.), Ltd., Middlesbrough-on-Tees.—**Plant for Seasoning Timber :** Sturtevant Engineering Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Pumps :** Tangyes, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Quinine :** Howards & Sons, Ltd., Ilford; Burroughs, Wellcome & Co., London, E.C.—**Refrigeration Plant :** Seagers, Ltd., Dartford, Kent.—**Roller :** Barford & Perkins, Ltd., Peterborough.—**Rollers :** J. Fowler & Co. (Leeds), Ltd., Leeds.—**Sanitary Fittings :** Doulton & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Sheets :** Wolverhampton Corr. Iron Co., Ltd., Ellesmere Port.—**Shutters, etc. :** Glenfield & Kennedy, Ltd., Kilmarnock, N.B.—**Signalling Materials :** Westinghouse Brake & Saxby Signal Co., Ltd., London, N.; Tyler & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Sodium Arsenite :** W. Blythe & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs.—**Steel Frames :** H. Hope & Sons, Ltd., Smethwick, Birmingham.—**Steelwork :** J. Butler & Co., Ltd., Leeds; Patent Shaft & Axletree Co., London, S.W.; Cleveland Bridge & Engineering Co., Ltd., Darlington.—**Superheaters :** Superheater Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Switchgear :** British Thomson-Houston Co., London, W.C.; Ferguson Pailin, Ltd., Openshaw, Manchester.—**Tanks :** Hurst, Nelson & Co., Ltd., Motherwell.—**Tarco :** R. S. Clare & Co., Ltd., Liverpool.—**Telegraph Line Materials :** J. Spencer, Ltd., Wednesbury.—**Telephone Materials :** Ericsson Telephones, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Tickets :** Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Tiles, etc. :** Turner Bros. Asbestos Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Timber :** C. Leary & Co., London, E.C.—**Trailers :** Haulage Improvements & Constructions, London, W.C.; Carrimore Six Wheelers, Ltd., London, N.—**Train Lighting Equipment :** J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Tubes :** Yorkshire Copper Works, Ltd., Leeds.—**Typewriters :** Bar-Lock Co., Basford, Nottingham.—**Tyres :** Brown Bayley's Steel Works, Sheffield.—**Valves, etc. :** J. Blakeborough & Sons, Brighouse, Yorks.—**Valve Transmitter, etc. :** Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Co., London, W.C.—**Waterworks Material :** Guest & Chimes, Ltd., Rotherham; Staveley Coal & Iron Co., Ltd., Staveley Works, nr. Chesterfield.—**Weighing Machines :** W. & T. Avery, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Wire :** Siemens Bros. & Co., London, S.E.; G. Christie, Ltd., Govan, Glasgow; R. Johnson, Clapham & Morris, Newton Heath, Manchester; Shropshire Iron Co., Ltd., Hadley, nr. Wellington, Salop; Elliott's Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Wireless Apparatus :** Radio Communication Co., Ltd., London, W.C.

H.M. OFFICE OF WORKS.

Building Works, etc. : Armley Telephone Exchange—Asphalting : Northern Asphalte & Roofing Works, Co., Ltd., Leeds. Painting : H. Smith, Leeds. Plastering : W. Calbert, Leeds. Plumbing : F. L. Armitage, Leeds. Steelwork : S. Butler & Co., Ltd., Leeds. Bilston Post Office—Plastering : C. Trumper & Sons, Birmingham. Birkdale Telephone Exchange—Tar paving : W. H. Bloomfield, Southport. Brighton Sorting Office—Alterations, etc. : S. H. Diplock, Hove. Colne Post Office—Erection : Ogden Bros., Oldham. Garston Telephone Exchange—Asphalting : The Penmaenmawr and Trinidad Lake Asphalte Co., Ltd., Liverpool. Plastering : John Tanner & Son, Liverpool. Plumbing, Painting and Glazing : S. R. Henshaw & Sons, Ltd., Liverpool. Steelwork : McIntyre & Son, Ltd., Glasgow. Glasgow Head Post Office—Additions : Wm. Shaw & Son, Ltd., Glasgow. Glasgow Employment Exchange—Erection : James Laidlaw & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow. Govan Telephone Exchange—Plastering : J. and H. Williamson, Clydebank. Hatch End Telephone Exchange—Patent Stonework : The Alexandra

