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

### EMPLOYMENT.

EMPLOYMENT during February showed continued improvement, particularly during the second half of the month. There was a marked recovery in the building and public works contracting, with their ancillary industries of brick, tile, and cement manufacture. Employment also improved in the pottery trade, in the iron and steel industries, the cotton and wool textile industries, the lace trade, paper and paper board making, the clothing trades, and boot and shoe manufacture.

There was little change in the engineering industries, but a decline occurred in the glass trade, in the tinplate industry, and in canal, river, dock and harbour service. In coal mining the numbers wholly unemployed showed a further increase, coupled with a slight decline in the numbers temporarily stopped.

Among the workpeople (aged 16 to 64 inclusive, and numbering approximately 11,800,000) insured against unemployment under the Unemployment Insurance Act in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed (including those temporarily stopped as well as those wholly unemployed), in all industries taken together was 10·4 at 20th February, 1928, as compared with 10·7 at 23rd January, 1928, and 10·9 at 1st February, 1927.

The percentage wholly unemployed was 8·2 at 20th February, 1928, as compared with 8·3 at 23rd January, 1928; while the percentage temporarily stopped was 2·2, as compared with 2·4. The total number of applicants for employment registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 27th February, 1928, was approximately 1,900,000, of whom 911,000 were men and 158,000 were women, the remainder being boys and girls. At 30th January, 1928, it was 1,199,000, of whom 949,000 were men and 171,000 were women; and at 28th February, 1927, it was 1,208,000, of whom 970,000 were men and 170,000 were women.

### 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 February resulted in a reduction of £46,100 in the weekly full-time wages of 521,000 workpeople, and in an increase of £2,850 in those of 54,000 workpeople.

The changes affected principally workpeople in the building and the iron and steel industries. The great majority of the workpeople in the building industry sustained a reduction of  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour under the operation of a cost-of-living sliding scale. In the iron and steel industries the principal changes were an increase amounting to 1 to  $1\frac{1}{4}$  per cent. on the current rates of most classes of steel smelters and millmen, except the lower-paid men, in various districts in England and Scotland; and a decrease equivalent to nearly 2 per cent. on the current rates of iron puddlers

and iron and steel millmen in the Midlands. There were also reductions in the wages of Siemens steel makers in South-West Wales, and of blastfurnace workers in Cumberland and in North Lincolnshire.

In other industries, the principal groups of workpeople whose wages were reduced included men employed by civil engineering contractors, coke workers in Lancashire and West Yorkshire, and the employees of local authorities in various towns. Those affected by increases included men employed by electrical contractors in England and Wales, and waterworks employees in Lancashire and Cheshire.

During the first two months of 1928 the changes reported to the Department in the industries for which statistics have been compiled have resulted in net increases of £11,900 in the weekly full-time wages of 205,000 workpeople, and in net reductions of £62,600 in those of 768,000 workpeople. In the corresponding period of 1927 there were net increases of £24,250 in the weekly full-time wages of 435,000 workpeople, and net reductions of £47,500 in those of 414,000 workpeople.

### COST OF LIVING.

At 1st March 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 64 per cent. above that of July, 1914, as compared with 66 per cent. a month ago, and 71 per cent. a year ago. For food alone the corresponding percentage for 1st March was 55, as compared with 59 per cent. a month ago and 62 per cent. a year ago.

The fall in these percentages as compared with a month ago was due to reductions in the average prices of eggs, fish, flour and bread, and meat.

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, no allowance being made for any changes in the standard of living.

### TRADE DISPUTES.

The number of trade disputes involving stoppages of work reported to the Department as beginning in February was 33. In addition, 13 disputes which began before February were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of workpeople involved in all disputes in February (including workpeople thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes) was about 13,200; and the aggregate duration of all disputes during February was about 107,000 working days. These figures compare with totals of 10,000 workpeople involved and 50,000 working days lost in the previous month, and with 5,700 workpeople involved and 65,000 days lost in February, 1927.



## NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE BILL, 1928.

A BILL to amend the National Health Insurance Act, 1924, and other enactments relating to health insurance, was introduced in the House of Commons on 5th March. A financial memorandum is prefixed to the published text,\* explaining the new proposals of the Bill in so far as they affect the Exchequer. In addition, the Ministry of Health have published separately, as a Command Paper,† a memorandum explaining the general provisions of the Bill.

The Bill is based mainly on the majority Report of the Royal Commission on National Health Insurance,‡ some of the proposals in which, however (specified in the memorandum), have not been adopted. The Bill also embodies new proposals in regard to prolongation of insurance and arrears of contributions; and the opportunity has been taken to include in it a number of minor alterations in the law.

*Continuation of Insurance.*—Under the National Health Insurance Act, 1924, insured persons who cease to be employed remain entitled to all benefits (subject only to reduction or suspension by reason of arrears of contributions) for a period of twelve months; at the end of which, if they have not meanwhile returned to employment, they cease to be insured for the purposes of health insurance. Their title to medical benefit only is, however, continued for a further period of nine months on the average; and during that additional period they are treated as insured persons for the purposes of the Widows', Orphans', and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act, 1925. But by virtue of the temporary provisions of the National Health Insurance (Prolongation of Insurance) Act, 1921, which has been extended year by year by successive Expiring Laws Continuance Acts, persons who were in regular employment, but have ceased to be employed, have been entitled to have their insurance continued year by year, so long as they do not take up non-insurable employment.

These provisions have proved unsatisfactory in working, in so far as insured persons have not been entitled to sickness and disablement benefits during a period averaging nine months, though in that period they may be incapable of work and entitled to medical benefit. Confusion has also arisen by reason of the different dates for the termination of insurance for the purposes of the health insurance and of the pensions schemes, respectively, although these schemes are interlocked. Furthermore, persons have been retained in insurance for protracted periods, and have continued to be entitled to certain benefits, although they have not been genuinely unemployed, but have ceased work voluntarily, and have paid no contributions.

The provisions of Clause 1 of the Bill are designed to remove these anomalies, and to make satisfactory permanent provision in place of the existing temporary arrangements. The new scheme is explained in some detail in the memorandum.

*Arrears.*—The present position as regards arrears of contributions is that an employed contributor who becomes unemployed falls into arrears, and, if he fails to redeem his arrears by payment of what is commonly called an "arrears penalty" within the time allowed, he is penalised by reduction of benefits.

The Bill follows the recommendation of the Royal Commission that arrears due to genuine unemployment should not involve any penalties; but it also makes provision for substantial financial assistance to approved societies to enable them to bear the additional burden imposed on their funds by this concession.

*New Insurable Classes.*—Another clause in the Bill proposes to bring within the scope of compulsory insurance certain classes of workers of the type for which the present scheme was intended, but who are at present excluded because they are not technically employed under a contract of service—e.g., tree fellers, hay cutters, share fishermen, and the crews of barges and small sailing vessels.

*Deposit Contributors.*—Under a section of the present Act, insured persons who do not join an approved society within a limited time after their entry into insurance become deposit contributors. It is proposed to make permanent the provision, which has hitherto been kept in force from year to year under the Expiring Laws Continuance Acts. The contributions of such persons are carried to individual accounts, and the contributor's benefits cease as soon as the balance to his account is exhausted.

It is also proposed that deposit contributors who are unable by reason of the state of their health to secure admission to an approved society, shall be admitted to a special section of the Deposit Contributors' Fund (called the Insurance Section), and become entitled to the ordinary benefits of the Act, in the same way as members of approved societies. As the Insurance Section will be composed exclusively of "bad lives," from the insurance point of view, special arrangements are proposed to secure the solvency of this section.

*Other Provisions.*—Among other points dealt with by the Bill are the benefits payable to insured women who cease work on marriage, and the collection of contributions in respect of foreign-going seamen. The first Schedule to the Bill contains a list of the additional benefits among which approved societies may select those to be provided for their members out of a disposable surplus. The remaining clauses, and the second Schedule, introduce a number of minor amendments.

## APPRENTICESHIP AND TRAINING INQUIRY.

Two further volumes—the fourth and fifth—of the Report by Ministry of Labour on the Inquiry made in 1925 and 1926 into Apprenticeship and Training for the skilled occupations in Great Britain and Northern Ireland have recently been issued by H.M. Stationery Office. Volume IV\* deals with the Textile and Cloth Industries; Volume V† with Government Departments, the Public Utility Services, the Distributive Trades, and certain Miscellaneous Industries. The three volumes previously issued‡ related to (I) Printing and Allied Industries; (II) the Building, Woodwork and Allied Industries; and (III) the Mining and Quarrying, Metallurgical, Chemical, Glass, Pottery and Allied Industries.

The Reports describe the general conditions of apprenticeship and learnership in the industries and services dealt with, as ascertained from information furnished by a large number of representative employers and by the principal trade unions. They also include summaries of the provisions contained in collective agreements arrived at between employers' associations and trade unions, and in trade union rules, affecting apprentices and learners. Details are given as to the methods of recruitment of juvenile labour, the ages of commencement of apprenticeship and learnership; proportions of indentured apprentices, of apprentices under verbal agreement, and of learners; premiums; duration of apprenticeship or learnership; factory or workshop training and technical education; wages; and other conditions of apprenticeship.

*Textile Industries.*—The following industries are covered by this section of the Report: cotton; wool and worsted; silk; flax; hemp; jute; hosiery; lace; carpets and rugs; rope, twine; net; hair and fibre; sack and bag making; tent, tarpaulin, and flag-making; sail-making; elastic web, etc.; embroidery; bleaching, printing, dyeing and finishing; making-up and packing.

The Report reveals that, although an exceptionally large proportion of young workers are employed, apprenticeship is rare in these industries, being restricted, in the main, to maintenance workers, overlookers and tuners, and a few special occupations in particular industries. Similarly learnership, in the sense of a prolonged period of definite training comparable with apprenticeship, is common only in some of the industries (e.g., flax, hemp and jute) to which Trade Board Orders, containing special provisions as to such learners, have been applied, and in a very few occupations outside those industries. With these exceptions there are no general arrangements for the systematic training of young workers in textile occupations, comparable with those in operation in industries such as building and woodworking, engineering, shipbuilding, and printing in which apprenticeship or a more or less equivalent learnership is the normal method of entry to the skilled occupations. The great majority of the boys and girls start work on light work such as doffing and creeling (carrying bobbins and changing them on machine) and assisting spinners and weavers, which gives them constant opportunities of watching the adult workers engaged in the various production processes, and of acquiring the knowledge, experience and skill which will enable them to advance to superior jobs as vacancies occur. Numerous examples of these methods of acquiring training are given in the Report, together with detailed particulars of the training and general conditions of service in those cases in which systems of apprenticeship or systematic learnership are in operation.

*Clothing Industries.*—The results of the inquiry indicate that there is very little apprenticeship in these industries, but that the juvenile workers are usually trained under a more or less definite system of learnership extending over a period of years. It is a frequent practice, however, for learners to be employed for a relatively short period on time-work, and to be transferred to piece-work as soon as they have gained proficiency in the process or branch of work to which they have been allocated.

The Report gives detailed particulars as to the extent and conditions of apprenticeship and learnership in each of the following industries: tailoring (retail bespoke, ready-made, and wholesale bespoke); mantle and costume manufacture; dressmaking and women's light clothing manufacture; fur dressing and furrier; shirt, collar, etc., manufacture; corset manufacture; household linen, handkerchief, etc., manufacture; hat, cap and millinery manufacture; leather and fabric glove manufacture; feather dressing, cleaning and dyeing; artificial flower manufacture; umbrella, parasol and walking-stick manufacture; and boot and shoe manufacture and repairing. Rates of wages and other working conditions in many of these industries are governed very largely by Orders under the Trade Board Acts; in the boot and shoe manufacturing industry there is a comprehensive collective agreement between the manufacturers' and the operatives' associations; while in the glove industry conditions are regulated by a Joint Industrial Council.

*Government Departments.*—Systematic training in certain skilled occupations is given to suitable boys who enlist in the naval, military and air forces, and also to boys in civil employment in certain Government Departments. An outline is given in the Report of the principal conditions governing apprenticeship or learnership including age limits, methods of recruitment, training, periods of service and rates of wages, for artificer apprentices, shipwright apprentices, and telegraphists in the Royal Navy; apprentices in H.M. Dockyards; apprentice tradesmen in the Army; apprentices in the Royal Ordnance Factories; aircraft apprentices in the Royal

\* H.C. Bill 53. H.M. Stationery Office; price 9d. net.

† Cmd. 3051. H.M. Stationery Office; price 3d. net.

‡ Cmd. 2596. H.M. Stationery Office; price 6s. 6d. net. A summary of this Report appeared in the March, 1926, issue of this GAZETTE, page 81.

\* Price 5s. net.

† Price 4s. net.

‡ See the issues of this GAZETTE for November, 1927, and February, 1928.



Force; messengers, probationers, telephonists, telegraphists, ters, engineers, etc., in H.M. Post Office; apprentices in the ating department of H.M. Stationery Office; learners on the ustrial staff of the Royal Mint; forestry apprentices under the estry Commission, and boys in the engineering workshops of the tional Physical Laboratory.

**Public Utility Services.**—Considerable numbers of apprentices are ployed in various branches of industry by municipal authorities l other bodies engaged in supplying public services. The general ditions of apprenticeship and training are described in sections the Report dealing respectively with electricity and gas under- ings, waterworks, and other services, such as the road and intenance work of local authorities.

**Distributive Trades.**—Detailed information as to apprenticeship l training are given in separate sections of the Report relating to drapery, grocery, meat, fish, game and poultry, ironmongery, l retail furnishing branches of these trades.

Apprenticeship and learnership are found to be practically confined the occupation of shop assistant or salesman. In the wholesale pery trade indentured apprenticeship is practically non-existent, many of the larger firms have definite schemes for the recruitment l training of their staffs. In the retail drapery trade, some form apprenticeship or learnership is the usual method of recruitment, ough the details given in the Report as to the extent to which tematic training is given and as to other conditions show wide ations in different types of establishments. In the wholesale ery trade there is little apprenticeship, recruitment being mainly cted by engaging suitable boys or girls who learn their duties the course of their service. In the retail grocery trade, large nbers of youths are engaged as juniors without any definite angement as to their future; considerable numbers of the boys l girls employed by large multiple firms and co-operative societies trained as shop assistants under regular systems of apprentice- or learnership, details of which are set out in the Report. In t meat distributive trade apprenticeship is uncommon in England a Wales, the great majority of the boys in training being learners; i Scotland, however, they are in nearly all cases apprentices. Apprenticeship is more common in the wholesale than in the retail sion. In the fish distributive trade there is little apprenticeship. l the ironmongery trade apprenticeship is more marked than in nt of the other distributive trades; the many branches of the tile, the complicated price lists, and the peculiar uses of the many acles handled are stated to make apprenticeship necessary. In t retail furnishing trade definite systems of apprenticeship are not al in establishments confined solely to furniture dealing, boys big for the most part employed as juniors and progressing to the ption of salesman without any definite period of service being fid; but in some of the large furnishing stores and in departmental es and co-operative societies boys and girls are employed both apprentices and as learners.

**Miscellaneous Industries and Services.**—The industries and services o which particulars are given in this section of the Report are t following: the Mercantile Marine; Sea Fishing Service; Water- m and Lightermen; Food, Drink and Tobacco Manufacture; Cpering; Leather and Leather Goods Manufacture; Basket Ming; Brush and Broom Making; Button Manufacture; Bone, n, Ivory, etc., Working; Toys, Games and Sports Goods Manu- feure; Rubber; Musical Instrument Making; Linoleum and Forcloth Manufacture; Jewel, Plate and Cutlery Case Making; Rdressing; Laundering; Job Dyeing and Dry Cleaning. The Port shows in considerable detail the wide variety of conditions aining with regard to apprenticeship and training in each of the industries.

## SUMMARY OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS, 1920-27.

**SUMMARY** of the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920 to 1927, h been prepared by the Ministry of Labour and issued as a Command Per.\*

The summary gives an outline of the provisions of the Unemploy- nt Insurance Acts as amended by the Unemployment Insurance A, 1927.† The provisions described, therefore, are those which e operative from 19th April, 1928, when the new Act comes in force. It is pointed out that many points of detail and quali- g phrases are necessarily omitted; and that reference should e made to the Acts themselves, and to the Regulations made eunder, for an authoritative statement of the law.

The summary is arranged under the following headings:—Persons insured; decision as to insurability; certificates of exemption; tributions; unemployment benefit; conditions for the receipt benefit; transitional conditions for the receipt of benefit; dis- lifications for the receipt of benefit; procedure for deciding ms; constitution of Courts of Referees; administration of efit (for boys and girls aged 16 and 17) by Local Education horities; arrangements with associations for the administration State benefit; provision for training; travelling expenses; ments to Poor Law Authorities; recovery of benefit improperly d; abolition of the power to make special schemes; supplementary emes; legal proceedings; financial provisions; periodical estigation into the condition of the Unemployment Fund.

Cmd. 3035. H.M. Stationery Office; price 3d. net.  
17 & 18 Geo. 5, cap. 30. H.M. Stationery Office; price 6d. net.  
Summary of this Act appeared in the January, 1928, issue of this GAZETTE, e 6.

## NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT (ENGLAND AND WALES).

IN accordance with a recommendation of the Committee on Educa- tion and Industry (England and Wales), of which Mr. D. O. Malcolm is Chairman, the Minister of Labour has appointed a National Advisory Council for Juvenile Employment in England and Wales. The terms of reference of the Council are "to examine and discuss matters arising out of the Malcolm Committee's Report (first part),\* and allied questions, and to advise the Minister thereon."

The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Shaftesbury, K.P., G.C.V.O., C.B.E. has consented to be Chairman of the Council, the members of which are as follows:—

*Representing Local Education Authorities:* Alderman F. Askew, J.P.; Mr. E. Salter Davies; Mr. Rhys Elias; Mr. G. H. Gater, C.M.G., D.S.O.; Mr. J. Graham; Mr. Spurley Hey; Sir Percy Jackson, J.P.; Councillor W. Byng Kenrick; Mr. W. H. Webbe, C.B.E.

*Representing the London Juvenile Advisory Council:* Sir Max Bonn, K.B.E.

*Representing Juvenile Advisory Committees:* Mr. J. Oliver, J.P.; Lady Rowland, O.B.E., J.P.; Mr. G. L. Wooliscroft, O.B.E., J.P.

*Representing the Teaching Profession:* Miss E. R. Conway, C.B.E., J.P.; Mr. W. P. Fuller; Mr. F. Mander; Mr. J. Paley Yorke, A.M.I.E.E.

*Representing the National Confederation of Employers' Organi- sations:* Mr. J. B. Forbes-Watson; Mr. J. A. Gregorson; Mr. Fred Holroyd; Mr. Herbert Kay; Mr. J. C. A. Ward.

*Representing the Trades Union Congress General Council:* Mr. A. Conley; Mr. H. H. Elvin; Mr. W. Kean; Councillor Ben Turner, O.B.E., J.P.; Miss J. Varley.

*Ministry of Labour:* Mr. J. A. Dale, C.B.E.

The Secretary of the Council is Mr. F. N. Tribe, O.B.E., Ministry of Labour (Montagu House, Whitehall, London, S.W.1).

It is announced that a similar Council will shortly be set up for Scotland.

## ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS IN EMPLOYMENT IN GREAT BRITAIN, 1921-1928.

IN replies given in the House of Commons on 22nd and 28th February, 1928, the Minister of Labour gave figures showing the results of an attempt to arrive at an approximate estimate of the number of persons insured against unemployment in Great Britain who were in employment at the end of June in each of the years 1921 to 1927 and at recent dates in 1928.

The total number of persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, whether at work, or unemployed, or absent from work through sickness, accident, trade disputes or other causes, is computed once a year from information derived from the annual exchange of unemployment books which takes place at the beginning of July.

Pending a subsequent exchange of books, a provisional estimate of the numbers insured can be made month by month from the information which is available regarding the number of new entrants to insurance and from the experience of previous years as to the proportion of the total insured population who pass outside the scope of the Acts.

The numbers of insured persons unemployed is recorded month by month, from the numbers of unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, as explained on page 96 of this issue. These figures do not include persons who are not capable of work.

In order to allow for persons who are absent from work through sickness, accident, or other forms of unrecorded non-employment (apart from trade disputes) a uniform deduction of 3½ per cent. of the number of insured persons was made. The sickness rate was taken at an estimated annual mean as it was not found possible to allow for seasonal or other variations. This deduction, of course, includes a large number of persons whose employment had not been terminated, but who were absent from work temporarily through sickness and whose places were being kept open for them. The resulting figures are given in column 5 of the Table below, and column 6 gives the figures obtained by deducting also the number of persons directly involved in trade disputes.

As from 2nd January, 1928, persons aged 65 years and over have been excluded (under the provisions of the Widows', Orphans' and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act, 1925) from the scheme of unemployment insurance. In order to present figures for earlier years which were comparable with those for 1928 it was therefore necessary to revise the numbers insured and the numbers unemployed at July of the years 1921 to 1927 so as to include only those aged 16 to 64 inclusive. The estimates resulting from this series of computations are shown in the following Table:—

\* H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. 6d. net. A summary of this Report appeared in the December, 1926, issue of this GAZETTE, pages 435-6.



Date.	Estimated Total Insured, aged 16-64.	Number Un-employed. [Approximate figures, 1921-7].	Difference. [Nearest 1,000 (1921-7) or nearest 100 (1928).]	Estimated Number in Employment after allowance for sickness, etc. :	
				(A) including persons directly involved in Trade Disputes;	(B) excluding such persons.
1.	2.	3.	4.	(A.)	(B.)
End of June :—					
1921	10,769,000	2,370,000	8,399,000	8,022,000	6,909,000
1922	10,860,000	1,468,000	9,392,000	9,012,000	8,985,000
1923	10,908,000	1,226,000	9,682,000	9,300,000	9,281,000
1924	11,074,000	1,020,000	10,054,000	9,666,000	9,658,000
1925	11,290,000	1,309,000	9,981,000	9,586,000	9,551,000
1926	11,438,000	1,643,000	9,795,000	9,395,000	8,369,000
1927	11,534,000	1,014,000	10,520,000	10,116,000	10,111,000
1928.					
23rd January	11,590,000	1,227,435	10,362,600	9,957,000	9,954,000
20th February	11,599,000	1,195,131	10,403,900	9,997,900	9,992,900

In considering these figures, it should be remembered that they were affected by disputes in the coal mining and in the cotton industries in June, 1921; by heavy unemployment in coal mining in June, 1925; and by a national stoppage in the coal-mining industry in June, 1926.

## POOR-LAW RELIEF IN ENGLAND AND WALES.

### Fourth Quarter of Year 1927.

A STATEMENT\* has been issued by the Ministry of Health showing the number of persons† in receipt of poor-law relief in England and Wales in the quarter ending in December, 1927, with some particulars as to the number of "unemployed" persons included.

The almost continuous decrease shown by the numbers for the first three quarters of 1927 was followed by an increase in each week except one of the last quarter. The total number of persons (men, women, and children) in receipt of poor-law relief in England and Wales on the last Saturday in December was 1,236,000, equivalent to 316 per 10,000 of the estimated population. This compares with 1,148,000 at the end of September, 1927; with 1,484,000 at the end of December, 1926; and with 632,000 at the end of December, 1913. More than one-third of the increase as compared with September was recorded in the last week of the quarter. In 94 poor-law unions there was an actual decrease as compared with September.

The totals include large numbers who would ordinarily be employed: nearly all the relief given to these persons is domiciliary. The following Table gives comparative figures for persons in receipt of domiciliary relief in England and Wales for the months of November, 1926, and August and November, 1927; the figures represent averages of the numbers in receipt of relief on each Saturday of the respective months:—

Classes of persons in receipt of domiciliary relief.†	England and Wales.	
	Numbers.	Numbers per 10,000 of the estimated population.
1. (A.)—Unemployed persons insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts ...	101,000	26
(B.)—Wives and dependent children of above persons ...	255,000	65
2. Unemployed persons not insured, but registered at an Employment Exchange, and their dependants ...	34,000	9
3. Other persons ordinarily engaged in some regular occupation, and their dependants	91,000	23
4. Totals of above three classes :—		
November, 1927 ...	481,000	123
August, 1927 ...	477,000	122
November, 1926 ...	1,490,000	383
5. All other persons in receipt of domiciliary relief :—		
November, 1927 ...	470,000	121
August, 1927 ...	462,000	118
November, 1926 ...	491,000	127
6. Totals (all persons in receipt of domiciliary relief) :—		
November, 1927 ...	951,000	244
August, 1927 ...	939,000	240
November, 1926 ...	1,981,000	510

The 481,000 persons recorded in the first three classes in November, 1927, included 131,000 men, 113,000 women, and 237,000 children; as compared with 130,000 men, 113,000 women, and 234,000 children, in August, 1927.

The total number of persons in receipt of poor-law relief in 105 poor-law unions that are mainly agricultural or pastoral (excluding five unions in which coal mining is an important industry) was only 16,000 at the end of December, 1927; and the average number of persons in receipt of domiciliary relief in these 105 unions during the four weeks of November, 1927, who were returned as being ordinarily engaged in some regular occupation, or as being the wives and dependent children of such persons, was only 900.

\* H.M. Stationery Office; price 4d. net.

† Excluding lunatics in county and borough asylums, persons in receipt of domiciliary medical relief only, and casuals, totalling to approximately 122,000 persons.

‡ Excluding persons in receipt of domiciliary medical relief only.

## CO-OPERATION IN AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES IN 1926.

THE following particulars of agricultural and fishery co-operative societies in 1926 and previous years have been prepared by the Registrar of Friendly Societies from the statutory Returns furnished annually to his Department under the Industrial and Provident Societies and Friendly Societies Acts. The particulars are exclusive of societies registered in Ireland.

The societies are dealt with in three main groups:—(1) *Requirement Societies*, whose principal function is to supply their members with seeds, manures, utensils or other requirements for the carrying on of agriculture; (2) *Produce Societies*, which are chiefly concerned with the marketing of members' produce; and (3) *Service Societies*, which supply members with some service connected with the industry of agriculture, e.g., threshing. Some societies deal both in requirements and in produce. Usually societies fall readily into one of the three groups, but in exceptional cases, where a society undertakes the sale of produce and the supply of requirements to an extent, the decision which places it in the one category or the other is necessarily somewhat arbitrary.

### I. REQUIREMENT SOCIETIES.

The following Table gives particulars of the operations of the societies in Great Britain for the years 1914-1926:—

Year.	Number of Societies.	Membership.	Sales.*	Surplus or Loss (—) on Year.	Wages.†
			£	£	£
1914	274	29,603	1,816,155	26,839	33,839
1915	301	33,421	2,653,100	53,257	44,627
1916	329	38,253	3,616,197	71,148	55,051
1917	410	54,367	4,323,532	75,821	59,755
1918	495	76,819	4,572,618	51,001	78,072
1919	562	93,724	8,959,838	64,751	148,772
1920	667	115,553	13,260,251	— 104,823	323,827
1921	664	115,891	10,556,552	— 146,161	377,847
1922	588	112,176	8,695,369	2,950	355,230
1923	548	105,537	8,248,190	— 21,935	337,837
1924	506	96,929	8,751,210	65,126	324,494
1925	478	95,115	8,995,056	23,355	325,117
1926	438	93,261	7,968,427	56,903	314,744

Since 1920, the peak year, the number of requirement societies has decreased by one-third; the membership also shows a continuous decline, but was still, in 1926, more than treble the pre-war figure. Sales in 1926 were about £1,000,000 less than those for 1925, and the largest farmers' association, that operating in the Eastern counties, was responsible for almost one-quarter of the decrease.

Societies in this group are further subdivided, for the purpose of the Chief Registrar's Annual Report (Part 3, Industrial and Provident Societies), into (a) Farmers' and (b) Allotment Workers' Societies. The farmers' societies are the more numerous, and are responsible for the bulk of the business done, as will be seen from the following particulars for 1926:—

	Number of Societies.		Sales.	
	England & Wales.	Scotland.	England & Wales.	Scotland.
Farmers' Societies	197	116	£ 7,400,705	£ 427,320
Allotment Workers' Societies...	125	...	140,398	...

The 322 societies in England and Wales in 1926 had 2,016 employees, and share, loan and reserve capital amounting to £1,849,000; this capital represented about £23 per member. The 116 societies in Scotland had 157 employees, and capital amounting to £71,000, or about £6 5s. per member.

### II. PRODUCE SOCIETIES.

The following Table gives particulars of the operations of the societies in Great Britain for the years 1914-1926:—

Year.	Number of Societies.	Membership.	Sales.‡	Surplus or Loss (—) on Year.	Wages.§
			£	£	£
1914	129	10,401	935,552	16,890	37,482
1915	140	11,943	1,186,001	25,987	36,941
1916	159	13,701	1,641,359	21,517	43,998
1917	228	25,384	2,917,867	56,646	71,306
1918	300	41,067	4,575,991	68,330	108,532
1919	334	46,523	7,193,150	48,077	187,544
1920	338	45,688	8,202,694	— 114,009	267,354
1921	309	42,023	6,075,542	— 8,063	265,209
1922	296	40,042	4,317,519	1,343	222,785
1923	278	39,733	3,462,295	— 8,392	175,260
1924	286	36,564	3,775,980	— 11,704	182,986
1925	284	37,094	3,989,136	— 64,769	192,508
1926	285	39,623	5,677,985	— 56,306	189,658

In 1926 this group comprised 94 dairy societies, 52 egg and poultry societies, 14 fruit and market garden produce societies, 46 farmers' and growers' societies, 18 miscellaneous agricultural societies; also 61 fishermen's trading societies.

The abnormal increase in the group sales figure in 1926 was due

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

† In addition, some societies allot bonuses to employees; in 1926 such bonuses amounted to £1,852.

‡ See reference in next column as to sales of requirements included here.

§ In addition, some societies allot bonuses to employees; in 1926 such bonuses amounted to £549.



The English Hop Growers, Ltd., a new society formed as a central agency to stabilise prices, when Government control of hops came to an end in 1925. The society's first return showed 12 members, and hop sales totalling £2,054,000. Among the societies which sustained heavy losses were a dairy farmers' association in Wales (now in liquidation), and a bacon factory situated at Bury St. Edmunds. Trading and capital losses disposal of farm property and retail shops by the latter society amounted to £14,000.

The 193 societies in England and Wales in 1926 had 1,182 employees, and share, loan and reserve capital amounting to £5,000, equivalent to about £22 per member; the 92 societies in Scotland had 381 employees, and capital amounting to £380,000, 49 per member. This high figure for Scotland is mainly due to the large dairy farmers' associations.

The sales of various kinds of produce by societies in the group are given in the following Table :—

Description of Produce.	England and Wales.		Scotland.	
	1926.	1925.	1926.	1925.
	£	£	£	£
Milk and Dairy ...	1,115,533	1,220,448	727,101	799,255
Eggs and Poultry ...	273,166	318,174	49,364	56,468
Fruit and Market Garden ...	2,155,961	1,046,620	32	61
Dead Meat ...	763,479	1,010,940	35,750	17,338
Live Stock ...	94,879	22,423	31,895	39,711
Sundry* ...	239,120	241,813	8,376	7,060

In addition, produce societies supplied their members with requirements to the amount of £133,599 in England and Wales, and £49,730 in Scotland. The sales of the requirement societies (group I), on the other hand, included produce of the following descriptions and values :—

Description of Produce.	England and Wales.		Scotland.	
	1926.	1925.	1926.	1925.
	£	£	£	£
Milk and Dairy ...	152,463	156,098	...	...
Eggs and Poultry ...	95,212	84,285	2,397	2,452
Fruit and Market Garden ...	55,995	109,950	2,189	2,453
Dead Meat ...	63,659	25,518	...	...
Live Stock ...	453,271	555,425	21	23
Sundry* ...	84,925	51,255	1,395	37

In addition to the societies classified as "agricultural" and "fishing," 169 industrial co-operative societies had farming and fishing departments. In 1926 they employed in these departments 4 persons, to whom £225,000† was paid in wages, and the value of produce in these departments amounted to £1,457,000. Societies in England and Wales were responsible for about 65 per cent. of the produce.

### III. SERVICE SOCIETIES.

In addition to societies which supply services such as threshing, small holdings and allotments societies and credit societies, which are registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, this group includes certain societies registered under the Friendly Societies Act, viz., cattle insurance societies, agricultural credit societies, and societies for the promotion of horticulture and agriculture. Allotments societies are responsible for the bulk of the sales tabulated (see subsequent Special Table).

The following Table gives particulars of these societies in Great Britain for the years 1914–1926 :—

Year.	Number of Societies.	Membership.	Surplus or Loss (—) on Year.‡	Wages.§
			£	£
1914	347	29,954	4,294	5,991
1915	353	31,604	4,031	7,991
1916	353	33,901	5,736	8,399
1917	432	54,680	13,742	10,554
1918	596	99,215	16,712	16,576
1919	750	123,307	26,019	24,982
1920	937	153,046	9,872	30,964
1921	976	168,525	— 3,042	34,768
1922	981	176,905	10,205	34,003
1923	974	178,036	9,438	34,307
1924	949	177,112	6,587	35,029
1925	915	171,200	9,505	42,048
1926	888	167,077	3,815	49,919

In the main, the continued decrease in societies and membership is attributable to allotments societies, the membership of this class constituting no less than 85 per cent. of the total group membership. Several societies showed less satisfactory results in 1926, and a further £6,000 loss was sustained by the Flax Industry Development Society, Ltd., whose operations, however, are of an experimental nature.

Societies in England and Wales in 1926 had share, loan and reserve capital amounting to £402,000, equivalent to about £2 8s. per member. This low figure is due to the allotments societies, whose

\* The sundry produce represents mainly fish and wool.  
† In addition, bonuses allotted to employees amounted to £290.  
‡ Exclusive of profit or loss on year for Cattle Insurance Societies and societies formed for the promotion of Horticulture and Agriculture registered under the Friendly Societies Act, for which particulars are not available.  
§ Exclusive of wages in respect of Small Holdings and Allotments Societies, credit Societies, and Societies registered under the Friendly Societies Act, for which particulars are not available. In addition to wages, some societies allot bonuses to employees; in 1926 such bonuses amounted to £397.

capital per member is proportionately very small. The societies in Scotland had capital amounting to £104,000, or £35 per member.

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

Year.	Number of Societies.	Acreage of Land let as—		Rent, Rates, etc. payable by—		Value of Land and Buildings owned by Societies.
		Small Holdings.	Allotments.	Societies.	Tenants.	
				£	£	£
1914	180	12,597	1,651	26,074	30,156	34,025
1915	178	13,029	1,682	28,633	33,304	34,774
1916	181	13,129	1,780	29,989	34,910	34,299
1917	254	13,161	2,778	31,784	38,989	39,337
1918	406	13,514	4,510	39,108	50,246	51,449
1919	551	13,576	5,916	45,174	57,202	67,125
1920	724	15,723	8,063	59,321	74,579	137,160
1921	763	17,473	9,712	76,201	96,949	187,240
1922	774	17,635	10,013	80,292	104,062	178,524
1923	771	17,336	10,572	77,813	104,369	161,162
1924	734	16,995	10,197	75,732	99,283	144,742
1925	704	16,055	9,860	72,583	95,900	156,056
1926	683	15,461	9,585	70,051	90,174	155,293

In 1926 these societies had 141,648 members, of whom nearly 94,400, or about 67 per cent., were tenants. The operations for the year resulted in a surplus of £7,175 on the small holdings and allotments and trading departments, as against a surplus of £6,270 for the preceding year.

### IV. GENERAL.

In all, 1,611 societies furnished returns for 1926, or 66 less than for 1925.

Apart from liquidations, which cause heavy fluctuations in total figures from year to year, societies in 1926 were subject for seven months of the year to the effects of the coal stoppage; but while most societies showed a decline in turnover, abnormal trading and capital losses sustained by some of the larger societies in 1925 were not repeated in 1926.

The following Table shows the sales in 1926 for all Requirement and Produce Societies\* :—

	England and Wales.	Scotland.	Great Britain.
	£	£	£
Agricultural Requirements ...	6,769,177	471,052	7,240,229
Agricultural Produce :—			
*Milk and Dairy ...	1,443,233	997,919	2,441,152
Eggs and Poultry ...	368,378	51,761	420,139
Fruit and Market Garden ...	2,211,956	2,221	2,214,177
Dead Meat ...	827,138	35,750	862,888
Live Stock ...	548,150	31,916	580,066
*Sundry ...	1,102,984	242,009	1,344,993
Total Sales ...	£13,271,016	1,832,628	15,103,644

In the aggregate, sales by all societies exceeded those for 1925 by £440,000, there being an increase in produce of 20.9 per cent. (£1,358,000), and a decrease in requirements of 11.3 per cent. (£918,000). But for the English Hop Growers, Ltd. (the new society referred to in section II), there would have been a substantial decrease in produce. The decrease in the value of requirements sold by societies in England and Wales was £903,000, and by societies in Scotland £15,000; whilst the value of produce sold by societies in England and Wales increased by £1,521,000, societies in Scotland showing a decrease of £163,000.

As compared with an aggregate loss of £59,000 for 1925, societies in England and Wales sustained a loss of £12,000. In Scotland societies showed an aggregate surplus of £16,000, as against £27,000 for the preceding year.

The total membership of all societies was about 300,000, or 3,500 less than in 1925. Small holdings and allotments societies alone accounted for the decline. Share, loan, and reserve capital further decreased by £37,000 to £3,519,000† at the end of 1926; several societies found it necessary to write down their share capital in order to extinguish accumulated adverse balances.

### UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT, 1921–27.

In reply to a question in the House of Commons on 6th March, the Minister of Labour gave figures showing approximately the total number of days of unemployment for which unemployment benefit under the Unemployment Insurance Acts was paid during the years 1921 to 1927. These figures are shown below, together with the amounts of unemployment benefit paid :—

	Days of Unemployment.	Unemployment Benefit Paid.
		£
1921 ...	453,300,000	58,546,000
1922 ...	345,100,000	47,932,000
1923 ...	287,700,000	39,366,000
1924 ...	258,500,000	37,874,000
1925 ...	273,700,000	45,815,000
1926 ...	303,000,000	50,200,000
1927 ...	219,000,000	36,750,000

\* Including produce of Industrial societies.

† Includes aggregate of profit and loss balances not now separated from reserves.



The above figures for days of unemployment do not include days for which benefit was not paid owing to waiting periods, disqualification for benefit, or other reasons; and during 1921 there were in addition days of unemployment for which out-of-work donation, as distinct from unemployment benefit, was paid. Out-of-work donation, however, was paid in 1921 only to ex-service men (and a few women), and it ceased to be paid on 31st March in that year, save for a few cases of late demobilisation. The requisite statistics are not available regarding these additional days of unemployment.

## MINERS' WELFARE FUND AND NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME.

THE Mines Department have issued the sixth Report of the Miners' Welfare Committee, covering the year ended 31st December, 1927; together with the first Report of the selection committee appointed to administer the Miners' Welfare National Scholarship Scheme, covering the period from the date of their appointment (13th November, 1926) to the end of October, 1927.\*

Owing to the prolonged stoppage in the coal-mining industry in 1926, the sum paid into the Fund during 1927 from the levy on output was only £523,504, as compared with £1,003,658 in the previous year. The total sum allocated during the year was £1,090,734, and the total amount paid out £997,373, as compared with £1,283,202 and £1,208,315, respectively, in 1926.

In addition, the first year's levy on royalties, under the Mining Industry Act, 1926, amounted to £196,000. The credits from this levy are wholly devoted to the provision of pithead baths; and this was supplemented during the year by contributions from the output levy account.

The total receipts from contributions on "output levy" account—i.e., from the proceeds of the penny a ton levy on output—from the initiation of the fund in 1920 to the 31st December, 1927, were £5,947,623; to which must be added interest to the amount of £517,717, making a total of £6,465,340 credited to the output levy account. Four-fifths of this (£5,062,006) is earmarked for the respective districts in which the money is raised; the remaining fifth forms the General Fund, used for purposes of education and research of value to the industry generally. During 1927 a sum of £127,011 was appropriated by the Miners' Welfare Committee for pithead baths; to which object also the whole of the royalties welfare levy, of 5 per cent. on royalties, under the Mining Industry Act, 1926, is appropriated.

The following Table shows the allocation of the district funds from the inception of the scheme up to 31st December, 1927:—

Description.	Total Number of Schemes.	Total allocated.
<i>Recreation:—</i>		£
† <i>Indoor.</i> —Institutes, halls, clubs, libraries (including small grants for the purchase of books), swimming baths, etc. ...	525	1,584,021
† <i>Outdoor.</i> —Recreation and sports grounds, playing fields, swimming pools, colliery bands, etc. ...	463	1,131,783
<i>Pit Welfare:—</i>		
Cycle sheds, drying rooms and shelters at the pit-heads ...	12	10,478
Pithead baths ...	17	127,213
<i>Health:—</i>		
Hospitals (structural additions, equipment, endowment of existing public institutions, etc.) ...	37	123,236
Convalescent schemes (new institutions for the use of miners only, and funds for the purchase of admission tickets, the provision of surgical appliances, the special treatment of serious accidents, etc.) ...	25	1,487,944
District nursing services ...	19	27,766
Ambulance services ...	50	57,354
<i>Education:—</i> Lectures, scholarships, establishment and equipment of centres for junior technical instruction, etc. ...	28	48,000
Expenses of administration ...	...	41,782
<b>TOTALS</b> ...	<b>1,176</b>	<b>4,639,577</b>

The General Fund is devoted, as stated, mainly to education and research. The first competition for scholarships under the university scholarship scheme (established in 1926, and described in some detail in last year's Report†), was held early in the year 1927. No fewer than 2,259 applications were received—1,209 from candidates who were themselves workers in or about coal mines, and the remainder from the children of such workers. Over 300 of the working miner candidates, and over 500 children of miners, had satisfactory educational qualifications, entitling their applications to serious consideration; 59 applicants were selected to attend for a personal interview, and eleven scholarships were eventually awarded.

\* H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. 6d. net.

† Many of the "indoor" schemes include land for recreation purposes, and such recreation grounds are not shown separately under "outdoor" schemes.

‡ H.M. Stationery Office; price 1s. 6d. net. A summary of this Report appeared in the March, 1927, issue of this GAZETTE, page 91.

## COMPULSORY SICKNESS INSURANCE: INTERNATIONAL REVIEW.

THE International Labour Office has recently issued a Report\* which embodies the results of a systematic examination on an international basis of the various laws concerning compulsory sickness insurance. The development of sickness insurance throughout the world surveyed historically, and the provisions in current schemes of benefits, finance, management, disputes, etc., are examined in detail and compared country by country.

The first scheme, that of Germany in 1883, was followed, slowly at first, but more rapidly after the War, by schemes in twenty-four other countries, all European with the exception of Chile and Japan. France is on the point of establishing a system of compulsory insurance against sickness, invalidity, old age and death; while Australia, South Africa and Brazil may soon follow suit. In Italy, where there is a compulsory maternity insurance scheme, effect is being given to Article 27 of the Charter of Labour, which proposes, *inter alia*, to inaugurate a general system of insurance against all diseases; as a first step, a Royal Decree of 27th October, 1927 (which will come into force at a date to be fixed by administrative regulations) formulates a system of insurance against occupational diseases and tuberculosis. In the United States no scheme is yet under consideration either by any state or by the Federal Government.

The laws governing compulsory sickness insurance usually determine their scope on the basis of the contract of employment and are intended to apply to wage-earners only. Only three countries, Switzerland, Portugal and Chile, extend beyond the wage-earning class to include either all workers (wage-earning and non-wage-earning) or all persons of small means. Eight countries set a maximum limit to the earned income of non-manual workers for the purpose of liability to compulsory insurance; for example, the maximum is £250 in Great Britain and 3600 marks in Germany. However, the proportion of the population covered by compulsory sickness insurance varies considerably from country to country; the percentage is about 3 in Japan and Esthonia and 35 in Australia and Great Britain, these being the extremes. The scope of compulsory insurance now includes the wage-earners in both industry and commerce in eighteen countries, and any restrictions based on the degree of risk have disappeared altogether, except in Japan. Compulsory insurance among agricultural workers and domestic servants has been hindered by certain practical difficulties; but the former are now covered in twelve countries and the latter in fifteen countries.

The Report shows that the benefits which the various national schemes now undertake to provide are no longer simply compensation for monetary loss due to sickness, but are amplified to include medical aid and drugs, home nursing, hospital and convalescent treatment and additional benefits, such as surgical appliances, optical and dental treatment. The general policy directing the administration of benefits has thus become, not so much assistance in sickness, as the restoration or creation of new productive energy. Sickness as an insurance risk is being brought under control, and gradually being continuously reduced.

Family responsibilities are taken into account in a growing number of countries, and, in all countries having a sufficiently developed system, compulsory sickness insurance covers maternity insurance as well. Out of twenty-three compulsory insurance laws, fourteen provide maternity benefit for the wives of insured persons. Post-war legislation has increased maternity benefits; insured women are entitled to the care of a midwife and in case of need to medical attention, and they receive allowances during the rest period which precedes and follows confinement. In many countries, the mother is entitled to a nursing benefit and a contribution towards the cost of the layette. Ante-natal medical advice, reception in maternity homes, and medical care of newborn children, all bear witness to the interest taken in the welfare of mother and child.

Sickness insurance, however, goes yet further in caring for the working-class family. The movement to provide medical aid for the insured person's family, which was possible before the war in a few states only, has become much stronger in recent years; and such assistance is now given as of right in Austria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Roumania and the Serb-Croat-Slovene Kingdom. In other countries, and especially in Germany and Luxemburg, where this provision is optional, insurance institutions have taken advantage on a large scale of the option. In Great Britain, however, although medical treatment for dependants of insured persons is included in the additional benefits which the approved societies are authorised to grant from any surplus they may realise, this option has not been taken up by them.

Whether sickness insurance should be on a contributory or non-contributory basis is now rarely discussed. The principle of the worker's contribution has been adopted in all countries except Russia (where the insurance cost is borne by the employers alone) and of the employer's contribution in all countries except Roumania and Switzerland. The State pays a share of the contribution in five countries only, viz., Bulgaria, Chile, Latvia, Lithuania and Norway. In eight other countries, however, viz., Belgium (seamen), France (miners and seamen), Germany, Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Irish Free State, Japan, Poland and Switzerland (4 cantons), the State bears part of the cost of compulsory sickness insurance by paying a share of certain benefits or by a general subsidy.

Most schemes are managed autonomously by the parties concerned. State management is rare, and exists only in Bulgaria and to some extent in Germany.

\* *Compulsory Sickness Insurance. Studies and Reports, Series M (Social Insurance), No. 6*, published in the United Kingdom for the International Labour Office by P. S. King & Sons, Ltd. (Orchard House, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.1); price 12s.



in Japan. The system of autonomous institutions working under the supervision of the State is one which has made it possible to apply uniform legal provisions, while allowing the free play of initiative in the adaptation of the activities of insurance institutions to special local needs. There is a tendency for funds organised on a territorial basis to develop in most of the European countries (Britain is a notable exception); while trade funds, and especially friendly societies, have lost ground. The reasons given are that in a territorial fund all kinds of trades are represented, and good and bad risks compensate one another; the membership is more stable, and economic disturbances and unemployment, which might threaten the very existence of trade funds, have less influence.

## CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT IN THE METAL INDUSTRIES IN ITALY. NEW COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT.\*

An important agreement, regulating conditions of employment in iron and steel, engineering and allied industries throughout Italy, was signed on 10th February, 1928, by the Fascist National Employers' Federation of the Engineering and Metallurgical Industry and the Fascist National Trade Union of Engineering and Metal Workers. The negotiations were conducted under the auspices of the Minister of Corporations (Signor Mussolini) and with the assistance of the Fascist General Confederation of Italian Industry and the National Confederation of Fascist Trade Unions. According to the census of 1921, the number of persons employed by the metal and engineering industry in Italy was then half-a-million. This, the first national collective agreement for large-scale industry concluded in accordance with the provisions of the Act of 3rd April, 1926, on the Regulation of Collective Labour Relations, will, it is understood, serve as a model for similar agreements in other Italian industries.

The preamble to the agreement provides that the industry shall be divided into the following four branches: engineering undertakings, shipbuilding yards, foundries, and iron and steel works; that the workers shall be divided into the following categories: unskilled workers, skilled workers, specially skilled labourers, general labourers, apprentices, women and boys.

Employers engaging labour must apply to the employment exchanges set up in connection with the Fascist trade unions. They must have the liberty to select from the workers registered at the exchange, giving preference to members of the Fascist party and of the trade unions, according to seniority of registration. In order to be admitted to employment the worker must produce his identity card, certificate of citizenship, police certificate (*certificato penale*), work book, insurance cards and books, and labour certificates showing his previous employment. He must be willing to submit to medical examination by the works doctor, and every engagement is subject to a probationary period of one or two weeks' duration.

**Hours.**—The normal working week for engineering and allied undertakings is to be 48 hours of effective work, divided into eight days from Monday to Saturday. A two- or three-shift system may be introduced, and the workers must work in the agreed shift. A worker may not refuse, without just cause, to work overtime, but cannot be compelled to perform more than ten hours overtime a week, exclusive of Saturday. These provisions may be abrogated in urgent cases, within the legal limits. Overtime may not be of a permanent nature.

For iron and steel works, the normal working week is to be 48 hours of effective work; but members of squads required for the purposes of continuous working, the performance of watchman's duties, and the preparation of work in continuous processes where there are several shifts, must work in shifts such additional hours as may be necessary. Such hours are to be paid at the ordinary hourly rate, plus an overtime rate. For plant requiring continuous work for seven days a week, the cycle of work is to be regarded as 11 hours for every three weeks, and the weekly hours of work may be respectively 56, 48 and 40.

Short interruptions of work due to *force majeure*, the sum of which does not exceed 30 minutes a day, are not to be considered in reckoning wages. Where work is suspended for more than a fortnight, the worker may ask to be released, with right to the compensation for discharge referred to below.

**Wages.**—Separate collective agreements are to fix the basic wage for individual undertakings in urban and in rural districts, and to determine the classification of the workers. The minimum wage is to be determined by comparison with the minimum wage generally operative in the last quarter of 1926, and the organisations are to agree within the current month upon any reductions to be made. Such reductions, together with those that may have already been made, must not exceed 20 per cent.

Piece rates must be so fixed as to ensure to the diligent worker of normal working capacity a minimum remuneration (to be determined by the separate collective agreements) over and above the basic wage. When, fortnight by fortnight, the average percentage excess of piece-rate remuneration over the basic wage in an undertaking shows a decrease, the workers' organisations may intervene, and may delegate from three to five workers of the undertaking to meet the directors, delegated by the employers' association, to secure agreement between the parties.

The percentage increases on the normal wage, payable for overtime, night work and holiday work, are to be fixed by local agreement in accordance with a table contained in the national agreement.

This table provides for separate (not specified) percentage rates for the first two hours overtime, the next three hours overtime, and for further hours of overtime on working days, and for night work and holiday work. For the purpose of calculating hours of night work, the twelve hours following the beginning of the morning shift are to be regarded as day hours. Where the two shift or three-shift system is adopted, no additional payment is to be made for night work.

Wages are to be paid weekly or fortnightly, and payment is to be made in such a manner that the undertaking always retains the full amount of six days' normal wage as a guarantee of the obligations assumed by the worker under the collective agreement. Interest on this deposit, at the rate of 5 per cent., is to be paid into a provident and benevolent institution for the workers chosen by the competent organisations.

**Annual Holidays.**—Workers who have had at least twelve consecutive months' service with an undertaking are to be allowed six days' holiday every year, paid at the normal wage. Money payment may not be substituted for the annual holiday.

**Sickness.**—In case of illness, a worker's post is to be kept open for him for three months, and if after this period he is discharged he is entitled to the compensation for discharge referred to below.

**Mutual Benefit Fund.**—The agreement provides that, in accordance with paragraph 28 of the Charter of Labour,\* a mutual benefit fund shall be set up in every undertaking, to be supported and administered jointly by workers and employers. These funds are to be amalgamated if desirable, to guarantee continuity of assistance to workers transferred from one undertaking to another.

**Compensation for Discharge.**—Workers, other than those dismissed for specified offences, are to be entitled to compensation for discharge, on a scale ranging from one day's wage for the first year of uninterrupted service to four days' wage for the sixteenth and following years of service. (According to this scale, a worker with sixteen years' service would, apparently, be entitled, on discharge, to an additional 44 days' wages.) In the event of his death, the worker's wife and dependants are to be entitled to the compensation.

**Settlement of Disputes.**—Collective disputes, which concern a shop or an undertaking, or individual claims concerning the interpretation and application of the national agreement which are clearly of general interest, are to be settled by the competent organisations.

**Other Provisions.**—Among the provisions relating to the conduct and attendance of workers at work, the agreement lays down that they must conduct themselves with deference towards superiors and with civility and goodfellowship towards equals and subordinates. Workers arriving late at the works are to have half an hour deducted from the normal time on which payment is reckoned. There are special provisions relating to the worker's absence from his own place of work, from his shop and from the works. Unjustifiable absences from the works are to be penalised by fines varying from 25 per cent. to 50 per cent. of the wage which would have been due for the hours of absence.

The agreement contains a list of prohibitions, which include making collections and selling articles in the works, smoking and bringing food and drink into the shops without permission, and working in the wrong shop; and a list of penalties, including fines, suspension from work and dismissal.

In the event of the transfer of an undertaking, the staff are to retain the rights and obligations under the collective agreement.

## WAGES AND HOURS MOVEMENTS IN GERMANY.

**Metal Trades.**—The lock-out affecting about 50,000 metal workers in the Halle, Magdeburg and Anhalt districts of Central Germany, referred to in the last issue of this GAZETTE, has now been settled. An *ad hoc* conciliation official, appointed by the Federal Ministry of Labour to deal with the dispute, issued an award granting an hourly increase of 5 pfennige, as against 3 pfennige awarded by the previous conciliator, thereby increasing the minimum rate for skilled workers to 80 pfennige per hour. This award, although not accepted by the trade union representatives, was declared binding by the Federal Minister of Labour. The metal workers' unions subsequently recommended their members to resume work on 24th February, whereupon the employers withdrew their lock-out notices.

After unsuccessful efforts by the official conciliator to effect a settlement of the dispute involving tool-makers at Berlin (see the last issue of this GAZETTE), about 1,000 men ceased work on 27th February. It is reported that a provisional settlement has since been reached, and that work was resumed on 14th March.

No settlement of the strike in the Saxon steel industry has yet been reported. As was stated on page 48 of the February issue, the workers object to certain of the terms of an award which was issued early in January and subsequently declared binding.

**Coal Mining.**—An agreement has been concluded in the Aix-la-Chapelle mining district, whereby the present 12-hour shift for surface workers is to be reduced by one hour immediately, and by a further half-hour at a later date.

**Woodworking.**—Negotiations initiated by the Federal Ministry of Labour have resulted in the renewal, for a further year, of the national agreement for the woodworking industry. The hourly wage rates are to be increased by 6 pfennige immediately, a further increase of 3 or 4 pfennige being payable as from 1st October next, while piece-work rates are to be adjusted proportionately.

\* *Il Lavoro d' Italia*, 17th February, 1928. Rome.

\* See this GAZETTE for June, 1927 page 213.



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

## Summary: Average Increases since July, 1914.

All Items included	...	...	64%
Food only	...	...	55%

## FOOD.

Between 1st February and 1st March there was a further decline in the average level of the retail prices of the principal articles of food, mainly owing to a seasonal reduction of nearly  $\frac{3}{4}$ d. each in the average price of eggs. Fish also was considerably cheaper at the later date, and there were slight reductions, on average, in the prices of flour and bread, and meat.

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 55 per cent. at 1st March, 1928, as compared with 59 per cent. a month ago, and 62 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 February and 1st March, 1928:—

Article.	Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated—to the nearest $\frac{1}{4}$ d.)			Average Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) at 1st Mar., 1928, as compared with	
	July, 1914.	1st Feb., 1928.	1st Mar., 1928.	July, 1914.	1st Feb., 1928.
Beef, British—					
Ribs ...	s. d. 0 10	s. d. 1 4 $\frac{1}{4}$	s. d. 1 4	+ 0 6	— 0 0 $\frac{1}{4}$
Thin Flank ...	0 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	+ 0 2	— 0 0 $\frac{1}{4}$
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—					
Ribs ...	0 7 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 10	0 9 $\frac{3}{4}$	+ 0 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	— 0 0 $\frac{1}{4}$
Thin Flank ...	0 4 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 5 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 5 $\frac{1}{4}$	+ 0 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	...
Mutton, British—					
Legs ...	0 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 5 $\frac{3}{4}$	+ 0 7 $\frac{1}{4}$	+ 0 0 $\frac{1}{4}$
Breast ...	0 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	+ 0 3	...
Mutton, Frozen—					
Legs ...	0 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 11 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 11	+ 0 4 $\frac{1}{4}$	— 0 0 $\frac{1}{4}$
Breast ...	0 4	0 4 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 4 $\frac{1}{4}$	+ 0 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	...
Bacon (streaky)*	0 11 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 3	1 2 $\frac{3}{4}$	+ 0 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	— 0 0 $\frac{1}{4}$
Flour ... per 7 lb.	0 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 4 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 4 $\frac{1}{4}$	+ 0 6	— 0 0 $\frac{1}{4}$
Bread ... per 4 lb.	0 5 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	+ 0 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	— 0 0 $\frac{1}{4}$
Tea ...	1 6 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 5	2 5	+ 0 10 $\frac{3}{4}$	...
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	...
Butter—					
Fresh ...	1 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 11 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 11 $\frac{1}{4}$	+ 0 8 $\frac{3}{4}$	...
Salt ...	1 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	+ 0 7 $\frac{1}{4}$	+ 0 0 $\frac{1}{4}$
Cheese† ...	0 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	+ 0 5 $\frac{1}{4}$	...
Margarine ...	0 7	0 7 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 7 $\frac{1}{4}$	+ 0 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	...
Eggs (fresh) ... each	0 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	+ 0 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	— 0 0 $\frac{1}{4}$
Potatoes ... per 7 lb.	0 4 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 7 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 7 $\frac{1}{4}$	+ 0 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	...

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

Article.	Average Percentage Increase at 1st Mar., 1928, as compared with July, 1914.			Corresponding General Average for 1st Feb., 1928.
	Large Towns (Populations over 50,000).	Small Towns and Villages.	General Average.	
Beef, British—	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Ribs ...	63	61	62	63
Thin Flank ...	31	33	32	34
Beef, Chilled or Frozen—				
Ribs ...	37	35	36	37
Thin Flank ...	3	10	7	8
Mutton, British—				
Legs ...	69	71	70	69
Breast ...	48	46	47	47
Mutton, Frozen—				
Legs ...	64	59	61	63
Breast ...	17	21	19	20
Bacon (streaky)*	30	33	32	35
Fish ...	117	96	107	124
Flour ...	55	59	57	60
Bread ...	61	59	60	62
Tea ...	55	62	59	58
Sugar (granulated) ...	75	69	72	75
Milk ...	84	90	87	87
Butter—				
Fresh ...	54	65	59	59
Salt ...	51	53	52	51
Cheese† ...	63	63	63	63
Margarine ...	8	5	6	7
Eggs (fresh) ...	57	46	52	107
Potatoes ...	70	43	57	56
All above articles of Food (Weighted Percentage Increase) ...	55	54	55	59

\* 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 changes which have taken effect under the Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Acts indicate that the average increase in rents (including rates) of working-class dwellings between July 1914, and 1st March, 1928, was approximately 51 per cent. Of 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 fall 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 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, overcoats, underclothing and hosiery, textile materials and boots received from retailers in the principal towns, indicates that on 1st March, the level of retail prices of articles in this group taking goods of the kinds purchased by the working classes and 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, the prices of coal and gas at 1st March were about the same as a month earlier, and averaged 75 and 50 per cent. respectively above the level of July, 1914. For the fuel and light group as a whole (including coal, gas, oil, candles and matches) the average increase at 1st March, as compared with July, 1914, was about 70 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 the 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 on 1st March is, approximately, **64 per cent.\*** over the level of July 1914, as compared with 66 per cent. at 1st February, 1928, and 71 per cent. at 1st March, 1927.

The result of this calculation (in which the same quantities as far as possible, the same qualities of each item are taken in 1928 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 and readjustments 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 those 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, to which trustworthy statistics are not available.

## SUMMARY TABLE: 1918 TO 1928.

The following Table shows the average percentage increase, compared with July, 1914, for all the items included in the statistics, at the beginning of each month, 1918 to 1928:—

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

Month.	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928
Jan. ...	85-90	120	125	165	92	78	77	80	75	75	6
Feb. ...	90	120	130	151	88	77	79	79	73	72	6
Mar. ...	90	115	130	141	86	76	78	79	72	71	6
April ...	90-95	110	132	133	82	74	73	75	68	65	...
May ...	95-100	105	141	128	81	70	71	73	67	64	...
June ...	100	105	150	119	80	69	69	72	68	63	...
July ...	100-105	105-110	152	119	84	69	70	73	70	66	...
Aug. ...	110	115	155	122	81	71	71	73	70	64	...
Sept. ...	110	115	161	120	79	73	72	74	72	65	...
Oct. ...	115-120	120	164	110	78	75	76	76	74	67	...
Nov. ...	120-125	125	176	103	80	75	80	76	79	69	...
Dec. ...	120	125	169	99	80	77	81	77	79	69	...

## 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, of the commodities included in these statistics, the average increase is about 2 per cent. less.



## EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY.

## GENERAL SUMMARY.

EMPLOYMENT during February showed continued improvement, particularly during the second half of the month. There was a marked recovery in the building trade and public works contracting, their ancillary industries of brick, tile, and cement manufacture. Employment also improved in the pottery trade, in the iron and steel industries, the cotton and wool textile industries, lace trade, paper and paper-board making, the clothing trades, boot and shoe manufacture. There was little change in the engineering industries, but a decline occurred in the glass trade, the tinplate industry, and in canal, river, dock and harbour service. In coal mining the numbers wholly unemployed showed a further increase, coupled with a slight decline in the numbers temporarily stopped.

## SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

Among workpeople covered by the Unemployment Insurance Act (aged 16 to 64 inclusive and numbering approximately 1,000,000), and working in practically every industry except agriculture and private domestic service, the percentage unemployed on 20th February, 1928 (including those temporarily stopped as well as those wholly unemployed) was 10·4, as compared with 10·7 at 20th January, 1928, and 10·9 at 21st February, 1927. For males the percentage at 20th February, 1928, was 12·0, as compared with 12·2 at 23rd January, 1928; for females the corresponding figures were 6·3 and 6·8. The percentage wholly unemployed fell from 8·3 at 23rd January, 1928, to 8·2 at 20th February, 1928. The total number of persons (insured and uninsured) registered at Employment Exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland at 20th February, 1928, was approximately 1,139,000, of whom 590,000 were men and 158,000 were women, the remainder being children and girls; at 30th January, 1928, it was 1,199,000, of whom 600,000 were men and 171,000 were women; and at 28th February, 1927, it was 1,208,000, of whom 970,000 were men and 172,000 were women.

## EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

*Mining and Quarrying.*—In the coal-mining industry employment continued slack and showed a decline as compared with January. The total number of wage-earners on the colliery books at 25th February, 1928, was 957,783, a decrease of 1·4 per cent. as compared with January; the average number of days worked per week in the month ended 25th February, 1928, was 4·84, as compared with 4·95 in January.

In iron-mining employment was slack. In the shale mines in North Lothian there was a decrease of 2·0 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed at the mines from which returns were received, as compared with January, 1928. At limestone quarries employment continued moderate in the Clitheroe district, and fair in the Weardale district; in the Buxton area it was good. At slate quarries in North Wales employment was reported as fairly good; at whinstone quarries in the East of Scotland, and at chalk quarries, it continued slack. At china clay quarries employment was moderate; at tin mines it was still fairly good.

*Manufacture of Pig-iron, Iron and Steel, and Tinplate.*—In the iron industry employment was bad, but showed a slight improvement. Of 437 furnaces, the number in blast at the end of February, 1928, was 148, the same number as in January, 1928; in February, 1927, the corresponding number was 166.

In iron and steel manufacture, employment continued slack, and short-time working was reported in many districts. In the tinplate industry, 322 mills were reported to be in operation in the week ended 25th February (when many works were closed under the arrangement whereby each works is to stop for three weeks out of every thirteen), as compared with 405 at the end of January, 1928, and 424 in February, 1927. In steel sheet manufacture employment was fair. The number of steel sheet mills working was 113 in the week ending 25th February, 1928, 120 in January, 1928, and 121 in February, 1927.

*Engineering, Shipbuilding and Metal Industries.*—In engineering employment was still slack, and showed no general change as compared with the previous month. It remained fairly good in electrical engineering, and fair in locomotive and motor vehicle work. Short-time working was still very prevalent in the textile machinery section, while in marine engineering conditions remained bad. In shipbuilding and ship-repairing, employment remained very bad, on the whole, but showed a slight decline as compared with the previous month. In the other metal trades, employment continued moderate to fair. It was fairly good in the nut and bolt, lock and latch, and hollow-ware trades; fair in the brasswork, cutlery, sheet metal, tube, needle and fishing tackle trades; slack in the jewellery and plated ware, re, file and metallic bedstead trades; and bad in the stove and grate, and chain and anchor trades.

*Textile Industry.*—In the cotton industry there was a slight improvement in the weaving department; there was also some

reduction in the number of workers temporarily stopped in the American spinning section, which, however, remained slack. With firms spinning or manufacturing the finer qualities of yarn or of cloth (including the Egyptian spinning section), employment was generally good, but in the coarse and medium section of the industry there was much unemployment and under-employment.

In the wool textile industry employment, though still slack, showed an improvement in both the woollen and the worsted sections; in the carpet section employment continued good. In the industry as a whole, employment was better than in the corresponding period of last year.

In the hosiery trade employment continued good generally; in the silk and artificial silk trades, taken together, it also remained fairly good; in the lace trade it showed an improvement; in the linen trade it continued moderate; in the jute trade it was good. In the textile bleaching, printing, dyeing, etc., trades, employment remained slack generally.

*Clothing Industry.*—Employment in the tailoring industry showed an improvement in a number of centres, but remained quiet in the retail bespoke branch, and moderate to fair in the ready-made and wholesale bespoke branch; a shortage of experienced machinists was reported in a few districts. In dressmaking and millinery employment was slack or moderate in the bespoke branches, but showed some improvement, and was fairly good generally, in the wholesale section; in the London blouse and light underclothing industry it was reported as good, and slightly better than in the previous month. Employment in the shirt and collar and corset industries was fairly good, on the whole, although a little short time was worked at a few centres. In felt hat making employment continued fairly good. In the boot and shoe industry employment continued fairly good, and showed an improvement at most centres; there was a noticeable reduction in the number of workpeople on short time, or unemployed, and some increase in the number working overtime.

*Leather Industry.*—Employment showed an improvement; in the tanning and currying section it remained good on the whole; in the portmanteau, trunk, and fancy leather section it was moderate; with saddlery and harness makers it continued fair.

*Building, Woodworking, etc.*—Employment in the building industry showed some improvement, particularly in the painting and decorating section, but it was again slack, on the whole, in most districts. As regards individual occupations, employment improved with carpenters, but was still slack; it also improved with bricklayers and masons, but was still quiet, on the whole; with slaters it was fair at many centres. With plasterers employment continued generally poor; with plumbers it was still fair; with painters a considerable improvement was reported, but employment remained slack, on the whole; it was also slack with tradesmen's labourers. In brick manufacture employment showed an improvement as compared with the previous month.

Employment in the furnishing trades continued fairly good; with mill-sawyers it showed a further slight decline.

*Paper Manufacture, Printing and Bookbinding.*—With paper-makers employment continued fair on the whole. With letterpress printers it continued moderate; with electrotypers and stereotypers it continued fairly good in most districts, but a decline was reported in London, and employment was still bad in Manchester; in the lithographic printing section and with bookbinders employment was moderate, on the whole.

*Pottery and Glass.*—Employment in the pottery industry in North Staffordshire showed a further slight improvement, but there was still much short-time working. In the glass trades employment in the bottle-making section was bad; in other branches it was slack, and showed a decline.

*Agriculture and Fishing.*—In agriculture in England and Wales the supply of regular and casual labour at the end of the month was generally adequate for requirements. In Scotland the supply of labour was also sufficient, except in Dumfries, where capable and experienced men were difficult to procure. In the fishing industry employment showed a decline as compared with the previous month.

*Dock Labour and Seamen.*—With dock labourers employment continued generally slack; with seamen it was mainly quiet, the supply of seamen being in excess of the demand at the majority of ports.

## SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

In Tables which appear on subsequent pages of this GAZETTE, detailed statistics bearing on the state of employment during February are given, based on information obtained from employers or employers' associations in certain industries. In the following Tables some of the principal features of those statistics are briefly



summarised (a) for certain mining and metal industries and (b) for various other industries :—

(a) CERTAIN MINING AND METAL INDUSTRIES.

Industry.	Workpeople included in the Returns for February, 1928.	February, 1928.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
		Month before.		Year before.	
		Days Worked per week by Mines.		Days.	
		4.84		- 0.11	
Coal Mining ...	957,783	5.69		+ 0.23	
Iron „ ...	5,957	6.00		+ 0.05	
Shale „ ...	2,506				
		Furnaces in Blast.		Number.	
		148		— 18	
Pig Iron ...	...	Mills working.		— 90	
	...	435		— 125	
Tinplate and Steel Sheet	...	Shifts Worked (one week).		Per cent.	
	...	368,084		- 0.1	
Iron and Steel ...	68,406			- 7.9	

(b) OTHER INDUSTRIES.

Industry.	Number of Workpeople Employed.			Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 25th Feb., 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 25th Feb., 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
Textiles :—		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Cotton ...	78,559	- 1.0	- 0.6	144,675	- 0.2	+ 0.0
Woollen...	64,679	+ 1.5	+ 1.6	134,681	+ 3.2	+ 3.5
Worsted...	92,770	+ 0.0	+ 2.8	187,007	+ 1.3	+ 7.8
Carpet ...	9,512	+ 0.8	+ 7.4	18,509	+ 1.8	+ 14.4
Boot and Shoe ...	52,612	+ 1.0	+ 3.7	123,944	+ 2.9	+ 5.1
Pottery ...	10,705	+ 1.6	- 0.3	19,667	+ 4.5	- 3.0
Brick ...	8,249	+ 1.5	- 8.5	20,804	+ 2.5	- 10.9

UNEMPLOYMENT SUMMARY BY DISTRICTS.

The following Table shows the variations in the rates of unemployment at 20th February, 1928, among insured persons in the respective divisions into which the country is divided for the purpose of the administration of the Unemployment Insurance Acts :—

Divisions.	Estimated Numbers Insured, aged 16-64 inclusive, at July, 1927.	Percentage Unemployed at 20th February, 1928.			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Total Percentages as compared with a	
		Males.	Females.	Total.	Month before.	Year before.
London ...	2,091,260	7.5	4.0	6.3	- 0.2	- 0.8
South-Eastern ...	849,410	7.3	4.3	6.6	- 0.6	+ 0.7
South-Western...	807,100	10.1	5.4	9.1	- 0.2	+ 1.1
Midlands ...	1,733,280	9.4	6.9	8.7	- 0.1	- 0.2
North-Eastern...	1,961,560	15.4	7.0	13.6	- 0.2	- 2.2
North-Western...	2,090,390	12.5	8.2	11.1	- 0.2	...
Scotland ...	1,268,170	12.7	6.6	11.0	- 0.3	- 2.1
Wales ...	607,580	25.0	9.5	23.5	- 1.1	+ 5.1
Northern Ireland	249,000	16.8	7.4	13.0	- 0.3	- 3.7
Special Schemes	126,250	1.8	0.4	1.4	...	- 0.3
TOTAL ...	11,784,000	12.0	6.3	10.4	- 0.3	- 0.5

UNEMPLOYMENT IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS.

The following Table shows, month by month since February, 1927, the percentages unemployed among insured workpeople and the approximate number of applicants for employment registered at Employment Exchanges, etc., in Great Britain and Northern Ireland :—

Percentages Unemployed among Insured Workpeople.						Numbers (Insured and Uninsured) registered at Employment Exchanges, etc.	
Date.	Males.	Females.	Males and Females.			Date.	Numbers.
			Wholly Unemployed and Casuals.	Temporarily Stopped	Total.		
1927.						1927.	
21 Feb....	12.1	7.5	8.7	2.2	10.9	28 Feb....	1,208,000
21 Mar....	11.2	6.1	7.8	2.0	9.8	28 Mar....	1,115,000
25 Apr....	10.7	5.7	7.1	2.3	9.4	25 Apr....	1,075,000
23 May...	10.0	5.3	6.6	2.1	8.7	30 May...	1,015,000
20 June...	10.1	5.3	6.5	2.3	8.8	27 June...	1,032,000
25 July...	10.4	5.8	6.6	2.6	9.2	25 July...	1,055,000
22 Aug....	10.4	6.3	6.8	2.5	9.3	29 Aug....	1,076,000
26 Sept...	10.5	5.9	6.9	2.4	9.3	26 Sept...	1,075,000
24 Oct....	10.8	6.0	7.2	2.3	9.5	31 Oct....	1,132,000
21 Nov....	11.3	6.4	7.6	2.4	10.0	28 Nov....	1,172,000
19 Dec....	11.3	5.9	7.7	2.1	9.8	19 Dec....	1,127,000
1928.						1928.	
23 Jan....	12.2	6.8	8.3	2.4	10.7	30 Jan....	1,199,000
20 Feb....	12.0	6.3	8.2	2.2	10.4	27 Feb....	1,139,000

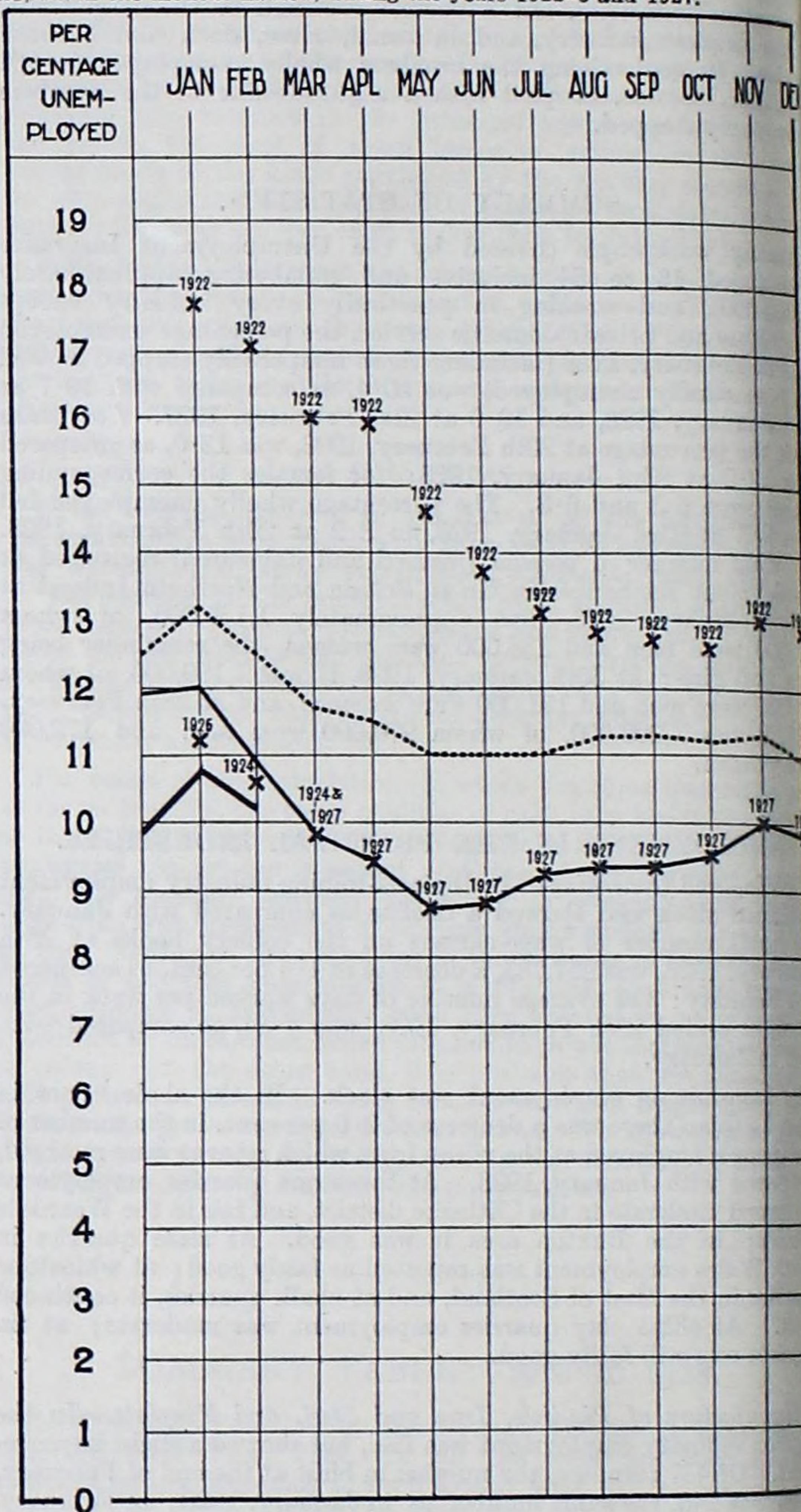
UNEMPLOYMENT CHART.

GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AMONG WORKPEOPLE INSURED AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT IN GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND :—

Thick Curve - - - = 1928.  
Dotted Curve - - - = Mean of 1922-25 and 1927.  
Thin Curve - - - = 1927.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1922-5 and 1927.



NEW ENTRANTS INTO UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT BOOKS RECEIVED AT LOCAL OFFICES OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR IN GREAT BRITAIN DURING FEBRUARY, 1928.