Paving Stone Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Tar Paving : Permanite Ltd., London, E. Hove Sorting Office—Plastering : A. Watkins, Hawkhurst. Kendal Employment Exchange—Masonry and Plastering : T. Medcalf & Sons, Kendal. Plumbing and Painting : W. Jackson & Co. (Kendal), Ltd., Kendal. Leek Telephone Exchange—Painting : A. E. Magee, Macclesfield. Plastering : J. Mellor & Sons, Macclesfield. Plumbing : F. Mottershead, Macclesfield. Steelwork : John Booth & Sons, Bolton. London, Archway Telephone Exchange—Erection : Winter & Ward, Harpenden. London, Kensington Telephone Exchange—Erection : A. Roberts & Co., Ltd., London, W. Plumbing : W. H. Gascoigne & Co., London, S.W. Stonework : C. W. Courtenay, London, S.W. Manchester Head Post Office—Painting : Hyett Bros., Gloucester. Plastering : F. Mathews, Hereford. Merstham Telephone Exchange—Asphalting : Permanite, Ltd., London, E. Patent Stonework : Empire Stone Co., Ltd., London, W.C. Steelwork : The Standard Steel Co. Ltd., Croydon. Middlesbrough Telephone Exchange—Erection : Gilbert Long (Builders), Ltd., Middlesbrough. National Gallery—Marble Work : J. Whitehead & Son, Ltd., London, S.W. Newhaven Coastguard Station—Alterations : James Bodle, Ltd., Eastbourne. Thame Post Office—Repairs : W. H. Eaton, Thame. Wanstead Telephone Exchange—Erection : Marrable Bros., London, E. Wishaw Post Office—Alterations : M. Dick, Wishaw. *Ordinary Works and Repairs*—Cambridge : A. Negus & Sons, Cambridge. Cardiff : F. J. Thomas, Cardiff. Grantham : Rudd & Son, Ltd., Grantham. Hartlepool : C. Turnbull & Son, W. Hartlepool. Middlesbrough : J. S. Earnshaw, Stockton-on-Tees. Northampton : Jordans, Northampton. Tunbridge Wells : W. B. Jury & Sons, Tunbridge Wells. Wolverhampton : T. & A. Gough, Wolverhampton. *Painting, etc.*—Coventry Housing Estate : D. Deacon, Coventry. Maghull Hospital : T. Ball, Ormskirk. London, Cornwall House : M. Greenwood & Son, Ltd., London, S.W. London, Maida Vale : R. Skevington & Sons, Derby. London, Holloway : W. G. Beaumont & Son, London, E.; Hammond & Barr, Ltd., London, S.W. London, Acton : S. H. Rushen, Swindon. **Engineering Works :** Croydon Telephone Exchange—Heating, etc. : J. Combe & Son, Ltd., London, S.W. Harrow Stationery Office—Ductwork, etc. : Wheeler & Sons (Engineering), Ltd., London, S.W. Runways, etc. : Paterson Hughes Engineering Co., Ltd., Glasgow. Maidstone Post Office—Heating : White, Blanchard & Co., London. Princes Risborough. Boiler : Wilson Boiler Makers, Ltd., Glasgow. Rampton Institution—Boiler Feed Pump : Clayton, Son & Co., Ltd., Leeds. Lancashire Boiler : J. and J. Horsfield, Ltd., Dewsbury. Teddington Laboratory—Storage Battery : The D.P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell. **Furniture, etc. :** Chairs : T. Glenister, Ltd., High Wycombe. Screens : Alesbury Collapsibleware Co., Ltd., London, W. Racks : J. Gerrard & Sons, Ltd., Manchester. Steel Presses, etc. : G. A. Harvey & Co. (London), Ltd., London, S.E.; Milners' Safe Co., Ltd., London, E.C. **Miscellaneous :** Laundry Work : Wm. Whiteley, Ltd., London, W. Roadwork, Windsor : Constable, Hart, & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. Soap : Joseph Watson & Sons, Ltd., Leeds; E. Cook & Co., Ltd., London, E. Steel Casements : John Thompson Beacon Windows, Ltd., Wolverhampton. Teak Doors : The East Kent Joinery Works, Ltd., Birchington. Tricycles : The Argson Engineering Co., Ltd., Twickenham. W.-I. Railings : T. W. Palmer & Co., London, S.W.

H.M. PRISON COMMISSION.

Bacon : G. Bowles, Nicholls & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; J. F. Percival, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Beaverteen :** Woodhouse, Hambly & Co., Manchester.—**Drugs and Sundries :** Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Leather :** J. S. Deed & Sons, Ltd., London, W.C.; W. Walker & Sons, Ltd., Bolton; Wilkins & Denton (London), Ltd., London, E.C.—**Margarine :** Peter Keevil & Sons, Ltd., London, W.—**Milk, Fresh :** London Wholesale Dairies, Ltd., London, W.—**Oatmeal :** G. T. Cox & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; W. Vernon & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Thread :** Belfast Ropework Co., Ltd., Belfast and London.—**Uniform Cloth :** Colbeck Brothers, Ltd., Wakefield; A. W. Hainsworth & Sons, Ltd., Leeds; J. Hainsworth & Sons, Leeds; W. & T. Huggan, Leeds.—**Uniform, Boots :** W. Nichols & Son, Ltd., Kettering.—**Weaving Materials (Woollen) :** Baxter & Thuppleton, Ltd., Leeds; J. France & Co., Ltd., Dewsbury.—**Weaving Materials (Flax and Cotton) :** Blackstaff Flax Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd., Belfast; Boyle & Son, Leeds.

METROPOLITAN POLICE.

Lambeth Building—Lift Installation : Etchells, Longdon & Muir, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Old Clothing, etc., Contract 1926-28 :** Mallett, Porter & Dowd, Ltd., London, N.

NOTICE.

The "MINISTRY OF LABOUR GAZETTE" is published on or about the 18th of each month, price 6d. net. The annual subscription (post free) is 7s.

The Publishers (to whom should be addressed all communications concerning subscriptions and sales) are H.M. Stationery Office, Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2, and branches (see Cover).

PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE BY EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE, LTD., HIS MAJESTY'S PRINTERS, EAST HARDING STREET, LONDON, E.C.4.