Area.	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.	
					Number.	Percentage of Number Insured at July, 1927.
South-Eastern :						
(a) London ...	1,753	5,128	2,724	4,366	13,971	0.67
(b) Rest of South-Eastern ...	1,248	2,377	887	1,579	6,091	0.72
South-Western ...	834	2,016	569	1,285	4,704	0.58
Midlands ...	952	3,825	989	3,321	9,087	0.52
North-Eastern ...	1,053	4,796	1,039	2,967	9,855	0.50
North-Western ...	1,008	4,076	1,004	3,634	9,722	0.47
Scotland ...	904	2,846	737	2,369	6,856	0.54
Wales ...	414	1,671	305	466	2,856	0.47
GREAT BRITAIN ...	8,166	26,735	8,254	19,987	63,142	0.55

The above figures are exclusive of cases in which, as the result of systematic search, duplication of applications has been discovered.

\* Aged 16-64 inclusive.



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

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

## COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT during February continued slack, and showed a decline as compared with the previous month.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 18.5 at 20th February, 1928, as compared with 18.1 at 23rd January, 1928, and 16.1 at 21st February, 1927.

The total number of wage earners on the colliery books at 20th February, 1928, showed a decrease of 1.4 per cent. as compared with 28th January, 1928, and of 5.4 per cent. as compared with 21st February, 1927.

The average number of days worked per week in the fortnight ended 25th February, 1928, was 4.84, a decrease of 0.11 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 28th January, 1928, and of 0.27 of a day as compared with the fortnight ended 26th February, 1927.

The following Table, shows, for the principal coal-mining districts, the total number of wage-earners on the colliery books and the average number of days worked per week\* during the fortnight ended 25th February, 1928, as shown by returns obtained by the Mines Department. Small numbers of workpeople employed at coal mines in raising or handling minerals other than coal are included in the totals:—

Districts.	Total Number of Wage Earners on Colliery Books at		Average Number of Days worked per week by the Mines.*			
	25th Feb., 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) as compared with a	Fort-night ended 25th Feb., 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) as compared with a	Month before.	Year before.
ENGLAND AND WALES:		Percent	Percent	Days.	Days.	Days.
Northumberland ...	45,409	-1.1	-16.0	5.28	-0.06	-0.08
Durham ...	126,189	+1.0	-3.9	5.09	-0.26	+0.07
Cumberland and Westmorland ...	12,357	-0.5	+8.2	4.65	-0.21	-0.91
South Yorkshire ...	122,097	-1.5	+2.5	4.86	-0.16	+0.42
West Yorkshire ...	60,567	-1.9	-6.1	4.24	-0.18	-0.61
Lancs and Cheshire ...	83,400	-1.1	-7.9	4.35	-0.12	-0.50
Derbyshire ...	57,555	-1.5	-5.2	4.20	-0.05	-0.62
Notts and Leicester ...	65,357	-0.8	-4.2	3.97	-0.24	-0.68
Warwick ...	18,511	-0.9	-3.3	5.28	+0.05	-0.50
North Staffordshire ...	32,011	-2.9	-2.8	4.74	-0.13	-0.56
South Staffs,† Worcs and Salop ...	32,828	-1.8	-5.5	5.00	+0.09	-0.90
Glos. and Somerset ...	11,679	-0.2	+1.1	4.33	-0.21	-1.18
Kent ...	3,234	+1.0	+47.9	5.51	+0.31	+0.07
North Wales ...	14,869	+0.5	-3.0	5.14	-0.39	-0.66
South Wales and Mon.	169,644	-3.9	-8.8	5.15	+0.11	-0.24
England and Wales	855,707	-1.5	-5.1	4.78	-0.09	-0.28
SCOTLAND:						
Mid & East Lothians	12,789	+0.2	-6.6	5.35	-0.13	-0.15
Fife and Clackmannan	22,862	-0.6	+0.7	5.21	-0.19	-0.27
Rest of Scotland ...	66,425	-0.7	-10.8	5.43	-0.25	-0.07
Scotland ...	102,076	-0.6	-7.9	5.37	-0.22	-0.12
GREAT BRITAIN ...	957,783	-1.4	-5.4	4.84	-0.11	-0.27

The average number of coal-winding days lost in Great Britain during the fortnight ended 25th February, 1928, was 0.96 of a day per week, of which 0.87 was due to want of trade and transport difficulties. The figures for the fortnight ended 28th January, 1928, were 0.85 of a day per week, of which 0.81 was due to want of trade and transport difficulties; for the fortnight ended 26th February, 1927, the average time lost was 0.69 of a day per week, of which 0.67 was due to transport difficulties. The average non-winding time for each of the three periods under review was about one-fifth of a day per week.

The output of coal in Great Britain for the four weeks ended 25th February, 1928, was reported to the Mines Department as 20,119,300 tons, as compared with 20,045,200 tons in the four weeks ended 28th January, 1928, and 21,365,400 tons in the four weeks ended 26th February, 1927.

The exports of coal, including that shipped for the use of steamers engaged in foreign trade, and the coal equivalent of coke and manufactured fuel, amounted to 5,688,700 tons in February, as compared with 5,742,700 tons in January, 1928, and with 5,726,800 tons in February, 1927.

The numbers and percentages unemployed among insured workpeople in the respective areas at 20th February, 1928, and the increases or decreases in the percentages, as compared with 23rd January, 1928, are shown in the following Table:—

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

Area.	Insured Persons Recorded as Unemployed at 20th February, 1928.					Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) in Total percentages as compared with a	
	Numbers.		Percentages.			Month before.	Year before.
	Wholly Unemployed.	Temporary stop-pages.	Wholly Unemployed.	Temporary stop-pages.	Total.		
Great Britain ...	144,449	70,993	12.4	6.1	18.5	+ 0.4	+ 2.4
England and Wales ...	126,149	69,842	12.3	6.8	19.1	+ 0.4	+ 2.7
Scotland ...	18,300	1,151	13.3	0.9	14.2	...	- 0.1
Principal Districts in England and Wales:—							
Northumberland ...	10,940	296	18.7	0.5	19.2	+ 0.4	+ 7.8
Durham ...	32,074	2,801	19.9	1.7	21.6	- 1.2	- 3.1
Cumberland and Westmorland ...	495	1,569	4.0	12.5	16.5	- 0.2	+ 9.8
Yorkshire ...	9,459	12,434	5.0	6.6	11.6	+ 3.8	- 5.5
Lancs and Cheshire ...	9,005	10,121	8.8	9.9	18.7	+ 1.8	+ 9.0
Derbyshire ...	2,884	8,647	4.4	13.1	17.5	+ 1.1	+12.9
Notts and Leicester ...	2,359	3,722	3.3	5.2	8.5	+ 2.6	+ 0.2
Warwicksh ...	627	110	4.7	0.8	5.5	+ 1.1	+ 2.6
Staffs, Worcs and Salop ...	5,037	2,553	6.3	3.3	9.6	+ 1.3	+ 4.1
Glos. and Somerset ...	1,062	2,063	7.7	14.8	22.5	+ 5.2	+11.8
Kent ...	109	...	4.0	...	4.0	- 0.2	-16.6
Wales and Monmouth ...	51,698	25,507	20.2	10.0	30.2	- 2.9	+ 6.2

## IRON AND SHALE MINING.

### IRON MINING.

EMPLOYMENT during February continued slack, and showed little change on the whole as compared with the previous month.

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 16.4 at 20th February, 1928, as compared with 16.1 at 23rd January, 1928, and 12.9 at 21st February, 1927.

The following Table summarises 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 No. of Days worked per week by the Mines.*			
	Fort-night ended 25th Feb., 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) as compared with a	Fort-night ended 25th Feb., 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) as compared with a	Month before.	Year before.
			Per cent.	Per cent.	Days.	Days.
Cleveland ...	2,195	+ 2.7	- 20.0	5.80	+ 0.78	+ 0.25
Cumberland and Lancashire ...	2,483	- 2.2	- 6.6	5.63	- 0.33	- 0.37
Other Districts ...	1,279	+ 31.2	5.61	+ 0.38	- 0.16	
ALL DISTRICTS	5,957	+ 0.5	- 6.6	5.69	+ 0.23	- 0.08

### SHALE MINING.

The number of persons employed in the West Lothian mines during the fortnight ended 25th February, 1928, by firms making returns was 2,506, showing a decrease of 2.0 per cent. compared with the previous month, and a decrease of 8.5 per cent. compared with February, 1927. The average number of days\* worked per week by the mines was 6.00, compared with 5.95 in January, and 5.90 in February, 1927.

## PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during February was bad, but showed a slight improvement as compared with January. The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 14.2 at 20th February, 1928, compared with 16.2 at 23rd January, 1928, and with 15.8 on 21st February, 1927.

\* See footnote \* in previous column.



According to returns received by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, 148 furnaces were in operation at the end of February, the same number as at the end of January: this compares with 166 at the end of February, 1927.

Returns received from 79 firms employing 18,286 workpeople at the end of February showed an increase of 0·8 per cent. in the number employed as compared with January, but a decrease of 4·6 per cent. as compared with February, 1927.

The following Table shows the number of furnaces in operation at the end of February, 1928, January, 1928, and February, 1927:—

District.	Total Number of Furnaces.	Number of Furnaces in Blast.			Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) on a	
		Feb., 1928.	Jan., 1928.	Feb., 1927.	Month before.	Year before.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
Durham and Cleveland	99	39	40	44	– 1	– 5
Cumberland and W. Lancs ... ..	44	10	11	15	– 1	– 5
Parts of Lancs and Yorks (including Sheffield) ... ..	33	10	10	15	...	– 5
Derby, Leicester, Notts and Northants ...	64	30	31	27	– 1	+ 3
Lincolnshire ... ..	24	13	13	14	...	– 1
Staffs, Shropshire, Worcester and War- wick ... ..	55	10	10	15	...	– 5
South Wales ... ..	28	8	8	8	...	...
Total, England and Wales	347	120	123	138	– 3	– 18
SCOTLAND ... ..						
Total ... ..	90	28	25	28	+ 3	...
Total ... ..	437	148	148	166	...	– 18

The production of pig iron in February amounted to 550,800 tons, as compared with 560,500 tons in January, 1928, and 571,100 tons in February, 1927.

## IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTURE.

EMPLOYMENT in February continued slack; short-time working was reported in many districts.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the number of unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 19·3 on 20th February, 1928, as compared with 20·4 on 23rd January, 1928, and 16·9 on 21st February, 1927.

According to returns received from firms employing 68,406 workpeople in the week ended 25th February, 1928, 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 0·1 per cent. as compared with January and by 7·9 per cent. as compared with February, 1927. The average number of shifts\* during which the works were open was 5·4 in February, 1928, the same as in January, 1928, as compared with 5·5 in February, 1927.

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

DEPARTMENTS.	No. of Workpeople employed by firms making returns.		Aggregate number of Shifts.*	
	Week ended 25th Feb., 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) as compared with a	Week ended 25th Feb., 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) as compared with a
		Month before. Year before.		Month before. Year before.
		Per cent. Per cent.		Per cent. Per cent.
OpenHearth Melting Furnaces ...	7,359	+ 5·9 – 14·4	41,747	+ 6·9 – 15·9
Puddling Forges ...	2,323	+ 22·7 – 29·4	10,139	+ 18·5 – 31·5
Rolling Mills ...	25,387	– 2·1 – 6·6	127,247	– 3·9 – 9·9
Forging & Pressing ...	2,877	– 13·8 – 14·6	15,263	– 12·8 – 13·3
Founding ...	7,732	– 1·2 – 2·5	44,477	– 1·0 – 3·4
Other Departments	8,337	+ 2·3 + 2·7	47,374	+ 3·1 + 3·1
Mechanics, Labourers ...	14,391	+ 2·9 – 2·1	81,837	+ 2·1 – 2·7
TOTAL ...	68,406	+ 0·5 – 6·5	368,084	– 0·1 – 7·9
<b>DISTRICTS.</b>				
Northumberland, Durham and Cleveland ...	14,648	+ 0·0 – 12·1	81,939	– 1·4 – 13·1
Sheffield & Rotherham ...	18,236	+ 0·0 – 5·6	95,812	+ 0·1 – 7·8
Leeds, Bradford, etc. ...	1,877	– 1·1 – 11·5	9,970	– 0·6 – 14·1
Cumberland, Lancs. and Cheshire ...	7,357	+ 2·8 – 1·9	38,016	+ 1·5 – 1·3
Staffordshire ...	5,000	+ 3·0 – 4·1	26,738	+ 1·6 – 4·7
Other Midland Counties ...	3,285	+ 1·6 – 5·2	18,660	+ 3·3 – 2·9
Wales and Monmouth ...	6,241	+ 2·5 + 0·8	34,230	+ 4·0 + 0·7
Total, England and Wales ...	56,644	+ 1·0 – 6·4	305,365	+ 0·6 – 7·4
Scotland ...	11,762	– 1·8 – 7·5	62,719	– 3·4 – 10·2
TOTAL ...	68,406	+ 0·5 – 6·5	368,084	– 0·1 – 7·9

\* 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. Works closed are omitted in computing the average number of shifts.

The production of steel ingots and castings, as shown in returns received by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, amounted to 764,400 tons in February, 1928, as compared with 626,200 tons in January, 1928, and 826,800 tons in February, 1927.

## TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET INDUSTRIES.

In the tinplate industry the arrangements made in November for stabilising prices and regulating output, whereby a minimum selling price was agreed upon and provision made for each works to stop for three weeks out of every thirteen, were still in operation. In the week ended 25th February, when many works were closed under this arrangement, 322 mills were reported to be in operation at works for which information is available, as compared with 40 at the end of January, and with 424 at the end of February, 1927. In steel sheet manufacture employment was fair. In the week ended 25th February, 1928, 113 mills were in operation, as compared with 120 in January, 1928, and with 136 in February, 1927.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed at 20th February, 1928, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 38·3, as compared with 26·2 at 23rd January, 1928, and 7·0 at 21st February, 1927.

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

Works.	Number of Works Open		Number of Mills in Operation	
	Week ending 25th February, 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) on a	Week ending 25th February, 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (–) on a
		Month before. Year before.		Month before. Year before.
Tinplate ...	63	– 12 – 13	322	– 83 – 102
Steel Sheet	12	... – 1	113	– 7 – 23
TOTAL ...	75	– 12 – 14	435	– 90 – 125

The exports of tinned and galvanised plates and sheets in February, 1928, amounted to 102,905 tons, or 21,287 tons more than in January, 1928, and 13,539 tons more than in February, 1927.

## ENGINEERING.

EMPLOYMENT during February was still slack, on the whole, and showed no general change as compared with the previous month. It remained fairly good in electrical engineering, and fair on locomotive and motor vehicle work. Short time was still very prevalent in the textile machinery section, while in marine engineering conditions remained bad, and some decline was shown.

Compared with a year before, when there was a shortage of materials following the dispute in the coal-mining industry, employment was better in most districts, the improvement being greatest in marine engineering and least in the motor vehicle section.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 20th February, 1928, and the increase or decrease as compared with a month before and a year before:—

Divisions.	Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 20th February, 1928.						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 ...	4,263	367	57	100	1,922	6,709	– 265	– 1,693
South-Eastern	2,234	254	241	63	1,135	3,927	– 175	– 285
South-Western	2,000	136	624	66	1,306	4,132	+ 136	+ 180
Midlands ...	5,719	1,029	40	633	7,127	14,548	+ 470	+ 3,240
North-Eastern	15,364	654	2,797	820	980	20,615	+ 74	+ 11,834
North-Western	16,859	1,028	110	172	1,974	20,143	– 42	– 5,762
Scotland ...	8,185	217	1,487	720	644	11,253	– 8	– 6,957
Wales ...	1,146	17	18	111	245	1,537	+ 58	+ 101
Northern Ireland	865	15	1,227	6	164	2,277	+ 98	– 1,692
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	56,635	3,717	6,601	2,691	15,497	85,141	+ 346	– 31,182
<b>Percentage Unemployed at 20th February, 1928.</b>								
London ...	5·4	3·0	7·4	3·3	5·2	5·1	– 0·2	– 1·1
South-Eastern	5·3	2·9	7·8	10·7	4·4	4·9	– 0·2	– 0·3
South-Western	5·8	4·3	9·8	10·3	5·2	5·9	+ 0·2	+ 0·2
Midlands ...	6·4	4·3	2·6	9·5	7·3	6·7	+ 0·2	– 1·5
North-Eastern	13·3	8·2	13·6	11·7	7·9	12·6	...	– 6·1
North-Western	12·9	5·5	11·5	6·2	10·4	11·7	...	– 2·6
Scotland ...	10·8	8·3	8·4	13·4	6·3	10·1	...	– 4·9
Wales ...	18·4	5·2	9·5	15·2	12·0	16·1	+ 0·6	+ 1·9
Northern Ireland	12·7	6·0	25·4	20·0	8·7	16·5	+ 0·7	– 10·3
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ...	9·8	4·8	11·8	10·0	6·7	8·8	...	– 2·8
Ditto, Jan., 1928	9·8	4·7	11·3	9·5	6·8	8·8	...	...
Ditto, Feb., 1927	12·6	6·5	22·2	14·0	7·5	11·6	...	...



On the North-East Coast employment remained bad. In Yorkshire and Lincolnshire it was still slack, particularly in the textile engineering section. In Lancashire and Cheshire it continued bad, on the whole, showing an improvement in motor work, but a falling off in other sections. Considerable short time was still in operation in textile machinery works; but in railway and electrical engineering employment was still fairly good.

In the Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Coventry district employment remained moderate, on the whole. It was fairly good in electrical engineering, but showed a falling off on motor vehicle work. In the Nottingham, Derby and Leicester district employment continued fair. In London and the South-Eastern Counties it remained fair, on the whole, and good on electrical work, and showed improvement compared with the previous month. In the South-Eastern Counties employment was still fair, but showed a slight decline, chiefly on motor work.

In Scotland conditions remained slack, with no general change. Wales and in Northern Ireland employment continued bad, and showed a further slight tendency to decline.

## SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING.

EMPLOYMENT remained very bad on the whole during February. Compared with the previous month it showed a slight decline, affecting chiefly the North-Western Division and Wales. Compared with a year ago, when employment was adversely affected by scarcity of material following the dispute in the coal-mining industry, there was a substantial improvement on the North-East Coast and in Scotland; in other districts, however, comparatively little change is shown.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of insured workpeople unemployed at 20th February, 1928, and the increase or decrease as compared with 23rd January, 1928, and with a year ago:—

Divisions.	Total Number of Insured Workpeople Unemployed at 20th Feb., 1928.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in Numbers Unemployed as compared with a		Percentage Unemployed at 20th Feb., 1928.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in Percentage Unemployed as compared with a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
London... ..	2,205	— 113	— 695	20.8	— 1.0	— 4.7
South-Eastern...	892	— 78	+ 244	11.1	— 1.0	+ 3.8
North-Western	2,294	— 20	— 305	10.5	— 0.1	— 0.4
Wales ... ..	44	+ 6	— 7	9.8	+ 1.4	— 7.2
North-Eastern...	13,644	— 816	— 14,776	23.3	— 1.4	— 21.9
North-Western	7,055	+ 1,074	— 211	24.4	+ 3.7	+ 1.9
Scotland ... ..	10,002	+ 517	— 11,127	17.4	+ 0.9	— 18.2
Wales ... ..	3,182	+ 431	— 57	31.1	+ 4.2	+ 0.4
Northern Ireland	4,451	— 198	— 710	35.6	— 1.6	+ 0.2
Great Britain and Northern Ireland ...	43,769	+ 803	— 27,644	21.0	+ 0.4	— 10.9

## COTTON INDUSTRY.

During February there was a slight improvement in the weaving department; there was also a reduction in the number of workers temporarily stopped in the section spinning American cotton, which, however, remained slack. With firms spinning or manufacturing finer qualities of yarn or of cloth (including the Egyptian spinning section), employment was generally good; but in the coarse and medium sections there was much unemployment and under-employment. A shortage of young workers, both in the spinning and in the weaving departments, was reported from several centres.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily stopped, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 8.7 at 20th February, 1928, compared with 9.7 at 23rd January, 1928, and with 8.2 at 20th February, 1927.

In the Ashton district employment in the American spinning section continued bad: at the end of the month seven mills in this branch of the trade remained closed; in the Egyptian spinning section employment was normal; there was a demand for weavers of fancy cloths. At Stockport, Stalybridge and Glossop a slight improvement was recorded. At Oldham there was a further slight improvement in the spinning department, but employment was still bad, and worse than a year ago. At Chadderton there was a further improvement; there was a slight improvement also at Royton and at Failsworth. At Shaw spinners of Egyptian cotton continued to be well employed; with spinners of American cotton there was no change. With weavers in the Oldham district employment was bad in departments weaving calicoes and velvets, with much machinery stopped, and fair or moderate in other departments; on the whole it was slack, with short time general. At Bury there was no marked change; employment was bad, and a large amount of unsystematic short time was reported. At Rochdale short time

was still worked by a number of firms. At Bolton employment was again reported as good with spinners; it was fair with card-room workers, but not quite so good as in January; with weavers at Bolton employment was reported as fair. At Leigh employment with spinners continued good, but showed a slight decline.

At Preston weavers of fine and fancy cloths continued to be fairly regularly employed, though some workpeople engaged on these cloths were suspended for short periods. At Chorley the slight improvement reported in the previous month was maintained. At Blackburn an improvement was reported during part of the month; but at the end of the month the general state of employment was only moderate, and there was a large amount of waiting for beams and of intermittent employment. At Great Harwood a slight decline was reported. At Accrington employment continued fairly good, and an unsatisfied demand for weavers of plain medium-weight cloths was again reported; on the other hand, weavers of coarse sheetings, etc., were occasionally suspended in considerable numbers. At Burnley there was a further slight improvement: some of the mills had all their looms running, while others were gradually filling up, and the general position was reported to be better than it has been for the past year or more; there was still, however, a considerable surplus of women weavers and winders and many of the weavers that were working were running two or three, instead of four looms. At Padiham employment was fair. At Darwen and at Nelson the improvement reported last month was maintained with weavers, although there was still much short time and under-employment; employment with preparatory workers at Nelson was slack, and showed a decline.

In Yorkshire employment was reported as bad; a number of firms were reported to be closed three days a week, or to be closing down for alternate weeks; much intermittent short time was reported at Todmorden, and at Sowerby Bridge.

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

DEPARTMENTS.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 25th Feb., 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a		Week ended 25th Feb., 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Preparing ...	10,506	— 2.7	— 3.1	17,741	— 0.8	— 4.0
Spinning ...	20,477	— 2.1	— 0.8	35,935	— 1.1	— 2.8
Weaving ...	32,429	— 0.0	+ 1.5	57,720	+ 1.2	+ 3.7
Other ...	7,366	— 1.1	+ 0.2	17,750	— 1.7	— 0.1
Not Specified ...	7,781	+ 0.4	— 5.5	15,529	— 0.7	— 1.5
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>78,559</b>	<b>— 1.0</b>	<b>— 0.6</b>	<b>144,675</b>	<b>— 0.2</b>	<b>+ 0.0</b>
<b>DISTRICTS.</b>						
Ashton ...	3,774	— 0.2	+ 3.5	6,644	— 1.4	+ 0.3
Stockport, Glossop and Hyde ...	8,139	+ 0.3	+ 6.3	14,566	+ 1.1	+ 7.1
Oldham ...	8,901	+ 0.3	+ 1.6	16,601	+ 1.1	— 7.0
Bolton and Leigh ...	15,358	— 2.8	— 1.2	27,228	— 2.5	+ 1.8
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden and Todmorden ...	5,826	— 2.1	— 10.0	9,760	— 5.2	— 11.3
Manchester ...	4,772	— 1.6	+ 6.6	8,170	+ 2.4	+ 7.5
Preston and Chorley ...	4,586	— 0.1	+ 2.6	8,095	— 1.2	+ 5.8
Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen ...	7,650	— 2.7	— 6.5	15,240	+ 0.1	— 5.6
Burnley, Padiham, Colne and Nelson ...	11,041	+ 0.4	+ 0.3	23,501	+ 2.6	+ 5.8
Other Lancashire Towns ...	2,158	+ 1.1	— 19.5	3,826	+ 1.2	— 14.6
Yorkshire Towns ...	3,811	+ 0.1	+ 7.2	7,021	+ 2.8	+ 8.3
Other Districts ...	2,543	— 1.5	— 1.5	4,023	— 4.9	— 5.6
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>78,559</b>	<b>— 1.0</b>	<b>— 0.6</b>	<b>144,675</b>	<b>— 0.2</b>	<b>+ 0.0</b>

Returns from firms employing about 77,300 workpeople in the week ended 25th February showed that about 9 per cent. of these workpeople were on short time in that week, with a loss of 16 hours each 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 20th February, 1928:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 20th February, 1928.						
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Card and Blowing Room ...	597	1,791	2,388	724	3,653	4,377	6,765
Spinning ...	3,249	1,537	4,786	3,254	3,332	6,586	11,372
Beaming, Winding and Warping ...	414	1,158	1,572	828	5,910	6,738	8,310
Weaving ...	1,046	2,102	3,148	1,149	3,204	4,353	7,501
Other Processes ...	361	88	449	242	128	370	819
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>5,667</b>	<b>6,676</b>	<b>12,343</b>	<b>6,197</b>	<b>16,227</b>	<b>22,424</b>	<b>34,767</b>

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 23rd January, 1928:—



Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Card and Blowing Room ...	- 15	+ 9	- 6	- 212	- 851	- 1,063	- 1,069
Spinning ...	+ 209	- 93	+ 116	- 1,428	- 825	- 2,253	- 2,137
Beaming, Winding and Warping ...	+ 45	+ 49	+ 94	- 76	+ 117	+ 41	+ 135
Weaving ...	- 4	- 197	- 201	- 460	- 2,743	- 3,203	- 3,404
Other Processes ...	...	+ 9	+ 9	- 80	- 87	- 167	- 158
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>+ 235</b>	<b>- 223</b>	<b>+ 12</b>	<b>- 2,256</b>	<b>- 4,389</b>	<b>- 6,645</b>	<b>- 6,633</b>

The imports (less re-exports) of raw cotton (including cotton lint) were 129,227,800 lbs. in February, 1928, compared with 85,281,700 lbs. in January, 1928, and with 164,088,000 lbs. in February, 1927.

The exports of cotton yarn were 14,491,400 lbs. in February, 1928, compared with 14,894,200 lbs. in January, 1928, and with 14,259,400 lbs. in February, 1927.

The exports of cotton piece goods were 316,199,900 square yards, as compared with 337,406,100 square yards in the previous month, and with 298,754,100 square yards in February, 1927.

## WOOL TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

DURING February employment, though still slack, showed an improvement in both the woollen and the worsted sections of the industry; in the carpet section employment continued good generally. In the industry as a whole, employment was better than in the corresponding period of last year.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed (including those temporarily stopped), as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 7.6 on 20th February, 1928, as compared with 8.8 on 23rd January 1928, and with 9.9 on 21st February, 1927.

**Worsted Section.**—In this section employment showed a slight improvement. In the week ended 25th February, the returns received from employers showed that 14½ per cent. of the operatives in the worsted section, taken as a whole, worked short time,\* losing about 10½ hours each on the average; on the other hand, 13 per cent. worked overtime to the average extent of about 6 hours each.

Employment showed a definite improvement in the sorting, preparing and combing departments, but there was still a good deal of short time in the crossbred and preparing sections. About 20 per cent. of the operatives covered by the employers' returns lost an average of about 11 hours each in short-time working during the week ended 25th February; and about 11 per cent. worked about 8 hours each in overtime.

With worsted spinners there was little change in the numbers employed, but a slight improvement in the hours worked in most of the principal districts; 15 per cent. of the operatives were working short time to the average extent of about 11 hours each, while about 14 per cent. were working about 5 hours each in overtime. With worsted weavers there was a slight and fairly general improvement, except in the fine cloth trade of Huddersfield, which showed a further decline; an occasional shortage of weavers was reported in the Bradford and Keighley districts. About 11 per cent. of the worsted weavers were losing about 8 hours each in short-time\* working during the week ended 25th February, while about 9 per cent. worked 5½ hours each in overtime.

**Woollen Section.**—In this section employment showed an improvement in all the principal departments. Employers' returns for the week ended 25th February showed that about 28 per cent. of the operatives in the spinning departments worked short time, losing, on an average, about 9 hours each, while about 26 per cent. of the weavers similarly lost nearly 11 hours each\*; on the other hand, 11 per cent. of the spinners worked an average of about 8 hours each in overtime, and 5 per cent. of the weavers worked overtime to the extent of about 5 hours each. Taking the woollen section as a whole, about 25 per cent. of the operatives were losing an average of about 10 hours each in short time working\*, while 7½ per cent. were working overtime to the extent of nearly 7 hours each.

In the Huddersfield and Colne Valley districts employment was reported as fair, and was a little better than a month earlier. There were also improvements in the Heavy Woollen district of Dewsbury and Batley, in the Leeds district, and in the low-grade woollen trade in the Morley district. In the Yeadon and Guiseley district employment was slightly better than in January. In the flannel trade of Rochdale employment was described as fair to good, and as slightly better than a month earlier; in the Saddleworth district employment was fair, and about the same as in January. Employment in the blanket trade was reported as good at Dewsbury, and better than in the previous month; at Greetland it was fair; while at Hebden Bridge there was a decline as compared with January.

In Scotland employment, on the whole, continued good.

**Carpet Section.**—Employment in this section continued good. The employers' returns for the week ended 25th February showed that about 5 per cent. of the operatives were on short time, to the extent of about 5 hours each on the average; while about 5½ per cent. worked 7 hours each in overtime.

\* The figures given in this article as to short time do not take into account, in the case of the weaving sections, other forms of under-employment, such as "playing for warps" and tending one instead of two looms.

The following Table summarises the returns received from employers as to the number of operatives employed and the wages paid:—

	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 25th Feb., 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before.	Index figure. (Jan., 1926 = 100.)	Week ended 25th Feb., 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month before.	Index figure. (Jan., 1926 = 100.)
<b>Departments :</b>		Per Cent.		£	Per Cent.	
<b>WORSTED SECTION :</b>						
Wool Sorting and Combing ...	11,368	+ 1.3	98.7	31,372	+ 4.5	103.8
Spinning ...	44,434	- 0.5	100.9	72,405	+ 1.1	104.1
Weaving ...	22,561	+ 0.9	102.9	48,084	+ 0.9	106.8
Other Depts. ...	12,501	- 0.5	100.3	30,802	+ 0.1	99.2
Not specified ...	1,906	- 3.6	102.1	4,344	- 3.7	114.5
<b>Total—Worsted</b>	<b>92,770</b>	<b>+ 0.0</b>	<b>100.9</b>	<b>187,007</b>	<b>+ 1.3</b>	<b>104.1</b>
<b>WOOLLEN SECTION :</b>						
Wool Sorting ...	1,131	+ 6.0	102.6	2,695	+ 6.4	109.6
Spinning ...	14,487	+ 1.4	96.6	31,698	+ 4.2	106.6
Weaving ...	27,746	+ 1.9	105.7	51,151	+ 3.5	110.7
Other Depts. ...	19,086	+ 0.9	98.1	44,031	+ 2.2	102.6
Not specified ...	2,229	- 0.4	95.0	5,106	+ 0.6	105.7
<b>Total—Woollen</b>	<b>64,679</b>	<b>+ 1.5</b>	<b>100.8</b>	<b>134,681</b>	<b>+ 3.2</b>	<b>106.7</b>
<b>CARPET SECTION ...</b>	<b>9,512</b>	<b>+ 0.8</b>	<b>105.8</b>	<b>18,509</b>	<b>+ 1.8</b>	<b>106.6</b>
<b>Total—Wool Textile Industry ...</b>	<b>166,961</b>	<b>+ 0.6</b>	<b>101.0</b>	<b>340,197</b>	<b>+ 2.1</b>	<b>105.3</b>
<b>Districts* :</b>						
<b>WORSTED SECTION :</b>						
Bradford ...	42,759	+ 0.3	99.3	92,196	+ 2.5	101.0
Huddersfield ...	10,598	+ 1.0	108.8	22,873	- 2.6	110.3
Halifax ...	10,410	+ 0.1	98.3	18,730	+ 2.7	100.6
Leeds ...	8,365	- 3.1	97.6	16,006	- 2.7	101.9
Keighley ...	9,373	+ 0.3	104.7	18,031	+ 2.1	118.6
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	3,559	+ 1.4	102.2	5,903	+ 4.2	110.7
<b>Total, West Riding ...</b>	<b>85,064</b>	<b>+ 0.0</b>	<b>100.8</b>	<b>173,739</b>	<b>+ 1.3</b>	<b>104.2</b>
West of England and Midlands ...	5,263	- 0.3	100.9	9,438	- 0.6	95.0
Lancs ...	354	- 1.9	122.5	670	- 1.9	117.1
Scotland ...	2,089	+ 0.3	105.0	3,160	+ 8.9	130.7
<b>Total—Worsted</b>	<b>92,770</b>	<b>+ 0.0</b>	<b>100.9</b>	<b>187,007</b>	<b>+ 1.3</b>	<b>104.1</b>
<b>WOOLLEN SECTION :</b>						
Huddersfield ...	13,108	+ 0.6	94.0	30,935	+ 1.8	96.3
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	12,316	+ 3.0	101.3	25,309	+ 5.9	110.5
Leeds ...	9,663	+ 3.5	105.7	21,248	+ 9.0	119.5
Halifax and Calder Vale ...	2,674	+ 0.9	93.1	5,750	+ 4.7	92.7
Bradford ...	1,442	- 0.3	109.4	3,316	- 0.7	109.3
<b>Total, West Riding ...</b>	<b>39,203</b>	<b>+ 2.1</b>	<b>99.2</b>	<b>85,558</b>	<b>+ 4.8</b>	<b>105.4</b>
Lancs ...	5,384	+ 1.3	102.3	11,355	+ 1.1	111.8
West of England and Midlands ...	4,363	+ 0.6	103.9	7,811	- 0.4	112.2
Scotland ...	15,270	+ 0.4	103.4	28,351	+ 0.4	107.7
Wales ...	459	- 0.9	167.8	606	+ 1.2	170.4
<b>Total—Woollen</b>	<b>64,679</b>	<b>+ 1.5</b>	<b>100.8</b>	<b>134,681</b>	<b>+ 3.2</b>	<b>106.7</b>
<b>CARPET SECTION ...</b>	<b>9,512</b>	<b>+ 0.8</b>	<b>105.8</b>	<b>18,509</b>	<b>+ 1.8</b>	<b>106.6</b>
<b>Total—Wool Textile Industry ...</b>	<b>166,961</b>	<b>+ 0.6</b>	<b>101.0</b>	<b>340,197</b>	<b>+ 2.1</b>	<b>105.3</b>

The following Table shows, by districts and departments, the percentage increase or decrease in the numbers employed in the week ended 25th February, 1928, by those firms who supplied returns for the purpose of the foregoing Table (excluding the carpet section), as compared with the numbers employed by the same firms in the week ended 28th January, 1928:—

	Percentage Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in numbers employed as compared with the previous month. (... signifies "no change"; —, without a figure, signifies "few or no workpeople returned.")				
	Wool Sorting and Combing.	Spinning.	Weaving.	Other Depts.	All Depts. (including not specified).
<b>WORSTED SECTION :</b>					
Bradford ...	+ 2.1	- 0.8	+ 1.1	- 0.7	+ 0.3
Huddersfield ...	...	+ 2.3	+ 2.5	- 1.3	+ 1.0
Halifax ...	- 2.0	+ 0.5	+ 0.8	- 0.7	+ 0.1
Leeds ...	...	- 5.0	- 0.7	- 0.8	- 3.1
Keighley ...	- 0.1	+ 0.3	+ 0.7	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	...	+ 0.9	...	+ 3.1	+ 1.4
<b>Total, West Riding ...</b>	<b>+ 1.5</b>	<b>- 0.5</b>	<b>+ 1.1</b>	<b>- 0.5</b>	<b>+ 0.0</b>
West of England and Midlands ...	...	- 0.5	- 1.5	+ 0.5	- 0.3
Lancashire ...	...	+ 1.0	...	...	- 1.9
Scotland ...	- 4.3	+ 1.5	...	- 0.4	+ 0.3
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>+ 1.3</b>	<b>- 0.5</b>	<b>+ 0.9</b>	<b>- 0.5</b>	<b>+ 0.0</b>

\* Most of the districts are indicated by the names of their principal towns, but neighbouring towns and areas are included in each case.



	Percentage Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in numbers employed as compared with the previous month.			
	Spinning.	Weaving.	Other Depts.	All Depts. (including not specified).
<b>WOOLLEN SECTION:</b>				
Huddersfield ...	+ 2.7	+ 0.3	- 0.7	+ 0.6
Heavy Woollen (Dewsbury, Batley, etc.) ...	- 0.0	+ 6.0	+ 1.8	+ 3.0
Leeds ...	+ 4.3	+ 4.2	+ 2.2	+ 3.5
Halifax and Calder Vale ...	+ 0.4	+ 0.4	+ 1.7	+ 0.9
Bradford ...	+ 0.9	+ 0.4	- 0.6	- 0.3
<i>Total, West Riding</i> ...	+ 2.0	+ 2.9	+ 1.0	+ 2.1
Lancashire ...	+ 1.5	+ 0.4	+ 1.6	+ 1.3
West of England and Mid-lands ...	- 1.0	+ 1.4	+ 0.4	+ 0.6
Scotland ...	+ 0.8	+ 0.2	+ 0.3	+ 0.4
Wales ...	- 10.8	- 3.4	+ 7.9	- 0.9
<b>TOTAL</b> ...	+ 1.4	+ 1.9	+ 0.9	+ 1.5

The following Table shows the number of men and women (other than casuals) on the registers of Employment Exchanges in the principal Wool Textile Trade centres at 20th February, 1928:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 20th February, 1928.						Total.
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Wool Sorting ...	77	—	77	48	—	48	125
Wool Washing and Preparing ...	201	87	288	303	220	523	811
Wool Combing ...	104	59	163	320	237	557	720
Wool Carding ...	315	42	357	335	65	400	757
Woollen Spinning ...	241	50	291	243	141	384	675
Worsted Drawing and Spinning ...	226	435	661	148	1,054	1,202	1,863
Wool Winding and Warping ...	48	11	59	104	52	156	215
Worsted Winding and Warping ...	30	84	114	60	372	432	546
Woollen Weaving ...	76	125	201	150	1,679	1,829	2,030
Worsted Weaving ...	60	36	96	27	438	465	561
Other Processes ...	525	35	560	514	138	652	1,212
Total ...	1,903	964	2,867	2,252	4,396	6,648	9,515

The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 23rd January, 1928:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Wool Sorting ...	-37	—	-37	-83	-2	-85	-122
Wool Washing and Preparing ...	-67	-17	-84	-89	-6	-95	-179
Wool Combing ...	-41	-16	-57	-12	-62	-74	-131
Wool Carding ...	-59	-9	-68	-154	-53	-207	-275
Woollen Spinning ...	-40	-14	-54	-108	-93	-201	-255
Worsted Drawing and Spinning ..	+11	-31	-20	-46	-267	-313	-333
Wool Winding and Warping ..	+3	-4	-1	-3	-40	-43	-44
Worsted Winding and Warping ..	-7	+5	-2	-29	-94	-123	-125
Woollen Weaving ...	-10	-16	-26	+17	-363	-346	-372
Worsted Weaving ...	+4	+5	+9	-3	+39	+36	+45
Other Processes ...	+60	...	+60	-156	-47	-203	-143
<b>Total</b> ...	-183	-97	-280	-666	-988	-1,654	-1,934

The imports (less re-exports) of raw wool (sheep's or lambs') were 74,441,700 lbs. in February, 1928, compared with 69,715,700 lbs. in January, 1928, and 67,184,800 lbs. in February, 1927.

The exports of woollen and worsted yarns were 3,605,100 lbs., compared with 4,020,400 lbs. in January, 1928, and with 2,915,500 lbs. in February, 1927.

The exports of woollen and worsted tissues were 14,457,700 square yards, compared with 16,919,100 square yards in January, 1928, and 14,982,300 square yards in February, 1927.

The exports of blankets were 136,200 pairs, 116,932 pairs and 97,020 pairs in February, 1928, January, 1928, and February, 1927, respectively.

## BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during February continued fairly good, and showed an improvement at most centres; there was a noticeable reduction in the number of workpeople on short time or unemployed, and some increase in the number working overtime.

The percentage of workpeople unemployed, including those temporarily suspended, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 5.9 on 20th February, 1928, as compared with 6.9 on 23rd January, 1928, and with 8.5 on 21st February, 1927.

Employment in the London district showed a further improvement, and was good or fairly good with most firms; there was a

demand for experienced workers at certain establishments. At Leicester there was increasing activity during the month, and employment was fair, a certain amount of overtime being worked by some firms; 22½ per cent. of the workpeople covered by the employers' returns were on short time in the week ended 25th February, losing 6 hours each on the average; these figures showed a great improvement on January. Employment at Hinckley continued good. There was also an improvement at Northampton, and employment was fairly good; only 13 per cent. of the operatives covered by the employers' returns were on short time, losing 9½ hours each on the average.

Employment continued good at Higham and Rushden, Wellingborough and Kettering, and at the smaller Northamptonshire centres of Irthlingborough, Raunds, and Earls Barton. Most firms were working full time, and some overtime. At Wellingborough and at Kettering a shortage of experienced machinists was reported. There was, however, a decline at Wollaston, where short time was worked.

Employment at Stafford continued fairly good, and showed a further improvement, although short time was still worked at some establishments; a shortage of trimmers was reported at this centre. At Norwich there was a further decided improvement, and employment was fairly good, except in the sewround section, which remained very slack; very little short time was worked. In the Bristol and Kingswood district there was little change in the heavy nailed section, which is much affected by the restricted demand from South Wales; short time was very prevalent. At Street employment was fair, and showed a slight improvement. Workers employed on the lighter grades of footwear at Leeds were fairly well employed, but employment continued slack in the heavy boot section. In the slipper trade at Bacup, Bury and Preston employment continued good; all factories at Bacup were reported to be working to full capacity with some overtime.

In Scotland employment showed little change. It continued very quiet at Edinburgh, fairly good at Glasgow and Kilmarnock, and fair at Maybole.

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

	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 25th Feb., 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended 25th Feb., 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.*
<b>England and Wales:—</b>						
London ...	1,903	+ 2.8	+ 1.3	4,277	+ 2.0	- 0.5
Leicester ...	8,607	+ 2.3	+ 1.2	23,562	+ 4.8	+ 2.2
Leicester Country District ...	1,942	- 0.3	+ 8.0	4,657	+ 2.1	+ 11.8
Northampton ...	6,623	+ 0.3	+ 4.0	16,436	+ 2.8	+ 6.7
Northampton Country District ...	8,257	+ 0.8	+ 4.7	19,341	+ 1.0	+ 5.3
Kettering ...	3,628	- 0.4	+ 5.3	9,426	+ 2.5	+ 2.5
Stafford and District ...	2,401	+ 1.1	- 1.2	5,233	+ 8.0	+ 2.7
Norwich and District ...	4,536	+ 3.2	+ 2.0	9,556	+ 3.0	- 0.0
Bristol, Kingswood and District ...	1,785	+ 1.5	+ 3.2	3,228	+ 3.0	+ 7.9
Leeds and District ...	1,939	- 1.5	- 0.6	4,352	+ 3.2	+ 1.0
Lancashire (mainly Rossendale Valley) ...	5,512	+ 0.8	+ 13.0	12,363	+ 4.4	+ 16.0
Birmingham and District ...	986	- 0.2	- 2.2	2,033	+ 0.6	+ 5.6
Other parts of England and Wales ...	2,040	+ 0.4	+ 4.5	4,129	- 1.3	+ 7.7
<b>England and Wales</b>	50,159	+ 1.1	+ 3.9	118,593	+ 3.0	+ 5.1
<b>Scotland</b> ...	2,453	+ 0.1	- 0.6	5,351	- 0.6	+ 5.3
<b>Great Britain</b> ...	52,612	+ 1.0	+ 3.7	123,944	+ 2.9	+ 5.1

Returns from firms employing about 48,600 operatives in the week ended 25th February showed that about 14 per cent. of these operatives were working short time in that week, losing, on an average, about 8½ hours each; and nearly 5 per cent. were on overtime, to the extent of 4½ hours each 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 centres of the boot and shoe industry at 20th February, 1928:—

Department.	Numbers (excluding Casuals) on the Registers at 20th February, 1928.						Total.
	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Boot and Shoe Manu- facture :							
Preparing Depart- ment ...	69	9	78	14	7	21	99
Rough Stuff De- partment ...	185	2	187	51	2	53	240
Clicking Department	365	4	369	165	2	167	536
Closing Department	9	260	269	3	248	251	520
Making Department	1,024	9	1,033	435	6	441	1,474
Finishing Depart- ment ...	754	106	860	248	33	281	1,141
Slipper Making ...	307	40	347	228	176	404	751
Clog Making...	12	1	13	...	...	...	13
Repairing and Hand- sewn Work ...	342	...	342	20	...	20	362
TOTAL ...	3,067	431	3,498	1,164	474	1,638	5,136

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



The following Table shows the increases and decreases as compared with 23rd January, 1928:—

Department.	Wholly Unemployed.			Temporarily Stopped.			Total.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Boot and Shoe Manufacture:							
Preparing Department ...	21	4	25	10	3	13	38
Rough Stuff Department ...	26	1	27	13	1	14	41
Clicking Department ...	46	1	47	15	1	14	61
Closing Department ...	13	95	108	3	46	49	157
Making Department ...	177	2	175	50	3	53	228
Finishing Department ...	140	75	215	12	50	62	277
Slipper Making ...	30	14	16	113	95	208	224
Clog Making ...	2	1	1	...	...	...	1
Repairing and Hand-sewn Work ...	6	1	7	9	...	9	16
<b>TOTAL</b> ...	<b>461</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>621</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>422</b>	<b>1043</b>

The exports of boots and shoes in February, 1928, amounted to 115,719, or 16,111 dozen pairs more than in January, 1928, and 19,662 dozen pairs more than in February, 1927.

### BUILDING.

EMPLOYMENT during February showed some improvement, particularly in the painting and decorating section, but it was again slack on the whole in most districts; it was reported as fairly good, however, at a few centres, including Hull, Leicester, Coventry and Southend. Unfavourable weather conditions at the beginning of the month caused some broken time on outside work, but there was a considerable improvement in this direction during the latter half of the month.

As regards individual occupations employment improved with carpenters but was still slack; it showed a further improvement with bricklayers and masons but was quiet, on the whole; it was also better with slaters and was fair at many centres. Employment showed little change with plasterers and plumbers, and continued generally poor with the former and fair with the latter. There was a considerable improvement with painters, but employment was very slack, on the whole; it remained slack with tradesmen's labourers.

As compared with February, 1927, employment was considerably worse with plasterers and also showed a decline with other classes except painters and plumbers, with whom there was little change.

The following Table shows the numbers and percentages of workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, who were unemployed at 20th February, 1928, together with the increase or decrease in the percentages as compared with the previous month and with February, 1927:—

OCCUPATIONS.	*Estimated Number of Insured Workpeople at July, 1927.	Total Numbers Unemployed at 20th Feb., 1928.	Number included in previous Column who were Temporarily Stopped.	Percentage Unemployed.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in percentage as compared with a	
					Month before.	
					Year before.	
Carpenters ...	128,090	15,019	437	11.7	— 1.8	+ 4.4
Bricklayers ...	72,170	7,468	298	10.3	— 2.3	+ 5.6
Masons ...	23,390	2,846	234	12.2	— 1.5	+ 3.6
Slaters ...	5,850	473	24	8.1	— 2.6	+ 2.6
Plasterers ...	21,080	3,879	132	18.4	— 0.8	+ 13.6
Painters ...	109,080	23,460	508	21.5	— 9.1	— 0.5
Plumbers ...	32,600	2,796	122	8.6	+ 0.7	— 0.6
Labourers to above ...	252,230	38,867	1,155	15.4	— 1.4	+ 1.7
All other occupations ...	162,720	27,184	842	16.7	— 0.5	+ 1.8
<b>Total</b> ...	<b>807,210</b>	<b>121,992</b>	<b>3,752</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>— 2.3</b>	<b>+ 2.4</b>
<b>DIVISIONS.</b>						
London ...	163,620	18,992	7	11.6	— 2.8	— 1.6
South-Eastern ...	127,050	12,110	85	9.5	— 2.4	+ 2.7
South-Western ...	100,310	12,998	100	13.0	— 1.9	+ 3.8
Midlands ...	91,380	12,451	696	13.6	— 1.9	+ 2.0
North-Eastern ...	103,420	24,368	1,441	23.6	— 2.8	+ 6.8
North-Western ...	106,900	18,406	638	17.2	— 2.4	+ 2.6
Scotland ...	72,650	11,028	472	15.2	— 1.3	+ 2.4
Wales ...	28,280	8,640	308	30.6	— 2.2	+ 11.3
Northern Ireland ...	13,600	2,999	5	22.1	— 1.0	— 7.9
<b>Great Britain and Northern Ireland</b> ...	<b>807,210</b>	<b>121,992</b>	<b>3,752</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>— 2.3</b>	<b>+ 2.4</b>

### BUILDING PLANS APPROVED.

Returns from Local Authorities in 142 of the principal urban areas in Great Britain (except the London County Council area), with a total population of 16,151,000, show that in February, 1928, plans were passed for buildings of an estimated cost of £5,487,800, as compared with £3,674,400, in January, 1928, and £5,789,500, in February, 1927. Of the total for February, 1928, dwelling-houses accounted for £3,540,300; factories and workshops for £469,400; shops, offices, warehouses and other business premises for £538,600; and other buildings, and additions and alterations to existing buildings, for £939,500.

\* Aged 16-64 inclusive.

### BRICK INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT during February showed an improvement as compared with the previous month.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed in the brick, pipe, tile, etc., trades, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 13.7 at 20th February, 1928, as compared with 14.5 at 23rd January, 1928, and 7.3 at 21st February, 1927.

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

Districts.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 25th Feb., 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a		Week ended 25th Feb., 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire...	1,907	+ 3.2	— 5.2	4,341	+ 3.6	— 15.3
Midlands and Eastern Counties ...	4,692	+ 1.6	— 10.6	12,681	+ 3.4	— 8.5
South and South-West Counties and Wales ...	1,467	— 1.0	— 8.0	3,308	— 1.3	— 14.3
Scotland ...	183	+ 2.8	+ 9.6	474	— 2.7	+ 9.7
<b>TOTAL</b> ...	<b>8,249</b>	<b>+ 1.5</b>	<b>— 8.5</b>	<b>20,804</b>	<b>+ 2.5</b>	<b>— 10.9</b>

Returns from employers relative to short time working, exclusive of time lost on account of bad weather, showed that, of 8,160 workpeople employed by firms furnishing information, about 17.7 per cent. were working on an average about 12 hours less than full time in the week ending 25th February, 1928.

### POTTERY INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in North Staffordshire showed a further slight improvement, but there was still much short-time working. At Worcester also there was much under-employment; but at Derby employment continued good and at Bristol it was fair. In the stoneware section in Scotland employment was reported to be bad, and worse than during the previous month.

The percentage of insured workpeople unemployed, as indicated by the unemployment books lodged at Employment Exchanges, was 16.0 at 20th February, 1928, as compared with 19.5 at 23rd January, 1928, and with 15.2 at 21st February, 1927.

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

BRANCHES.	Number of Workpeople.			Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 25th Feb., 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a		Week ended 25th Feb., 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a	
		Month before.	Year before.		Month before.	Year before.
China Manufacture ...	1,235	+ 1.6	— 0.3	2,309	+ 0.5	— 6.1
Earthenware Manufacture ...	7,676	+ 2.1	— 0.2	14,153	+ 6.8	— 1.4
Other Branches (including unspecified) ...	1,794	— 0.8	— 0.8	3,205	— 2.3	— 7.6
<b>TOTAL</b> ...	<b>10,705</b>	<b>+ 1.6</b>	<b>— 0.3</b>	<b>19,667</b>	<b>+ 4.5</b>	<b>— 3.0</b>
<b>DISTRICTS.</b>						
North Staffordshire ...	8,139	+ 2.0	+ 1.9	13,684	+ 6.6	— 3.1
Other Districts ...	2,566	+ 0.0	— 6.5	5,983	— 0.0	— 2.7
<b>TOTAL</b> ...	<b>10,705</b>	<b>+ 1.6</b>	<b>— 0.3</b>	<b>19,667</b>	<b>+ 4.5</b>	<b>— 3.0</b>

Returns from employers relative to short-time working showed that of 10,265 workpeople employed by firms making returns, 5,044, or 49.0 per cent., were working on an average about 12 hours less than full time in the week ended 25th February, 1928.

### PAPER MANUFACTURE, PRINTING, AND BOOKBINDING.

EMPLOYMENT continued fair on the whole with paper makers. In several Lancashire centres, however, there was a decline on the previous month, and mills were reported as working irregular time. In most other centres from which reports were received, full time was worked.

With letterpress printers employment was moderate, and showed a slight improvement on the whole compared with January. It was reported as good at Leicester and Oxford, and as slack at Birmingham, Newcastle and Glasgow. Employment continued fairly good with electrotypers and stereotypers in most districts, but there was a decline on the previous month in London and employment was still bad at Manchester.

With lithographic printers employment on the whole was moderate. In London and Birmingham it was slightly better than in January; it remained bad, however, at Liverpool and Manchester and was also reported as bad or dull at the principal Scottish towns. With lithographic artists employment generally continued fair. Some improvement was reported in London and at Manchester, but employment was still slack at the latter centre. In the book-

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



ding trade employment on the whole was moderate, and not so d as in the previous month.

The percentage unemployed among insured workpeople covered the Unemployment Insurance Acts in the printing and book-binding industries was 4.9 at 20th February, 1928, compared with at 23rd January, 1928, and 5.7 at 21st February, 1927. In paper and paper board industry the percentage was 4.5 at h February, 1928, compared with 5.6 at 23rd January, 1928, 16.1 at 21st February, 1927. In the cardboard box, paper bag stationery industries the percentage was 4.7 at 20th February, 1928, compared with the same percentage at 23rd January, 1928, 15.9 at 21st February, 1927.

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

	No. of Members of Unions at end of February, 1928.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) on a	
		Feb., 1928.	Jan., 1928.	Feb., 1927.	Month before.	Year before.
Interpress Printing : London ... ..	40,185	5.5	5.7	6.7	— 0.2	— 1.2
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire	16,719	4.4	4.2	5.2	+ 0.2	— 0.8
Midlands and Eastern Counties ... ..	10,901	2.5	2.5	2.6	...	— 0.1
Scotland ... ..	7,164	5.5	6.7	6.0	— 1.2	— 0.5
Other Districts ...	11,239	3.1	3.3	3.6	— 0.2	— 0.5
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>86,208</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>— 0.2</b>	<b>— 0.8</b>
Photographic Printing	10,869	3.3	3.7	4.0	— 0.4	— 0.7
Bookbinding ... ..	20,121	3.9	2.8	4.5	+ 1.1	— 0.6

## DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT was still generally slack during February. Among insured workpeople in the canal, river, dock and harbour service, 27.6 per cent. were unemployed at 20th February, 1928, as compared with 25.8 per cent. at 23rd January, 1928, and with 28 per cent. at 21st February, 1927.

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—					
24th February, 1928	4,325	2,039	6,364	8,133	14,497
17th " "	4,265	2,337	6,602	8,206	14,808
10th " "	3,961	1,628	5,589	8,244	13,833
3rd " "	4,026	1,847	5,873	7,938	13,811
Average for 4 weeks ended 25th February 1928 ... ..	4,144	1,963	6,107	8,130	14,237
Average for January, 1928 ... ..	5,075	1,966	7,041	8,427	15,468
Average for February, 1927 ... ..	4,383	2,382	6,765	7,884	14,649

Wilbury.—The average daily number of dock labourers employed during February was 808, compared with 1,022 in January and with 9 in February, 1927.

East Coast.—There was some improvement with coal trimmers and stevedores and other classes of dock workers on the Tyne and Wear, and employment was generally moderate or fair; but it was slack at Blyth. It continued good at Middlesbrough and was fair at Hull, imports of timber, grain and fruit providing additional work at the latter port. Employment was fair at Yarmouth and Ipswich. Grimsby and Hartlepool it was slack.

Liverpool.—Employment was generally slack. The average weekly number of dock labourers registered at the clearing houses under the Liverpool Docks Scheme as employed in the four weeks ended 24th February was 14,945, compared with 15,407 in January, and with 15,734 in February, 1927. The average weekly amount of wages paid to these men through the clearing houses was £40,664 in the four weeks ended 24th February, compared with £41,924 in January and with £43,003 in February, 1927.

Other Ports in England and Wales.—Employment was slack at Manchester and worse than in the previous month. At the South Wales ports it was still only moderate generally, but showed some signs of improvement in both export and import cargoes. Slack conditions continued to prevail at Bristol, Avonmouth and Gloucester. Employment was fair at Southampton, and slack at Plymouth and most of the South-Western ports.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—Employment declined at Leith and was only moderate. It continued fair at Glasgow, and at Dundee, where the imports continued to provide work. It was slack at Ayr and moderate at Grangemouth. At Belfast employment was fair and better than in January.

## SEAMEN.

DURING February employment with seamen was mainly quiet, the supply of seamen being in excess of the demand at the majority of ports.

Among insured workpeople in the shipping service the percentage unemployed at 20th February, 1928, was 16.3, compared with 16.6 at 23rd January, 1928, and 17.7 at 21st February, 1927.

The demand for men on the Thames fluctuated from fairly brisk to quiet. It was poor to moderate on the Tyne and on the Wear. The demand on the Tees was insignificant at the beginning of February, but it became good afterwards. It was quiet to moderate at Hull. At Southampton the demand declined in the first half of the month, but increased later, being described as very moderate in the closing stages. It was moderate on the whole at Bristol, and fair to fairly good at Avonmouth. At Newport the demand was very slack, but showed some improvement at the end of the month; it was fair at Cardiff, and continued fair to good at Swansea. The demand was quiet to moderate on the Mersey, and fair, on the whole, at Manchester. It was generally poor on the Clyde until the closing stages of the month, when an improvement occurred. The demand remained quiet at Leith, and was very slack at Belfast.

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

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in				
	Feb., 1928.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) on a		Two Months ended	
		Month before.	Year before.	Feb., 1928.	Feb., 1927.
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES :</b>					
Liverpool† ... ..	10,392	+ 452	+ 678	20,332	20,265
Manchester ... ..	710	— 41	+ 123	1,461	1,612
London ... ..	8,088	— 1,380	+ 1,615	17,556	16,087
Southampton... ..	6,383	— 2,138	+ 315	14,904	14,195
Tyne Ports ... ..	2,092	— 45	— 147	4,229	4,976
Sunderland ... ..	360	— 16	+ 84	736	513
Middlesbrough ... ..	601	+ 56	+ 391	1,146	655
Hull ... ..	973	— 666	— 238	2,612	2,793
Bristol† ... ..	801	— 371	— 143	1,973	2,072
Newport, Mon. ... ..	450	— 319	— 263	1,219	1,370
Cardiff§ ... ..	2,591	— 435	+ 105	5,617	5,963
Swansea ... ..	752	+ 117	+ 8	1,387	1,499
<b>SCOTLAND :</b>					
Leith ... ..	344	— 7	+ 3	695	724
Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth ... ..	291	— 168	+ 61	750	449
Glasgow ... ..	2,009	— 897	+ 99	4,915	4,744
<b>NORTHERN IRELAND :</b>					
Belfast ... ..	99	— 119	— 96	317	454
TOTAL for above Ports	36,936	— 5,977	+ 2,595	79,849	78,371

## PRINCIPAL VARIATIONS DURING FEBRUARY IN NUMBERS OF UNEMPLOYED.

THE following Table indicates for Great Britain and Northern Ireland the industries in which the numbers of insured persons recorded as unemployed at 20th February, 1928, differed from the figures for 23rd January, 1928, to the extent of 1,000 or more :—

Industry.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in Numbers recorded as Unemployed at 20th Feb., 1928, as compared with 23rd Jan., 1928.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Building ... ..	— 18,525	— 25	— 18,550
Tailoring ... ..	— 1,843	— 4,015	— 5,858
Cotton ... ..	— 1,464	— 4,136	— 5,600
Woollen and Worsted ... ..	— 1,385	— 1,487	— 2,872
Pottery, Earthenware, etc. ... ..	— 866	— 1,616	— 2,482
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling Furnaces, Iron and Steel Rolling Mills and Forges ... ..	— 2,247	+ 58	— 2,189
Dress and Mantle Making and Millinery... ..	— 105	— 1,905	— 2,010
Boot, Shoe, Slipper and Clog Trades ... ..	— 897	— 527	— 1,424
Public Works Contracting, etc. ... ..	— 1,284	+ 6	— 1,278
Canal, River, Dock and Harbour Service	+ 3,084	— 7	+ 3,077
Distributive Trades ... ..	+ 2,147	+ 1,476	+ 3,623
Manufacture of Tin Plates ... ..	+ 3,192	+ 529	+ 3,721
Coal Mining... ..	+ 4,173	+ 93	+ 4,266
<b>Net Variation for above Industries</b>	<b>— 16,020</b>	<b>— 11,556</b>	<b>— 27,576</b>
<b>Total Net Variation for all Insured Industries</b>	<b>— 16,952</b>	<b>— 16,047</b>	<b>— 32,999</b>

\* 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 20th February, 1928, 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, and (since 2nd January, 1928) persons aged 65 and over, 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.

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 Tables and the figure given on page 99 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.

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

## Special Note. Persons aged 65 and over.

Under the provisions of the Widows', Orphans' and Old Age Contributory Pensions Act, 1925, all persons aged 65 and over ceased to be insured under the Unemployment Insurance Acts from 2nd January, 1928. The estimates of the numbers of insured persons in each industry prepared on the basis of the information obtained from the exchange of unemployment books in July, 1927, have therefore been revised to exclude persons aged 65 and over, who, it is computed, numbered approximately 323,000 men, and 24,000 women. Such persons no longer appear in the statistics showing the number of insured persons recorded as unemployed, and the figures for dates subsequent to 2nd January, 1928, are therefore not comparable with those for earlier dates. The number of insured persons aged 65 and over whose books were lodged at the beginning of January did not exceed 30,000, and a proportion of these continued to register as uninsured persons. For all practical purposes, however, the percentages unemployed can be regarded as comparable with the corresponding figures published each month since July, 1923.

## NUMBERS OF INSURED PERSONS RECORDED AS UNEMPLOYED AT 20th FEBRUARY, 1928.

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.
<b>Fishing ... ..</b>	3,862	116	3,978	95	26	121	3,957	142	4,099	3,935	141	4,076
<b>Mining:—</b>												
Coal Mining ... ..	143,972	535	144,507	70,672	321	70,993	214,644	856	215,500	214,587	855	215,442
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining and Quarrying ... ..	1,828	...	1,828	506	...	506	2,334	...	2,334	2,311	...	2,311
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining ... ..	725	4	729	29	...	29	754	4	758	754	4	758
Stone Quarrying and Mining ... ..	3,757	10	3,767	1,030	2	1,032	4,787	12	4,799	4,450	12	4,462
Slate Quarrying and Mining ... ..	302	1	303	148	1	149	450	2	452	450	...	450
Other Mining and Quarrying ... ..	1,485	48	1,533	378	23	401	1,863	71	1,934	1,752	71	1,823
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pit Digging ... ..	914	3	917	50	...	50	964	3	967	940	3	943
<b>Non-Metalliferous Mining Products:—</b>												
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	1,118	7	1,125	188	1	189	1,306	8	1,314	1,306	8	1,314
Artificial Stone and Concrete Manu- facture ... ..	2,017	51	2,068	247	7	254	2,264	58	2,322	2,249	58	2,307
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting Works ... ..	1,420	32	1,452	394	9	403	1,814	41	1,855	1,757	41	1,798
Brick, Tile, etc., Making ... ..	8,073	743	8,816	2,139	335	2,474	10,212	1,078	11,290	10,043	1,078	11,121
Pottery, Earthenware, etc. ... ..	2,200	1,835	4,035	3,324	3,810	7,134	5,524	5,645	11,169	5,517	5,644	11,161
<b>Glass Trades:—</b>												
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scien- tific Glass) Manufacture ... ..	1,779	210	1,989	410	94	504	2,189	304	2,493	2,186	304	2,490
Glass Bottle Making ... ..	2,037	172	2,209	771	12	783	2,808	184	2,992	2,806	184	2,990
<b>Ammunition, Explosives, Chemicals, etc.:—</b>												
Chemicals Manufacture ... ..	4,361	679	5,040	469	122	591	4,830	801	5,631	4,780	800	5,580
Explosives Manufacture ... ..	651	276	927	112	53	165	763	329	1,092	762	329	1,091
Paint, Varnish, Japan, Red and White Lead Manufacture ... ..	624	148	772	18	3	21	642	151	793	642	151	793
Oil, Grease, Glue, Soap, Ink, Match, etc., Manufacture ... ..	3,305	713	4,018	537	113	650	3,842	826	4,668	3,829	806	4,635
<b>Metal Manufacture:—</b>												
Pig Iron Manufacture (Blast Furnaces)	2,602	20	2,622	693	1	694	3,295	21	3,316	3,293	21	3,314
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling Fur- naces, Iron and Steel Rolling Mills and Forges ... ..	17,062	123	17,185	18,918	119	19,037	35,980	242	36,222	35,969	242	36,211
Manufacture of Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc. ... ..	2,819	160	2,979	756	21	777	3,575	181	3,756	3,519	180	3,699
Manufacture of Tin Plates ... ..	934	108	1,042	9,574	1,170	10,744	10,508	1,278	11,786	10,508	1,278	11,786
Iron and Steel Tube Making ... ..	1,819	75	1,894	1,580	10	1,590	3,399	85	3,484	3,397	85	3,482
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Rope Manu- facture ... ..	1,464	186	1,650	1,224	52	1,276	2,688	238	2,926	2,682	238	2,920
<b>Engineering, etc.:—</b>												
General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding ... ..	40,301	1,142	41,443	14,848	344	15,192	55,149	1,486	56,635	54,289	1,481	55,770
Electrical Engineering ... ..	2,600	529	3,129	468	120	588	3,068	649	3,717	3,053	649	3,702
Marine Engineering, etc. ... ..	6,164	26	6,190	410	1	411	6,574	27	6,601	5,353	21	5,374
Constructional Engineering ... ..	2,230	27	2,257	426	8	434	2,656	35	2,691	2,650	35	2,685
<b>Construction and Repair of Vehicles:—</b>												
Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft ... ..	12,117	864	12,981	2,371	145	2,516	14,488	1,009	15,497	14,326	1,007	15,333
Construction and Repair of Carriages, Carts, etc. ... ..	1,515	88	1,603	251	18	269	1,766	106	1,872	1,722	104	1,826
Railway Carriage, Wagon and Tram- car Building ... ..	2,953	33	2,986	2,145	23	2,168	5,098	56	5,154	5,093	56	5,149



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.
Building and Ship Repairing ...	41,977	114	42,091	1,671	7	1,678	43,648	121	43,769	39,220	98	39,318
Other Metal Trades :—												
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General	6,466	410	6,876	3,659	279	3,938	10,125	689	10,814	10,046	689	10,735
Iron Founding ...	1,036	29	1,065	87	2	89	1,123	31	1,154	1,073	31	1,104
Electrical Wiring and Contracting ...	3,118	1,378	4,496	384	209	593	3,502	1,587	5,089	3,496	1,587	5,083
Electrical Cable, Wire and Electric	2,197	760	2,957	1,272	370	1,642	3,469	1,130	4,599	3,464	1,130	4,594
Lamp Manufacture ...	906	717	1,623	616	177	793	1,522	894	2,416	1,522	894	2,416
Hand Tool, Cutlery, Saw, File Making	1,545	717	2,262	380	165	545	1,925	882	2,807	1,921	882	2,803
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails,	360	11	371	55	1	56	415	12	427	414	12	426
etc., Manufacture ...	1,387	897	2,284	524	608	1,132	1,911	1,505	3,416	1,895	1,503	3,398
Brass and Allied Metal Wares Manu-	7,677	4,062	11,739	2,447	1,261	3,708	10,124	5,323	15,447	10,006	5,317	15,323
facture ...												
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus												
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery,												
etc., Manufacture ...												
Other Metal Industries ...												
Textile Trades :—												
Cotton ...	9,291	11,089	20,380	8,409	20,383	28,792	17,700	31,472	49,172	17,697	31,454	49,151
Woolen and Worsted ...	4,292	2,991	7,283	3,947	6,928	10,875	8,239	9,919	18,158	8,206	9,907	18,113
Silk ...	759	853	1,612	564	1,456	2,020	1,323	2,309	3,632	1,321	2,307	3,628
Linen ...	2,186	2,526	4,712	636	1,529	2,165	2,822	4,055	6,877	453	1,202	1,655
Jute ...	945	1,201	2,146	90	111	201	1,035	1,312	2,347	1,035	1,312	2,347
Hemp Spinning and Weaving, Rope,	433	580	1,013	113	338	451	546	918	1,464	459	788	1,247
Cord, Twine, etc., Making ...	489	1,407	1,896	359	2,526	2,885	848	3,933	4,781	834	3,903	4,737
Hosiery ...	361	281	642	329	217	546	690	498	1,188	690	498	1,188
Lace ...	272	298	570	269	303	572	541	601	1,142	541	601	1,142
Carpet Manufacture ...	693	1,405	2,098	181	735	916	874	2,140	3,014	767	1,779	2,546
Other Textile Industries ...												
Textile Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing,												
etc. ...	3,019	1,101	4,120	7,476	2,858	10,334	10,495	3,959	14,454	10,144	3,325	13,469
Leather and Leather Goods :—												
Tanning, Currying and Dressing ...	1,662	402	2,064	320	119	439	1,982	521	2,503	1,981	521	2,502
Saddlery, Harness and other Leather	857	655	1,512	134	257	391	991	912	1,903	975	909	1,884
Goods Manufacture ...												
Other Trades :—												
Tailoring ...	5,516	4,290	9,806	1,269	4,737	6,006	6,785	9,027	15,812	6,305	8,916	15,221
Dress and Mantle Making and												
Millinery ...	629	3,733	4,362	14	1,538	1,552	643	5,271	5,914	632	5,131	5,763
Hat and Cap (including Straw Plait)	480	401	881	125	234	359	605	635	1,240	603	635	1,238
Manufacture ...												
Blouses, Shirts, Collars, Undercloth-	350	2,025	2,375	13	1,186	1,199	363	3,211	3,574	284	1,710	1,994
ing, etc., Making ...	483	359	842	95	193	288	578	552	1,130	576	552	1,128
Other Dress Industries ...	4,682	1,151	5,833	1,593	709	2,302	6,275	1,860	8,135	6,169	1,849	8,018
Boot, Shoe, Slipper and Clog Trades												
Food, Drink and Tobacco :—												
Bread, Biscuit, Cake, etc., Making ...	7,326	2,648	9,974	287	274	561	7,613	2,922	10,535	7,116	2,828	9,944
Grain Milling ...	1,468	119	1,587	569	60	629	2,037	179	2,216	1,912	176	2,088
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Con-	1,802	2,516	4,318	385	3,956	4,341	2,187	6,472	8,659	2,184	6,456	8,640
fectionery ...	5,292	5,588	10,880	206	749	955	5,498	6,337	11,835	5,403	6,309	11,712
Other Food Industries ...	4,860	1,638	6,498	201	377	578	5,061	2,015	7,076	4,731	1,996	6,727
Drink Industries ...												
Tobacco, Cigar, Cigarette and Snuff	538	1,439	1,977	28	414	442	566	1,853	2,419	514	1,787	2,301
Manufacture ...												
Sawmilling, Furniture and Woodwork :—												
Sawmilling and Machined Woodwork	5,304	88	5,392	354	42	396	5,658	130	5,788	5,526	130	5,656
Wood Box and Packing Case Making	1,026	123	1,149	214	72	286	1,240	195	1,435	1,215	195	1,410
Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc.	5,226	722	5,948	539	168	707	5,765	890	6,655	5,619	878	6,497
Other Woodworking ...	1,348	260	1,608	293	87	380	1,641	347	1,988	1,562	339	1,901
Printing and Paper Trades :—												
Paper and Paper Board Making ...	1,450	348	1,798	424	148	572	1,874	496	2,370	1,865	495	2,360
Cardboard Boxes, Paper Bags and	761	1,249	2,010	54	544	598	815	1,793	2,608	793	1,671	2,464
Stationery ...	145	84	229	13	20	33	158	104	262	158	104	262
Wall Paper Making and Paper												
Staining ...	106	103	209	7	11	18	113	114	227	112	114	226
Stationery and Typewriting Requisites	7,804	3,581	11,385	246	644	890	8,050	4,225	12,275	7,905	4,103	12,008
(not paper) ...												
Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding												
Building and Construction of Works :—												
Building ...	118,079	161	118,240	3,736	16	3,752	121,815	177	121,992	118,816	177	118,993
Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	33,969	29	33,998	1,260	2	1,262	35,229	31	35,260	33,994	31	34,025
Other Manufacturing Industries :—												
Rubber Manufacture ...	2,341	1,232	3,573	1,229	797	2,026	3,570	2,029	5,599	3,564	2,027	5,591
Oilcloth, Linoleum, etc., Manufacture	615	55	670	74	16	90	689	71	760	688	71	759
Brush and Broom Making ...	511	172	683	139	146	285	650	318	968	634	317	951
Scientific and Photographic Instru-	498	213	711	34	72	106	532	285	817	527	285	812
ment and Apparatus Manufacture	1,140	158	1,298	192	23	215	1,332	181	1,513	1,332	181	1,513
Musical Instrument Making ...												
Toys, Games and Sports Requisites	396	308	704	72	54	126	468	362	830	468	362	830
Manufacture ...												
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply	9,250	100	9,350	356	12	368	9,606	112	9,718	9,309	111	9,420
Industries ...												
Transport and Communication :—												
Railway Service ...	8,032	210	8,242	540	7	547	8,572	217	8,789	8,394	217	8,611
Tramway and Omnibus Service ...	4,295	199	4,494	138	9	147	4,433	208	4,641	4,373	208	4,581
Other Road Transport ...	19,861	180	20,041	728	5	733	20,589	185	20,774	19,974	184	20,158
Shipping Service ...	22,369	316	22,685	177	23	200	22,546	339	22,885	22,074	338	22,412
Canal, River, Dock and Harbour												
Service ...	46,094	84	46,178	829	10	839	46,923	94	47,017	46,295	94	46,389
Other Transport and Communication	2,369	84	2,453	90	19	109	2,459	103	2,562	2,444	103	2,547
and Storage ...												
Distributive Trades ...	61,247	27,842	89,089	2,109	3,242	5,351	63,356	31,084	94,440	61,184	30,463	91,647
Commerce, Banking, Insurance and	4,391	862	5,253	56	12	68	4,447	874	5,321	4,363	868	5,231
Finance ...												
Miscellaneous Trades and Services :—												
National Government ...	7,572	736	8,308	153	31	184	7,725	767	8,492	7,250	743	7,993
Local Government ...	22,477	435	22,912	653	57	710	23,130	492	23,622	22,081	488	22,569
Professional Services ...	2,317	869	3,186	188	55	243	2,505	924	3,429	2,456	908	3,364
Entertainments and Sports ...	4,588	1,783	6,371	103	66	169	4,691	1,849	6,540	4,551	1,844	6,395
Hotel, Boarding House, Club Services	11,526	15,557	27,083	106	298	404	11,632	15,855	27,487	11,352	15,695	27,047
Laundries, Dyeing and Dry Cleaning	1,285	3,153	4,438	64	594	658	1,349	3,747	5,096	1,317	3,585	4,902
Other Industries and Services ...	23,447	1,341	24,788	582	737	1,319	24,029	2,078	26,107	23,182	2,044	25,226
TOTAL ...	836,203	131,392	967,595	189,640	70,269	259,909	1,025,843	201,661	1,227,504*	1,000,876	194,255	1,195,131

\* Including 69,048 Casuals (Males 68,266, Females 782).



## NUMBERS INSURED AND PERCENTAGES UNEMPLOYED.

GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.																	GREAT BRITAIN ONLY TOTAL PER- CENTAGE AT 20TH FEB. 1928.
INDUSTRY.	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS AGED 16-64 INCLUSIVE, AT JULY, 1927.			PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 20TH FEBRUARY, 1928.									INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN TOTAL PERCENT- AGES AS COMPARED WITH				
				WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.							
				Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Fe- males.	Total.	Males.	Fe- males.	Total.				Males.	
Fishing ... ..	26,600	950	27,550	14.5	12.2	14.4	0.4	2.7	0.5	14.9	14.9	14.9	+ 1.3	- 1.7	+ 0.3	14.9	
Mining :—																	
Coal Mining ... ..	1,157,580	6,800	1,164,380	12.4	7.9	12.4	6.1	4.7	6.1	18.5	12.6	18.5	+ 0.4	+ 2.4	+ 8.9	18.5	
Iron Ore and Ironstone Mining and Quarrying ... ..	14,220	30	14,250	12.9	...	12.8	3.5	...	3.6	16.4	...	16.4	+ 0.3	+ 3.5	- 2.3	16.4	
Lead, Tin and Copper Mining ... ..	5,420	60	5,480	13.4	6.7	13.3	0.5	...	0.5	13.9	6.7	13.8	...	+ 0.7	+ 1.6	13.8	
Stone Quarrying and Mining ... ..	40,900	330	41,230	9.2	3.0	9.1	2.5	0.6	2.5	11.7	3.6	11.6	- 1.5	+ 3.4	+ 3.4	11.1	
Slate Quarrying and Mining ... ..	10,690	10	10,700	2.8	10.0	2.8	1.4	10.0	1.4	4.2	20.0	4.2	+ 0.3	+ 2.6	+ 0.4	4.2	
Other Mining and Quarrying ... ..	16,130	1,590	17,720	9.2	3.0	8.7	2.3	1.5	2.2	11.5	4.5	10.9	- 0.4	+ 0.2	- 3.6	10.6	
Clay, Sand, Gravel and Chalk Pit Digging ... ..	14,570	160	14,730	6.3	1.9	6.2	0.3	...	0.4	6.6	1.9	6.6	- 0.3	+ 1.1	+ 2.4	6.4	
Non-Metalliferous Mining Products :—																	
Coke Ovens and By-Product Works	11,180	120	11,300	10.0	5.8	10.0	1.7	0.9	1.6	11.7	6.7	11.6	- 0.7	- 3.9	- 2.1	11.6	
Artificial Stone and Concrete Manu- facture ... ..	15,040	1,350	16,390	13.4	3.8	12.6	1.7	0.5	1.6	15.1	4.3	14.2	- 1.7	+ 1.2	- 2.3	14.1	
Cement, Limekilns and Whiting Works ... ..	17,930	880	18,810	7.9	3.6	7.7	2.2	1.1	2.2	10.1	4.7	9.9	- 1.5	+ 3.7	+ 3.8	9.8	
Brick, Tile, etc., Making ... ..	75,010	7,570	82,580	10.8	9.8	10.7	2.8	4.4	3.0	13.6	14.2	13.7	- 0.8	+ 6.4	+ 6.2	13.6	
Pottery, Earthenware, etc. ... ..	32,110	37,790	69,900	6.9	4.9	5.8	10.3	10.0	10.2	17.2	14.9	16.0	- 3.5	+ 0.8	+ 0.3	16.0	
Glass Trades :—																	
Glass (excluding Bottles and Scien- tific Glass) Manufacture ... ..	19,650	5,300	24,950	9.1	4.0	8.0	2.0	1.7	2.0	11.1	5.7	10.0	+ 1.2	- 0.5	- 0.8	10.0	
Glass Bottle Making ... ..	15,510	2,170	17,680	13.1	7.9	12.5	5.0	0.6	4.4	18.1	8.5	16.9	- 0.1	- 0.7	- 1.4	16.9	
Ammunition, Explosives, Chemicals, etc. :—																	
Chemicals Manufacture ... ..	70,040	22,560	92,600	6.2	3.0	5.4	0.7	0.6	0.7	6.9	3.6	6.1	- 0.1	- 1.3	- 2.3	6.1	
Explosives Manufacture ... ..	12,360	5,990	18,350	5.3	4.6	5.1	0.9	0.9	0.9	6.2	5.5	6.0	+ 0.1	- 1.9	- 1.5	5.9	
Paint, Varnish, Japan, Red and White Lead Manufacture ... ..	13,790	4,300	18,090	4.5	3.4	4.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	4.7	3.5	4.4	- 0.5	- 1.3	- 0.9	4.4	
Oil, Grease, Glue, Soap, Ink, Match, etc., Manufacture ... ..	55,700	20,920	76,620	5.9	3.4	5.2	1.0	0.5	0.9	6.9	3.9	6.1	- 0.4	- 1.5	- 1.7	6.1	
Metal Manufacture :—																	
Pig Iron Manufacture (Blast Furnaces)	23,090	270	23,360	11.3	7.4	11.2	3.0	0.4	3.0	14.3	7.8	14.2	- 2.0	- 1.6	- 3.1	14.2	
Steel Melting and Iron Puddling Fur- naces, Iron and Steel Rolling Mills and Forges ... ..	183,790	4,200	187,990	9.3	2.9	9.1	10.3	2.9	10.2	19.6	5.8	19.3	- 1.1	+ 2.4	- 1.5	19.3	
Manufacture of Brass, Copper, Zinc, Tin, Lead, etc. ... ..	35,910	3,030	38,940	7.9	5.3	7.7	2.1	0.7	1.9	10.0	6.0	9.6	+ 0.2	- 1.6	- 1.0	9.6	
Manufacture of Tin Plates ... ..	26,820	3,950	30,770	3.5	2.7	3.4	35.7	29.7	34.9	39.2	32.4	38.3	+ 12.1	+ 31.3	+ 27.9	38.3	
Iron and Steel Tube Making ... ..	26,110	1,340	27,450	7.0	5.6	6.9	6.0	0.7	5.8	13.0	6.3	12.7	- 0.2	+ 0.4	- 1.5	12.7	
Wire, Wire Netting, Wire Rope Manu- facture ... ..	17,820	3,950	21,770	8.2	4.7	7.6	6.9	1.3	5.8	15.1	6.0	13.4	- 1.6	- 2.7	+ 0.9	13.4	
Engineering, etc. :—																	
General Engineering; Engineers' Iron and Steel Founding ... ..	535,820	42,100	577,920	7.5	2.7	7.2	2.8	0.8	2.6	10.3	3.5	9.8	...	- 2.8	- 2.5	9.8	
Electrical Engineering ... ..	61,130	16,670	77,800	4.3	3.2	4.0	0.7	0.7	0.8	5.0	3.9	4.8	+ 0.1	- 1.7	- 1.8	4.8	
Marine Engineering, etc. ... ..	54,840	1,130	55,970	11.2	2.3	11.1	0.8	0.1	0.7	12.0	2.4	11.8	+ 0.5	- 10.4	- 11.8	10.5	
Constructional Engineering ... ..	25,740	1,050	26,790	8.7	2.6	8.4	1.6	0.7	1.6	10.3	3.3	10.0	+ 0.5	- 4.0	- 2.4	10.0	
Construction and Repair of Vehicles :—																	
Construction and Repair of Motor Vehicles, Cycles and Aircraft ... ..	207,310	22,820	230,130	5.8	3.8	5.6	1.2	0.6	1.1	7.0	4.4	6.7	- 0.1	- 0.8	+ 0.2	6.7	
Construction and Repair of Carriages, Carts, etc. ... ..	18,020	2,250	20,270	8.4	3.9	7.9	1.4	0.8	1.3	9.8	4.7	9.2	- 0.8	- 1.6	- 0.9	9.1	
Railway Carriage, Wagon and Tram- car Building ... ..	52,830	1,320	54,150	5.6	2.5	5.5	4.0	1.7	4.0	9.6	4.2	9.5	+ 0.9	+ 0.8	+ 2.5	9.6	
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing ... ..	205,140	3,340	208,480	20.5	3.4	20.2	0.8	0.2	0.8	21.3	3.6	21.0	+ 0.4	- 10.9	- 15.1	20.1	
Metal Trades :—																	
Stove, Grate, Pipe, etc., and General Iron Founding ... ..	77,010	7,830	84,840	8.4	5.2	8.1	4.7	3.6	4.6	13.1	8.8	12.7	+ 0.8	+ 3.1	+ 3.0	12.7	
Electrical Wiring and Contracting ... ..	13,150	1,160	14,310	7.9	2.5	7.4	0.6	0.2	0.7	8.5	2.7	8.1	+ 1.8	- 0.8	- 0.5	7.9	
Electrical Cable, Wire and Electric Lamp Manufacture ... ..	53,170	30,560	83,730	5.9	4.5	5.4	0.7	0.7	0.7	6.6	5.2	6.1	+ 0.2	- 2.5	- 1.7	6.1	
Hand Tool, Cutlery, Saw, File Making	23,660	10,560	34,220	9.3	7.2	8.6	5.4	3.5	4.8	14.7	10.7	13.4	- 0.2	- 3.5	- 1.7	13.4	
Bolts, Nuts, Screws, Rivets, Nails, etc., Manufacture ... ..	14,230	11,110	25,340	6.4	6.5	6.4	4.3	1.5	3.1	10.7	8.0	9.5	+ 0.1	- 3.2	- 0.4	9.5	
Brass and Allied Metal Wares Manu- facture ... ..	18,020	10,740	28,760	8.6	6.7	7.9	2.1	1.5	1.9	10.7	8.2	9.8	+ 0.2	- 1.1	+ 0.3	9.7	
Heating and Ventilating Apparatus	6,860	490	7,350	5.2	2.2	5.0	0.8	0.2	0.8	6.0	2.4	5.8	- 0.1	- 2.6	- 0.6	5.8	
Watches, Clocks, Plate, Jewellery, etc., Manufacture ... ..	23,220	20,600	43,820	6.0	4.4	5.2	2.2	2.9	2.6	8.2	7.3	7.8	- 0.5	- 3.8	- 2.7	7.8	
Other Metal Industries ... ..	115,810	67,080	182,890	6.6	6.1	6.4	2.1	1.8	2.0	8.7	7.9	8.4	- 0.2	- 1.5	- 0.3	8.4	
Textile Trades :—																	
Cotton ... ..	202,250	359,880	562,130	4.6	3.1	3.6	4.2	5.6	5.1	8.8	8.7	8.7	- 1.0	+ 0.5	- 0.6	8.7	
Woollen and Worsted ... ..	96,430	143,370	239,800	4.5	2.1	3.0	4.0	4.8	4.6	8.5	6.9	7.6	- 1.2	- 2.3	- 3.5	7.6	
Silk ... ..	21,920	31,660	53,580	3.5	2.7	3.0	2.5	4.6	3.8	6.0	7.3	6.8	- 0.8	- 2.9	- 4.0	6.8	
Linen ... ..	25,490	57,370	82,860	8.6	4.4	5.7	2.5	2.7	2.6	11.1	7.1	8.3	+ 0.1	- 1.9	- 17.6	11.1	
Jute ... ..	12,230	26,170	38,400	7.7	4.6	5.6	0.8	0.4	0.5	8.5	5.0	6.1	...	- 3.4	- 6.6	6.1	
Hemp Spinning and Weaving, Rope,<																	

GRAND TOTAL PERCENTAGE AT 20TH FEB., 1928.



INDUSTRY.	GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.													GREAT BRITAIN ONLY. TOTAL PER- CENTAGE AT 20TH FEB., 1928.		
	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INSURED PERSONS AGED 16-64 INCLUSIVE, AT JULY, 1927.			PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED AT 20TH FEBRUARY, 1928.									INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (-) IN TOTAL PERCENT- AGES AS COMPARED WITH			
				WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED (including Casuals).			TEMPORARY STOPPAGES.			TOTAL.						
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males	Fe- males.	Total.	Males	Fe- males.	Total.	Males	Fe- males.	Total.	23RD JAN., 1928.		21ST FEB., 1927.	22ND FEB., 1926.
Food, Drink and Tobacco:—																
Bread, Biscuit, Cake, etc., Making ...	91,550	53,200	144,750	8.0	5.0	6.9	0.3	0.5	0.4	8.3	5.5	7.3	+ 0.2	- 1.0	- 1.9	
Grain Milling ...	26,010	3,350	29,360	5.6	3.6	5.4	2.2	1.7	2.1	7.8	5.3	7.5	+ 0.7	- 0.3	+ 1.4	
Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Con- fectionery ...	25,960	51,510	77,470	6.9	4.9	5.6	1.5	7.7	5.6	8.4	12.6	11.2	+ 0.1	- 3.3	+ 2.6	
Other Food Industries ...	53,240	55,320	108,560	9.9	10.1	10.0	0.4	1.4	0.9	10.3	11.5	10.9	- 0.2	- 1.0	+ 0.4	
Drink Industries ...	85,050	24,050	109,100	5.7	6.8	6.0	0.3	1.6	0.5	6.0	8.4	6.5	+ 0.2	- 0.8	- 0.1	
Tobacco, Cigar, Cigarette and Snuff Manufacture ...	13,960	28,830	42,790	3.9	5.0	4.6	0.2	1.4	1.1	4.1	6.4	5.7	+ 0.9	+ 1.0	+ 0.6	
Sawmilling, Furniture and Woodwork:—																
Sawmilling and Machined Woodwork	53,440	2,890	56,330	9.9	3.0	9.6	0.7	1.5	0.7	10.6	4.5	10.3	+ 0.2	+ 0.2	- 0.2	
Wood Box and Packing Case Making	10,740	2,010	12,750	9.6	6.1	9.0	1.9	3.6	2.3	11.5	9.7	11.3	- 0.1	- 1.1	- 1.3	
Furniture Making, Upholstering, etc.	89,490	20,530	110,020	5.8	3.5	5.4	0.6	0.8	0.6	6.4	4.3	6.0	+ 0.1	- 1.9	- 0.9	
Other Woodworking ...	18,130	5,390	23,520	7.4	4.8	6.8	1.7	1.6	1.7	9.1	6.4	8.5	- 0.1	- 2.2	- 1.7	
Printing and Paper Trades:—																
Paper and Paper Board Making ...	38,730	14,080	52,810	3.7	2.5	3.4	1.1	1.0	1.1	4.8	3.5	4.5	- 1.1	- 1.6	- 0.6	
Cardboard Boxes, Paper Bags and Stationery ...	19,630	36,350	55,980	3.9	3.4	3.6	0.3	1.5	1.1	4.2	4.9	4.7	...	- 1.2	- 1.0	
Wall Paper Making and Paper Staining ...	3,670	1,510	5,180	4.0	5.6	4.4	0.3	1.3	0.7	4.3	6.9	5.1	+ 1.0	+ 0.5	- 0.1	
Stationery and Typewriting Requisites (not paper) ...	2,440	3,200	5,640	4.3	3.2	3.7	0.3	0.4	0.3	4.6	3.6	4.0	- 0.3	- 2.1	- 2.3	
Printing, Publishing and Bookbinding	160,700	89,680	250,380	4.9	4.0	4.5	0.1	0.7	0.4	5.0	4.7	4.9	- 0.2	- 0.8	+ 0.2	
Building and Construction of Works:—																
Building ...	799,150	8,060	807,210	14.8	2.0	14.6	0.4	0.2	0.5	15.2	2.2	15.1	- 2.3	+ 2.4	+ 3.4	
Public Works Contracting, etc. ...	161,490	920	162,410	21.0	3.2	20.9	0.8	0.2	0.8	21.8	3.4	21.7	- 0.8	+ 0.6	+ 2.7	
Other Manufacturing Industries:—																
Rubber Manufacture ...	33,960	24,470	58,430	6.9	5.0	6.1	3.6	3.3	3.5	10.5	8.3	9.6	- 1.6	- 1.0	+ 2.0	
Oilcloth, Linoleum, etc., Manufacture	11,550	2,200	13,750	5.3	2.5	4.9	0.7	0.7	0.6	6.0	3.2	5.5	+ 0.6	- 1.0	+ 0.5	
Brush and Broom Making ...	5,810	4,500	10,310	8.8	3.8	6.6	2.4	3.3	2.8	11.2	7.1	9.4	- 0.2	+ 0.6	- 1.4	
Scientific and Photographic Instru- ment and Apparatus Manufacture	14,980	8,570	23,550	3.3	2.5	3.0	0.3	0.8	0.5	3.6	3.3	3.5	+ 0.4	- 0.9	- 0.8	
Musical Instrument Making ...	18,940	4,980	23,920	6.0	3.2	5.4	1.0	0.4	0.9	7.0	3.6	6.3	+ 0.6	- 1.4	+ 0.2	
Toys, Games and Sports Requisites Manufacture ...	5,910	5,550	11,460	6.7	5.5	6.1	1.2	1.0	1.1	7.9	6.5	7.2	- 0.4	- 1.8	- 1.7	
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply Industries ...	157,310	5,860	163,170	5.9	1.7	5.7	0.2	0.2	0.3	6.1	1.9	6.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.3	
Transport and Communication:—																
Railway Service ...	136,390	7,890	144,280	5.9	2.7	5.7	0.4	0.1	0.4	6.3	2.8	6.1	- 0.3	- 0.6	- 0.6	
Tramway and Omnibus Service ...	125,460	5,500	130,960	3.4	3.6	3.4	0.1	0.2	0.1	3.5	3.8	3.5	- 0.1	- 0.8	- 0.7	
Other Road Transport ...	162,340	5,740	168,080	12.2	3.1	11.9	0.5	0.1	0.5	12.7	3.2	12.4	- 0.2	- 0.9	- 1.1	
Shipping Service ...	134,220	5,970	140,190	16.7	5.3	16.2	0.1	0.4	0.1	16.8	5.7	16.3	- 0.3	- 1.4	- 3.5	
Canal, River, Dock and Harbour Service ...	168,510	2,060	170,570	27.4	4.1	27.1	0.4	0.5	0.5	27.8	4.6	27.6	+ 1.8	+ 0.8	- 0.1	
Other Transport and Communication and Storage... ..	16,360	1,840	18,200	14.5	4.6	13.5	0.5	1.0	0.6	15.0	5.6	14.1	+ 1.0	+ 2.2	- 0.5	
Distributive Trades ...	938,770	613,960	1,552,730	6.5	4.5	5.7	0.2	0.6	0.4	6.7	5.1	6.1	+ 0.3	- 0.4	- 0.5	
Commerce, Banking, Insurance and Finance ...	149,520	72,030	221,550	2.9	1.2	2.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	3.0	1.2	2.4	...	- 0.4	- 0.9	
Miscellaneous Trades and Services:—																
National Government ...	105,930	24,940	130,870	7.1	3.0	6.3	0.2	0.1	0.2	7.3	3.1	6.5	- 0.1	- 0.1	- 1.1	
Local Government ...	226,680	18,170	244,850	9.9	2.4	9.4	0.3	0.3	0.2	10.2	2.7	9.6	...	+ 0.5	+ 0.5	
Professional Services ...	65,850	48,710	114,560	3.5	1.8	2.8	0.3	0.1	0.2	3.8	1.9	3.0	+ 0.1	- 0.1	- 0.2	
Entertainments and Sports ...	42,450	24,110	66,560	10.8	7.4	9.6	0.3	0.3	0.2	11.1	7.7	9.8	...	- 0.9	- 2.0	
Hotel, Boarding House, Club Services	108,120	198,470	306,590	10.7	7.8	8.8	0.1	0.2	0.2	10.8	8.0	9.0	- 0.2	- 1.1	- 1.4	
Laundries, Dyeing and Dry Cleaning	24,940	99,310	124,250	5.2	3.2	3.6	0.2	0.6	0.5	5.4	3.8	4.1	...	- 0.5	- 0.6	
Other Industries and Services ...	88,790	33,330	122,120	26.4	4.0	20.3	0.7	2.2	1.1	27.1	6.2	21.4	+ 0.1	- 1.5	- 3.7	
TOTAL ...	8,576,200	3,207,800	11,784,000	9.8	4.1	8.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	12.0	6.3	10.4	- 0.3	- 0.5	...	

## WORK OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.\*

On 27th February, 1928, the number of persons on the registers of employment Exchanges in Great Britain was 1,108,676; in Great Britain and Northern Ireland it was 1,138,607.

Statistics for men, boys, women and girls, are given below:—

—	27th February, 1928.				30th Jan., 1928.
	Persons normally in regular employment.		Persons normally in casual employment.	Total.	Total.
	Wholly Unemployed.	Temporary Stoppages.			
	Great Britain.				
Men ...	654,877	167,581	66,567	889,025	926,097
Boys ...	29,353	5,138	126	34,617	40,265
Women ...	89,880	60,636	916	151,432	164,100
Girls ...	29,461	4,117	24	33,602	38,479
Total...	803,571	237,472	67,633	1,108,676	1,168,941
	Great Britain and Northern Ireland.				
Men ...	674,292	168,609	68,227	911,128	948,738
Boys ...	30,005	5,174	126	35,305	40,901
Women ...	94,258	62,881	916	158,055	170,508
Girls ...	29,852	4,243	24	34,119	38,939
Total...	828,407	240,907	69,293	1,138,607	1,199,086

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 27th February, 1928. Of the 102,493 vacancies filled, 53,756 were for men, 27,182 for women, and 21,555 for juveniles:—

Week ended	Applications from Employers.		Vacancies Filled.†	Number of Work-people on Registers.‡
	During Week.	At end of Week.		
30th January, 1928 ...	27,930	17,466	24,567	1,199,086
6th February, 1928 ...	28,902	18,171	24,870	1,191,539
13th " " ...	28,511	19,536	25,947	1,189,282
20th " " ...	29,511	17,675	26,031	1,166,175
27th " " ...	29,499	18,333	25,645	1,138,607
<b>Average (4 weeks) ...</b>	<b>29,106</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>25,623</b>	<b>1,171,401</b>

\* 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.

† "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 five weeks ended 23rd January, 1928, the average number of such placings was 6,350 per week. The average number of placings of casual workers during the four weeks ended 27th February, 1928, was 300 per week.

‡ The figures include, in addition to those wholly unemployed, 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.



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 27th February, 1928. In certain cases (e.g., Bristol, Birmingham, Sheffield, Liverpool, Glasgow, etc.) the figures cover more than one Exchange area.

Area.	Number of Persons on Register at 27th February, 1928.				Inc.(+) or Dec.(−) as compared with 30th Jan., 1928.
	Men.	Women.	Juven-iles.	Total.	
<b>London Division</b> ...	90,429	19,091	7,293	116,813	— 9,769
<b>South-Eastern Division</b>	38,978	5,692	4,585	49,255	— 7,308
Brighton ...	1,509	519	419	2,447	— 546
Chatham ...	2,107	219	677	3,003	— 419
Ipswich ...	1,412	235	159	1,806	— 363
Norwich ...	2,834	372	64	3,270	— 376
Rest of South-Eastern	31,116	4,347	3,266	38,729	— 5,604
<b>South-Western Division</b>	53,330	7,165	5,226	65,721	— 6,869
Bristol ...	10,754	1,805	1,251	13,810	— 862
Plymouth ...	4,580	551	427	5,558	— 64
Portsmouth ...	4,269	502	598	5,369	— 427
Reading ...	1,221	122	242	1,585	— 222
Southampton ...	3,734	411	638	4,783	— 392
Swindon ...	1,042	108	158	1,308	— 88
Rest of South-Western	27,730	3,666	1,912	33,308	— 4,814
<b>Midlands Division</b> ...	105,386	26,685	6,810	138,881	— 468
Birmingham ...	17,755	7,457	1,071	26,283	— 324
Coventry ...	2,632	408	41	3,081	+ 196
Cradley Heath ...	2,922	594	126	3,642	+ 433
Derby ...	1,418	308	134	1,860	— 206
Leicester ...	2,234	1,239	36	3,509	— 360
Northampton ...	1,441	164	54	1,659	— 184
Nottingham ...	5,517	1,090	365	6,972	— 220
Smethwick ...	2,232	660	105	2,997	+ 76
Stoke-on-Trent ...	9,884	4,265	739	14,888	— 930
Walsall ...	3,416	767	381	4,564	— 634
West Bromwich ...	2,087	390	129	2,606	— 105
Wolverhampton ...	2,895	590	192	3,677	— 634
Rest of Midlands	50,953	8,753	3,437	63,143	+ 2,424
<b>North-Eastern Division</b>	216,155	23,310	13,671	253,136	— 8,681
Barnsley ...	2,450	307	150	2,907	+ 18
Bradford ...	5,918	1,496	266	7,680	— 1,691
Darlington ...	1,875	178	216	2,269	— 42
Dewsbury ...	1,183	696	220	2,099	— 290
Doncaster ...	2,864	220	290	3,374	— 310
Gateshead ...	7,200	599	689	8,488	— 258
Grimsby ...	3,548	230	251	4,029	— 173
Halifax ...	1,908	539	39	2,486	— 835
Hartlepool ...	5,183	203	503	5,889	+ 66
Huddersfield ...	2,064	1,283	181	3,528	— 22
Hull ...	10,739	887	893	12,519	— 281
Leeds ...	11,670	1,793	307	13,770	— 1,386
Lincoln ...	1,708	267	171	2,146	— 165
Middlesbrough ...	5,509	309	322	6,140	— 1,262
Newcastle-on-Tyne...	15,026	1,198	1,092	17,316	+ 247
Rotherham ...	5,110	254	286	5,650	+ 841
Sheffield ...	19,416	2,377	1,541	23,334	— 733
South Shields ...	7,164	358	439	7,961	— 47
Stockton-on-Tees ...	4,482	221	459	5,162	+ 188
Sunderland ...	7,811	602	557	8,970	— 548
Wakefield ...	2,317	246	255	2,818	+ 288
York ...	2,031	589	275	2,895	— 45
Rest of North-Eastern	88,979	8,458	4,269	101,706	— 2,241
<b>North-Western Division</b>	158,398	46,826	13,912	219,136	— 13,166
Accrington ...	1,991	771	137	2,899	+ 359
Ashton-under-Lyne	2,530	1,081	145	3,756	— 727
Barrow ...	1,963	202	223	2,388	+ 102
Birkenhead ...	4,365	422	384	5,171	+ 250
Blackburn ...	2,900	2,606	305	5,811	+ 502
Blackpool ...	1,562	750	250	2,562	— 187
Bolton ...	4,517	1,793	236	6,546	+ 336
Burnley ...	1,959	1,455	146	3,560	— 704
Bury ...	1,288	722	87	2,097	— 528
Ochrole ...	1,637	392	40	2,069	— 197
Liverpool ...	36,011	5,097	4,464	45,572	— 1,375
Manchester ...	16,366	4,676	1,305	22,347	— 1,987
Nelson ...	1,143	853	98	2,094	+ 974
Oldham ...	10,453	2,583	492	13,528	— 1,682
Preston ...	2,796	1,332	119	4,247	— 1,031
Rochdale ...	2,024	616	53	2,693	— 326
St. Helens ...	4,468	259	231	4,958	+ 900
Salford ...	7,080	2,393	690	10,163	— 1,366
Stockport ...	2,118	1,294	128	3,540	— 581
Warrington ...	2,438	293	289	3,020	— 1,044
Wigan ...	5,622	1,753	205	7,580	— 363
Rest of North-Western	43,167	15,483	3,885	62,535	— 4,491
<b>Scotland Division</b> ...	104,274	18,356	10,173	132,803	— 2,060
Aberdeen ...	3,519	629	175	4,323	— 790
Clydebank ...	698	179	184	1,061	+ 40
Dundee ...	3,281	1,317	342	4,940	+ 208
Edinburgh ...	9,315	1,947	781	12,043	+ 364
Glasgow ...	37,173	6,281	3,931	47,385	+ 279
Greenock ...	3,955	407	394	4,756	+ 66
Motherwell ...	2,801	148	238	3,187	+ 110
Paisley ...	2,011	268	298	2,577	+ 48
Rest of Scotland	41,521	7,180	3,830	52,531	— 2,385
<b>Wales Division</b> ...	122,075	4,307	6,549	132,931	— 11,944
Cardiff ...	7,654	912	727	9,293	— 841
Llanelli ...	4,942	156	245	5,343	— 1,130
Newport ...	4,880	314	305	5,499	— 1,871
Swansea ...	5,125	436	723	6,284	— 1,300
Rest of Wales	99,474	2,489	4,549	106,512	— 6,802
<b>Northern Ireland</b> ...	22,103	6,623	1,205	29,931	— 214
Belfast ...	15,364	3,745	920	20,029	— 352
Londonderry ...	1,043	297	40	1,380	— 15
Lurgan ...	223	583	25	831	— 109
Lisburn ...	507	458	54	1,019	+ 346
Newry ...	570	319	52	941	+ 455
Rest of Northern Ire-land	4,396	1,221	114	5,731	— 539
<b>Great Britain and Northern Ireland</b> ...	911,128	158,055	69,424	1,138,607	— 60,479

[Percentage rates of unemployment, for each of 653 towns in Great Britain, are given in the monthly "Local Unemployment Index"—see Advertisement pages of this GAZETTE.]

## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE STATISTICS: GREAT BRITAIN.

### COMPOSITION OF STATISTICS.

On page 96 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 20th February, 1928, for the total of each group included in these statistics. Lines 2 to 6 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 ...	1,538	9	157	3	1,707
2. Claims admitted or under consideration ...	799,999	15,671	132,064	8,473	956,207
3. Claimants disqualified, but maintaining registration ...	77,356	850	7,439	420	86,065
4. Insured non-claimants on main file ...	22,860	2,144	1,785	2,021	28,810
5. Uninsured persons on Register ...	10,331	17,492	14,157	23,625	65,605
6. Two months' file ...	75,870	4,579	37,203	4,690	122,342
<b>Persons on Register (lines 2-5)</b> ...	<b>910,546</b>	<b>36,157</b>	<b>155,445</b>	<b>34,539</b>	<b>1,136,687</b>
<b>Books Lodged (lines 1-4 and 6)</b> ...	<b>977,623</b>	<b>23,253</b>	<b>178,648</b>	<b>15,607</b>	<b>1,195,131</b>

### 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 17th January to 13th February, 1928:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Applications considered by Committees during period ...	259,599	29,974	289,573
Applications admitted by Committees during period:—			
(a) For 12 weeks ...	28,459	2,015	30,474
(b) For less than 12 weeks ...	198,681	18,318	216,999
Applications definitely recommended for disallowance during period:—			
<b>General Conditions:</b>			
Not normally insurable and not seeking to obtain a livelihood by means of insurable employment ...	1,829	681	2,510
Insurable employment not likely to be available ...	751	238	989
Not a reasonable period of insurable employment during the preceding two years ...	13,212	1,677	14,889
Not making every reasonable effort to obtain suitable employment or not willing to accept suitable employment ...	8,881	2,642	11,523
<b>Special Conditions:</b>			
Single persons residing with relatives	5,244	1,876	7,120
Married women who could look for support from their husbands ...	...	1,824	1,824
Married men who could look for support from their wives ...	463	...	463
Working short time but earning sufficient for maintenance ...	1,113	359	1,472
Aliens ...	11	1	12
<b>Total definitely recommended for disallowance</b> ...	<b>31,504</b>	<b>9,298</b>	<b>40,802</b>
Applications during the period recommended for postponement for a definite time ...	955	343	1,298

### UNEMPLOYMENT FUND.

Table showing APPROXIMATELY the Receipts and Payments, and the Liabilities of the Fund.

	Four weeks ended 25th Feb., 1928.	Four weeks ended 28th Jan., 1928.	Four weeks ended 26th Feb., 1927.
<b>Contributions received from—</b>			
Employers ...	£ 1,105,000	£ 1,340,000	£ 1,100,000
Employed Persons ...	940,000	1,135,000	950,000
Exchequer ...	790,000	950,000	800,000
<b>Total</b> ...	<b>2,835,000</b>	<b>3,425,000</b>	<b>2,850,000</b>
<b>Unemployment Benefit</b> ...	<b>3,185,000</b>	<b>3,370,000</b>	<b>3,450,000</b>
Cost of Administration ...	400,000	375,000	360,000
Interest accrued on Treasury Advances	90,000	90,000	90,000
Other Items ...	15,000	10,000	10,000
<b>Total</b> ...	<b>3,690,000</b>	<b>3,845,000</b>	<b>3,910,000</b>
<b>Treasury Advances outstanding</b> ...	<b>24,310,000</b>	<b>23,530,000</b>	<b>24,650,000</b>
<b>Other Liabilities (net), including Accrued Interest and Deposits</b> ...	<b>275,000</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>260,000</b>

A detailed account of the Fund is presented to Parliament annually. (See House of Commons Paper No. 5 of 1928 for the latest figures.)



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

## Rates of Wages.

the industries covered by the Department's statistics\* the changes in rates of wages reported to have come into operation in January in Great Britain and Northern Ireland resulted in an aggregate reduction of £46,100 in the weekly full-time wages of 435,000 workpeople, and in an increase of £2,850 in those of 414,000 workpeople.

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.
Iron and Steel ...	35,500	44,000	£ 1,150	£ 2,100
Building and Allied Industries ...	15,000	461,000	1,250	42,500
Other ...	3,500	16,000	450	1,500
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>54,000</b>	<b>521,000</b>	<b>2,850</b>	<b>46,100</b>

The increases in the iron and steel group principally affected workpeople employed in steel smelting shops and rolling mills in various districts in England and Scotland, most classes of whom, with the exception of men on basis rates up to 7s. per shift, had their wages increased by the equivalent of 1 or 1½ per cent. on current rates. Iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen in the Midlands, except the lower-paid men, sustained a reduction, equivalent to nearly 2 per cent. on current rates, and the wages of Siemens steel makers in South-West Wales, with the exception of lower-paid men, were reduced by an amount equivalent to nearly 1½ per cent. on current rates. There were also reductions in the wages of blast-furnacemen in Cumberland and North Lincolnshire, with the exception of some of the lower-paid men.

In the building industry there was a reduction of ½d. per hour in wages, under the operation of a cost-of-living sliding-scale agreement made by the National Joint Council for the Building Industry, which affected workpeople, with certain exceptions, in all the principal towns in Great Britain, except Liverpool and Birkenhead. There was also a reduction of ½d. per hour, under a national agreement, in the wages of men employed by civil engineering contractors. Men employed by electrical contractors in England and Wales had their wages increased by ½d. or 1d. per hour.

In the other industrial groups there were reductions, following the agreement in the building industry, in the wages of furniture trade operatives in certain towns, including Edinburgh, Leicester and Stoke, and also in those of various classes of workpeople employed in the non-trading services of local authorities, the latter including Huddersfield, Portsmouth, Plymouth, Cambridge and Dundee, and a number of towns in Lancashire. Coke workers in Lancashire and

West Yorkshire had their wages reduced by amounts equivalent to nearly 5½ per cent. on current rates in the former district and nearly 3 per cent. in the latter. There was an increase of 1d. per hour in the wages of men employed by waterworks undertakings in Lancashire and Cheshire.

Of the total reduction of £46,100 per week, £43,600 took effect under cost-of-living sliding scales, including £42,400 under scales arranged by joint councils of employers and workpeople; £2,250 took effect under sliding scales based on selling prices; and the remainder was the result of direct negotiations between employers and workpeople, these being preceded in the case of reductions amounting to £60 per week by disputes causing stoppage of work.

Of the total increase of £2,850 per week, £1,300 took effect under cost-of-living sliding scales; £1,150 took effect under sliding scales based on selling prices; and the remainder took effect principally under arrangements made by joint councils of employers and workpeople.

## SUMMARY OF CHANGES REPORTED IN JANUARY—FEBRUARY, 1928.

The following Table shows the number of workpeople in Great Britain and Northern Ireland affected by changes in rates of wages reported to the Department during the first two completed months of 1928, and the net aggregate amounts of such changes:—

Group of Industries.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by net.		Net Amount of Change in Weekly Wages.	
	Increases.	Decreases.	Increases.	Decreases.
Mining and Quarrying ...	700	225,000	£ 55	£ 15,100
Iron and Steel ...	35,500	62,500	1,160	3,250
Engineering, Shipbuilding and Other Metal ...	7,000	250	360	35
Textile... ..	78,000	7,000	750	500
Clothing ... ..	7,000	250	440	15
Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	12,000	450	550	30
Woodworking, etc. ... ..	1,700	2,250	160	200
Building and Allied Industries	22,500	461,000	2,000	42,500
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply ... ..	34,000	550	6,100	55
Transport ... ..	100	1,300	10	120
Public Administration ...	6,500	6,000	315	565
Other ... ..	...	1,450	...	230
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>205,000</b>	<b>768,000</b>	<b>11,900</b>	<b>62,600</b>

In the corresponding two months of 1927, there were net increases of £24,250 in the weekly wages of 435,000 workpeople and net reductions of £47,500 in those of 414,000 workpeople.

## Hours of Labour.

No important changes were reported in February.

## PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING FEBRUARY, 1928.

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Coke, etc., Manufacture.	West Yorkshire ...	1st full pay in Feb.	Cokemen and by-product workers	Decrease† of 4 per cent. on standard basis rates, leaving wages at the minimum of 32 per cent. above the basis rates. Rates after change include: coke fillers, 6s. 2d. per shift; rammermen, 6s.; trammers, winchmen and coke screeners, 5s. 9d.; pugmillmen and labourers, 5s. 4d., plus, in each case, 32 per cent.
	Lancashire† ...	1st full pay in Feb.		Decrease† of 7½ per cent. on standard basis rates, leaving wages at the minimum of 32 per cent. above the basis rates. Rates after change include: coke loaders, 5s. 10d. per shift; tar plant men, 5s. 7d.; crude benzol men, 5s. 4d.; labourers, pugmillmen and breeze men, 4s. 9d.; plus, in each case, 32 per cent.
Iron Mining	North Lincolnshire	5 Feb.	Ironstone miners and quarrymen...	Decrease† of 6½ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 18½ per cent. above the standard, plus 1s. 1d. per shift. Additional bonuses paid to lower-paid day-wage men increased by amounts varying from 1d. to 6d. per shift, making bonus for those on base rates of 3s. 8d. to 3s. 11½d., 1s. per shift; 4s. to 4s. 1½d., 11d. per shift; 4s. 2d. to 4s. 3½d., 9d. per shift; 4s. 4d. to 4s. 5½d., 7d. per shift; 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8½d., 6d. per shift; 4s. 9d. to 4s. 10½d., 3d. per shift; 4s. 11d. and 5s., 1d. per shift. Minimum rate after change for general labourers, 3s. 8d. per shift, plus 18½ per cent., plus 1s. 1d. per shift, plus bonus of 1s. per shift.
Quarrying	North-East Lancashire.	1 Feb.	Freestone and sandstone quarrymen	Decrease of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: quarrymen, getters and dressers, 1s. 6½d. per hour; sawyers, blacksmiths, cranemen and machinemen, 1s. 4½d.; labourers, 1s. 1½d.
	Box and Corsham (Wiltshire).	1 Feb.	Stone masons, sawyers and labourers employed in saw mills and stone yards.	Decrease of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: stone masons, 1s. 4d. per hour; sawyers, 1s. 1½d.; labourers, 1s.
	Portland ... ..	1 Feb.	Banker masons, mason machinists, etc., employed in saw mills and stone yards.	Decrease of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: banker masons and mason machinists, 1s. 7½d. per hour; carpenters, 1s. 5½d.; skilled labourers, 1s. 4d.; unskilled labourers, 1s. 3d.
	South Wales ...	1 Feb.	Masons and quarrymen employed in pennant stone quarries.	Decrease of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: masons, 1s. 7½d. per hour; quarrymen, 1s. 6½d.
Chemical Manufacture.	England and Wales (except London).	1 Feb.	Building trade artisans ... ..	Decrease of ½d. per hour.‡
	London ... ..	1 Feb.	Plumbers ... ..	Decrease of ½d. per hour (1s. 11½d. to 1s. 11d.).
	Glasgow and District	1 Feb.	Plumbers ... ..	Decrease of ½d. per hour. Rate after change: 1s. 7½d., plus special allowance of ½d. per hour.

\* The particulars of numbers affected and amount of change in weekly wages exclude changes affecting Government employees, agricultural labourers, shop assistants and clerks, for which classes the information available is not sufficient to form a basis for statistics. Where information is available however, details of changes in the current rate of wages of these classes 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.

† Under selling-price sliding-scale arrangements.

‡ The employers concerned are members of the Lancashire Branch of the National Association of Coke and By-Product Plant Owners.

§ By an agreement dated 27th October, 1922, between the Chemical Employers' Federation and the Trade Unions concerned, the rates of wages were to be 1d. per hour below those paid in the building trade. It is understood, however, that in the case of plumbers in certain districts (including Manchester and of all classes of building trade artisans in the Cardiff and Swansea districts, the same rate is paid as in the building trade.



## PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING FEBRUARY, 1928 (continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Glass Working	Leeds, Bradford, Sheffield, Huddersfield and York.	1 Feb.	Decorative glassworkers ...	Decrease of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour. Standard rate after change, 1s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.
	Lancaster ...	1 Feb.	Lead glaziers ...	Decrease of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour (1s. 8d. to 1s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.).
Pig Iron Manufacture.	West Cumberland and North Lancashire.	2nd full pay in Feb.	Workpeople (excluding skilled craftsmen and bricklayers on maintenance work, and also labourers) employed at blast-furnaces.	Decreases in bonuses* of amounts varying according to base rate from 1s. 3d. to 3s. 5d. per week, leaving total amount of bonuses from 2s. 1s. 1d. to 5s. 2s. 5d. per week.
	North Lincolnshire and certain firms in the Leeds District.	5 Feb.	Blastfurnacemen ...	Decrease† of 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. above the standard, plus 1s. 1d. per shift. Additional bonuses paid to lower-paid day-wagmen increased by amount varying from 1d. to 6d. per shift, making bonuses and labourers' rate as shown for ironstone miners on page 101.
	North Lincolnshire...	5 Feb.	Engineers, electricians, apprentices, improvers, etc., employed on maintenance work at blast-furnaces and in steel works.	Decrease† of 4 per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 21 per cent. above the standard, plus a tonnage bonus.
	Midlands and part of South Yorkshire and South Lancashire.	6 Feb.	Workpeople employed at iron-puddling furnaces and in iron and steel rolling mills and forges (excluding men on base rates up to 5s. 10d. per shift).†	Decrease† of 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on standard rates, leaving wages 32 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. above the standard.†
	England§ and West of Scotland.	5 Feb.	Men employed in steel-melting shops:— Melters, pitmen, slagmen, ladlemen, furnace helpers, etc., and gas producers and charge wheelers (excluding adult workers in receipt of base rates from 3s. 10d. to 7s. per shift).	Increase† of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the standard of 1905, making wages 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. (basic process) and 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. (acid process) above the standard.
			Semi-skilled workers and labourers on 8-hour shifts (excluding adult workers in receipt of base rates from 3s. 10d. to 7s. per shift).	Increase† of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. above the standard.
			Semi-skilled workers and labourers whose wages are based on a 47-hour week (excluding adult workers in receipt of base rates from 3s. 10d. to 7s. per shift)  ; also youths and boys under 21 years of age.	Increase† of $\frac{1}{12}$ of the total advance in wages given between August, 1914, and 30th April, 1921, leaving a total net decrease since 1st May, 1921, of $\frac{1}{12}$ of such advance.
	North of England ...	5 Feb.	Semi-skilled workers, labourers, etc., employed at puddling furnaces and in rolling mills, whose wages are based on a 47-hour week (excluding those in receipt of base rates from 3s. 10d. to 6s. per shift)  ; also youths and boys under 21 years of age.	Increase† of $\frac{1}{12}$ of the total advance in wages given between August, 1914, and 30th April, 1921, leaving a total net decrease since 1st May, 1921, of $\frac{1}{12}$ of such advance.
	North-East Coast Area (except certain men employed at West Hartlepool and Gateshead).	5 Feb.	Men employed on direct production in steel-rolling mills (excluding those in receipt of base rates from 3s. 10d. to 7s. per shift).	Increase† of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. above the standard.
	Workington ...	5 Feb.	Steel millmen (excluding men on base rates below 7s. per shift). Workpeople employed in steel works:— Rail millmen (excluding those on base rates below 7s. per shift). Enginemmen, cranemen, etc., (excluding those on base rates below 7s. per shift).	Increase† of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on standard rates. Increase† of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. above the standard. Increase† of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. above the standard.
Iron and Steel Manufacture.	Barrow-in-Furness	5 Feb.	Wire and hoop millmen ...	Decrease† of 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for workpeople with base rates over 5s. 10d. per shift, leaving their wages 32 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. above basis.
	Scunthorpe ...	5 Feb.	Steel millmen, wagon builders and repairers, etc. (excluding men in receipt of base rates from 3s. 10d. to 7s. per shift).	Increase† of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. above the standard.
	South-West Wales ...	5 Feb.	Workpeople (excluding maintenance men) employed in Siemens steel manufacture.	Sliding-scale percentage on base rates reduced† from 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 5. Bonuses paid to men on base rates up to 30s. per week increased from 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 45 for adults, leaving total wages for such workers as previously, viz., 30s. per week, plus 50 per cent.; <i>ex gratia</i> bonus granted to boys under 18 years to remain at 5 per cent., making wages 10 per cent. above base, plus 3d. per shift; bonuses paid to men rated over 30s. and up to 50s. to remain as previously (6d. per shift for those at 30s. 1d. to 40s., and 4d. per shift for those at 40s. 1d. to 50s.), subject to the proviso that men on base rates from 30s. 1d. to 40s. 11d. are to have their bonus made up so that they receive the same gross earnings (viz., 45s.) as men with a base rate of 30s.†
	West of Scotland ...	5 Feb.	Men employed in steel rolling mills:— Millmen, gas producers, enginemmen, cranemen, firemen and mill labourers (excluding adult workers in receipt of base rates of from 3s. 10d. to 7s. per shift).	Increase† of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. above the standard.
			Semi-skilled workers and general labourers (excluding adult workers in receipt of base rates from 3s. 10d. to 7s. per shift), and youths and boys under 21 years of age.	Increase† of $\frac{1}{12}$ of the total advance in wages given between August, 1914, and 30th April, 1921, leaving a total net decrease, since 1st May, 1921, of $\frac{1}{12}$ of such advance.
Electrical Cable Manufacture.	Greater London Area	2nd pay day in Feb.	Plumber-jointers and plumber-jointers' mates employed in the electrical cable-making industry.	Increase of 0.25d. per hour for plumber-jointers and of 0.2d. per hour for plumber-jointers' mates. Rates after change: plumber-jointers, 1s. 9.75d. per hour; plumber-jointers' mates, 1s. 5.4d.

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

† Under selling-price sliding-scale arrangements.

‡ 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 base earnings from 2d. to 10d. per day for dayworkers and from 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 11d. per shift for shiftworkers. It was further agreed that, as from December, 1927, the percentage addition to base rates for such workers should not fall below 40 where base rate was 4s. 6d. or under, or 37 $\frac{1}{2}$  where base rate was over 4s. 6d.

§ Principally the North-East Coast, Cumberland, Lancashire, South and West Yorkshire, Lincolnshire and the Midlands.

|| The men on 8-hour shifts referred to are those who do not receive allowance hours and/or extra payment for night shift during the normal week. The men whose wages are based on a 47-hour week are mainly men employed in engineering shops or working with craftsmen who receive the allowances or extra payments mentioned.

¶ Men in receipt of base rates of 50s. 1d. to 51s. 11d. per week (i.e., those who do not receive a bonus) are to receive a make-up sufficient to bring their gross earnings up to those with a base rate of 50s. per week.



## PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING FEBRUARY, 1928 (continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which Change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Wool-comb, hackle, etc., Manufacture.	Bradford, Leeds, Halifax, Keighley and District. West Riding of Yorkshire.	Pay day in week ending 4 Feb.* 1 Feb.	Wool-comb, hackle and gill makers (fallermen, circle repairers and finishers in shops). Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, and labourers employed in the woollen and worsted and other textile industries. Pinsetters employed in spinning and combing mills.	Decrease of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour. Rates after change: fallermen, 1s. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour; circle repairers and finishers, 1s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Decrease of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour. Rates after change at principal towns: tradesmen, 1s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; labourers, 1s. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.
Woollen and Worsted, etc.	West Riding of Yorkshire.	Pay day in week ending 4 Feb.*		Decrease of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour (1s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 1s. 6d.).
Calico Printing, etc.	Great Britain and Northern Ireland.	Pay preceding 1st pay day in March.	Machine calico printers ... ..	Supplementary cost-of-living wage reduced† from 48·30 to 46·20 per cent. on basis wages, the flat rate bonuses of 19s. per week for journeymen and 13s. per week for apprentices remaining unchanged.
	Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, Scotland and Belfast.	10 Feb.	Engravers employed in engraving works.	Cost-of-living wage for men 21 and over increased from 27s. 5d. to 30s. 5d. per week.
Silk Dyeing and Finishing.	Macclesfield ... ..	Pay day in week ending 11 Feb.	Male workers 21 years and over ...	Increase† of 3d. per week. Rates after change: 43s. 3d. at 21 increasing to 49s. 3d. at 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ years.
Felt Hat Manufacture.	Atherstone and Bedworth.	Week ending 25 Feb.	Female workers 18 years and over Male pieceworkers ... ..	Increase† of 2d. per week (28s. 1d. to 28s. 3d.). Bonus of 30 per cent. on piece price lists reduced† to 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.
Boot and Shoe Manufacture.	London ... ..	1 Feb.	Workpeople, formerly outworkers, employed in the sew-round and Louis XV heel-making branches. Bakers and confectioners ... ..	Decrease of 10 per cent. on the Sew-round and Louis XV Heel Piece Price Lists.† Decrease† of 1s. 3d. per week. Rate after change for tablehands, 59s. 9d.
Baking and Confectionery.	Bristol ... .. Bath ... ..	1st pay day in Feb. 1st pay day in Feb.	Bakers and confectioners ... ..	Decrease† of 1s. 3d. per week. Rate after change for tablehands, 59s.
Mill-Sawing	Manchester, Salford and District, and Ashton-under-Lyne. Preston and District	1 Feb. 1 Feb.	Woodcutting machinists and sawyers	Decrease of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour (1s. 8d. to 1s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.). Decrease of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour (1s. 8d. to 1s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.).
Packing Case Making.	Manchester, Salford, and Bolton.	1 Feb.	Woodcutting machinists and sawyers employed in packing case shops.	Decrease of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour (1s. 8d. to 1s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.).
Furniture Manufacture.	Lancaster ... ..	1 Feb.	Cabinet makers, joiners, carvers, machinists, french polishers and upholsterers.	Decrease of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour (1s. 8d. to 1s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.).
	Rochdale ... ..	1 Feb.	Cabinet makers, french polishers and upholsterers.	Decrease of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour (1s. 8d. to 1s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.).
	Wakefield ... ..	1 Feb.	Cabinet makers, machinists, french polishers and upholsterers.	Decrease of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour (1s. 8d. to 1s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.).
	Warrington ... ..	1 Feb.	Cabinet makers, french polishers and upholsterers.	Decrease of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour (1s. 8d. to 1s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.).
	Leicester ... ..	1 Feb.	Cabinet makers, french polishers and upholsterers.	Decrease of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour (1s. 8d. to 1s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.).
	Stoke-on-Trent, Hanley and Newcastle-under-Lyme Districts.	1 Feb.	Cabinet makers, french polishers and upholsterers.	Decrease of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour (1s. 8d. to 1s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.).
	Peterborough ... ..	1 Feb.	Cabinet makers, carvers, machinists, upholsterers, and french polishers.	Decrease of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour. Rates after change: carvers, 1s. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. others, 1s. 6d.
	Reading ... ..	1 Feb.	Cabinet makers, carvers, french polishers and upholsterers.	Decrease of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour. Rates after change: carvers, 1s. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. others, 1s. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.
	Edinburgh ... ..	1 Feb.	Cabinet makers, carvers, machinists, upholsterers, and french polishers (male workers). Female polishers and sewers ...	Decrease of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour. Rates after change: cabinet makers and machinists, 1s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., upholsterers and french polishers, 1s. 7d. Decrease of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour (9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.).
	London District (within a 15-mile radius of Charing Cross).	1 Feb.‡	Bricklayers, stone and marble masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists and sawyers, slaters and tilers, plumbers, painters, scaffolders, timbermen, labourers, engine and crane drivers, etc.	Decrease† of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour. Rates after change: within a 12-mile radius of Charing Cross—masons (fixers), 1s. 10d.; painters, 1s. 8d.; bricklayers, masons (banker hands), carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, slaters and tilers, and plumbers, 1s. 9d.; marble polishers, 1s. 7d.; scaffolders and timbermen, 1s. 5d.; labourers, 1s. 4d.; derrick drivers, 1s. 8d., plus height money; travelling crane and overhead traveller drivers, and loco. drivers, 1s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; portable and stationary engine drivers, winch and pump drivers, 1s. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; boiler attendants and derrick signalmen, 1s. 4d.; fitters and blacksmiths, 1s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; rope runners, 1s. 5d.: 12 to 15 miles from Charing Cross— $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour less.
Building	Various other towns in Great Britain (excluding Liverpool and Birkenhead).	1 Feb.§	Building trade operatives§ ... ..	Decrease† of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour. Rates after change (agreed upon by the National Joint Council for the Building Industry) for craftsmen (except painters in certain districts) and labourers respectively: Grade A towns, 1s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1s. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; A1, 1s. 7d., 1s. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; A2, 1s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1s. 2d.; A3, 1s. 6d., 1s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; B, 1s. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; B1, 1s. 5d., 1s. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; B2, 1s. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1s. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; B3, 1s. 4d., 1s.; C, 1s. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; C1, 1s. 3d., 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.‡
Electrical Installation.	England and Wales and Northern Ireland.¶	Pay preceding 2nd pay day in Feb.	Men employed by electrical contractors.	Increase† of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on rates paid in April, 1921, leaving wages 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. below these rates. Net hourly rates after change for qualified men: Grade A districts, 1s. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; Grade B, 1s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; Grade C, 1s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; Grade D, 1s. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.¶

\* The decrease was made in respect of the pay preceding the date mentioned.

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

‡ The above reduction, which applies to outworkers brought into indoor-workshops provided by manufacturers, is in accordance with an arbitrator's awards issued on 15th December, 1926, and 12th March, 1927, following a previous award dated 16th March, 1926, which made provision for the abolition of the outworking system (subject to certain exceptions) after a date to be fixed later.

§ The change took effect under an agreement arrived at by the National Joint Council for the Building Industry, the reduction being subject to a general provision that the rate for labourers should, in all districts, remain at not less than 75 per cent. of that paid to craftsmen. In the case of painters employed by members of the National Federation of Master Painters and Decorators of England and Wales (which is not affiliated to the National Joint Council) the decrease is reported to have operated from 4th February. The reduction did not apply to bricklayers in the Glasgow and West of Scotland district, nor to plasterers and painters in Scotland. In certain districts in England where separate agreements have been made at various dates since 1925 between local branches of the National Association of Master Plasterers and the National Association of Plasterers, Granolithic and Cement Workers or arrived at by the National Joint Council for the Plastering Industry (none of which bodies is affiliated to the National Joint Council for the Building Industry, which was not a party to the agreements) it is understood that the rates of wages thus fixed remain unaltered, within the limits of operation of such agreements. It is hoped to publish a list of the principal towns to which the various rates apply in the April issue of the GAZETTE.

¶ The change took effect under an agreement made between the National Federated Electrical Association and the Electrical Trades Union. The increase was equivalent to  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour for Grade B and  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour for Grades A, C and D. The districts included in the various grades are as follows:—Grade A.—London district (within a 12-mile radius of Charing Cross) and Watford.  
Grade B.—Mersey district (including Liverpool, Birkenhead, and Wallasey), Chester, Shotton, and Wrexham, Southport, Manchester district (including Ashton, Atherton, Bolton, Bury, Dukinfield, Hyde, Leigh, Northwich, Oldham, Preston, Rochdale, Stockport, Warrington, and Wigan), South Wales and Monmouthshire (including Bargoed, Barry, Cardiff, Chepstow, Llanelli, Newport, Penarth and Swansea), Tyneside, Hartlepool, Sunderland, Stockton, Darlington, Middlesbrough, West Riding of Yorkshire districts (including Barnsley, Batley, Bradford, Castleford, Dewsbury, Doncaster, Halifax, Harrogate, Ilkley, Keighley, Leeds, Morley, Normanton, Pontefract, Selby, Shipley, Wakefield and York), Sheffield district, Hull, Birmingham, Coventry, Wolverhampton, and Bristol.

Grade C.—Bath, Bournemouth, Brighton, Cambridge, Carlisle, Chatham, Crayford, Dartford, Devonport, Faversham, Gravesend, Hove, Luton, Maidstone, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Rochester, Sheerness, Sittingbourne, Southampton, Belfast, Londonderry, towns and districts (other than those already specified) in the Counties of Northumberland, Durham, Yorkshire, Lancashire, Cheshire, Lincolnshire, Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex and Hertfordshire (outside London Area), Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, Derbyshire, Northamptonshire, Staffordshire, Surrey and Middlesex (outside London Area), Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Berkshire, and Oxfordshire.

Grade D.—Other towns and counties in England and Wales.



## PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED DURING FEBRUARY, 1928 (continued).

Industry.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Classes of Workpeople.	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
Civil Engineering.	Great Britain* ...	1st pay day after 17 Feb.	Men employed by civil engineering contractors.	Decrease† of ½d. per hour. Rates after change for navvies and labourers: County of London, 1s. 3d.; Class I districts, 1s. 2½d.; Class II, 1s. 1½d.; Class III, 1s. 0½d.; Class IV, 11½d.; Class V, 10½d.*
Shop-fitting, etc.	London (within a 15-mile radius of Charing Cross).	1 Feb.	Brass and metal mechanics employed in the shop-fitting industry. French polishers employed in the building and shop-fitting industries.	Decrease of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: skilled men, 1s. 8½d.; semi-skilled, 1s. 6½d.; assistants, 1s. 4d. Decrease of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: within a 12-mile radius of Charing Cross, 1s. 8½d.; from 12 to 15 miles radius 1s. 8d.
Asphalting, etc.	Manchester, Salford and District.	1 Feb.	Concretors, asphalters, etc. ...	Decrease of ½d. per hour (1s. 8d. to 1s. 7½d.).
Glazing, etc.	Manchester, Salford and District.	1 Feb.	Decorative glassworkers and lead-light cementers.	Decrease of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: decorative glassworkers, 1s. 7½d.; lead-light cementers, 1s. 2½d.
	Edinburgh and Glasgow.	1 Feb.	Glaziers ... ..	Decrease of ½d. per hour (1s. 8d. to 1s. 7½d.).
Gas, Water and Electricity Supply Undertakings.	Certain Waterworks Undertakings in the Lancashire and Cheshire Area.†	9 Feb.	Adult male manual workers ...	Increase of 1d. per hour.† Rates after change for labourers: industrial areas, 1s. 1½d.; rural areas and small urban districts, 1s. per hour.
	Dundee ... ..	1 Feb.	Certain classes of manual workers employed in gas, waterworks and electricity undertakings.	Decrease of ½d. per hour. Rates after change:—Gas: labourers, 1s. 2½d.; stokers, 11s. 9d. per shift; Waterworks: labourers, 1s. 2½d. and 1s. 3½d.; pipe layers, 1s. 4½d. to 1s. 7½d.; Electricity: outdoor labourers, 1s. 2½d.
Road Transport Industry.	Nottingham ...	1st pay day after 30th Jan.	Men employed as night loaders or night garage hands.	Addition of 4s. per week granted above minimum standard rate, or a proportionate sum for any period less than a week.§
Local Government Services Non-Trading), etc.	Hartlepool and Thornaby-on-Tees.	1 Feb.	Manual workers ... ..	Increase† of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: Hartlepool—general labourers, 1s. 2d.; roadmen, 1s. 4d.; refuse collectors, 1s. 3d.; street sweepers, 1s. 1½d. Thornaby—labourers and refuse collectors, 1s. 2½d.; scavengers, 1s. 0½d. per hour.
	Hull ... ..	11 Jan.	Certain classes of lower-paid manual workers employed in non-trading and water departments.	Increase† of 1s. per week.   Rates after change: refuse collectors, 53s. 11d.; carters, 53s. per week.
	Huddersfield ...	1 Feb.	Manual workers employed in Highways, Sewage Works and Water Departments.	Decrease of ½d. per hour. Rate after change: road and general labourers and waterworks labourers, 1s. 2½d.
	York ... ..	2 Feb.	Manual workers ... ..	Increase† of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: labourers, carters, refuse collectors, 1s. 2½d.; day scavengers, 1s. 2½d. Payment in excess of the ordinary day rate reduced from 2½d. to 2d. per hour.¶
	Certain Authorities in the West Riding of Yorkshire.	1st full pay in Feb.	Men employed continuously on night work.	Decrease of 1s. per week for sweepers and of ½d. per hour for other classes. Rates after change: general yard and road labourers, 1s. 2½d. per hour; sweepers, 40s. 6d. to 46s. 6d. per week; refuse collectors, 9s. 8d. per day; waterworks labourers, 1s. 2½d.
	Blackburn ... ..	1 Feb.	Manual workers (excluding carters) employed in non-trading and water departments.	Decrease of ½d. per hour.
	Certain Authorities in Lancashire and Cheshire.**	1 Feb.	Paviors, masons, yard and road labourers, and certain other classes (apart from building trade operatives) employed in non-trading departments whose wages are regulated by wages movements in the building trade.	Decrease of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: road and general labourers, scavengers, refuse collectors and carters 1s. 0½d., road paviors and masons, 1s. 4½d.
	Cambridge ... ..	3 Feb.	Manual workers ... ..	Decrease of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: paviors and masons, 1s. 6½d.; road and general labourers and waterworks labourers, 1s. 2d.; pipelayers, 1s. 3d.
	Exeter ... ..	1 Feb.	Labourers, paviors and masons employed in non-trading departments, and labourers, pipe layers, etc. employed in waterworks department.	Decrease of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: paviors and masons, 1s. 5½d., yard and road labourers, 1s. 1½d.
	Portsmouth... ..	1 Feb.	Paviors and masons, yard and road labourers, etc.	Decrease of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: paviors, 1s. 4½d., masons, 1s. 7½d., yard and road labourers, 1s. 2½d.
	Plymouth ... ..	1 Feb.	Paviors and masons and yard and road labourers.	Decrease of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: paviors and masons, 1s. 7½d.; road and general labourers, 1s. 2½d.
	Dundee ... ..	1 Feb.	Manual workers employed in Works Department.	Basic salaries and bonus consolidated at the amount payable in correspondence with a cost-of-living figure of 65.
Mental Hospital Services.	England and Wales	1 Feb.	Indoor staffs employed in mental hospitals.	

\* The change took effect under an agreement arrived at by the Civil Engineering Construction Conciliation Board. It is understood that the rates of wages agreed by the Board are followed by certain public bodies in various parts of the country. The Classes in which districts are placed are determined by economic and geographical conditions. The Board have agreed that the Class I rate should apply to the following towns:—Newcastle-on-Tyne, North and South Shields, Hartlepool, Sunderland, Middlesbrough, Sheffield, Huddersfield, Leeds, Bradford, Hull, Manchester, Oldham, Liverpool, Birkenhead, Blackburn, Rochdale, Bolton, Burnley, Barrow-in-Furness, Stockport, Birmingham, Smethwick, West Bromwich, Coventry, Leicester, Nottingham, Derby, Stoke-on-Trent, Wolverhampton, Acton, Croydon, Tottenham, East Ham, Willesden, Wimbledon, Cardiff, Swansea, Newport (Mon.), Merthyr Tydfil, and Bristol.

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

‡ This increase is the result of a special Agreement of the District Joint Industrial Council for the Waterworks Industry. The undertakings affected are those which follow the wages Agreements of the Council and include:—Ashton-in-Makerfield, Ashton-under-Lyne, Stalybridge and Dukinfield (District) Joint Committee, Barrow-in-Furness, Birkenhead, Bolton, Bury and District Joint Water Board, Darwen, Heywood and Middleton Water Board, Lancaster, Liverpool (made change from 30th January), Manchester, Nelson, Oldham, Preston, Rochdale, St. Helens, Salford, Stockport, Warrington, West Cheshire Water Board, Bacup, Fylde Water Board.

§ This addition was granted under a resolution of the North Midland Road Transport Joint Board.

|| No increase was made in the case of men whose wages at 30th June, 1927, were between 52s. and 53s. per week inclusive; these men (including labourers and scavengers) did not sustain the reductions up to 2s. per week which applied to other classes in July, 1927.

¶ This decrease was provided for in the Agreement made in August, 1927, by the Provincial Joint Industrial Council for Non-Trading Services. A previous decrease of ½d. per hour arranged under the same agreement took effect from the first full pay in August, 1927. (See page 355 of September GAZETTE.)

\*\* Including Accrington (1s. 2½d.), Ashton-under-Lyne (1s. 2½d.), Bolton (1s. 2½d.), Burnley (1s. 2½d.), Bury (1s. 2½d.), Darwen, Eccles (1s. 2½d.), Heywood (1s. 2½d.), Hyde (1s. 2½d.), Leigh (1s. 2½d.), Macclesfield, Middleton (1s. 2½d. from 23rd February), Oldham (1s. 2½d.), Preston (1s. 2½d.), Rawtenstall (1s. 1½d.), Rochdale (1s. 2½d.), Salford (1s. 2½d.), Stalybridge (1s. 0½d. to 1s. 2d.), Warrington, Wigan (1s. 2½d.), Atherton (1s. 2½d.), Chadderton (1s. 2½d.), Failsworth (1s. 2½d.), Hindley, Ince-in-Makerfield, Prestwich, Radcliffe, Ramsbottom (1s. 2½d.), Swinton-and-Pendlebury (1s. 2½d.), Tyldesley-with-Shakerley (1s. 2½d.). At towns printed in italics the reduction did not apply to yard labourers. The figures in brackets after other towns indicate the new rate, where known, for yard labourers.

## CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN MARCH, 1928.

The following groups of workpeople are among those affected by changes in rates of wages already reported as having been arranged to take effect in March: all the changes mentioned involve reductions.—Coal miners in Northumberland and Durham; electrical cable makers; agricultural labourers in Glamorganshire (under Agricultural Wages Regulation Act, 1924). Particulars of these, and of other changes taking effect in March, will be published in the April issue of the GAZETTE.



## TRADE DISPUTES IN FEBRUARY.\*

**Number, Magnitude and Duration.**—The number of trade disputes involving a stoppage of work, reported to the Department as beginning in February in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was as compared with 31 in the previous month and 15 in February, 1927. The total number of workpeople involved in these disputes, including those thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes, was approximately 12,000. In addition, about 1,200 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 13 disputes which began before February and were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The number of new and old disputes was thus 46, involving about 13,200 workpeople and resulting in a loss during February of about 107,000 working days.

**Causes.**—Of the 33 disputes beginning in February, 13, directly involving 1,200 workpeople, arose out of proposed reductions in wages; 9, directly involving 900 workpeople, on other wages questions; 6, directly involving 1,500 workpeople, on questions affecting the employment of particular classes or persons; 3, directly involving 6,100 workpeople, in sympathy with workpeople involved in other disputes; and 2, directly involving 2,000 workpeople, on other questions.

**Results.**—Settlements were effected in the case of 22 new disputes, directly involving 10,500 workpeople, and 4 old disputes, directly involving 700 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 2 directly involving 100 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople;

16, directly involving 4,700 workpeople, in favour of the employers; and 8, directly involving 6,400 workpeople, were compromised. In the case of 2 disputes, directly involving 500 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

The following Table analyses the disputes in progress in February in Great Britain and Northern Ireland by groups of industries and indicates the number of workpeople involved at the establishments concerned and the approximate time lost during the month in all disputes in progress:—

Groups of Industries.	Number of Disputes in progress in 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.		
Mining and Quarrying...	6	12	18	10,900	82,000
Building, Public Works	1	10	11	1,000	14,000
Contracting, etc. ...	6	11	17	1,300	11,000
Other Industries ...					
<b>Total, Feb., 1928 ...</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>13,200</b>	<b>107,000</b>
<b>Total, Jan., 1928 ...</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>
<b>Total, Feb., 1927 ...</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>5,700</b>	<b>65,000</b>

## PRINCIPAL DISPUTES INVOLVING STOPPAGES OF WORK DURING FEBRUARY, 1928.

Occupations and Locality.†	Approximate Number of Workpeople Involved.		Date when Dispute		Cause or Object.†	Result.†	
	Directly.	Indirectly.†	Began.	Ended.			
AL MINING INDUSTRY :—							
Colliery workpeople.	Glasgow (near)	1,812	10 Feb.	1928. 22 Feb.	In sympathy with workpeople at a colliery in Stirlingshire who were involved in a wages dispute. Refusal of coal producers and putters to give individual undertakings to refrain from restriction of output. In sympathy with workpeople involved in above dispute.	Work resumed.	
	South Shields	1,978	...	13 Feb.		23 Feb.	Employers accepted undertaking given by Trade Union representatives on behalf of their members.
		3,662	...	13 Feb.		18 Feb.	
ASS INDUSTRY :—							
Glass bottle blowers, makers and other workpeople—London.		164	93	13 Feb.	...	Against proposed reduction in wages of 10 per cent.	No settlement reported.
UILDING, PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTING, ETC. :—							
Plasterers and labourers—Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dundee, Greenock, and other centres in Scotland.		500	100	1-6 Feb.	20 Feb.	Against proposed reduction in wages of ½d. per hour, workpeople alleging that due notice had not been given.	Wages to remain unchanged till 1st May, pending negotiations. (See also page 110.)

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

## PRICES AND WAGES IN THE IRON AND STEEL TRADES.

The following Table shows the results of recent ascertainties of selling prices of pig iron and manufactured iron and steel:—

Product and District.	Price according to last Audit.*		Inc. (+) or Dec. (−) of last Audit* on	
	Period covered by last Audit.	Average selling price per ton.	Previous Audit.	A year ago.
<b>Pig Iron:</b>				
Cleveland (No. 3) ...	1927. Oct.-Dec.	s. d. 64 7	— 2 7½	— 39 9
Cumberland ...	Sept.-Oct.	74 11½	— 1 11½	— 10 0½
(Hematite mixed numbers.)	Nov.-Dec.	73 11½	— 1 0	— 2 10½
Lincolnshire ...	July-Sept.	65 4½	— 6 1½	— 7 0½
	Oct.-Dec.	60 1½	— 5 3	— 13 7½
Nottinghamshire ...	July-Sept.	67 2½	— 3 9½	— 6 6
	Oct.-Dec.	65 3½	— 1 11½	— 10 1½
North Staffordshire	Oct.-Dec.	67 1½	— 1 11½	— 31 7½
Northamptonshire...	Oct.-Dec.	58 5½	— 3 6½	— 17 10
West of Scotland ...	Oct.-Dec.	74 1	— 3 2	— 17 10
<b>Manufactured Iron:</b>				
North of England... (Bars and angles.)	Sept.-Oct.	203 0½	— 6 5½	— 36 9
	Nov.-Dec.	195 9	— 7 3½	— 23 0
West of Scotland ... (Rounds, flats, tees, angles, hoops, and bars.)	Sept.-Oct.	223 3	— 1 7½	— 16 5
	Nov.-Dec.	216 2½	— 7 0½	— 19 6½
<b>Steel:</b>				
South-West Wales... (Steel tin bars.)	Oct.-Dec.	111 0½	— 2 0	— 20 11½
South Wales and Monmouthshire. (Steel rails and steel tin bars.)	Sept.-Nov.	143 1	+ 5 8½	+ 4 9½

The prices quoted in the Table form the basis of adjustments in rates of wages in the various districts under sliding-scale agreements. The reductions in prices shown in the Table resulted in one, or, in some cases, two reductions in the rates of wages of blastfurnace workers in Cleveland, Cumberland and North Lancashire, North Lincolnshire, North Staffordshire, and the West of Scotland, iron ore mines in the Furness district, ironstone mines in North Lincolnshire, iron puddlers and millmen in the North of England, iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen in West Scotland, and Siemens steel workers in South-West Wales. In the case of Cumberland blastfurnace workers, the reduction applied only to output bonus earnings. Particulars of these changes have been published in the Tables relating to changes in rates of wages in the issues of this GAZETTE since December last. In certain cases, reductions in wages warranted by the selling prices were not enforced. These included blastfurnace workers in Nottinghamshire, North Staffordshire (datal workers), and Northamptonshire, and ironstone miners or quarrymen in Leicestershire and Northamptonshire. At blastfurnaces in West Scotland, and Siemens steel works in South-West Wales the reductions applied only to the higher-paid workers, the wages of the lower-paid men remaining unchanged. The September-November ascertainment for South Wales and Monmouthshire warranted an increase in wages, but this did not operate owing to the fact that a reduction due under the ascertainment for December, 1926-February, 1927, had been waived.

\* Stated to the nearest farthing.

† No ascertainment was made for the period October-December 1926.



## DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.

THE total number of cases\* of poisoning, anthrax, and epitheliomatous and chrome ulceration in Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported during February, 1928, under the Factory and Workshop Act, or under the Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Act, 1926, was 68. Seventeen deaths\* were reported during the month, nine due to epitheliomatous ulceration, seven due to lead poisoning, and one due to anthrax. In addition, one case of lead poisoning among house plumbers came to the knowledge of the Home Office during February, but notification of these cases is not obligatory.

## (a) CASES OF LEAD POISONING.

Among Operatives engaged in—	
Smelting of Metals ...	7
Plumbing and Soldering ...	1
Shipbreaking ...	3
Printing ...	1
Tinning of Metals ...	1
Other Contact with Molten Lead ...	...
White and Red Lead Works ...	2
Pottery ...	...
Vitreous Enamelling ...	...
Electric Accumulator Works ...	4
Paint and Colour Works ...	1
Indiarubber Works ...	...
Coach and Car Painting ...	4
Shipbuilding ...	...
Paint used in Other Industries ...	...
Other Industries ...	...
Painting of Buildings ...	8
TOTAL OF ABOVE ...	32

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

Aniline Poisoning ...	4
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## (c) CASES OF ANTHRAX.

Wool ...	...
Handling of Horsehair ...	...
Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins ...	2
Other industries ...	1
TOTAL, ANTHRAX ...	3

## (d) CASES OF EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION.

Pitch ...	1
Tar ...	4
Paraffin ...	...
Oil ...	13
TOTAL, EPITHELIOMATOUS ULCERATION ...	18

## (e) CASES OF CHROME ULCERATION.

Manufacture of Bichromates ...	...
Dyeing and Finishing ...	3
Chrome Tanning ...	...
Other Industries ...	8
TOTAL, CHROME ULCERATION ...	11

## FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

THE number of workpeople, other than seamen, in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, reported during February, 1928, as killed in the course of their employment, was 213, as compared with 250 in the previous month and with 206 in February, 1927. Fatal accidents to seamen reported in February numbered 85, as compared with 59 in the previous month and with 40 in February, 1927.

## RAILWAY SERVICE.

Brakemen and Goods Guards ...	2
Engine Drivers and Motor-men ...	3
Firemen ...	2
Guards (Passenger) ...	...
Permanent Way Men ...	10
Porters ...	3
Shunters ...	1
Mechanics ...	3
Labourers ...	1
Miscellaneous ...	6
Contractors' Servants ...	1
TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE ...	32

## MINES.

Underground ...	85
Surface ...	5
TOTAL, MINES ...	90

## QUARRIES OVER 20 feet deep

...	7
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## FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Cotton ...	...
Wool, Worsted and Shoddy ...	4
Other Textiles ...	...
Textile Bleaching and Dyeing ...	3
Metal Extracting and Refining ...	...
Metal Conversion, including Rolling Mills and Tube Making ...	12
Metal Founding ...	...
Engineering and Machine Making ...	9
Boiler Making and Constructional Engineering ...	3
Locomotives, Railway and Tramway Carriages, Motors, Aircraft ...	2

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

Docks, Wharves, etc. ...	6
Buildings ...	6
Warehouses and Railway Sidings ...	2
TOTAL, FACTORY ACTS ...	82

## Construction or Repair of Tramway ...

Use or Working of Tramway ...	1
TOTAL (excluding Seamen) ...	213

## SEAMEN.

Trading Vessels, Sailing ...	4
" " Steam ...	58
Fishing Vessels, Sailing ...	...
" " Steam ...	23
TOTAL, SEAMEN ...	85

## Total (including Seamen) ...

...	298
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\* 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.

## 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 February, 1928, in the poor-law areas in the thirty-one selected urban areas named below was 767,560, or 1.3 per cent. less than in the previous month and 9.6 per cent. less than in February, 1927. The number relieved at these three dates were equivalent, respectively, to rates of 430, 435 and 475 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

Selected Urban Areas.†	Number of persons* in receipt of Poor Law Relief on one day† in February, 1928.				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.						
Metropolis.						
West District ...	9,499	7,083	16,582	199	– 3	– 12
North District ...	10,988	17,944	28,932	281	– 5	– 42
Central District ...	2,417	2,604	5,021	374	+	– 23
East District ...	10,163	59,619	69,782	1,070	– 2	– 171
South District ...	19,779	71,763	91,542	466	...	– 63
TOTAL Metropolis ...	52,846	159,013	211,859	459	– 2	– 63
West Ham ...	4,559	26,780	31,339	414	– 11	– 217
Other Districts.						
Newcastle District	2,896	26,336	29,232	576	– 21	– 77
Stockton and Tees District ...	1,468	14,142	15,610	565	– 18	– 112
Bolton, Oldham, etc. ...	4,304	8,031	12,335	158	– 2	– 17
Wigan District ...	1,863	15,013	16,876	372	+	– 50
Manchester District	9,929	32,588	42,517	406	– 16	– 79
Liverpool District	10,146	65,092	75,238	593	...	– 20
Bradford District ...	1,822	6,593	8,420	228	– 9	– 17
Halifax and Huddersfield ...	1,570	3,367	4,937	132	+	– 4
Leeds ...	2,892	10,752	13,644	286	– 3	– 3
Barnsley District ...	992	10,677	11,669	347	+	– 10
Sheffield ...	2,600	23,371	25,971	504	– 8	– 104
Hull District ...	1,834	16,007	17,841	557	– 3	– 41
North Staffordshire	2,503	8,972	11,475	276	...	– 36
Nottingham District	2,253	12,522	14,775	314	– 5	– 4
Leicester ...	1,214	4,093	5,307	220	– 2	– 5
Wolverhampton District ...	3,646	15,574	19,220	255	– 5	– 20
Birmingham ...	7,677	18,153	25,830	276	– 5	– 46
Bristol District ...	2,584	14,158	16,742	405	– 15	– 46
Cardiff and Swansea	2,655	19,229	21,884	453	– 16	– 17
TOTAL, "Other Districts"	64,848	324,675	389,523	373	– 6	– 22
TOTAL, Districts in England and Wales ...	122,253	510,468	632,721	400	– 5	– 44
SCOTLAND.						
Glasgow District ...	6,296	77,795	84,091	875	– 10	– 97
Paisley and Greenock District ...	845	12,752	13,597	704	– 33	– 134
Edinburgh ...	1,773	18,512	20,285	478	– 6	– 1
Dundee and Dunfermline ...	910	4,735	5,645	262	– 1	– 6
Aberdeen ...	536	4,797	5,333	338	– 1	– 13
Coatbridge & Airdrie	375	5,513	5,888	579	– 2	– 13
TOTAL for the above Scottish Districts ...	10,735	124,104	134,839	657	– 9	– 58
TOTAL for above 31 Districts in Feb., 1928	132,988	634,572	767,560	430	– 5	– 45

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

THE number of assisted passages from Great Britain and Northern Ireland granted during February, 1928, 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 Feb., 1928.	Total Assisted Passages Granted.		Departures in Feb., 1928.	Total Departures	
		1922 to 1927.	Jan.–Feb., 1928.		1922 to 1927.	Jan.–Feb., 1928.
To Australia ...	2,026	140,953	3,878	1,994	137,503	4,306
" New Zealand ...	177	40,777	408	236	38,855	474
" Canada ...	3,001	66,754	4,334	258	67,620	468
" South Africa ...	6	761	27	9	433	15
Minor Schemes ...	41	8,141	103	4	7,383	18
Total ...	5,251	257,386	8,750	2,501	251,794	5,281

The figures are provisional and subject to revision; they 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 25th February, and those for Scotland to 15th February.

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



## RETAIL PRICES OVERSEAS.

N.B.—While the percentages given in the following Summary 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 period 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, 1924.	July, 1925.	July, 1926.	July, 1927.	Rise.	Date.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	62	67	61	59	55	1928. 1 Mar.
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.						
Czechoslovakia ...	137	816	776	862	813	Dec. '27
Denmark ...	100	110	59	53	52	Jan.
Egypt (Cairo)†	48	58	58	47	47	Dec. '27
Finland ...	916	1,007	967	965	997	Jan.
France (Paris)†	260	321	474	457	422	Feb.
" (other towns)†	300§	351§	510§	453§	426	Nov. '27
Germany ...	...	54	45	57	51	Feb.
Holland (The Hague)	67	76	68	72	70	Jan.
Italy (Milan) ...	408	502	554	424	413	Dec. '27
" (Rome) ...	369	427	498	425	400	Jan.
Norway ...	148	160	98	75	70	Feb.
Spain (Madrid)†	82	90	86	89	125	Nov. '27
" (Barcelona)†	72	82	63	64	69	Nov. '27
Sweden†	59	69	56	51	53	Feb.
Switzerland ...	70	69	59	57	59	Jan.
United States ...	40	56	54	50	52	Jan.
BRITISH DOMINIONS, & C.						
Australia ...	49†	56	59	52	53	Jan.
Canada ...	34†	42†	51†	49	50	Feb.
India (Bombay):						
Native families ...	51	52	55	54	46	Feb.
Irish Free State ...	85	88	74	66	75	Jan.
New Zealand ...	48	51	49	44	46	Jan.
South Africa ...	17	20	16	19	19	Jan.

## 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, 1924.	July, 1925.	July, 1926.	July, 1927.	Rise.	Date.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	A, B, C, D, E	70	73	70	66	64	1928. 1 Mar.
FOREIGN COUNTRIES.							
Belgium ...	A, O, D, E	393	409	537	690	711	Feb.
Czechoslovakia (Prague) ...	A, B, C, D, E	589	641	618	647	634	Dec. '27
Denmark ...	A, B, C, D, E	114	119	84	76	76	Jan.
Finland ...	A, B, C, D, E	1,032	1,094	1,018	1,081	1,098	Jan.
France (Paris)	A, B, C, D, E	267¶	301¶	439¶	407¶	398	4th qr. '27
Germany ...	A, B, C, D, E	...	43	42	50	51	Feb.
Greece (Athens)	A, B, C, D, E	1,225	1,372	1,708	...	1,886	Jan.
Holland (Amsterdam) ...	A, B, C, D, E	73†	79†	71†	67†	70	Dec. '27
Italy (Milan)	A, B, C, D, E	412	498	549	448	431	Dec. '27
" (Rome)	A, B, C, D, E	349	395	462	406	378	Jan.
Luxembourg ...	A, O, D	381	415	509	681	700	Jan.
Norway ...	A, B, C, D, E	151†	161†	121†	103	94	Feb.
Poland (Warsaw)	A, B, C, D, E	...	...	...	15	18	Feb.
Sweden ...	A, B, C, D, E	71	76	72	69	71	Jan.
Switzerland ...	A, B, C, D	...	68	62	60	61	Jan.
United States	A, B, C, D, E	69†	74†	75†	73†	72	Dec. '27
BRITISH DOMINIONS, & C.							
Australia ...	A, B, C, D, E	42¶	44¶	47¶	45¶	45	3rd qr.
Canada ...	A, B, C, D, E	53†	55†	57†	55†	56	Feb.
India (Bombay):							
Native families	A, B, C, D	57	57	57	56	48	Feb.
Irish Free State	A, B, C, D, E	83	88	82	71	77	Jan.
New Zealand...	A, B, C, D, E	60§	63§	61	61	62	Jan.
South Africa...	A, B, C, D, E	32	33	30	32	32	Jan.

\* Exceptions to this are: France (other towns), August, 1914; The Hague, January to July, 1914; Rome and Milan, January to June, 1914; Switzerland and Luxembourg, June, 1914; Spain, South Africa, France (Paris, all items), Greece, average, 1914; Germany, average, 1913-1914; Amsterdam, 1911-1913; all Belgium, April, 1914; United States (all items), Canada, 1913, Australia (all items), November, 1914; Poland, January, 1914. (Note: Polish index numbers have been re-calculated on the basis of the new parity of the zloty).  
† 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. ¶ Figure for 3rd Quarter.

## 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. 87-88 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).]

## GERMANY.\*

Reichsarbeitsblatt states that, after the sudden and unusually heavy increase in the number of applicants at the employment exchanges during the last six or seven weeks of 1927, the seasonal decline in the demand for labour came practically to an end by the middle of January. Owing to the mildness of the weather in January, it was possible to some extent to resume outdoor work in the building trades, agriculture and public undertakings, which had been suspended during the December frost. Up to the end of the month, the effect of this resumption upon the demand for labour in outdoor occupations was not very marked. The total of workers (both skilled and unskilled) in the building industry who had reported themselves at the exchanges as unemployed declined by some 36,000 only, as compared with the total for the end of December, while in the quarrying, brick and tile, stone, pottery, etc., industry and in agriculture the applicants for work and the number of unemployed in receipt of benefit continued to show a slight increase. In the majority of industries which are not dependent upon the weather there was a more or less heavy increase in the number of applicants for employment.

On 31st January, 1928, the Employment Exchanges making returns reported 2,006,386 persons on the "live register," as against 1,926,012 on 31st December, 1927, and 2,536,309 on 31st January 1927. The number of vacant situations registered at the Exchanges on 31st January was 56,616, as compared with 38,850 on 31st December, 1927, and 32,825 on 31st January, 1927.

The number of persons in receipt of benefit in respect of total unemployment on 31st January, 1928, was 1,547,944 (including 214,829 entitled to emergency unemployment benefit). On 31st December, 1927, the corresponding total was 1,399,746 (including 211,472 entitled to emergency benefit).

Returns relating to 4,135,072 organised workers were received from national trade unions. Of these 464,454, or 11.2 per cent., were totally unemployed on 28th January, 1928, as compared with 12.9 per cent. on 31st December, 1927, and 16.5 per cent. on 29th January, 1927. In addition 146,516, or 3.5 per cent., were working short time, as against 3.1 per cent. on 31st December, and 6.6 per cent. at the end of January, 1927.

The following Table gives particulars of total unemployment among the principal groups of trades represented in the above totals:—

Groups of Trades.	Membership reported on at end of January, 1928.	Percentage unemployed at end of Month.	
		January, 1928.	December, 1927.
All Unions making Returns ...	4,135,072	11.2	12.9
Mining ...	161,700	2.3	2.3
Quarrying, stone, brick, pottery, etc. ...	225,300	14.3	17.6
Engineering and metal ...	896,500	5.5	5.1
Chemical ...	108,800	6.8	8.3
Textile ...	385,400	3.2	2.7
Paper ...	113,800	5.1	5.3
Leather ...	151,700	10.3	10.1
Wood ...	299,200	11.7	10.4
Food, tobacco, etc. ...	269,200	7.4	8.1
Clothing ...	90,600	17.4	18.3
Building ...	596,600	37.6	49.0
Printing ...	141,400	3.8	3.5
Transport ...	323,000	5.6	5.5

Employers' returns were received in January from 3,683 establishments in various industries. On the 15th of the month 29 per cent. of the aggregate workpeople covered by the returns were employed in establishments reporting good employment (as compared with 32 per cent. in the previous month and 21 per cent. in January, 1927) and 21 per cent. in those reporting bad employment (as against 17 per cent. in the previous month and 39 per cent. in January, 1927).

## AUSTRIA.

According to the issue of *Statistische Nachrichten* (the journal of the Austrian Department of Statistics) for 25th February, 1928, the total number of applicants for work registered at the Employment Exchanges at the end of January, 1928, was 260,018, including 103,786 in Vienna. The number of persons in receipt of unemployment benefit at the end of January was 230,755, as compared with 207,100 at the end of December, 1927. In Vienna alone there were 89,247 persons in receipt of benefit at the end of January, as against 84,086 at the end of December.

\* Reichsarbeitsblatt, 20th February, 1928. Berlin.



## FRANCE.\*

The total number of unemployed persons remaining on the "live register" of the Exchanges on 25th February, 1928, was 28,942 (21,309 men and 7,633 women). At the end of January the corresponding total was 32,849. The total number of vacancies remaining unfilled on 25th February was 6,849 (3,034 men and 3,815 women), as compared with 5,802 at the end of January. During the last week of February the Exchanges succeeded in placing 22,185 persons in situations, including 7,702 dock workers at seaports, and in addition found employment for 258 foreign immigrants.

## BELGIUM.†

Provisional returns received by the Ministry of Industry and Labour from 153 approved unemployment insurance societies, with a total membership of 618,906, show that 13,589 (2·2 per cent.) of these were totally unemployed at the end of January, 1928. The corresponding percentage at the end of the preceding month was 3·6, and in January, 1927, 2·6. In addition 33,059 members (5·3 per cent.) were employed intermittently during the month. The total days lost through unemployment in January numbered 642,046, or 3·46 per cent. of the aggregate possible working days; in the preceding month the percentage was 4·00 and in January, 1927, 3·43.

## HOLLAND.‡

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 305,318 members of subsidised unemployment funds making returns for the week ended 31st December, 1927, 50,491 (16·5 per cent.) were unemployed during the whole week and 8,541 (2·8 per cent.) for less than six days. In the corresponding week of the preceding month (ended 26th November) the percentages were respectively 8·7 and 1·9.

## SWITZERLAND.§

On 31st January, 1928, 14,212 applications for employment (14·7 per thousand of the employed population according to the Census of 1920) were registered at employment exchanges, as compared with 13,701 at the end of the preceding month and 19,370 at the end of January, 1927. These variations are mainly seasonal in character, and, owing to the favourable weather, the number of unemployed showed a smaller increase than is usual in January. The totals for the building and watch and clock industries were smaller than at the end of December, 1927; in other groups they were greater.

Offers of situations at the dates mentioned above numbered 2,422, 1,824 and 1,655 respectively.

Returns from 152 unemployment insurance funds show that, out of an aggregate of 248,588 members, 11,306, or 4·5 per cent., were totally unemployed, and 4,231, or 1·7 per cent., partially so, at the end of December, 1927. On 30th September, 1927, the corresponding percentages (based on returns from 149 funds with 247,147 members) were 1·7 and 1·5 respectively.

## DENMARK.||

Returns supplied to the Danish Statistical Department by trade unions and by the Central Employment Exchange show that 30·3 per cent. of the 274,283 workpeople covered by the statistics were unemployed at the end of January, as against 30·5 per cent. at the end of the preceding month and 31·6 per cent. at the end of January, 1926.

## SWEDEN.¶

The percentage of members of trade unions making returns who were unemployed on 31st January, 1928, was 14·2, as compared with 18·6 on 31st December, 1927, and 16·1 on 31st January, 1927.

## UNITED STATES.\*\*

Figures relating to the volume of employment in January, based on returns from 10,772 establishments in 54 of the chief manufacturing industries, are published by the Federal Bureau of Labour Statistics. These establishments reported 2,907,700 persons employed in January, 1928, a decrease of 1·1 per cent. as compared with the total for December, 1927. The aggregate wages paid for January show a decrease of 3·9 per cent., as compared with December, and the average earnings per head a decrease of 2·9 per cent. Marked increases in employment occurred in the motor car (8·6 per cent.) and motor car tyre industries (5·4 per cent.), whilst seasonal increases of considerable size were shown in the fertiliser, boot and shoe, agricultural implement, chewing tobacco, clothing and leather industries. Outstanding decreases in employment were shown in the carriage and waggon (19·8 per cent.), stove, piano, confectionery, cigar (9·3 per cent.), brick, sugar refining, stamped ware, cement, glass, paper box and furniture (4·4 per cent.) industries.

As compared with January, 1927, there was a decrease of 5·8 per cent. in the numbers employed and one of 5·6 per cent. in the aggregate wages paid. The most notable increases in employment were in the manufacture of motor cars (9·4 per cent.), rubber boots, agricultural implements and motor car tyres, while marked decreases in employment were shown in the shipbuilding, piano, petroleum refining, stove, cast-iron pipe, foundry and machine shop, and brick industries.

\* *Bulletin du Marché du Travail*, 2nd March, 1928. Paris.

† *Revue du Travail*, 29th February, 1928. Brussels.

‡ *Maandschrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek*, 31st January, 1928. The Hague.

§ *Rapports économiques et Statistique sociale*, February, 1928. Berne.

¶ *Statistiske Efterretninger*, 21st February, 1928. Copenhagen.

\*\* Information supplied by the Swedish Department for Social Affairs, Stockholm.

\*\* *Employment in Selected Manufacturing Industries*, February, 1928. Washington.

*Index Number of Employment, January.*—If the monthly average index number of employment in manufacturing industries in 1913 be taken as 100, the corresponding figure for January, 1928, is 84·4 as against 85·1 in December, 1927, and 89·4 in January, 1927.

## CANADA.

There was an increase in employment at the beginning of January although the situation was still affected by seasonal slackness in out-of-door industries. For 1st February, 1928, returns were received by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from 6,223 firms, with an aggregate of 839,604 on their pay rolls.

On 1st January, 1928, the same firms reported 827,711 employees and the total for the 1st February thus shows an increase of 11,893. If employment in the week ended 17th January, 1928, be represented by 100, the index number of employment for 1st February, 1928, is 100·8, as compared with 99·5 at the beginning of the preceding month, and 95·4 on 1st February, 1927.\*

On 31st January, 1928, 6·8 per cent. of the aggregate membership of trade unions making returns were unemployed, as compared with 6·6 per cent. at the end of December, 1927 and 6·4 per cent. at the end of January, 1927.†

## SOVIET RUSSIA.‡

The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics has three sources of statistics of unemployment: (1) the numbers of unemployed persons remaining, on the first day of the month, on the live register of the Employment Exchanges, of which there are at present 281; (2) the numbers of trade unionists registered by their trade unions as unemployed; (3) the numbers of persons in receipt of unemployment benefit. None of these sources furnishes, in itself, a complete measure of the extent of unemployment in the U.S.S.R. According to Russian official accounts, the main defects of the figures referred to are as follows:—

(1) Not all the unemployed register at the Employment Exchanges; it appears from the available figures that less than one-half of the unemployed trade unionists register;

(2) Not all trade unionists registered by their unions as unemployed are actually unemployed in the sense that they are genuinely seeking work;

(3) The numbers of persons in receipt of unemployment benefit represent a comparatively small proportion of the total number of unemployed registered either by the Employment Exchanges or by the trade unions.

In August, September and October, 1927, there were 1,037,900, 1,025,300 and 1,041,200 unemployed persons, registered at the 281 Employment Exchanges on the first day of the month, as compared with 1,023,700, 1,070,700 and 1,087,900 registered on the corresponding dates in 1926. The numbers of persons in receipt of unemployment benefit on the same dates in 1927 were 413,500, 390,800 and 375,700, respectively. The number of unemployed trade unionists in October, 1926, the latest known, was 1,218,000, or 12·5 per cent. of the total membership. Of these, 522,900 were registered at the Employment Exchanges. In October, 1926, therefore, there were, altogether, 1,783,000 persons registered as unemployed by the Employment Exchanges and the trade unions.

## LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

## Workmen's Compensation Act, 1925.

DEFIANCE OF COLLIERY REGULATIONS—FATAL ACCIDENT—WORK IN CONNECTION WITH EMPLOYER'S BUSINESS—WIDOW'S RIGHT TO RECOVER COMPENSATION.

THE appellant, Mrs. Margaret Jane Stokoe, appealed from the award of the Hexham County Court judge in favour of the Mickley Coal Company, Limited, of Newcastle. Her husband, William Stokoe, who had been employed as a stone man by the respondent company, was killed by an explosion on 2nd March, 1927. The appellant claimed compensation on behalf of herself and her three children in respect of the death of her husband.

It was stated that William Stokoe was at the time of the accident using a drill on a charge which had not exploded, and by so doing was contravening the regulations. It was pointed out by counsel for the appellant that the question at issue was whether, in acting as he did, the deceased workman had deprived himself of the protection afforded by the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1925, and whether he could be said to have been engaged in the business of the employer. Counsel submitted that the County Court judge was wrong in deciding that what the man did did not appertain to the employer's business, but was done merely for his own convenience.

Giving judgment in favour of the appellant, the Master of the Rolls said that mere defiance of regulations did not disentitle the workman to compensation if he was doing something in connection with his employer's business.

The appeal was allowed with costs.—*Court of Appeal*. 17th January, 1928.

## TRADE DISPUTE—REFUSAL OF WORK DURING STOPPAGE.

The applicant, Isaac Randall, a miner, applied for the review of an award against the Stockingford Colliery Company in respect of an injury received prior to the stoppage which took place in the coal mining industry during 1926.

On 15th October, 1923, the applicant had sustained an injury to his right eye, in consequence of which it had to be removed.

\* *The February Employment Situation*, 1928. Ottawa.

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

‡ *Statisticheskoe Obozrenie*, the monthly organ of the Central Statistical Department of the U.S.S.R., and *Statistika Truda*, a monthly publication of the All-Russian Central Council of Trade Unions. Moscow, various dates.



July, 1924, the respondents agreed to pay compensation at a certain rate and to find him work on the surface. Since 24th March, 1926, the applicant had received compensation at the rate of 2s. 6d. weekly, and he now sought an increase, on the ground that the respondent company had failed to find work for him, and that owing to his incapacity he was not able to get work in the open labour market.

The applicant alleged that, on asking the respondent company for work after the stoppage had come to an end, he was told that there was no work for him. The secretary to the respondent company, giving evidence, stated that numbers of their workmen were employed throughout the whole period of the coal stoppage, and that actually the colliery was never closed. If the applicant had not joined the pickers he would still have been at work.

On behalf of the respondent company it was argued that a workman who voluntarily ceased work was not entitled to compensation.

Giving judgment in favour of the respondent company his Honour said that it should be recognised once and for all by persons engaged in the mining industry that the stoppage of 1926 was a strike and not a lockout, and that work had been available for them. There had been employment open to the applicant and it rested with him to take it.

Judgment accordingly.—*Nuneaton County Court*. 10th February, 1928.

#### REVIEW OF AWARD—PARTIAL INCAPACITY—RIGHT OF REFUSAL OF WORK—SUBSTANTIAL ADDITIONAL RISK.

The Darlington Wire Mills, Limited, made an application for the termination of an award of compensation to the respondent, Arthur Hewer, at the rate of 10s. a week for partial incapacity.

The respondent, a wire-drawer, was employed as a piece worker by the applicants. In November, 1925, owing to the breaking of a wire at high tension, he sustained an injury to his left eye, which had subsequently to be removed. Until June, 1926, he received full compensation; but this was reduced by an award to 10s. a week on 18th August, 1926, and the respondent returned to work as a piece worker at the wire mills.

The applicants wished him to take up again the work on which he had formerly been employed and at which, as a piece worker, he could earn £5 5s. a week. The respondent, however, refused to take up wire drawing again, chiefly on the ground that he was afraid to risk the loss of his other eye by doing piece work, which he considered was more dangerous than time work.

In the course of his judgment his Honour said that he was satisfied that the man's refusal to undertake the proffered work because of the additional risk was genuine, and inspired by his fear of losing his other eye. He (the judge) found that for a man with only one eye there was a considerable additional risk in the piece work, though he felt that a more venturesome man who undertook the risk might in all probability do the work without sustaining injury. It might be that the respondent felt that he would not be doing his duty to himself and his family if he exposed himself to such serious risk as that of total blindness. It was because of the risk alone that he would give judgment in favour of the respondent.—*Darlington County Court*. 1st February, 1928.

#### Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.

##### STARTING HOURS OF JUVENILES IN FACTORY—OFFENCE AGAINST THE STATUTE.

A master baker was charged with having employed on 19th November, 1927, in his baking factory, a young lad at or about 3.30 a.m., contrary to the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.

An inspector of factories, for the prosecution, stated that the boy in question was 17 years old, and that an inspector who visited the factory before 5 a.m. discovered that he had been working there from 4.30 a.m. The effect of this was that a boy was being employed instead of a journeyman, and this was unfair to competing employers.

For the defence it was urged that, although the boy had started work too early, he was only kept in the factory for the proper number of hours, and there was no question of his being overworked.

The Sheriff imposed a penalty of 25s.—*Aberdeen Sheriff Court*. 26th January, 1928.

#### Other Recent Decisions of Interest.

##### CHECKWEIGHMAN—IRREGULAR APPOINTMENT—RECOVERY OF FEES.

The plaintiff, a checkweighman, sued the defendant, a stallman, for payment of his contribution towards the checkweighman's salary.

For the plaintiff, it was contended that, even though his appointment was irregular in the first instance, the defendant, by having made certain payments to the checkweigh fund, had ratified the appointment.

For the defence it was submitted that the plaintiff could not legally recover fees, because his appointment was invalid and the statute had not been complied with.

Giving judgment, his Honour said that he could not accept the plaintiff's argument, and held that he was not in a legal position to enforce payment while his appointment was irregular. In his view, the plaintiff would have failed even if he had attempted to base his case on an implied contract.

Judgment for the defendant with costs.—*Alfreton County Court*. 20th February, 1928.

## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTS, 1920-27.

### 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. 166/28. (2/2/28.) Section 8(2) of Principal Act—Misconduct.

HEWER ("PICKER-IN") DECLINED TO OBEY AN ORDER TO TIP DIRT—WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN REQUIRED TO TIP MORE THAN ONE TUB A DAY—CONSIDERED WORK OUTSIDE CONTRACT OF SERVICE AND RATE OF PAY INSUFFICIENT—OTHERS OF APPLICANT'S GRADE HAD CUSTOMARILY DONE SUCH WORK.

On 2nd December, 1927, the applicant, a picker-in, was instructed to empty dirt underground at the rate of sixpence a tub. He declined to do the work, because he did not consider that it was within his contract of service, nor that the rate of pay was sufficient. In consequence, he was dismissed without notice when he presented himself for work on 5th December. He made a claim for unemployment benefit, and the claim was disallowed for six weeks on the ground that he had lost employment through his misconduct.

The employers stated that the applicant would have been required to tip not more than one tub a day. The empty tub could then have been used in connection with his main occupation of getting and loading coal. His earnings were relatively increased by the number of extra tubs available for loading the coal. Tipping dirt had been carried on for some years in the workings, and other miners of the applicant's grade had done the work, and had considered it of advantage to them.

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

The applicant's association appealed to the Umpire against the disallowance; the Deputy Umpire gave the following decision:—

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

"The applicant was dismissed for refusing to obey an order to tip dirt underground. Usually this would not be work which falls within the contract of employment of a picker-in, but in the pit where the applicant was employed it was recognised, at least during times of slackness of trade, as being work which men of that grade could be asked to perform, and the other pickers-in did it, and regarded it as advantageous to them. In the circumstances, I infer that the applicant could rightly be called upon to perform the work, so that in refusing to do it he was disobeying a lawful order of the employers."

"The applicant also objected to the rate of pay offered. There are decisions which show that an applicant is not justified in leaving his employment until he has exhausted all the remedies available to adjust his alleged grievances, and one of the first remedies is negotiations with his employers. The evidence in this case indicates that there was little or no opportunity for negotiation before the applicant was dismissed."

"The view I take of the case is that the applicant was wrong in refusing to obey the order, but that he had an honest belief that the work he was asked to do did not fall within his contract of employment and that, therefore, he was entitled to refuse to do it, although others in a like grade were prepared to accept it. In these circumstances the period of disqualification may be reduced."

#### Case No. 199/28. (9/2/28.) Section 8(2) of Principal Act—Employment left Voluntarily.

MINER LEFT EMPLOYMENT WHEN TRANSFERRED FROM DAY SHIFT TO BACK SHIFT—WAS PARISH COUNCILLOR AND ALLEGED HOURS OF BACK SHIFT INTERFERED WITH DISCHARGE OF PUBLIC DUTIES.

The applicant, a miner, left his employment on 16th September, 1927, because he was transferred from the day shift to the back shift. He made a claim for unemployment benefit on the following day, and the claim was disallowed on the ground that he had left his employment voluntarily without just cause.

The workman, who was a parish councillor, stated that when he commenced work at the pit on 12th September, he had an understanding with the contractor with whom he was engaged that he was to work on the day shift. Several days later he left the employment when his employer sought to transfer him to the back shift, the hours of which would have precluded him from attending to his public duties.

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

The applicant's association appealed to the Umpire against the disallowance, and the Deputy Umpire gave the following decision:—

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

\* Volumes containing selected decisions of the Umpire are published annually by H.M. Stationery Office, the latest being a volume of selected decisions given during the year 1926 (price 7s. 6d. net). Selected decisions are also issued monthly in pamphlet form, and may be obtained, as and when issued, on payment of an annual subscription; the latest monthly pamphlet issued is that for January, 1928. Applications should be made to H.M. Stationery Office at any of the addresses shown on the front cover of this GAZETTE.



"I agree with the recommendation of the Court of Referees, which is in accordance with the principles of previous decisions (e.g., Decisions 1016\* and 1431† of 1911, 2364/20,‡ 4354/20§).

"The fact that an applicant wishes to discharge voluntary public duties which he has undertaken does not render an employment unsuitable within the meaning of the Unemployment Insurance Acts; and the Unemployment Fund is not designed to enable him to discharge those duties when he might otherwise be in employment.

"As the applicant had undertaken public duties at a time when he was working on early shifts, and may have expected to continue so working, he had some excuse for leaving his employment when he was required to go on a later shift, which interfered with the discharge of the duties he had undertaken. In these circumstances the period of disqualification may be reduced."

#### Case No. 221/28. (13/2/28.) Section 8(2) of Principal Act—Employment left voluntarily.

YOUNG MARRIED WOMAN LEFT EMPLOYMENT TO LIVE WITH HUSBAND IN ANOTHER TOWN WHERE HE HAD OBTAINED WORK.

On 22nd October, 1927, the applicant, a young married woman, who had been employed for five years as a telephonist, left her employment to reside in another town where her husband had obtained work. She made a claim for unemployment benefit, but the claim was disallowed on the ground that she had left her employment voluntarily without just cause.

The Court of Referees upheld the disallowance, but the Insurance Officer revised his previous decision and referred the case to the Umpire.

The Deputy Umpire gave the following decision:—

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

"Excepting in special circumstances it has generally been recognised that married women are entitled to refuse employment which involves living away from their homes. The exceptions have been cases in which the husband has been out of work, and might as well move to the neighbourhood where his wife can get work (4702/20).|| The same principle must usually apply in considering whether a wife has just cause for leaving employment. In the present case the husband had obtained employment at a considerable distance from his former home, and I am not prepared to say that his wife had not just cause for leaving her employment in order to be able to live with him."

#### REFERENCE TO THE HIGH COURT.

Pursuant to paragraph 6 of the Unemployment Insurance (Determination of Questions) Regulations, 1920, the Minister of Labour hereby gives notice of his intention to refer to the High Court for decision the following question that has arisen in applications made to him for his decision under Section 10 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, namely, whether the employment of persons in the following circumstances is, or is not, employment within the meaning of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920:—

Employment as a domestic servant by the proprietor and for the purposes of a hostel for students attending a High School for girls which is primarily a day school. Pupils and students, however, attending the High School may be received in recognised boarding houses or hostels, the proprietors of which comply with certain regulations of the school authorities. The proprietor of such a boarding house or hostel is financially independent of the school, and may or may not be a member of the teaching staff of the school.

Under the Rules of the Supreme Court (Order LV.B., Rule 28), any person who claims to be affected by the decisions to be given in the above mentioned cases may apply to the Judge for leave to intervene.

The cases have been set down in the High Court and will be heard in the near future.

In the event of any persons desiring to intervene, all the necessary information and documents can be obtained by applying to the Solicitor to the Ministry of Labour, 6, Richmond Terrace, Whitehall, London, S.W. 1.

#### SPECIAL SCHEME FOR THE BANKING INDUSTRY: PROPOSED AMENDMENT.

##### Notice of Proposal to make a Special Order varying and amending the Special Scheme of Unemployment Insurance for the Banking Industry.

THE Minister of Labour hereby gives notice that he proposes, by virtue of the powers conferred upon him by Section 18 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, to make a Special Order further varying and amending the Unemployment Insurance (Banking Industry Special Scheme) Order, 1924.

Copies of the draft Special Order may be obtained on application in writing to the Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Labour, Employ-

\* See Vol. III (1911), Umpire's Selected Decisions, page 17.

† See Vol. III (1911), Umpire's Selected Decisions, page 262.

‡ See Vol. II, Umpire's Selected Decisions (Pamphlet No. 4).

§ See Vol. II, Umpire's Selected Decisions (Pamphlet No. 19).

|| See Vol. II, Umpire's Selected Decisions (Pamphlet No. 23).

ment and Insurance Department, Montagu House, Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

Objections to the draft Special Order must be sent to the above address within 21 days from the 6th March, 1928. Every objection must be in writing, and must state—

- (a) the draft Order or portions of the draft Order objected to;
- (b) the specific grounds of objection;
- (c) the omissions, additions, or modifications asked for.

Given under the Official Seal of the Ministry of Labour, 5th day of March, 1928.

H. J. WILSON,  
Secretary of the Ministry of Labour.

#### SPECIAL SCHEME FOR THE INSURANCE INDUSTRY: PROPOSED AMENDMENT.

##### Notice of Proposal to make a Special Order varying and amending the Special Scheme of Unemployment Insurance for the Insurance Industry.

THE Minister of Labour hereby gives notice that he proposes, by virtue of the powers conferred upon him by Section 18 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1920, to make a Special Order further varying and amending the Insurance Industry (Amended) Scheme, 1923.

Copies of the draft Special Order may be obtained on application in writing to the Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Labour, Employment and Insurance Department, Montagu House, Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

Objections to the draft Special Order must be sent to the above address within 21 days from the 13th March, 1928. Every objection must be in writing, and must state—

- (a) the draft Order or portions of the draft Order objected to;
- (b) the specific grounds of objection;
- (c) the omissions, additions, or modifications asked for.

Given under the Official Seal of the Ministry of Labour, 9th day of March, 1928.

H. J. WILSON,  
Secretary of the Ministry of Labour.

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

##### Recent Proceedings.

##### (A.)—INDUSTRIAL COURT DECISIONS.

RAILWAY SHOPMEN.—Holder-up, Carriage and Wagon Repair Depot, Birkenhead—National Union of Railwaymen v. Great Western Railway. *Difference.*—Grading under Award No. 728. *Decision.*—Present grading of claimant not inconsistent with the provisions of Award No. 728. Award issued 6th February, 1928 (1356.)

EX-THIRD CLASS CLERKS, GENERAL POST OFFICE.—Association of Executive Officers and other Civil Servants v. General Post Office. *Difference.*—Assimilation terms—Claims as to reserved maxima. *Decision* of President of the Court, acting with the full powers of an Umpire. In place of reserved maxima, the following amounts to be substituted:—

	£
Secretary's Office (London) ... ..	320
Other London Offices ... ..	300
Edinburgh and Belfast ... ..	285
Provinces ... ..	270

"Post-war" Ex-Third Class Supplementary Clerks who still rank on the Clerical Class to be given the reserved maxima above awarded, under the provisions of Clause 7 (i) (a) of the Agreement of 7th September, 1921. Award to become operative on 1st January, 1928. (1357.)

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

[There were no cases under this heading during February.]

##### (C.)—OTHER SETTLEMENTS.

BUILDING TRADE: SCOTLAND.—Scottish Master Plasterers' Association v. Scottish National Operative Plasterers' Federal Union. *Difference.*—Strike of plasterers as a result of a disagreement with employers over a reduction of ½d. per hour in wages. *Settlement.*—Work resumed at rate of wages current before dispute, such rate to continue until 1st May, 1928. Scottish National Joint Committee to meet to consider rate of wages to be paid after that date. In the event of failure to agree, matter to be referred to Industrial Relations Department, Ministry of Labour, for conciliation, and, should no agreement then be reached, question to be referred to Industrial Court for a decision to be binding on both parties. Signed 20th February, 1928.



## TRADE BOARDS ACTS.

### Orders, Notices, etc., Recently Issued.

#### I.—CONFIRMING ORDERS.

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

Order W (20) and (21), dated 7th March, 1928, confirming the ratification of certain overtime rates for male and female workers, and specifying the 12th March, 1928, as the date from which such rates should become operative.

#### —NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MAKE A SPECIAL ORDER, TO BE CITED AS THE TRADE BOARDS (MILK DISTRIBUTIVE) ORDER, 1928.

Whereas the Minister of Labour (hereinafter referred to as "the Minister") has withdrawn the draft Special Order referred to in the Notice of Intention dated the 30th day of July, 1927:

And whereas the Minister intends to make a Special Order with a view to altering the description of the milk distributive trade contained in the Appendix to the Trade Boards (Milk Distributive) Order, 1920, as varied by the Trade Boards (Milk Distributive) Order, 1926:

Now therefore the Minister hereby gives notice that he intends, pursuant to the powers conferred on him by Section 2 of the Trade Boards Act, 1918, to make a Special Order varying the above Orders in the manner shown in the draft Special Order contained in the Appendix hereto.

Further copies of the draft Special Order may be obtained on application in writing to the Secretary, Ministry of Labour, Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

Objections to the draft Special Order must be sent so as to reach the Minister of Labour at the above address within 50 days from the 2nd day of March, 1928, that is to say, on or before the 21st day of April, 1928. Every objection must be in writing and must state (a) the specific grounds of objection, and (b) the omissions, additions or modifications asked for.

Given under the Official Seal of the Minister of Labour this 29th day of February, 1928.

T. W. PHILLIPS,

(L.S.) Deputy Secretary of the Ministry of Labour.

#### DRAFT SPECIAL ORDER.

##### TRADE BOARDS.

#### THE TRADE BOARDS (MILK DISTRIBUTIVE) ORDER, 1928.

Special Order dated ———, 1928, made by the Minister of Labour under Section 2 of the Trade Boards Act, 1918 (8 & 9 Geo. 5, c. 32), varying the Trade Boards (Milk Distributive) Orders 1920 and 1926.

Whereas the Minister of Labour (hereinafter referred to as the Minister) by a Special Order called the Trade Boards (Milk Distributive) Order, 1920, dated the 9th day of January, 1920, applied the Trade Boards Acts, 1909 and 1918, to the trade specified in the Appendix to the said Special Order:

And whereas the description of the trade in the said Appendix as altered by the Trade Boards (Milk Distributive) Order, 1926:

And whereas it is provided by Subsection 1 of Section 2 of the Trade Boards Act, 1918, that every Special Order may be varied or revoked by a subsequent Special Order:

And whereas the Minister is of opinion that it is desirable to vary the said Special Orders by altering the description of the trade therein specified:

Now, therefore, the Minister, by virtue of the powers conferred on him by the Trade Boards Acts, 1909 and 1918, and of any other powers enabling him in that behalf, hereby makes a Special Order varying the said Special Orders:—

(1) The description of the trade set out in the Appendix to this Order shall be substituted for that set out in the Appendix to the Trade Boards (Milk Distributive) Order, 1920, as altered by the Trade Boards (Milk Distributive) Order, 1926.

(2) This Order may be cited as the Trade Boards (Milk Distributive) Order, 1928.

Given under the Official Seal of the Minister of Labour this ——— day of ——— 1928.

Secretary of the Ministry of Labour.

#### APPENDIX.

##### Draft Definition of the Milk Distributive Trade.

1. Subject as hereinafter provided, the milk distributive trade shall consist of the following operations:—

- (i) the wholesale and retail sale of milk;
- (ii) the sale of other goods by workers mainly employed in the sale specified in paragraph 1 (i) hereof;
- (iii) all work incidental to the sale specified in paragraph 1 (i) hereof.

2. Work incidental to the sale specified in paragraph 1 (i) hereof shall include, *inter alia*:—

- (a) collecting, delivering, despatching;
- (b) pasteurising, sterilising, homogenising, humanising, cooling, separating, and all work performed in connection with any other processes in the preparation of milk;
- (c) blending, testing and sampling of milk;
- (d) cleaning of utensils, receptacles, vehicles, premises, plant, machinery;
- (e) stoking, attending to boiler, plant or machinery, fire lighting, portering of coal or other fuel;
- (f) horse keeping and harness cleaning;
- (g) portering, lift or hoist-operating, time-keeping, storing, stock-keeping, warehousing;
- (h) boxing, parcelling, labelling, weighing, measuring, checking, bottling, packing and unpacking;
- (i) clerical work or canvassing carried on in conjunction with the work specified in paragraph 1 hereof.

3. Notwithstanding any of the foregoing provisions, the milk distributive trade shall not include any of the following operations:—

- (a) the wholesale sale of milk (and operations incidental thereto) from an establishment at which milk products are manufactured and from which unseparated milk is not ordinarily sold as such;
- (b) the wholesale sale of milk direct from the farm where the milk was produced, and all operations incidental thereto;
- (c) the sale of milk in restaurants, shops or similar premises by waiters or shop assistants who are not mainly engaged upon such sale;
- (d) the transport of goods by common carriers;
- (e) carting and operations incidental thereto where the business carried on consists exclusively of such operations;
- (f) work done by or on behalf of the Post Office.

4. For the purpose of this Schedule the expression "milk" means milk other than dried or condensed milk.

#### (DRAFT) EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO ACCOMPANY THE ABOVE ORDER.

1. The following memorandum is issued for the guidance of all concerned in the application of the Trade Boards (Milk Distributive) Order, 1928; it must, however, be understood that an authoritative interpretation of the Trade Boards Acts and of Orders made thereunder can be given only in the Courts of Law. The Minister's responsibility is confined to securing compliance with the Trade Boards Acts in cases in which he is advised that the Acts have not been complied with.

2. *General.*—The Milk Distributive Order of 1928, which amends the Milk Distributive Orders of 1920 and 1926, makes no substantial change in the kind of establishment included within the scope of the milk distributive trade, but lays down a definition of that trade which is clearer than the definition contained in the earlier Orders. Experience has shown that the trade impinges on other trades or branches of trades which, though they were not intended to be covered by the original Order, were nevertheless not excluded with sufficient precision. In particular the words used in the first paragraph of the Order of 1920 have given rise to difficulties of interpretation.

3. *Inclusions.*—The first paragraph of the amending Order brings in without qualification all the wholesale and retail sale of milk, together with the sale of other goods by workers mainly employed upon the sale of milk (Section 1 (i) and (ii)). It also includes all work incidental to the sale of milk (Section 1 (iii)).

4. *Incidental Operations.*—Paragraph 2 enumerates the principal types of work which are incidental to the sales mentioned in paragraph 1 (i), and has the same general effect as the similar paragraph in the original Order.

5. *Clerical Work.*—The inclusion of clerical work and canvassing carried on in connection with the sale of milk is in the same terms as in the original Order, that is to say that it is included when carried on as incidental to and in conjunction with the sale of milk wholesale or retail (paragraph 2 (i)).

6. *Employees of Farmers.*—The Minister has been advised that the Trade Boards Acts do not apply to workers who are employed in agriculture, and consequently the minimum rates fixed by Trade Boards are not enforceable in respect of them. He is advised, however, that certain workers employed by farmers upon work connected with milk distribution are not employed in agriculture, but by reason of their status and occupation as milk workers are entitled to be paid the minimum rates of wages fixed by the Milk Distributive Trade Board.

As at present advised the Minister will confine his action in requiring farmers to pay Milk Distributive Trade Board rates to cases of workers who are employed in connection with the retail sale of milk and who fall within the following classes:—

- (1) workers who are employed exclusively upon one or more of the operations included in the Order defining the milk distributive trade (this work is described below as "milk work"). Examples of such workers are—



- (a) a worker employed exclusively on a milk round;  
 (b) a worker employed exclusively upon "milk work" in or about the dairy or on any other "milk work";  
 (c) a worker employed for part of his time on a milk round and for the rest of his time on other milk work;

(2) workers employed on milk work but who are also employed upon other work, so long as such other work does not form a substantial element of their employment. Examples of such workers are—

(a) a worker employed on milk work for 48 hours in the week and also employed on other work in additional hours;

(b) a worker employed, during the week, on milk work for all but a very small proportion of his time, and doing other work during that time.

7. *Exclusions.*—Paragraph 3 of the Amending Order indicate certain classes of work which are to be excluded.

(a) *Milk Product Factories.*—By paragraph 3 (a) the wholesale sale of milk is excluded from the amending Order, when carried on from establishments such as creameries or cheese factories, in which milk is ordinarily used as a material for manufacture and is not ordinarily sold as milk. The intention is to exclude the occasional wholesale sale of milk by creameries, etc., but to include such sale when carried out as a regular part of the business, e.g., during the whole or the greater part of the year.

(b) By paragraph 3 (b) the wholesale sale of milk direct from the farm where it is produced is excluded in all circumstances. Thus a worker who is employed exclusively upon the wholesale sale of milk is not covered by the amending Order.

(c) *Shops and Restaurants.*—By paragraph 3 (c) shop assistants, waiters, etc., are excluded if they are mainly engaged in shops, restaurants, or the like, in selling articles other than milk. But a person employed in the delivery of milk on a milk round (i.e., outside the shop) is included for such work, even though employed for a larger number of hours in the day as a shop assistant or waiter. Further, a shop assistant, who is employed mainly in the sale of milk, is, by virtue of Section 1 (ii) of the Order, included for all the time he acts as a shop assistant.

8. *Transport.*—The transport of goods by common carriers, such as Messrs. Carter Paterson, or by railways, is not regarded as part of the milk distributive trade.

9. *Meaning of "Milk."*—Milk is defined as milk other than dried or condensed milk.

### III.—NOTICE OF PROPOSAL.

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

Proposal N.I.H.H.G. (N. 37), dated 10th February, 1928, to vary certain general minimum piece-rates and general overtime rates and to cancel certain other general minimum piece-rates and general overtime rates for female workers.

### IV.—NOTICE OF INTENTION TO HOLD A PUBLIC INQUIRY.

#### Hollow-ware making Trade.

The Minister of Labour has appointed Mr. B. A. Cohen, K.C., as a Commissioner to hold a public inquiry into the objections that have been raised to the draft Special Order recently published by the Minister, revising the definition of the Hollow-ware making Trade.\*

The Commissioner proposes to open the inquiry at 10.30 a.m. on Wednesday, 18th April, 1928, at No. 5, Old Palace Yard, London, S.W.1. Any person desiring to be heard, who has not already communicated in writing with the Minister of Labour, should send to the Commissioner in writing, as early as possible and in any event not later than Wednesday, 4th April, 1928, a summary of the representations he desires to make.

### BOARD FOR MINING EXAMINATIONS.

#### Examinations for Certificates of Competency as Managers and Under Managers of Mines, and for Certificates of Qualification as Surveyors of Mines.

EXAMINATIONS for First and Second Class Certificates of Competency as Managers and Under Managers of Mines will be held on the 23rd and 24th May, 1928, at Edinburgh, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Sheffield, Wigan, Cardiff, and Birmingham.

The written part of an examination for Certificates of Qualification as Surveyors of Mines will be held at the same centres on the 24th May, 1928.

Applications for the necessary forms should be made not later than the 11th April, 1928. In order that the appropriate forms may be sent, it is important that candidates should state whether they have already sat at one of the Board's examinations.

Letters should be addressed to the Secretary, Board for Mining Examinations, Mines Department, Dean Stanley Street, Millbank, London, S.W.1.

\* See the January, 1928, issue of this GAZETTE, page 35.

### FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901

#### Manufacture of Cinematograph Film Regulations, 1928; Cinematograph Film Stripping Regulations, 1928.

THE Home Secretary has made Regulations,\* dated 8th February under Section 79 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, to apply to all factories and workshops or parts thereof in which cinematograph film is manufactured, repaired, manipulated, used, or stored. The Regulations, which may be cited as the Manufacture of Cinematograph Film Regulations, 1928, came into force on 1st March, 1928. The Home Secretary has also made Regulations,† dated 11th February, 1928, under the same Section, to apply to all factories and workshops or parts thereof in which stripping or drying of cinematograph film is done. The Regulations, which may be cited as the Cinematograph Film Stripping Regulations, 1928, came into force on the same date (1st March, 1928).

### CHOICE OF EMPLOYMENT WORK OF LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITIES DRAFT REGULATIONS.

THE *London Gazette* for 17th February contained a notice issued by the Minister of Labour, that he proposes, after the expiration of at least 40 days from that date, to make regulations with regard to grants to Local Education Authorities in aid of their expenditure under Section 107 of the Education Act, 1921. (This is the section which empowers Local Education Authorities to make arrangements for advising juveniles, and placing them in employment.)

Copies of the draft regulations may be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office, at any of the addresses given on the cover of this GAZETTE, at the price of 1d. net.

### OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

APPRENTICESHIP.—*Report of an inquiry into apprenticeship and training for the skilled occupations in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, 1925-26. IV. Textile and clothing industries. V. Government departments; public utility services; distributive and certain miscellaneous industries.* Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publications; price 5s. and 4s., respectively.) (See page 80.)

BLIND WORKERS.—*Seventh Report of the Advisory Committee on the Welfare of the Blind, 1926-27.* Ministry of Health. (S.O. publication; price 6d.)

CENSUS OF PRODUCTION.—*Third Census of Production (1924). Preliminary Reports, Northern Ireland. No. 3. General survey of metal trades; shipbuilding trade; engineering trade; general survey of building and building materials trades; building and contracting trades; paper, printing, publishing, and kindred trades. No. 4. General survey of public utility services; gas works undertakings; railway companies; works carried out by local authorities (other than gas, water and electricity undertakings); work done by Government departments; timber trades; mines and quarries; miscellaneous trades.* Board of Trade. (S.O. publications; price 6d. each.)

EDUCATION.—*The Practical Education of Women for Rural Life. Report of a Sub-Committee of the Inter-departmental Committee of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and Board of Education.* (S.O. publication; price 6d.)

HEALTH INSURANCE.—*National Health Insurance Bill. Memorandum explanatory of the Bill.* Ministry of Health. (Cmd. 3051; price 3d.) (See page 80.)

INDUSTRIAL FATIGUE.—*A physiological investigation of the radiant heating in various buildings. Report No. 46.* Industrial Fatigue Research Board. (S.O. publication; price 2s.)

MINING.—(1) *Miners' Welfare Fund. Sixth Report of the Committee appointed by the Board of Trade to allocate the fund, together with the first Report of the Selection Committee appointed to administer the Miners' Welfare National Scholarship Scheme.* (S.O. publication; price 1s. 6d.) (See page 84.) (2) *Output and employment at metalliferous mines, quarries, etc., during the quarter ended 30th September, 1927.* Board of Trade, Mines Department. (S.O. publication; price 4d.)

MINING ACCIDENTS.—*Preliminary statement (subject to correction) of the number of deaths caused by accidents in and about the mines and quarries of Great Britain, together with the Isle of Man, during the year 1927.* Board of Trade, Mines Department. (S.O. publication; price 3d.)

POOR LAW RELIEF.—*Statement showing the number of persons in receipt of poor law relief in England and Wales in the quarter ending December, 1927, with some particulars as to the number of "unemployed" persons in receipt of such relief.* Ministry of Health. (S.O. publication; price 4d.) (See page 82.)

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.—(1) *Summary of Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920-1927.* Ministry of Labour. (Cmd. 3035; price 3d.) (See page 81.) (2) *Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1920 to 1926. Decisions given by the Umpire on claims to benefit during the month of January, 1928.* U.I. 440. Pamphlet No. 1, 1928. Ministry of Labour. (S.O. publication; price 6d.)

\* Statutory Rules and Orders, 1928: No. 82. H.M. Stationery Office; price 2d. net.

† Statutory Rules and Orders, 1928: No. 84. H.M. Stationery Office; price 2d. net.



## GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

## LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, FEBRUARY, 1928.

## ADMIRALTY.

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

**Beachley: Repairs to Foundations:** George Stow & Co., Ltd., Wpport, Mon.—**Pembroke: Steel Water-Tank:** Tees Side Bridge Engineering Works, Ltd., Middlesbrough.—**Peterhead: Semi-portable Engine:** Robey & Co., Ltd., Lincoln.—**Portsmouth: Broken Granite:** A. & F. Manuelle, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Stoneware conduits:** The Albion Clay Co., Ltd., Woodville, Burton-on-Trent.—**Roofing Slates:** Manod Slate Quarries, Ltd., Portmadoc, North Wales.—**H.M. Naval Establishments Abroad: Railway Materials:** White & Sons, Widnes, Lancs.—**Portland Cement:** The Thames Portland Cement Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Gear Wheels for Dredger:** Firth & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Steelwork for New Timber Store:** Walker Bros., Ltd., Walsall.—**Roofing Slates:** Bell's Poilite & Verite Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Bitumen Sheeting, etc.:** G. M. Allender & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.

## (Contract and Purchase Department.)

**Alternator, Motor:** Metropolitan-Vickers Elec. Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Bagging, Jute:** Craiks, Ltd., Forfar.—**Bells, etc.:** D. H. Bonella & Sons, London, N.W.; Hawkers, Ltd., Birmingham; Graham & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Engineering & Lighting Equipment Co., Ltd., St. Albans; McGeoch & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Bonella Bros., London, W.C.—**Blocks, M.C.I.:** Ansell Jones Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Rowland Priest, Cradley Heath; Ruston Hornsby, Ltd., Grantham.—**Bolts and Nuts, Steel:** C. Richards, Sons, Ltd., Darlaston; Rivet Bolt & Nut Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Jones Bros., Ltd., West Bromwich.—**Boots, Sea:** Adams Bros. (Raunds), Ltd., Raunds.—**Britannia Metal, Nickel Silver & White Metal Articles:** Gladwin, Ltd., Sheffield; Mappin & Webb, Ltd., Sheffield; T. Wilkinson & Sons, Birmingham.—**Brooms and Brushes:** A. Reid & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.; Jas. Root & Son, London, N.; W. H. Vowles & Sons, Ltd., Stonehouse, Glos.; Wilkins & Denton (London), Ltd., London, E.C.—**Brushes, Painters':** Jas. Root & Son, London, N.; W. H. Vowles & Sons, Ltd., Stonehouse, Glos.—**Brushes, Shaving:** G. B. Kent & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Cabinet Work:** Brown & Backhouse, Liverpool; J. Elliott & Sons, High Wycombe; Exors. of late S. Snawdon, Plymouth; C. Gibbons, High Wycombe; T. Glenister, Ltd., High Wycombe; Hoskins & Son, Ltd., Birmingham; Joynson Holland & Co., High Wycombe; A. H. McIntosh & Co., Ltd., Kirkcaldy; Rowan & Boden, Ltd., Glasgow; J. W. Thompson, Ltd., Sheffield; Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Cables, Electric:** British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Helsby; Connollys (Blacky), Ltd., Manchester; Enfield Cable Works, Ltd., Brimsdown; General Electric Co., Ltd., Southampton; Glover & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Greenwich Cable Works, Ltd., London, S.E.; Hackbridge Cable Co., Ltd., Hackbridge; Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Hooper's Telegraph & I.R. Works, Ltd., London, E.; India Rubber, Gutta Percha & Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.; Johnson & Phillips, Ltd., London, S.E.; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Standard Telephones Cables, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Canvas, Drab:** Baxter Bros. & Co., Ltd., Dundee; The Boase Spinning Co. (1920), Ltd., Dundee.—**Caps, Blue Cloth:** J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, S.E.; Effertt & Son, Portsea.—**Cells:** Fuller Accumulator Co. (1926), Ltd., Chadwell Heath; Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., London, N.; P. Battery Co., Ltd., Bakewell, Derbyshire; Hart Accumulator Co., Ltd., London, E.; Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Chamois Skins:** C. Kirkham & Son, Nottingham; The North of England Chamois Co., Ltd., Newcastle; W. J. Burney & Co., Ltd., Stourbridge.—**China, Porcelain:** Bishop & Tonier (1926), Ltd., Hanley; Crown Staffs. Porcelain Co., Ltd., Penton; R. H. & S. L. Plant, Ltd., Longton.—**Cloth, Leather:** The Leather Cloth Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Cloth, Woollen:** James Harper & Sons, Calverley.—**Coats, Waterproof:** Zambrene, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Cocks, Gunmetal:** H. Bisseker, Ltd., Birmingham; Hayward-Tyler & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Sir J. Laing & Sons, Ltd., Sunderland; Player & Mitchell, Birmingham; Rainsford & Ayres, Ltd., Birmingham; Sperry & Co., Birmingham; E. Tompson, Birmingham.—**Condensers, W/T:** British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Warrington.—**Converter, Motor:** Brush Electrical Engineering Co., Ltd., Loughborough.—**Cotton Waste:** C. E. Austin & Sons, Ltd., Manchester; W. C. Jones, Ltd., Manchester; A. Smart & Sons, Ltd., Manchester.—**Counterpanes, Coverlets, etc.:** Barlow & Jones, Ltd., Bolton; James Kippax & Son, Ltd., Bolton.—**Cranes, Electric Overhead:** Cowans, Sheldon & Co., Ltd., Carlisle.—**Cutlery:** J. Clarke & Son, Ltd., Sheffield; Abram Brooksbank & Co. (Sheffield), Sheffield; A. Boswell, Son & Naylor, Ltd., Sheffield; S. & J. Kitchen, Ltd., Sheffield; Joseph Fenton & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Drill, White Cotton:** Joshua Hoyle & Sons, Ltd., Summerseat.—**Fans, Ship Ventilating:** Veritys, Ltd., Aston; W. H. Allen, Sons & Co., Ltd., Bedford.—**Fearnought:** John Horsfall & Sons (Greetland), Ltd., Greetland.—**Felt, Hair:** B. Butterworth & Son, Leeds; Mitchells, Ashworth, Stansfield & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Fenders, Hazel Rod:** T. Black & Sons (Greenock), Ltd., Greenock.—**Flags:** Adam & Lane & Neeve, Ltd., London, E.; Kirk Hall & Co., Leeds; W. Cockshaw, Ltd., Leeds.—**Flannel:** R. Schofield, Ltd., Rochdale; J. Schofield

& Sons (Buckley), Ltd., Rochdale; J. Sandiford & Sons, Ltd., Rochdale; T. & C. Littlewood & Co., Ltd., Rochdale.—**Flannelette:** Richard Riley & Co., Ltd., Colne.—**Forgings, Steel:** T. Firth & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield.—**Gear, Boat-disengaging:** L. H. Robinson & Co., Ltd. (Receiver for), London, W.—**Gear, Diving:** Siebe, Gorman & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Gear, Gymnastic:** F. H. Ayres, Ltd., London, E.C.; G. G. Bussey & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; F. Bryan, Ltd., London, S.E.; C. Ockwell & Co., Cricklade, Wilts.; Thomas Smith, London, W.C.; Wilkinson Sword Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; John Wisden & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Generator Sets, Motor:** Crompton Parkinson, Ltd., Chelmsford.—**Gloves, Leather:** E. & W. C. French, Ltd., Taunton; The North of England Chamois Co., Ltd., Newcastle; Mark Templeman, London, S.E.—**Glycerine:** J. Crosfield & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Grease, Mineral:** Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Handkerchiefs, White Cotton:** J. H. Greenhow & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Hawsers, Steel Wire:** Binks Bros., Ltd., London, E.; British Ropes, Ltd., Dagenham.—**Helmets, anti-flash:** I. & R. Morley, Loughborough.—**Helmets, Sun:** R. Z. Bloomfield, Ltd., London, S.W.; J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E.—**Hollow Ware:** T. & C. Clark & Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton; A. Kenrick & Sons, Ltd., West Bromwich; J. & J. Siddons, Ltd., West Bromwich.—**Ingots, Manganese Bronze:** Manganese Bronze & Brass Co., Ltd., London, E.; J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Installation, Electric Light:** Read & Partners, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Iron Plate Workers' Wares:** S. W. Bullas & Sons, Ltd., Cradley Heath; Darlaston Galvanised Hollowware Co., Ltd., Darlaston; Eveson Bros., Ltd., Stourbridge; Froggatt & Tyler, Ltd., Bilston; Harland & Wolff, Ltd., London, E.; G. A. Harvey & Co. (London), Ltd., London, S.E.; J. Hill & Sons, Stourbridge; Ludlow Bros. (1913), Ltd., Birmingham; Mechans, Ltd., Glasgow; National Galvanisers, Ltd., Sunderland; Suttons Hollowware Co., Ltd., Stourbridge; Sargeant Turner & Sons, Ltd., Stourbridge.—**Jerseys, Blue Worsted:** I. & R. Morley, Leicester.—**Kersey:** William Edleston, Ltd., Sowerby Bridge; Joseph Smith & Co., Greetland.—**Lampholders:** Revo Electric Co., Ltd., Tipton.—**Lamps and Lanterns:** T. G. Blood, Birmingham; Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Gabriel & Co., Birmingham; E. Griffiths & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Player & Mitchell, Birmingham.—**Lamps, Electric:** General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.; Siemens Electric Lamps & Supplies, Ltd., Preston.—**Lanyards, Knife:** W. Coombs, Devonport.—**Lead, Red, non-setting:** Blacklock & Macarthur, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Lead Sheet, Pipe and Leads:** G. Farmiloe & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; Locke, Blackett & Co., Ltd., Newcastle.—**Leather Strip for Hoses:** G. Angus & Co., Ltd., Newcastle; S. E. Norris & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Lifebelts and Buoys:** Fosbery & Co., London, E.—**Lighter, Motor:** Otto Anderson & Co. (London), Ltd., Wivenhoe, Ex.—**Linen, Damask Table:** The Ulster Weaving Co., Ltd., Belfast; William Ewart & Son, Ltd., Belfast; McCrum Watson & Mercer, Ltd., Belfast.—**Linoleum and Cork Carpet:** Corticine Floor Covering Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Linoleum Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; M. Nairn & Co., Ltd., Kirkcaldy.—**Locks and Gear:** J. & E. Bates & Sons, Ltd., Wolverhampton; Bendow & Sturme, Ltd., Willenhall; H. Harrison & Sons, Ltd., Willenhall; A. Marston & Co., Ltd., Willenhall; W. M. Pinson, Willenhall; J. Parkes & Sons, Ltd., Willenhall; J. Spink & Son, Wolverhampton; Walsall Locks & Cart Gear, Ltd., Walsall; J. Worrall & Sons, Willenhall.—**Machine, Radial Drilling:** James Archdale & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Morocco Skins, Buffalo Hides, etc.:** Bryant & Co., London, S.E.; Thomas Cundall, London, S.E.; J. T. Hart & Sons, London, S.E.; George MacLellan & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Nails and Rivets, Iron and Steel:** Baxters Bolt Screw & Rivet Works, Birmingham; D. Bennie & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow; Cooper & Turner, Ltd., Sheffield; Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham; Hall & Rice, Ltd., West Bromwich; Kynook, Ltd., Birmingham; D. Willetts, Ltd., Cradley Heath.—**Oakum, Black:** Westhorps, Ltd., London, E.—**Oil, Mineral Lubricating:** Shell-Mex Ltd., London, W.C.—**Pans, W.C.:** Leeds Fireclay Co., Ltd., Halifax.—**Plywood:** Aeronautical & Panel Plywood Co., Ltd., London, E.; Tucker Armoured Plywood Co., Ltd., Crayford, Kent.—**Reps:** Walsh & McCrea, Ltd., Halifax; R. Maude & Co., Ltd., Halifax; Glover Bros. (Leeds), Ltd., Wortley.—**Rivets, Steel:** Cooper & Turner, Ltd., Sheffield; Patent Shaft & Axletree Co., Ltd., Wednesbury; Rivet Bolt & Nut Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Rope, Steel Wire:** British Ropes, Ltd., Dagenham.—**Saucepans, Aluminium:** F. Braby & Co., Ltd., Bristol; Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; N. C. Jospeh, Ltd., Stratford-on-Avon; London Aluminium Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Screws:** T. Haddon & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Screws, etc., Phosphor Bronze:** Davis & Timmins, Ltd., London, N.; T. Haddon & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Ormond Engineering Co., Ltd., London, N.; Plessey Co., Ltd., Ilford.—**Scuttles, Side:** J. Roby, Ltd., Rainhill.—**Shades, Glass, for Navigation Lanterns:** Telford Grier & Mackay, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Shirts, White Soft:** Johnson & Sons, Ltd., Gorleston; Salisbury Manufacturing Co., London, E.—**Shoes, Gymnasium:** The North British Rubber Co., Ltd., Edinburgh.—**Shorts, Cellular:** Johnson & Sons, Ltd., Gt. Yarmouth.—**Shorts, Cotton Fabric:** Frank Lane, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Soap, Hard:** G. Thomas & Bros., Ltd., Bristol.—**Soap, Soft:** P. Lunt & Co., Ltd., Liverpool.—**Socks:** F. R. Fenwick & Co., Ltd., Consett; J. Glazebrook & Co., Ltd., Countesthorpe; J. Glover & Co., Ltd., South Wigston; I. & R. Morley, Leicester; S. D. Stretton & Sons, Ltd., Leicester; A.



Yates & Co., Leicester; H. Bates & Co., Ltd., South Wigston; S. D. Stretton & Sons, Ltd., Leicester.—**Soda Ash**: Brunner Mond & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Solder, Silver**: Lees & Sanders, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Spanners**: Angular Hole Drilling & Mfg. Co., Ltd., Beeston; British Tool & Engineering Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton; Wynn, Timmins & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; J. Evans & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield; J. Bradbury & Sons, Ltd., Braintree; H. Williams & Sons, Ltd., London, E.; Armstrong, Stevens & Sons, Willenhall.—**Stockings**: I. & R. Morley, Leicester; F. Main, South Wigston; J. Glazebrook & Co., Ltd., Countesthorpe; F. R. Fenwick & Co., Ltd., Consett.—**Stretchers**: P. I. Headley, Ashford, Kent.—**Switches, etc.**: Dorman & Smith, Ltd., Salford; Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End; Gabriel & Co., Birmingham; Hawkers, Ltd., Birmingham; W. McGeoch & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Player & Mitchell, Birmingham; Small Electric Motors, Ltd., Beckenham.—**Tallow, White**: Ferguson, Shaw & Sons, Glasgow.—**Ties, Black Silk**: Toms, Steer & Toms, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Tin and Japanned Wares**: T. G. Blood, Birmingham; Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Eveson Bros., Ltd., Stourbridge; Farmer & Chapman, Ltd., Bilston; J. F. Farwig & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; F. Francis & Sons, Ltd., London, S.E.; Froggatt & Tyler, Ltd., Bilston; M. J. Hart & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Huntley, Boorne & Stevens, Ltd., Reading; Lawden & Poole, Birmingham; Orme Evans & Co., Ltd., Wolverhampton; Rippingilles Albion Lamp Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Welsh Tinsplate & Metal Stamping Co., Ltd., Llanelly; T. Wilkes & Sons, Wolverhampton.—**Trays, Wooden**: F. Troy & Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—**Trunking, Ebonite**: Chloride Electrical Storage Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Tubes, Condenser**: Hudson & Wright, Ltd., Birmingham; Muntz's Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham; J. Booth & Co. (1915), Ltd., Birmingham; Allen Everitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Yorkshire Copper Works, Ltd., Leeds.—**Urinals, etc.**: J. & R. Howie, Ltd., Kilmarnock; Leeds Fireclay Co., Ltd., Leeds; Minton, Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent.—**Valve Holders, W/T.**: H. W. Sullivan, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Valves, W/T.**: Mullard Radio Valve Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; General Electric Co., Ltd., London, W.; Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End.—**Vests**: J. B. Lewis & Sons, Ltd., Nottingham; The Nottingham Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Loughborough; The Salisbury Manufacturing Co., London E.; Johnson & Sons, Ltd., Gt. Yarmouth.—**Watchcoats**: J. Compton, Sons & Webb, Ltd., London, E., and Swindon.—**Wire, Aerial and Earth**: British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Prescott; Connollys (Blackley), Ltd., Manchester; Frederick Smith & Co., Manchester.—**Wire, Copper**: Ward & Goldstone, Manchester; Concordia Electric Wire Co., Ltd., New Sawley; Kent Bros. Electric Wire Co. and E. H. Phillips, Ltd., Kew; Connollys (Blackley), Ltd., Blackley; Scott Insulated Wire Co., Ltd., London, N.—**Wood Goods**: Fosters, Ltd., Boxmoor, Herts.; J. & A. McFarlane, Ltd., Glasgow; J. Reynolds, Ltd., Chesham.—**Wood Goods, Manufactured**: W. H. Aston (Worcester), Ltd., Worcester; J. Brown & Sons, Ltd., Thatcham, Berks; Burley & Sons, Ltd., Liverpool; R. Burley & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow; C. W. Clinch & Sons, Newbury, Berks; R. Charnley & Sons, Ulverston; East & Son, Ltd., Berkhamsted; J. H. Ellis & Son, Ltd., Sheffield; J. B. Latham & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Lloyd & Penhale, Ltd., Cardiff; Midland Saw & Tool Co., Ltd., Birmingham; S. Pinnock, Thatcham; Rudders & Paynes, Ltd., Birmingham; Sharp Bros. & Knight, Burton-on-Trent; Staveley Wood Turning Co., Kendal; Sundt, Sundt & Co., London, S.E.; H. Wells, Reading; C. White, London, E.

#### WAR OFFICE.

**Activated Charcoal**: Sutcliffe, Speakman & Co., Ltd., Leigh, Lancs.—**Basins, Enamelled**: Welsh Tinsplate & Metal Stamping Co., Ltd., Llanelly.—**Belting, Leather**: S. E. Norris & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Boiler Plants and Accessories**: Yarrow & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; International Combustions, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Boxes, Ammunition**: Brownlee & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Brass, Sheet**: British Copper Mfrs., Ltd., Swansea; P. H. Muntz & Co., Ltd., West Bromwich.—**Brushes, Brass**: David Burrow & Sons, Ltd., Leeds.—**Brushes, Sweeping, Long, Heads**: C. H. Leng & Sons, Birmingham; Vale & Bradnack, Walsall.—**Cable, Electric**: Callender's Cable & Construction Co., Ltd., Leigh, Lancs; British Insulated Cables, Ltd., Helsby, Lancs.—**Cans, Soup or Gruel**: Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Canvas, W.P.**: Baxter Bros & Co., Ltd., Dundee; J. Broadbent & Sons, Ltd., Droylsdon; Holdsworth & Gibb, Ltd., Swinton; J. Stott, Ltd., Oldham.—**Caps, Forage**: L. Silberston, London, E.—**Caps, R.T.C., etc.**: M. & A. Currie, Ltd., Kilmarnock.—**Cases, Packing**: Wenn, Ltd., Gt. Yarmouth.—**Cases, Slip, Bolster**: C. Groom, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Cement, Portland**: T. Beynon & Co., Ltd., Aberthaw, etc.; J. Board & Co., Ltd., Bridgwater; Cement Marketing Co., Ltd., Northfleet, Kent, etc.; Holbrough Cement Co., Ltd., Snodland, Kent; Ship Canal P.C. Co., Ltd., Ellesmere Port; Smeed, Dean & Co., Ltd., Dunstable, etc.; Thames P.C. Co., Ltd., near Rochester; Warren Cement Works, Ltd., Hartlepool.—**Chain Assemblies**: Fisher & Ludlow (1920), Ltd., Birmingham.—**Chemical, etc., Apparatus**: Baird & Tatlock (London), Ltd., London, E.C.—**Cisterns, Steel and Cylinders, Hot Water**: National Galvanisers, Ltd., Sunderland; Tanks & Drums, Ltd., Bradford.—**Cordage, Spun Yarn**: Frost Bros., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Covers, Lorry, W.P.**: County Screen Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—**Dishes, Baking**: Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Dowlas, Tan**: D. & R. Duke, Brechin; A. Blyth & Co., Kirkcaldy.—**Drill, Khaki**: Cottrill & Co., Ltd., Colne; A. & S. Henry, Ltd., Manchester.—**Drills, Twist**: H. Rossell & Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—**Drums, Oil**: Baldwins, Ltd., London, E.—**Expanded Metal**: Expanded Metal Co., Ltd., West Hartlepool.—**Gas Producer, Coal-fired**: Horsehay Co., Ltd., Horsehay, Salop.—**Gloves, Cotton**: Bostick, Leicester.—**Hessian, Packing**: Craiks, Ltd., Forfar; D. Smith & Sons, Ltd., Alyth.—**Hides, Enamelled**: Bryant & Co.,

London, S.E.—**Landaulettes, Enclosed**: Armstrong Siddeley Moto Ltd., Coventry.—**Linters, Cotton**: Spencer & Curedale, Ltd., Bu.—**Magnesium Powder**: British Maxium, Ltd., London, S.W.—**M Heads**: T. M. Clewes & Son, Cradley.—**Oil, Rape**: J. L. Seaton Co., Ltd., Hull; Hull Oil Mfg. Co., Ltd., Hull.—**Pails, Slop**: Ang Enamelware, Ltd., Stourport.—**Pipes, Hose, Canvas**: The Wm. R. Hose Co., Ltd., Salford.—**Plates, Dinner and Soup, etc.**: Minto Ltd., Stoke-on-Trent.—**Plates, Dinner, G.S.**: Doulton & Co., Lt Burslem.—**Plates, Soup, Plain**: Pountney & Co., Ltd., Brist and Warrington.—**Rugs, Axminster**: J. Templeton & Co., Glasgo Coates & Co., Ltd., Perth.—**Saddles**: D. Mason & Sons, Walsa F. Ringrose, Walsall.—**Sandbags**: G. C. Taylor & Son, Dundee.—**Sand Blast Plant**: J. W. Jackman & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Screws, Wood**: British Screw Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**Shalloon**: J. Clou & Son, Baildon Green, Yorks; Whitworth & Co., Ltd., Luddend Foot, Yorks.—**Sheets, Barrack, Linen**: Richards, Ltd., Aberdeen.—**Sheets, Cotton**: G. H. Greenhow & Co., Ltd., Manchester; Asht Bros. & Co., Ltd., Hyde; J. Hoyle & Sons, Ltd., Bacup and Oldhar Haslams, Ltd., Manchester.—**Silk Cloth**: E. Wilman & Sons, Lt Hadfield, Lancs.; E. H. Sellers & Sons, Ltd., Thongsbridge, York Ireland & Wishart, Ltd., Kirkcaldy.—**Sleepers, Creosoted**: W Christie & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Stable Fittings**: Wilmer Sons, Ltd., London, E. and Wolverhampton.—**Stair Treads, etc**: Safety Tread Syndicate, Ltd., London, E.—**Standards**: Hobson Sons (London), Ltd., London, S.E.—**Steel Sheets, Corrugated**: Summers & Sons, Ltd., Shotton & Stalybridge.—**Steel Tubes, Weldless**: The Weldless Steel Tube Co., Ltd., Wednesfield.—**Tartan, Highland**: D. Ballantyne Bros. & Co., Ltd., Peebles.—**Telephone System Automatic**: Reliance Telephone Co., Ltd., Stoke.—**Ticken, Liner**: A. Blyth & Co., Kirkcaldy; J. Johnson & Sons, Manchester.—**Timber, White Mahogany**: J. H. Ashton, Ltd., Liverpool.—**Trucks, Storage**: Bertram Thomas, Manchester.—**Twine, Baling**: Green Bros., Hailsham.—**Twine, Packing**: Jameson & Co., Ltd Hull.—**Wireless Telegraph Sets**: Plessey Co., Ltd., Ilford; Fellow Mfg. Co., Ltd., London, N.W.—**X-Ray Films, etc.**: Ilford Ltd., Ilfor

—**Works Services**: *Building Works and Services*: London, Millban Military Hospital, Outpatients' Dept. and Stores: J. Laing & Co Ltd., London, N.W. Larkhill Camp, Vehicle Sheds, Forge an Washing Platforms: James & Crockerell, Durrington, Wilt; Plymouth, Crownhill Fort, Drainage Work: E. Mudge & Son Exeter. Portsmouth, Fort Widney Electric Lighting: Burch & Vertue, Aldershot. Bisley-Blackdown W.D. Railway, Purchase an Removal: W. & G. Hargrave, London, W. Colchester, Sobrao Bks., Vehicle Shed: Cronin & Sons, Warley. Catterick Camp Repairs to Roads: Peter Harle, Ltd., Sunderland. Halifax Wellington & Regtl. Institute Blocks, Repairs to Roofs: Pickles Bros., Leeds. Halifax, Repairs to Roads and Parade: W. & G Glossop, Ltd., Hipperholme, near Halifax.

#### AIR MINISTRY.

**Aircraft**: Sir W. G. Armstrong Whitworth Aircraft, Ltd., Park side, Coventry; Boulton & Paul, Ltd., Norwich; De Havilland Aircraft Co., Ltd., Edgware; Handley Page, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Aircraft, Modifications to**: Sir W. G. Armstrong Whitworth Aircraft, Ltd., Parkside, Coventry.—**Aircraft, Spares**: Sir W. G. Armstrong Whitworth Aircraft, Ltd., Parkside, Coventry; Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol; Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., Hayes; A. V. Roe & Co., Ltd., Newton Heath, Manchester; Short Bros., Ltd., Rochester, Kent; Steel Wing Co., Ltd., Huddlecote, near Gloucester; Supermarine Aviation Works, Ltd., Woolston, Southampton; Vickers, Ltd., Weybridge.—**Aircraft, Work on**: Short Bros., Ltd., Rochester, Kent.—**Buildings and Works Services**: Compass Swinging Platform (Croydon): Vickers-Armstrongs, Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne Heating Installation (Sealand): G. N. Haden & Sons, London, W.C. Internal Wiring: W. J. Furze & Co., Ltd., Nottingham. Recondi- tioning Buildings (Duxford): A. Negus & Son, Cambridge. Stand-by Generating Set (Sealand): Parsons Oil Engine Co., Ltd., South- ampton.—**Canvas, Packing, Hessian**: Jute Industries, Ltd., Dundee A. McGregor & Co., London, E.C.—**Carburettors and Spares**: Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry.—**Chronograph Instal- lations**: J. Pitkin & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Cord, Shock Absorber**: Whiteley Exerciser, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Engines, Aircraft**: Arm- strong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Coventry; Bristol Aeroplane Co., Ltd., Bristol.—**Engines, Aircraft, Conversion of**: Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Engines, Aircraft, Jigs and Tools for**: Armstrong Siddeley Motors, Ltd., Parkside, Coventry.—**Engines, Aircraft, Overhaul of**: D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—**Engines, Aircraft, Spares**: D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.; Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Engines, Aircraft, Stripping and Examining**: D. Napier & Son, Ltd., London, W.—**Engines, Aircraft, Type Test on**: Rolls Royce, Ltd., Derby.—**Gauges, Screw**: Horstmann Gear Co., Ltd., Bath.—**Linen Fabric**: Woods, Sons & Co., London, E.C.; York Street Flax Spinning Co., Belfast.—**Magneto Spares**: British Thomson Houston Co., Ltd., Coventry.—**Methylated Spirit**: Solvent Products, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Mortley Clutches and Spares**: G. E. Mortley Sprague & Co., Ltd., Tunbridge Wells.—**Petrol Flowmeters**: Geo. Kent, Ltd., Luton; Liquid Measurements, Ltd., London, W.C.—**Plywood**: Aeronautical & Panel Plywood Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Rags, Linen, Old**: Alexander Jacob & Co., London, S.E.—**Road Sweeping Machines**: Eagle Engineering Co., Ltd., Warwick.—**Sand Blasting Plant**: J. W. Jackman & Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Sparkling Plugs**: Robinhood Engineering Works, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Tyres**: Avon India Rubber Company, Ltd., Melksham; British Goodrich Rubber Co., Ltd., London, S.W.—**Tyres, Solid**: Dunlop Rubber Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Wheels, Tyres, etc., Air- craft**: Palmer Tyre, Ltd., London, E.C.



## H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

**Carbons :** Read Manufacturing Co. (London), Ltd., Hounslow, Middlesex.—**Envelopes :** McCorquodale & Co., Wolverton, Bucks.—**Paper (of various descriptions) :** Alders Paper Mills, Ltd., Tamworth, Staffs.; Barrow Paper Mills, Ltd., Barrow, Lancs.; J. Brown & Co., Ltd., Penicuik, Midlothian; R. Craig & Sons, Ltd., Caldercruix, Lanarkshire; J. Cropper & Co., Ltd., Kendal, Westmorland; Jives Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Bury, Lancs.; Portals, Ltd., Whitechurch, Wexford; Waterside Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Darwen, Lancs.—**Printing, Binding, etc. :** Group 205 (1928), Customs and Excise, Entertainment Duty Tickets: McCorquodale & Co., Ltd., London, C. Group 207 (1928), Miscellaneous Indexing: Miss M. Petheridge, London, S.W. Group 302 (1928), Board of Trade Journal: Wyre & Spottiswoode, Ltd., London, E.C. P.O. Savings Bank. Special Index Cards: J. Dickinson & Co., Ltd., Hemel Hempstead, Herts.

## POST OFFICE.

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